



Riverside Presbyterian Church

116 Barrypoint Road, Riverside, IL 60546
(708) 447-1520 ~ rpcusa.org

APRIL NEWSLETTER



TEAM TRIVIA NIGHT RETURNS! The Second Annual RPC Team Trivia Night will be hosted by the RPC Youth Group on Saturday, April 7. Trivia will start at 6:30 p.m. Proceeds will support the Youth Mission Trip to Detroit as well as RPC's mission and ministry to the

community and beyond. This second-year event will be bigger and better with new categories of trivia, cash prizes, a gift package raffle, a 50/50 raffle, games, and fair ways to "cheat" by purchasing mulligans!

Invite your family and friends (bring everyone!) to fill a table. The entry fee is \$160 per table (\$20 per person) for teams of 8 people. To reserve a table, there's a sign-up sheet outside the church office, or contact Dennis Cobb at dlc0906@gmail.com. If you can't fill a table on your own, let Dennis know and we'll have a running list from which teams will be created. You're invited to bring snacks for your table (dinner if you want!) and popcorn, soda, beer, and wine will be available for a donation.

SERIES ON EARTH DAY —

The Earth will not continue to offer its harvest, except with faithful stewardship. We cannot say we love the land and then take steps to destroy it for use by future generations. John Paul II

Following Easter Sunday, our Worship will focus on the care of the earth. Earth Day is Sunday, April 22. Part of my sermons will be informed by the book *Creation-Crisis Preaching: Ecology, Theology, and the Pulpit* by the Reverend Doctor Leah Schade.

In her book Dr. Schade asks: "How can we proclaim justice for God's Creation in the face of global warming? How does fracking fit with the earth and its fullness are the Lord's?" Dr. Schade works with the "premise that all of Creation, including humankind, needs to hear the Good News of Jesus' resurrection in this age in which humanity is "crucifying" Creation." Dr. Schade is Informed by years of experience as an environmental activist and minister; she encourages us to learn to interpret the Bible through a "green" lens and become rooted in environmental theology.

As part of our worship, the Session has tasked me with forming an **Eco-Justice Task Force**, that will help us as a congregation think of ways that we can touch the earth lightly. If you are interested in serving, please reach out to me. — Dale

You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of a difference you want to make. Jane Goodall



THEOLOGY ON TAP — We gather at 6:30 pm Monday for dinner, and our discussion begins at 7:00 at Grapevine, 9 W. Hillgrove Ave, La Grange, IL. We are reading *Unbelievable* by Bible scholar and Episcopal bishop John Shelby Spong who contends that “there is mounting pressure among Christians for a radically new kind of Christianity—a faith deeply connected to the human experience instead of outdated dogma.”



JAZZ SUNDAY IS APRIL 8 — Andrew Tecson and his jazz musician colleagues will be featured at morning worship on April 8. At least since 2006 the annual "Jazz Sunday at RPC" has been a beloved tradition, with the band providing all music for the service. The son of RPC member Caroline Tecson and the late Joseph Tecson, Andy, a lawyer (a graduate of the University of Chicago Law School), grew up in Riverside and has played the saxophone since he was a young boy. He is a composer as well and began composing music as a student at Riverside - Brookfield High School. Some of his compositions are the Jazz Psalms, the Chicago Jazz Mass, and more recently, with his fellow musicians Bobby Schiff and Bobby Lewis, a Jazz Passion. All of these works have been performed in regional churches and beyond. A special treat to enjoy is the opportunity to hear the members of this talented ensemble improvise individually on their instruments: Andy Tecson, saxophone; Bobby Schiff, piano; Stew Miller, bass; Jerry Coleman, drums; Ken Jandes, saxophone; Victor Garcia, trumpet; and Kecia Waldschmidt, vocalist. You won't want to miss this lively service. Please join us!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW CHRISTIAN EDUCATOR,

DIANTE JOHNSON— Diante Johnson is a Chicago public school Educator who earned his BA from Columbia college of Chicago and his Masters from North Central University. His entire life has been spent and devoted to the church. In his early years he traveled the world as a gospel musician. He's also played on several gospel records and is a well known Chicago musician. He has three beautiful children who are 15,10, and 9. He's a student of the gospel and is always willing to serve at any capacity.



HUMAN SCENE — We will begin a study of life lived on this side of the resurrection using a video-based series from The Work of the People titled "To Stand Again: Practices of Resurrected Life." The series will be of interest to everyone, but especially to those who have been studying John Shelby Spong's book "Unbelievable" with Pastor Dale on Monday evenings.

April 8 - "All the Way Down" with Danielle Shroyer

April 15 - "Life Wins" with Maggie Barankise

LOOSE COIN OFFERING — On the first Sunday of each month, we dedicate all loose coins in the offering plates to feed the hungry. The money will go to the Presbytery of Chicago Hunger Fund.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS— MARCH

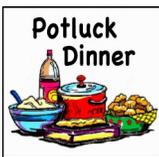
- noted with sadness the deaths of Dorothy Thorsen and Mary Lou Schwarz
- approved hiring of Diante Johnson as RPC's Christian Educator
- approved hiring Marika Floros as summer office help
- approved launching a Capital Improvement Campaign to raise \$220,000 for needed maintenance and upgrades to RPC's buildings
- accepted bids from Thunderbolt Roofing and Soumar Tuck-pointing to proceed with needed repairs
- approved the formation of an Eco-Justice Task Force to explore how RPC can become more eco-friendly
- approved the recommendation from the Manse Utilization Committee that the music program of RPC continue to use the 1st floor of the Manse for its activities and to relocate files and materials from the 2nd floor to the 1st.

Mary Ann Sadilek, Clerk of Session

ALL CHURCH FAMILY WORK DAY — The next work day is on April 22 from 1-3 p.m. On that day we expect to replace the florescent lights in the social hall with new LED lighting. Compared to florescent lighting the new LED lighting will provide brighter consistent lighting, use half the energy, the bulbs last 13x times longer than florescent bulbs, and are better for the environment.

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY NEEDS —Vacuum packaged meats, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, small boxes of raisins and trail mix, granola/cereal bars and small packages of powdered laundry detergent. **No drink mixes needed at this time.**

"ASK ME ABOUT 5TH SUNDAYS" —The inaugural 5th Sunday is happening soon....Sunday, April 29th at Caledonia (formerly Scottish Home). On this Sunday, we will have worship with acts of service and fellowship onsite at Caledonia. RPC will be firing up the grills and hosting a cookout for the residents after worship. We will car pool to Caledonia from RPC and are asking everyone to join us and bring a dish to pass.



DEACONS POTLUCK— Do you love beignets and chicory coffee? Instead of trekking all the way to Cafe Du Monde, join us on April 8th for a bayou-rific time at RPC in celebration of Jazz Sunday. Please bring your favorite cajun/creole dish or anything else you think would jazz up the table.

WOMEN'S CIRCLE for Fellowship and Study — meets **Wednesday, April 25** at 10:00 am in the Social Hall. All women are welcome to join us for coffee, fellowship and study as we discuss "*Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews*" by Melissa Bane Sevier. Lesson Eight "In Community with the Household of Faith". Hebrews 3:1-6; Numbers 12:7; Hebrews 13:1-6; James 2:1-4; Psalms 127:1-2. Kate Chard, Leader.



BIBLE PRESENTATION — 2nd grade Bible Sunday is April 22nd. All kids 2nd grade (or older) who have not received a Bible are invited to be part of this special day. Please email or call Susan Zander for more information.

SUNDAY SCHOOL —April is shaping up to be a busy month in Sunday school! Along with the CARERS Committee, we are collecting cereal boxes this month with a goal of raising 100 boxes. The children will get additional stickers for each cereal box they bring in. When class returns from spring break on April 8th, we will be taking part in a nature walk (weather permitting) and making a craft focusing on recycled materials. Then join us at Hauser on April 14th, where we will be packaging macaroni and cheese for the 'Feed Our Community' day. On the 15th we will discuss how noticing the ways things or people are the same will gradually expand our awareness to help us to feel a part of a larger reality. On April 22nd we will learn how to live joyfully while listening to music and getting silly. On April 29th, in place of Sunday school and our regular service we will have worship with acts of service and fellowship onsite at Caledonia at 10:00. We hope you all join in the fun!

WORSHIP AT CANTATA AND CALEDONIA — Join us in the worship service for the residents of Cantata on April 1 at 2 pm, and at Caledonia on April 15 at 2 pm.



CARERS COMMITTEE & KIDS UNITE IN APRIL — This month the CARERS Committee, in conjunction with the Sunday School, will be collecting cereal of all kinds for the First Presbyterian Church of Chicago.

SONGS OF PEACE— The Oak Park Concert Chorale directed by Paul Lindblad is holding their concert here at RPC on Sunday, April 15 at 4:00 pm. Tickets are \$18 in advance and \$20 at the door. Seniors are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door.

The Prayer of the Children (in a time of war) by Kurt Bestor provides a unique emotional context to *Songs of Peace* presented by the OPCC. From the Renaissance to the 21st century, composers have been inspired by different aspects of the concept of peace.

CARDS AND WELL-WISHES APPRECIATED— We have been praying for good health for Lucille Christensen for several weeks. She is still in rehab and her son Dan asked us to help him boost her spirits. Please let her know you care by sending a card or letter to her at: 378 Bimini Cay Circle, Vero Beach FL 32966

PRESCHOOL NEWS— April will be a busy month with our in-school visit from the Humane Society and our trips to the Riverside Arts Center, Police and Fire Stations. Our annual Geranium Sale begins and ends this month. The quality of the geraniums is always top notch. Look for an order form in your bulletin. The flowers will be delivered to RPC on Monday, May 7 in time for Mother's Day. Thanks for your continued support! The Book Fair and Raffle were a great success! Congratulations to our raffle winners and thank you so much for buying books and raffle tickets!

MISSION UPDATE FROM KATHRYN NADKARNI

Dear church family,

Today I returned from my mission trip to Santo Domingo. Once more, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your thoughts, prayers, clothes/book donations, financial contributions, and moreover support and love as I headed back to my all-time favorite place.

Being a team leader was challenging, but one of the most rewarding experiences I have had in my life. I am so incredibly grateful that I got to work with this year's team. This year's trip was vastly different than last year's! Instead of half manual labor, half recess with the kids, we spent much more time with them in small group settings in the classroom. Each day, we were able to help out children kindergarten-third grade in their English class! We also combed out the lice of many young girls, and we even dedicated an entire day to dental hygiene practice, when we got to send every child home with their own dental health kit.

One of the most exciting parts about going back was being able to see Esther, the beautiful, quiet, and strong little girl that last year I formed a really incredible bond with. The coolest moment of the week was attending her soccer practice (with the newly established young women's team) and seeing her do what she loves. Even better was when she got tired and joined me on the sidelines to relax and watch the rest of the girls play.

I am so grateful for the team, for The Justification of Youth and Kids Alive International, and for each and every one of you!

Joyfully,

Kathryn Nadkarni



HOLY LAND TRIP— It's not too late to sign up for our trip to the Holy Land September 3-12.



PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Thank you to Jim Holland, Vinnie Riviera, the acaBELLa Ringers and the RPC Chancel Choir for joining today's Ministry of Music.

Ushers: Fred Kitch, Claire Gangware, Patti Perry-Halline and Deb Pike

Liturgist: Dennis Cobb

Andrew Ministers: Connie Kelly and Lynda Nadkarni

Communion Servers: Kaki Lynch, John Haugland, Ellen Hamilton and Sandy Kappmeyer

Trustees of the Month: George Meyer and Patti Perry-Halline



The lilies and tulips in the chancel today are given as memorials, to or in honor of loved ones, by members and friends of our church.

In honor of those at RPC who have shared their lives and friendship with us from the Meyer Family.

In memory of Uncle Jim Boynton from the McLean Family.

In memory of Eugene Pouliot from Pat Meschi.

In memory of our parents from John Haugland and Connie Kelly.

In memory of Schofield Gross from his family.

In memory of Jesse Allen James (1-11-18 ~ 3-2-18) from Joyce Dobrzanski.

To the Greater Glory of God from David Harper.

In memory of our parents, Earl and Evelyn Zander and Charles and Edith Kappmeyer from Dennis Zander and Sandra Kappmeyer.

In loving memory of our parents and grandparents, Bill and Dorothy Jansky and Gene and Florence Swenson from Jonathan and Debra Jansky and family.

In loving memory of Frank Musick from Elizabeth Musick.

In memory of Julia Hope Staubus from her family.

In memory of Sylvia Papazian Okolovitch and George Sloane from the Sloane/Kazarian Family.

In memory of Sue D. Strause, loving mother and grandmother, from Susan Lynch.

In memory of my parents, Paul and Ruth McCracken; my grandparents, Oscar and Jessie Siler and Sumner and Mary McCracken; and my brother-in-law, Steve Langer from Paula McCracken.

In memory of Amy Wolff from her children, siblings and parents.

Remembering Easter's Promise and our wonderful parents: Joe and Liberty Dvorak and George and Mildred Spink from Joe and Nancy Dvorak.

In memory of my parents, Charles and Celeste Steger from Ruth Svestka.

In memory of my deceased parents and husband from Connie Nestor.

In memory of John Clarke from his family.

In loving memory of my stepmother, Marge Ash, from Brooke Woodham.

In addition to the plants, donations were given as memorials, to or in honor of



loved ones, by members and friends of our church.

In memory of Sylvia Papazian Okolovitch and George Sloane from the Sloane/Kazarian Family.

In memory of my mother, Virginia Breeze Palmer from Gwen Heine.

In memory of our son, Drew; Jeanne's sister, June; and our parents from Jeanne and Jack Smith.

In memory of my deceased parents and husband from Connie Nestor.

In memory of my parents, Paul and Ruth McCracken; my grandparents, Oscar and Jessie Siler and Sumner and Mary McCracken; and my brother-in-law, Steve Langer from Paula McCracken.

In memory of Euana and Edgar Gangware from Claire and Frank.

In memory of my parents, Charles and Celeste Steger from Ruth Svestka.

With thanksgiving from Elizabeth Musick.

In memory of Mary Lou Schwarz from Marge Abbott.

2018 CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Elders

Mary Ann Sadilek, Clerk of Session

2018

Diane Chaney
John Haugland
Gwen Heine
Youth Elder: Kaki Lynch

2019

Jeanine Buttimer
Patti Friend
Susan Lynch
Lisa Aulerich- Marciniak

2020

Frank Gangware
Martha Heine
Lynda Nadkarni
Dennis Zander

Deacons

2018

David Harper
Steve Marcus
Paula McCracken
Serina Ranft

2019

Ellen Hamilton
Sandy Kappmeyer
Lorraine Meyer
Steve Teune

2020

Lloyd Bradbury
Charlie Juister
Sally Sloane
Jeanne Smith

Trustees

2018

Thom DeVries
Joel Hastings
George Meyer
Connie Nestor

2019

Susan Deems-Dluhy
Cyril Friend
Fred Kitch
Brad Staubus

2020

Patti Perry-Halline
Doug Harvin
Henry Vogel

Mission Statement

We gather as a church family to:
Celebrate God's Presence ~ Nurture the Spiritual Life
Carry the Light of Christ into the World ~ Serve God by Serving Others

RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dale Jackson, Pastor 502-592-1617 (pastor@rpcusa.org)
Linda Hutcheson, Office Manager (rpcoffice@rpcusa.org)
Dr. Sally Sloane, Minister of Music (musikhse@comcast.net)
Susan Zander, Director of Children's Education (smozan@icloud.com)
Diante Johnson, Christian Educator (christianed@rpcusa.org)
Ellen Hamilton, Treasurer (treasurer@rpcusa.org)
Susan Lisle, Preschool Director (rpcpreschool@rpcusa.org)

