

# FROM THE PASTOR

Friends,

These are indeed strange times in which we are living. Please know that I miss seeing each of you in worship and at other times throughout the week. This week there are several new ways for us to keep in touch as a church family; please read the following announcements carefully. If you are unable to view worship services, we have developed a way for you to phone in and listen. Do you miss Coffee Fellowship? Join in Sunday Morning Zoom coffee fellowship as a way to stay connected.

In this mailing, you will find a cross made of a palm branch; originally, we were going to hand them out on Palm Sunday. I hope each of you will put your cross where you can see it often (for me, that would be on the jar of peanut M&Ms), and each time you see it remember not only your church family but the importance of Holy Week. I have also included a Holy Week activity developed by Alicia Reese at First United Oak Park; I hope you use it as a way to focus on the deeper meaning of this week.

If you are ill or unable to leave your house and need anything, please call me at the church office and leave a message on my voicemail, call my cellphone, or email me at [pastor@rpcusa.org](mailto:pastor@rpcusa.org). You can also call your Deacon. Know that I am keeping all of you in my thoughts.

Peace, Dale

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS – April 5, 2020

**The entire RPC building is closed, there are no meetings, the only people allowed in the building are those stocking the food pantry and staff on an as needed basis.**

**WORSHIP VIA INTERNET** - You are invited to join us for worship online at 10:00 am. You can access the worship service by doing any one of the following:

1. FaceBook - click on the YouTube button on the church's FaceBook page, which will take you here: <http://bit.ly/RPCworship>
2. Website – click on the Worship Videos tab on the homepage – [www.rpcusa.org](http://www.rpcusa.org)
3. YouTube – <http://bit.ly/RPCyoutube>
4. Go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search for Riverside Presbyterian, IL, to go to the church's channel.

The videos of the services will be available any time you want to access them at the conclusion of each Sunday's worship.

**WORSHIP BY TELEPHONE** – If you are unable to use a computer or tablet to view worship you may call in and **listen** to the service. At 10:00 am on Sunday Morning dial 1(312)626-6799 and use Meeting ID: 198 259 471. The numbers do not change for Sunday mornings. Stay on the line after worship and join us for Fellowship (you will not be able to see anyone, but you will be able to hear and talk to other folks).

**ZOOM COFFEE TIME** – Sunday mornings after the worship service you are invited to join Zoom coffee time. Here is the information you need to join us.

To call in use the number above.

<https://zoom.us/j/198259471?pwd=VFJuSDJmOE5uK2N0SWtKY2hYmxKZz09>

Meeting ID: 198 259 471



**FLOWER CURBSIDE PICK-UP** – If you ordered flowers in honor or memory of an individual for Easter, you are invited to pick them up on Thursday, April 9, from 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm or Friday, April 10, from 10:00 am – 11:00 am. We are unable to deliver flowers on your behalf.

**VISUAL BLESSINGS**—Throughout Lent, you've been asked you to share with him pictures of things you see that remind you of God. Now more than ever, being aware of God's presence in our daily lives is extremely important. Keep your pictures coming.

**THEOLOGY ON TAP**—Join us Mondays at 7:00 on Zoom for a movie study. For Monday, April 6, please watch *The Story of God*, the episode from Season 2 called *The Chosen One* on Netflix.

Here is the information for logging into Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/935547600?pwd=cTV0YTR4YkErT0twWmExUXITc3ozQT09>

Meeting ID: 935 547 600 Password: 636553



**TITHES & OFFERINGS** – The Session is committed to paying all staff during these difficult days. The ministry and mission of the congregation not only continues but is more important than ever. If you normally place your tithes and offerings in the offering plate on Sunday, please mail them to the church at 116 Barrypoint Road, Riverside, IL 60546. You can also give online.

**Mission CO-WORKERS**—As part of the General Budget, we support Jed & Jenny Koball. They assist the Peru Joining Hands Network (JHN). JHN is an initiative of the Presbyterian Hunger Program that addresses the root causes of hunger in partnership with networks of churches and non-governmental organizations. Together, Jed and Jenny also host PC(USA) church groups to educate them about the issues being addressed by JHN as well as to involve them through hands-on service in the local efforts of the NGOs and churches of the network.



**MAUNDY THURSDAY** – Join us on Thursday, April 9 at 7:00 pm. The service will be on our YouTube channel and is accessed the same as Sunday Morning Worship.

To dial in and listen to the service please call 1(312) 626-6799 and use Meeting ID: 985 351 405.

Please have a bowl with water and a hand towel ready for our service.

**EASTER SUNDAY COMMUNION** – On Easter Sunday, we will celebrate communion in our homes. To prepare for the sacrament, please have juice or another beverage and bread or crackers. It might be fun for us all to bake bread to use. If you bake bread during the week, send Pastor Dale a picture and it will be posted on our church's Facebook page! Here is an easy quick bread recipe that you can consider using:

#### **For Savory Quick Bread**

- 2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour or self-rising flour
- 1 TBSP baking powder (leave out if using self-rising flour)
- 1/2 tsp kosher salt (leave out if using self-rising flour)
- 3 large eggs, room temperature
- 1 1/2 cups milk or buttermilk, room temperature
- 6 TBSP canola oil (or any other oil or liquid fat)

#### **Instructions**

1. Preheat your oven to 350°F (177°C) and prepare a 9"x 5" (23 x 13 cm) loaf pan with non-stick spray or lined with parchment paper and set aside.
2. In a large mixing bowl whisk together the flour, baking powder, salt.
3. In a separate mixing bowl, whisk together the eggs, milk, and oil.
4. Pour the liquid ingredients into the dry ingredients and using a spoon or a rubber spatula, stir the two together until combined. This will be a batter, not a dough. It could benefit you to give it a good stir for about a minute to purposefully develop some of the gluten strands so that it has more of a bread-like texture to it once baked.
5. Pour the batter into the loaf pan and bake at 350°F (177°C) for 40-45 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out with moist crumb.