

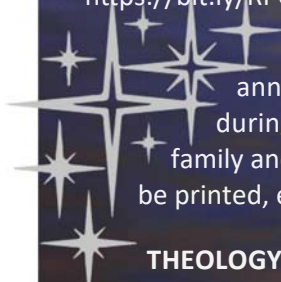
ADVENT AT RPC Riverside Presbyterian Church
ANNOUNCEMENTS
DECEMBER 13, 2020

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



Advent is for the dreamers in all of us—those who dream of a deeper connection with God and those who dream of a better world. It's for those whose dreams have been crushed and for those who show us that dreams take time. Join us this Advent as we seek and sow God's dreams for our world.

CHRISTMAS EVE — Our service will premiere on YouTube at 10:00 a.m. Christmas Eve morning. The service will feature guest soloists; the Christmas story and poetry. After the premiere the service will be available for you to watch at anytime. You can join us on YouTube or call in and listen to the service at 1 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 969 7640 3496 Passcode: 411726. To watch the service via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. use this link <https://bit.ly/RPCChristmasEve>



THE MESSIAH—Throughout Advent two soloists from our annual Messiah Concert will sing selections from the Messiah during worship. You can express your love in memory or honor of family and friends through a financial donation. Your dedications will be printed, emailed and included in the December 20 worship service.

THEOLOGY ON TAP—We are exploring your favorite Advent & Christmas hymns. Join us on Zoom, Monday's at 7:00 p.m. <https://zoom.us/j/935547600?pwd=cTV0YTR4YkErT0twWmExUXlTc3ozQT09> Meeting ID: 935 547 600 Passcode: 636553

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING—This Offering addresses the support needed by some of our leaders, including supporting leadership development for communities of color, and providing support for Presbyterian church workers in their time of need.

WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 27 — While Reverend Jackson is on vacation a very special service is planned. The service will premiere on YouTube and you may also call into Zoom and listen to the service. The Presbytery of Chicago is offering special worship services for congregations. Reverend Jackson helped plan and serves as liturgist for this service. The service follows the same themes we have explored throughout the Advent Season. It features beautiful music and the Reverend Jimmie Hawkins, Director of the PCUSA Office of Public Witness will be preaching.

ADVENT TIME OF REFLECTION – The sanctuary will be open, by reservation, to allow you to come and spend time in prayer and witness the beauty of our sanctuary during Advent. Please sign up on SignUp Genius <https://bit.ly/2JVINbL> or call the church office a day in advance. The following slots are open:



- Sunday, December 13: 1:00 pm – 1:30 pm, 2:00 pm – 2:30 pm
- Monday, December 14: 10:00 am – 10:30 am, 11:00 am – 11:30 am
- Tuesday, December 15: 12:00 pm – 12:30 pm, 1:00 pm – 1:30 pm
- Wednesday, December 16: 10:00 am – 10:30 am, 11:00 am – 11:30 am
- Thursday, December 17: 12:00 pm – 12:30 pm, 1:00 pm – 1:30 pm, 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm

ZOOM SUNDAY INFORMATION—Sunday morning you may call and listen to the worship service by dialing 1(312)626-6799 and using meeting ID: 973 5627 6934; Password: 960995. Stay on the line after worship and join us for Coffee Fellowship. If you are joining Coffee Fellowship after viewing worship on YouTube follow this link: <https://bit.ly/RPCFellowship>.



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE — The office will be closed December 24 and reopen January 3. Reverend Jackson is on vacation December 25– January 2. In an emergency, contact Reverend Jackson on his cell phone or leave a message on his office phone.

UPPER ROOM — Copies of the January-February 2021 Upper Room Devotional are available in the office.



PRAYER REQUESTS

- ◆ Prayers of comfort for family and friends of Haley Pierson, who was killed in an automobile accident Sunday night. The Piersons are friends of Sandra Kappmeyer and Dennis Zander.
- ◆ John Hiehle, Carol O'Meara's son-in-law, who is having brain surgery.
- ◆ Joyce Van Cura
- ◆ Jack Smith
- ◆ Judy Lynch, Susan Lynch's sister-in-law
- ◆ Monica Wood

DEAR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS,

By now you should have received the latest update of your donations to RPC in 2020. Once again, I want to thank you for your faithful giving during this particularly difficult year. As we draw close to year end, it is a good time to examine your statement and make sure your pledges are up to date. Next please prayerfully examine your budget and your heart to possibly make an additional gift to RPC. Hopefully our members' customary end of year generosity will prevent us from ending with a deficit. With thanks and the blessings of the season, Treasurer Ellen



MISSION GIVING—during these difficult times the Mission Committee and Session are committed to continuing the mission of RPC. Each year we budget \$5,000 for Missions and we also receive countless gifts throughout the year. Here are some of the ways that your pledges and gifts have been used this year.

- ◇ Peru Mission Co-Worker support \$1,000 (see article below)
- ◇ Constance Morris House \$500
- ◇ Boulevard \$500
- ◇ Heifer International \$1,000
- ◇ Beds Plus \$500
- ◇ Presbytery Disaster and Assistance \$1,000
- ◇ Alaskan Native Peoples Fund \$500
- ◇ 6 families from District 96 and 6 Little Food Pantry clients received \$100 Aldi gift cards for Thanksgiving
- ◇ 12 Brook Park School families and 6 Little Food Pantry clients received \$50 Aldi gift cards for Christmas



Fear and uncertainty abound. But we are not a hopeless people. We know that something better is coming. It is the essence of our faith. Our task – God's mission for us – is to be alert and bear witness to the light that no darkness can overcome. The darkness has not overcome the light of life in Peru. Your generosity continues to humble us. Your graciousness continues to sustain us.

But above all, your conviction to share Good News in the face of so much that is bad continues to inspire us.

With gratitude, hope and Christmas longing, Jed and Jenny

If you'd like to read more of their story, use this link: [Bit.ly/33Wce4t](https://bit.ly/33Wce4t)



SERRV & EARN FUNDRAISER

Many of you are probably shopping online for Christmas gifts this year. Consider shopping with Serrv International, which is a way to support artisans world-wide, the church and to have your gifts delivered to your recipients. It's never been easier to change a life for the better. Through **December 31**, 20% of your purchase will be donated to **RPC**. I hope you'll shop and share the web link today:
<https://www.serrv.org/?a=RPC>

Catalogs are available in the office. We can help you place your order if you like since all orders need to be placed online.

Dedicated to fighting poverty through fair trade since 1949, Serrv International works with nearly 8,000 artisans and farmers in 24 countries to bring you the world's most beautiful handcrafted items.



GIFT CARDS FOR THE HOLIDAYS — Especially this year when shopping is more difficult, you can help the RPC Preschool and get a head start on holiday shopping using gift cards from Shop with Scrip. The office has order forms. Please return your order form with a check made out to RPC in the office by Thursday for following week delivery. **THIS IS AN ONGOING FUNDRAISER.**

2020 CHURCH LEADERSHIP			
	2020	2021	2022
Elders	Frank Gangware Lynda Nadkarni Dennis Zander	Gwen Heine Allan Halline Matt Lisle	Ben Dickerson Ellen Hamilton Serina Ranft Mary Ann Sadilek, Clerk
Deacons	Lloyd Bradbury Charlie Juister Sally Sloane Jeanne Smith	Deb Jansky Wendy Seifert Joyce Van Cura	Claire Gangware Sylvia Schade Susanne Vogel
Trustees	Patti Perry Doug Harvin Hank Vogel	Thom DeVries Fred Mitchell Mike Heine	Paula McCracken Tom Radigan Brad Staubus