



## Riverside Presbyterian Church

116 Barrypoint Road,  
Riverside, IL 60546  
(708) 447-1520, [rpcusa.org](http://rpcusa.org)

**AUGUST 9, 2020**

Dear RPC family and friends,

I'm hoping that everyone has stayed safe and healthy in this trying time. As we have reviewed RPC's finances, we are thankful for everyone's continued generous giving. RPC has continued to support all our staff including the staff of the preschool.



Ellen's thoughtful application for a grant, which we received, has certainly helped us as well. The donations to the food pantry have been great and its use has increased considerably.

Currently we are a little behind on donations to keep up with where we need to be to match our expenses. If you have fallen behind on giving or if you are able to give a little more to help us balance our income with expenses it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you all so much.  
Dennis Zander  
Chairman of the Finance Committee

**For information on joining worship on the internet or phone please see the bulletin.** Worship is offered on our YouTube channel, and folks can join us on their telephone via Zoom. If you don't have a computer or tablet but do have a "smart" TV, you should be able to go to the YouTube channel on the TV and watch the service. If you would like a DVD of the service please contact me.



Prayers of healing for:

- ◆ Ruth Svestka
- ◆ Joyce Van Cura
- ◆ Judy Lynch, Susan Lynch's sister-in-law
- ◆ Jack Smith
- ◆ Dave Jones, husband of Donna Jones

**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.

Audio of the worship service: You may call and listen to the service by dialing 1 (312)626-6799 and use Meeting ID: 973 5627 6934; Password: 960995. Stay on the line after worship and join us for Fellowship. Here is the new link to Coffee Fellowship if you are joining on a computer: <https://bit.ly/RPCFellowship>.

**Reminder:** The entire RPC building is closed. There are no in-person meetings and the only people allowed in the building are those stocking the food pantry and staff on an as-needed basis.



**TITHES & OFFERINGS**  
Your financial gifts are important at this time. Please mail your tithes and offerings to the church. You can also give online.

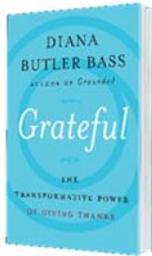
**EQUAL EXCHANGE FAIR TRADE ITEMS** —There are a few bags of organic coffee with a best if used by date in August for sale at a discounted price of \$6.00. If you'd like more detailed information on products or to place an order, contact the church office to arrange contact-free pick up.



**LITTLE FOOD PANTRY NEWS** — Canned food (especially meat products) and monetary donations are always needed and welcome. Thank you!



**WEEKLY MAILING UPDATE**—Please contact the church office if you would like to continue to receive the weekly mailing. All information will continue to be emailed and on the website. Please contact the office by phone (708)447-1520 or email: [rpcoffice@rpcusa.org](mailto:rpcoffice@rpcusa.org)



**THEOLOGY ON TAP** We all know the joy of a surprise gift, good news, or a great achievement -- all of those things eliciting feelings of gratitude. But these days, full of grief, worry, and uncertainty do not easily nurture a sense of thanks. Indeed, they seem to be gnawing away our hearts and our hopes. So what of gratitude now? When we don't feel grateful? In a 6-part course based on her recent book, *Grateful*, Diana Butler Bass takes us into a journey to understand what gratitude is, how it can strengthen us as individuals and in community, and the surprising ways in which it subverts hopelessness and injustice.

Below please find detailed information on registering for the online class and a schedule. I encourage everyone to watch the welcome video Dr. Bass does an excellent job of explaining what we need to know. The course has units, which we will discuss in order. Dr. Bass also includes what she calls conversations, and I have divided them up by evening. If you are short on time, please watch the UNIT, the conversations are provided for further reflection.

Schedule (again please watch the units BEFORE the class):

August 10: Unit 1 The Gap—Optional Conversation: Padraig O Tuama

August 17: Unit 2 The Table—Optional Conversation: Father James Martin

August 24: Unit 3 Me and Feeling Grateful & Gratitude Practice: Body Prayer  
Optional Conversation: Andre Henry

August 31: Unit 4 Me and Practicing Gratitude & Gratitude Practice: Prayer Beads  
Optional Conversation: Lisa Shannon Harper & Sophronia Scott

September 7: No Theology on Tap

September 14: Unit 5 We Feel Grateful & Gratitude Practice: Digital Community  
Optional Conversation: Carrie Newcomer

September 21: Unit 6 We Practice Gratitude in Public & Gratitude Practice: Appreciate & Welcome—Optional Conversation: Anne Lamott

September 28: Conclusion When the Table is Truly Set  
Optional Conversation: Simran Jeet Singh

To log in:

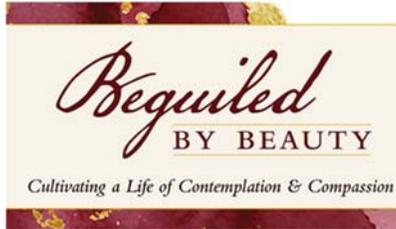
1. Follow this link: <http://bit.ly/GratefulGroupReg>
2. Click the gold REGISTER NOW button
3. Click the gold ENROLL IN COURSE button at the bottom of the page do not pay attention to costs
4. Enter all the required information on the next page; you should then see the Course Units

Here is the login information to join the ZOOM discussion.

<https://zoom.us/j/935547600?pwd=cTV0YTR4YkErT0twWmExUXItc3ozQT09>

Meeting ID: 935 547 600 Passcode: 636553

+13126266799,,935547600#,,,,,0#,,636553# US (Chicago)



Our worship series “Beguiled by Beauty: Cultivating a Life of Contemplation & Compassion” is inspired by the book of the same name by Wendy Farley, PhD, which lays out a theology of beauty that can lead us to greater compassion through spiritual practices of contemplation. Dr. Farley is a well-known

theologian and professor of spirituality at the Graduate School of Theology at the University of Redlands, home of San Francisco Theological Seminary.

We are deep into a pandemic and while summer bursts out all around us, death and economic suffering are prevalent. It is difficult to imagine how to comprehend both simultaneously. Dr. Farley’s work does just that. She helps us understand that faith in Divine Goodness is held together with suffering in order to make moments like this manageable. She shows us how a more intentional spiritual practice can deepen the well from which we draw in order to survive, and to thrive, during the trying times of our lives.

## Children’s Message Series: Beguiled By Beauty



Each week you will be asked to find a specific object to represent the beauty all around us. It’s a little like a scavenger hunt. To be ready, have the pictured object nearby. See you Sunday!

### 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