



Riverside Presbyterian Church

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

JANUARY 3, 2021



NEW WORSHIP SERIES begins Sunday, January 10, 2021.

Life is a series of exclamations from “O No!” to “Help!” to “Oh Yeah!” We can swing between disappointment, helplessness, and gratitude on a daily basis. There are also seasons of our lives when we feel inundated with more of one than the others. As we enter the new year, we had hoped we would be past the “O No!” of the last several months.

Instead we find ourselves with ongoing prayers for “Help!” The Book of Psalms knows all about this. Written over a span of time from exile and isolation to the rebuilding of the community, the poetry of the Psalms will accompany us in this series, reminding us that through it all, we can trust and even give our thankful “Oh Yeah!” because God is, indeed, holding our lives.



THEOLOGY ON TAP Begins Monday, January 18, 2021. Our study is called

A New Family: Throwing Open the Doors of the Sanctuary. Through her writing and speaking, Rachel Held Evans’ work opened a space for people to become involved with the evolution of their faith by example. She strived to be grace-full while admitting her imperfection. Her

advocation was for the heart of God which is for the people of God. All people, a diverse bunch of clumsy-yet-beautiful people of different races, cultures, beliefs, faiths, genders, and sexual orientations just doing our best to be human. She was a person who reached for the outsider and brought their voice and perspective into the fold. She inspired change and sometimes provoked resistance. But as she says in this series, her hope was to start more conversations than end them.

JUST A REMINDER — Sunday we celebrate communion as part of worship. Remember to have your bread or crackers and juice or another beverage ready for worship.



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>.



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

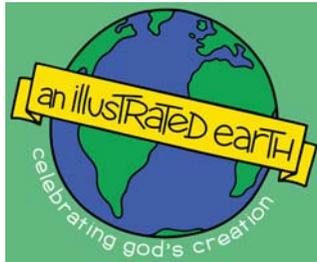
sure your pledges are up to date. Next, please prayerfully examine your budget and your heart to possibly make an additional gift to RPC. Hopefully our members' customary end of year generosity will prevent us from ending with a deficit. With thanks and the blessings of the season, Treasurer Ellen

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
- ◇ Constance Morris House \$500 (see article on next page)
- ◇ 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

CONSTANCE MORRIS HOUSE—Since 1979, Constance Morris House has worked to create a safe environment where domestic violence survivors are encouraged to learn about their options for change and empower themselves to make informed decisions about their future. Services are provided at NO COST and are available in English, Spanish, and Arabic.



FAITH FORMATION —Intergenerational Sunday School curriculum picks up where we left off and runs January 17-February 7. The lessons are as follows:

Animal Stories:

Creation of the Animals, Balaam and the Lord's Messenger, Jonah and the Big Fish and Parable of the Lost Sheep..

Packets will be available in the office by request.

CONFIRMATION CLASS — will begin mid-January. More details to follow.



- ◆ Prayers of comfort for family and friends of Lonnie Womack, who died December 15.
- ◆ John Hiehle, Carol O'Meara's son-in-law, who has cancer.
- ◆ Ruth Svestka and her husband, who is in hospice.
- ◆ Joyce Van Cura
- ◆ Jack Smith
- ◆ Judy Lynch, Susan Lynch's sister-in-law
- ◆ Monica Wood



ANNUAL REPORT REMINDER — All committee annual reports are due on or before Monday, January 4. Contact the office if you have any questions or need detailed instructions.



TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

The church staff follow COOK County travel quarantine guidelines. If you are coming to the church building (to drop off items, stock the food pantry, etc) you are asked to follow quarantine guidelines. Please use the hand sanitizer, wear a mask (masks are provided if you forget) and sign in. We are keeping track of all visitors for contact tracing. Please sign your name, date and time you are in the building in the book provided.



Laura Vanags, 1/4
 Sophia Mott, 1/6
 Matt Lisle, 1/7
 Monica Wood, 1/7
 Sara Willinger, 1/8
 Jay Van Cura, 1/8
 Lisa Hastings, 1/11
 Celia Carl, 1/11
 Ron Pike, 1/12
 Kelly Haugland, 1/12

Amy Regan, 1/14
 Victor Juister, 1/19
 Mary Ann Sadilek, 1/23
 John Cain, 1/24
 Claire Chaney, 1/25
 Cameran Thicken, 1/25
 Shelley Reichle, 1/27
 Laura McLean, 1/30
 Rachel McLean, 1/30
 Tom Booton, 1/31

2021 CHURCH LEADERSHIP		
Elders		
2021	2022	2023
Gwen Heine	Ben Dickerson	Lisa Aulerich Marciniak
Allan Halline	Ellen Hamilton	Sandra Kappmeyer
Matt Lisle	Serina Ranft	Lynda Nadkarni
Mary Ann Sadilek, Clerk		
Deacons		
Deb Jansky	Claire Gangware	Jeanine Buttimer
Wendy Seifert	Sylvia Schade	Bridget Juister
Joyce Van Cura	Susanne Vogel	Susan Lynch
Trustees		
Thom DeVries	Paula McCracken	Frank Gangware
Fred Mitchell	Tom Radigan	Doug Harvin
Mike Heine	Brad Staubus	Henry Vogel