



*We are called to celebrate God's presence;
Nurture the spiritual life of each individual;
Carry the light of Jesus Christ to the world;
and Serve God by serving others.*

RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
RIVERSIDE, ILLINOIS
2016 ANNUAL REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Pastor	1
Christian Education	2
(Committee for Children and Youth, Children's Education, Adult Education, Girls Group)	
Clerk's Membership Report	6
Board of Deacons	7
CARERS	10
Endowment Committee	10
Fellowship Committee	12
Finance Committee	13
Memorial Committee	15
Nominating Committee	15
Outreach (formerly Membership) Committee	16
Personnel Committee	17
Presbyterian Women	18
Preschool	19
Preschool Financial Results	21
Stewardship Committee	21
Board of Trustees	23
Worship and Music Committee.	24
Music Ministry	25
Scouts	26
Session	27
Congregational Meetings	28
Treasurer's Report	33
Budget for 2017.	36

Dear Friends,

It is with gratitude that I look back on my first year as your minister. You have welcomed Dennis and me with open arms and open hearts; I am confident God called us together. I have a confession to make, though; I don't like writing annual reports!! As you know, I like to focus forward and an annual report by definition looks backward!



I have sitting in my office a Peanuts cartoon by Charles Schulz. In it, Snoopy is lying on his doghouse and thinks "My life has become a bore" ... "Everything is the same day in and day out" ... "What I need is a change" in the final frame Snoopy has changed the way he is lying on the top of the dog house – he now faces the other way!

Much conversation surrounds the fact that I tend to change things -- but there is a reason for change, I never think that I have everything figured out and I have never met a church who has everything all figured out. I believe that God is constantly calling us to change and refashion who we are as individuals and as a congregation – God is always calling us into the future and that future is unknown. It is through our ability to experiment and try new and different things that we ultimately open ourselves to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

My goal for 2017 is to build on our church's mission and outreach. I pray that this year by our faith and through our actions, we dedicate ourselves to:

- worshipping together with joy, energy, and enthusiasm
- accepting, nurturing, and celebrating the gifts of each person
- serving the sick, the needy, and the less fortunate as we work to build the world that embodies God's kindness and compassion
- exploring, with open hearts and minds, the meaning of our individual and our shared faith
- participating near and far in the hope and in the struggle for a just, peaceable, and environmentally sustainable world

I pray that we will have the courage to dream of the future that God has for us and then the faith to act on those dreams. As a congregation, you have expressed great openness to new and different ideas. The more open we are to change the greater our chances for both spiritual and numerical growth the coming year. God is a God that ever calls us forward.

This year I challenge each of you to open yourselves to the leading of God. I challenge you to become evangelists for this church – invite a friend to worship with us – tell others of the great things that God is doing here – spread the Gospel news of love and forgiveness. The good news is that we have a God who loves us, a tradition of welcoming and sharing, and the ability to do whatever we put our minds and hearts to in the years to come.

Dale

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

COMMITTEE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Programming for the youngest members of our church family is the responsibility of the Committee for Children and Youth. Our Preschool, Sunday School, Confirmation, Youth Groups, and Girls Group all are supported by this committee which also serves as a contact for our Scouting programs. The committee is a mix of staff members and volunteers from the congregation chaired by a member of the Session.

We would like to thank Rev. Emily Rosencrans for her care and support while she served as our gap pastor. She did much to assure the committee it was on the right track during her tenure at RPC and was helpful when problems arose. We are very happy to once again have a full time pastor and are grateful to Rev. Dale Jackson for his support of our staff and our programs and his obvious love of our young people.

April 17, 2016 saw the confirmation of four high school students whom we welcomed to full adult membership. This fall, Rev. Jackson jumped right in to help lead our confirmation class along with Patti Friend and assistance from Bill and Vicky Vogel. Traditionally, RPC has offered confirmation class to those in high school. This year we invited anyone 8th grade or older. There are currently three students studying to be confirmed in the spring.

This past summer, eleven members of the Senior High Youth Group took their annual mission trip under the leadership of Director Matt Gauen and four adult volunteers: Cyril Friend, Doug Harvin, Sandra Kappmeyer, and Lisa Aulerich-Marciniak. We worked with Appalachian Service Project in Kentucky on two different sites, making homes “warmer, safer, drier.” It was a fun and meaningful experience.

In late August, Youth Director Matt Gauen resigned, and Rev. Jackson stepped up again to lead the youth group with the assistance of Sandra Kappmeyer and Lisa Aulerich-Marciniak. Junior and Senior High have been meeting together and enjoying activities including service, discussion, games, food, and fellowship.

Staff members have submitted reports regarding their individual programs. Please read these reports for details on what each program is offering to the children of our congregants and the community.

As chair of the committee, I am especially thankful to those who actively serve on this committee and prove over and over their dedication, thoughtfulness, flexibility, and love through their work. I would also like to thank everyone in the congregation who interacts with the children and fulfills the vows we take upon their baptisms to help raise them in the way of the Lord. Whether it be teaching Sunday School, working with the Scouts, donating supplies for VBS, acknowledging the special efforts of our children when they take part in the service or do

work around the church, or simply being a good example of a loving Christian, your involvement is important to our ministry

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Aulerich-Marciniak, committee chair

CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

The Session Elder for Christian Education was Lisa Marciniak. Susan Zander continued as Director of Children's Education for the third year. This year's Christian Ed. Committee was comprised of Patti Friend, Tara Gregus, Patti Halline, Sandra Kappmeyer, Susan Lynch, Lynda Nadkarni, Cindy Reynolds and Carrie Staubus.

Fall 2016 launched the fifteenth year of RPC's Passport to the Promised Land Sunday School program for school-aged children, Kindergarten – Junior High. Attendance averages 14 children per week, with 23 enrolled. We have a strong core of 2-5th graders, and see a great opportunity for growth in the younger group (preschool-1st graders), and junior high. CCY is actively looking for ways to raise these numbers. The Sunday school program is based on the rotational model, which takes one Bible lesson or story for each unit and teaches it to the children in a different way each Sunday for the four to five Sundays of that unit. A typical rotation will often consist of a cooking class, an arts and crafts class, a gym class, a Bible study class and time in our new computer lab all using the Cornerstones curriculum. A special thank you to those who have given of their time and talents to teach a rotation (or more) in 2016: Jeanine Buttimer, Susan Deems-Dluhy, Nancy Dvorak, Patti Friend, Patti Halline, Ellen Hamilton, Doug Harvin, Eva Harvin Sylvia Harvin, Sandra Kappmeyer, Connie Kelly, Natalie Lisle, Christine Long, Susan Lynch, Lorraine Meyer, Colleen Mueller, Lynda Nadkarni, Kathi Roccanova, Aimee Sahlas, Carrie Staubus, Susanne Vogel and Bryan Zander. An extra-special thank you to our shepherds for the 2016/17 school year who lovingly guide their classes each week: Dima Aieta, Kip Friend, Laura McLean and Rachel McLean.

We had a very successful science-based summer camp in July, with a total of 22 K-5th graders in attendance. The kids were split by age into separate groups, with each doing several different experiments over 3 days. This event was a huge success, both within our church and with children who had never attended before. We are looking at ways to expand upon it in the summer of 2017.

The Committee for Children and Youth held many enjoyable seasonal activities as well. We threw a Halloween party, open to the congregation and members of nearby communities. We had roughly 65 people in attendance, with food, games, music and dancing. In conjunction with the Fellowship Committee, 'A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving' had a great turnout, and was a wonderful outreach to the preschool families. Our annual Christmas pageant was held on Christmas Eve this year, which saw 18 children participating. It was the perfect way to close out the year.

In addition to these programs, childcare is provided Sunday mornings for infants and toddlers by a two-person team of paid staff. Between one to four children per week are cared for in the toddler room. We are blessed by Barbara Eberhardt and Keri Nekovar's loving care of our toddlers each Sunday.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Zander
Director of Children's Education

ADULT EDUCATION

Human Scene offered adult learning and discussion opportunities on a wide diversity of subjects in 2016. The year began with the continuation of a multi-week lecture series on the 12 minor prophets by Pastor Emily. During Lent, we watched a seven-part series called "Faces Around the Cross." This program was developed and performed by Dr. Richard Stenbakken and was a series of monologues by characters who were parts of the Crucifixion story, including Judas, Pilate, Peter and John. The rest of the Spring included several lectures on the Old Testament by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine and a lecture on the Gnostic gospels by John Haugland. We also watched and discussed an episode of "30 Days" which followed a US citizen of Cuban origin and a fierce advocate for tougher sanctions against illegal immigrants when he was placed with an illegal immigrant family for 30 days and experienced the issue from their perspective.

Human Scene was not held during the Summer. In the Fall, we started an extensive series entitled "Living the Questions" which features video conversations with leading voices of faith speaking on a wide range of topics. The overarching theme of the series is to illustrate how faith has evolved and continues to evolve and that Christianity is not a rigid and static set of rules and ethics. In addition, we featured a six-week series that explored the fundamental role of the church. During this series, participants were encouraged by the class moderator to discuss what they saw as the fundamental role of RPC. These thoughts were shared on an anonymous basis with the Session.

Finally, in an attempt to stimulate greater attendance especially from choir members who are unable to attend a 9-10 AM class, we changed the time of the program to 15 minutes following the end of the service during the fall. Unfortunately, this did not result in an increase in average attendance and, in fact, left several regular attendees upset with the new time. Beginning in February 2017, we will once again hold the class prior to the service but will start at 8:30 a.m. to accommodate any interested choir members who must depart before 9:30 a.m.

Human Scene is always seeking input and contributions from the congregation. Whether it's an idea for a program, a referral to an outside speaker, or volunteers to lead class discussion or to teach a topic, RPC invites you to forward such ideas to Session.

GIRLS GROUP

2016 was the second full year of Girls Group under the direction of Tara Gregus. In the spring of 2016, Amanda Gregus was hired as the assistant for the group. We held our meetings on Wednesday evenings or Fridays at RPC or at the Riverside Public Library. Low attendance continues to be a struggle, but we have been doing what we can to recruit girls to the group and have been somewhat successful in this area. We have several girls attending regularly this fall who did not attend last year.

We try to have a mix of fun social opportunities, discussion topics and guest speakers, and service projects. We hosted “Ladies Night” at the Helping Hand Center, made fleece baby blankets for Teen-Parent Connection, visited the Scottish Home, participated in Open Mic Night, had a mother-daughter tea and worked in the prayer garden. We learned to how to apply makeup, and about healthy dating relationships and healthy body image, cooked for Wednesday Night Live!, had a bonfire, a bicycle scavenger hunt, made birdhouses for the preschool and went to the movies. We made loans to women’s groups on Kiva.org, made cookies for Caring Christmas and went to Laser Quest. We made a meal for a North Riverside family, participated in Operation Shoebox for the third year in a row, and had a fun sleepover at Tara’s beach house in June. We had a successful fundraiser this year by selling coffee and gift bags at the RPC holiday bazaar. Whew!

We look forward to making 2017 another good year for the RPC Girls Group.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Gregus

Girls Group Advisor

CLERK'S MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Active members as of January 1, 2016 **373**

Additions:

New Members	6	
Confirmands	4	+10

Losses:

Deaths	6	
Other losses	34	- 40

(Includes resignations, moved, and removal by session)

Active members as of December 31, 2016 **343**

Infant/child baptisms	3
Adult baptisms	1
Weddings	0

In Memoriam:

Olga Cykner
Schofield B. Gross
Betty Jane Jirsa

Gayle Prendki
Dennis Sadilek
Audrey Withers

Mary Ann Sadilek
Clerk of Session

BOARD OF DEACONS

Who's who on the 2016 Board of Deacons:

Class of 2016

Kate Chard, Kathy Feary, Donna Mitchell, Marilyn Slanec, Sally Sloane, Ruth Svestka

Class of 2017

Allan Chard, Ellen Hamilton, David Harper, Paula McCracken, Steve Marcus, Colleen Muller

Class of 2018

Lloyd Bradbury, Sandra Kappmeyer, Lorraine Meyer, Serina Ranft, Steve Teune

Youth Deacon

Kaki Lynch

The Board of Deacons operated with one less adult deacon due to the resignation of a new member shortly after the first meeting. We decided to not fill the empty slot and counted the youth deacon to make up the full complement.

Ministry Coordinators

CARERS Committee: Marilyn Slanec, Kate Chard

Caring Christmas: Kaki Lynch

Communion & Home Communion: Steven Teune

Deacon Fundraiser: Sandy Kappmeyer

Environmental Mission: Steven Teune

Feed Our Community Day: Ellen Hamilton

Flower Delivery & Joys and Concerns: Lorraine Meyer

Funeral and Memorial Services: Ellen Hamilton

The Boulevard SAM: Ellen Hamilton

Piggy Bank Task Force: Marilyn Slanec

Retirement Home Services: Steve Marcus, Paula McCracken

Share the Harvest & Grace Seeds ministry: Steve Teune, David Harper

Sunshine Lady: Kathy Feary

Recording Secretary: Ellen Hamilton

Treasurer: Ellen Hamilton, Donna Mitchell

CARERS Sub-Committee

The CARERS committee continues to solicit and deliver donations each month to various local organizations as well as sponsoring a variety of other mission activities to benefit the disadvantaged. They are soliciting new members to enable them to continue their much appreciated efforts. Please see separate CARERS report following this report.

Caring Christmas

Under the direction of the youth Deacon, Kaki Lynch, more than 27 plates of cookies accompanied by a very clever craft item and a Christmas card were prepared and delivered to members that we don't see in church very often. This is a popular surprise that always is received with joy and gratitude.

Home Communion

While still much under-utilized, Eucharist was brought to three households during the past year. The deacons will continue to offer this service.

Environmental Mission

The vegetable garden was planted with some different crops this year and still produced a respectable quantity of fresh vegetables and greens for a local food pantry. We continue to garden organically and have begun the process of becoming a “Certified Organic Producer.” In addition we assisted Sylvia Schade in maintaining and improving the butterfly garden.

Feed Our Community Day

The board of Deacons continue to support financially and logistically this annual event that packages tens of thousands of high nutrition packaged meals for distribution to food banks and local food pantries in northern Illinois. This year fell somewhat short of the goal due to fewer adult volunteers and noticeably less publicity.

Flower Delivery

When available, the flowers that decorate the chancel during worship service are given to persons celebrating a joy or needing some comfort. On occasion we delivered flowers to persons outside the church rolls. The Deacons continue to make the deliveries.

Funerals and Memorials

The families of Olga Cykner, Schofield “Scuff” Gross, Betty Jirsa and Dennis Sadilek were assisted with memorial services at RPC during the past year.

The Boulevard

We continued to serve an evening meal to approximately 40 residents of a transitional shelter on the west side of Chicago on the last Sunday of each month. The residents are recovering from medical conditions that required hospitalization and are sheltered until permanent housing can be arranged.

Retirement Home Services

On two Sundays each month under the guidance of a pair of dedicated deacons a worship service is offered to the residents of two local retirement homes at 2:00 PM. On the first Sunday of the month, they bring prayer, music, scripture, an inspirational message, and fellowship to the Cantata Retirement Home and on the third Sunday they visit The Scottish Home. This ministry provides volunteer opportunities to the youth group, individual musicians and congregation members and have been especially blessed this past year by Elizabeth Musick with her musical skills and liturgical knowledge.

Share the Harvest / Grace Seeds Ministry

Some members of our church family grow herbs and vegetables in their home gardens for the benefit of a food pantry run by a church in a nearby suburb. Seedlings and/or seeds are provided.

Sunshine Lady

The Board of Deacons found an opportunity to restore the much appreciated position of “Sunshine Lady.” She sends cards and personal notes to those enjoying a joyous event (birth, anniversary, marriage, etc.) or suffering from a tragedy (accidents, illness, hospitalization, etc)

Holiday Bazaar

The Deacon fundraiser took the form of a ChristKindlMarkt this year selling seasonal, gift and handicraft items. This event was organized by Sandra Kappmeyer, to whom we give great thanks as it was a success. The youth group operated a cafe and bake sale. Table space was rented to “10,000 Villages” to round out a very festive event. The proceeds were more than last year, and it was well attended in spite of some inclement weather, attracting people from Riverside as well as from surrounding communities.

Joys and Concerns

Deacons still take their prayer life very seriously and when joys and concerns are gathered at the end of the worship service, a list is distributed to all the deacons for additional prayers.

Contributions

During fiscal year 2016, the following amounts were approved:

- \$ 1000.00 Mission Outreach, Inc. (parent organization to Feed Our Community Day)
- \$ 500.00 BEDS Plus (West Suburban homeless shelter)
- \$ 500.00 People Care of Riverside, Illinois
- \$ 500.00 Youth Outreach services
- \$ 575.00 to sponsor the Youth Deacon at the Triennium
- \$ 800.00 to PCUSA to benefit the Callison's missionary work (missionaries in Iraq)

A Reduced Board of Deacons for the coming year.

With a great deal of reluctance the Board came to grips with a smaller pool of available participants and agreed to reducing our size from 18 members to 12 member. This mirrors the changes in Session, and it was requested that the Mission Committee be restored to Session as it had been in past years. While no new deacons will be welcomed to the Board the reduction was accomplished by those rotating off and no one had to be asked to step down.

Summary

The Board of Deacons continues to be a vibrant part of Riverside Presbyterian Church and while we are keenly aware of the transitional stresses on our beloved church, we are all dedicated to our ministry of compassion and service. In the past year, we began to collect prescription pill bottles to be used by Medical Teams International for use in third world countries. We initiated a partnership with Ascension Lutheran Church to help settle a Refugee family in the Chicagoland area. We also voted to provide financial assistance to a missionary couple working in the north of Iraq. With the mission efforts being moved over to Session the Deacons will be challenged to re-dedicate ourselves to more traditional roles of caring for the needy within and outside our church community.

Respectfully submitted,
David Harper, Moderator

CARERS

The CARERS sub-committee of the Board of Deacons continued to solicit and deliver monthly donations to various local organizations:

Homeless Shelters:

- BEDS Plus (coffee, tea, lemonade, paper towels, toilet paper)
- The Boulevard (household goods for departing clients)
- Constance Morris House (Christmas gifts for abused women and children)

Food Pantries:

- First Presbyterian Church of Chicago
- Riverside Township Office

Local: Stars and Stripes (collection for active U.S. military personnel)

Prison Ministry:

- Companions for Christ (greeting cards, postage and holiday messages)

CARERS welcomes new members to enable us to continue our much appreciated efforts.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn Slanec, Chair

Kate Chard, Assistant Chair

Members:

Marge Abbott, Joyce Dobrzanski, Sandra Kappmeyer, Carol O'Meara, Mary Lou Schwarz, Lynn Shannon-Labotka, Carol Sprunger, Ruth Svestka, Monica Wood, Edie Wakely

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

The members of the Committee were:

Representing the Session:

Representing the Trustees:

Serving at-large:

Martha Heine and Dennis Zander

Susan Deems-Dluhy and David Schade

Ellen Hamilton, Mike Heine, Fred Kitch,

Cindy Reynolds, Stan Schade,

Brad Staubus, and Will Vogel

Gifts made to the endowment fund:

	Opening Balance	2016 Additions	Closing Balance
Unrestricted	\$361,993.61	\$1,154.13	\$363,147.74
Property Maintenance	78,500.00		78,500.00
Church Budget	5,000.00		5,000.00
Mission Outreach	15,250.00		15,250.00
Education	3,100.00		3,100.00
Music	3,225.00		3,225.00
Total:	\$467,068.61	\$1,154.13	\$468,222.74

During the year, two contributions were received in the total amount of \$1,154.13.

Earnings from the fund allocated for 2016 programs were \$630.20. Additional funds were received from the endowment of a former member in the sum of \$349.69. The total earnings/receipts applied to the Church's 2016 programs were \$979.89. Earnings on non-designated gifts invested in investment funds of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Foundation and other investment companies were reinvested. \$1,000 was added to the Support Fund from non-designated contributions. The Pastor Home Equity Fund loan balance was paid off. A \$50,000 loan was made in January 2015, to the RPC treasury, and \$5,000 is still outstanding. Also outstanding is a 2016 loan to the Trustees for organ restoration in the amount of \$10,000.

Distribution of 2016 earnings/receipts was as follows:

General Budget	\$ 575.00
Property Maintenance	317.59
Good Samaritan	61.70
Education	12.55
Music	13.05
Total:	\$ 979.89

The RPC Endowment was established in 1980. Only the earnings on endowment contributions are eligible for allocation to our Church's programs.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Heine, Endowment Committee Chair

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

The mission of the Fellowship Committee is to promote the building of Christian Community through fellowship with our church family and the greater community. Fellowship builds bond of caring and enables church members to better know, support and minister to each other as God would want us to do. Through fellowship activities, we can help the church foster a welcoming atmosphere, making both members and visitors feel at home at RPC.

Co-chairs Debra Jansky and Karl-Heinz Meyer would like to thank the 2016 Fellowship Committee and volunteers for all their hard work in creating and hosting fellowship events that successfully fulfilled our mission. Serving Committee Members included: Tara Gregus, Stephen Marcus, Connie Kelly, Martha Heine, and Carrie Staubus.

In addition to weekly coffee fellowship following worship services and our traditional fellowship events, the Committee set out in 2016 to diversify their fellowship offerings, introducing several new events and re-introducing some favorites from the past.

On April 3rd we had a going away luncheon for Pastor Emily Rosencrans. It was well attended and did not have a shortage of any kind of food.

Our annual Open Mic Night was held on Saturday, April 23rd in cooperation with the Youth Group which hosted their "Youth Cafe" which offered a variety of light food. The proceeds helped to fund the RPC Youth Group Summer Mission trip to Kentucky to help with the Appalachia Service Project. A special thank you to John Haugland for organizing all the great talent we have at RPC. As always, a hugely successful multi-generational fellowship event!

On June 12th we had Dale's Installation event. Had a wonderful turn-out, about 75-80 people. It was well attended and did not have shortage of any kind of food. What a beautiful day. Many thanks to the Fellowship Committee for pitching in, and making it a success!

On July 13th, the Fellowship Committee hosted the annual Strawberry Social beginning with serving at 6 pm and enjoyed games and music from 7-8 pm. Fellowship continued until 9:00 pm. Even the stormy weather, the social hall leaking and the parking lot flooding didn't prevent us from having a nice crowd enjoying the tasty treats, delicious fruit, ice cream, photo booth and the lovely decorations. Highlights of the evening were the arrival of three buses of residents from Cantata and the Scottish Home and the "fancy cakes" auction. Again, a special thank you to Karl-Heinz Meyer who transformed the social hall into a whimsical and enchanting summer garden, perfect for gathering and socializing.

During the winter months through autumn months the Fellowship Committee resurrected an idea from years ago. The "Friday Night Fellowship" party. These are relaxing fellowship events hosted at a home. Those who attended brought an appetizer and a beverage to share. Thank you all for opening up your home for the "Friday Night Fellowship" party - Frank and Claire Gangware, Doug Harvin, Susanne and Will Vogel, John Haugland and Connie Kelly, Martha

and Lou Heine, and Jon and Deb Jansky. These were all well-attended gatherings and a delightful way to spend an evening with great company.

Sunday School Kick-off was held on Sunday, September 11, after Sunday service in place of coffee fellowship. We served hamburgers/cheeseburgers and hotdogs, and asked the congregation to bring a side dish to share. Weather was a great day for a picnic on the church lawn, sunny at 75 degrees. 102 adults and 12 children were in attendance. Lots of food and a great time was had by all.

A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving Party was held on Friday, November 18th with the help of Susan Zander. It was well attended by families and friends of our preschoolers as well as several of our younger church goers. We served pizza, salad, cookies, made Thanksgiving decorations and watched A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving movie.

On Sunday, October 30th we had an organ dedication at 4:00 concert to dedicate our restored organ. We had a reception following the organ recital with bite size treats and punch.

The Fellowship Committee finished out the calendar year with the Wassail Reception following the *Messiah* performance. On Sunday, December 11th at 4:00. We served 150 people. We had over 20 people who prepared lovely holiday cookies and cakes, and many helping hands for serving and clean up. Once again, Karl-Heinz Meyer magically transformed our social hall into a twinkling winter wonderland. Also, outside it was a winter wonderland with 3 inches of snow.

The Fellowship Committee has been blessed this year with the talents of so many in our church family. Thank you.

Submitted by: Debra Jansky

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

Doug Harvin, Chairperson (Session - 2017)
Roberta Gates (Session – 2016, Asst. Financial Secretary)
Dennis Zander (Stewardship, Session - 2018)
David Schade (Trustee)
Mike Heine (Endowment, Trustee appointment)
Alfred Kitch (member at large)
Stanley Schade (member at large)
Ellen Hamilton (Treasurer)
Cindy Reynolds (Financial Secretary)
Dale Jackson (Pastor)

* RPC bylaws require the Committee to consist of 3 members from Session, 2 appointed by Trustees, 2 members at large. The Treasurer and Financial Secretary shall be ex officio members.

Duties and Responsibilities:

The role of the Finance Committee is to act as an advisor to the Session on matters related to the Church's finances. The Finance Committee is specifically tasked with preparing an annual budget for Session's approval. As a matter of practice, the Finance Committee also monitors monthly spending and provides guidance when requested by Session.

2016 Highlights

Resignations were accepted at the start of the year from Jim Ulrich and George Dluhy as active members of the Finance Committee. George agreed to continue supporting RPC as Asst. Treasurer until a replacement has been found. In hindsight, the Committee did not actively seek a replacement. All volunteers are welcome for consideration.

The Session approved a budget for 2016 that included a \$17,295 deficit to the General Fund. Due to the generosity of the congregation, actual contributions were 105% of budget. Meanwhile, operating expenses (including a non-budgeted donation to mission) were just 98% of budget, allowing the General Fund to achieve a slight surplus of \$78! A \$5,000 loan from Endowment to the General Fund for the 2015 deficit remains outstanding. Favorably, loans from Endowment for the organ restoration have been repaid in full.

In June, Cindy Reynolds and Roberta Gates announced their intention to resign from their responsibilities as Financial Secretary once replacements were identified and trained. Rather than solicit new volunteers, new business processes were implemented to collect, count, record and report contributions and other receipts.

The Finance Committee worked with the chairpersons of Session Committees, Trustees, and Deacons to produce a budget reflecting the recommendations of the committees. A preliminary budget was presented to Session in November, and a final draft budget presented in December. After careful deliberation, the Session modified and approved a budget that results in a [\$18,460] deficit to the General Fund. The budget will be provided to the congregation.

Doug Harvin
Committee Chair

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

Beverly Aieta
Debra Jansky
Alice McLean
Rosalyn Pearson

The Memorial Committee wishes to thank all of those who made donations to the Memorial Fund throughout 2015.

The Committee presents the following:

Non-designated Memorial Funds from the General Memorial Account were used to purchase one sanctuary AV monitor, monitor stand, and cabling.

Memorial funds given in the memory of Schofield Gross were designated to the Building and Support Fund to help pay for the Organ Restoration.

Memorial funds given in the memory of Dennis Sadilek will be designated according to the wishes of the Sadilek family.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beverly Aieta

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee began its work in September by ascertaining which church officers were eligible and willing to serve for another term. The committee then met to consider nominees for the vacancies, and the following slate was presented to the congregation and duly elected on December 4.

Elders: Jeanine Buttimer, Patti Friend, Susan Lynch, Lisa Aulerich-Marciniak Youth elder, Kaki Lynch **Trustees:** Susan Deems-Dluhy, Cyril Friend, Fred Kitch, Brad Staubus

Member-At-Large, Endowment Committee: Kathi Roccanova

Members-At-Large, 2017 Nominating Committee: Marge Abbott, Nancy Dvorak, Tara Gregus, Mary Ann Sadilek, Carrie Staubus

In considering nominees for elders, particular care was given to finding people with ability and interest in heading the various session committees.

Respectfully submitted,
2016 Nominating Committee

Co-Chairmen: Bill Muller & Martha Heine

Members: Marge Abbott, Tara Gregus, Patti Friend, Lou Heine, Colleen Muller, Carrie Staubus

OUTREACH (MEMBERSHIP) COMMITTEE

I assumed responsibility for the committee mid-year from Susan Lynch, when filling the Session term of Joyce VanCura. The committee consists of Sandra Kappmeyer, MaryAnn Sadilek, and Andrew Ministers (listed below).

The committee's focus has shifted from greeting guests, membership rolls and member care, with one final look at the membership list. That yielded a roster of members who are un-engaged with RPC who we hoped would re-engage after contact from the (new) Pastor. Those who did not respond were removed from the rolls in December. Going forward, the Pastor and Clerk of Session will manage the membership rolls, with input from Deacons and others as deemed necessary.

Warmly greeting, shepherding and contacting guests is the primary focus of the Andrew Ministers: Beverly Aieta, Cyril Friend, David Harper, Connie Kelly, Susan Lynch, Patti Perry-Halline and myself. Bill and Colleen Muller also served in this capacity through October. I am thankful for the ways they engage those who are guests whether for the first time, or frequently.

The following initiatives are planned for 2017:

- 1) Banner on website to read "serving Riverside, Brookfield, LaGrange, LaGrange Park, Hinsdale, Lyons, Berwyn, Forest Park, McCook, North Riverside, Broadview, Cicero, Westchester, Oak Park, Stickney, Southwest Chicago and YOUR community!"
- 2) Our Facebook Page will mirror this. These changes will provide more hits when Google searching churches.
- 3) A budget for signage has been requested. Exterior to include changing the signs by the four spots in front, indicating sanctuary entrance and the office door to say office, preschool and education wing. Sign on side for gym door. A sign also by the parking lot directing people toward the front.
- 4) Inside signage to indicate when walking in office door which way to go for various purposes. A permanent sign indicating lower level bathrooms that are visible from the hallway.
- 5) The corkboard area needs refreshing. Decisions in conjunction with trustees should be made about removing vs. painting. Poster sized photos to be swapped out 4X year would be attractive with headings of mission, worship, education and fellowship. Long-term a monitor running the announcements is desired. Visitors to the building use this area extensively, and heightening who we are and what we are doing in a stronger way is the goal.
- 6) We will continue to use cookies as a welcome gift, and would also like to distribute a reusable shopping bag that folds into itself.
- 7) Thanks to Sandy for planning movie showing/discussions at the library. She is looking in to other libraries assisting with advertising to bring a broader audience. If this continues next year, we will host at other local libraries in addition to Riverside.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynda Nadkarni

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Personnel Committee of Riverside Presbyterian Church has a number of functions, including "the generation of all policies that govern employees". In addition, specific tasks are to find "appropriate staff, maintaining their relationships and facilitating employment transitions". Committee members may be called upon "to find creative solutions to unique challenges". (These statements are from the Mission Task Force of 2008.)

Serving as members of the Personnel Committee during 2015 were Diane Chaney, Kathi Rocanova, Stanley Schade, Elizabeth Musick, Mary Crang, and Gwen Heine.

The RPC Staff of 2015 included:

Pastor: Rev. Emily Rosencrans continued as Worship Leader until April 10, 2016 when Dale Jackson became our Designated Pastor.

Minister of Music: Dr. Sally Sloane

Director of Children's Education: Susan Zander

Director of Youth Ministries: Matt Gauen resigned and this position is being filled temporarily by Dale Jackson, Sandra Kappmeyer, and Lisa Aulerich-Marciniak

Office Managers: Linda Hutcheson and Donna Jones

Girls Group Advisor and Assistant Advisor: Tara Gregus continued as Leader. Hannah Pecis resigned and was not replaced.

Webmaster and Vision Editor: Nancy Hopkins

Treasurer: Ellen Hamilton

Financial Secretary and Assistant Financial Secretary: Cindy Reynolds and Roberta Gates resigned and were not replaced.

Building Supervisor: The Trustees have assumed these duties

Pre-School Staff: Director – Susan Lisle

Teachers: Julie Wert continued, Connie Marhoul resigned and was replaced by Joan Kanatas.

Assistant Teacher: Michelle Cronin continued

Marika Floros staffed the church office during the summer and Christmas breaks.

We look forward to continued change and growth in 2017. The Personnel Committee is grateful to all our dedicated Staff and an army of volunteers who work in service to our church family.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane B.Chaney, MD
Chairperson

RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Treasurer's Report

Opening Balance, January 1, 2016	\$691.11
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Receipts:

Study Books, 2014-2015	16.00
Study Books, 2016-2017 @ \$8.00	88.00
Study Book	8.00
Birthday Offering, Presbyterian Women	<u>395.60</u>
	<u>\$507.60</u>

Total Income:	\$1198.71
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Expenses:

15 Bible Study Books	114.40
Birthday Offering, Presbyterian Women	<u>395.60</u>

Total Expenses:	\$510.00
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Closing Balance, December 31, 2016	\$688.71
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Horizons Bible Study

Bible Study usually meets the fourth Wednesday of the month, 10:00 a.m., in the Social Hall, with occasional date changes. The study, August 2015 through June, 2016, was "Come to the Waters" by Judy Record Fletcher. Kate Chard, Elizabeth Musick, Sylvia Schade and Joyce Van Cura were rotating leaders and in June were recognized for their outstanding leadership.

Beginning in August, the 2016-2017 nine lesson study is "Who Is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes" by Judy Yates Siker, Suggestions for leaders by Patricia Lynn Miller. The author invites us to join her on "a journey to expand our understanding of who Jesus was and is – a journey of our hearts and our minds, a journey that we will take together." Scheduled leaders through June 2017 are Kate Chard, Sandra Kappmeyer, Elizabeth Musick, Sylvia Schade and Laura Vanags.

This Bible Study is always stimulating, very informative with lots of participation and open to all women, not just Presbyterians. Coffee is served.

In June, the women collected \$325.60 for the Birthday Offering of PWPoC (Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Chicago).

Special Projects

In February, for Church World Service BLANKETS+, church members contributed \$509.00.

In November, to benefit Erie House, Carol Sprunger handled the sale and distribution of very late arriving 72 one pound- \$10.00 bags of delicious Georgia pecans to church members and friends. The \$1.84 profit of each bag sold goes to the After School Program at Erie Neighborhood House in Chicago. This project, handled by our Presbyterian Women, has been ongoing since 1979.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Sprunger, Moderator

PRESCHOOL

The Riverside Presbyterian Church Preschool serves one child from the congregation as well as children from Riverside, Chicago, La Grange, and Lyons. During the first half of 2016, the preschool had 26 students in a morning class that met from 8:45 until 11:10. We currently have 22 students who meet from 8:30 to 10:55. Class times were changed to accommodate parents who need to pick up kindergarteners in district 96 as the district 96 class times changed. Students attend on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. The staff meets Mondays from 8 a.m. until 11 a.m. to plan and prepare for the week. The staff shared 22 home visits before the start of the school year to introduce themselves and make the children feel welcome in their first school setting.

The start of school in September 2016 brought a new teacher, Joan Kanatas replacing Connie Marhoul. Continuing staff consists of Susan Lisle, director, Julie Wert, teacher and Michelle Lawler Cronin, assistant teacher. The staff members are top quality, creative, and hardworking educators who are dedicated to the children and to making learning fun. The teachers earn continuing education hours by attending Early Childhood Conferences, taking online classes, and are certified in CPR/First Aid Training. The director is certified in food safety, too. Additionally, we have Jeanine Buttimer who does a wonderful job as the Preschool Bursar.

The Preschool Advisory Committee (PAC) helps the Preschool in many ways. The members of PAC include Committee for Children and Youth Chairwoman Lisa Aulerich-Marciniak, Sandra Kappmeyer, Jeanine Buttimer, Cindy Reynolds, Ellen Hamilton, Cyril Friend, Susan Lisle, Karina Koncius, and Pastor Dale Jackson.

Our Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), administered by Jeanine Buttimer and supported by the PAC, has supported many families. TAP is funded mostly when parents contribute extra money when paying tuition. This year a generous former preschool family anonymously donated \$1000

to TAP! Riverside Foods generously contributes money to the fund through a two-day shop and share. During the first half of 2016, a couple of very generous members of the congregation were paying the full tuition of one student who wouldn't otherwise be able to attend Preschool.

Numerous parents signed up to volunteer in one form or another for the Preschool. Whether to assist in repairing dress up clothes, laundry, recycling cans for BEDS Plus, or play yard clean up. The Teachers' Appreciation Committee provides teachers with a special Teacher Appreciation Luncheon in April. Other parents give of their time and talent through various fundraisers that help to keep tuition and field trip expenses down. Our fundraisers include geranium sales, sale of gift cards where a portion is returned to the preschool (Manna) and a book fair and raffle. Parent's efforts are greatly needed and appreciated to help the Preschool run so well. Our monthly book orders also provide the Preschool with supplies. The Campbell's Soup label program was eliminated by Campbell's in May 2016.

Along with parent volunteerism, we keep in contact with our parents with our weekly emailed newsletter. The newsletter not only provides important dates to remember but outlines our weekly themes, the items the children are learning in Language Arts, Math, Science, sounds and letters of the week and a home connection of suggested activities to reinforce our themes or letter of the week. A preschool Facebook page is also maintained weekly by Susan Lisle and Lisa Aulerich-Marciniak that highlights things we are learning, especially our science experiments.

In November, the "Good News Gazette" is sent home and in January Parent/Teacher conferences are held.

Each year brings some old and new adventures. Each year we visit the Riverside Police and Fire Departments, the Public Library, the Riverside Arts Center and the Brookfield Zoo to see our adopted animal Isis the lion. We celebrated 50 days of preschool and Wicky Wacky Wednesday, had a special Mother's Day celebration with our moms and another special event just for dads. The school year ended with our end-of-year sing and graduation (for some) to kindergarten.

Our many community outreaches include recycling aluminum cans for BEDS Plus, visiting Cantata at Halloween time to perform seasonal songs and deliver a handmade gift to each resident.

Our Christmas Show at the end of the year culminated with a visit from Santa, Mrs. Claus, (Jeff and Julie Tonkin) and Rudolph (Lily Lisle).

There are so many people who help to make the preschool the wonderfully fun and educational place that it is! The Trustees Jon Jansky and Jim Sit have been so steadfast in their responsiveness to the preschool! I appreciate all the assistance and patience that Treasurer Ellen Hamilton, office managers Linda Hutcheson and Donna Jones have afforded me, too! The preschool is such a special place because of so many people's hard work, wonderful creative ideas, and love of children and God.

Respectfully Submitted, Susan Lisle, Director

PRESCHOOL FINANCIAL RESULTS

The preschool's financial results for purposes of this annual report consist of a combination of portions of two different school years ... January through June of the 2015/16 school year and July through December of the 2016/17 school year.

	Actual 12 months <u>Ended 12/31/16</u>	Budget 12 months <u>Ended 12/31/17</u>
Revenues	\$50,969	\$51,965
Personnel expenses	39,435	42,056
Supplies, training and facilities expenses	4,016	3,725
Contribution to RPC Operating Fund	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>
NET PROFIT (LOSS)	<u>\$ 4,517</u>	<u>\$3,184</u>

Submitted by,
Jeanine Buttimer
Preschool Bursar

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

Paula McCracken, Caroline Tecson, Bill Vogel, Susanne Vogel, Dennis Zander

This year Rev. Dale Jackson provided Stewardship messages on Sundays leading up to Pledge Sunday, November 13th. Prior to that Sunday, Dale sent out a letter to members, and that was followed by a letter from the Stewardship Committee with the pledge cards. Two weeks after Pledge Sunday, the Stewardship Committee then placed follow up calls to encourage members who had not yet pledged to turn in their pledge cards.

Our total pledges for 2017 are \$207,891, with 72 pledging units, which is a decrease from previous years due to two significant factors. First, there were several deaths and second there were 8 members/families who moved. We have noted that our membership is growing.

Historically, half our member families pledge. Our goal is to increase this percentage, while increasing emphasis on reaching out to the community and meeting the needs of members.

Per Capita:

We typically cover about 30% of the cost by direct donations to this fund. This year that amount is \$4,200, one of the largest per capitas we have collected in recent years. Still, we needed to use approximately \$9,000 of church funds to make up the total necessary for our payment to PCUSA. We have discussed this topic during our Seconds for Stewardship segments during church services and have placed information in the Vision/bulletins. This is another area we will try to improve on in 2017.

Special Fund Raisers:

Kemp Clarke and Ellen Hamilton headed a committee to plan an Oktoberfest Auction. This was an Early Fall Dinner/Auction at which the youth provided food (brats and hot dogs with some great sauerkraut from members). Will and Susanne Vogel provided wine and a free will offering was accepted for drinks of wine or beer. An important part of the auction is having good auctioneers and this year once again we had Jon Jansky and Bill Vogel. With help from a great many volunteers of time and donations, \$13,363 was raised for the 2016 general fund. A portion of the proceeds was given to the Youth Group for their help with the fundraiser.

The Stewardship Committee continues to review and approve any fundraising activities in the church by requiring interested groups to fill out approval forms and detailing the purpose of the event, time, place and resources required.

Special Offerings:

Thanks to Paula McCracken for making sure the pew envelopes were in place for regular and special offerings. The Presbyterian Church USA has several Special Offerings throughout the year that benefit ministries and missions of the Presbyterian Church USA: Christmas Joy, One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost and Peace and Global Witness. RPC donated over \$3,000 to these offerings in 2016.

The Tools and Blankets offering is coordinated by the Presbyterian Women.

Respectfully submitted,
Susanne Vogel and Dennis Zander, Co-Chairpersons

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees is responsible for all aspects of maintenance, repair and improvements to our historic church building and grounds. Trustees operate within a budget, and for larger projects, under the approval of the Session. Our goal is to maintain a pleasant, safe and functional facility that serves our church ministries and is also a welcoming resource for the community.

It has been an honor to serve with a dedicated and hard-working board. Fellow members are Henry Vogel, Lou Heine, George Meyer, Susan Deems-Dluhy, Cyril Friend, David Schade, Nancy Jensen, Jim Sit, Thom DeVries Joel Hastings, Wayne Penn. We are fortunate to employ a part-time custodian, Krzysztof Gieron. We appreciate his contribution to maintaining our building.

The Board of Trustees distribute the responsibilities of maintaining our Church among themselves. These responsibilities are listed below.

Finance Com. Rep. - Susan D., David S.

Utilities - George M.

Insurance - David S.

Custodian Liaison - Henry V.

Building & Grounds - Jon J., Jim S., Nancy J.

Shared Space Rep. - Nancy J.

All Church Work Day - Henry V.

Supplies - Thom D.

Inspections - Jon J.

Preschool Rep. - Cyril F.

Endowment Rep. - Susan D.

Secretary - Susan D.

With this reorganization of the board each member has a new found realization of their importance to the church.

Some of the Projects that the board has completed this year are. Remodeling of the Men's Washroom by the Social hall, which included new flooring, new partitions, new ceiling, new lighting, and new dispensers. Painting and plastering was performed on an **All Church Work Day**. Cost to the church \$0. The trustees started in August 2015 the third project in the Capital Fund Raising Program which was the purchase and installation of a newly refurbished organ console. The board of trustees are thankful for the awesome response in paying off the cost for the project in record time. Through the time-consuming efforts of David Schade the Trustees have recommended a new Insurance carrier for the church at a cost savings of thousands of dollars.

We appreciate the many church members who have joined us during our monthly All Church Family Work Days to complete small projects around the church and grounds. These have been

painting, repair of Pre-school playground apparatus, replacement of many light bulbs on a monthly basis and all the weeding and raking needed to keep the church looking good. **THANK YOU!** We also appreciate the office staff for helping to organize our programs and services.

The Board of Trustees continues to strive to make Riverside Presbyterian Church a welcoming place to worship.

Respectfully
Jonathan Jansky

WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE

In the Presbyterian Church (USA) *Book of Order 2015-2017* the Directory for Worship begins: “Christian Worship joyfully ascribes all praise and honor, glory and power to the triune God. In worship the people of God acknowledge God present in the world and in their lives. As they respond to God’s claim and redemptive action in Jesus Christ, believers are transformed and renewed.”

2016 was indeed a transformative year. On Sunday, February 21, we unanimously called the Rev. Dale Jackson to be our Designated Pastor for the next two years. Thus we began a time of detaching from our very much loved Gap Pastor the Rev. Emily Rosencrans and preparing to embrace all the new things God had prepared for us in this new chapter. On Sunday, April 10th we welcomed Dale to lead our family of believers as our Designated Pastor and on June 12th we had the honor of hosting a delegation from the Chicago Presbytery and special guests for Dale’s Installation Service followed by a lovely reception in the social hall.

The Worship and Music Committee in consultation with Dale our Pastor, and Sally our Minister of Music, implemented three notable initiatives:

1. The successful refurbishing our beloved organ. After many years of fund raising, work began in April and continued through May. The “new” Austin organ console from the 1970s was installed, the wind chests and several pipes were repaired, and the organ chamber and blower room were cleaned. Our Music Ministry and worship will be blessed with our organ for several decades to come.
2. The addition of monitors to the sanctuary to enhance multisensory approach to worship through multimedia. Two 60” and one 55” flat screen monitors and monitor stands as well as a new digital video camera were purchased with funds from gifts from members and the memorial committee. They were approved by Session in June and were installed in early July in time for the summer sermon series *The Gospel According to Disney*.
3. The introduction and use of the worship series construct. In a worship series the entire worship experience, not just the sermons, builds around a theme/idea and scripture reading, expanding on the theme each Sunday throughout the series. Our first series *Outside My Own Little World* explored what it means to be the hands and feet of Christ in a hurting world. We re-affirmed our personal purpose in this world and who we are together, discerning the mission of Riverside Presbyterian Church and culminated in Stewardship Sunday. The second worship series, *I*

Believe Even When... we encountered Advent and Christmas through the words of a poem anonymously inscribed on a wall in a German concentration camp affirming belief in spite of what seems like the absence of light, of love, and sometimes, even what feels like the absence of God. By then exploring the story of the birth of Jesus in the first chapter of each of the Gospels we discovered and acknowledge the presence of hope through the Christ child.

The Worship and Music Committee would like to acknowledge and thank all those that enhance and contribute to our worship: Our Chancel Choir, acaBELLa Ringers, the children of Ringers & Singers Choirs, and many talented musicians; our volunteers who serve as liturgists, ushers, communion servers, acolytes and those who generously provide beautiful floral arrangement for the chancel and spectacular decoration for our Worship Series and the liturgical holidays. We would also like to acknowledge the much appreciated help from Trustees, Deacons and Session that have supported our committee this year.

Respectfully submitted;
Susan Lynch, Co- Chair

MUSIC MINISTRY

What a year! Our Music Ministry has had some wonderful moments over the years, but 2016 has to have set a record for miracles.

MIRACLE #1 – RPC has a newly refurbished organ and new console with 130 sets of memory for combination action! This is now an organ that can take our Ministry through the 21st century leading the congregation in song, anthems and 500+ years of organ literature. We celebrated with a special Organ Dedication concert in October. The concert featured a local 13 year old organist from Oak Park – Gwendolyn Wolski. Gwendolyn did an amazing job and received a standing ovation. Mary Ann Sadilek and I also highlighted the music of local composer Joel Raney in our long-standing tradition of piano/organ duets. Joel was in attendance at the concert. We had a wonderful crowd and the Fellowship committee outdid themselves with the reception afterwards. A professional recording artist from WFMT made CDs available for a nominal fee. As a life-long organist of the pipe organ, I am eternally grateful to this congregation for having the musical wisdom to go forward with this renovation. I am also having a blast!

MIRACLE #2 – Messiah 2016 was our 31st and was the usual success despite a snow storm. The miracle here is that we now have our own timpani on a generous long-term loan from the Jim Sit family. Timpani are so expensive that most timpanists don't own their own. Each year it takes about 7 – 8 emails/phone calls to different percussionists to find someone who is available during this busy time of year. Even after we do engage a percussionist, they rarely have their own timpani so we have to arrange for timpani to be delivered by another musician. In 2015 there was a miscommunication and the musician had to turn around on his way to RPC to retrieve timpani in storage in Crete! These timpani worries are now over as we have two beautiful drums residing in the Manse. The Ringers & Singers have also enjoyed playing and learning about the instruments. Many, many thanks to the Sit family!

MIRACLE #3 - There is a renewed spiritual energy at RPC that has definitely affected the Music Ministry. I am so grateful to the ministries of both Rev. Emily Rosencrans and Rev. Dale Jackson for their leadership and support in 2016. We are receiving new children in the Ringers & Singers choirs and new members in both the Chancel Choir and acaBELLa Ringers. The Chancel Choir now has 8 men – an RPC record, especially for a church our size.

Other highlights of 2016 include: a special Healing Service in January, Jazz Sunday, Youth Sunday, an Installation service for Rev. Dale Jackson in June, the Acapellago group singing in July, the Blessing of the Animals service in August, many soloists assisting on flute, harp, banjo, guitar, piano, violin, trumpet, percussion, piano, vocals and bagpipes. No Sunday was without some form of special music.

Finally, many thanks to Mary Ann Sadilek, Doug Asbury and Elizabeth Musick for lending their musical skills in performing some large choral works throughout the year.

Soli Deo Gloria
Sally Sloane BM, MM, DMA

BOY SCOUTS AND CUB SCOUTS

RPC has sponsored Boy Scout Troop 24 since 1939, and Cub Scout Pack 24 for almost as long. At the end of 2016, the Troop had 54 scouts and 35 registered adults, including Scoutmaster John Flaherty and Troop Committee Chair Carrie Staubus. The Pack had 71 scouts and 19 registered leaders. The Pack was led by Cubmaster Tim Ozga and Pack Committee Chair Kim Cimino. The Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts participated in a variety of local volunteer programs as well as many fun activities, including campouts, day outings and summer camp. Troop 24 scouts camped at Warren Dunes in Michigan, at a Civil War reenactment, White Pines State Park, Kankakee State Park, Potato Creek in Indiana, Bullfrog Lake and Camp Lakota. Winter adventures included lugging in Muskegon, skiing at Cascade Mountain and Sunburst, and the Klondike Derby, where our troop won first place in the competition. Day outings included hiking and orienteering at Waterfall Glen and a laser tag pizza party. Service projects included planting trees at the local 1,000 Trees project and packing food at the Feed Our Community Day. Fundraisers included our annual popcorn sale and pancake breakfast held at RPC. The highlight of our scout year was summer camp at camp Tesomas in Rhinelander, Wisconsin, and backpacking at Isle Royale for older scouts. Pack 24 Cub Scouts camped at YMCA's Camp Tecumseh, Riverside's Scout Cabin, Warren Dunes, and Apple River Canyon. Scouts enjoyed events including the Blue and Gold Banquet, a Legoland overnight, a summer picnic, bike ride and the Pinewood Derby. The Scouts want to thank Riverside Presbyterian Church for its support, and we are happy to call RPC our home.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carrie Staubus

SESSION

The following elders served during 2016:

Class of 2016

Roberta Gates
Susan Lynch
Lisa Aulerich-Marciniak
Laura Vanags
Susanne Vogel

Class of 2017

Doug Harvin
Martha Heine
Deb Jansky
Matt Lisle
Lynda Nadkarni (elected to fill unexpired term)
Joyce Van Cura (resigned during year)
Dennis Zander

Class of 2018

Diane Chaney
Gwen Heine
Karl-Heinz Meyer
Bill Muller

The Session, as the governing body of the congregation, has the responsibility and power to provide that the Word of God may be truly preached and heard, to provide that the Sacraments may be rightly administered and received, and to nurture the covenant community of Disciples of Christ. Session oversees the activities of deacons, trustees, and all organizations of the congregation.

Work of the various church committees, headed by elders, is highlighted on other pages of this report.

In April, Session bid a fond farewell to Rev. Emily Rosencrans, who served RPC as Worship Leader on an interim basis and welcomed new Designated Pastor, Rev. C. Dale Jackson. At Worship and Music Committee's request, Session approved the purchase of video monitors for the Sanctuary so that Worship services could become more sensory-rich and multi-media.

Elder training took place each month with a study of the booklet *Transformational Leaders*, focusing on being Presbyterian amidst changes in culture, worship style, social media and mission. Relevant sections of the *Book of Order* and *Presbyterian Polity* were also discussed

A review began of all church policies and procedures, which, when completed, will result in a comprehensive Manual of Operations. A new Financial Operations Manual was approved as well as a new Building Use Policy.

Session began exploring establishing a relationship with a congregation in our Presbytery which has a different cultural or racial make-up than RPC.

Session authorized re-establishing the Mission Committee as a Session responsibility so that the Deacons can focus their work on caring for RPC members.

Adopting and overseeing the RPC budget is a major duty of the Session, which involves making difficult decisions in order to remain financially sound while still providing the programs and maintaining the physical property of our church.

Mary Ann Sadilek, Clerk of Session

Annual Congregational Meeting
Riverside Presbyterian Church
Riverside, IL 60546
January 31, 2016
Church Sanctuary

Moderator: Rev. Emily Rosencrans
Clerk: Mary Ann Sadilek

The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Rosencrans and called to order at 10:50 am.

The Clerk affirmed that a quorum was present.

The main business of the meeting was the review of the 1015 Annual Report, hard copies of which were distributed to those in attendance.

Rev. Rosencrans commented on her role as a “gap” pastor and highlighted all the accomplishments of RPC during 2015. She thanked the various committee chairmen and members for their outstanding efforts.

Rev. Rosencrans then read the names of those members who died during the year and remembered them in prayer:

Crystal Coffman, Noel Kemp, Steve Nelson,
Sylvia Penn, Joseph Tecson and Joseph Yaley

There were no questions or comments concerning the Annual Report and *it moved, seconded and approved to receive the report as presented.*

Rev. Douglas Asbury thanked RPC for providing him with living space, as part of RPC’s Mission Outreach, and for welcoming him as part of the church family.

The congregation was encouraged to note in whose memory or honor each hymnal and Bible in the pew racks was given.

Rev. Rosencrans was thanked for her leadership and received a resounding standing ovation.

Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:07 am and closed with prayer by Rev. Rosencrans.

Mary Ann Sadilek
Clerk

Rev. Emily Rosencrans
Moderator

Called Congregational Meeting
Riverside Presbyterian Church
Riverside, IL 60546
February 21, 2016
Church Sanctuary

Moderator: Rev. Emily Rosencrans
Clerk: Mary Ann Sadilek

The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Rosencrans and called to order at 11:05 am. The Clerk affirmed that a quorum was present.

The purpose of the meeting was to hear the report of the Designated Pastor Nominating Committee and to vote on a candidate.

Diane Chaney, chairman of the DPNC recognized and thanked members of her committee: Ellen Hamilton, Frank Gangware, Allan Halline, Brad Staubus, Joyce Van Cura and Bryan Zander. Rev. Dudley Elvery, from the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry was also thanked for his work as advisor to the DPNC.

Ellen then reviewed the process involved in selecting the candidate and introduced Rev. C. Dale Jackson as the unanimous choice of the committee.

Opportunity was provided for members of the congregation to ask questions of both Rev. Jackson and Diane Chaney.

At this point, Rev. Jackson was excused from the meeting, and *it was moved and unanimously approved to call Rev. C. Dale Jackson as Designated Pastor*. It was noted that the financial terms of call were previously approved by the Session as part of the budget.

Diane Chaney was thanked for her work as chairman of the DPNC.
Rev. Jackson returned to the meeting and was greeted with applause.

Since there was no further business, the meeting was closed with prayer by Rev. Rosencrans and adjourned at 11:50 am.

Mary Ann Sadilek
Clerk

Rev. Emily Rosencrans
Moderator

Called Congregational Meeting
Riverside Presbyterian Church
Riverside, IL 60546
June 19, 2016
Church Sanctuary

Moderator: Rev. C. Dale Jackson
Clerk: Mary Ann Sadilek

The meeting was called to order at 10:59 am, a quorum was declared present and Rev. Jackson offered an opening prayer.

The purpose of the meeting was the election of an elder to complete an unexpired term in the Class of 2017.

The Nominating Committee presented the name of Lynda Nadkarni to fill the vacancy. There were no nominations from the floor, and it was moved and approved to close nominations.

Lynda was then unanimously elected by voice vote.

There being no further business, it was moved and approved to adjourn, at 11:02 am, and Rev. Jackson closed the meeting with prayer.

Mary Ann Sadilek
Clerk

Rev. C. Dale Jackson
Moderator

Called Congregational Meeting
Riverside Presbyterian Church
Riverside, IL 60546
December 4, 2016
Church Sanctuary

Moderator: Rev. C. Dale Jackson
Clerk: Mary Ann Sadilek

The meeting was called to order at 11:13 am and opened with prayer by the Moderator. A quorum was declared present.

The purpose of the meeting was to consider amendments to the RPC Bylaws and to elect church officers.

The following motion was presented by the session, with the consent of the deacons:

To change the number of Deacons from 18 to 12, so that Article IV, Section 1, of the RPC Bylaws would read in part: "*The Board of Deacons shall consist of twelve (12) deacons*" **and** Article IV, Section 2, would read in part "*There shall be three classes of four (4) members each.*"

The proposed change took into consideration the smaller membership of RPC, and the difficulty of finding members willing to serve.

There was concern that deacons would have the same amount of responsibilities with fewer members. However, it was stated that deacon duties would be reformulated and committees expanded to assist in deacon work as necessary.

After discussion, *the motion to amend the Bylaws was approved as presented.*

The second item on the agenda was the election of officers. The Nominating Committee presented the following slate:

Elders, Class of 2019: Jeanine Buttimer, Patti Friend, Susan Lynch, Lisa Aulerich-Marciniak and Kaki Lynch (youth deacon)

There were no nominations from the floor, and *it was moved and approved to elect the slate of elders as presented.*

Trustees, Class of 2019: Susan Deems-Dluhy, Cyril Friend, Fred Kitch, and Brad Staubus

There were no nominations from the floor and *it was moved and approved to elect the slate of trustees as presented.*

Endowment Committee: Kathy Rocanova.

There were no nominations from the floor and *it was moved and approved to elect the nominee.*

Members-at-Large, Nominating Committee: Marge Abbott, Nancy Dvorak, Tara Gregus, Mary Ann Sadilek, and Carrie Staubus

There were no nominations from the floor and *it was moved and approved to elect the slate as presented.*

(Note: With the reduction of the number of deacons, no new deacons needed to be elected. The present deacons with unexpired terms have been divided into three classes:

Class of 2017: Kate Chard, Allan Chard, Sally Sloane, Lloyd Bradbury

Class of 2018: David Harper, Paula McCracken, Steve Marcus, Serina Ranft

Class of 2019: Steve Teune, Ellen Hamilton, Sandra Kappmeyer, Lorraine Meyer)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:31 am and closed with prayer by the Moderator.

Mary Ann Sadilek
Clerk

Rev. C. Dale Jackson
Moderator

TREASURER'S REPORT

GENERAL FUND					
Description	Budget	Year to Date		% of	Remaining
		Receipts	Disbursements	Budget	
Receipts					
Pledged Offerings	227,297	235,319.01	0.00	103.53	(8,022)
Unpledged Offerings	5,000	464.00	0.00	9.28	4,536
Easter Offering	500	487.00	0.00	97.40	13
Mothers Day Offering	0	170.00	0.00	0.00	-
Thanksgiving Offering	375	0.00	0.00	0.00	375
Christmas Offering	350	355.00	0.00	101.43	(5)
Loose Offering	0	5,340.99	0.00	0.00	-
Other Income	9,850	9,303.10	0.00	94.45	547
Interest Income	100	95.75	0.00	95.75	4
Endowment Income	750	688.12	0.00	91.75	62
Preschool Contribution	3,000	3,000.00	0.00	100.00	-
Fundraising	10,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,000
Stewardship Auction	0	13,363.00	0.00	0.00	-
Funeral	0	225.00	0.00	0.00	-
Per Capita - Received	4,200	4,796.21	0.00	114.20	(596)
Total Receipts	261,422	273,607.18	0.00	104.66	6,914
Disbursements					
Pastor					
Salary	28,933	0.00	25,284.78	87.39	3,648
Housing Allowance	22,667	0.00	21,667.50	95.59	1,000
SECA Reimbursement	3,947	0.00	3,591.85	91.00	355
Pension	6,352	0.00	16,388.30	258.00	(10,036)
Major Medical	15,218	0.00	2,128.35	13.99	13,090
Medical Deductible	1,667	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,667
Professional Expenses	1,667	0.00	967.03	58.01	700
Continuing Education	833	0.00	618.04	74.19	215
	81,284	0.00	70,645.85	86.91	10,639
Presbytery Support					
GAP Pastor	4,091	0.00	6,473.76	158.24	(2,383)
	4,091	0.00	6,473.76	158.24	(2,383)
Youth and Education Staff					
Director of Youth Ministries	11,200	0.00	7,466.72	66.67	3,733
Director of Children's Education	15,012	0.00	14,400.00	95.92	612
Continuing Education - Dir. Children's Ed	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
	26,212	0.00	21,866.72	83.42	4,345
Worship and Music					
Minister of Music	33,136	0.00	33,136.08	100.00	-
Continuing Education - Minister of Music	263	0.00	0.00	0.00	263
Worship Supplies	300	0.00	1,212.31	404.10	(912)
Professional Music - Membership / Dues	150	0.00	100.00	66.67	50
Supplies, Music and Tuning	3,000	0.00	3,671.36	122.38	(671)
Guest Preachers	400	0.00	504.98	126.25	(105)
	37,249	0.00	38,624.73	103.69	(1,375)

TREASURER'S REPORT

GENERAL FUND					
Description	Budget	Year to Date		% of	Remaining
		Receipts	Disbursements	Budget	
Program Ministries					
Covenant of Churches	200	0.00	0.00	0.00	200
Christian Education	1,500	0.00	1,405.53	93.70	94
Child Care	1,400	0.00	2,587.98	184.86	(1,188)
Youth Activities	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Fellowship Committee	200	0.00	0.00	0.00	200
Presbytery Meeting Scholarships	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	100
Outreach Committee	790	0.00	0.00	0.00	790
Stewardship Committee	1,000	0.00	313.92	31.39	686
Adult Education	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
	5,190	0.00	4,307.43	82.99	882
Buildings and Grounds					
Custodian	13,772	0.00	13,771.92	100.00	-
Utilities	23,500	0.00	14,587.69	62.08	8,912
Property Maintenance	12,000	0.00	12,000.00	100.00	-
Insurance	14,600	0.00	14,604.00	100.03	(4)
	63,872	0.00	54,963.61	86.05	8,908
Office					
Publicity	1,480	0.00	2,104.00	142.16	(624)
Newsletter Editor	3,000	0.00	3,000.00	100.00	-
Administrative Assistant	16,274	0.00	17,337.39	106.53	(1,063)
Office Supplies and Printing	3,000	0.00	5,352.64	178.42	(2,353)
Office Equipment Maintenance and Lease	2,800	0.00	5,111.00	182.54	(2,311)
Postage	750	0.00	658.64	87.82	91
Telephone	4,000	0.00	4,051.38	101.28	(51)
Per Capita - Paid	13,399	0.00	13,398.00	99.99	1
Workers' Compensation	4,100	0.00	4,705.46	114.77	(605)
Taxes - FICA / Medicare	6,976	0.00	5,609.63	80.41	1,366
Payroll Processing Charges - PAYCHEX	1,540	0.00	1,175.91	76.36	364
Bank Charges /Fees	1,000	0.00	1,454.85	145.49	(455)
Miscellaneous	1,200	0.00	6,195.70	516.31	(4,996)
Staff Expense	300	0.00	331.52	110.51	(32)
	59,819	0.00	70,486.12	117.83	(10,044)
Church Wide Mission					
Church Wide Mission	0	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	-
Deacon Misc. Request	1,000	0.00	1,000.00	100.00	-
	1,000	0.00	6,000.00	600.00	-
Total Operating Expenses	278,717	0.00	273,368.22	98.08	10,972
Total Receipts and Expenses	(17,295)	273,607.18	273,368.22		
YEAR END RESULTS			238.96		

BUDGET FOR 2017

<u>General Fund Receipts</u>	
Pledged	196,000
Unpledged	35,000
Loose Offering	4,000
Per Capita - Received	4,200
Other Income	2,800
Interest Income	100
Endowment Income	600
Fundraising	12,000
Preschool Contribution	3,000
Total Receipts	257,700
<u>General Disbursements</u>	
<u>Pastor</u>	
Salary (and GAP Pastor)	30,338
Housing Allowance	35,394
SECA Reimbursement	5,028
Pension and Major Medical	25,828
Professional Expenses	2,000
Continuing Education	1,000
Total Pastor	99,587
<u>Staff</u>	
Minister of Music	34,046
Youth Ministry Personnel	-
Director of Children's Education	15,237
Child Care	3,115
Newsletter Editor	508
Office Managers	16,496
Custodian	13,975
FICA - Employer	5,186
Workers' Compensation	2,061
Total Staff	90,623
<u>Worship and Music</u>	
Worship Supplies	1,000
Supplies, Music and Tuning	3,000
Guest Preachers	525
Total Worship & Music	4,525

BUDGET FOR 2017

<u>Program Ministries</u>	
Covenant of Churches	200
Christian Education	1,700
Fellowship Committee	200
Membership	500
Andrew Ministry	500
Stewardship Committee	500
Total Program Ministries	3,600
<u>Building and Grounds</u>	
Utilities	15,000
Property Maintenance	15,600
Insurance	10,882
Total Building & Grounds	41,482
<u>Office</u>	
Office Supplies and Printing	5,000
Office Equipment Maintenance and Lease	4,392
Postage	750
Telephone/Internet	4,000
Banking Fees and PAYCHEX	3,250
Staff Expense	300
Miscellaneous	1,200
Total Office Expense	18,892
<u>Church Wide Mission</u>	
Per Capita	12,451
Church Wide Mission	5,000
Church Wide Mission Total	17,451
Total General Receipts	257,700
Total General Disbursements	276,160
Projected Net Income (Deficit)	(18,460)