



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.

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# The Vision

November 2008

## Gotta Love Stewardship Season

During stewardship season, my first pastor (nearly thirty years ago) used to advise us to "Give until it hurts, and then give a little more." The congregation always laughed at his advice, so, for many years, I assumed it was a joke. But more recently, I'm beginning to appreciate the advice of my former mentor.

Think about something that you did very well when you were in High School. Perhaps you were excellent at Math, maybe English, maybe band, or maybe basketball. Whatever it was, try to remember how you felt while you were doing those things.

I was good at science. When it was exam day in a science class, I was always in a good mood—it was my day to shine. Everyone likes doing well at something and being acknowledged for it.

Well, when it comes to stewardship, the task is to be thankful to God for what God has done for you. As the Bible puts it, "To whom much has been given, much shall be expected." No one has a special advantage in the area of being thankful. You can pay a private tutor for science, or a private coach for basketball, but it's hard to gain an advantage on the race to be the most thankful.

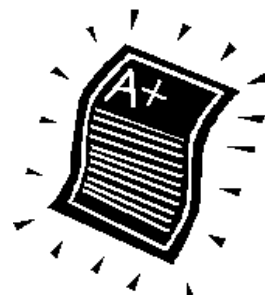
The Bible also gives us a nice clear goal to help us understand the phrase, "To whom much has been given, much shall be expected." Consistently, the Biblical authors assume that perfect faithfulness is expressed in giving a tithe—a tenth of one's total income—for the ministries of God. Again, no one has any advantage here. It's equally difficult (or easy) for any individual to meet this goal. If you think it's difficult for *you* to tithe, ask yourself—for whom would tithing be *less* difficult? Tithing is designed by God to be a means of spreading the burden of supporting the church fairly.

So, maybe stewardship season is not something that you approach with joy. Perhaps you don't feel like your exam paper will come back from the teacher with an excellent mark. Perhaps you are not enthusiastically awaiting the day that you spend speaking with God face to face about your stewardship decisions. And so, it is possible that you would prefer not to think of it at all. But, in that case, you just need to work yourself into a position to consider that date with God in a more joyful light. If you fill out your pledge card, and say to yourself, "Oh, I can't wait to talk with God about this!" then stewardship for you would be like a high school science exam for me.

I would hope you would enjoy stewardship season—that it would be a time of laughter and happiness and opportunity to strut your stuff before God, and to hear God's Spirit saying to you, "well done, good and faithful servant." But if that's not the case, if stewardship season is a time of pain and anxiety, then perhaps you're only giving until it hurts, but you find no reason to feel any joy in it. So, I'd suggest you do as my former pastor advised—give until it hurts, and then give a little more.

Your brother in Christ,

Scott



### Trustees News

Thank you to Austin McKain, who planned, prepared, and executed his Eagle Scout Project of moving dislodged pavers from the parkway on Barrypoint and installing a paver walk-way in the back garden. Austin, many Scouts, adult supervisors, and his Board of Trustees liaison, Andy Hart, also restored the parkway area and planted sod. Thanks, Austin, it looks GREAT!



Thank you to all who participated in the October 26 All Church Family Work Day! The tentative date for our next Work Day will be Sunday, November 16, from 1:00 to 3:00. Please come; it is always a wonderful church family fellowship opportunity!

Thank you to Deb and Jon Jansky for donating a freezer for the church kitchen!

We have received three contracting bids for the construction of our new handicapped accessible bathrooms. We are researching ADA grants to assist in the funding.

Our apologies are extended for the condition of the lower level ladies restroom. We are assessing the source of the leak that has caused damage to the walls and floor. Thank you for your patience!

Have you noticed something that needs repair? Please fill out a “trouble report” form and return it to the office or report it to any trustee.

Please lock all outside doors at 8:00 pm. Please double check that the back door is locked if you are the last to leave; it has been accidentally left unlocked recently.

November Trustees: Lou Heine and Chris Schiller

### Memorial to Elmer Kweton

**Did you notice the new tree in the parkway in front of the church?** An *Accolade* Elm tree, a disease resistant variety of elm, was planted on October 21, as a memorial to Elmer Kweton. Elmer and Harriet Kweton were married in 1942 and moved to Riverside in 1959. Elmer loved his hometown, and in the 1960's, during the epidemic of Dutch Elm Disease, Mr. Kweton signed up as a volunteer to help support the Village's efforts to save the elm trees in Riverside. For several years he fed the trees on Akenside and Woodside Roads a chemical treatment to fight off the disease. There was some degree of success, for Harriet recalls that the elm on their property was spared. The *Accolade* elm, developed by the Morton Arboretum, is a hybrid elm, noted for its resemblance to the native American elm with its vase shape. Dutch elm disease is a fungal disease spread by beetles. It was first reported in the United States in 1928 and spread slowly south and west from New England, reaching Chicago by 1960. This tree is a very fitting memorial to a man who loved Riverside and its elm trees.

### Session News

During October, the Session:

- ♦ received Erika Lawson Morrison as a new member by reaffirmation of faith;
- ♦ approved the use of the Sanctuary by the Cub Scouts on November 11 for an advancement ceremony;
- ♦ called a congregational meeting following worship on December 14 for the election of church officers;
- ♦ revisited the policy regarding the use of candles at the Christmas Eve services and approved the use of battery-operated candles at the 4pm service and wax candles at 11pm;
- ♦ approved Rev. Jansen's request for continuing education leave from Nov. 24-30;
- ♦ authorized the Trustees to purchase and install point of use water heaters for the pre-school bathrooms and the kitchen, at a cost not to exceed \$1,700;
- ♦ learned that the budget deficit has been reduced to about \$15,000, due in part to a successful service auction which raised \$10,000;
- ♦ reviewed plans for the fall pledge drive, which will culminate in an every member canvass on Commitment Sunday, November 16;
- ♦ discussed a proposal from the Genesis Covenant to hold a joint worship service on February 22, 2009, at a neutral location, with covenant churches canceling their own services that morning. The session approved their support of this idea in principle, depending on the response of the other churches;
- ♦ learned of interest from Canto de Esperanza Presbyterian Church to rent our church for their Sunday afternoon worship services and other activities. Further studies of the impact on RPC in matters such as scheduling conflicts, security, utility costs, etc. are needed before any such arrangements can be considered;
- ♦ approved a new adoption agreement regarding the 403(b) retirement plan, required by PC(USA), which documents eligibility requirements, employer contributions (if any) and responsibilities of RPC regarding the plan.

Mary Ann Sadilek  
Clerk of Session

### Vision Online

Did you know that the **Vision** can be viewed at the church website at [www.rpcusa.org](http://www.rpcusa.org)? You may want to consider an electronic subscription. You would be notified by e-mail when the **Vision** is online (even before it's mailed), plus the online version is in full color. (The printed version uses less color to save printing costs.) If you are willing to receive the **Vision** online, rather than have a paper copy mailed to you, please contact the office at 447-1520 or by e-mail at [rpcoffice@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rpcoffice@sbcglobal.net) and let us know that you would like to change your subscription option.



### Buy A Brick, Leave a Legacy!

The Rose Window, one of our oldest and most prominent stained glass windows, needs our help! Last fall the Trustees learned that the wooden and metal frames holding the glass were badly damaged by condensation and heat trapped by the unventilated cover glass which had been installed in the 1960's. The window frame is badly rotted and the integrity of the window is threatened, so we must move forward without further delay to raise funds to save the window.

The Rose Window was dedicated in 1897 in memory of Kate V. Harrington, wife of Mr. S. H. Harrington. The window depicts a popular late 19<sup>th</sup> century allegorical angel holding a crown signifying Christ and lilies signifying death. Angels in opalescent white robes with widespread wings were commonly employed by masters of the opalescent age such as John LaFarge and Tiffany Studios, but the designer of the Rose Window is currently unknown. The angel's portrait is amazingly lifelike; research may reveal that the angel's face is a portrait of Kate Harrington, who died at the age of 37. The window inscription is almost indiscernible, but we believe reads "Blessed are the Merciful".

Cost of the restoration is approximately \$70,000. This includes a complete rebuild of the frame and repair and reinstallation of all art glass. It also includes a properly ventilated secondary glazing.

The Rose Window has graced our church and community with her beauty for more than 100 years, and now she needs our help.

Church members and friends, present and past, help us save this legacy and make your mark in RPC history with the purchase of an engraved brick paver. The personalized pavers will be installed to create a commemorative walkway at the front of the church, below the Rose Window and surrounding the rose garden. Pavers can be purchased as gifts or memorials to honor friends and family and are available in two sizes. Please place your order on the order form enclosed with this Vision. Continue the legacy.





### CARERS Corner

The November "collection of the month" will be going to the West Suburban "BEDS" organization, to serve the residents there. Current needs are: **Decaf Coffee, Lemonade, and Paper Goods.**

BEDS stands for *Building Ecumenical Discipleship through Sheltering*. BEDS assists the West Suburban Cook County homeless by providing overnight shelter, meals, and referrals to community resources. BEDS unites faith communities and caring people in a spirit of compassion, hospitality, and dignity. Meals and shelter are provided at area churches every night of the week from mid-October through April and on Monday nights during the summer. Volunteer opportunities include helping to prepare and serving meals and overnight service. Contact Marilyn Slanec with questions, or e-mail BEDS directly at [beds@cyberlink.com](mailto:beds@cyberlink.com). BEDS is always grateful for whatever help you are able to give.

### Balance the Budget Dinner



**The bad news:** We have a deficit again this year. **The good news:** That means we will have another "Balance the Budget" dinner! Please join us on November 8 at 7:00 pm for another wonderful evening of food and fellowship, hosted by Len and Stephanie Messner. John Cain and Tara Gregus will again cook a delicious gourmet dinner. Tickets will cost \$100 and only 40 will be sold. Contact [Tara Gregus](#) to reserve your pot. Checks should be made payable to RPC.

We hope you can join us!



### Over \$1750 Raised

Fellow members and friends of RPC: A note of thanks to **all** who contributed to and supported the Rummage Sale on September 27. Our efforts paid off as we raised \$1750+ for missions. Special thanks goes to the following: Doris Hayes, Kate Chard, Mike Gates, Jake Gregus, Lindsay Hayes, Pete Jansen, Nancy Jensen, Connie Kelly, Carol O'Meara, Dennis and Mary Ann Sadilek.

### CROP Walk

#### Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty...

Thanks to the following adults who participated in the 20th Annual Covenant of Churches CROP Walk: Serina Ranft, Sally Sloane, Bill and Colleen Muller, Lynda Nadkarni, Carol O'Meara, Doris Hayes, Marilyn Slanec, Susan Lisle, Nancy Jensen, Tara Gregus, and Connie Kelly. Their combined efforts raised \$1,060 to fight world hunger.



## Worship

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### Worship Preview ♦ November 2008

- November 2 Matthew 23:1-12 **Path to Honor** How does one go about receiving honor within the realm of God? We will serve communion today
- November 9 Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 **Considering the Cost** Today we will have a live drama with four voices instead of a sermon
- November 16 Matthew 25:14-30 **Investing Your Talents** How should we invest the talents that God has given us for God's glory? Today is Consecration Sunday.
- November 23 Matthew 25:31-46 **Finding the Least** What does it mean for us to care for "the least of these" in our modern culture? Today is "Christ the King" Sunday
- November 30 Isaiah 64:1-9 **First Sunday of Advent** This unusual Advent worship service will feature a very heavy dose of music and a short skit, but no sermon.
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Join us for our annual performance of Handel's Messiah  
on Sunday, December 14  
at 4:00 p.m.

Practice for performances will be on Saturday, December 6  
and Saturday, December 13 from 10 until noon.

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### Kirkin' o' the Tartan Service

Celebrate Scottish church tradition at this special service at First Presbyterian in Lake Forest on November 8 at 11:00 a.m. If you have a tartan to be blessed, a hankering for bagpipes and kilts, or if you just want to re-live the stories of Scottish faithfulness during difficult times, this worship service is for you. Fred Kitch is our resident expert, and would be happy to provide details.



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### November Sign-Up

#### Coffee Fellowship:

11/2 Greta Schramm, Nancy Lancaster & Lynn Shannon  
11/9 Sadileks  
11/16 Deacons  
11/23 Mitchell Family  
11/30 **OPEN**

#### Flowers:

11/2 **OPEN**  
11/9 Sadileks  
11/16 Lindsey Daleo  
11/23 Ellen Hamilton  
11/30 Elizabeth Musick

#### Liturgists:

11/2 Matt Lisle  
11/9 Youth  
11/16 John Haugland  
11/23 Tara Gregus  
11/30 Ron Krug

#### Ushers:

11/2 Aieta Family  
11/9 Sue & Scuff Gross, John & Marjorie Lewe  
11/16 John & Marjorie Lewe, Sanlee & Tom Radigan  
11/23 Martha & Lou Heine, Colleen & Bill Muller  
11/30 Pecis-Kolinski Family

### Flood Relief Goes On - People in Basement Apartments Still Displaced

Riverside Presbyterian Church helped in Flood Relief following the heavy rains from Hurricane Ike dumped on Illinois September 13 and 14. People on Pine, West, Forest, Groveland, Lincoln and Park Place were hardest hit, with water swirling around their first floors and completely filling basements in many cases. Some homes in unincorporated Riverside Lawn were also flooded over their first floors. Of course, there were isolated cases of basement flooding in many other parts of town, too, along Fairbanks, Maplewood, Burlington, and Akenside in Riverside, along Circle Drive and Southview in Brookfield, Lincoln Avenue in North Riverside, and doubtless others we did not learn about.

The Riverside Presbyterian Church formed a Flood Relief Commission to meet some of the challenges people faced in this disaster. The church posted notices about help available to make their homes habitable again. In response to calls from victims of the flooding, the church sent out teams of people.

The flood victims had requests for different kinds of help they could use, from photographs of their damage, to cleaning out whole basements full of water-logged things to be discarded. We even helped one family tear out wooden paneling and flooring that was warped and beyond salvaging. Some families needed dehumidifiers, others needed to have basement floors washed and sanitized or yards cleaned of logs, floating trash cans and other debris that had been deposited in their gardens. And, naturally, these devastated people needed to tell their stories, of how quickly the water rose during the night of September 13 and how there were knocks by the fire department on their doors at 5:00 a.m. the next morning to evacuate immediately, how they are living on their second floor now while the first floor flooring is being replaced.

There are quite a number of folks who have not been able to return to “garden” (basement) apartments, as workmen are busily tearing out, rebuilding, replacing heating units and appliances, and painting still. The residents, some of them with children, are currently living with friends or family, or in motels, some even out-of-state. These people will need our help to get their lives back together when it is possible to return. They may need furniture, clothes, or babysitting. We do not know exactly, because we do not know who they are and where they are. If you know any of these displaced people, please contact the church office to let us know when they may return and what we might do to ease their burden. They are our neighbors and we would like to welcome them back.



**RPC workers taking a breather** Front row: Kate Chard, Jerome Wachter, Bill Muller  
Back row: Lou Heine, Colleen Muller, Mary Koon



## Service Auction

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### Service Auction Raises \$10,000

Thanks to all those who participated in the dinner and service auction—either by donating items for auction, bidding on items, or just attending the dinner. Due to your efforts the auction raised \$10,000, which reduced the budget deficit from \$25,000 to \$15,000. In addition, it was great fun!





In October, RPC welcomed new members Ana Knasiak (below) and Shannon Buhle, along with her children, Zachary, Hannah, and Jacob (right).



# Welcome

## Preschool



### ***Ghostly Fun!***

Our trips to the British and Scottish Homes were ghostly fun! Every child designed a bobby pin ghost for each of the residents to hang up in their room for Halloween. The Preschoolers enjoyed

performing their wonderful Halloween songs. In November, we'll be learning about the first Thanksgiving and what dwells inside of each of us!

### ***What is TAP?***

**TAP** stands for ***Tuition Assistance Program***, a program started over 10 years ago to assist preschool families in trouble, whether from loss of a job or other circumstances. On **November 18 and 19** you can help our TAP Fund by ***shopping at Riverside***

***Foods***. Enclosed in the **Vision** are some 'coupons.' Simply clip them now, put them in your wallet or purse, and help this worthy fund. Five percent of your grocery bill will be donated to TAP. Gratitude to each of you for shopping at Riverside Foods and helping others.



## Passport to the Promised Land - How the Bible Came to Be

We're traveling through the greatest book of all...the Bible.



The Greatest Book continues with a gospel comparison of Christmas. Beginning November 2 and running through December 14, children will be comparing the stories of Christ's birth as told by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Which is the only book of the Bible to mention the Magi? Learn this and much more with teachers Mack Fieseler, Patti Perry-Halline, Connie Kelly, Kathi Rocanova, and Mary Ann Sadilek.

Hear Mary tell her story in the Oasis Place. Discover the difference between Matthew's and Luke's versions in the Celestial Cinema. Which Christmas cards match which gospels? Find out and then use them for a craft in the Living Waters. In the Community House Kitchen, compare Matthew's and Luke's versions of the story. Play "name that tune" in the Social Hall. Learn about Jesus' family tree in the Creation Station.

Date	Grades K-1	Grades 2-3	Grades 4-5	Jr. High
11/2	Celestial Cinema	Living Waters	Kitchen	Social Hall
11/9	Oasis Place	Creation Station	Social Hall	Kitchen
11/16	Social Hall	Oasis Place	Celestial Cinema	Creation Station
11/23	Kitchen	Social Hall	Oasis Place	Living Waters
11/30	<i>ALL AGES TOGETHER IN THE SOCIAL HALL</i>			
12/7	Creation Station	Celestial Cinema	Living Waters	Oasis Place
12/14	Living Waters	Kitchen	Creation Station	Celestial Cinema



### Christmas Eve 2008

4:00 p.m. Family Service....starring YOU!

Needed are volunteers to read scripture and act in a play  
Supporting roles such as ushers are also needed.

All Choirs will perform

If interested in participating, please contact

Lynda Nadkarni at [lmn@floros.org](mailto:lmn@floros.org)

11:00 p.m. Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

## Human Scene

### November 2 Day of the Dead

In modern Latin America, this celebration has become an important cultural tradition. Laura Johnson, a member of Canto de Esperanza Church and an educator at a Hispanic cultural museum, will lead this exploration of the roots and the significance of this annual festival.

### November 9 Veterans' Day Panel

A panel of our own RPC veterans will gather to tell us some of their stories, reflect on their experiences, and tell us how those experiences inform their current views regarding armed conflict. We will also explore the place of religion and its relationship to those experiences.

### November 16 Global Weapons Trade

Trace the major movements of weapons from the manufacturers into the hands of various armies, mercenaries, militias, and terrorists. RPC youth member Peter Jansen explores this global traffic and asks what the Church should be doing about it.

### November 23 Equity in Public Education

RB School Board member Jim Marciniak will lead a discussion on equity in public education from a Christian perspective. What do public schools have to do with Christianity? How might God be calling us to act? Have we done our job as Christians by providing equal access and resources for all, or should we be satisfied with nothing less than equal results, too? A lively discussion is anticipated—join us!

### November 30 To be Determined

## Presbyterian Women



**Bible Study:** Wednesday, November 12, 10:00 a.m. at the Scottish Home

All ladies are invited. For those who would like to stay for the buffet luncheon (\$12) following Bible Study, reservations are required by Sunday, November 9. Please contact [Elizabeth Musick](#). The Bible Study curriculum for this year is "JUBILEE! Luke's Gospel for the Poor," which highlights some of the unique aspects of Jesus' life and teachings found in the Gospel of Luke. Joyce Van Cura is the leader for Lesson 3, "Debts are Forgiven." There will be no Bible Study in December. The January meeting will be January 28, 2009, at the Scottish Home, discussing Lessons 4 and 5.

**Coordinating Team:** Thursday, November 6, 10:00 a.m. in the Westminster Room



*A special invitation to all church members, families, and friends*  
Join the Presbyterian Women in welcoming our Artist in Residence

**Karena Mendoza**

at a very special Gathering  
on Wednesday, December 10, at the Scottish Home

Karena will present a musical Christmas program.  
Buffet luncheon at 12:30 p.m., \$12 per person



## Youth

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### Girls Group

The WNL! Girls Group is off to a great start! We have had a great time learning more about one another, making fun projects and sharing our faith. The group meets Wednesday evenings, 10/1-11/19 from 6:45-7:45 pm in the Celestial Cinema and is designed to meet the needs and interests of young teenage girls. In October, we talked about self identity, journaling, and the media's influence on teenage girls. We created scrapbook pages and talked to a physician and nutritionist about coping with stress. November's schedule will include a discussion with college women about their teen experiences, a visit from local storyteller Megan Wells and baking cookies for homeless youth. All young teen girls are invited to be a part of the group at any time. If you have any questions, please contact Mary at [maryinwi@hotmail.com](mailto:maryinwi@hotmail.com).

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### Youth Group News

We had a wonderful October with a Bonfire, CROP Walk, and a trip to Haunted Trails. Here's what's in store for November:

**November 2:** NO YOUTH GROUP

**November 9:** Service: Leaf Raking for RPC seniors! Bring a rake and meet at the church at 1 pm. We should be finished by 3:30.

**November 16:** Regular Meeting in Celestial Cinema (Junior High 6:00-7:15, Senior High 7:30-8:45). We will have a yoga instructor teaching us stretching and relaxation techniques. Bring a towel and wear comfortable clothing.

**November 23:** Regular Meeting in Celestial Cinema. Game/Discussion re: "Stuff: The Consumption Expectations of Teenagers."

**November 30:** Regular Meeting in Celestial Cinema —We will play a game and make care packages for college students.

Everyone is welcome! Feel free to bring a friend (or two!). Questions? Contact Tara Gregus at [taragregus@yahoo.com](mailto:taragregus@yahoo.com).



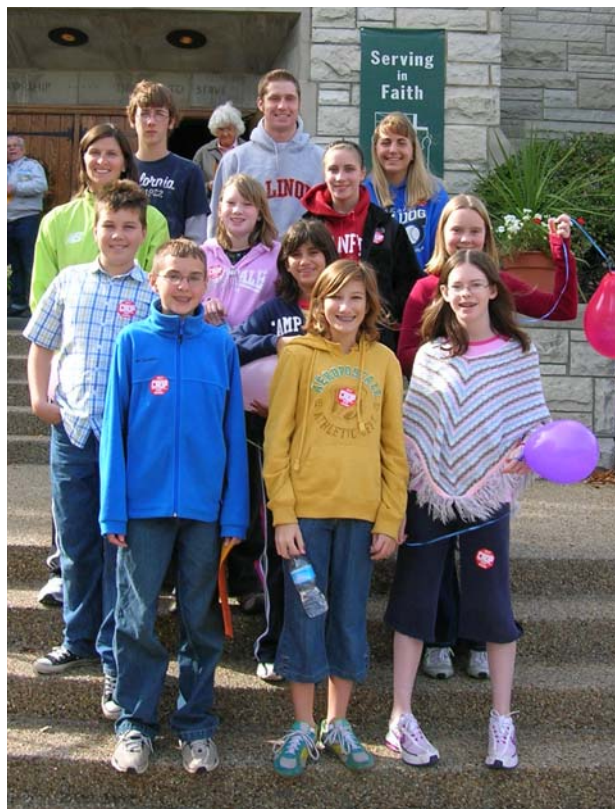
### Boy Scouts

In October, Boy Scout Troop 24 participated in Austin McKain's Eagle Scout project, moving bricks from the front of the church to the courtyard in the back. The bricks now serve as a path in the courtyard. In addition, the gravel was replaced with grass. Troop 24 also attended a camp out October 8-9 at the Fox River County Forest Preserve.

Best Regards,  
Jeff Ringbloom  
Troop Scribe

## Youth Group Walks in CROP Walk

On Sunday, October 19, 12 kids from the Junior and Senior High Youth Groups walked 3 miles through the leafy streets of Riverside to raise money to help combat world hunger. The week prior, at our regular youth group meeting, we did exercises and had a discussion that helped us learn about the problems people in impoverished nations (and in our own back yard) face each day in trying to obtain food, clean water, and health care. Our Youth Group raised \$850 for Church World Service, the sponsor of the CROP Walk. Those participating included: **Senior High--Jacob Gregus, Lindsay Hayes, Robin Jensen, Max Marciniak and Emily Mussio; Junior High--Kelly Haugland, Lily Lisle, Stuart Marciniak, Margaret Miezio, Kathryn Nadkarni, Joe Rogers, and Jessica Van Winkle.** Kudos to four kids who raised over \$100—Lindsay Hayes, Kelly Haugland, Lily Lisle, and our top fundraiser, Joe Rogers, who raised \$150. Thanks to everyone for their donations and we hope you will support us next year!



## November Events

### Pecans, Pecans, Pecans

Pecans are great for baking and good for you. One pound bag is only \$7.00  
Make checks payable to *Erie House Women's Auxiliary*

For years Riverside Presbyterian Women have handled the sale of freshly harvested pecan halves to benefit the Erie Neighborhood House. Sarah Dudak and Dorothy Jansky are taking orders. Delivery will be sometime in November as soon as the pecans are picked! They will be available during the coffee hour. The funds raised benefit the Team Tutoring Program for college-bound high school students at Erie Neighborhood House.



**TEN THOUSAND  
VILLAGES®**

On Sunday, November 30, our traditional **Ten Thousand Villages Day** will take place at RPC, just in time for Christmas shopping. This not-for-profit organization supports artisans from developing countries. Items for sale are fairly priced and profits are returned directly to support the artists and their families. Some of the items for sale may include nativities, ornaments, clothing, jewelry, wood carvings, baskets, weaving, linens, toys, musical instruments, cards, books, soap, candles, etc. For more information, visit the **Ten Thousand Villages** website at [www.tenthousandvillages.com](http://www.tenthousandvillages.com).

# Church Officers Needed

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The Nominating Committee is beginning the process of recruiting nominees for church officer positions for 3-year terms beginning in January 2009, and a new Nominating Committee to serve a 1-year term. If you are interested in serving as a church officer, or if you would like to nominate fellow members, please complete the form below and return it to a Nominating Committee member, to the church office, or place it in the offering plate. It is the goal of the Nominating Committee to include as many people as possible in the process, and to recruit officers from all constituencies within our congregation. To assist you, a description of each position is included below. Your input is appreciated, and we encourage you to consider nominating yourself as well as a fellow church member!

## ELDERS

Elders sit on the 18-member Board of Session. The Session is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the Church: worship, mission, Christian education, youth, stewardship, finance, physical plant, personnel and fellowship. Elders meet on the third Wednesday evening of each month for approximately 2 hours. Each Elder serves as chair or a member of a church committee. Committee meetings are held as needed, often on a monthly basis. Elders may participate in Sunday morning worship as the liturgist and when the worship service includes Communion, several Elders will participate as servers.

## DEACONS

The Board of Deacons consists of 18 members who meet the third Tuesday evening of each month. The Deacons’ primary focus is on care and support of members of the congregation and the greater community. They are commissioned to visit the sick, befriend the stranger and help the elderly. Each deacon is responsible for keeping in contact with his district members on an as-needed basis by making home visits, phone calls and sending cards or notes by mail. The deacons communicate the needs and concerns of the members to the pastor and other members of the church staff. Deacons are also directly involved with service of Communion, including preparation of the elements and clean-up. They deliver flowers to those who are sick, home-bound or celebrating special events, promote mission opportunities and lead monthly worship services at the British Home.

## TRUSTEES

The 12-member Board of Trustees is responsible for maintaining the condition and functioning of the physical plant of the church. The Board of Trustees meets for about 1.5 hours the second Monday evening of each month to discuss and act upon business related to building improvements, repairs and maintenance. Trustees make decisions within a budget, and under the final approval of the Session. In addition, each trustee is expected to fulfill “Trustee of the Month” duties. During that month, the trustee is responsible for unlocking the church facilities on Sunday mornings prior to Christian Education activities and locking up after church activities are completed. The church employs a part-time custodian, a part-time building supervisor, and landscaping contractors to perform many required duties. However, “hands-on” work by the trustees is often necessary to bridge the gap between necessity and available budget.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee consists of 5-7 members who recruit individuals to serve as church officers. The bulk of the Committee’s work takes place in October and November. The Nominating Committee may meet at other times during the year to find replacements for church officers who vacate their positions before the end of their term. In addition, in those years when there is a change in pastoral leadership within the church, they are responsible for nominating a search committee. After the Nominating Committee creates a slate of candidates for church offices, a congregational meeting is held to approve or reject nominees.

## ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

The Endowment Committee consists of 9 members (4 members-at-large, the financial secretary, the treasurer, 2 elders and 2 trustees). Each year, one new at-large member is added for a 4-year term. The committee monitors the church’s financial endowment in a prudent and fiduciary manner, meeting at least quarterly. Members should feel somewhat comfortable with financial investments and the financial needs of the church.

2008 Nominating Committee: Tara Gregus and Mike Heine (co-chairs), Joe Dvorak, Hollie Miezio, Kemp Clarke, Scott Schwarz, Deb Jansky (trustee), Dale Heilenbach (Deacon)

I would like to nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for Elder

\_\_\_\_\_ for Deacon

\_\_\_\_\_ for Trustee

\_\_\_\_\_ for Nominating Committee member


My name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



Please check the  
Website for the  
most recent  
calendar  
updates!

## November 2008



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
<p>2</p> <p>9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 1:30p Worship at British Home No Youth Group this Sunday</p>	<p>3</p> <p>5:15p Volleyball</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:30a Mens' Forum 9a Companions in Christ 11:15a Staff Mtg 7p Personnel Comm</p>	<p>5</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED 12p Covenant Prayers for Peace 4:15p Singers 4:45p Ringers 6p WNL! 6:30p Bell Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6:30a Women's Forum 10a Pres. Women Coord. Team Mtg</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7p Balance the Budget dinner</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 11:15a CARERS Comm. 11:15a Memorial Comm. 1p Youth Groups Leaf Raking</p>	<p>10</p> <p>5:15p Volleyball 7p Finance Comm. 7:30p Trustees</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:30a Mens' Forum 9a Companions in Christ 11:15a Staff Mtg</p>	<p>12</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED 10a Pres. Women Bible Study 4:15p Singers 4:45p Ringers 6p WNL! 6:30p Bell Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir</p>	<p>13</p> <p>6:30a Women's Forum</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Night Ministry</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Vision Deadline 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 2p Worship at Scottish Home 6p Jr High Youth Group 7:30p Sr.High Youth Group</p>	<p>17</p> <p>5:15p Volleyball</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:30a Mens' Forum 9a Companions in Christ 11:15a Staff Mtg 7p Deacons Mtg</p>	<p>19</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED 4:15p Singers 4:45p Ringers 6p WNL! 6:30p Bell Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir 7:30p Session Mtg</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:30a Women's Forum</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6p RPC Crafting</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23</p> <p>9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 6p Jr High Youth Group 7:30p Sr.High Youth Group</p>	<p>24</p> <p>5:15p Volleyball</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:30a Mens' Forum 9a Companions in Christ 11:15a Staff Mtg</p>	<p>26</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED 4:15p Singers 4:45p Ringers 6:30p Bell Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir 7:30p Session Mtg</p>	<p>27</p> <p>THANKSGIVING 6:30a Women's Forum</p> 	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p> <p>9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 6p Jr High Youth Group 7:30p Sr.High Youth Group</p>						

**RIVERSIDE  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

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**"Where there is no vision, the people perish." — Proverbs 29:18**

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Riverside Presbyterian  
Church is a congregation of  
the Presbytery of Chicago  
(312) 243-8300. Presbyterian  
Church (U.S.A)



More information about the  
ministry and mission of Riverside  
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by contacting any member of our  
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