



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.

**Inside this issue:**

Worship	2
Church News	3
Sharing Our Gifts	4
Children	5
Christmas Pageant	6
Youth	8
Adults	10
Calendar	11

# The Vision

**January 2015**

By approval of the Session at the December meeting,  
the Rev. Emily Rosencrans will be leading a

## ***SERVICE OF PRAYER AND HEALING***

***Sunday, January 18, 2015***

***4:00 p.m.***

***In the Sanctuary***

Rev. Rosencrans has studied and led prayer and healing services for almost 30 years. This particular service will be focused on the Riverside Presbyterian Church during this time of transition: for healing, for bridge-building, for hope for the future, and for God's blessing as we go forward. We will pray for God to help us in every way so we can become all God intends for us to be.

All are invited to bring their personal prayer requests for healing and wholeness as well. Bring to the Lord your wounds which will not heal, your relationships which refuse to be reconciled, your hurt, your pain, your despair, your anger, your sadness, all your losses and all your grief.

All elders are encouraged to attend for the laying on of hands as part of this prayer service, in accordance with scripture:

*Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up: anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.*

**James 5: 13-16**

## Worship



The Confirmation Class lit the advent wreath at the December 13 service.

### Worship at Cantata and Scottish Home

Won't you volunteer to attend one of the monthly worship services that RPC provides for seniors in assisted living? Each service lasts about an hour, and includes scripture, a message, music and fellowship. ***Children are especially welcome.***

Cantata - January 4, 2:00 p.m.

Scottish Home - January 18, 2:00 p.m.



### January Opportunities

If you are able to host Coffee Fellowship, please contact Susan Lynch  
For flower contributions, please contact the RPC Office  
Potential Acolytes and Liturgists, please contact Elizabeth Musick



	Liturgists	Acolytes	Ushers	Flowers	Coffee Fellowship
January 4	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
January 11	Roberta Gates	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
January 18	Matt Lisle	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
January 25	Lisa Aulerich-Marciniak	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	Friend Family

Trustees for January are George Meyer and Jon Jansky.

## Session Notes

In December, the Session:

- ♦ voted to cancel the 10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service due to lack of available worship leaders.
- ♦ called the Annual Congregational Meeting for Sunday, January 25, following the worship service.
- ♦ approved a Service of Prayer and Healing to be conducted by Rev. Rosencrans on January 18 at 4:00 p.m..
- ♦ discussed the proposed budget for 2015 and RPC's finances at great length; a budget of \$201,839 was approved. In addition, it was approved to convert the present RPC deficit of approximately \$75,000 to a debt by borrowing from the Endowment Fund, to be repaid during 2015 with interest.
- ♦ directed that a letter will be sent to all members concerning RPC's finances and encouraging additional donations to eliminate the deficit, and to assure there are sufficient funds to call a new Pastor.
- ♦ received Megan Jean Huisinigh-Scheetz as a new member and approved the baptism of her daughter, Elowyn Lily Scheetz.
- ♦ accepted, with regret, the resignation of long-time member, Doris Miller, who has been living in Batavia.
- ♦ established a deadline of 5:00 p.m. on Wednesdays for submitting announcements to the RPC Office for inclusion in Sunday worship bulletins.
- ♦ thanked the Trustees for offering to assume the duties of the Building Supervisor, which will save RPC an estimated \$10,000.

Mary Ann Sadilek  
Clerk of Session



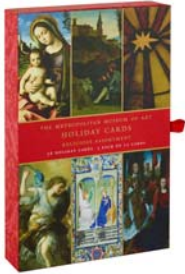
Joe Ourth	1/1	Kelly Haugland	1/12	Anna Franzo	1/24
Laura Vanags	1/4	Ron Pike	1/12	Audrey Withers	1/24
Terence Akebe	1/5	Amy Regan	1/14	Claire Chaney	1/25
Matt Lisle	1/7	DeAnn Gruber	1/15	Bob Gruber	1/25
Monica Wood	1/7	Stella Meuyou	1/16	Shelley Reichle	1/27
Chris Bouse	1/8	Carol Franzo	1/17	Abby Willinger	1/28
E. Jay Van Cura	1/8	Chuck Niedrich	1/17	Laura McLean	1/30
Sara Willinger	1/8	Emma Schander	1/20	Rachel McLean	1/30
Andie Sterner	1/9	Johnathan Gruber	1/21	Tom Booton	1/31
Celia Carl	1/11	Mary Ann Sadilek	1/23	Isabella Cain	1/31
Lisa Hastings	1/11	John Cain	1/24	Remy Doornebos	1/31



## Sharing Our Gifts

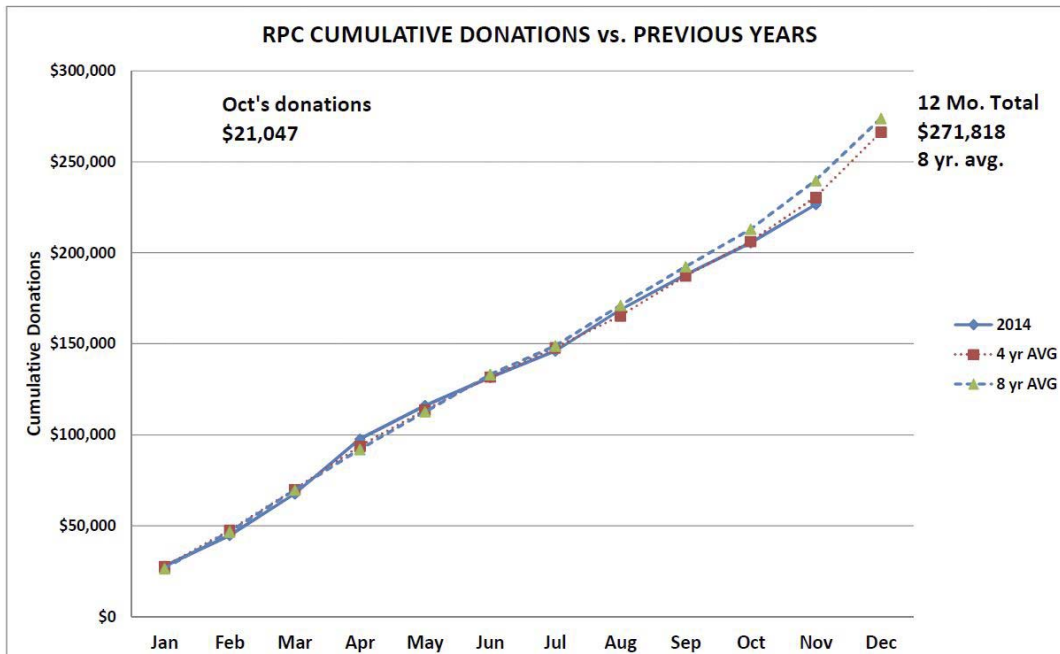
### CARERS Corner

In January, CARERS Committee is assisting the [Interfaith House](#). Interfaith House provides a healing environment to help ill and injured homeless adults restore their health, rebuild their lives and regain self-sufficiency. They need bathroom items such as shampoo, bar soap, deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste, brushes, combs and hygiene products. They can also use hats, gloves and scarves. Thank you for your continued generosity.



### WANTED: Leftover Unused Christmas Cards

Consider putting your unused Christmas cards into the CARERS trunk for use next year. The cards are used by the CARERS for their *Companions Journeying Together* (prison ministry) project and the Board of Deacons' *Caring Christmas* distribution to our senior RPC members. Thank you for helping in this way!



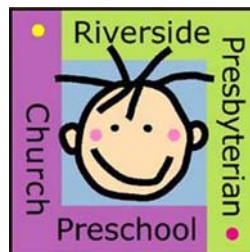
We are still doing OK on returning thanks to God. But with the recent problems, we have fallen behind previous years' giving. In this month, when we are thrilled to celebrate God's gift of his son to us, we must ask ourselves what will we give in return to bless others?



A special bookmark from the Deacons provided lots of smiles at the December Cantata and Scottish Home services.

## Children Make Advent Wreaths to Use at Home

The First Sunday in Advent the children assembled together in the coffee fellowship room to make an Advent Candle Wreath for their families to use at home. On that Sunday they received a liturgy to use for the first week. The next week each child received a booklet with liturgies for home use for the remainder of Advent with their families for the lighting of the Advent candles around the wreath. The wreaths were taken to the sanctuary and blessed during worship.



Happy 2015! The preschool will be celebrating 50 days of preschool and Wicky Wacky Wednesday. We are now accepting applications for the 2015-2016 school

year. Applications are available outside the church office and are due on or before January 7. Please call or email the preschool with any questions you may have at 708-447-1520 or [rpcpreschool@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rpcpreschool@sbcglobal.net)



## Art Supplies Needed

Eagle Scout candidate Cody Lanken is collecting art supplies to be donated to the Constance Morris House, domestic abuse shelter for women and their children, for their art therapy program. All types of arts and craft supplies are needed: crayons, markers, colored pencils, construction paper, paints, stamp pads and stamps, etc. A collection box is located in the vestibule outside the church office.



# Christmas Pageant



## Christmas Pageant

The annual Children's Christmas Pageant was held on Sunday, December 21, and featured a retelling of the Christmas story in the style of *T'was the Night Before Christmas*. In addition to the children participating in the pageant, the Riverside Ringers and Singers performed, and special music was provided by Lily Lisle, Abby Schwarz and Eva Harvin, and Olivia Meyer.





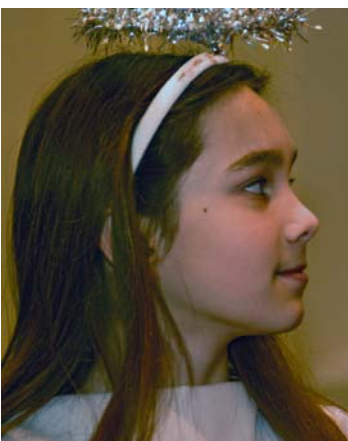


## Christmas Pageant Benediction

As our children and youth have shown us, they are  
Children of God,  
And, as Children of God, have shared the Word with us of  
the Good News of God's greatest gift to us all,  
God's Son, Jesus Christ.  
Imperfect, as they are, the glorious news has been shared.

And there is the lesson for us all. We too are Children of  
God, for we all are part of God's family.  
Imperfect as we are, it is *our job* to, in turn, now tell the  
Good News to others. It matters not *how well we tell it*,  
but only that *we do go out and tell it*.

Go — Tell it on the mountain  
Tell it in the prairie,  
Tell it on the streets —  
*Tell it to all* —  
Jesus Christ Is Born!





## Youth

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### Youth Group News

The season of Advent has been a busy one for the RPC Junior and Senior High Youth Groups. On December 7, a number of youth came out to help with the Caring Christmas event where we created Christmas gifts for those who are unable to make it to church. We enjoyed making Christmas Tree crafts and decorating the holiday cookies as well. On December 13, seven of our junior high youth went downtown and enjoyed ice skating as well as seeing the sights at Millennium Park (photo below). On December 19, the Senior High Youth Group had a holiday party as well.

Here is a quick look at the schedule for January:

January 4: Game Night—Join us as you come back from winter break with some fun and games before going back to school.

January 11: Discussion night

January 18-19: TBA (possible service event)

January 25: Discussion night



### Scouts

In November, forty-eight Pack 24 Cub Scouts and family members explored the Eagle Cave near Blue River, Wisconsin. This is the largest onyx cave in Wisconsin, and most of the group spent the night in the cave. We learned that the cave was discovered more than 100 years ago when a local hunter tracked a wounded bear to a sinkhole which turned out to be the cave opening. We also had fun while warming up at a camp fire and eating tasty s'mores!

In November, Troop 24 Boy Scouts went on a climbing outing at Vertical Endeavors in Warrenville and participated in an event for the Disability Awareness Merit Badge, which included wheelchair basketball and other sports offered by the Lincolnway

Special Recreation Association. In December, our scouts provided s'mores at the Riverside Holiday Stroll in front of Riverside Garage, with free-will donations of over \$200 going to the Riverside Township Food Pantry. A large group of scouts played laser tag to celebrate the end of school and beginning of the holidays.



## Girls' Group in the New Year!

Happy New Year to everyone! All Junior and Senior High school-aged girls are invited to attend Girls' Group on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.. We meet in various places at RPC. If you do not receive weekly emails and would like to, please contact Tara Gregus at [taragregus@yahoo.com](mailto:taragregus@yahoo.com). Here's what's coming up in January:

**Wednesday January 7:** No girls group (Tara on vacation)

**Wednesday January 14:** Welcome back—Game night!

**Wednesday January 21:** Help plan our "Senior" Prom

**Wednesday January 28:** Mrs. Judi Harvin will talk with us about her business, Focus Yoga, and lead us in a session on how to meditate.



TOP: Girls' Group bakes cookies for Caring Christmas BOTTOM: Girls' Group Christmas party

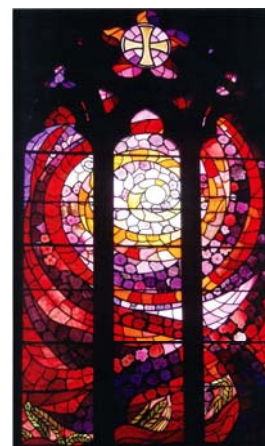


### Presbyterian Women's Bible Study

This year's study is Reconciling Paul—a Contemporary Study of 2 *Corinthians* by Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty, with suggestions for leaders by Irene Pak. The next gathering will be on Wednesday, **February 25**, at 10:00 a.m. in the Social Hall. All women are invited. Coffee is served.

Lesson 5: Reconciliation and the Whole Creation

Lesson leaders are Elizabeth Musick, Sylvia Schade and Joyce Van Cura.



Ascension  
St. Bartholomew, Areley-Kings, Worcestershire, UK

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## Human Scene

January 4 — **Ishmael and Isaac: Blood Brothers or Sibling Rivals?** — *Dr. Stanley Schade, RPC.*

Two sons with different mothers were born to Abraham. Isaac's mother was Sarah, and Ishmael's mother was Hagar, an Egyptian woman who was a servant to Sarah. Hagar's son becomes the father of the tribe of Ishmaelites. Ishmael appears in the Koran as one of the Islamic prophets and as the forerunner of Muhammad. Thus, two great nations descended from Abraham.

January 11 — **The Call to National Service: Reflections on My City Year Experience** — *Mr. Matt Gauen, Director of Youth Ministries, RPC.* Matt spent the past two years as an AmeriCorps service member with City Year Chicago, and currently serves with Playworks Illinois, working in Chicago Public Schools. During his two years with City Year, Matt was able to witness the dropout crisis facing America's schools firsthand. His experiences did not come without challenges, both mental and physical, and tragedies along the way. However, through it all, he learned the power of national service, and how to become a catalyst for social change.

January 18 — **Riverside Township Food Pantry**— *Mr. Richard P. Tuscher, Riverside Township Supervisor.* Riverside Township currently offers a non-perishable Food Pantry to Township residents. Two pieces of current identification proving residency are required, and it is recommended that residents call the Township office prior to visit. No more than one visit per month is allowed per resident. The Food Pantry also accepts donations of non-perishable food from community groups and residents in an effort to help keep the pantry shelves fully stocked.

January 25 — **Adventures in Taking Chances for Basketball Players and Their Education** — *Mr. Jim Schmidt, Athletic Director, Plano (IL) High School.* Mr. Schmidt describes the amazing outcome of taking chances on young students from regions such as the Congo in Africa, as well as his efforts in the cultural and legal problems that have resulted. His feelings of hope for the education and athletic prowess of the young men that he has sponsored and worked with have had many personal rewards. His work has been well recognized throughout the Chicago region.



Please check the  
Website for the  
most recent  
calendar  
updates!

# January 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:30a Women's Forum	2	3
4 9:00a Sunday School (Human Scene ONLY) 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 11a Fellowship Comm Mtg 2p Cantata Service	5 5:15p Volleyball	6 6:30a Men's Forum 7p Stewardship Comm Mtg 7p Personnel Comm Mtg	7 Office Closed 4:15p Ringers 4:45p Singers 6:30p Bell Choir 7p Girls' Group 7:30p Chancel Choir 7:30p Preschool Comm Mtg	8 6:30a Women's Forum	9	10
11 9:00a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship	12 5:15p Volleyball 7p Finance Comm 7:30p Trustees	13 6:30a Men's Forum	14 Office Closed 4:15p Ringers 4:45p Singers 6:30p Bell Choir 7p Girls' Group 7p Session Mrg 7:30p Chancel Choir	15 6:30a Women's Forum	16 10a CARERS Comm Mtg	17
18 9:00a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 2p Scottish Home Worship 4p Service of Prayer & Healing <b>Vision</b> Deadline	19 5:15p Volleyball	20 6:30a Men's Forum 9:30a Staff Mtg 7p Deacons	21 Office Closed 4:15p Ringers 4:45p Singers 6:30p Bell Choir 7p Girls' Group 7:30p Chancel Choir	22 6:30a Women's Forum	23	24
25 9:00a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 12p Church Officer Retreat	26 5:15p Volleyball	27 6:30a Men's Forum	28 Office Closed 4:15p Ringers 4:45p Singers 6:30p Bell Choir 7p Girls' Group 7:30p Chancel Choir	29 6:30a Women's Forum	30	31 2p Memorial Service for Rev. Mary Morrison

There will be no Sunday School classes at 9:00 for grades K-8  
on **December 28** and **January 4** due to the Christmas holidays

**RIVERSIDE  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

116 Barrypoint Road  
Riverside, Illinois  
60546

Phone: 708-447-1520  
Fax: 708-447-1525  
Website: [www.rpcusa.org](http://www.rpcusa.org)

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

Place mailing label here

**Riverside Presbyterian Church**



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

<b>Worship Leader:</b>	Emily Rosencrans
<b>Minister of Music:</b>	Dr. Sally Sloane <i>musikhse@comcast.net</i>
<b>Director of Children's Education:</b>	Doreen Sterba DeZur <i>dezurd@sbcglobal.net</i>
<b>Administrative Assistants:</b>	Linda Hutcheson Donna Jones <i>rpcoffice@sbcglobal.net</i>
<b>Girls' Group Advisor:</b>	Tara Gregus <i>taragregus@yahoo.com</i>
<b>Asst. Girls' Group Advisor:</b>	Susan Zander
<b>Director of Youth Ministries:</b>	Matt Gauen <i>mjgauen@gmail.com</i>
<b>Preschool Director:</b>	Susan Lisle
<b>Custodian:</b>	Krzysztof Gieron
<b>Clerk of Session:</b>	Mary Ann Sadilek <i>MASDS@aol.com</i>
<b>Deacons Moderator:</b>	David Harper
<b>Trustees President:</b>	Jon Jansky
<b>Financial Secretary:</b>	Cindy Reynolds <i>financialsecretary@rpcusa.org</i>
<b>Asst. Financial Secretary:</b>	Robert Gates <i>robmicgates73@gmail.com</i>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Alfred Kitch <i>rpc_fred_kitch@sbcglobal.net</i>
<b>Asst. Treasurer:</b>	George Dluhy
<b>Archivist:</b>	Caroline Tecson
<b>Wedding Coordinator:</b>	Donna Ulrich
<b>Director of Music Emerita:</b>	Mary Ann Sadilek
<b>Organist Emerita:</b>	Arline Robbins



More information about the  
ministry and mission of Riverside  
Presbyterian Church is available  
by contacting any member of our  
church staff and by visiting our  
website: [www.rpcusa.org](http://www.rpcusa.org)

**Vision Editor/Webmaster:**  
Nancy Hopkins  
*RPCVisionEditor@gmail.com*