



The Vision

February 2015

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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Ash Wednesday

Service of Worship

7:00 p.m.

February 18, 2015

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lenten season. More and more churches offer a service of atonement on that day. Atonement is the theological concept of what we need to do, or realize, in order to be made right with God. An easy way to think of atonement is **AT + ONE + MENT**, what is needed for us to be at one with God. Another way to think of atonement is as a day when we confess our sins, and make amends to God, others, and ourselves for the way sin has impacted our lives, and the lives of those around us.

Lent is the 40-day period from Ash Wednesday to Easter when we strive to be more contemplative about our need to repent of our sins and become disciplined in how we live out our faith. This Lent, instead of ***giving up*** something (if that is your custom), I want to urge each of you to ***take up*** something (or do both!)

For the season of Lent I encourage you to ***take up*** discipline in your walk with God. The book **Celebration of Discipline**, by Richard Foster, identifies several spiritual disciplines that help us grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. The Adult Education class, the Human Scene, which meets Sunday mornings at 9:00, will begin using topics from this book February 22.

In addition to the Ash Wednesday worship service, and the adult education program using **Celebration of Discipline**, we will be putting together a ***Lenten Devotional Booklet*** with readings for each day to guide and encourage your walk of faith during Lent.

See you in church!
Rev. Emily Rosencrans

Worship



A Service of Prayer and Healing was held at RPC on Sunday, January 18.

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 - February 1, 2:00 p.m.

Scottish Home - February 15, 2:00 p.m.

February 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
Potential Ushers, please contact Paula McCracken



	Liturgists	Acolytes	Ushers	Flowers	Coffee Fellowship
February 1	Susan Lynch	OPEN	Mike & Gwen Heine Lou & Martha Heine	Jon & Deb Jansky	OPEN
February 8	Natalie Lisle	Scouts	Scouts	Scouts	Scouts
February 15	Joyce Van Cura	OPEN	Marge Abbott, Maryilyn Slanec George & Olivia Meyer	Paula McCracken	OPEN
February 22	Matt Lisle	OPEN	Michael & Roberta Gates Will & Suzanne Vogel	Fred Kitch	OPEN

Trustees for February are Cyril Friend and George Meyer.

Session Notes

In January, the Session:

- ◆ noted, with sadness, the death of Joe Tecson on January 11;
- ◆ accepted, with regret, the resignation of Fred Kitch as RPC treasurer and elected Ellen Hamilton as the new treasurer;
- ◆ re-elected Mary Ann Sadilek as Clerk of Session;
- ◆ authorized the celebration of the Lord's Supper for the first Sunday of each month as well as on Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday;
- ◆ adopted a new policy regarding announcements at the beginning of worship services: any announcements that are NOT already printed in the bulletin must be given to the liturgist, pastor, or usher prior to the beginning of the service. The microphone will not be passed around for individuals to speak at that time;
- ◆ received a lovely letter and generous donation toward the RPC deficit from Gloria and Loren Daily;
- ◆ approved the annual statistical report to be submitted to PC(USA).

Note: The regular January session meeting was cut short due to the fire alarm sounding, causing everyone to evacuate the building.

Mary Ann Sadilek
Clerk of Session

Annual Report

The 2014 RPC Annual Report is available on our website at www.rpcusa.org/files/RPC-Annual-Report-2014.pdf



Beverly Aieta	2/1	Kathryn Nadkarni	2/9	Brian Wolff	2/20
Natalie Pike	2/1	Dana Halline	2/11	Eric Wolff	2/20
Edith Wakely	2/1	Kevin Tamlyn	2/11	Lisa Aulerich-Marciniak	2/22
Nancy Dvorak	2/3	Reagan Tamlyn	2/11	Lisa Carlson	2/22
Nancy Jensen	2/3	Christopher Ulrich	2/11	Dana Jensen	2/23
Katherine Pike	2/5	Devin Zander	2/11	Ruth Svestka	2/23
Meg Carlson	2/6	Jaden Zander	2/11	Claire Staubus	2/24
Dan Gregus	2/6	Kemp Clarke	2/15	Jack Jurgens	2/26
Frank Wright	2/6	Richard George	2/17	Mbougung Meuyou	2/26
Christopher McCoy	2/9	Danielle Wolff	2/18	Jamie Cermak	2/27
				Cora Schander	2/28

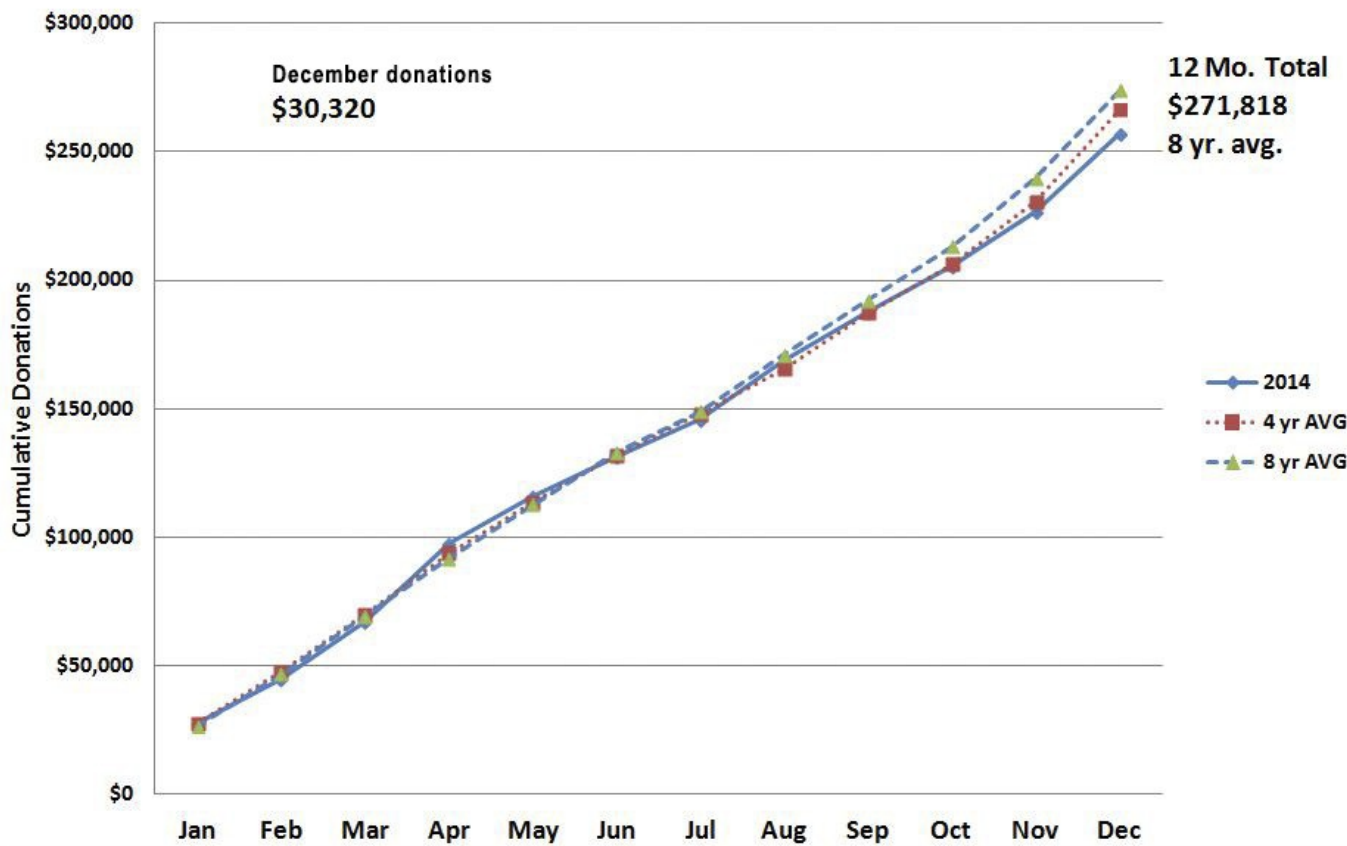
Sharing Our Gifts

CARERS Corner

Our donation for the month of February is canned foods of all kinds: meat, fish, vegetables, fruit, etc. With winter upon us, these are vital contributions, especially for the young and aging. We will be delivering these to our local Riverside Township Food Pantry. We know you will continue to be generous so we say a sincere *Thank You*.



RPC CUMULATIVE DONATIONS vs. PREVIOUS YEARS



Although we ended the year behind previous years, our donations brought us close. The good news is that our pledges for 2015 are up 6% on average. This is great news. The more we give, the more we can do for others.



Interfaith House

Efforts started by the CARERS and the Board of Deacons have produced a special gift for [Interfaith House](#). T. James McClennahan of KOH Transfers, Inc., an appliance distributor and friend of Deacon David Harper, donated a Kitchenaid mixer to the Interfaith House, a respite center for homeless patients in Chicago. The gift was delivered, along with other RPC donations, by Marilyn Slanec and Kate Chard. Interfaith House was very appreciative.



Blankets+ Church World Service

Give HOPE. Take ACTION. **Blankets+** is a special mission opportunity to assist people in need around the world. Your contribution provides the means to transform lives and communities facing an emergency or simply struggling to put food on the table. For 65 years, [Church World Service](#) has worked in partnership with local communities to identify their needs and access the resources they need to build the foundation for a more viable future, including:

- ◆ Blankets, tents, food and other emergency supplies in the wake of a disaster
- ◆ Tools and seeds for refugees returning home to replant their fields
- ◆ Wells for families living in drought-prone areas to provide clean, safe water to drink and to irrigate crops and gardens
- ◆ Literacy training and microcredit for those struggling to feed their families



CWS **Blankets+** . . . It's about blankets and so much more! Please be generous in your support of **Blankets+**. And send a powerful message to people in crisis: *You matter to us.* Thank you!

We do not send blankets—only contributions. Colorful envelopes are in the church pews awaiting your donation, or you may use your own envelope. Checks should be made payable to Riverside Presbyterian Church, with **Blankets+** in the memo line.

Contributions to **Blankets+** mean that Church World Service is there in the long haul as families recover from a disaster. At its heart, **Blankets+** means you.

Sharing Our Gifts

RPC Treasurer

RPC Treasurer Fred Kitch was recognized for his seven years of service in this position at a coffee fellowship in January hosted by the Finance Committee. Ellen Hamilton has agreed to become the new Treasurer. Thanks to Fred for his dedication and hard work on behalf of RPC for the past seven years, and thanks also to Ellen for stepping forward to take on this important job.

What is Per Capita?

Every year all Presbyterian congregations in the PCUSA pay “Per Capita” contributions to the larger church. Together with the Per Capita contributions from churches throughout the country, they support the governance work of the presbyteries, synods, and the General Assembly.

In the case of the Presbytery of Chicago, Per Capita goes to:

- ◆ Help congregations with pastoral transitions
- ◆ Train and support interim ministers
- ◆ Resolve congregational conflicts
- ◆ Care for ministers and Christian Educators and their families
- ◆ Help prepare people for service as ordained ministers

How is Per Capita Determined?

Per Capita contributions are requested from every congregation based on each church’s total active membership. This means the rate for 2015 is based on the total number of active members reported at the end of 2013 (417 members at RPC).

For 2015, the Per Capita cost is \$31.23 per member, which goes to:

General Assembly	\$ 7.07
Synod of Lincoln Trails	\$ 3.81
Presbytery of Chicago	\$ 20.35

How much will RPC pay?

In 2015, RPC will pay \$12,741 in Per Capita.

How can I help?

Although \$31.23 is a relatively small amount for each individual, the total cost of \$12,741 is a large amount for the church. You can help by paying your Per Capita cost. It’s easy to do online through the [RPC website](#) or here:



Compare the Per Capita donation to the cost of other annual fees for local activities:

LA Fitness	\$384
LaGrange YMCA	\$520
Riverside Brookfield High School “Pay to Play” fee examples	
One sport	\$200
Participation in a musical	\$ 75
Chess Club	\$100

Sunday School

In September, we painted rocks with rainbows to show God's promise to Noah. In October, Sarah showed hospitality by making cucumber salad for the strangers who brought the message of God's promise to her. In November, the children made a mezuzah holding the Ten Commandments. In December, the children made Advent wreaths for their home celebrations. Colleen Muller will be delivering the fleece blanket that the children also made in October to the Linus Project along with the afghans shown on page 9.

We look forward to our February rotation when the children will be looking at the parable of the Prodigal Son and will see how this story fits into our year's theme of *The Covenant*. Some of our rotations will include preparing a celebration feast, building a wall and bridge between family members, hearing from the dad about his relationship with his two sons, and looking at the feelings of the brother who remained at home always.

We want to recognize and offer congratulations to the following students who had perfect attendance in the following months.

September:

Jaden Z—2nd grade
Olivia M—7th grade

October:

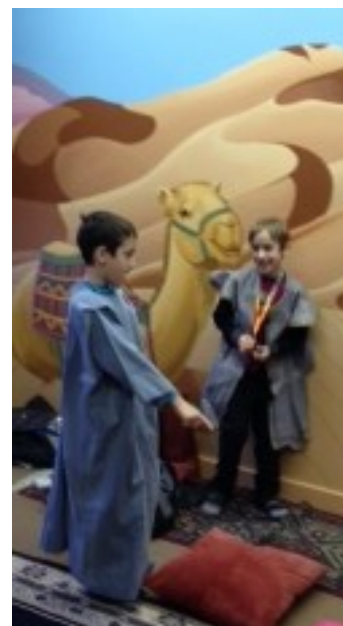
Hannah O—4th grade
Bryce P—4th grade

November:

Haley R—6th grade

December:

Anna B—4th grade
Kate H—4th grade
Hannah O—4th grade
Amanda S—6th grade



Special *Thank You*s go to our fall rotation teachers. We can't do it without you!

September: Jeanine Buttimer, Kathi Rocanova, Susan Dluhy

October: Sylvia Schade, Lisa Kreft, Patti Perry-Halline

November: Lisa Aulerich-Marciniak, Jeanine Buttimer, Doreen Sterba DeZur

December: Lisa Aulerich-Marciniak, Kathi Rocanova, Doreen Sterba DeZur

Communion Class

Watch for information about the date of our next class to help our children prepare for partaking in the Lord's Supper with the church family. We are called, in our Book of Order, to provide "nurture and instruction in the significance of the invitation to the Table and the meaning of their response" as they participate in the Lord's Supper. In this class the children will talk about the meaning of the meal and what the elements are. They will also make the bread and grape juice for our next communion. Karl Meyer has offered to help the children bake the bread.

Second Grade Bibles

This spring we will again be presenting Bibles to our second graders. Please contact Doreen if you have a child in second grade with the exact spelling of the student's name so that the Bibles can be inscribed. Also, if for some reason your child did not receive a Bible previously, let us know. The Children and Youth Committee will hold an *Introduction to the Bible* class for the second graders on March 8, 15, and 22 in place of the regular rotation for them. During this class the children will be led in learning how to read the Bible and how to find things in the Bible, as well as looking at the study helps for children.



Youth/Preschool

Youth Group News

January met us with the polar vortex yet again, but our youth braved the cold to come out and have a fun time playing games and engaging in fellowship together as we begin the new year. I encourage any youth interested in attending Youth Group to come and check it out on Sunday evenings and to bring a friend as well. Here is a look ahead to February:

February 1 • Super Bowl Sunday TBA

February 8 • Mission Trip Meeting, 2:00 p.m. (time subject to change) Senior High Youth interested in the 2015 Mission Trip are invited to an informational meeting on February 8. We will have the meeting Sunday afternoon, although the time may change.

February 15 • President's Day Weekend, NO RPC YOUTH

February 22 • Service Event TBA

Girls' Group

We will continue our series meeting women of our church and community by welcoming Ms. Melinda Pruett-Jones of the American Ornithological Union on February 4, making Valentines for seniors, learning how to use tools from Dan Gregus, and planning a fundraiser. All Junior High and Senior High girls are welcome! We meet from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. every Wednesday in the parlor. If you'd like to receive weekly e-mails regarding the girls group activities, please contact Tara Gregus at taragregus@yahoo.com.

February 4 • Ms. Melinda Pruett-Jones, guest speaker

February 11 • Make Valentines

February 18 • Learn how to use tools properly

February 25 • Plan fundraiser



Scouts

On January 24, Pack 24 held its annual Pinewood Derby in the RPC gym. Several of our boy scouts assisted with the event, while others spent the weekend in Eagle Cave, camping in the cave and exploring over 3,000 feet of passages. This is a biennial event for the Troop, and is one of our scouts' favorite outings.



RPC Preschool

February is all about hearts and Valentine's Day. We will be making special valentine mailboxes and sharing valentines. The Riverside Public Library will be visiting us and reading to us. It is sure to be a special month.

Registration for the 2015-2016 school year is under way. If you know of someone looking for an educational and fun way to begin school, please refer them to us.



Presbyterian Women's Bible Study

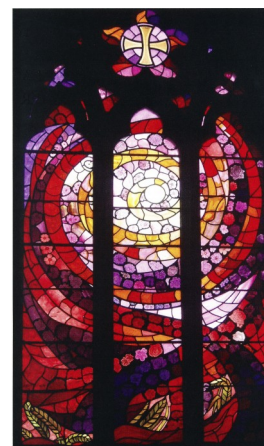
This year's study is Reconciling Paul—a Contemporary Study of *2 Corinthians* by Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty, with suggestions for leaders by Irene Pak. The next gathering will be on Wednesday, **February 25**, at 10:00 a.m. in the Social Hall. All women are invited. Coffee is served.

Lesson 5: Reconciliation and the Whole Creation

Focus Text: *2 Corinthians 5:11-6:10*

Before you begin reading this lesson, read the scripture. Take some time to jot down your thoughts about this passage. What are your images of new creation?

Lesson leaders are Elizabeth Musick, Sylvia Schade and Joyce Van Cura. Sylvia will lead Lesson 5.



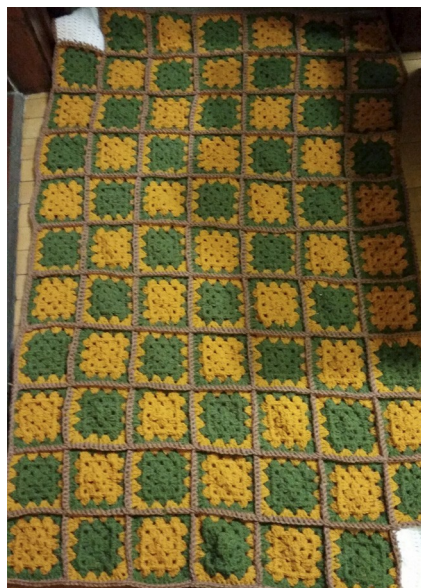
Ascension
The Grice Window
St. Bartholomew, Areley-Kings, Worcestershire, UK

Human Scene

The schedule for the February Human Scene class is yet to be determined. Please watch the weekly bulletins for further information.

Project Linus

Knitters and crocheters continue to work on afghans for [Project Linus](http://ProjectLinus.org), a non-profit organization providing homemade blankets to children in need. The blankets are lovingly made by adults *and* children from all walks of life and many different sources. Many thanks to Colleen Muller for organizing this worthwhile project for RPC.



Beat winter blues with
a little summer fun

Backyard BBQ

\$10 /person
\$5 / Kid (3 to 10)
2 & under -free

Saturday, February 28
5 PM – 9 PM
RPC Social Hall

Brought to you by the Fellowship Committee

We're
Having a
Cookout!



Tired of winter yet? Shed the sweaters, snow boots and heavy coats and don your favorite madras shirt and Bermuda shorts, culottes, mini dress or hot pants and join the family for a Backyard BBQ: Saturday, February 28, 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the RPC Social Hall. All ages are welcome to join us for hamburgers and hot dogs, potato salad, coleslaw and other cookout favorites.

There will a contest for the Best 60's Summerwear and the Best 60's Dessert/Side Dish. Those young at heart will be able to enjoy games like twister, limbo and "Name that 60's Theme Song." We will have games for the kids in the gym, a "hang-out" area for the teens, and plenty of friendly hospitality for all. Tickets can be purchased in advance after Sunday services or in the church office during business hours. The cost is \$10 per person, children 3-10 years are \$5, and children 2 years and younger are free. If you are willing to bring a side dish/dessert or help set up, serve, clean up at our event, please contact Susan Lynch at skstrause@us.ibm.com or Deb Jansky at newhorizons002@gmail.com to volunteer.

Coffee Fellowship


Thank you to all those who hosted Coffee Fellowship in January. We still need hosts for February, so please consider signing up. The sign-up sheets are just outside the Social Hall.



Please check the
Website for the
most recent
calendar
updates!

February 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Congregational Mtg 11a Coffee Fellowship 11a Fellowship Comm Mtg 1:30 Church officer retreat 2p Cantata Worship	2 5:15p Volleyball	3 6:30a Men's Forum 9:30a Staff Mtg 7p Stewardship Comm 7p Personnel Comm	4 Office Closed 4:15p Ringers 4:45p Singers 6:30p Bell Choir 7p Girls' Group 7:30p Chancel Choir	5 6:30a Women's Forum	6	7 10a Joe Tecson Visitation 11a Joe Tecson Memorial Service
8 9a Sunday School 10a Worship—Scout Sunday 11a Coffee Fellowship	9 5:15p Volleyball 7p CCY Comm 7p Finance Comm 7:30p Trustees	10 6:30a Men's Forum	11 Office Closed 4:15p Ringers 4:45p Singers 6:30p Bell Choir 7p Girls' Group 7:30p Chancel Choir	12 6:30a Women's Forum	13	14 
15 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 2p Scottish Home Worship Vision Deadline	16 5:15p Volleyball	17 6:30a Men's Forum 9:30a Staff Mtg 7p Deacons	18 Office Closed 7p Girls' Group 7p Ash Wednesday Service 8p Session Mtg	19 6:30a Women's Forum	20 10a CARERS Comm	21
22 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship	23 5:15p Volleyball	24 6:30a Men's Forum 7p Preschool Comm	25 Office Closed 10a Pres Women Bible Study 4:15p Ringers 4:45p Singers 6:30p Bell Choir 7p Girls' Group 7:30p Chancel Choir	26 6:30a Women's Forum	27	28

Dear Friends in RPC,

Words cannot express all my thanks to each of you for your prayers, cards, visits, telephone calls, gifts, and flowers during my illness. I have been cheered and encouraged. Thank you so very, very much. God is always faithful, and I am feeling stronger. May God continue to guide all of us.

Sincerely, and with love,
Liz Musick

**RIVERSIDE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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"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
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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

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