

The Vision

March 2015

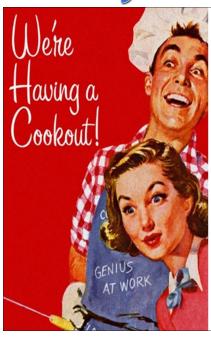
We are called to celebrate God's presence; Nurture the spiritual life of each individual; Carry the light of Jesus Christ to the world; and Serve God by serving others.

Inside this issue:

Worship	2
Church News	3
Sharing Our Gifts	5
Confirmation	6
Children	7
Youth	8
Adults	9
Fellowship	10
Calendar	11

Backyard BBQ

\$10/person \$5 Kids 3-10 2 & under Free



And You are Invited! Saturday, February 28 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. RPC Social Hall

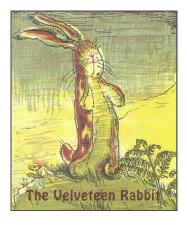
We are a church family, and families do stuff together (sometimes they even have fun). I hope you will all check your calendars and come to the Backyard Barbeque on February 28! It has been my experience that churches that have fun together stay together. Perhaps you can think of a game or activity to share at this shindig. See you there!

Emily Your Pastor for a Very Important Now

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 on February 28 at 5:00.

Tickets can be purchased in the Church Office during business hours. Tickets will also be available at the door for those who decide to join us last minute. But, if you can, please call (447-1520) and let the office know you are coming so that we are sure to have enough food.

We will be grilling hamburgers and hot dogs, but we also need people to bring side dishes like potato salad, coleslaw and other cookout favorites. *There will a contest and prize for the Best 60's Summer wear and the Best 60's Dessert or Side Dish.* We will have games for the kids in the gym and a "hang-out" area for the teens. If you are willing to bring a side dish or dessert or volunteer to help set up, serve, or clean up at the event, please contact Susan Lynch at (skstrause@us.ibm.com) or Deb Jansky at (newhorizons002@gmail.com).



Worship Notes

In March we are continuing the sermon series based on *The Velveteen Rabbit* by Margery Williams and *The Velveteen Principles: A Guide to Becoming Real*, by Toni Raiten-D'Antonio. Join us for worship at 10:00 a.m.

March 1	Real is Compassionate
March 8	Real is Courageous
March 15	Real is Honest
March 22	Real is Generous
March 29	Real can be Painful

Easter Sunday: A Day of Praise, Worship and Music



It wasn't that long ago that we lifted our voices in praise as we sang Handel's *Messiah*, and now we look down the road to Easter. The greatest gift of all was Christ's resurrection from the tomb and death defeated. On April 5, we will offer two services to celebrate that resurrection, at 9:00 and 10:30. There will be trumpets, bells, choirs, and timpani as we raise our voices to say,

He is risen, He is risen indeed!

Join us for worship at Cantata on Sunday, March 1, at 2:00 p.m., and at the Scottish Home on Sunday, March 15, at 2:00 p.m. Families and children are especially welcome. Our Deacons and other volunteers provide monthly services to residents of our two local senior citizen homes. Your participation is so appreciated!



March 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 Gwen Heine or Paula McCracken



	,					
	Liturgists	Acolytes	Ushers	Flowers	Coffee Fellowship	
March 1	Cindy Reynolds	Haley Rayfield	Lisle Family	OPEN	OPEN	
March 8	Susan Lynch	OPEN	Patti & Allan Halline David Harper & Paula McCracken	Will & Susanne Vogel	Steve Marcus & Marilyn Slanec	
March 15	Roberta Gates	OPEN	Bill & Colleen Muller Claire Gangware & Tara Gregus	OPEN	Paige Rambeaux	
March 22	Susan Zander	Jaden Zander	Thom & Nancy DeVries Kathi Rocanova & Greta Schramm	OPEN	OPEN	
March 29	OPEN	OPEN	Caroline Tecson & Edith Wakely Jim Ulrich & Danielle Wolff	OPEN	OPEN	

Trustees for March are Hank Vogel and Caroline Tecson.

Session Notes

In February, the Session:

- approved seeking legal counsel regarding the implication on RPC's property tax exemption if church space is rented to for-profit organizations;
- accepted Rev. Doug Asbury's offer to be available to RPC members for spiritual counseling when needed;
- approved holding two worship services on Easter Sunday, at 9:00 and at 10:30;
- formed a committee to study the feasibility of renting RPC space to a Seventh Day Adventist Church on Saturdays;
- approved holding a joint meeting with the Deacons to discuss matters of mutual concern.

Mary Ann Sadilek Clerk of Session

Church Survey

You have been hearing and reading about the Church Assessment Tool, and by now you should have received the link to the CAT: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RiversidePresIL. If clicking on this link doesn't work, copy and paste it into your browser address. If you haven't already responded to the survey, please set aside about 20 minutes to complete the assessment. The information gained from this tool will be critical to your leaders as they plan for our future. PLEASE MAKE THIS A PRIORITY THIS WEEK if you haven't already shared your experiences and perspectives by participating in this important process. The survey will close on 3/1/15.

If you need a paper copy, please call or stop by the office, and we will provide one for you along with a self-addressed stamped return envelope.

If you have questions, please contact Diane Chaney at <u>dchaney@medicine.bsd.uchicago.edu</u>. Many thanks,

The Designated Pastor Nominating Committee



Mikey LeBeau	3/3	Emma Yachnin	3/12	Anna Tess	3/23
Marilyn Slanec	3/4	Bill Lancaster	3/14	Nicki Booton	3/25
Mary Crang	3/5	Carter Staubus	3/14	Joyce Van Cura	3/25
Scott LeBeau	3/6	Aaron Booton	3/15	Michael Cokins	3/26
Michelle Roblee	3/6	Remy Hilpp	3/15	Michael Conroy	3/26
Mary Rob Clarke	3/7	Colleen Cody	3/17	Randy Womack	3/28
Thom DeVries	3/9	Asher Monacella	3/17	Joseph Aieta	3/29
John Haugland	3/10	Luke Staubus	3/19	Carrie Schade	3/29
Linda Hutcheson	3/10	Harrison Nolan	3/20	Eric Jensen	3/30
Steve Marcus	3/10	Diane Chaney	3/22	Sarah Dudak	3/31
Cindy Gustafson	3/11	Karen Doornebos	3/23	Terrence Jordan	3/31
Lauren Vogel	3/12	Alyssa Schwarz	3/23	Donna Ulrich	3/31
		•			

Pastoral Care

Beginning Monday, March 2, Pastor Doug Asbury will be available to members and constituents of Riverside Presbyterian Church for pastoral care and support in the church office several hours each week. He will be in the office from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays, and from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. on Fridays. He will also be available on a limited basis at other times by appointment, should those office hours not be workable for someone.

As many of you know, Pastor Doug is retired from full-time ministry, having most recently served the Riverside United Methodist Church. In addition to worshiping with us regularly and substituting for Pastor Emily, he has become active in the Human Scene class on Sunday mornings and the Men's Forum on Tuesday mornings as well as helping occasionally by singing in the Chancel Choir and standing in for regular members of the Handbell Choir.

Feel free to drop in to see or to call Pastor Doug in the office on the days he is available. The Session appreciates his willingness to be of service to Riverside Presbyterian Church in this way while we are in the process of seeking our next full-time pastor.



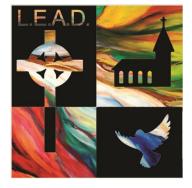
Coffee Fellowship

Thank you to all those who signed up to host Coffee Fellowship in February as well as those who stepped up to serve when we had no one signed up. We still need hosts for March and April, so please consider signing up. Team with a friend or two and host together; it makes for a great way to serve your church family. The sign-up sheets are just outside the Social Hall.

Pancake Breakfast March 7

Our scouts invite all our RPC family and friends to attend the annual Scout Pancake Breakfast, to be held in the RPC Social Hall on Saturday, March 7, from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$6 at the door. Children under 5 are free. To purchase tickets see any Pack 24 Cub Scout or Troop 24 Boy Scout, or contact Nancy Hopkins.





LEAD Conference March 7

Just looking at the word makes you think. Lead by example, become a leader, and as a leader you can affect change. Change will happen when you attend the Presbytery of Chicago training event at the fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago (across from the John Hancock Center) on March 7. The morning and afternoon seminars will equip you with thought-provoking ideas that you will want to bring back to RPC. The highlight every year for many is the worship service prior to the seminars. Inspiring, spirit-filled, and imaginative are three words to describe it. Come see why over 400 people attended last year, and become a leader. Put it on your calendar and plan to attend after the annual Scout Pancake Breakfast. For more information, see http://mccormick.edu/content/lead-2015.

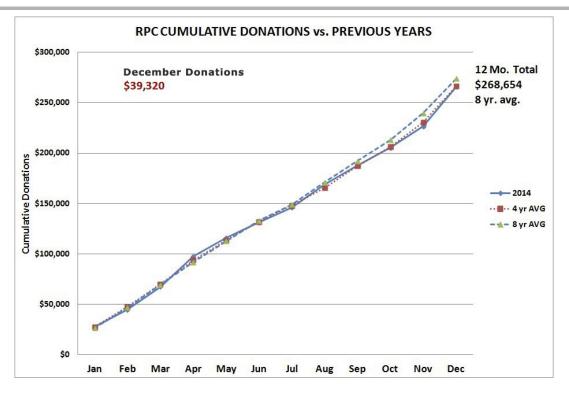
Hofmann Dam River Rats Spring Clean-up

The Hofmann Dam River Rats invite you to the 20th Annual Spring Clean-Up on Saturday, April 25, from 9:00 a.m. until noon, in the clearing on the Lyons side of the DesPlaines River at the Barrypoint bridge. Long sleeves, boots and long pants are recommended. Bring work gloves, if you have them, but if not, rubber gloves will be available. Trash bags and pokersticks will be provided by the Forest Preserve District of Cook County. Refreshments will be provided. Please visit: www.thehofmanndamriverrats.com for more information.

CARERS Corner

In March the First Presbyterian Church of Chicago is asking for canned meat, fish, one-dish, ready-to-eat meals, as well as canned vegetables and fruit of all kinds. These are important for families to have on hand during these winter months. Thank you for your continued generosity.





Our 2014 year-end results have been updated and are even better. Thanks to some members contributing a 13th month share, we matched the total contributions of previous years and significantly helped our ability to help others. Returning a portion of our blessings to help others IS loving your neighbor. Thank you all.

CWS Blankets+

Comfort in times of crisis. Contributions to CWS Blankets+ mean Church World Service will be ready to help families around the world recover from disasters and displacement, and build viable, sustainable lives and communities.

CWS helps to provide primary health care for displaced and other families in need. In such far-flung places as Sudan, Pakistan, and Nicaragua, CWS gives comfort and care to moms and babies, and helps children get the nutrition they need to grow up strong and healthy.

Give HOPE. Take ACTION. Please send a powerful message to people in crisis: *You matter to us.* Remember, we do not send blankets—just financial support. 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 for the long haul. At its heart, Blankets+ means you.

Confirmation

The 2014-2015 Confirmation Class began in September and will conclude by welcoming those students proceeding with confirmation into membership of RPC on Sunday, March 22. Please join us at the 10:00 service and at Coffee Fellowship afterwards to welcome this great group into our church family!



Page 6

Sunday School: Sharing the Word of God

This spring we will again be presenting Bibles to our second graders. As a preparation for receiving their Bibles, our March Sunday School rotation topic will be *The Bible: Sharing the Word of God*.

The Children and Youth Committee will hold this introduction and review of the Bible for all grades on March 8, March 15, and March 22, in place of the regular Sunday School rotation. During this class the children will be led in learning how to read the Bible and how to find things in the Bible, and will look at the study helps for children.

Second Grade Bible Presentation

Please <u>contact Doreen</u> if you have a child in second grade to let us know the spelling and preferred name so the Bibles to be presented can be appropriately inscribed. If a child older than second grade did not receive a Bible previously, let us know so that we can present a children's Bible from the church.



During our last Sunday School rotation, the children heard the Parable of the Prodigal Son from the perspective of the father (played by Bryan Zander), acted out the story themselves, and created cupcakes for the feast to celebrate the return of the prodigal son.





The Preschool's annual Book Fair and Raffle begins Friday, March 6, and runs through Thursday, March 12. This is the Preschool's biggest fundraiser. We have some great baskets for our raffle this year! During the Book Fair and Raffle on Sunday, March 8, from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. the Preschool will have an Open House. The Open House will be for new and returning students to pick up paperwork and for prospective families to meet our teachers and take a look at our beautiful facility. Please spread the word! The preschool still has some openings for the 2015-16 school year. If you know anyone looking for a wonderful school, please have them give us a call at (708) 447-1520.

Youth Group News

In February we celebrated the Super Bowl with a SOUPer Bowl of Caring celebration. Despite the frigid temperatures and blizzard-like conditions on February 2, we were still able to raise over \$230 for the Souper Bowl of Caring. That money will be donated towards hunger causes in the City of Chicago and beyond. Thank you to the youth who assisted that Sunday. We also had a great turnout for the Mission Trip meeting. We are pleased to announce that the RPC Youth will head down to Cincinnati, Ohio the week of June 28-July 3 and will doing various projects throughout the city, partnering with the mission trip organization YouthWorks.

Teen Scene is Back! Teen Scene, a Sunday school class for high school students, will meet Sunday mornings from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the Library. Come for discussion and fellowship.

Following is a tentative schedule for March:

March 1: Movie Night, 9:00 a.m. Teen Scene/Senior High and 6:00 p.m. Junior High (Celestial Cinema)

March 8: Planning for Youth Sunday in May – 9:00 a.m. Senior High; 6:00 p.m. Junior High

March 15: Service Project TBA

March 22: Confirmation Sunday (NO Teen Scene), Junior High meeting at 6:00 p.m.

March 29: Spring Break (Service Opportunity) If there are any Senior High youth who are behind on service hours and will be around for Spring Break, talk with Matt about what Church service opportunities might be available.

Questions? Email Matt Gauen at migauen@gmail.com.

Girls' Group

All junior high and high school-aged girls are invited to attend Girls' Group. Meetings are from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. at RPC in the parlor unless otherwise noted.

Here's what's happening in March:

Wednesday, March 4: *How to Be a Good Babysitter* with Brooklyn Hastings 7:00 p.m. at the Riverside Public Library

Wednesday, March 11: Guest speaker--Melinda Pruett-Jones Executive Director, American Ornithologists' Union

Wednesday, March 18: Prepare for BINGO night

Friday, March 20: BINGO fundraiser! 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at RPC

All are welcome! Hope to see you at Girls' Group! Questions? Contact Tara Gregus at taragregus@yahoo.com.



Scouts Brave the Cold

In February our scouts participated in a number of cold weather activities. Despite –20° wind-chill, several of our Cub Scouts attended the annual Polar Prowl, and Boy Scouts attended the Klondike Derby, both sponsored by our BSA Council and held at Bemis Woods on February 7. The Boy Scouts had two ski trips in February—one to Chestnut Mountain for older scouts and another to Sunburst for younger scouts. You may have seen the *RB Landmark* issue that featured pictures from our Cub Scout Pack's Pinewood Derby. Sixty-one Cub Scouts participated in the Pack's annual Pinewood Derby held in the RPC gym. There were some excellent car designs, including a pocket-knife shaped car. On February 22, twelve Cub Scouts crossed over to become Boy Scouts at the Pack's annual Blue & Gold Banquet. The annual Scout Pancake Breakfast is coming up on March 7, from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., in the RPC Social Hall. Hope to see you there!



Lesson 6.

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, March 25, at 10:00 a.m. in the Social Hall. All women are invited. Coffee is served.

Lesson 6: *The Aroma of God Among Us* Focus Texts: 2 Corinthians 2:14-17 and 6:14-7:1

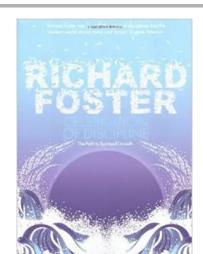
Perhaps we should understand what it means to be the temple of the living God, to be the aroma of Christ in the world, in the same way. We are to carry Christ into the world, to embody his presence, actively and excitedly. We are to serve faithfully and preach humbly, to forgive repeatedly and hope

boldly, to see justice and love extravagantly, among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.

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



The Journey of St. Barnabas, east window, St. Barnabas Church Centre, Erdington, UK



Human Scene

The **Human Scene**, an adult education class, meets on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the upstairs parlor. **Join us for a special 6-week Lenten series** based on Richard Foster's book on Christian Spirituality, *Celebration of Discipline*. The book explores what Foster terms the "classic disciplines" of the Christian faith:

- 1. The inward disciplines of meditation, prayer, fasting and study.
- 2. The outward disciplines of simplicity, solicitude, submission and service.
- 3. The corporate disciplines of confession, worship, guidance and celebration.

Copies of *Celebration of Discipline* are available from RPC (Books are available for \$12 in the office or on Sundays during Human Scene).

Participants are encouraged to read the book in conjunction with the following class schedule:

February 22	Introduction and Meditation
March 1	Prayer and Fasting
March 8	Study

March 15 Simplicity and Solitude March 22 Submission and Service

March 29 Confession, Worship, Guidance and Celebration



Ushers Needed

Volunteers are needed for ushering at the Sunday morning church services. Please contact Martha Heine or Paula McCracken to volunteer, or for more information.



BINGO on March 20

Everyone is invited to come to the Social Hall on Friday, March 20, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. for BINGO Night! The cost is \$3 per person and there will be prizes! We will have light snacks and drinks for sale. Proceeds will be used to fund a Girls' Group service project. It will be fun for all ages, so bring the family! Questions? Contact Tara at taragregus@yahoo.com.





RB Presents Bye Bye Birdie

Join RB students, including some of RPC's own, for their performance of *Bye Bye Birdie*. There will be three shows: March 6 and March 7 at 7:30 p.m. and March 8 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$9 for adults and \$5 for senior citizens and students. Tickets can be purchased at the door or through the RBHS business office (442-8255).

Scholarship

Riverside Junior Woman's Charity is currently accepting applications for their annual scholarship offered to a female high school senior who has demonstrated an outstanding level of community service through school, religious, fraternal, or civic organizations. A check for \$1,500 will be sent to the recipient's college or institution. For more information, see scholarship@riversidejuniors.org. Applications and recommendations are due March 10, 2015.

Please check the Website for the most recent calendar updates!

March 2015

			10H 2015			
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 11a Fellowship Comm Mtg 12:30p Officer Retreat 2p Cantata Worship	2 5:15p Volleyball	3 6:30a Men's Forum 7p Stewardship Comm Mtg 7p Personnel Comm Mtg	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 7a Pancake Breakfast 8a LEAD Conference
8 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 11:15a Endowment Comm Mtg 12p Preschool Open House	9 5:15p Volleyball 7p Finance Comm Mtg 7:30p Trustees Mtg	10 6:30a Men's Forum 7p CCY Comm Mtg	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 8p Confirmation Overnight	14
15 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 1p Church Family Work Day 2p Scottish Home Worship Vision Deadline	16 5:15p Volleyball	17 St. Patrick's Day 6:30a Men's Forum 7p Deacons Mtg	18 Office Closed 4:15p Ringers 4:45p Singers 6:30p Bell Choir 7p Girls' Group 7p Session Mtg 7:30p Chancel Choir	19 6:30a Women's Forum	20 10a CARERS Comm Mtg 5p Bingo Night	21 6p Confirmation Banquet
22 9a Sunday School 10a Worship/Confirmation 11a Coffee Fellowship	23 5:15p Volleyball	24 6:30a Men's Forum 7p Preschool Comm Mtg	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
29 Palm Sunday 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship	30 5:15p Volleyball	31 6:30a Men's Forum				

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

RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

116 Barrypoint Road Riverside, Illinois 60546

Phone: 708-447-1520 Fax: 708-447-1525 Website: www.rpcusa.org

Place mailing label here

Riverside Presbyterian Church

Worship Leader:

Minister of Music:

Director of

Emily Rosencrans erosencrans1@nm.org
Dr. Sally Sloane
musikhse@comcast.net
Doreen Sterba DeZur
dezurd@sbcglobal.net

Children's Education: Administrative Assistants:

Donna Jones rpcoffice@sbcglobal.net

Linda Hutcheson

Susan Zander

Girls' Group Advisor: Tara Gregus

taragregus@yahoo.com

Asst. Girls' Group Advisor: Director of Youth Ministries:

Matt Gauen

mjgauen@gmail.com

Susan Lisle

Krzysztof Gieron

Preschool Director:

Mary Ann Sadilek

MASDS@aol.com

David Harper

Jon Jansky

Custodian: Clerk of Session:

Cindy Reynolds
financialsecretary@rpcusa.org

Deacons Moderator:David HarperTrustees President:Jon JanskyFinancial Secretary:Cindy Reynolds

Asst. Financial Secretary: Roberta Gates robmicgates73@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Ellen Hamilton

rpcellen@gmail.com

Asst. Treasurer: Archivist:

Organist Emerita:

Wedding Coordinator:

Director of Music Emerita:

George Dluhy Caroline Tecson Donna Ulrich Mary Ann Sadilek Arline Robbins

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 Presbyterian Church is available by contacting any member of our church staff and by visiting our website: www.rpcusa.org

Vision Editor/Webmaster: Nancy Hopkins

RPCVisionEditor@gmail.com