

The Vision

July 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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Summer Office Hours The RPC Office will be open from 9:00 a.m. until noon every weekday except Wednesday. Kathryn Nadkarni is staffing the office this summer

Membership Matters

During July, the Membership Committee will be reaching out to those members who have not been participating in the worship and work of RPC.

Membership in the Presbyterian Church is a commitment to participate in Christ's mission. A faithful member bears witness to God's love and grace and promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ's Church.

Such involvement includes, among other things:

- Proclaiming the good news in word and deed;
- Taking part in the common life and worship of congregation;
- Supporting the ministry of the church through the giving of money, time and talents;
- Responding to God's activity in the world through service to others;
- Reviewing and evaluating regularly the integrity of one's membership and considering ways in which one's participation in the worship and service of the church may be increased and made more meaningful.

The Session has the duty to review the rolls regularly and to seek to re-engage those members who are no longer involved at RPC. If those efforts fail, then the Session may remove members from the roll.

Members who have moved from the area are always encouraged to transfer to a church close to their homes so that they may enjoy the fellowship and spiritual growth afforded by active membership.

RPC offers opportunities for all members to participate in some way; even those who are home-bound can help by praying for others, sending cards, and making phone calls. Only when we all share our time, talents, and treasure can RPC become a vibrant community of faith, hope, and love.

You matter to us!

Pastoral Update

On June 7, the Congregation heard form Ken Ehrman from the Samaritan Counseling Center about the results of last fall's church survey. The Session will be focusing on recovery, renewal, revitalization, rebuilding and reaching out during this very important time between pastorates. We can do much to prepare for the future to which God is calling us. Many members asked for more information from church leadership, more equipping and empowering to do the work of ministry, and more mission outreach to the world beyond our doors. As a result additional congregational meetings are scheduled on the following dates:

September 13 Stewardship, the Church Budget and the Endowment Fund—Led by the Stewardship, Finance and

Endowment Committees

September 20 Dreams and Vision—Led by the Designated Pastor Nominating Committee

What is our vision for the future of Riverside Presbyterian Church?

What do we believe God is calling us to do? Who do we believe God is calling us to be?

What do we want and need in a pastor to accomplish our vision?

October 19 Our Mission to the World—Led by the Board of Deacons

The Designated Pastor Nominating Committee continues their work to call a new pastor to RPC. The Committee created a "Minister Information Form" and it was approved by Session. The MIF gives information to pastor candidates about our congregation—our history, goals, missions, and other information to help them decide if we might be a good fit. The Form goes to the Presbytery to share with candidates, and the Presbytery will start to send us Pastor Information Forms to review and select ministers to interview. We don't know how long this will take, but be assured that we are looking for the best fit for our congregation. Pastor Emily will be with us for as long as it takes.



July Opportunities

If you are able to host Coffee Fellowship, please contact Deb Jansky
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
July 5	Ellen Hamilton	OPEN	Richard and Mary Crang, Ellen Hamilton, Laura Vanags	Elizabeth Musick	OPEN
July 12	Steve Marcus	OPEN	Frank and Claire Gangware, Mike and Gwen Heine	Marilyn Slanec	Beverly Aieta
July 19	Matt Lisle	OPEN	John Haugland, Connie Kelly, Jim and Donna Ulrich	Nadkarni Family	OPEN
July 26	Joyce Van Cura	OPEN	Roberta Gates, David Harper Marilyn Slanec, Ron Smith	OPEN	OPEN

The Trustees invite you to join them for the monthly work day on Tuesday, July 14, from 6:00 to 8::00 p.m. to spruce up the RPC lawn for the Strawberry Social (to be held on July 15).

Trustees for July are Caroline Tecson and David Schade.

Session Notes

In June, the Session:

- reviewed and approved the Ministry Information Form prepared by the Designated Pastor Nominating Committee and which will be available to Pastors interested in applying for the position at RPC;
- called a congregational meeting for July 12, following Worship, for the election and installation of an elder;
- noted with sadness the death of Steve Nelson on May 30;
- approved a proposal to be presented to the Riverside Recreation Department regarding using space at RPC for before/after school programs and a lunch/afternoon program;
- voted to rename Youth Sunday as "Ryan Womack Youth Sunday";
- scheduled an "Open Forum" for the congregation following Worship on September 13, presented by the Finance and Stewardship Committees, to discuss how budget decisions are made.

Mary Ann Sadilek Clerk of Session



Board of Deacons Summer Cent\$ability Offering

Our annual Cent\$ability Offering is held during the summer months Your loose coins will go to help the hungry in the area served by the Presbytery of Chicago. Last summer we collected over \$500. We will be trying to raise even more this summer and your participation will help a great deal.



Emily Kedzie 7/1 Stephanie Messner 7/1 Jim Ulrich 7/1 Taylor Jurgens 7/2 Deb Pike 7/3 Natalie Lisle 7/6 Stephan Meuyou 7/6 Patti Perry 7/6 Ryan Colbrese 7/9 Jim Marciniak 7/11 Quinn Risley 7/11 Avery Long 7/13 Greg Franzo 7/14 Ingrid Nolan 7/15 Murphy Regan 7/15 Catherine Glawe 7/16 Lorraine Meyer 7/16 Mary Jansen 7/17 Cooper Sahlas 7/17 Lynda Nadkarni 7/18 Lily Pyatt 7/18 Cody Kazarian 7/20 Margaret Vacek 7/20 Kayla Flam 7/21 Mary Louise Schwarz 7/22 Ellen Allen 7/24 Jean Tess 7/24 Allie Burke 7/25 Lisa Burke 7/25 Cyril Friend III 7/25 Jordan Ballerine 7/26 John Lynch 7/26 Tyler Pratico-Floros 7/27 Sally Sloane 7/27 Keegan Buttimer 7/28 Andrew Kiwiet 7/28 Kendall Hastings 7/29 Amanda Hejna 7/29 Kirsten Jantze 7/30 Susan Zander 7/30 Wesley Deason 7/31



CARERS Corner

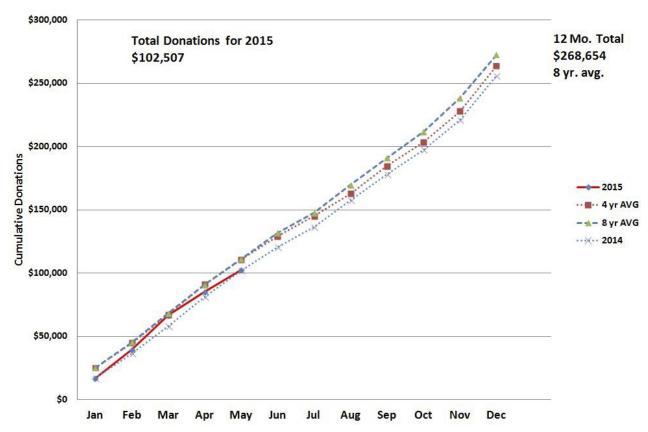
July is Stars and Stripes month. The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 187 will be accepting our donations for their "Packages Abroad" program. Everything we donate will be used by a member of the armed services deployed abroad and by those who visit the USO at O'Hare Airport. The long list of materials is posted by the trunk in the foyer. It includes non-perishable snacks, personal care products and fun items to occupy off-duty hours. Please contact Kate Chard with any questions Thank you for your generous donations!

Christmas Craft Bazaar and Cafe

RPC will host our First Annual Christmas Bazaar and Cafe on November 14, 2015. We welcome crafters to be part of this day-long event. Besides the cafe and craft items, we will be welcoming representatives from <u>Ten Thousand Villages</u> and their fair trade handmade items, as well as selling new-to-you holiday items (for *all* holidays). If interested in selling your crafts, please <u>return the form</u> either to the Riverside Presbyterian office, or to Sandra Kappmeyer. Both addresses are on the form, as is contact information should you have questions. If you do not create crafts, but know someone who does, please pass this information on to them and welcome them to participate.



RPC CUMULATIVE DONATIONS vs. PREVIOUS YEARS



As you can see from the plot of our gifts to God to date, your generosity has matched that of previous years. As a result, our Vacation Bible School in July will be open to the young children of Riverside in cooperation with the Covenant of Churches.

Share-A-Meal at Interfaith House

Our first Share-A-Meal (SAM) at Interfaith House on Monday, May 25, was a huge success and delicious! We served ham, macaroni and cheese, coleslaw, rolls and pie to approximately 70 residents. We particularly enjoyed sitting down and speaking with them both before and after the meal. On Sunday, June 28, we served White Fence Farm chicken, side dishes, and dessert for our second experience. We've already been told the residents are excited about our return

We will be alternating the last Sunday or the last Monday of each month for SAM to see how it works out for everyone's calendars. Please consider the following dates for potential service: July 27 (Monday), August 30 (Sunday), or September 27 (Monday).

How you can serve:

- Prepare a menu item that serves 10-12 (menus will be announced each month, with recipes if necessary)
- Serve the dinner meal (approximate time commitment $-3\frac{1}{2}$ hours, including travel)

It is a wonderful experience to serve; it really lightens your heart and eases your own worries or burdens. Please consider the opportunity. Contact Ellen Hamilton, rpcellen@rpcusa.org for more information.

Deacons Visit The Plant

On Saturday, May 23, a group from RPC took a tour of a "closed -loop, sustainable-technology" startup and green business incubator called "The Plant." The group consisted of David Harper, Fred Kitch, Steve Marcus, Steven Teune and Virginia Yang. A 3 & 4-story brick building built in the early 1900s at 1400 W. 46th St. in the "Back-of-the Yards" neighborhood houses aquaponics (i.e., a tilapia fish farm), hydroponics, a micro-brewery, a cultivar for producing anaerobic bacteria and yeast (utilized by the brewery), a bakery, a mushroom growing operation using suspended bags of wheat grass and an aquarium for growing a fresh water prawn known as the "The Salty Prawn." Outside, the 3-acre lot contains raised hill gardens, compost piles, a 100-foot-long metal "digestor" tank (used to convert fish waste and other solid waste products into organic fertilizer) and a small chicken yard producing eggs and manurebased fertilizer. Peer Foods occupied the building from 1925 to 2001 and processed pork products in four shifts around the clock. seven days a week, from 1925 to 2001. The Plant holds itself up as an example of re-purposing and re-using real assets in urban landscapes.









Ryan Womack Youth Sunday



On Sunday, May 31, RPC celebrated the youth of the church with a service conducted by young adults. Also on Youth Sunday, Randy and Lonnie Womack presented 17 students with scholarships given in memory of their son, Ryan. 2015 is the 25th year that Ryan Womack Scholarships have been given to RPC college students, and 2015 will be the last year that scholarships will be awarded. Since the inception of the Womack Scholarship in 1990, over \$600,000 in scholarships have been awarded.









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Historical Notes: Musical Instruments



RPC Organ

The undated picture at left shows the RPC organ as it may have looked when it was installed in 1904. This was not the first organ used at the church, but nothing is known about the earlier instrument. According to our church history, however, RPC employed an "organ boy" prior to 1892 who pumped the bellows for the organ. His salary in 1896 was \$30 for the year, with the organist receiving \$300 annually.

Although the pipes shown in the photograph look quite impressive, they were a non-working façade over the actual working pipes behind them (as our current cross and screen now

hide the pipes, a result of a remodeling in the 1960s). Organ pipes are made from either wood or metal (a mixture of tin and lead) and each pipe is tuned to a specific note of the musical scale. The RPC organ has both wood and metal pipes. Pipes are also classified as flue pipes or reed pipes, and RPC has both. The sound of a flue pipe is produced with no moving parts, solely from the vibration of air, in the same manner as a recorder or a whistle. The sound of a reed pipe is produced by a beating reed as wind is directed towards a curved piece of brass. The principle is the same as that of the orchestral clarinet. Special unpitched stops also appear in some organs. Among these are the Zimbelstern (a wheel of rotating bells). The RPC organ has a Zimbelstern, a 2013 gift to the church in memory of John Kiwiet.

A pipe organ has one or more keyboards (called *manuals* from the Latin *manus*, meaning "hand"), and a pedalboard played by the feet, each of which has its own group of stops. The keyboard, pedalboard, and stops are housed in the organ's console. The organ's continuous supply of wind allows it to sustain notes for as long as the corresponding keys are depressed. RPC's current three-manual console was installed in the 1950s, replacing the 1904 two-manual Kimball console. A pipe organ is a complicated apparatus based on a simple concept—a big box of whistles. Each pipe sits on top of a hollow wind chest that is filled with compressed air provided by a bellows or blower. Each 'stop' at the organ console represents a set of pipes (a rank) of a particular tone color, with a different pipe for every note on the keyboard. Pulling the stop activates a slider under that specific set of pipes on the wind chest, allowing them to sound. The wind chest also contains a series of valves (pallets) connected to the keyboard by a mechanical linkage. These pallets govern the flow of air to each pipe, and even though a stop may be on, no pipes will sound until a key is depressed and its respective pallet opens. This allows the compressed air to pass up through the pipe for that note, creating sound.

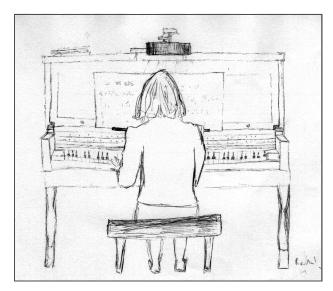
RPC's organ is an amalgamation of various organs, none of which were designed specifically for this sanctuary, but which together have a pleasing sound. The heart of our current organ was installed in 1904. The console, although not the original console from 1904, is relatively old, making repairs difficult. For years the RPC organ was maintained by Jim Gruber. Mr. Gruber, although not a church member, provided his services free of charge because he was involved with Troop 24. His son, Jonathan, became an Eagle Scout in 1999. "It's a testament to his ability that the organ still works," said Sally Sloane about Jim Gruber. Mr. Gruber was fluent in Czech, and during the communist era in Czechoslovakia, when churches were being dismantled, he traveled to Europe and salvaged organ parts. Although our pipe organ was not designed specifically for our sanctuary, Mr. Gruber did a terrific job of blending the old organ with the new parts to create our instrument, which fits our worship space acoustically and leads our congregational singing. Our instrument can play almost all repertoire from six centuries of organ music.

Unfortunately, due to the age of the organ, significant repairs are now needed, with an estimated cost of approximately \$58,000. Donations to restore the organ can be made <u>online</u> or by check.

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RPC Piano

The sketch at right, by Rachel McLean, pictures Sally Sloane playing the piano during a Sunday service. On the side of the piano is a plaque that reads *In Loving Memory of Robert Lindquist 1902-1987*. Robert Lindquist and his wife, Mildred, were active long-time members of RPC, and were married in the church—as were their two daughters. Robert came to RPC through his marriage to Mildred, whose parents moved to Riverside in the 1920s. Mr. Lindquist was a banker by profession. He served on the Session at a time when, *of course*, all Session members were men, and mostly older men. Mr. Lindquist was in his 40's so he was jokingly referred to as the "younger elder." Mr. Lindquist wrote the 100-year history of RPC (1972), which was later updated by his grandson for the 125th anniversary of the church. Both Robert and Mildred were musical. When Robert was



growing up in Grand Rapids, Michigan, he played the church organ and sometimes pumped the bellows. While newlyweds the Lindquists rented a furnished apartment (one room with a Murphy bed that folded up into the wall), but the first piece of "furniture" they purchased was a grand piano. Therefore, it was fitting that the Lindquist daughters and grandchildren used the money given as memorials on his death and purchased the Steinway piano in the sanctuary.



2014-2015 Bible Study Concludes

On June 10, at the conclusion of its 2014-2015 study, *Reconciling Paul: A Contemporary Study of 2 Corinthians*, the Presbyterian Women's Bible Study recognized their leaders, Elizabeth Musick, Sylvia Schade, and Joyce Van Cura and its coordinator, Carol Sprunger, for their devotion and outstanding leadership.



Pictured above from left to right:

Joyce Van Cura, Carol Sprunger, Elizabeth Musick
(Missing: Sylvia Schade)

Come to the Waters: 2015-2016

The topic for the 2015-2016 Horizons Bible Study will be *Come to the Waters* by Judy Record Fletcher, with Suggestions for Leaders by Larissa Kwong Abazia. The rich imagery of water throughout the Bible helps us understand and articulate our faith. Just as water nourishes our bodies, so the scriptures on water nourish our souls. Lesson Leaders for 2015-2016 will be Elizabeth Musick, Sylvia Schade, and Joyce Van Cura.

2015 Birthday Offering

Presbyterian Women have a long tradition of caring for others and helping those in need. Members have been challenged to give a penny (or more) for each year of life as a "birthday gift." The Presbyterian Women's Birthday offering has helped fund mission projects that improve the lives of women and children around the world. RPC women answered the call and sent a check for \$278 to Presbyterian Women—Presbytery of Chicago.



Vacation Bible School

Registration is now open for VBS! This event is being hosted by the Covenant of Churches and will take place at RPC July 12 to July 16, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Children, families and volunteers can register online. Kids entering grades K-5 in the fall are welcome to attend. Paper registration forms are also available outside the sanctuary and at coffee fellowship.

Strawberry Social

We are getting ready for the Strawberry Social! Join us as we welcome the community on Wednesday, July 15. We're going to show everyone a good time with homemade treats, ice cream, and of course strawberries, along with games for the kids, live music, and lots of time just to visit. How can you help ensure this event is a success? First, mark your calendar and plan on attending! Tickets are available after worship services, in the office during business hours, or at the event. Tickets are \$5 each, or ahead of time you can purchase a book of 5 for \$20. Use your extra ticket to invite a neighbor to join you! We begin serving at 6:00 p.m. and enjoy games and music from 7:00 to 8:00p.m. We'll stop serving food at 8:30, but hope the fellowship will continue until 9:00.



Lots of volunteer opportunities are available. We can use help with everything from baking to ticket-taking, slicing cakes to scooping ice cream, decorating to clean-up, and lots of things in between. To help, fill out the insert in your bulletin or visit Sign-up Genius to see where your help is most needed and who you'll be working alongside. Finally, say a prayer for good weather. Remember last year? It was perfect! Another evening like that will leave everyone feeling truly blessed once again.

Friday Night Fellowship

Join us once a month on a Friday night (7:00-10:00 p.m.) for summertime fellowship. These are lovely gatherings at a member's home. Our host provides the venue; the guests bring an hors-d'oeuvre and a beverage to share... Instant Party! Adults only please.

- July 31 Lynda & Nick Nadkarni's home at 1401 East 31st Street, LaGrange Park
- August 28 Ellen Hamilton's home at 213 Woodside Road, Riverside

Bike to Church



One less car. Increasingly you are seeing more and more cars with bumper stickers that read, *One less car*. When you consider that cars produce greenhouse gases, it makes a lot of sense. It's that time of year when the Board of Deacons ask you to consider riding a bike to church instead of taking your car. That's a great reason but here's an even better one. Use that time to prepare yourself for worship. On a bike you can see God's creation, and reflect upon it. In a car it's doubtful you would be able to hear the cardinal sing, or the chirping of a chickadee. Like anything, it may seem strange the first time, but after that, it's like riding a bike. Give it a try.

Please check the Website for the most recent calendar updates!

July 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sun	With	Tuc	Wed	Thu	111	Sat
			1 Office Closed	2 6:30a Women's Forum	3	4
5 9a Human Scene 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 11a Fellowship Comm Mtg 2p Cantata Worship	6 5:15p Volleyball	7 6:30a Men's Forum 7p Personnel Comm Mtg 7p Stewardship Comm Mtg	8 Office Closed	9 6:30a Women's Forum	10	11
12 9a Human Scene 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 6p VBS	13 5:15p Volleyball 6p VBS 7p Finance Comm Mtg 7:30p Trustees	14 6:30a Men's Forum 6p VBS 7p CCY Mtg	15 Office Closed 6p VBS 6p Strawberry Social	16 6:30a Women's 6p VBS Forum	17 10a CARERS Comm Mtg	18
19 9a Human Scene 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 11a Worship & Music Comm Mtg 2p Scottish Home Worship	20 5:15p Volleyball	21 6:30a Men's Forum 7p Deacons	22 Office Closed	23 6:30a Women's Forum	24	25
26 9a Human Scene 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship	27 5:15p Volleyball	28 6:30a Men's Forum 7p Preschool Comm Mtg	29 Office Closed	30 6:30a Women's Forum	31	

Sunday School

Children's Sunday School, Girls' Group, and Teen Scene are in recess until fall. Throughout the summer the adult Human Scene class will be hosting an informal Bible study every Sunday at 9:00 to read and discuss the Biblical passages for that Sunday's service. Everyone is welcome to join the discussion.

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

RIVERSIDE **PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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