

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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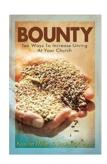
The Vision

September 2015

God's Abundant Plans

Beloved friends,

I will begin a stewardship-focused **sermon series** beginning September 13 and continuing through November 15. It will be loosely based on the book *Bounty*, by Kristine Miller and Scott McKenzie. Our journey will be based on the book's theme, "grounded in gratitude, revealed in prayer, lived in faith."



I invite you to open your hearts and minds to the new possibilities God has for your life and your journey of discipleship this fall.



Our **Sunday School Kick-off** will be on August 30, along with a kick-ball tournament and church picnic. Youth groups will be resuming, a new Confirmation Class will be forming, and Human Scene will have exciting adult education offerings.

In addition, I will lead an **Andrew Ministry** class training program with Susan Lynch, which will raise up leaders in hospitality and discipleship. This will help Riverside Presbyterian become an ever more inviting church and an even brighter beacon of light and hope to this community.

Wednesday Night Live! is making a comeback and promises more adult and family learning and fellowship opportunities, thanks to Lisa Marciniak and Lynda Nadkarni.

Get ready to see the abundant plans God has for us!

See you in church...

Prayerfully and faithfully yours,

Emily

Back in Action

RPC's Chancel Choir will be singing again during worship, Sunday, September 13. We're glad to be back! Calling all Ringers and Singers! *Our first rehearsal is Wednesday, September 16.* Since 2006 RPC has been home to two children's choirs: the Riverside Ringers and the Riverside Singers. These groups are led by Sandra Kappmeyer, Elizabeth Musick, Sally Sloane and Donna Ulrich on a volunteer basis. We meet each Wednesday during the school year from 4:15 to 5:15. Children ages 5 – 12 are welcome to join. No RPC affiliation is necessary and there are no fees! We work on vocal techniques, following musical scores, learning to read rhythms, working together in a musical ensemble, hand chime ringing techniques, ensemble discipline, percussion instruments including xylophones, and following a conductor. Much of our music follows the liturgical church year and we include brief lessons on scripture. Many children from this group have gone on to ring with our pre-professional handbell ensemble, *The acaBELLa Ringers*. Please contact Sally Sloane at musikhse@comcast.net if you have a child interested in joining.

All Creatures Great and Small

We are happy to announce the Sunday service where we acknowledge the beauty and value of all God's creatures again will be held this fall. *Blessing of the Animals Sunday* will be held **September 20** outdoors on the RPC lawn. Beloved pets should attend on a leash or in appropriate carrier. Be cautious and control your pet when children or adults approach. Even the best behaved pets get over-stimulated in the midst of many people in a strange situation and can jump, snap, or even bite uncharacteristically out of fear. Arriving a bit early, "airing" your pet and bringing along appropriate supplies for cleaning up after your pet is strongly encouraged. While some folding chairs will be provided, feel free to bring along lawns chairs, if you have them. In the case of rain, the service will be held in the church sanctuary, where animals are not permitted.



Worship at Cantata and Scottish Home

Our Deacons and other volunteers provide monthly services to residents of our two local senior citizen homes. Join us for worship at Cantata on Sunday, September 6, at 2:00 p.m., and at the Scottish Home on Sunday, September 20, at 2:00 p.m. Families and children are especially welcome. Your participation is so appreciated!



September 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
September 6	Steve Marcus	OPEN	Susan & Natalie Lisle Fred & Donna Mitchell	OPEN	CARERS Committee
September 13	Matt Lisle	OPEN	Kathi Roccanova & Patti Perry Thom & Nancy DeVries	OPEN	OPEN
September 20	Doug Harvin	OPEN	Cindy Reynolds & Haley Rayfield Michael & Kaki Lynch	Paula McCracken	OPEN
September 27	Dennis Zander	OPEN	Kemp Clarke & David Harper Michael & Roberta Gates	OPEN	OPEN

Grounded in gratitude, revealed in prayer, lived in faith

Beginning September 13 and continuing through November 15, Pastor Emily will be presenting a sermon series loosely based on the book *Bounty*, by Kristine Miller and Scott McKenzie, and linked to Human Scene classes. The book will be distributed beginning September 6 outside the sanctuary, in the church office, and during the fellowship hour. Those who wish can offer a donation for the book.

September 13 Gratitude

Luke 17: 11-19, I Thess. 5: 12-24

Introduction and Chapter 1

How have you been blessed by God? For what are you most grateful?

September 20 Prayer

Matthew 7: 7-14, Colossians 4: 2-5

Pray daily for:

Our World Our Nation

Our State/Community

Our Church Family/Friends

Our Gifts (Time, Talent, Treasure)

September 27 Faith

Mark 9: 14-29, Hebrews 11: 1

Chapter 1: Invite God into the Mix and

Chapter 4: Tithe One On

The Journey Begins: A Devotional Guide from horizonstewardship.com

Commit to a season of stewardship as a congregation.

October 4 Leadership

Hebrews 2: 14-18, Philippians 2: 1-18

Chapter 3: Set Leadership Expectations

October 11 What Stewardship is Not: Stopping Insane Practices Mt. 6: 1-4; Mark 4: 21-25

Chapter 2: Secrecy and Chapter 5: Stop the Insanity

October 18 Witnessing

Luke 24: 44-49, Acts 2: 37-47

Chapter 7: Give a Word of Witness

October 25 What Stewardship Is--Asking the Right Questions

Zechariah 4: 1-7, Ephesians 3: 14-21

Chapter 8: Ask the Right Questions

November 1 Preparing for God's Abundance

Matthew 25: 1-13 and 14-30

Chapter 9: Make Stewardship Year Round and

Chapter 10: Prepare to Soar

November 8 Say Please, Say Thank You

Colossians 1: 3-14, Phil. 4: 4-9

Chapter 6: Thank. Ask. Repeat and Summary

November 15 Progress, Not Perfection

Luke 18: 18-30

Consecration of pledges

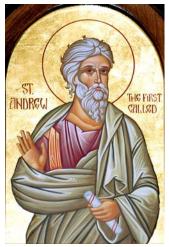
Session Notes

In August, the Session:

- Approved the final Ministry Information Form prepared by the Designated Pastor Nominating Committee, which will now be able to receive Pastor Information Forms and begin interviewing candidates.
- Approved the baptism of Luca McCallan Mancini, child of Luigi and Nea (Stack) Mancini.
- Noted with sadness the death of Sylvia Penn on August 17.
- Approved having paid advertisements about weekly and special RPC events in the *Landmark* through the end of 2015.
- ◆ Accepted the donation of copies of the book "Bounty", by Scott McKenzie and Krisitine Miller for members of the congregation to use and discuss.
- Approved plans for an "Every-Member Canvass" in the fall.
- Approved plans to revive "Wednesday Night Live!" in the fall.
- Removed the following from the active roll, due to moving, joining another church, or member request: Wilma Steenland; Elizabeth Armstrong Meister; Sarah Dudak; Frank, Marianne, Mack and Jake Fieseler; Tala, Margaret and Christopher McCoy; Chris Schiller and Carrie Schade; Leanne Heine Solish; Christine Armstrong; Kathy Buckland; Brian Conroy; Karen Flam; and Calvin Pohlhammer.

Mary Ann Sadilek Clerk of Session

The Andrew Ministry at RPC



Andrew was the disciple who brought people to Jesus. In John 1: 35-42, Andrew begins following Jesus after John the Baptist said, "Behold, the Lamb of God." Andrew found his brother Simon (Peter) and said, "We have found the Messiah." He brought Peter to Jesus and the two of them became his first followers. The Andrew Ministry is dedicated to bringing people to Jesus by shepherding them into the community of faith through a mission of hospitality and spiritual mentoring. Trained Andrew Ministers are able to greet people as they enter the church and answer questions they may have, call on prospective members, connect prospective members to the various ministries of the church, shepherd people through the membership process and stay in touch with them until they are assimilated into the life of the church. The RPC Session has approved moving forward in developing and implementing an Andrew Ministry. Over the next several weeks the Elders will be nominating and inviting people to undergo training this fall as Andrew Ministers. We are looking for gregarious and outgoing individuals who like connecting people to one another and are willing to mentor prospective members. If you have questions about the program and the training, feel free to contact Susan Lynch at skstrause@us.ibm.com.



Board of Deacons Summer Cent\$ability Offering

Our summer *Cents-A-bility* Offering will be received during the Sunday worship service on September 13. Thanks to those of you who collected coins to help the hungry in the area served by the Presbytery of Chicago.

Auction and Dinner on September 27

Save the date of Sunday, September 27, for RPC's annual auction and dinner. It's a great time to support the church and at the same time obtain needed services or schedule fun fellowship activities throughout the year. In prior years, we have offered dinners or other fellowship activities given by members, services provided by members, tickets to sports or entertainment events, weekends at vacation homes, and lots of other fun items. If you have something you can donate, please contact the church office.

Holiday Bazaar and Christmas Café

Please mark your calendar for November 14, the date of the Board of Deacons' first annual Bazaar and Christmas Café. In September we will begin soliciting help from members of the congregation, help that can take many forms, from making soup for the café (recipes will be provided), to baking, to helping the day of the bazaar and preceding days. In the meantime, if you have any of the following to donate, please deposit items in or near the box on the pew near the office.

- Decorations for all holidays
- Christmas items for children, e.g. books, stuffed animals
- Books related to Christmas or other holidays
- ♦ Christmas cards
- Seasonal decorations
- Party items & decorations for any occasion, e.g. paper products, gift wrap, cards
- New, and indistinguishable from new, items that can be bought as gifts or stocking stuffers
- **♦** Candles

If you receive calendars, date books, note pads, etc., from charities requesting donations, please bring those in too. We will also need plastic or paper bags and medium-sized empty boxes, and if you have a cash box to loan us for the day, please contact Sandra Kappmeyer skappzan@aol.com.



Emily Cain 9/1
Frank Gangware 9/1
Nancy Hopkins 9/1
Austin McKain 9/1
Joan Shurtleff 9/1
Cade Friend 9/2
Ja'Net Deason 9/3
Allan Chard 9/4
Jonathan Jansky 9/5
Marika Floros 9/6
Debbie Lubeck 9/6
Tim Gates 9/7

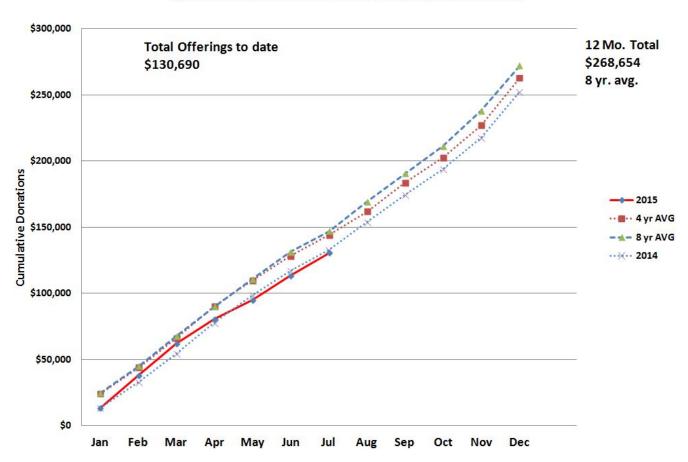
Robbie LeBeau 9/8 George Meyer 9/9 Gwen Heine 9/10 Donna Cermak 9/11 John Franzo 9/12 Nuala Lubeck 9/14 Bob Sprunger 9/14 Betty Jirsa 9/17 Janet Paarlberg 9/17 Kate Chard 9/18 April Pratico-Floros 9/21 Kris Carlson 9/23 Lowell Morrison 9/23 Greta Schramm 9/23 Scott Schwarz 9/23 Roy Thorsen 9/23 Chloe Floros 9/25 Brooklyn Hastings 9/27 David Schade 9/27 Andrew Staubus 9/27 Michael Aieta 9/28 Jacques Doornebos 9/28 Jeff Cermak 9/30 Michael MacDonald 9/30 Bennett Regan 9/30

CARERS Corner

BEDS+ provides safe overnight shelter and services needed to escape homelessness. In September we are collecting decaf coffee, instant iced tea and cocoa powder, lemonade and cider drink mix and paper goods (napkins and paper towels) for BEDS+.



RPC CUMULATIVE DONATIONS vs. PREVIOUS YEARS



"A religion that gives nothing, costs nothing, and suffers nothing, is worth nothing."

Martin Luther

We continue to show by our time and talent contributions our thankfulness for God's blessings.

Share-a-Meal at The Boulevard

Now you can look ahead for several months at opportunities for providing food and service at our monthly Share-A-Meal mission activity at *The Boulevard*. There are menus on <u>SignUpGenius.com</u> for every month through December, 2015. You can either enter this link (http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f054aa8ac2aa6fd0-2015) or log into www.signupgenius.com (it's free to sign up - no obligation), and look for "2015 RPC BOULEVARD SAM." If you don't have a computer, or have any problems, contact Ellen Hamilton and she'll sign you up the old-fashioned way.

Give service! The folks at *The Boulevard* love it when we come, and it feels so good!

How the Bible Came to Be

Our first Sunday School rotation will explore the story of how the Bible as we know it came into being. In the Celestial Cinema room, we will become a team of Bible librarians who race to organize all of the books of the Bible, followed by a game of Bible Baseball. In Oasis Place, we will delve into the world of Bible translation, and create our very own time capsule. We will discover how the Dead Sea Scrolls have played an important part in biblical scholarship, and also experience the various media of Bible publications. This lesson will reinforce that it is through the Bible that we come to know the word of God as experienced by the people of faith.



Memory Verse

The grass withers. The flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. *Isaiah 40:8, 1 Peter 1:24-25*

	K-2nd	3rd-4th	5th	Jr. High	
September 6	Celebration Si	ınday - All children in the sanctu	ary for a basics of worsh	ip lesson.	
September 13	Celestial Cinema	Oasis Place	Godly Play	Creation Station	
September 20	Oasis Place	Celestial Cinema	Creation Station	Godly Play	
September 27	Godly Play	Creation Station	Oasis Place	Celestial Cinema	

Kids and Stewardship

Because we have been so blessed by God, we are asked to share our blessings with others. Even a few pennies can have a positive impact on a child who gives from the heart. It's not the quantity that matters, but the spirit in which it is given. 100% of Sunday school offerings go to World Vision to purchase animals for poor families in developing countries. Watch our Sunday School "offering o-meter" to see our progress.

The children will also be doing a service project throughout the fall. We will be gathering goods to make "activity packs" for children who are in the hospital, as well as those visiting family members. We seek the following donations: gallon-sized zip lock bags, dollar store toys (plush animals, coloring books, crayons, playing cards, puzzles, action figures, etc), unopened Happy Meal toys, as well as items for small children (pacifiers, teething rings). All items will be gathered during a future Celebration Sunday and donated to Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital. Donated items can be placed in the appropriate box on the bench by the office.



Preschool News

The preschool is thrilled to announce that Julie Wert will be joining our teaching team this September! We have tons of fun and learning planned. Tuesday, September 8, starts our new year.

Before and After-School Care at RPC

Riverside Parks and Recreation is offering a *Before and After School Program*, Monday through Friday, at Riverside Presbyterian Church. The program is available for students in grades 1-8 in accordance with the District 96 school schedule. The program will combine recreational and educational enrichment opportunities and provide students with a safe and comfortable after-school alternative in a positive social and educational environment. More information, and enrollment forms, are available on the Riverside Recreation website.

Confirmation Class 2015-2016



Riverside Presbyterian Church will be conducting a Confirmation Class Informational Meeting on Sunday, August 30.

We extend a special invitation to our 9th – 12th graders to participate in making this life-forming commitment to Christ. Students learn to recognize and respond to the Holy Spirit working in their lives, and they are given an opportunity to confirm, or make firm, their personal commitment of faith. It is a way of saying "yes" to God. Our Confirmation class meets weekly on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. and concludes with Confirmation in the spring. RPC is fortunate to have a team of Confirmation teachers, ready to engage teens in conversations about faith. This is an excellent way to explore your faith with others who are thinking about confirmation and is a safe place to ask any questions you have about God, Jesus, and the journey of faith.

Please join us for an information meeting on Sunday, August 30, at 9:00 a.m. for both students and parent(s) in the Westminster room. We will cover the class syllabus, weekly class structure, class schedule, outline goals and expectations, and answer any questions about our confirmation process at RPC.

Girls' Group Starting September 11

All Junior and Senior High girls are invited to attend Girls' Group this year! We will sometimes meet on Wednesday evenings and sometimes on Fridays after school, and may also have some weekend events.

If you are a rising 6th grader, or are not currently on the e-mail list for Girls' Group, please contact Tara Gregus at <u>taragregus@yahoo.com</u>.

All are welcome and so are friends! We are looking forward to another great year!



Youth Group News

August 30 will be the kickoff Sunday for all Youth and Christian Education programming. Teen Scene will meet in the morning at 9:00 a.m. for Senior High youth, but the fun doesn't end there— After church, join us for kickball! We need as many youth as possible! Junior High will then meet at a NEW time for the fall of 2015: 5:00 p.m. in the Social Hall.

Our September Schedule:

September 6 Labor Day—No Youth Group

September 13 Teen Scene, 9:00 p.m., Junior High 5:00 p.m.

September 20 Blessing of the Animals Service and Pet Supply Drive. Combined Junior/Senior High event. We will

take all goods to the Hinsdale Humane Society.

September 27 Teen Scene 9:00 a.m., Junior High 5:00 p.m.

Presbyterian Women Bible Study



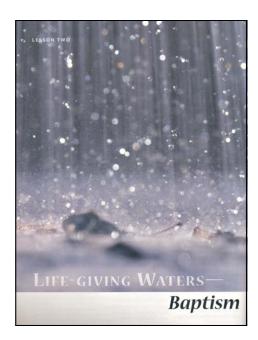
The topic for the 2015-2016 Horizons Bible Study is *Come to the Waters* by Judy Record Fletcher, with suggestions for leaders by Larissa Kwong Abazia. *Come to the Waters* considers water images and stories in the Bible. With over 800 references to water in the Bible, there is no shortage of passages from which to choose. The study begins with the chaotic waters of creation in *Genesis* and ends with the river of life in *Revelation*.

Lesson 2: Life-Giving Waters—Baptism

Scripture: Matthew 3:13-17

Lesson Focus: The waters of baptism give life. Lesson 2 considers the meaning of baptismal waters—for Jesus, for the early

church, and for our lives today.



Lesson Leaders are Elizabeth Musick, Sylvia Schade and Joyce Van Cura. Sylvia will lead Lesson 2.

Human Scene

Join the **Human Scene** class *on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the upstairs Parlor*. You will have a chance to explore scripture, theology, current events, mission projects, and your own spiritual journey. The Human Scene will be meeting every Sunday in September. Watch our weekly bulletin for an update on the upcoming schedule.

Friday Fellowship

The Friday Night Fellowship Party will be hosted by Joyce and Jay Van Cura at 181 Scottswood Road in Riverside on September 25 from 7:00 to 10:-00 p.m. All those 21 and over are welcome. Please bring an hors-d'oeuvre and beverage to share. Instant party!



Christmas Cards for Companions, Journeying Together

Companions, Journeying Together is a prison ministry which consists of sending cards to prisoners. You may use your own cards, or there will be pack of ten cards by the CARERS trunk near the church office. Please take one or more packs and follow the directions. Please sign your name(s). Do not use stickers, glue, paste or tape on the cards or envelopes. This restriction includes purchased cards. Prison regulations will not allow the use of such items. Do not enclose anything. Do not seal the envelopes. Please put stamps in a separate envelope. Do not attach the stamps to the envelopes. Do not use cards that talk about novenas or masses. Please be sensitive to the fact that cards may be sent to people of color. Please use cards that represent a diverse population. Thank you for being involved.



Pecans—Pecans—Pecans

Great tasting, freshly harvested pecan halves will be available again this fall. Prepaid orders will be accepted during coffee hours on Sundays in October. The proceeds go to benefit the Erie House. The price is not known at this time. The pecans will be delivered in early November, in time for holiday baking!



We're Bringing Back Wednesday Night Live!

Stay tuned for details, but clear your calendars now, because you're going to want to be a part of this. It's the return of our popular *Wednesday Night Live!* program!

What is *Wednesday Night Live*!? Dinner and activites for all ages on **Wednesday evenings all October through November 11.** Dinner takes place between 6:00 and 7:00 p.m., and is a great opportunity for intergenerational fellowship. Between 7:00 and 8:00 there will be classes and activities for all. We're still working on our programming, but we know you'll find it enjoyable and enriching. We'll be announcing our plans soon and putting out registration forms, so watch your Friday announcements and your bulletins.

Frequently asked questions about WNL!

Q: What if I can't be there right at 6:00?

A: We start serving dinner at 6:00 so that the bell choir participants can get to rehearsal by 6:30. If you can make it by 6:30 or so, there's still plenty of time to eat. If you can't make it in time for dinner, you're still welcome to join us for class.

Q: What if I have a little one who needs to get to bed, and I can't stay for the classes/activities?

A: Come have dinner with us, anyway! You've got to eat somewhere, and we're willing to do the cooking!

Q: Is there a fee?

A: There will be a nominal charge to cover six weeks of dinner and any class supplies. We're still working on the price. In the past, people thought it was a great deal.

Q: What if I can't come all 6 weeks?

A: If you register, you can come whenever you can make it. If you don't want to register, we ask that you tell the office by Monday that you will be attending, and you can pay a "drop-in" price at dinner on Wednesday. We'd rather have you there once or twice than not at all!

O: My kids are in Ringers and Singers, and I don't want to keep running back and forth. What can I do?

A: Your kids can stay after Ringers and Singers for Homework Club in the Fellowship Hall. They can do homework, read, or play a game. If they want, they can help us get ready for dinner.

Q: Do I really want to put another thing on my busy calendar?

A: In the past, WNL! participants were worried about this to begin with, and then found it was actually a relaxing mid-week break. Dinner out with friends? You can't beat that!

Please check the Website for the most recent calendar updates!



September 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30a Men's Forum 7p Deacons Mtg 7p Fellowship Comm Mtg 7p Personnel Comm Mtg 7p Stewardship Comm Mtg	2 Office Closed	3 6:30a Women's Forum	4	5
6 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 2p Cantata Worship	7 Labor Day 5:15p Volleyball	8 6:30a Men's Forum	9 Office Closed	10 6:30a Women's Forum	11	12
13 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 11a Worship & Music Comm Mtg 11:15a Endowment Comm Mtg 11:30a Congregational Mtg	14 5:15p Volleyball 7p Finance Comm Mtg 7:30p Trustees Mtg	15 6:30a Men's Forum	16 Office Closed 7p Session Mtg	17 6:30a Women's Forum	18 10a CARERS Comm Mtg	19
20 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 11:30a Congregational Mtg 2p Scottish Home Worship Vision Deadline	21 5:15p Volleyball	22 6:30a Men's Forum	23 Office Closed	24 6:30a Women's Forum	25	26
27 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 4p Oktoberfest Auction	28 5:15p Volleyball	29 6:30a Men's Forum	30 Office Closed			

Our second "Friday Night Fellowship" party was graciously hosted on July 31 by Lynda and Nick Nadkarni. It was a lovely evening of conversation and fellowship. Thank you, Nadkarni family, for the great time together.

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

RIVERSIDE **PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

116 Barrypoint Road Riverside, Illinois 60546

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Place mailing label here

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Donna Jones rpcoffice@rpcusa.org Tara Gregus

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Matt Gauen

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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)