

The Vision

October 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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Beloved friends,

October 4

We continue our stewardship season throughout October and into November. Here is the preaching schedule, which coincides with the topics for the adult Human Scene class and focuses on chapters from the book *Bounty*, by Kristine Miller and Scott McKenzie.

World Communion Sunday

October 11 Being Restored to Sanity (Chapters 2 and 5)

Leadership (Chapter 3)

October 18 Witnessing (Chapter 7)

October 25 **Asking the Right Questions** (Chapter 8)

November 1 **Preparing for God's Abundance** (Chapters 9-10)

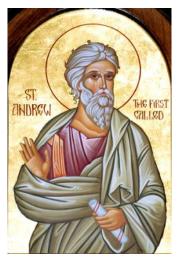
November 8 Say Please, Say Thank You (Chapter 6)

The sermon series is based on the theme of the book, "Grounded in Gratitude, Revealed in Prayer, Lived in Faith."

I am convinced that God can and will do great things as we remain thankful, prayerful, and faithful.

Emily

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, 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. We have 12 Andrew Ministers who have started their training. Training is weekly through mid-November. Join us on Sunday, November 22, during worship when we commission our Andrew Ministers. Andrew Ministry at RPC will launch during the Advent season. If you have questions about the program and the training feel free to contact Susan Lynch at skstrause@us.ibm.com

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, October 4, at 2:00 p.m., and at the Scottish Home on Sunday, October 18, at 2:00 p.m. Families and children are especially welcome. Your participation is so appreciated!



October 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
October 4	Matt Lisle	OPEN	Bill & Colleen Muller Fred Kitch & Laura Vanags	OPEN	Lynch Family
October 11	Youth	OPEN	Staubus Family	OPEN	OPEN
October 18	Karl-Heinz Meyer	OPEN	Joe & Nancy Dvorak Cyril & Kip Friend	OPEN	Friend Family
October 25	Susan Lynch	OPEN	McLean Family	OPEN	Jeff & Josh Thompson

Session Notes

In September, the Session:

- approved purchasing a used organ console as the first step in restoring RPC's organ, the last project to be funded by the Capital Fund Drive. Additional funds will be needed to complete the restoration;
- approved gradually reducing the size of the Session over the next three years from 18 elders to 12 elders, pending congregational approval of an amendment to the RPC bylaws;
- approved having beer and wine available, for a donation, at the Service Auction, pending confirmation of adequate liability insurance coverage;
- approved retroactively paying the employer share of Rev. Rosencrans' FICA tax obligation;
- discussed revisions in the Child Protection Policy, which will be presented to Session in October for approval.

Mary Ann Sadilek Clerk of Session



Henry Vogel will be the primary Trustee for October, with Jon Jansky and Thom DeVries as back-ups.

CARERS Corner

In October, we are collecting canned goods (meat, fish, pasta and soups, and vegetables) for the First Presbyterian Church of Chicago. Thank you for your donations.





Church Family Workday

Bring your rakes! It's time to start some fall clean-up. Join your church family on Sunday, October 18, from 1:00 to 3:00.

Christmas Cards for Companions, Journeying Together

Companions, Journeying Together is a prison ministry that 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.

Feed Our Community Day

Please join us in supporting the 4th annual <u>Feed Our Community Day</u>, on Saturday, October 17, at the North Riverside Village Commons. We hope to surpass last year's record by packing more than 71,000 meals of macaroni and cheese that will be distributed to local food banks. You can help us do so in a number of ways:



- Sign up online for a shift to pack meals at http://www.feed6.org/feed-our-community-day-registration-2015.html or on a manual registration form in the church office .
- Donate snacks to feed the hungry workers.
- ◆ Make a financial donation and we will pack the meals for you . Each dollar donated buys the raw materials for 4 meals. This is a fun, multi-generational event sponsored by the Riverside/North Riverside Covenant of Churches. Come join us! Contact Jeanine Buttimer with questions at buttimer270@aol.com.

Share-a-Meal at *The Boulevard*

The <u>RPC website</u> now has a link so you can always find the SignUpGenius menu planner and volunteer registry. Just click on any of the top banner buttons (i.e, Worship, Programs, Sermons, etc.) and you will see the SignUpGenius logo button on the right hand side of the page.



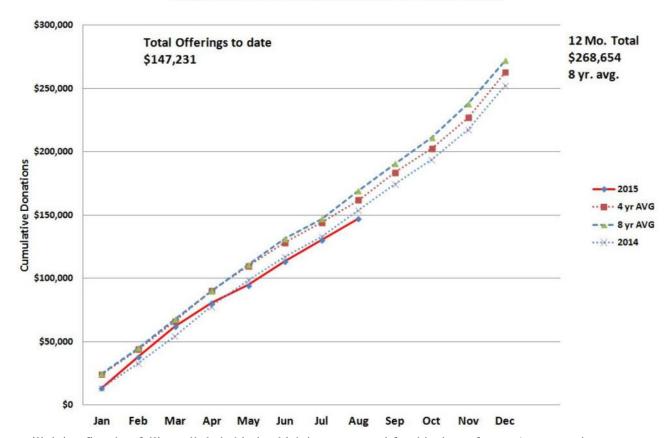
Click on it and there you are! Ellen Hamilton will still be sending out email calls for volunteers every month, but this is an easy way to find the planner at other times.

Don't forget, we serve on the *last Sunday* of every month. Your food contributions and offers of service are so meaningful to the folks at The Boulevard. Thank you!



Please mark your calendar for Saturday, November 14, the Deacons' first annual Bazaar and Christmas Cafe. This is an event we hope will become a tradition at RPC. If you hope to establish a tradition, it's vital that the first time out be a resounding success, and that can only be accomplished if many people come, and if all who come have a really good time. The Christmas Cafe will serve a continental breakfast, and lunch that includes homemade soup. The bakery will offer sweets to enjoy there or to take home. Purchase gifts from several crafters, including RPC members, and from Ten Thousand Villages, a non-profit fair trade organization. Wander into the Westminster Room and Parlor upstairs, where we will be selling new and next-to-new items from all the primary holidays, from New Year through Christmas. Please set aside the date now, and come with a friend. The bazaar will run from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.. The money we raise will be devoted entirely to missions.

RPC CUMULATIVE DONATIONS vs. PREVIOUS YEARS



We are still doing fine, but falling a little behind, which is not unusual for this time of year. As we receive our statements from the Finance Committee about our individual contributions, a big *thank you* to all who have so generously contributed. Hopefully the reminder will encourage timely donations so we can catch up at the end of the year.

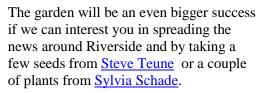
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Butterfly Garden

In April, the Session approved a request from the Deacons to plant a butterfly garden in the front lawn of the church. The butterfly garden has been a great joy, especially to those who were instrumental in its making, and a grand success in attracting Monarch butterflies, as well as hummingbirds and all kinds of bees and other fascinating insects.

Steve Teune selected the site (with as much full sun as possible) and contributed soil, rototilling, and several plants, notably the enormous orange Mexican Sunflower (Tithonia rotundifloria) grown from seed. The garden was planted in May.





Sylvia has 20 or so swamp milkweed plants, two feet tall; a few 6" butterfly weeds; 50 butterfly bushes, one foot tall, and young asters—all to give away from her garden at home. Please contact Sylvia to pick up the plants, and bring a trowel!

You may want to give them to neighbors; invite them before frost to RPC to see what the mature plants look like.







In addition to the butterflies who visited the RPC garden, Marilyn Slanec raised two Monarchs, from eggs that were laid in a cloth mesh box, after hearing a member of the <u>Salt Creek Butterfly Farm</u> give a presentation at Plymouth Place. The butterflies were released in late September to fly to Mexico.











On September 27, RPC held an Oktoberfest dinner, prepared by the Youth Group, followed by its main fundraiser for 2015, a combination live and silent auction. Many great services and items were available at the auction, and we raised over \$17,000! Thanks to all who participated!

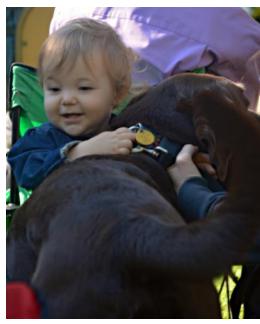




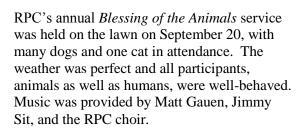


Animal Blessing























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Sunday School classes had a good time outdoors during our Kick-Off Sunday on August 30.

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New Sunday School Rotation: Psalms

This month we will be exploring one of the most beloved books of the Bible, *Psalms*. The timeless nature of this book of prayer and poetry has allowed us to glimpse the faith of our ancestors and still experience the relevance of these scriptures in our lives today.

The Psalms of Hebrew Scripture are composed of songs of praise sung to God in divine worship, accompanied by a musical instrument. The word **Psalm** in Hebrew (tehillah) actually means praise or song of praise. King David sang a song of praise to the Lord when he was delivered from the grasp of his enemies and from the hands of Saul (*Second Samuel 22:1*). The time period of the Psalms was primarily pre-exilic (before 586 BC, the time of the Babylonian exile) and post-exilic (after 516 BC), but probably ranges over five centuries. The authorship of 73 of the Psalms is attributed to David, although it is likely that he composed one or more of the 48 anonymous Psalms. Psalm 90 is attributed to Moses and Psalms 72 and 127 to Solomon.

Memory Verse

For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Psalm 100:5

	K-2	3-4	5	6-8
October 4	Creation Station	Oasis Place	Manse Kitchen	Gym
October 11		Celebration Sur	nday—Social Hall	
October 18	Oasis Place	Creation Station	Gym	Manse Kitchen
October 25	Manse Kitchen	Gym	Oasis Place	Creation Station
November 1	Gym	Manse Kitchen	Creation Station	Oasis Place

Open Gym Returns

Starting in October Open Gym will return on the *first Sunday of each month*. All kids are welcome to enjoy some supervised free time in the gym during coffee fellowship (from 11:00 a.m. until noon). Please bring your children to the gym and wait with them until our childcare supervisors arrive.



Preschool has gotten off to a terrific start! The weather has been so beautiful that we have been spending as much time outside as possible. We have been apple picking at a neighbor's apple tree and worked on fun science experiments seeing what objects from outside will sink or float. We have been on nature hikes and made wreaths for items found in nature.

We will be visiting Brookfield Zoo to meet our adopted animal Jim, the grizzly bear, and take a class on bears. We will be practicing fire safety with a Riverside firefighter. Later in the month, we will visit Cantata to sing some scary Halloween songs for the residents.

Girls Group

Girls Group began in September with some new faces and some familiar ones! All junior and senior high-aged girls are invited to join us for any of our meetings or activities. If you would like to be added to the email list or have any questions, please contact Tara Gregus at tara.gregus@rpcusa.org. Here's what we're up to in October:

Friday, October 2 Meet at the Riverside library to hear from Riverside author/illustrator Janan Cain Wednesday, October 7

Come to RPC anytime after school to help us cook for the first night of Wednesday

Night Live! Dinner begins at 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 17 Participate in the FEED 6 community event at Riverside Town Hall

Friday, October 23 Meet at the library and walk to Aunt Diana's for a tour!

Wednesday, October 28 **TBA**

Youth Group

Youth Group is underway! Thank you to all the youth and families who have been coming to youth group events so far. We will continue to have Teen Scene on Sunday Mornings. Come stop by for discussion and donuts and to check in about what's going on in life. Middle School will be piloting a lunch program on Sunday afternoons directly after fellowship time. We will eat, play games, and have a brief Bible study as well.

Here is the calendar for October:

October 4: Teen Scene and Middle School luncheon

October 11: NO YOUTH GROUP

October 17: Feed Our Community Day, North Riverside.

Church-wide event, see Matt Gauen or Jeanine Buttimer for details.

October 25: Youth Group Halloween Party, 5:00 p.m. Location TBA.

Boy Scout Eagle Projects

Our Boy Scouts have been busy over the past several months with Eagle Scout projects. Ben Lulich's project was the design and construction of a masonry firepit at the Riverside Scout Cabin. His brother, Jack Lulich, rehabbed the activities patio at the Betty Scheck Senior Center in LaGrange Park for use by the elderly and wheelchair confined, including the addition of two planters and beautification of grounds. Charlie Marcou rehabbed the Sculpture Garden of the Riverside Arts Center, which included the installation of a brick pathway border, painting the fence, and landscaping. Currently in progress is Will Flaherty's project to remove paint from Riverside's Scout Cabin, make repairs, and stain the logs.



All Eagle projects require help from

numerous scouts and adults. Troop 24, which has been sponsored by RPC since 1939, has an extremely high rate of scouts attaining the rank of Eagle—37%, compared with the national average of about 5%.

Presbyterian Women Bible Study

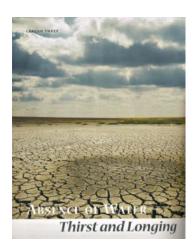


The topic for the 2015-2016 Horizons Bible Study is *Come to the Waters* by Judy Record Fletcher, with suggestions for leaders by Larissa Kwong Abazia. *Come to the Waters* considers water images and stories in the Bible. With over 800 references to water in the Bible, there is no shortage of passages 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 3: Absence of Water—Thirst and Longing

Scripture: Exodus17: 1-7; Psalm 42: 1-2, 63:1;

John 19:28



Lesson Focus: We have dry spells in our lives—our bodies and our souls thirst. How do we survive times of little or no water?

In October Kate Chard will be the lesson leader.

Pecans for Erie House

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 cost is \$10 per one-pound bag. The pecans will be delivered in early November, in time for holiday baking!



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.

This fall, Human Scene will be discussing the book *Bounty*, *Ten Ways to Increase Giving at Your Church* by Kristine Miller and Scott McKenzie. Copies of the book are available to all those who would like one and can be found in the Parlor, the Church Office and outside the sanctuary. The books are free, courtesy of a donation from generous parishioners.

Below is a schedule of chapter discussions for October, which will be moderated by Bill Vogel and Matt Lisle.



October 11 Chapter 2—Eliminate Secrecy and Chapter 4—Stop the Insanity

October 18 Chapter 7—Give a Word of Witness October 25 Chapter 8—Ask the Right Question



Wednesday Night Live! is an intergenerational evening for newborns to ninety-year-olds inviting one and all to gather together for a fabulous dinner, choirs, youth activities, and education classes.

Do I need to be a member to come?

Absolutely not! This is a community event.

When is WNL!?

WNL! runs six weeks from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. beginning October 7 and ending November 11

What does it cost?

The cost for **WNL!** is \$25 per person with a \$100 cap on a family. This cost provides for the meals we will share together. If you are dropping in for dinner it is \$5 per meal. Checks may be made out to Riverside Presbyterian Church.

What can I do to help?

Each participant is asked to help with a certain part of WNL! from helping arrange a meal, set-up or clean-up, etc.

Can I invite a neighbor or friend?

Absolutely! The more the merrier!

Register by returning a form (download here) to the church office.







Afghans

Volunteers continue to contribute knitted or crocheted squares to be made into afghans. The latest group of afghans will go to the Jesse Brown Veterans Hospital or The Boulevard.

Thanks to all for their time in making these. Keep them coming! If you are interested in participating, contact Colleen Muller at bileen 81@yahoo.com

Please check the Website for the most recent calendar updates!



October 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:30a Women's Forum	2	3
4 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 11:15a Nominating Comm Mtg 2p Cantata Worship	5 5:15p Volleyball	6 6:30a Men's Forum 7p Deacons Mtg 7p Personnel Comm Mtg	7 Office Closed 4:15 Ringers/Singers 6:30p Bell Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir 7p WNL!	8 6:30a Women's Forum	9	10
11 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship	12 5:15p Volleyball 7p Finance Comm Mtg 7:30p Trustees	13 6:30a Men's Forum 7p Stewardship Comm Mtg 7p Children/Youth Comm Mtg	14 Office Closed 4:15 Ringers/Singers 6:30p Bell Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir 7p WNL!	15 6:30a Women's Forum	16 10a CARERS Comm Mtg	17 Feed Our Community
18 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 1p All-Church Family Workday 2p Scottish Home Worship Vision deadline	19 5:15p Volleyball	20 6:30a Men's Forum	21 Office Closed 4:15 Ringers/Singers 6:30p Bell Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir 7p WNL! 7p Session Mrg	22 6:30a Women's Forum	23	24
25 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship	26 5:15p Volleyball	27 6:30a Men's Forum 7p Preschool Comm Mtg	28 Office Closed 4:15 Ringers/Singers 6:30p Bell Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir 7p WNL!	29 6:30a Women's Forum	30	31

Our final two "Friday Fellowship" parties were graciously hosted on August 28 by Ellen Hamilton, and on September 25 by Jay and Joyce Van Cura. Thank you!

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

RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Place mailing label here

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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)