



The Vision

November 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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One Step at a Time

Dear Friend in Christ,

As we near Consecration Sunday, November 15, we invite you to respond to the grace of God. It is an invitation to a closer walk with Jesus Christ . . . an invitation to grateful giving . . . an invitation that might just change your life!

We enthusiastically believe that people are waiting to discover the best kept secret of the Christian faith—that when we give, we grow spiritually. We grow in our faith in Christ when we give away love, time, care, hope and money to other people. It is amazing! Talk to people who give themselves away to others in need and you will meet joyful people. The motivation for giving is not guilt, but gratitude. This secret will change the way you live and is the key that opens the door to Christian maturity.

Our Pledge Drive theme this year is **ONE STEP AT A TIME**, and we ask you to prayerfully and thoughtfully consider what God would have you give to the work of His kingdom at Riverside Presbyterian Church in 2016. Consider taking a step of faith, and step up your giving. The Lord will provide for you as you provide for the needs of the saints and the least of these.

Take a few moments to reflect on how your church has been a blessing to you. Then ask God how you can be a blessing to your church. And remember, when you give—give from the heart and give gratefully! God Bless You!

Yours in Christ,
Your Stewardship Committee

Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.
Malachi 3: 10

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3: 20

Worship

Deacons Needed

The Nominating Committee is looking for volunteers to serve on the Board of Deacons. It is a 3-year commitment of fun and helping out with various projects of the church and its members. Have you ever wondered who delivers the altar flowers to shut-ins—the Deacons, or who organizes our church's response to a member's need—the Deacons. These are just a few of the things they do. If you think this is something in which you would be interested, please contact one of the Nominating Committee members, call the church office at 447-1520, or [send an e-mail](#).

RPC Nominating Committee members:

Tara Gregus
Lou & Martha Heine
Susan Lisle
Bill Muller
Lynda Nadkarni
Carrie Staubus
Donna Ulrich

As the *Book of Order* puts it, "The office of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of sympathy, witness, and service after the example of Jesus Christ. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, of exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, warm sympathies, and sound judgment should be chosen for this office." It is a ministry of caring; a ministry of love; a ministry of compassion; and a ministry of prayer, and community service.

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, November 1, at 2:00 p.m., and at the Scottish Home on Sunday, November 15, at 2:00 p.m. Families and children are especially welcome. Your participation is so appreciated!



November 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
November 1	Matt Lisle	Devin Zander	John Haugland, Nancy Jensen, Karl-Heinz Meyer, Laura Vanags	OPEN	Fellowship Committee
November 8	Youth	OPEN	Jon & Deb Jansky, Kathi Roccanova, Jim Ulrich	OPEN	OPEN
November 15	Susan Lynch	OPEN	Will & Susanne Vogel, Mike Heine, Edie Wakely	OPEN	Chancel Choir
November 22	OPEN	OPEN	Lou & Martha Heine, Pearson family	Jon & Deb Jansky	Thanksgiving Potluck
November 29	OPEN	Bryan & Susan Zander Family	Bill & Colleen Muller, Bryan Zander family	Fred & Donna Mitchell	OPEN

Session Notes

In October, the Session:

- ♦ approved the baptism of Clara Emlyn Sage Monacella for October 25;
- ♦ approved a letter of transfer for Mary Jansen to Southminster Presbyterian Church, Beaverton, Oregon;
- ♦ called a congregational meeting for November 22, following Worship, for the purpose of electing church officers and considering an amendment to the RPC bylaws to reduce the size of the Session from 18 elders to 12;
- ♦ discussed the Resolution which established the Special Funds Plan in 1981, encompassing the Memorial Fund, Endowment Fund, and Support Fund, and decided to have it reviewed by an attorney to clarify the policy of permitting loans from the Support Fund for special needs of RPC;
- ♦ reviewed plans for the Stewardship Campaign and Every Member Canvass to be held November 15;
- ♦ noted with appreciation and gratitude the one-year anniversary of Rev. Emily Rosencrans' leadership at RPC.

Mary Ann Sadilek
Clerk of Session

All Church Family Work Day

Please join your church family on Sunday, November 15, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. for our monthly work day.

November Birthdays

Carol O'Meara	11/1	Louise Gangware	11/12
Lorri Floros	11/2	Ellen Hamilton	11/14
Ava Booton	11/3	Lou Heine	11/18
Michael Heine	11/3	Jackson Hilpp	11/19
Ben Mitchell	11/3	Christine Armstrong	11/21
Joseph Tess	11/3	Frank Van De Vanter	11/22
Jacob Gregus	11/4	Michael Chaney	11/24
Gail Seeger	11/5	Lloyd Bradbury	11/25
Bill Muller	11/6	Olga Cykner	11/25
Gregory Reichle	11/6	Joshua Jansky	11/25
Nick Nadkarni	11/8	Karl Jantze	11/25
Abraham Ourth	11/8	Lucia Mancini	11/26
George Dluhy	11/9	Annie Mitchell	11/26
Molly Chaney	11/11	Finn Lubeck	11/27



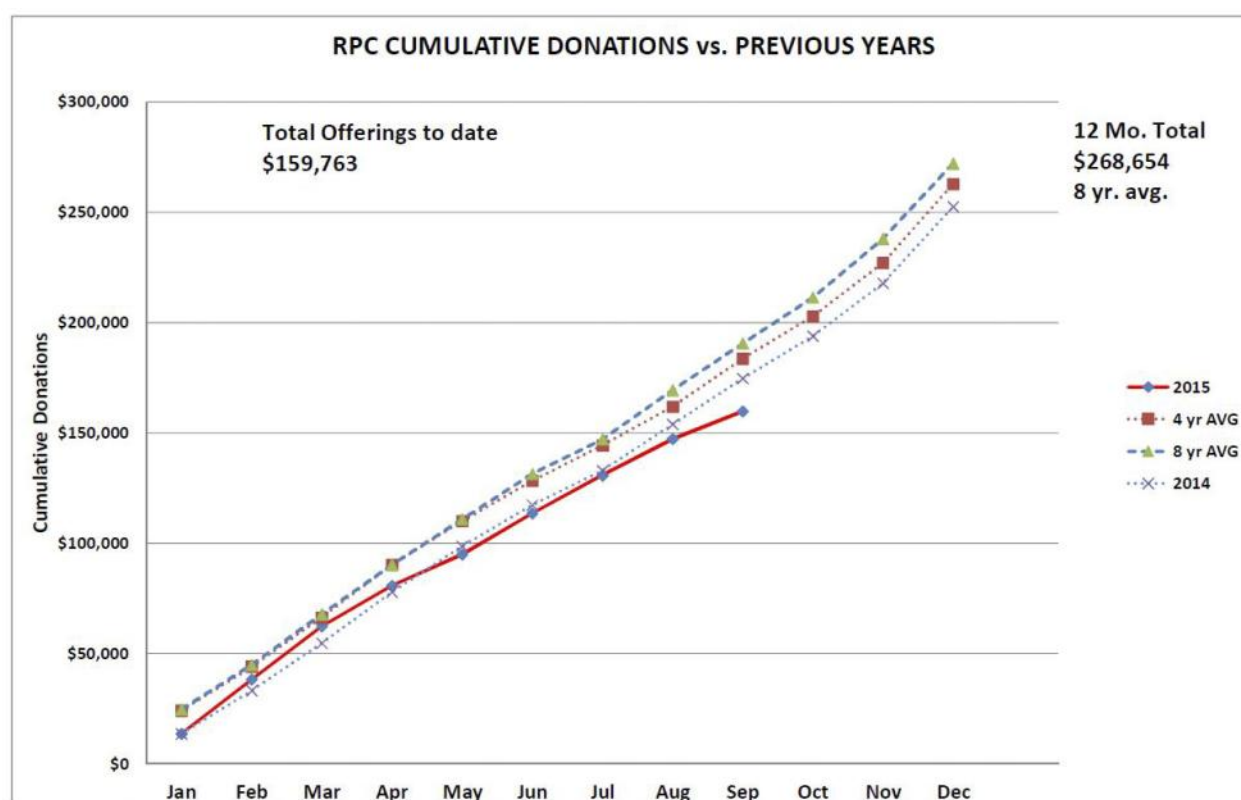
Trustees for November are Lou Heine and Jim Sit.

Sharing our Gifts

CARERS Corner

The CARERS are again requesting hot soups, hot cereals and hot boxed foods. The Riverside Food Pantry will receive and distribute the food you donate to those in need right here in our own community. Please help to stave off the chill of winter.

The CARERS Christmas "Giving Tree" benefits mothers and children at Constance Morris House. The tree will be set up in Fellowship Hall as soon as November 22. It will be decorated with paper ornaments listing gift requests. Please take a few ornaments and then shop for the requested items. Place unwrapped gift items under the "Giving Tree" no later than Sunday, December 13. Please take time out of that busy holiday season of *yours* to brighten *theirs*.



So far this year, our generosity has been very good and it looks like September was a weakening in our resolve, but the tremendous response to the Oktoberfest Auction showed otherwise. We would have stayed ahead of our expenses anyway, but the auction assured that we will. Thank you all.

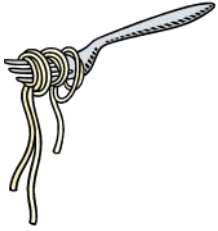
Share-a-Meal at *The Boulevard*

The [RPC website](#) 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!



4th Annual Feed Our Community Day Is a Success!

Thanks to all who contributed time, money, and baked goods to the fourth annual *Feed Our Community Day* held October 17. Approximately 350 volunteers (ranging in age from 7 years old to 83 years old) packed a little more than 65,000 meals that will be donated to local food banks and meal programs in the Chicago area. It is our understanding that the majority of these meals will be consumed within the next two weeks.

This year we did something new . . . we packed meals of pasta and marinara sauce rather than the macaroni and cheese we've packed in the past. We also learned something new. We learned that the boxes containing marinara sauce look a lot like the boxes in which we pack the completed meals. While we planned to pack 70,000 meals, we packed less, as one of the charities who came mid-day to pick up meals apparently left with boxes containing 5,000 meals of marinara sauce!



Children



Sunday School students from the October rotation on the Psalms.



In October, our Cub Scouts camped at the Scout Cabin, complete with bonfire and skits. Our Boy Scouts attended "Camp Inferno," a weekend campout in Pana, Illinois, sponsored by the Lincoln Trails Council. Camp Inferno is a fire, law enforcement, EMS, and public safety event. It is staffed by area emergency responders. The unofficial theme is "burn and blow stuff up." What more could scouts and scouters ask for? This is one of our Troop's favorite events, and 26 scouts attended, along with five leaders and parents.

November Sunday School Rotation

We will be finishing up our Sunday School rotation on the Psalms on November 1, followed by a Celebration Sunday on November 8 to end our first trimester. Prizes will be given to students who have achieved a 75% attendance rate. We will also be practicing a play to be performed that day during the Children's Message in the Worship Service.



The next rotation begins on November 15, and is entitled *Christmas: a Gospel Comparison*. We will be exploring and contrasting the different versions of the Biblical Christmas story. Preparations for the Christmas Pageant, to be held on December 6, are underway. Stay tuned for more details!

	K-3	4-5	6-8
November 8	<i>Celebration Sunday—Social Hall</i>		
November 15	Oasis Place	Creation Station	Celestial Cinema
November 22	Creation Station	Celestial Cinema	Oasis Place
November 29	Celestial Cinema	Oasis Place	Creation Station

Memory Verse

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

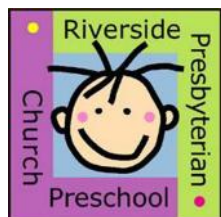
John 1:1



A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving Party

Friday Nov. 20
6 - 8 PM
Riverside
Presbyterian Church
\$3 /person

Pizza ★ Games ★ Crafts ★ Movie
For Families with kids 3-10 years



November will be another fun-filled month at Preschool! The children will be busy learning new songs for our annual Thanksgiving Sing scheduled for Thursday, November 19, in the Social Hall. Please feel free to join us hear our fabulous preschoolers celebrate the season in song.

Riverside Foods has, once again, graciously sponsored Benefit Days at their store on November 18 and 19. A portion of all purchases during these two days benefits our *Tuition Assistance Program*. [Download a form here](#), or check your Sunday bulletin if you would like to participate. Every bit helps! We are so very fortunate to be part of a community with such giving businesses!

A special thanks to Wayne Penn and Jim Sit for hanging our new preschool sign outside and to Dennis Zander for ordering it for us. It looks great!

Youth

Youth Group

Youth Group is underway. This month we piloted our Junior High lunches as well as having our Halloween Party. Looking forward to the month of November, we will be looking to continue with our Junior High lunches, as well as finding social and service opportunities for Junior and Senior High students.

Here is the schedule for November:

November 1	Cantata Worship Service, combined Jr./Sr. High event.
November 8	Junior High Luncheon
November 13	Fall Play at RBHS
November 15	Teen Scene, Sr. High, 9 a.m.; Jr. High Luncheon, 11:45 - 12:30, Westminster Room.
November 22	College Care Packages, combined Jr./Sr. High Event.
November 29	NO PROGRAM, Thanksgiving Weekend!

Girls Group

In October, Girls Group cooked for *Wednesday Night Live!*, packed food for the hungry at *Feed Our Community Day*, and carved pumpkins! We hope you will join us for our November activities: All junior and senior high-aged girls and friends are welcome. If you have questions, contact Tara at tara.gregus@rpcusa.org.



Friday, November 6	4-5 p.m. Riverside Library	Group painting (tentative)
Friday, November 13	4-5 p.m. RPC Social Hall	Set up for 11/14 fundraiser
Saturday, November 14	9 a.m.-3 p.m. RPC Social Hall	Sell coffee and gift bags at RPC Holiday Bazaar
Wednesday, November 18	7-8 p.m. RPC	Operation Christmas Child
Wednesday, November 25	7-8 p.m. RPC	Jewelry making (tentative)

The Girls' Group worked with their leaders Tara Gregus and Hannah Pecis at the *Feed Our Community Day* on October 17, alongside other members of RPC. We also had a contingent of scouts and scout parents led by Susan Lynch.



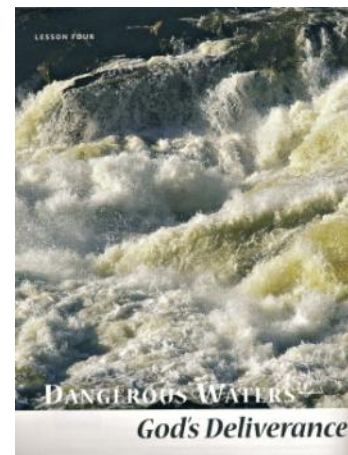
Presbyterian Women Bible Study



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*. Please join us on **November 18 at 10:00** in the RPC Social Hall as we remember that God is always with us as we navigate "treacherous waters" in our own lives.

Lesson 4: Dangerous Waters—God's Deliverance

Scripture: *Joshua 3; Psalm 69: 1-3*

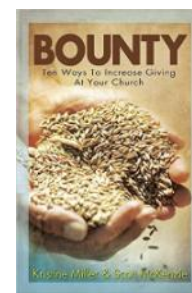


Lesson Focus: The Israelites need to cross the Jordan River; the psalmist is emotionally and spiritually drowning—everyone needs God's help. God does not disappoint. Sylvia Schade will lead the lesson in November.

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.

In November, Human Scene will conclude its discussion of 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.



November 1: Chapters Nine (Make Stewardship Year Round) and Ten (Prepare to Soar)

November 8: Chapter Six (Thank. Ask. Repeat)

November 15: Book Summary

November 22: Join Roberta Gates for a discussion on the churches of Chambon-sur-Lignon (French Huguenots) who rescued 5,000 Jews from the Nazis in Vichy France, based on a new book called *Village of Secrets* by Caroline Moorehead, which examines this remarkable effort.

November 29: No Human Scene (Thanksgiving)

Thank you to my (RPC) friends for the special luncheon and the October 11 coffee hour in my honor. The many good wishes for my new life in Florida are greatly appreciated. After 51 years as a member of the RPC it is sad to leave, but the memories will remain.

Love and Prayers,
Lucille Christensen

Holiday Bazaar & Christmas Cafe



TEN THOUSAND
VILLAGES®



Join us on **November 14**, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., for a Holiday Bazaar and Christmas Cafe. 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. Invite a friend to join you! The money we raise will be devoted entirely to missions.

We are still in need of volunteers to bake and to make soup. If you can help, please turn in a [sign-up form](#) to the church office.

Riverside Presbyterian Church Family Reunion



And stretching out his hand toward his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."

Matthew 12:49-50

*A Reunion is a coming together
that strengthens the bond of family
and reminds us of the gift
of belonging.*

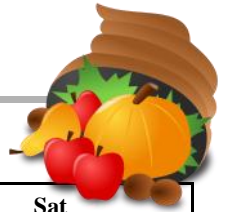
All RPC members and friends are
invited to join us
Sunday, November 22
For Worship at 10 am
followed by a
Thanksgiving Lunch Buffet



Fellowship Committee will need volunteers to help in kitchen with set up/clean up and will need volunteers to prepare dishes for the feast.
Contact Deb Jansky or Karl Meyer to sign up

All Riverside Presbyterian Church members and friends, past and present, are invited to join us for our **Church Family Reunion** on Sunday, **November 22**. Worship will be followed by a meal in the Social Hall. We will be remembering our past, celebrating the present, and embracing the future of our church family. This is a wonderful time to catch up and share in thanksgiving with our RPC family.

Please check the
Website for the
most recent
calendar
updates!

November 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 11a Fellowship Comm Mtg 11:30a Andrew Ministry Training 2p Cantata Service	2 5:15p Volleyball	3 6:30a Men's Forum 7p Deacons Mtg 7p Personnel Comm Mtg	4 <i>Office Closed</i> 4:15p Ringers & Singers 6:30p Bell Choir 7p WNL! 7p Andrew Ministry Training 7:30p Chancel Choir	5 6:30a Women's Forum	6	7
8 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 11a W&M/Membership Jt Comm Mtg 11:30 Andrew Ministry Training	9 5:15p Volleyball 7p Finance Comm Mtg 7:30p Trustees	10 6:30a Men's Forum 7p Stewardship Comm Mtg 7p Children & Youth Comm Mtg	11 <i>Office Closed</i> 4:15p Ringers & Singers 6:30p Bell Choir 7p WNL! 7p Andrew Ministry Training 7:30p Chancel Choir	12 6:30a Women's Forum	13	14 9-3 Holiday Bazaar & Christmas Café
15 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 11:30a Andrew Ministry Training 2p Scottish Home Service Vision deadline	16 5:15p Volleyball	17 6:30a Men's Forum	18 <i>Office Closed</i> 10a Pres. Women 4:15p Ringers & Singers 6:30p Bell Choir 7p Session Mtg 7:30p Chancel Choir	19 6:30a Women's Forum	20 6p A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving 	21
22 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Church Family Reunion 	23 5:15p Volleyball	24 6:30a Men's Forum 7p Preschool Comm Mtg	25 7:30p Chancel Choir	26 <i>Thanksgiving</i> 6:30a Women's Forum 	27	28
29 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship	30 5:15p Volleyball					

**MY FAVORITE
FRIDAY**

Final Friday Fellowship for 2015

On **October 30, 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.** please join us for our last Friday Fellowship Party this year at Deb and Jon Jansky's home. All those 21 and over are welcome. Please bring an hors-d'oeuvre and beverage to share. Instant party!

**RIVERSIDE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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

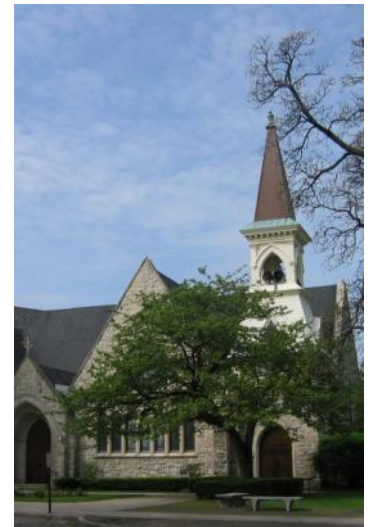
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Riverside Presbyterian Church



Riverside Presbyterian
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the Presbytery of Chicago
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Director of Music Emerita:	Mary Ann Sadilek
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More information about the
ministry and mission of Riverside
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by contacting any member of our
church staff and by visiting our
website: www.rpcusa.org

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