



The Vision

March 2016

A Letter From Your Gap Pastor

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion in Jesus Christ. Philippians 1: 3-6

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

Inside this issue:

Worship	2
Church News	3
Sharing Our Gifts	4
Children	5
Youth	5
Adults	6
Calendar	7

On Sunday, February 21, you unanimously called the Rev. Dale Jackson to be your Designated Pastor for the next two years in a congregational meeting. Congratulations! This has been a long but valuable process. Over a year ago we conducted a revealing church survey and had many discussions about who Riverside Presbyterian is and who God is calling Riverside Presbyterian to be. The DPNC and the Presbytery have worked hard to find not just any pastor, but the *right* pastor for this church at this time.

Many years ago, my former husband was called to serve a church in Philadelphia. The beloved former pastor, the Rev. John McCleary, was retiring after 29 years of ministry there. He sent out a letter that demonstrated how to leave well. The letter said something like this, "You have a new pastor. I am no longer your pastor. I will not preach or perform baptisms or marriages or funeral services or attend worship or meetings or in any way function as your pastor from now on. You have a new pastor, and it is appropriate to take all your pastoral requests and concerns to him. I hope we will remain friends, and can enjoy conversations and time together, but I will not discuss church business with you because I am no longer your pastor. You have a pastor, and I have every confidence in him."

So, in the spirit of the Rev. John McCleary and what he taught me about leaving well, I want you to know that once the Rev. Dale Jackson begins serving as your Pastor after I leave on April 3, I will no longer preach or perform baptisms or marriages or funeral services or attend/lead meetings or worship or provide pastoral care or in any way function as your pastor. You have chosen your new pastor and I have a good feeling about him. After some time has passed, if Rev. Jackson wants to invite me to preach or lead a program or whatever, and if I am available, then I would be glad to help out. But until that time comes, and even when and if that time comes, I will not discuss church business with you because that is between you and your new pastor. I will not in any way intrude in this new phase of your church's life and ministry.

When Jesus was preparing to leave his disciples, he began his "Farewell Discourse" in the Gospel of John, Chapters 14-17. He said "*I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.*"

So many of you have become my friends, and I hope we will always remain friends. My heart is wide open to you and to your new pastor in Christian love. Now we begin a season of detaching from each other, a season of letting go, in order to embrace all the new things God is preparing for each of us. I will miss you. I will always love you. I will always hope and pray for you. I also trust that everything is happening according to God's will and purpose. I take with me all the love, the support, and the many and various ways (including coffee and valet service) you have touched my soul. For, in you, I have indeed seen the very face of God.

Auf Wiedersehen...

Emily

Worship

HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday

March 24

7:00 p.m. Service of Tenebrae and Holy Communion
Led by Rev. Emily Rosencrans

Easter Sunday

March 27

6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service in the Prayer Garden
Led by Rev. Doug Asbury

9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
Led by Rev. Emily Rosencrans

Worship at Cantata and Scottish Home

The Deacons welcome any and all congregation members to join us in the worship service for the residents of Cantata (the British Home) on March 6 at 2:00 p.m., and the worship service for the residents of the Scottish Home on March 20 at 2:00 p.m.



March 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	Ushers	Flowers	Coffee Fellowship
March 6	Dennis Zander	Pearson Family Nancy Dvorak & Laura Vanags	Open	Sandra Kappmeyer & Virginia Yang
March 13	Joyce Van Cura	Gwen & Mike Heine John Haugland & Connie Kelly	Open	OPEN
March 20 Palm Sunday	Keith Pearson	Staubus Family Brian Zander Family	Will & Susanne Vogel	Hank & Deb Vogel
March 24 Maundy Thursday		Nancy Jensen & Deb Pike		
March 27 Easter 9:00 a.m.	Martha Heine	Gangware Family Fred Kitch & Jim Ulrich	Easter Lilies	
March 27 Easter 10:30 a.m.	Claire Gangware	Rayfield Family Lou & Martha Heine	Easter Lilies	

Session Notes

In February, the Session:


- ◆ noted with sadness the death of Betty Jane Jirsa;
- ◆ approved the Church Statistical Report to be submitted to PC(USA) by the Clerk;
- ◆ approved the terms of call for the Designated Pastor;
- ◆ expressed deep appreciation for the work of the DPNC;
- ◆ voted to continue having two child care aides on Sundays through the end of May;
- ◆ called a special Session meeting on April 16 to receive the confirmands;
- ◆ approved usage of the Gym by the Riverside Recreation Department on Wednesday evenings.

Mary Ann Sadilek
Clerk of Session



A local resident, who has been worshipping at Riverside Presbyterian Church, is in need of a room in which to stay for the next few months, until she can afford her own living space. She is also looking for work cleaning houses or providing care for children, the elderly, or handicapped individuals. References are available. If you know of a room in which she could stay, or work she might do, please contact Doug Asbury at dougasbury@aol.com for further details.

**Leadership, Education &
Development for the Whole Church**



**LEADing
CHANGE**

**Sat., March 5, 2016
8am – 12:15pm**

**McCormick
Theological Seminary
5460 S. University Avenue
Chicago, IL 60615**

**Registration: \$10 includes a hearty
breakfast, morning prayer, a plenary and
seven exciting workshops focusing on
change for the whole church!**

**Registration will be available online at
<https://support.mccormick.edu/pages/LEAD-2016>**

**Questions?
Contact Grayson Van Camp at:
630.471.4643 or vanamps@earthlink.net**



Mikey LeBeau 3/3
Marilyn Slanec 3/4
Mary Crang 3/5
Tarquin Rayfield 3/5
Scott LeBeau 3/6
Michelle Roblee 3/6
Edward Vonesh 3/6
Mary Rob Clarke 3/7
Thom DeVries 3/9
Linda Hutcheson 3/10
Steve Marcus 3/10
Matt Gauen 3/10

Cindy Gustafson 3/11
Lauren Vogel 3/12
Bill Lancaster 3/14
Carter Staubus 3/14
Aaron Booton 3/15
Remy Hilpp 3/15
Colleen Cody 3/17
Asher Monacella 3/17
Luke Staubus 3/19
Harrison Nolan 3/20
Diane Chaney 3/22
Karen Doornebos 3/23

Alyssa Schwarz 3/23
Anna Tess 3/23
Nicki Booton 3/25
Joyce Van Cura 3/25
Michael Cokins 3/26
Randy Womack 3/28
Joseph Aieta 3/29
Alexandria Tagliere 3/29
Eric Jensen 3/30
Terrence Jordan 3/31
Donna Ulrich 3/31

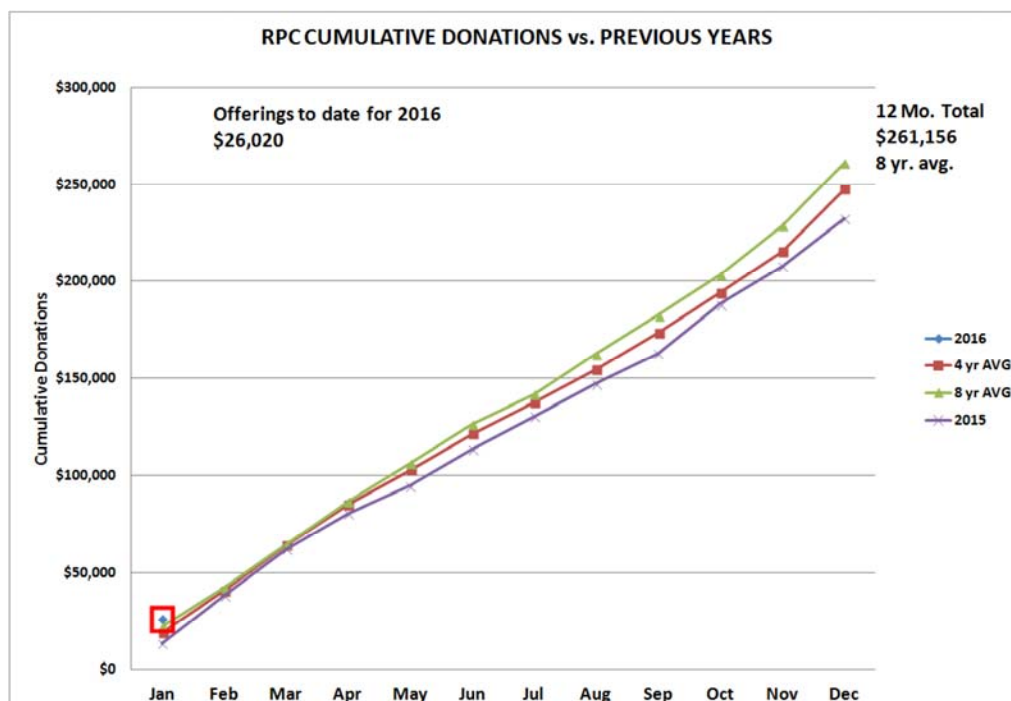
CARERS

In March we are requesting donations for *Companions Journeying Together*, which provides support to people in prison and their families. Please donate packets of pretty writing materials to imprisoned women and juveniles so they have something attractive to send their mothers or to children on Mother’s Day or other special occasions. Materials needed:

- ◆ Stationery—Please, no blank white paper or cards, or dated or yellowed stationery. We cannot use cards, envelopes or stationery that has anything glued, pasted or taped on or which has stickers attached.
- ◆ Note cards—Blank or ‘Thinking of You’
- ◆ Postage stamps
- ◆ Gallon ziplock bags
- ◆ Donations to help cover delivery costs

Make checks payable to *Companions Journeying Together Inc.* Please place checks in the church office.

The CARERS trunk will continue to receive donations of food, both canned and nonperishable. More than one of our designated food pantries will receive and distribute your contributions to those in need.



Our donations for January were very good. It appears that some pledgers were catching up on their 2015 pledge and we are very grateful for the continued generosity. The Preschool also received an additional \$1000 contribution to the Scholarship for Kids program.



The annual Pack 24 Pinewood Derby is the biggest event of the year, and on January 30 we had 59 Cub Scouts enjoy the race. Scouts were also recognized for their design ideas, with prizes awarded for five different categories. In early February, a group of 55 Cub Scouts and family members enjoyed an overnight at the Schaumburg Legoland. Scouts and siblings enjoyed building new creations, pizza and salad for dinner, and a movie before turning in at nearly midnight. Our Boy Scouts went on two ski outings in February, and also assisted with the “Crossover” of Scouts from Pack 24 and Pack 120 into Boy Scouts.

Child Care & Godly Play

We have a wealth of resources available to parents and children alike! Our childcare workers, Keri & Barbara, are available to watch your kids (up to 1st grade) from 8:45 to 11:00 a.m. in our nursery every Sunday. Feel free to drop off the kids, grab a cup of coffee, and join us in our adult education class at 9:00. Godly Play is available for children aged pre-K through 1st grade on the first Sunday every month. Join us as we learn about the Bible, do crafts and play games.

Sunday School



By popular demand, we have resident artists Lloyd Bradbury and Lynda Nadkarni teaching a lesson on *The Holy Week*. Grab your paint brushes and join us! We would like to extend an invitation to the congregation to join us on Palm Sunday (March 20 from 9:00-9:50 a.m.).

Have you received your fish bank? Fill them up and bring them to donate during our Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday services. All contributions go to the Presbytery's [One Great Hour of Sharing](#).

Youth Group

Here is the tentative schedule for March:

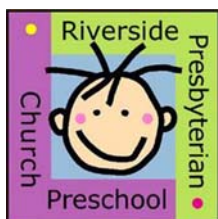
- March 6:** Teen Scene (HS) Jr High Luncheon (MS)
 - March 13:** Youth Group Outing (TBA) Middle and High school
 - March 20:** Tentative March Madness Date
 - March 27:** *No Teen Scene* (Easter)
-

Girls Group

In February, we discussed love and dating, had a Valentines party, had a discussion about healthy body image, and had a sleepover at RPC! All junior and senior high girls are invited to join in any of our activities, even if you have not been to Girls Group in the past. You should always feel free to bring a friend. Questions? Contact Tara at tara.gregus@rpcusa.org.

Here's what's coming up in March:

- Friday March 4:** 4:00-5:30 p.m. at the Scottish Home. Depart from the library at 4:00 p.m. and head to the Scottish Home to play games with the residents. We will return to Riverside by 5:30.
 - Wednesday March 9:** 6:00-7:00. p.m. dinner at RPC with Wednesday Night Live!, 7:00-8:00 p.m. make no-sew fleece baby blankets for Teen-Parent Connection.
 - Friday March 18:** 4:00-5:00 p.m. at the Riverside Library. Book Swap! Bring one or more of your favorite books (or if you don't want to swap a favorite book, see if you can find it at the library) and tell us about why you love it. We will also practice for Open Mic Night!
 - Friday March 25:** Good Friday—*No Girls Group*. Happy Easter and see you in April!
-

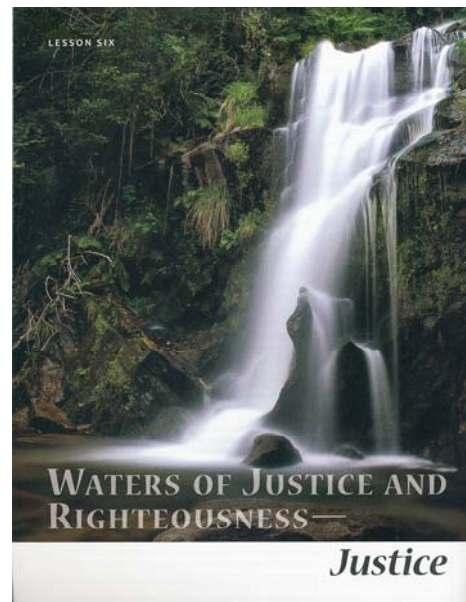


The Preschool's annual Book Fair and Raffle begin Friday, March 4 and run through Wednesday, March 9. This is the Preschool's biggest fund raiser. We have some great baskets for our raffle this year! During the Book Fair and Raffle on Sunday, March 6 from 12:00 to 1:30 pm the Preschool will have an Open House. The Open House will be for new and returning students to pick up paperwork, prospective families to meet our teachers, and take a look at our beautiful facility. Please spread the word!



Presbyterian Women

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 March 23, at 10:00 a.m. in the RPC Social Hall, as we remember that God is always with us as we navigate "treacherous waters" in our own lives. New members are warmly welcomed. Coffee is served.



Lesson 6: Waters of Justice and Righteousness

Scripture: *Amos 5:21-24*

Lesson Focus: Because of the shallow worship and sinful living, Amos calls the waters of justice and righteousness to roll down on the Israelites. What places in our world need the cleansing waters of justice and righteousness?

Harsh Truths and Rolling Justice—by Irene Pak: Has someone ever said something to you that hurt you, and you wanted to get angry, but you couldn't because what they said was true? We all have people like that in our lives, don't we? Lesson Leaders are Elizabeth Musick, Sylvia Schade and Joyce Van Cura. Elizabeth will lead Lesson 6.

Human Scene

Join the **Human Scene** Sunday School class *every Sunday 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.

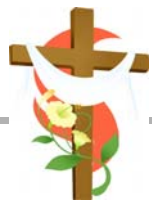
During Lent, Human Scene will be watching first person portrayals of seven of the main characters around the cross during the Crucifixion, including Judas, Peter, Caiaphus, and Pontius Pilate. After viewing, discussion will be moderated by the class leader. The dramatic portrayals were written and acted out by Dr. Dick Steinbakken, who has served nearly 40 years in the active ministry and holds several masters degrees and a Doctor of Education in Family and Community Education. With these portrayals, Dr. Steinbakken's intent is "to put flesh and blood on the printed words of Biblical reality" and that, by experiencing these characters, "we come face to face with our own personal struggles and journey with belief or unbelief in Jesus and who He was and is." We will study a different character each week so none of the classes will require having attended any of the previous classes. Here is the upcoming schedule:

March 6	Marcellus Sylvanus - The Augur
March 13	Pilate - It's All About Power
March 20	Centurion - The Toughest Meanest Man in Town
March 27	Easter Sunday - <i>No Human Scene</i>



Winter Friday Fellowship

Join us on Friday, March 18, at the home of Will and Susanne Vogel for Friday Fellowship. Our host will provide the venue; the guests bring an hors-d'oeuvre and a beverage to share . . . Instant Party! Adults only please.

Please check
the Website for
the most recent
calendar
updates!



March 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30a Men's Forum 7p Deacons Mtg 7p Personnel Comm Mtg	2 Office Closed 4:15p Ringers & Singers 4:30 WNL! Setup 6:00 WNL! Dinner 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Chancel Choir	3 6:30a Women's Forum	4	5 7a Scout Pancake Breakfast 
6 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 11a Worship & Music Comm Mtg 11a Fellowship Comm Mtg 2p Cantata Service	7 5:15p Volleyball	8 6:30a Men's Forum 7p Stewardship Comm Mtg 7p Children & Youth Comm Mtg	9 Office Closed 4:15p Ringers & Singers 4:30 WNL! Setup 6:00 WNL! Dinner 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Chancel Choir	10 6:30a Women's Forum	11	12
13 9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 11:15 Endowment Comm Mtg	14 5:15p Volleyball 7p Finance Comm Mtg 7:30p Trustees Mtg	15 6:30a Men's Forum	16 Office Closed 4:15p Ringers & Singers 4:30 WNL! Setup 6:00 WNL! Dinner 6:30 Bell Choir 7p Session Mtg 7:30 Chancel Choir	17 6:30a Women's Forum 	18 10a CARERS Comm Mtg	19
20 Palm Sunday  9a Sunday School 10a Worship 11a Coffee Fellowship 2p Scottish Home Worship Vision Deadline	21 5:15p Volleyball	22 6:30a Men's Forum	23 Office Closed 10a Pres. Women Mtg 4:15p Ringers & Singers 4:30 WNL! Setup 6:00 WNL! Dinner 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Chancel Choir	24 6:30a Women's Forum 7p Maundy Thursday Service	25 Good Friday 	26
27 Easter 6:30a Sunrise Service 9:00a Worship 10:30a Worship 	28 5:15p Volleyball	29 6:30a Men's Forum	30	31 6:30a Women's Forum		

Join our Scouts for the annual pancake breakfast on Saturday, March 5, from 7:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. This has been an RPC Scout tradition for over 60 years. Tickets are available at the door or from any scout.

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

**RIVERSIDE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

116 Barrypoint Road
Riverside, Illinois
60546

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

Place mailing label here

Riverside Presbyterian Church

Worship Leader: Emily Rosencrans
pastor@rpcusa.org

Minister of Music: Dr. Sally Sloane
sally.sloane@rpcusa.org

Director of Children's Education: Susan Zander
susan.zander@rpcusa.org

Administrative Assistants: Linda Hutcheson
Donna Jones
rpcoffice@rpcusa.org

Girls Group Advisor: Tara Gregus
tara.gregus@rpcusa.org

Asst. Girls Group Advisor: Amanda Gregus

Director of Youth Ministries: Matt Gauen
matt.gauen@rpcusa.org

Preschool Director: Susan Lisle
rpcpreschool@sbcglobal.net

Custodian: Krzysztof Gieron

Clerk of Session: Mary Ann Sadilek
MASDS@aol.com

Deacons Moderator: David Harper
droyh21@netzero.net

Trustees President: Jon Jansky

Financial Secretary: Cindy Reynolds
financialsecretary@rpcusa.org

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

Treasurer: Ellen Hamilton
ellen.hamilton@rpcusa.org

Asst. Treasurer: George Dluhy

Archivist: Caroline Tecson

Wedding Coordinator: Donna Ulrich

Director of Music Emerita: Mary Ann Sadilek

Organist Emerita: Arline Robbins



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



More information about the ministry and mission of Riverside Presbyterian Church is available by contacting any member of our church staff and by visiting our website: www.rpcusa.org

Vision Editor/Webmaster:
Nancy Hopkins
nancy.hopkins@rpcusa.org