

SUNDAY - OCTOBER 1 POTLUCK – For a celebratory conclusion to our worship series on Communion, the Deacons are organizing a potluck luncheon immediately after worship on October 1st. Come one, come all, please bring a dish to share – one of your specialties! This will be the first of what we hope to be monthly potluck lunches (in lieu of coffee fellowship) – look for more information in Announcements (electronic and bulletin) for the date of each potluck. We hope you will join in the delicious fun!

OPEN GYM SUNDAY– bring your gym shoes and get ready for a fun game of volleyball!

WORSHIP

Sunday, October 8 ~ Blessing the Animals Service.

Bring your beloved pets and join us as we celebrate all of God's creatures and bless those pets (or pictures of pets you have brought). Please remember to bring your lawn chairs and dress for worship on the lawn.

Sunday, October 15 ~ We pause to reflect in Worship on Domestic Violence. October is Domestic Violence awareness month, and our denomination suggests setting aside time on Sunday to learn about the issues relating to Domestic Violence. The Domestic Violence Prevention Ministries of St. Mary/Riverside and St. Leonard/Berwyn is hosting a west suburban forum on responses to troubled relationships. RPC is a co-sponsor of the event.

Date/Time: Tuesday, October 24, 2017, from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Location: North Riverside Commons, 2401 Des Plaines Avenue, North Riverside, IL.

Sunday, October 22 ~ Marks the beginning of the Stewardship Season. Our theme this year is *Moving Out of Scare City*. For more about the series see the notes below. Genesis 11:1-9

Sunday, October 29 Reformation Sunday. We celebrate the 500th anniversary of the reformation complete with bagpipes. Traditionally we recognize this day (actually October 31) as the day Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the door of All Saints' Church in Wittenberg, Germany.

Moving Out of Scare City. The sense that there is not enough drives greed, fear, and exclusionary behavior. We begin to live in "Scare City" where it seems that death, starvation, feelings of being overwhelmed and swallowed up can lurk around every corner. The Good News is that this is an illusion. A spiritual journey into the truth of abundance offers us an alternative vision of where to live our lives. This series will have us "Moving out of Scare City" and traveling to the vast, open habitats of God's abounding grace.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Acolyte:

Ushers: Elizabeth Musick and Fred Kitch

Liturgist: Dennis Cobb

Andrew Ministers: Cyril Friend and Susan Lynch

Communion Servers: Doug Harvin, Serina Ranft and John Haugland

Potluck Fellowship is sponsored by the Deacons.

Trustees of the Month October: October 1 & 8: Henry Vogel

HUMAN SCENE — OCTOBER During the five Sundays in October, Human Scene will view videos featuring New Testament Professor Joel B. Green as we consider the theme of conversion and transformation, and Bible study as the context for those experiences.

10/1 – The Way of Conversions – The gradual opening to God's agenda.

10/8 – Converting All the Way Down – Embodied hospitality.

10/15 – Transformation of Conceptual Patterns – Reading the world and the Bible well.

10/22 – Together, Slow, and Steady – More thoughts on reading the Bible in community.

10/ 29 – Conversionary Context – Seeing the whole pattern of life the Bible lays out.

THEOLOGY ON TAP Begins Monday, October 9, 6:30 pm at Molly's. Plan to join us for dinner and conversation. The conversation will begin at 7:00 and wrap up by 8:00-8:30. Our first study is based on Martin Thielen's book *What's the Least I Can Believe and Still Be a Christian?: A Guide to What Matters Most*. You do not need to purchase the book to participate. The study will run for the month of October. This is a great opportunity to bring a friend!

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION — Are you interested in becoming a member? Reverend Jackson is planning a new member orientation for early November. Please speak to him for more information.

RPC HOSTING A DOCUMENTARY AND CONVERSATION SERIES

When: Saturday, October 7, 10:00am -12:00 pm Where: Riverside Public Library
Topic: *The Line* documents the stories of people across the country living at or below the poverty line. They have goals. They have children. They work hard. They are people like you and me. Across America, millions are struggling every day to make it above *The Line*.

THE PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING is received the first three Sundays of October. At the national level, working for peace means supporting those working to heal the divisions in violent contexts like South Sudan. It means using our seat at the United Nations table to speak up for the vulnerable around the world. This Offering strengthens the collaboration of the Peacemaking Program and the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations with the peace work of global partners through World Mission. Yet the Offering is as much about our local congregation living out a commitment to peacemaking as it is proclaiming Christ's peace. Twenty-five percent of the Offering stays here at RPC. This year our 25% will be **“DON'T LOOK AWAY: HOW TO RESPOND TO TROUBLED RELATIONSHIPS.”** A forum on domestic violence on Tuesday, October 24, 7:00 – 8:30 pm at North Riverside Commons.

OKTOBERFEST DINNER AND AUCTION — ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS! Please come to the annual OKTOBERFEST DINNER AND AUCTION on October 15, 2017. Dinner starts at 5 and will include brats and hot dogs, sauerkraut, potato salad and some yummy Fall desserts baked by our own Dennis Cobb. The list of items to be auctioned – both live and silent, starting at 6 pm – is awesome! Lots of events to fill up your social calendar, vacation houses, and all kinds of other goodies. This is the main fundraiser for the church this year, and we hope you

will all join in (and bring friends and neighbors) to make it a successful event, full of *Gemütlichkeit!*

SUNDAY SCHOOL — We continue to delve into our new curriculum, 'A Joyful Path.' Throughout the school year we will be continually updating the Sunday School section of the bulletin board with weekly affirmations. Encourage your kids to remember these affirmations and ask them to describe their understanding of the meaning behind them. Our lesson this week concentrates on the Bible and how we use it. It is important to remember that the Bible is a book of stories and that the people who were telling these stories lived in a very different world than our own. We will use a variety of different Bible translations to show the children how words are used in different versions. Next **Sunday, October 8** there will be **NO Sunday School** – Blessing of the Pets.

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY — As more and more people take advantage of the pantry we encourage you to donate the following items: travel size/hotel size shampoo, body wash, soaps, lotions and conditioners, small boxes of laundry detergent, individually wrapped toilet tissue, small boxes of feminine hygiene products, jars of baby food, granola/cereal bars, canned meats with pop top lids, canned fruits with pop top or cellophane lids

CHRISTKINDLMARKT — RPC's Christkindlmarkt will be held on Saturday, November 11, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. The cafe offerings will be expanded to include light pastries for early risers, in addition to homemade soups and sandwiches for lunch, and an array of desserts. We are signing up crafters (if you are interested in having a craft booth please contact Susan Lynch, skstrause@us.ibm.com). 10,000 Villages will be present with their wonderful assortment of fair trade crafts and gifts from around the world. In early October we will offer an online sign-up through Sign-Up Genius, with the hope many people will offer to bake or make soup, or to work a shift during that day. **PLEASE NOTE – THERE WILL BE NO NEXT-TO-NEW BOOTH THIS YEAR**, so please do not drop off any items.

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR COMPANIONS JOURNEYING TOGETHER—

Companions Journeying Together is a prison ministry which consists of sending cards to prisoners. There are packs of 10 cards each near the CARERS trunk near the church office. Please take one or more packs and follow the GUIDELINES listed with the cards. Deadline is Sunday, October 29.

CARERS CORNER OCTOBER— The CARERS trunk is accepting donations of nonperishable foods, but remember glass jars and flimsy plastic cups are breakable. First Presbyterian Church in Chicago will distribute your contributions to those in need in Chicago's Woodlawn neighborhood.

FLU SHOTS — Don't let our hot spell fool you! It's time for flu shots and once again Mariano's Pharmacy is graciously providing an in-house clinic for us. On Sunday, October 22nd, both before (starting at 9:30 am) and after worship (during Coffee Fellowship), you can obtain preventative shots for flu and pneumonia (Pneumovax and Prevnar), plus a juice and cookie pick-me-up! Easily billed to your insurance plan (Medicare or other) by Mariano's, so no trouble to you. Please mark your calendars.

PECANS — For years the RPC women have handled the sale of pecans to benefit Erie Neighborhood House. The funds raised benefit their after-school program. The former

chairwoman is no longer able to take on this task. If you are interested in handling the sale and distribution of the pecans, please contact the church office for details.

SAVE THE DATE — Messiah 2017 is Sunday December 10th at 4 pm.

HOLY LAND 2018—Plans are underway for our trip to the Holy Land on September 3, 2018. For more information please speak to Dale or pick up an informational flyer from the office. There are also flyers in the information rack outside Dale's office. Official tour brochures have been delayed due to Hurricane Irma.

REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE – Thank you for your continued support of our refugee family. The biggest challenge right now is having the mother, Mulu, attend English classes. She is most comfortable having her energetic young son with her, but he needs to be in child care at Refugee One so that she can concentrate on her studies. Refugee One is trying to hire a part time baby sitter but they need help raising the funds. They have \$13,000 of the \$20,000 needed. Here is the direct site to use to donate: <http://www.refugeeone.org/childcare> Thank you again for your kindness! Connie Kelly

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP – St. Mary Parish is now offering support and help after losing a loved one. We will walk alongside you on your journey through grief. We will have the opportunity to share our experiences, watch helpful videos, and use a workbook to help journal these life changing events. We understand what you are going through because we have been in that same place. The group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and have successfully rebuilt their lives.

The Grief Support Group will begin on Wednesday, October 11th from 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM in the rectory. Please call Carina at the Rectory (708-447-1020) so we can plan. -- Sue Galick, Terry Coffey, and Charlie Marino

SHARE THE HARVEST THANKSGIVING OCTOBER 14 Taste! Texture! Color! From Our Gardens to Our Plates! It's been a fantastic season of growing and sharing — thanks to YOU, our amazing Share the Harvest growing and pantry partners. We're celebrating the season at our annual Share the Harvest Thanksgiving Celebration on Saturday, Oct. 14 - 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. The location: Salem United Church of Christ, 9717 S. Kostner Ave. in Oak Lawn. We'll gather to give thanks, learn from our guest speaker, Lynne Foster, and then FEAST! Lynne will help us explore the tastes, textures and colors of God's gifts from Creation. We'll learn how to make the most out of our garden gifts and how to create layers of delight in our recipes! Lynne is Applications Manager/Chef at Vegetable Juices/Naturex, located in Bedford Park. She is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and the Culinary Institute of America. With a grant from their Naturex corporate headquarters, Lynne and other gardeners at Vegetable Juices, have tended a beautiful garden that has produced fresh, healthy vegetables that are being shared with Southwest Chicago PADS, another Share the Harvest partner. So, bring your taste buds on Oct. 14 to the Share the Harvest Thanksgiving Celebration — and feel free to invite a friend or two! There's room at the table for everyone!

Martin Luther Film Festival presented by Sts. Peter and Paul Lutheran Church, 31st and DesPlaines in Riverside - Commemorating the 500th Anniversary of the 16th Century Reformation. Sunday Evenings in October † 6:30 p.m. Showtime † Dining Hall Theater
October 8th - *Luther*, starring Joseph Fiennes, 2003
October 15th - *Empires: Martin Luther*, PBS Documentary, 2002

October 22nd - *Rick Steve's Luther and the Reformation*, 2017

Free to the public. Complimentary popcorn and apple cider. Plus a free raffle of Luther souvenirs! Conversation and discussion time following the films. Sunday worship option using Luther's evening prayer. More information at www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org 708.442.5250