

**HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS**—The office will be open Tuesday, December 26 - Friday, December 29 and Tuesday, January 2 - Friday, January 5 from 9:00 am – noon. Marika Floros will be staffing the office.

**SERMONS ONLINE** Sermons are now available online. Visit the church website (rpcusa.org) and find the sermon link under the worship drop down menu or visit vimeo.com by following this link <https://vimeo.com/riversidepresbyterian>

### 2018 Church Leadership

#### Elders

Mary Ann Sadilek, Clerk of Session

2018	2019	2020
Diane Chaney	Jeanine Buttimer	Frank Gangware
John Haugland	Patti Friend	Martha Heine
Gwen Heine	Susan Lynch	Lynda Nadkarni
	Lisa Aulerich- Marciniak	Dennis Zander

Youth Elder – Kaki Lynch

#### Deacons

2018	2019	2020
David Harper	Ellen Hamilton	Lloyd Bradbury
Steve Marcus	Sandy Kappmeyer	Charlie Juister
Paula McCracken	Lorraine Meyer	Sally Sloane
Serina Ranft	Steve Teune	Jeanne Smith

#### Trustees

2018	2019	2020
Thom DeVries	Susan Deems-Dluhy	Patti Perry-Halline
Joel Hastings	Cyril Friend	Doug Harvin
George Meyer	Fred Kitch	Henry Vogel
Connie Nestor	Brad Staubus	

#### Mission Statement

We gather as a church family to:  
 Celebrate God's Presence ~ Nurture the Spiritual Life  
 Carry the Light of Christ into the World ~ Serve God by Serving Others

#### RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

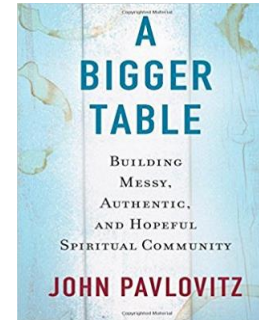
Rev. Dale Jackson, Pastor 502-592-1617 (pastor@rpcusa.org)  
 Linda Hutcheson, Office Manager (rpcoffice@rpcusa.org)  
 Dr. Sally Sloane, Minister of Music (musikhse@comcast.net)  
 Susan Zander, Director of Children's Education (smozan@icloud.com)  
 Ellen Hamilton, Treasurer (treasurer@rpcusa.org)  
 Susan Lisle, Preschool Director (rpcpreschool@sbcglobal.net)



## Riverside Presbyterian Church

116 Barrypoint Road, Riverside, IL 60546  
 (708) 447-1520 ~ rpcusa.org

## JANUARY NEWSLETTER



**THEOLOGY ON TAP** resumes January 15, 2018.

We gather at 6:30 for dinner and our discussion begins at 7:00. We meet at Grapevine, 9 W. Hillgrove Ave, La Grange, IL. If you joined us while we are meeting at Molly's Pub and found the atmosphere too noisy, please give the Grapevine a try.

We are reading *A Bigger Table* by John Pavlovitz. The book asks if organized Christianity can find a new way of faithfully continuing the work Jesus began two thousand years ago, where everyone gets a seat.

Pavlovitz shares moving personal stories and his careful observations as a pastor to set the table for a new, more loving conversation on these and other important matters of faith. He invites us to build the bigger table Jesus imagined, practicing radical hospitality, total authenticity, messy diversity, and agenda-free community. If ordering the book on Amazon remember to use Amazon Smile and the church will receive a contribution.

**THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING** is one of four church-wide special offerings of the PC (USA). It supports current and former church workers and their families, and offers education and leadership development at Presbyterian-related racial-ethnic colleges and other schools. Please give generously, or as you are able.

**HUMAN SCENE** — December 31—No Human Scene.

A hymn is a type of song, usually religious, specifically written for the purpose of adoration or prayer, and typically addressed to a deity or deities, or to a prominent figure or personification. The word hymn derives from Greek, which means "a song of praise." A writer of hymns is known as a hymnodist. The singing or composition of hymns is called hymnody. Collections of hymns are known as hymnals or hymn books. Although hymns are most familiar to speakers of English in the context of Christianity, they are also a fixture of other world religions. Hymns also survive from antiquity, especially from Egyptian and Greek cultures.

For the first two Sundays of the new year, Dennis Cobb will lead Human Scene and focus on the church's use of hymns in worship. Singing has always been a part of worship. Why is that? What does the choice of hymnals and the hymns in them say about our theology and religious beliefs?

January 7: "A Brief History of Hymnody"

January 14: "Hymn Choices and What They Say about a Church"

**ADULT MOVIE NIGHT**—as an outgrowth of Theology on Tap we are gathering at the home of Dale & Dennis to watch the movie “The Last Temptation of Christ”. We will gather at 5:30. Please bring \$5.00 to help defray the cost of pizza and bring a beverage to share. Dessert will be provided! Please RSVP to Dale or the office, also mention any food allergies.

**HOLY LAND TRIP MEETING** — January 21 following worship all those already enrolled for the trip and all those interested in going should meet Reverend Jackson at 11:15 for information and question answering.

**ALL CHURCH FAMILY WORK DAY** — January 14, 1- 3 pm

**LITTLE FOOD PANTRY ITEMS**—Vacuum packed tuna, meat, rice, noodles, granola/cereal bars, boxes of cereal or any food items that would not freeze in an outdoor pantry.

**CARERS JANUARY** — CARERS Committee will assist The Boulevard. Homeless people temporarily live at The Boulevard while recuperating from illness or injury. When these folks can be on their own, they will need tools for basic repairs, cooking gear, utensils, towels and other essential household items. Thank you!

**WOMEN’S CIRCLE FOR FELLOWSHIP AND STUDY** — Christmas Wishes ~ May your home be filled with warmth and good cheer this Christmas season. We look forward to seeing you January 24 at 10 am in the Social Hall.

**BRICK PAVERS** — Need a gift idea for someone who has everything? Consider honoring a loved one for the holidays with a BRICK PAVER in our outdoor worship area. Or share a favorite Bible verse or saying. The proceeds are added to our Capital Fund to finish paying for the organ restoration. Find forms outside the church office or online at [rpcusa.org](http://rpcusa.org). If you have any questions, please contact Susan Deems-Dluhy or any Trustee.

**2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES** — Beginning on December 17<sup>th</sup>, we will have the 2018 Offering Envelopes available for pickup in the hallway by the offices. We have contracted with a new company, thereby generating a savings of close to \$500 from prior years. You will note a new look and new numbers. (The change in provider required new numbering – there will be an alphabetical list on the table to make it easier to find your set, plus they are identified by name.) If you are an electronic giver, or have otherwise informed us you did not want to use envelopes, you were omitted from the order.

**WORSHIP AT CANTATA AND CALEDONIA** — The Deacons welcome members to join us in the worship service for the residents of Cantata on January 7 at 2 pm, and at Caledonia on January 21 at 2 pm.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS** — Sunday school is on break until the new year. We will return January 7<sup>th</sup> with lessons on forgiveness and tolerance. Kids - come for the donuts and stay for the good friends and conversations.

We are looking for teachers! We will adapt the lesson to fit your strengths and go through the process with you. Contact Susan Zander if you’re interested.

**SAVE THE DATE!** The Annual Congregational Meeting is Sunday, January 28.

**PRESCHOOL NEWS** — Happy 2018! We will be celebrating 50 days of preschool and Wicky Wacky Wednesday. We will begin Show and Tell time, have parent readers, talk about polar animals, snow and winter, and have parent/teacher conferences, too. We are now accepting applications for the 2018-2019 school year. Applications are available outside the church office. Please call or email the preschool with any questions you may have.

**CONSIDER SERVING** — Each January the Session decides who will serve as Chair of each committee and then the new chair is charged with forming the committee. If you have never served on a Committee you are encouraged to consider serving. New committee chairs will be listed in the bulletin January 21, 2018.

**DAILY DEVOTIONALS** — Copies of the January-February 2018 Upper Room are in the rack outside the office.

**CHRISTMAS LIST**— When you are checking off your Christmas list, please take some time to consider whether your 2017 pledge is up to date. You may also wish to consider making a year-end gift to RPC - one suggestion is to make a gift of a “13<sup>th</sup> Month” of your regular pledge. We have already received a few generous gifts from our member “angels” for which we are very grateful. We would love to be able to balance the 2017 budget before the new year rolls around, and every extra contribution helps. Merry Christmas!

**SOUP’S ON** — What could be better on a cold January afternoon than some yummy homemade soup and fresh bread? Bring your favorite soup to the January Deacons’ Potluck on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, right after worship. We’ll likely have lots of varieties, so please don’t double the recipe of what you bring. Crockpots welcome. And speaking of recipes, if you bring a copy of your recipe, we’ll make them into a Soup-er Cookbook to distribute to members.

**ANNUAL REPORT REMINDER** — All committee annual reports are due on or before Friday, January 5<sup>th</sup>. Contact the office if you have any questions or need detailed instructions.

**OPEN GYM** — Sunday, January 7. All kids are invited up to the gym after service.