



Riverside Presbyterian Church

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

AUGUST 30, 2020

A NOTE

Dear Friends,

FROM YOUR PASTOR

Last week I alerted you to the decisions the Session made at its meeting on August 19, which was to suspend in-person worship through 2020. I have heard through the grapevine that some folks wonder how the decision was made. The Session acted on the recommendations of the in-person task force which is comprised of members of Session, the Board of Trustees, members of the Music and Worship Committee and the congregation at large. The in-person task force conducted an all church survey and reviewed best practice recommendations from the Presbytery, CDC and state and county experts and used all that information to make recommendations to the Session.

For me personally, the decision came down to one thing—as I think of each of you I would be deeply grieved if one of you contracted COVID-19 because we rushed reopening. I want to worship in person more than almost anything but not more than I want each of you to be healthy and safe. I am committed to providing the best worship service possible while making that service available to as many people as possible. In consultation with the chair of the Music and Worship Committee, Lynda Nadkarni, we decided that the safety procedures that would be required for outdoor worship would diminish the experience, and exclude those who cannot or would not feel safe attending, so we made appropriate recommendations to the task force. If you have questions or concerns, I encourage you to reach out to me directly and I will share your concerns with the Session who makes all decisions concerning worship. Please read through the announcements carefully to discover some of the new upcoming programs!!

Dale



- ◆ Frank Cobb, Dennis Cobb's brother
- ◆ Prayers for Debra Myers and family.
- ◆ Prayers of comfort for family and friends of Marion Lehman, Joyce Dobrzanski's aunt, who died last week.
- ◆ Joyce Van Cura
- ◆ Jack Smith
- ◆ Judy Lynch, Susan Lynch's sister-in-law
- ◆ Monica Wood

ZOOM SUNDAY INFORMATION—Sunday morning you may call and listen to the worship service by dialing 1(312)626-6799 and using meeting ID: 973 5627 6934; Password: 960995. Stay on the line after worship and join us for Coffee Fellowship. If you are joining Coffee Fellowship after viewing worship on YouTube follow this link: <https://bit.ly/RPCFellowship>.



FAITH FORMATION Starting Sunday, Sept. 27 you are invited to join us for a new way to participate in an intergenerational Sunday School program called Faith Formation. The church will provide packets with complete lesson plans and activity pages for every household that would like one. If **you want to secure a packet please contact the church**

office. You can make arrangements to pick up your packet from the church, have it mailed to you or you can pick it up at the Socially Distanced Fall Fellowship Event. Accompanying the materials will be an optional YouTube video. You can find those on YouTube in the same place you find worship videos. Items will also be shared on the church's Facebook page. If you currently do not follow our Facebook page go here: <https://www.facebook.com/Riverside-Presbyterian-Church-233695653346323>



The **Presbyterian Week of Action** was last week and was structured to provide a public witness that reinforces our PC (USA) statements and policy around the support of eradicating racism and acknowledging that God loves all Black lives. As part of that

witness the Session approved placing the banner in the picture outside the church. The banner was donated by church members. To learn more about our call to eradicate racism, I encourage you view some of last weeks PC (USA) events here: <https://www.pcusa.org/weekofaction/>



Coming September 15, on the RPC YouTube channel. Pastor Dale & Friends have recorded themselves reading some of their favorite children's books. Take a moment and listen to a story. If you would like to record your favorite book reach out to Pastor Dale!



Consider subscribing to the church's YouTube page. You can easily stay informed of our newest content. All you need to do is tap the subscribe icon.



Throughout the months of August and September during our offering time you have seen the ways your financial gifts to RPC make ministry and mission in this place possible. During these uncertain days we ask you to prayerfully consider your pledge for 2021. Your financial gifts secure the future of this community of faith for years to come.



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| Frank Gangware, 9/1 | Charles Zeman, 9/12 | Chloe Floros, 9/25 |
| Cade Friend, 9/2 | Bob Sprunger, 9/14 | Carter Thickers, 9/26 |
| Jon Jansky, 9/5 | Ryan Wynn Jackson, 9/19 | Brooklyn Hastings, 9/27 |
| Dennis Cobb, 9/6 | Robert Kreimes, 9/20 | David Schade, 9/27 |
| Marika Floros, 9/6 | April Notarnicola, 9/21 | Andrew Staubus, 9/27 |
| George Meyer, 9/9 | Greta Schramm, 9/23 | Bennet Regan, 9/30 |
| Gwen Heine, 9/10 | Scott Schwarz, 9/23 | |

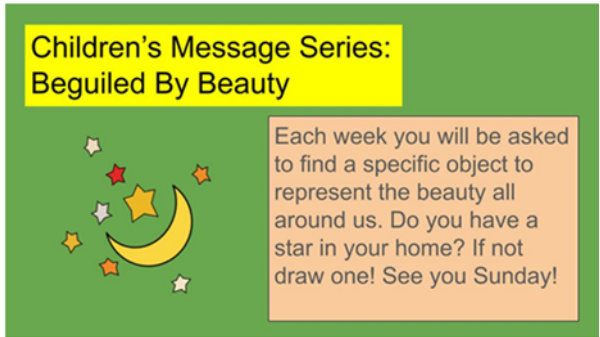
The September—October edition of The Upper Room is available. Please contact the church office to arrange a time to pick it up or have it mailed to you.



Socially Distanced Fall Fellowship—Sunday, September 20, 2020 @ 4:00 p.m.

We will gather (6-feet apart) on the church lawn. Masks will be required except when eating some of the yummy provided food (more details to come). Remember to bring a blanket or lawn chair to sit on. And start decorating your face mask now to participate in the best decorated mask contest!! Faith Formation Packets & Stewardship information will be available!

Our worship series ***"BEGUILED BY BEAUTY: CULTIVATING A LIFE OF CONTEMPLATION & COMPASSION"*** is inspired by the book of the same name by Wendy Farley, PhD, which lays out a theology of beauty that can lead us to greater compassion through spiritual practices of contemplation. Dr. Farley's work helps us understand that faith in Divine Goodness is held together with suffering in order to make moments like this manageable. She shows us how a more intentional spiritual practice can deepen the well from which we draw in order to survive, and to thrive, during the trying times of our lives.



THEOLOGY ON TAP Mondays at 7:00 p.m. Contact Pastor Dale for more information. Schedule (again please watch the units BEFORE the class):
 August 31: Unit 3 & Gratitude Practice: Body & Optional Conversation: Andre Henry
 September 7: No Theology on Tap
 September 14: Unit 4 & Gratitude Practice: Prayer Beads & Optional Conversations: Lisa Shannon Harper & Sophronia Scott
 September 21: Unit 5 & Gratitude Practice: Digital Community & Optional Conversation: Carrie Newcomer
 September 28: Unit 6 & Gratitude Practice: Appreciate & Welcome & Optional Conversation: Anne Lamott
 October 5: Conclusion & Optional Conversation: Simran Jeet Singh
 Login information to join the ZOOM discussion. [https://zoom.us/j/935547600?](https://zoom.us/j/935547600?pwd=cTV0YTR4YkErT0twWmExUXlTc3ozQT09)
 pwd=cTV0YTR4YkErT0twWmExUXlTc3ozQT09 Meeting ID: 935 547 600 Passcode: 636553 +13126266799,,935547600#,,,,,0#,,636553# US (Chicago)

2020 CHURCH LEADERSHIP			
Elders	2020	2021	2022
	Frank Gangware	Gwen Heine	Ben Dickerson
	Lynda Nadkarni	Allan Halline	Ellen Hamilton
	Dennis Zander	Matt Lisle	Serina Ranft
			Mary Ann Sadilek, Clerk
Deacons	Lloyd Bradbury	Deb Jansky	Claire Gangware
	Charlie Juister	Wendy Seifert	Sylvia Schade
	Sally Sloane	Joyce Van Cura	Susanne Vogel
	Jeanne Smith		
Trustees	Patti Perry	Thom DeVries	Paula McCracken
	Doug Harvin	Fred Mitchell	Tom Radigan
	Hank Vogel	Mike Heine	Brad Staubus