

# THE PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2021



## The Spirit of Giving

By Rev. Carol Hill, Senior Minister

Teaching children to receive gifts with gratitude takes intentional guiding. When our children were little, we had to teach them on Christmas morning that they were not done after the first present. They quickly learned the art of opening all the presents in a matter of minutes, but those first few Christmases, they'd open one thing and just want to play. They didn't really understand that it was a gift, that it was for them, and that it came from someone else. Eventually, we needed them to understand that they needed to give hugs and write thank you notes to their loved ones who had bought them presents. Returning to the giver with a grateful heart is important, and some days our children remember those lessons better than other days.



As we consider the number of gifts we have been given from God, we too return to the Giver with a grateful heart. But perhaps just as important to teach our children is the JOY to be found in GIVING – not because you HAVE to give someone a gift at Christmas or for their birthday, but because you want to. Paul writes to the church in Corinth (and surrounding regions) to remind them to give their offerings with cheer. “The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.” (2 Cor. 9:6-8)

Our hearts matter to God. The attitude with which we give back to God matters. When Samuel was discerning who to anoint as the next King of Israel, God encouraged him to not just look at his age, physical strength, or reputation – “for God looks at the heart” (1 Sam 16:7). When a widow approached the Temple with a meager offering of just a couple coins, Jesus applauded her giving as being so much more than the other – he saw

her heart. As we approach Consecration Sunday, when we choose to make a promise for our giving for the year ahead, the Spirit with which we give is so much more important than the number. (Don't get me wrong, the numbers matter too, and the Finance Committee will find a way to recommend a budget that make the numbers work with the ministry plans for the next year.) I pray that you will find joy in filling out your pledge cards because you choose to participate and give – with joy and gratitude!

November is a month in which we pause to celebrate the blessings in our lives. We begin the month celebrating the gifts of our Saints. We remember not just those who have died in the last year, but those who have gone before us throughout the generations, leaving behind legacies of faith, love, generosity, and hope. We celebrate Consecration Sunday and joyfully give to God our promises for the year to come. We celebrate Thanksgiving with loved ones and our community, joining in traditions that fill our spirits (and our bellies). And at the end of the month, we will begin the season of Advent, when we prepare our hearts for God to dwell among us. This entire month is full of holy moments, when we are invited to pause, reflect, give thanks, and give back.

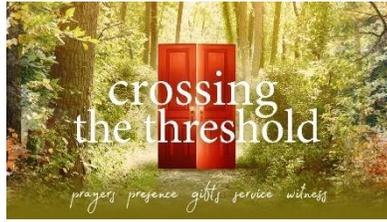
The Outreach team is always helping guide our efforts to give to others through our time and energy, as well as by bringing items to donate: canned goods, backpacks, toiletries, and more. They are expanding the opportunities we share so that we can all experience the joy of giving, knowing that as St. Francis said, “it's in the giving that we receive.” I hope and pray that throughout this month, you find ways to give to others, give to our church, give to our community, and give to God. Know that your gifts are gratefully received at PRCC, as we prepare for ministries ahead! Thank you for your faithfulness and your generosity – in your prayers, your presence, your giving, your service, and your witness!



YOU, dear ones, are such blessings! And we are thankful!

# WORSHIP

ONLINE  
& IN-  
PERSON



[www.parkridgecommunitychurch.org](http://www.parkridgecommunitychurch.org)

Two services, inside the Sanctuary, at 8:30 and 10 am.

## November 7 - Crossing the Threshold: Service

Communion Sunday  
Philippians 3:12-16, 20-21;  
Matthew 6:1-4, 19-21, 24  
7:30 pm Service of Remembrance

## November 14 – Crossing the Threshold: Witness Consecration Sunday

Psalms 51:1-2, 6-12, 15-17; Matthew 5:13-16

## November 21 – Returning with Thanks!

Luke 17:11-19; 1 Timothy 1-7  
Pastor Mollie preaching

## November 28 – A Thrill of Hope: Home for Christmas

First Sunday of Advent: The Gospel of Mark  
“Slow Down & Pay Attention”  
Mark 1:1-8; Hebrews 12:11-14  
7:30 pm Moravian Love Feast

## WAYS TO WORSHIP

You are invited to worship with us online via our Livestream Service or in-person at 8:30 am and 10 am. The Livestream service will be accessible on the church website, Facebook page, and YouTube channel for viewing live or anytime thereafter. Beginning on November 7<sup>th</sup>, both worship services will be held inside in the sanctuary. We encourage households to sit together, spaced away from other households. If you would prefer additional space, please feel free to sit in the balcony or in the side chapels.



## MASK POLICY

Masks are now required for all, regardless of vaccination status, while inside the building.

## NURSERY CARE & SUNDAY SCHOOL

Nursery Care has resumed on a as needed basis. Please contact the Church Office if you are in need of care for an upcoming Sunday. We are currently looking for Nursery Care help, if you are available, please contact Shelley or the Church Office.

## COMMUNION

On Sunday, November 7, we will receive communion. If you are watching from home, please take some time before worship to gather some bread and juice or wine. If you would prefer a pre-packaged wafer and juice, we will deliver it to you, upon request! If you are joining us in person, we will have individually wrapped elements for you. *We anticipate using the pre-packaged individual servings of communion for the foreseeable future.* If you prefer, you are welcome to bring your own bread and fruit of the vine from home.

## WAYS TO GIVE:

Your giving to Park Ridge Community Church remains vitally important to keeping our building operating, our staff paid, and our ministries active! Thank you for your ongoing support. Just a reminder of the ways you can submit your financial contributions:

- Drop off or mail a check to: 100 Courtland Ave. Park Ridge, IL 60068
- Sign up for automatic withdrawal from your bank account.
- Give through the Zelle app or Quickpay. Enter the email address:  
[giving@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:giving@parkridgecommunitychurch.org)
- Give electronically through [PayPal on our website](#) (FYI: the church incurs a fee with each PayPal transaction)

## UPCOMING MEMORIALS

Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup> at 11 am: Judy Hedberg

Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm: Erika Cornelisen



# November Special Worship Experiences

## **November 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am**                      **Multi-Generation Service**

At the 10 am worship service, our worship leadership will intentionally include persons representing different generations of our congregation. Children, Youth, Adults, and Seniors will be celebrated as each generation impacts our church as a whole. Many thanks to Pastor Mollie, Liz Swanson, Shelley O'Brien and Morgan Tone, for helping coordinate volunteers to participate!

## **November 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm**                      **Service of Remembrance**

Each year, on All Saints Sunday, we take time in the evening to gather and remember the Saints who have entered life in the resurrection in the last year. In this somber, contemplative service, we give thanks for loved ones, naming them, ringing a bell, and lighting a candle in their honor. All of those who are connected to PRCC are included upon request. This year, the Chancel Choir will enhance this service with Fauré's *Requiem*. A time of fellowship will follow this service in Jordan Hall.

## **November 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 and 10 am**                      **Consecration Sunday**

As the culmination of our Stewardship Campaign, children, youth, and adults are invited to bring forward their pledge for the upcoming year. Pledge cards are available in the church office, online, or in the mailed Ministry Plan. During worship, the congregation will be invited to bring their pledge forward as we "Cross the Threshold" in faith together. The totals of what we receive will be announced to the congregation the following Sunday as we give thanks for all that God is doing!

## **November 21<sup>st</sup> at 8:30 and 10 am**                      **Thanksgiving Sunday at PRCC**

As we prepare our hearts to celebrate Thanksgiving in our homes, we will join our hearts in our church home and celebrate all that God is doing! The results of the 2022 Stewardship Campaign will be shared, and thanks giving will be the theme of the day. Pastor Mollie will bring our message on this day.

## **November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 pm**                      **Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at St. Paul of the Cross**

On Tuesday, November 23, the community is invited to join together in a Thanksgiving worship service, hosted by St. Paul of the Cross. Clergy from throughout the community will share in leading the service. The offering will support the Sunday Night Supper ministry, and canned goods will be collected for the Food Pantry.

## **November 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm**                      **Moravian Love Feast**

On this first Sunday of Advent, all are invited to join in a quiet, reflective service as we begin this holy season of preparation. Through scripture lessons, Christmas carols, and the sharing of a holy love feast, God speaks. This lay led service is a meaningful way to begin to prepare for the birth of our Savior.

# OUR PRAYER MINISTRY

Prayer is an act of faith in our listening for God and in the sharing of our hearts. As we are reminded of the home that PRCC is to us and that each of us belongs here. In the knowledge of belonging to each other and God, we hold the following celebrations & challenges in our prayers.

Continue to include in your prayers all those on our prayer ministry list: Heather Cannon, Kylie Figgins, Jon Forsythe, Edith E. Hurlburt, Tom Kapolnek, Candace Kidston, Walter and Christina Kotecki, Geri LeDuc, Lurana Nelson, Leo Netko, Dean Muenzer, Reggie Pantazi, Susan Ruth, Ann Stutts, Kathleen Weller, Joyce Wright, Kate Zoellner.

***We also keep in our prayers the following September requests:***

## Life in the Resurrection

- Please pray for the friends and family of Gary Weber who entered life in the resurrection on 9/28. Gary is Katy Weber's father and the grandfather of Bella and Zaryn Alice Gaby.
- Please pray for the friends and family of Doris Simpson, Mark Simpson's mother who entered life in the resurrection 9/30.
- Please hold in your prayers the family and friends of Erika Cornelisen who entered life in the resurrection this week after a heroic battle with cancer.
- We pray for the Lapp family as they had to say goodbye to their pet Louis after 13 years.

## Healing and Recovery

- Dave and Liz Swanson thank you for all the prayers, calls and support you have given as Dave dealt with two eye surgeries the last few weeks. The second surgery seems to be working and the healing process will take some time.
- Continue to hold Judy Sindt in your prayers, as she was back in the hospital this week with cardiac issues. We pray for solutions to her issues and healing and care.
- Please hold Nancy Skoog in your prayers as she has encountered more medical challenges and is facing some additional testing this week.
- Ginny Feurer asks us to pray for her friend Blanch who is facing many serious medical conditions and decisions with treatment plans.
- Judy Johnson asks for our prayers as she faces an unexpected and serious medical diagnosis.
- Jane S. has asked to pray with her for her daughter Cathy who was admitted to the hospital. Please pray for Cathy's

- comfort, healing and God's blessing in the treatment.
- Pastor Mollie is grateful for prayers for her former youth Isaac. He has made some good progress toward recovery but has a long road ahead. Please continue to keep him, his family and medical team in your prayers.
- Please hold Alayne Richards in our prayers, as she experienced a medical event this month, needed surgery and is still in the hospital recovering & having more tests.
- Please continue to pray for Bernice Zabawski's cousin Bob who is still critically ill and on a ventilator.
- Winnie Ericksen would like us to include her cousin Dolores H. in our prayers as Dolores who is in her 90's was taken to the hospital on Friday with a serious infection.
- Darcy LeDuc asks for prayer for her family and specifically for her mom as she is facing many hardships at once. Please pray for God to walk alongside her to provide her comfort and strength.
- Please pray for Robert Sandnes who has broken a part of his hip and then suffered a heart attack. Prayers with Marilyn who cares for him.

## Joys

- It is a joy to celebrate World Communion Sunday with the Christian Community all around the world, finding unity through this holy meal.
- Oct. 4th, was Nadya and Larry Zimmerman wedding anniversary, They were married at PRCC - 46 years ago!
- We celebrate the joy that our couples are experiencing at the Couples' Retreat. We pray for all marriages and relationships, knowing this year has added strain to even the strongest of relationships.
- October is also Clergy Appreciation month, and we celebrate the blessing that our ministers are in our lives and in our community.
- We celebrate with Kate and Brendan Joyce that they welcomed Sophia Hope into the world this past Tuesday, Oct. 5 at 1:13 am, weighing 5 lb. 10 oz. They are doing great!
- A couple of wedding anniversaries this month, including Tim & Sally Maurey as well as Tom & Laura Runtz
- We are celebrating with Darcy LeDuc who finished her Master's Degree in Education.
- Kym Dohnke asks for prayers for she and Charlie as they get their booster covid shots today. Please also prayer for Kym's sister in law.
- Altar Flowers on October 3<sup>rd</sup> were from Dorothy Lehman in memory of Fred on what would have been their 62nd wedding anniversary.
- Bernice Zabawski also asks for prayers for her friend Audrey and her partner Gary. They are both very sick with different, serious ailments and is struggling to manage
- George and Nancy Skoog are celebrating their 65th wedding on Oct 20!
- Today we pray for all those who experience hunger and the ways efforts such as the Crop walk help to alleviate.

# CROP WALK 2021

What a group! Thanks to all who participated. Donations are still being accepted if you didn't have a chance to support the team. We had 45 walkers and we've collected over \$7,000 to date. Go to [crophungerwalk.org/nilesil](https://crophungerwalk.org/nilesil) to donate online or drop cash or check off at church office.



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

We celebrate and pray God's blessing upon these birthdays...

- 11/1 Dave Kapolnek; Sam Taglia
- 11/2 Eric Nelson
- 11/4 Rush Shook-Orr; Max Crowley; Kevin Plach Sr.
- 11/7 Christine Paulding
- 11/10 Chris Allen; Leigh Sasser; Ronald Reter
- 11/12 Linnea Orr
- 11/14 Shelley O'Brien; Zoey Wendorf
- 11/15 Kym Dohnke
- 11-16 Brendan Joyce
- 11/18 Bev Patt; Ryan Desmedt; Mayor Maloney
- 11/19 Pastor Angie; Fred Johnston
- 11/20 Wendy Hayes
- 11/21 Karryn Swanson
- 11/27 Mary Tilley
- 11/29 Janet Johnson
- 11/30 Jean Lemke

If you or a loved one has a birthday that we have missed, please contact the church office so we can include you in our Sunday joys!

# SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

Our annual Service of Remembrance will be held on November 7<sup>th</sup>. This meaningful service, held at 7:30 pm, will include prayers, music, and reflection time to honor those individuals who have been a part of our community who entered life in the resurrection since November 2020. Any loved one, regardless of membership at PRCC, can be included. The names listed below will be honored at this service, please review the following list and let Liz Swanson know of any edits or additions:

Emmett Allen  
Frank Andriacchi  
Jessica BeCraft  
Andrew Beranek  
Marcia Boehm  
Patrick Brooks  
Betty Carpenter  
Nicholas Conrardy  
Erika Cornelisen\*  
Caroline Dase\*  
Mark DuBrock  
Ric Eichin  
Dale Fancher  
Brian Farrell  
Gary Feurer  
Bill Fingl  
John Flannery  
Constance Formosa  
Mark Graczyk  
Peter Gerritson  
Gene Hanyzewski  
Janice Hebert  
Judy Hedberg\*  
Cindy Hibbard\*  
Sheila Hohmann  
Lori Holland  
Fred Litrenti  
Frances Litrenti  
Cole Kain  
Jackie Kapolnek  
Susie Leonard  
Gale Lyle  
Timothy Madden  
John Maigler  
Rick Mauery  
Sue Milburn\*  
Barbara Milosevich  
Jane Moody\*  
Mike Mooney  
Nick Mourouzis  
Helen Mulopulos

Chloe Nassau  
Brenda Nelson  
Jim O'Brien  
Elvira Panarese  
Rae Patterson\*  
Shannon Pietroske  
Isabel Schmidt  
Richard Sheumaker  
Doris Simpson  
Gordon Smith  
Warren Wade  
Gary Weber  
Ireberta Zamora  
Bill Zoellner\*  
Tammy Zorn\*

*We have prayed for the following persons and their families over the past year. However, additional information would be appreciated:*

Kathy  
Nicky's father

**\* indicates a member of the Congregation**



# BOARD UPDATE

By Tom Goodwin and Naomi Siebert



Fall is upon us and we look forward to the cooler temperatures and the brilliant colors that make this time of year so special. We are grateful to be celebrating the ministry series of Crossing the Threshold and how we can lean into God as he is calling us home in our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. We were grateful to gather in person and online for our October 19 Board meeting!

**Covid Precautions** As the temperatures turn cooler, we will be moving our 10:00 am worship indoors. According to state guidelines, we currently require all persons, regardless of vaccination status, to remain masked while inside our church building (the exception being if you are in an office or meeting room alone). We will continue to watch the trends related to the Covid numbers and work together to ensure everyone is safe. The Choir has been socially distancing and masking, while they are practicing, and is so excited to be returning to singing in worship on November 7. We appreciate your continued support and flexibility. We will adjust the use of our indoor spaces as needed to ensure the wellbeing of all of our church members, and especially our children who are not yet vaccinated.

**The Welcoming and Membership Committee** received three new members in October and continue to be the welcoming faces for those who are visiting PRCC for the first time. Many thanks to Sue Douglas and Sara Born who work so hard every Sunday to make sure new faces are welcomed warmly and reached out to after they visit our church. The Welcoming and Membership team is continuing to work with the church office and our congregation to update our membership rolls.

**The Outreach Committee** hosted the Exodus group at the end of October and are planning ways that PRCC can align with this Park Ridge outreach organization in support of refugees that have come to make our community their home. Thank you to Laura Lapp and the entire committee who continue to provide multiple opportunities to share God's love in the world.

**The Finance Committee** is so grateful for each of our PRCC families and we look forward to sharing Consecration Sunday on November 14, when we will all pledge our gifts to God for the 2022 Ministry year. We invite you to take a look the Ministry Plan that was mailed to you and see all of the wonderful plans that are underway for our PRCC family.

**The Trustees** received Board approval to sign a contract with AAA-1 Masonry that will address the Great Hall water remediation work; this project will begin in spring of 2022. The Board also approved the use of contingency funds up to \$115K to cover the cost of this work. We are so grateful to Chris Chandler and the entire Trustee team for finding a well recommended contractor that will make these repairs to our church home.

**Pastoral Updates** Pastor Mollie updated the Board that she is completing additional steps toward becoming a Member in Discernment in the United Church of Christ. She has two days of meetings in October, and has already turned in written materials. Pastor Carol shared with the Board that she has been approved to receive ministerial standing in the United Church of Christ and anticipates surrendering her United Methodist credentials at the end of the year.

**October Memories** were made! PRCC was a registration site for the Crop Walk and on this beautiful Sunday, we had about 30 walkers who took part in our Bill Zoellner Memorial Crop Walk. It felt great to walk as a group as we helped to raise money for those with food insecurities in our community. We welcomed Morgan Tone to our staff team as a Co-Director for the Children's Ministry. In October, the Carriage House lawn was transformed into our amazing Pumpkin Patch, a sweet inviting space where families could come and spend time taking pictures, choosing the perfect pumpkin and eating yummy treats at our Concession Stand! The patch saw many new events this year including Youth in the Patch, Toddlers in the Patch, a performance by School of Rock, a night of Square Dancing under the twinkling lights and a final hurrah with the Youth Group Halloween Party that was open to neighborhood youth groups.

Thank you for your support of our Church Home. It is a blessing to be part of the leadership team and we want you to know that we are here for you if you need anything. Please contact us at [leadership@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:leadership@parkridgecommunitychurch.org).

# FELLOWSHIP AND EDUCATION

## MENS BREAKFAST

The time for Men's Breakfast is changing! Now, we will meet on **Thursdays at 9:00 am**. Each week, the men of PRCC are invited to gather for a time of fellowship and checking in together, as we drink coffee or share a pastry. This social gathering is held in the church library and also on Zoom.



<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/92395329399?pwd=UmlINQlLzkoYjB3QVVaWlNQdUYrZz09>

Meeting ID: 923 9532 9399 Passcode: 461091

## CONTINUING ED OPPORTUNITY

### MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

Join us on Tuesday 10/26 from 7:30 – 9:00 pm in person and virtually to talk about mental health.

Dr. Gregory Sarlo will be leading a conversation on mental health, why it matters and how the impact of covid has affected so many of us with feelings of anxiety, depression, isolation and grief. All are welcome to participate in learning about the affects of covid on our spirits and ways to improve our own mental health.

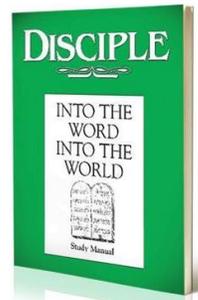
## MEDITATION AND YOGA

### Mondays & Tuesdays

We are back in the building! Our traditional yoga class is Monday evening at 7 pm and Chair Yoga is Tuesday morning at 10 am. See you there!



## BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES



### Tuesday Afternoon 1:30 pm

All are invited to join in *Disciple 2: Into the Word, Into the World* Bible study on Tuesday afternoons from 1:30-3:00 pm. We will meet in the library with masks and distance observed.

This study goes through Genesis and Exodus, then Luke and Acts. Pastor Carol and others lead this study.

### Thursday Evening 6:00 – 7:30 pm

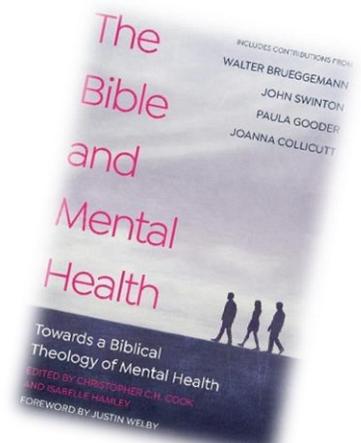
Join us for a 4 week study on Thursday evenings called "The Bible and Mental Health". All are invited to participate starting Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>. Mental illness, depression, anxiety, anger management issues – these are all found in the Bible! We will use a couple of case studies from the scriptures to consider mental health in the Bible, and put together a paradigm of wholeness and health based on scriptures in conversation with our own experiences. In this four week series, we will have opportunities for compassionate listening, truth-telling, and faithful theology around mental health.

If you have any questions or need more information, please connect with Pastor Carol or Liz Swanson

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83091129872?pwd=QXFCSDVsWEhvNWUxOU5XZFliNEVlZz09>

Meeting ID: 830 9112 9872

Passcode: 410792



# STEPHEN MINISTRY MESSAGE

By Jan Steiner

PRCC has offered Stephen Ministry for over 25 years! Imagine programming that is still going strong after such a long time. Our ministerial staff have each embraced this realizing how helpful it is to have someone walking with you through challenging times. The congregation has also embraced the program reaping the benefits of being heard in times of feeling inconspicuous.

As with many things, the Pandemic changed the way Stephen Ministers worked. We continued to meet via Zoom and now offer a hybrid version for those who can't attend in person. Meeting twice a month, continuing our education, learning how to help others in times of need is what we do.

Life is opening up for all of us and many opportunities have started to be available. The Crop Walk, Pumpkin Patch, Choir, Bible Study, Thursday night suppers, Service of Remembrance and the list goes on and on. For some of us the opportunities become overwhelming after a year of relative quiet. If you find the world around you is spinning out of control, and then you throw a job change, health issue or a broken relationship into the mix, you may decide it is time to talk with a Stephen Minister! They are trained to listen without judgement and to keep everything said in total confidentiality. If this sounds like a good idea for you, contact Pastor Carol, Liz Swanson to learn more about the program.

In the meantime, enjoy the month of gratitude and thanksgiving!





# FALL NEWS

## ARTS AND DÉCOR

Arts and Decor is seeking members to join its committee. Arts and Decor is responsible for the inside aesthetics of the rooms in our church. If interested contact the Arts and Decor chair at [marylynncollentine@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:marylynncollentine@parkridgecommunitychurch.org) Please reach out with any questions, thank you.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

As we move back into the building, please remember to grab your name tag! They're located at the top of the stairs coming up from the Butler Ave. entrance and in the Narthex. If you cannot locate your tag or you need one, please either fill out the "Need a Name Tag" form or let the Church Office know.

## Welcome Our New Members!

A special warm welcome to our newest PRCC members - Marilyn Sandnes, Carrie Stewart, and Jennifer Wang! We look forward to learning, growing, serving, and playing with you!

If there is anyone else interested in joining our church family (even if you've been attending for a very long time!), please contact Sara Born ([sara.born@hotmail.com](mailto:sara.born@hotmail.com)), Sue Douglass ([suedouglass@hotmail.com](mailto:suedouglass@hotmail.com)) or either of the two pastors.



# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

So many members and friends volunteer their time to our beloved church. We are grateful for each and every one of them. Some people we see and hear about all the time but there are others behind the scenes and we don't always know about all that they do. Each month in our Volunteer Spotlight we say thank you to an individual, couple or group for sharing their time and talents. This also gives us the opportunity to share with members and newcomers a little bit of information about what our "generous stewards of God's gifts" are doing here at PRCC.

*"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."*

Peter 4:10

**This month we recognize**

## Charlie Giera

Charlie has been a beloved member of Park Ridge Community Church for over 12 years. He is always eager to help and do what he can to make sure everyone has what they need. In fact, his headline should be, "How can I help?" since that's always his first question!

Charlie currently serves as a Deacon and an Usher on Sunday mornings. He is always excited to serve and embodies the importance of both of these ministries.

He is also an active participant at Kindred Spirits, adult Bible Studies, Lincoln Park Shelter, Thursday night Simple Supper, and, of course, is always there a little early to help set up and make sure we're ready to go!

You can spot him helping in the Sunday School wing, serving communion to the kids or helping to set up the classrooms. Charlie has been on several youth Mission Trips as a chaperone over the years. He often helps out with the Youth when he is able and is always a joy to have. You can also spot him at every Patch set up and tear down and there to help in between.

It is hard to find a ministry that Charlie has not helped in some way with. He is a joy in our Church Family, thank you Charlie for ALL that you do!





# FALL NEWS

## KINDRED SPIRITS CAFÉ AND BEYOND!

Kindred Spirits Café is open to anyone who has lunch time free each Tuesday! Come at noon or after chair yoga to eat and socialize in Jordan Hall. Please bring your sack lunch and we will provide dessert and beverages. You are welcome to come for Kindred Spirits Cafe and then stay for the afternoon Bible Study. Please contact Liz Swanson for more details.

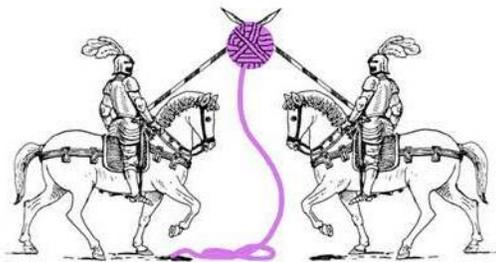
11/2 – Celebrate November birthdays and hear from Pastor Mollie

11/9 – Sharing 5 Wishes and other important information

11/16 – Community Service officer Peterson talking about staying safe

11/23 – **Happy Thanksgiving – No KSC**

11/30 - BINGO



**Knitting Knights**  
PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH



## KNITTING KNIGHTS

Thank you for all the donations to help support the Pumpkin Patch! The Knitting Knights group is working on outreach projects as well offering some holiday items for sale. Please join us Monday 11/8 at 7:00 in Jordan Hall to price items and take inventory. We are planning on offering holiday and warm winter items for sale on Sunday 11/4 after the 10:00 service. Reach out to Liz Swanson for more information.

# FALL NEWS



## CREATION CARE TEAM NEWS

Don't wishcycle, recycle! Whether you're at church or at home, recycling is the same. Here's a guide to help you:

### Recycling is part of the solution! Get it Right!

**PAPER**  
Office  
News  
Junk Mail  
Magazines  
Cartons  
Non-Waxed Boxes  
**Flatten Boxes**

**METAL**  
Steel Cans  
Aluminum Cans  
Foil Pans  
Aerosol Cans  
**Depressurize Aerosols**

**THINK Before You Throw!**  
Is it **EMPTY?** **CLEAN?** **LOOSE?** **DRY?**

**Close cart lid!**

**GLASS**  
Food/Bev.  
Bottles & Jars  
**NO Small Caps**

**PLASTIC**  
Bottles - Cap On  
Jugs - Jars - Tubs  
**NO Bags**  
**NO Foam**  
**DON'T Crush**

# MEET MORGAN!

Welcome Morgan Tone!

At the beginning of the summer, the Executive Committee indicated a desire to hire an additional Children's Minister to partner with Shelley in leading the Children's Ministry program. All the leadership agreed that a strong, vibrant Children's program was key to our current and future success as a congregation. We put job postings out on social media and on a variety of college, seminary, and local job boards. FINALLY, we came across Morgan's application and knew she was the perfect fit!

Starting October 1, Morgan has joined the Park Ridge Community Church staff team as Co-Director of the Children's Ministry. Morgan graduated from the University of Illinois at Chicago, specializing in Elementary Education. While teaching, she pursued her Masters in Educational Leadership from Concordia University. Morgan enjoys traveling and going to concerts in her free time. She and her husband, Ethan, have three children, Emmitt, Harper and Jack along with their dog, Kinnick.

Be sure to say hi on Sunday! Morgan can be reached by email at [sundayschool@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:sundayschool@parkridgecommunitychurch.org).



Thank you to everyone that baked treats, signed the banner, and helped us to celebrate the Park Ridge Police Department!



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

We have exciting news in Sunday School. Morgan Tone will be joining me as a Co-director of Children's Ministry. She will be joining me in all the Sunday School activities. Please be sure to read her biography and introduce yourself if you see her around. I'm excited for her to get to know all of our awesome families.

We will continue to meet for Sunday School during the 10:00 worship service. Being outside has worked well. I think we can continue to meet outside even if they move worship inside. We can wear jackets and sit outside until it gets too cold. Most families have expressed hesitation in moving inside, so let's stay outside. The way October has been going, it could be a long time we can stay out there.



## NURSERY CARE

There will be nursery care available for our youngest family members on Sundays during both services and Thursday nights from 6-9 to allow adults to go to bible study and choir.

## THURSDAY KIDS CLUB

Thursdays are now family night at church. While the adults and youth participate in their studies, the PK - 5<sup>th</sup> grade kids will have their own time. We will play games, do projects, learn stories, and do homework. Anything goes! I'd love to hear feedback from those planning to go about what you'd like to do. There will be nursery care available as well.

## OUTREACH

We will continue to collect offering from the children during Sunday School for our outreach projects. For the next six weeks, we will collect money and socks for The Night Ministry. We think it would be great if our kids could give back to other kids who are not as fortunate as themselves. We will collect money to purchase winter boots for kids which we know is so important in Chicago. Kids are also welcome to bring new socks in children or adult sizes. These will also be given to the homeless through The Night Ministry. We need to spread God's love with some warmth in this cold weather that is coming.

I am still looking for any adult wanting to have the fun and rewarding experience of guiding our Children in their faith journey in Sunday School. It's a lot of fun and the schedule can be flexible according to your availability. Feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions.

Shelley O'Brien & Morgan Tone

Directors of Children's Ministry  
[sundayschool@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:sundayschool@parkridgecommunitychurch.org)





*A Christian community for youth to belong, building supportive and meaningful relationships through social activities, service projects, and discussing relevant topics.*



**NOVEMBER YOUTH GROUP:**  
Sundays, 11:30am-1pm  
Lunch Included!  
Nov. 7: Patch Take Down  
Nov. 14: "Exodus" Refugee Simulation  
Nov. 21: No Youth Group  
Nov. 28: Lunch/Advent Kick-Off  
(games & small group hot topics)

**SIGHTS OF YOUTH GROUP, YOUTH LEAD, & CONFIRMATION!**

**YOUTH SUMMER 2022 MISSION TRIP**  
APPALACHIAN SERVICE PROJECT (ASP)

**WHEN:**  
JUNE 11-18, 2022

**WHO:**  
YOUTH WHO HAVE COMPLETED 6TH-12 GRADE

**WHERE:**  
CENTRAL APPALACHIA MOUNTAINS (EXACT LOCATION TBD LATE OCT.)

**COST:**  
\$350.00 PER YOUTH (Scholarships available)

Payment Schedule:  
Nov. 1: \$50.00  
March 1: \$175.00 (non-refundable)  
May 1: \$150.00 (non-refundable)

To sign up or for more information, please contact Pastor Mollie!  
[pastormollie@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:pastormollie@parkridgecommunitychurch.org)



# PUMPKIN PATCH



The Patch has continued to prove itself to be a magical place for all ages to gather! This year, we offered numerous new opportunities to reach out to the community, such as Rock the Patch, Kids in the Patch, Toddlers in the Patch, Square Dancing in the Patch, and an All-Youth Party in the Patch!

We made new connections to local businesses such as The Park Ridge Library, Dolcetti's, Sweet and Tart, Off the Wall, School of Rock, and the Glenview Squares!

## Some of the JOYS I will take away this year:

- Overhearing new parents connecting and exchanging phone numbers
- People of all ages inquiring information of our church
- Our youth engaging with the community, eager to wear THE pumpkin costume!
- Maine South and Boy Scout volunteers
- New business partnerships
- 95+ people for Toddlers in the Patch
- 140+ people for Kids in the Patch
- Hearing the Junior Choir sing in the Patch
- Knitting Knights items selling out FAST!
- Watching the Crop Walkers pass by
- Cindy leading kids in Yoga
- Luke rocking out in the Patch
- New yummy sweets and treat!
- Generous sponsors!
- Dan working a Bob Cat for the first time
- Bill and Lonnn guiding Dan!
- Kids finding "toads" made by Ann amongst the pumpkins
- And last, but not least, working alongside ALL OF YOU as you served and volunteered MANY hours to make it all happen!!!**

Our final numbers are still pouring in and I look forward to sharing them with you all in the December CCNews. I am proud of the Youth and their decision to donate to NAMI to support Mental Health and I am excited to travel with them to the Appalachian Mountains this Summer for our mission trip! Again, THANK YOU to everyone who supported and prayed for this year's Patch! It was truly magical!

Pastor Mollie

# OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE

**Jeanine Schultz School** in Park Ridge has an ongoing need for essential items, such as disinfectant wipes, paper towels, and hand sanitizer.

**Chicago Bridge Project** requests new or gently used men's and women's warm weather gear: coats, gloves, hats and blankets.

**The Night Ministry** has a need for winter boots for clients in their health outreach programs. The most requested sizes are men's size 8-13 and women's size 6-11. Boots may be brand new or gently used and in good condition. They are unable to accept boots with odor, missing laces or noticeable wear or scuffs. Our goal is 30 pairs of boots!

We realize that boots can be a costly item, so please consider sharing the cost with another PRCC family or member. Or if you are unable to purchase boots personally but would like to contribute, you may send a check to PRCC and we will do the shopping for you. Please write "BOOTS" in the memo on your check.

**Maryville's Unaccompanied Minor Program**, we dropped a carload of backpacks off. 100 in total = 48 of them were donated by the PRCC Yogis and the remaining were donated by congregation members and the outreach committee. Thanks to ALL who participated in supporting Maryville's Jen school and the refugee program.

Items for the **Chicago Bridge Project** and the **Night Ministry** will be collected through the end of January.

Thank you for your generous support of all our Community Outreach projects.



## New Outreach Partnership with Exodus World Service:

On Wednesday, October 13, the Outreach team had the privilege to learn about and hear from Exodus World Services. Exodus serves refugees who have been placed in local communities and we, as an Outreach Team, are excited to begin a partnership with them! There are many volunteer opportunities that we will be exploring and offering at the start of the 2022 new year! Such as:

- Cross-Cultural Training for all interested in serving/providing for refugee families
- Collecting items for a "Welcome to America! Pack"
- Connecting with Refugees through the New Neighbor programs

Be on the lookout for training dates for January 2022! This is such an important organization that helps Refugees find a new home, and more importantly, a place to belong. This partnership also seems very fitting for our congregational focus of creating a place of welcome and belonging to all we encounter! We look forward to sharing more in the coming months!

# OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

## Lincoln Park Community Services - November 4th

Three volunteers are needed to help prepare and cook a meal in the PRCC kitchen for Lincoln Park Shelter guests on Thursday, November 4th. Food preparation begins at 2:30 p.m. and we are usually finished by 4:30 p.m. Please sign up through the Sign Up Genius [HERE](#) or contact Luan Zoellner at [lzoellner@ameritech.net](mailto:lzoellner@ameritech.net) for more information. Thursday, December 2nd is our next meal preparation date. If you would like to volunteer for December, please sign up [HERE](#).

## Sunday Night Supper - November 21st

Three volunteers are needed to help assemble and deliver catered, pre-packaged meals to guests curbside at Park Ridge Presbyterian Church (1300 W. Crescent Av.) from 3:30-5:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 21st. If you are able to help, please sign up through the Sign Up Genius [HERE](#). If you cannot help in November, our next assigned date is Sunday, December 5th and you may sign up [HERE](#) for that date.

*Thank You*

# FALL 2021 SNAPSHOTS

September 11<sup>th</sup> Prayer Service



Kids in the Patch Event

Jr Choir at the Patch



Chief Kaminiski Visit



100 S. Courtland Ave  
Park Ridge, IL 60068

**First-class  
Postage  
Required  
---  
Place Stamp  
Here**



Contact Us:

847-823-3164

[office@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:office@parkridgecommunitychurch.org)

[parkridgecommunitychurch.org](http://parkridgecommunitychurch.org)

**Like us on Facebook!**

Our Staff:

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[pastorcarol@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:pastorcarol@parkridgecommunitychurch.org)

Pastor Mollie Foster, Associate Minister

[pastormollie@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:pastormollie@parkridgecommunitychurch.org)

Pastor Angie Do, Seminary Student Intern

[pastorangie@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:pastorangie@parkridgecommunitychurch.org)

Sasha Gerritson, Director of Music Ministries

[sasha@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:sasha@parkridgecommunitychurch.org)

Shelley O'Brien, Co-Director of Children's Ministries

[sundayschool@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:sundayschool@parkridgecommunitychurch.org)

Morgan Tone, Co-Director of Children's Ministries

[sundayschool@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:sundayschool@parkridgecommunitychurch.org)

Liz Swanson, Director of Pastoral Services

[liz@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:liz@parkridgecommunitychurch.org)

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