

THE PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH NEWSLETTER



JUNE 2021

Where Do We Go From Here?

By Tom Goodwin, Chair and Naomi Siebert, Vice-Chair

We are blessed to finally be coming out of our Covid year and be able to worship together in person outside under the tent! As a leadership team, we realized that we have some reconnection work to do; and to that end, we offered a congregational forum at our annual meeting on May 2, 2021. We heard much gratitude and some concerns.

To further the conversation, the leadership team committed to hold a series of three Tent Talks. The first was held on May 17, 2021. There were about thirty folks in attendance, as we provided another time of listening and sharing of gratitude, concerns, and hopes for the future. We were grateful for the honest communication. Unfortunately, we were disappointed that the guidelines for respectful sharing were broken during that gathering. In the future, any disrespectful or hurtful comments will be interrupted and redirected. We have the responsibility to ensure a safe and loving environment at our church for all of our staff, members, children, and visitors. If you would like to share a struggle weighing on your heart, we invite you to contact us directly by phone or email at leadership@parkridgecommunitychurch.org.

Alas, there is much work to be done. All of God's children have a role in showing love and respect to one another, and this starts at home with our family...our church family. We all need to step back and breathe in God's healing breath. Love cannot thrive and grow if there is intolerance and hatred.

As your leaders, we want you to know that our partnership with our ministers is rock solid, and we are grounded in their Biblical teaching and theological reflections that are guided by the Holy Spirit. We are also listening to you and want to work together to rebuild relationships that have been fragmented during our time apart.

As we prepare for the next Tent Talk on June 6, 2021 at 2 pm, we hope you will begin to ponder these questions:

- **Who is God leading PRCC to be in the year ahead?**
- **What events, studies or ministries do you dream of?**
- **In what ways can we reach out to our members and the wider community?**

Come to the big top ready to share what is on your heart in a safe and loving environment!

We also ask you to mark your calendar for the first discussion about the Open and Affirming (ONA) process that will take place on June 13, 2021, about 15 minutes after worship has concluded, in the tent. We will extend and uphold the guidelines for respectful sharing at that meeting as well. We further remind you that the Board of Directors that was in place prior to Pastor's Carol's call over three years ago, specifically set out the goal to pursue the ONA designation for our church. This Board was charged to find a pastor who would champion this ONA effort. We are fully supportive of this effort, and we encourage you to come out on June 13 and learn what the ONA process entails and what this will mean for our church.

We are called to be a light, not a judge. Just as uniquely as the Lord has gifted each of us, so we are encouraged to use these gifts to serve all of God's children. It might not be your personal calling to march against racial inequality or the rights of the LGBTQ community, and that's ok! Maybe your calling is to make care packages for those who live on the street or to knit warm mittens for those in need during the winter months. **All of our ministries are important, and it is vital that we serve as we are called.**

But we do not want to limit our congregation's possibilities for outreach to those who are in need of our love and support. We cannot deny the pull of the Holy Spirit on the hearts of those in our congregation who want to step out of their comfort zone to do something bigger than themselves. A one-size-fits-all ministry is not what the fabric of PRCC has been made of for these past 175 years, and we will not stifle the possibilities today. We desire for PRCC to be a leader in our community in considering difficult topics and exemplifying love in all we do! Jesus is our example and he did not shy away from ministering in difficult circumstances, and some of us are called to be a witness for change in the world. We celebrate the passion for social justice some experience, and there is room at PRCC for those who do not feel that same fervor.

So, where do we go from here? We prayerfully step into the future: learning, growing, serving, and playing faithfully! We go forward in love and commitment!

WORSHIP

ONLINE & IN-PERSON

www.parkridgecommunitychurch.org

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE WILL REMAIN ONE SERVICE AT 10 AM UNDER THE TENT. In case of poor weather, the service will move into the sanctuary.

June 6 - Breath of God: Fruits of Joy

Luke 15; Galatians 5:22-26

Holy Communion

Pastor Mollie Foster preaching

June 13 - Breath of God: Fruits of Kindness

Luke 5:17-26; Galatians 5:22-26

June 20 - Breath of God: Fruits of Goodness & Gentleness

Father's Day/ Folk Sunday

Exodus 3:1-20; Galatians 5:22-26

June 27 - Breath of God: Fruits of Love

Pet Blessing Sunday

Genesis 1:1-2:9; Galatians 5:22-26

WAYS TO WORSHIP

Beginning in June, we will no longer have a pre-recorded service. You are invited to worship with us online via our Livestream Service or in-person at 10 am. The Livestream service will be accessible on the church website, Facebook page, and YouTube channel for viewing live or anytime thereafter. Many thanks to everyone for participating in the worship survey. We discovered strong support for having one service for everyone to gather together outside.

COMMUNION

On Sunday, June 6, 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.*



PET BLESSING

Our annual Pet Blessing will be held on Sunday, June 27th at 10 am. All animals are welcome.

OFFICE HOURS AND BUILDING UPDATE:

We are continuing to strive to keep our congregation members and staff healthy. Beginning in June, some of the church groups will resume using the building for small group activities. **Mask policy:** Masks are required for all that enter the building, they may be removed by fully vaccinated individuals once you've reached your meeting space. **Building use:** If you need to come into the church building or would like to have a meeting, please contact Jaclyn at office@parkridgecommunitychurch.org and she will coordinate someone to meet you and maintain a log of persons who are in and out of the building just in case we need to alert individuals of a covid-positive presence. **New Office Hours:** In June, the Office will reopen part time: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9 am to 4 pm. **Tent use:** The tent is also opened for church group use, please reach out to Jaclyn to ensure it is not already in use by another event.

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
- Give electronically through [PayPal on our website](#) (FYI: the church incurs a fee with each PayPal transaction)

SUNDAY COFFEE ZOOMS

Sunday Coffee Zooms have concluded, thank you so much for all of your participation and enthusiasm. We have loved and cherished this time with you!

TENT TALKS

PRCC Leadership would love to chat with you! They are setting up monthly "tent talk" time, and all are welcome to stop by and chat about whatever is on your heart. **Tent Talks will be held June 6 at 2 pm; and July 17 at 4 pm.** If these times don't suit, feel free to suggest an alternate time to meet. You may also email all of them by sending an email to leadership@parkridgecommunitychurch.org.

OUR PRAYER MINISTRY

Prayer is an act of faith and trust that God hears us. As we experience the Fruit of the Spirit this month, we pray for the Spirit to intercede for us through our prayers “with sighs too deep for words.” With love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control, please include the following celebrations and challenges in your prayer time.

Continue to include in your prayers all those on our prayer ministry list: Heather Cannon, Erika Cornelisen, Kylie Figgins, Jon Forsythe, Edith E. Hurlburt, Tom Kopolnek, 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 May requests:

Life in the Resurrection

- Please hold Lois Zitoli and Jane Curry in your prayers as they are grieving the loss of loved ones.
- Former member Tammy Zorn passed away after a long battle with small cell lung cancer. Prayers for her children, Nic and Alex.
- Please hold the Moody family and friends in your prayers, as Jane Moody entered life in the resurrection on 5/20.
- Ginny Feurer's niece Tracy is asking for prayers for her friend Bill Fingl who entered Life in the Resurrection after a serious infection.

Healing and Recovery

- We celebrate with Jenny Sanderson that her friend Kevin is recovering well from his infection; Also, Jenny was offered a new job to begin next school year, and we celebrate the match with her skills and talents.
- Please continue to hold Kathleen Weller in your prayers as she deals with a difficult autoimmune disease and recently has had to address other medical issues.
- Jim Muenzer is very grateful for the prayers as he prepared for foot surgery is home and doing well.
- Please hold in your prayers friends of Kate Zoellner's, Erica as her battle with cancer continues, and Henry in the children's hospital, waiting to go home.
- Please join us in praying for those who are undergoing treatment of cancer - Erica, Evan Curtis, Caroline Dase, and others.
- Please hold in your prayers those who are struggling with depression and deep sadness.

- Jeanne Wells ask for prayers for the son of very good friends who is recovering from a stroke. Steve is 54 years old and had a massive stroke resulting in surgery and now is sedated and on a ventilator. Please hold Steve, his wife, 2 kids and all who love him in your prayers.
- Please hold in your prayers friends of Siri Nelson who have suffered the loss of both parents in just a few years, leaving a 22-year-old with three siblings.
- Kathy Davis asked us to pray for her cousin and goddaughter Peggy, who is 56 years old, had heart reconstruction surgery and is home recovering with a strong will to survive, but things are still quite fragile.
- Please continue to hold Pastor Carol's grandparents in your prayers as they settle into a new assisted living home in Rockford.
- Continue to pray for all those who are grieving.
- Continue to pray for those facing ongoing illness.
- We pray for those suffering with Covid-19, particularly our sisters and brothers in India.
- We pray for those suffering from violence in Russia, Palestine, Israel, Afghanistan, and beyond.
- Keep Fred Flener in our prayers as he battles a few serious health challenges, and prayers for the family as they juggle being together and apart.

Joys

- We celebrate being able to gather together for worship and the peace that comes from physically being together in community.
- We celebrate with the Williams family on a successful move into the city, celebrating also the blessings they have been and continue to be in this community of faith.
- We celebrate the Annual Meeting and the authentic conversation shared, opening our hearts to one another as we move forward into the year ahead. We pray for Tom Goodwin, Naomi Siebert, and our church leadership as conversations continue in helping our congregation be the most loving, Spirit-filled church we can be.
- We celebrate Kevin Plach, who was awarded the Eric Nelson scholarship and pray for his next year at Oakton.
- We celebrate the healthy conversations being held, and for our tent talks with Board Leaders and Pastors.
- We pray over Jaimie and Josh, who were married on May 21 with Pastor Carol officiating.

Community

- We pray for a few of the families in PRCC who are preparing for or in the middle of moving. The physical and emotional work of moving is grueling, and prayers for strength, patience, endurance, and abiding love with each one remains.



CONNECTIONS AND CARE

PRCC is a connected and caring faith community. This temporary time of social distancing and sheltering in place results in a lot of physical isolation. We want to stay connected with you! Please let us know how you are and what your prayer needs might be. If you would like a phone call or need something we can help with, please call or email the church office. If you are willing to make some calls and share your cheerful voice with someone, please let Liz Swanson know. We miss being together and look forward to the time we can all be back together to serve others and worship God. In the meantime, know you are loved, valued and we are connected in Spirit!

WEEKLY NOONTIME HANGOUTS

Anyone and all are welcome to join in Wednesday at noon! Pastor Mollie guides our time together. Participants can eat lunch and engage as you like!

June Meetings:

6/2: No Meeting

6/9: Meeting IN PERSON under the Tent

June 16, 23, 20: Meet via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/91239346091?pwd=R3ZWSWdHWG85a1Q5b1AzbXJ6OXpjZz09>

Meeting ID: 912 3934 6091 Passcode: 62285

BIBLE STUDY THANKS!!

Many thanks to all the participants in Bible Study over the last year. We have explored scripture together and learned more than we could have anticipated! Weekly Bible Study will take a break until the Fall, but if you need a resource for a devotion or a study you can do independently, please ask Pastor Carol, Pastor Mollie, or Liz Swanson!



JUNE BIRTHDAYS:

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

- 6/1 Kent Wehman
- 6/3 Paul Battaglia
- 6/4 Allison Hennessy
- 6/6 Tom Biedke; Kelly McKenns
- 6/9 Jack Tilley
- 6/10 Colleen Moriarty
- 6/11 Emily Solomon
- 6/12 Winston Williams
- 6/13 Cliff Stettler
- 6/15 Jenny Sanderson
- 6/18 Reggie Pantazi
- 6/18 Mary Biardo
- 6/19 Winnie Ericksen; Grace Curtis
- 6/20 Cathy Stewart; Andrew Chandler
- 6/21 John Burke; Aiden Chacko; Grant Gudmundsson
- 6/22 Cindy Klimmeck; Alexia Salamone
- 6/23 Herb Zuegel; Robert Huening
- 6/24 Dianne Meltreger; Sarah Pachowicz; Tom Goodwin
- 6/26 Nancy Ady; Patricia Battaglia
- 6/28 Thomas Battaglia
- 6/29 Helen Patazi; Pastor Carol Hill

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!

STEPHEN MINISTRY

MESSAGE: Invisibility

"I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

Genesis 28:15

In her book [A Woman of No Importance](#), author Sonia Purnell tells the story of Virginia Hall:

American spy Virginia strove for years to apply her gifts and passion to foreign/diplomatic service for the US, a dream which was continually thwarted, as systems relegated her to clerical work deemed appropriate for a woman, let alone a young woman with a physical disability, despite her talents and abilities. She was viewed as a demographic, with clearly defined career parameters. The true Virginia, a woman of keen intelligence, fierce persistence, and incredible courage, was invisible to her superiors. Ironically, Virginia ultimately and against all odds, became "the spy who helped win WWII," a role in which her ability to maintain invisibility was essential.

During a year of quarantine and sheltering in place, we have probably all experienced the longing to be seen and heard, and to see and hear others. But maybe we've also had days when low visibility seemed a more comfortable choice. An introverted friend told me she can't wait to go to a block party. I have extroverted friends, who typically make sure their calendars are jam packed, express a new desire to leave blanks on the calendar for quiet evenings at home. We have all been affected in different ways. Quarantine has resulted in a myriad of experiences, including many kinds of loss: of loved ones, health, jobs, relationships, as well as loneliness, stress from work/family life balance, and fear of the future. It's hard to imagine processing any of it by oneself, without the opportunity to reveal what may be an invisible struggle.

Harry Potter fans know all about the invisibility cloak, which helped Harry to discover and piece together the clues he needed to thwart evil. There are times when we can hide behind the cloak of invisibility that we ourselves fashion, to hide our pain from others, or even from ourselves.

According to Margaret Feinberg in her book [More Power to You](#), --If anyone in the Bible would feel invisible, it's Hagar, an Egyptian slave of Abraham and the barren Sarah, who devise the plan for Abraham to impregnate Hagar and thus "assist" God in fulfilling his promise to make Abraham a father of many nations. Once pregnant, Hagar is seen as a slave, not as a woman. She is mistreated, and her name is unspoken. Hagar flees to the wilderness, but God meets her there. God's angel calls her by name, and lovingly asks her where she comes from and where she is going. Hagar uses a name for God that is only found in her story: [El Roi](#), which means "the God who sees me." Hagar receives the hope of God's promise for her future.

Hagar was never invisible to God, and neither are we. David describes it this way in Psalm 139: 1-3:

You have searched me, LORD,
and you know me.
You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar.
You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.

We may laugh at our young kids or grandkids when they cover their faces with their hands, announcing: "you can't see me!" Of course, they can't wait to be "found." But I have been on many a zoom call where someone, including me, has chosen to hear and to see, but not to be seen. It may be a bad hair day, or a sad spirit day. Invisibility can be an appealing choice. Have you ever responded to the polite greeting, "How are you?" with the stock, "I'm fine...how are you," even when you are anything but fine? Part of you wants to cover the eyes of your aching soul, but maybe part of you longs for someone to see behind the protected eyes, and ask a heartfelt, "How are you, really?" Maybe part of you wants to be "found." I have a dear one or two who know the minute they see me if I am troubled about something. Everyone should have that person with the X-ray vision that sees the hidden stress, fear, loneliness, or sadness.

If there is no one with X-ray vision in your proximity, we have a host of trained and committed listeners, who "see" much in the listening, and who will invite you to trade your invisibility cloak for God's mantle of hope. If you would like to speak with a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Carol, Liz Swanson, (847-823-3164) or Ginny Feurer, (847-840-7082)

Katie Reboletti

LOOKING, PLANNING, & HOPING

By Rev. Carol Hill

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a future with hope." Jeremiah 29:11

The Summer is the time when I look at the year ahead and start putting events and dates on the calendar. I print out the school calendars and mark the days off for holidays and teacher in-service days. I mark holy days and seasons like Advent, Lent, Easter, Christmas, Pentecost, Mother's Day, Father's Day, etc. I meet with our Worship Planning team and brainstorm sermon series, meet with Finance and pencil in dates for Stewardship, and the year starts to take shape. It's a time ripe with possibilities, filled with hope, and guided by a TON of prayer! I bounce ideas off staff and members who may think they have stopped by church for a reason other than to hear my latest brainstorm. I read books and reviews of books to highlight areas that might be significant for us to study and learn more. It's a whole process...a process that is only just beginning in June.

So, here's a SNEAK PEAK into some of what's germinating in my Spirit as I think about the year to come...your reactions and insights are welcome!

SUMMER 2021: We will continue with one service at 10 am. Having more people together at one service rather than spread between two services will foster reconnection, new relationships to form, and help to amplify the momentum that is building at "being back!" We will launch some outdoor programming, including Kids' Club during Worship, VBS, and Fellowship is planning some Movies in the Tent. Sermon Series will be Fruit of the Spirit (June); The Gospel According to Disney (July); and Happy Campers (August). August, may include a singing at the campfire night...we have the tent after all!

FALL 2021: The Fall should see a return to more "normalcy" with two worship services beginning after Rally Sunday (Sept. 12). Plans for Rally Day include the

Wehman Band, cornhole tournament, and multi-generational activities. The Sermon Series/ Worship Focus to be "Welcome Home!" which will launch a year-long theme on Home-coming. There is potential for church-wide mission projects to build homes or sign up to become Foster families, and generally consider the realities of those who are missing a home. A focus of ministries will include healing the wounds of the last year, as individuals, as a church family, as a nation. I imagine Bible Studies, Sermons, special guests to potentially address mental health, and healing our souls. A Couples' Retreat will take place offsite to hear testimony about amazing marriages, bolster communication/conflict resolution skills, and reconnect with your special someone...one idea is to begin the retreat on a Friday night and conclude with a Vow Renewal/Service of Re-Commitment on Sunday morning, with organized time, time for personalized counsel, relaxation time, and free time.

WINTER 2021: Music, Music, Music I am hoping for an Advent and Christmas season to remember, where we make up for lost time in allowing the music to soothe our souls and lift us up!

SPRING 2022: We will dive into an educational series about the United Church of Christ, PRCC's affiliation with the UCC, and how a Congregational polity frees us to faithfully follow God's prompting, while also having resources of being connected to a denominational body.

We are still thinking through Young Adult Ministries, developing multiple courses for deepening your spiritual practices...the list goes on and on and on...what is God saying to you? I'd love to hear the prompting in your heart! Together, we look, plan, hope, and dream about the future of PRCC!

WELCOME BOARD MEMBERS!!

At our June 15th Board of Directors Meeting, we will give thanks for the ministries of Board Members who have concluded their time of service and welcome incoming Board Members. These leaders will all be recognized and blessed during worship on June 6 as we transition. Our June 15th Board Meeting will be held in person under the tent.

SPRING NEWS



KINDRED SPIRITS CAFÉ AND BEYOND!

Kindred Spirits Café is open to anyone who has an hour free on Tuesday's at noon. We have different opportunities for programs in person and virtually. Join us in June in the following ways:

6/1 – Celebrating June birthdays with Sasha. (Zoom Only)

6/8 – Cathy Thompson will tell us about the library summer reading programs. (In-Person & Zoom)

6/15 – Share your reading recommendations (Zoom Only)

6/22 – Leadership will join us and share all the updates on church news. (In-Person & Zoom)

6/29 – Bingo (In-Person Only)

<https://zoom.us/j/92014175334?pwd=Njd2UXpkNOpMVOdSYTdScWhnankxdz09>

Meeting ID: 920 1417 5334 Passcode: 994443 Dial in: +1 312 626 6799 US

If you can't make Kindred Spirits Café on Tuesdays, stop by Thursday, 6/3 and 6/24 from 11:00 to noon to see Liz Swanson in the Park Place Room. Come to pick out a book to read, drop off outreach donations or just chat and catch up.

SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM

The next Open and Affirming discussion will be after the 10 am service on June 13th under the tent!

The SJT recently filmed some responses to questions being posed regarding the ONA process, if you'd like to view those answers, [CLICK HERE](#). There will also be another Panel Discussion in mid-August, as well as a World-Café event to talk about the formal process of becoming ONA.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL – SATURDAY 6/5 AT 11:00 AM

Senior Contact Group will be hosting an ice cream social on Saturday June 5th from 11:00 am to noon. Come to the Antique Fair in Hodges Park and then stop by for an ice cream treat. In order to keep the ice cream fresh and from melting we will be in Park Place Room with the door and windows open and some tables for comfortable seating. Please join us for a time of catching up with each other and sharing a sweet treat.



KNITTING KNIGHTS

The Knitting Knights are busy using up a large supply of donated yarn. Are you looking for a handcrafted gift for a new baby? If so, the Knitting Knights have a great selection. Talk with Liz Swanson for more information or join us in person on Saturday 6/19 from 11:00 am – 12 pm under the tent. We are happy to share some stories with you and would love to have all levels of crafters join us: those currently crocheting or knitting, those who used to craft or those who dream of making things with yarn.



SPRING NEWS



CREATION CARE TEAM

Hello from the Creation Care Team!

We met in April and May via Zoom and had productive meetings. We have been discussing what we can do to help PRCC be more caring of God's gift of this great Earth.

Here's what we are working on and hope to make some changes once we are back in our church building regularly:

1. We'd like to reduce the use of disposable plastic and paper products, ie. water bottles, coffee cups, small plates, etc. To do this, we will be encouraging members to bring their own reusable water bottles or coffee containers. We are looking into purchasing a dishwasher that could be used on a daily or as needed basis so we could use regular ceramic coffee mugs, water glasses, silverware, etc.
2. We'd like to do a better job of recycling. To do this we'll work on a campaign to help educate members what can be recycled and we're also looking into different options for trash and recycling containers.
3. We'd like to reduce the amount of food waste at church and also work on keeping food waste out of the trash. We are looking into the possibility of creating an outdoor yard compost bin at church for food waste.
4. We're looking into what other local churches are doing in relation to environmental sustainability.

The members of our team are: Ginny Jacobson, Sharon Kemmerer, Bill Barsanti, Liz Swanson, Karen Heckmann, Karen Nelson, Bob Mack, Mike Laginess, Jenny Sanderson, Cathy Thompson, Cathy Stewart and Tricia Williams.

What do you think of these ideas? Maybe you want to join our team?

[CLICK HERE](#) for a video on Composting

MEDITATION AND YOGA

Yoga is back in person! The Monday night class will resume in the Great Hall at 7 pm with a few changes: Masks are now required on your way to and from the gym, and Yogis will be spaced out, look for the blue tape! Chair Yoga is also back, at 10:15 am in the Great Hall.

Yoga Nidra is now available 24/7 via a recorded link!

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/dpj5scF8taGoSxK2pTcQ9u6mUGamhPskzE_UsAtK83yCNqZQFVbjv3YH4pO5tdO4.xPp1cnobOAKBVVXv Passcode: UdY.c1E5

FELLOWSHIP MOVIE NIGHTS!

People of all ages are invited to our Summer Movie Nights under the big tent! So, bring your chairs, blankets, and friends! Feel free to bring your own snacks and beverages! The Fellowship Team will be selling popcorn and candy! Movies will begin at 7:45 pm.



June 18: *Soul* (1hr 40min)

July 16: *Aladdin* (2019) (2hr 8min)



August 20: *E.T.* (1hr 54 min)



FOLK SUNDAY June 20th 10 am

Mark Holihan
Bob Mack
Tom Goodwin
Bruce Nelson

Nothing More



*Stories of Enlightenment from the voices of
Park Ridge Community Church*

June 18, 2021 7pm

TDC Studios

4330 Di Paolo Center Ct, Glenview



TRIFECTA DANCE
COLLECTIVE

ONE NIGHT ONLY

"Nothing More" presents the enlightened voices of the Park Ridge Community Church congregation through dance. The Trifecta Dance Collective, a professional contemporary dance company, is honored to bring the stories to life through movement. The performance will take place at 7pm on June 18 at the Trifecta Studios (4330 Di Paolo Center Ct, Glenview). Tickets can be purchased on the link below. LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE!

[CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS](#)

SPRING NEWS



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

The Welcome and Membership Committee will be working over the coming months to determine who from our congregation is active either in-person or remotely and who we need to reach as we re-open. Please encourage your PRCC friends to return to worship if they have been disconnected over the past year! Invite someone to join you on the lawn or in the building as we are able to gather together! Our committee welcomes visitors and also supports the needs of our current membership. If you have any questions or feedback for our committee, please contact Sue Douglass or Sara Born (or the church office to reach us).

WALKING VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers needed to lend an arm to anyone who might need a little support walking across the grass to the tent. We have a few members who find walking across the grass a bit difficult and would appreciate having a supportive presence next to them as they make their way to the worship area under the tent. Some might like an arm to hold on to or help carrying their chair. Others come without chairs so help setting out some chairs is also appreciated.

If you are available and able to help, please gather at the garage at 9:45 am to set up 6 folding chairs with arms. Then wait on the concrete next to the parking lot to be on the lookout for anyone who might appreciate someone to walk with. Please also check in with them after the service to walk them back to solid ground. If you have any questions, just reach out to Liz Swanson.

Sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E094BAEAB2DA4FB6-walking>

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

**SUE
DOUGLASS!**



Sue has been an active PRCC member for many years. She and her husband, Dave, raised their three children at PRCC and now their daughter Sara Born and her husband John are raising their three children here as well. Sue is currently serving as co-chair of the Membership and Welcoming Committee with her daughter Sara co-chairing with her. How fun is that?!

You probably know that Sue is an accomplished pianist and shares her musical talents with us often but did you know that she has also been filling the role of organist for quite some time as well? During the pandemic, Sue was often the musician behind the scenes on our Sunday morning worship videos.

Sue served on the Nominating Committee this year and worked diligently talking with members about where they might be called to serve our congregation.

We are so appreciative of Sue and the gifts she shares with us here at PRCC.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Shelley O'Brien has taken a brief leave of absence to spend time with her family and focus on their needs over the summer. If you have any questions or concerns about the Children's Ministry, please direct them to Pastor Mollie.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2021

Discovery on Adventure Island

June 14th – 17th

3:30-5:30 pm

Join us OUTSIDE, under the Big Tent!

Pre-K to 5th Grade

At Discovery on Adventure Island VBS, your students will enjoy an interactive, energizing, Bible-based good time on their quest for God's great light. They will become Explorers and discover how God's light shines on us and how we can reflect that light as we live each day.

After a high-energy Opening Assembly time, the Explorers make their way to the Bible Story Station. Interactive Bible lessons reveal Pathfinders to equip your Explorers for an active life with God. Your Explorers will also discover our Signal Verse (Bible memory verse), which will remain with them in their faith long after VBS.

The students will expand on what they've discovered by making their own art projects at the Craft Station, singing new songs at the Music Station, exploring the wonders of God's creation at the Science Station, playing games at the Recreation Station, and enjoying tasty treats at the Snack Station. Along the way, the Explorers will hear about our mission project and as they respond to a call for action!

Join us as we discover God's great light at Adventure Island!

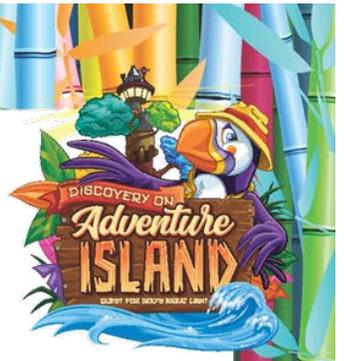
Youth and Adults! Want to volunteer? Contact Pastor Mollie!
There will be a Volunteer Meeting under the tent on Sunday, June 6th at 3:30pm
(following the Tent Talks)

Register Here: <https://prcc.mycokesburyvbs.com/>

Contact Pastor Mollie for more info:

pastormollie@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

**Arise! Shine! Your light has come; the LORD's
glory has shone upon you! (Isaiah 60:1)**



YOUTH NEWS



CONFIRMATION RE-CAP

On May 23rd, eight students were confirmed and welcomed as new members of PRCC! These students adapted to many challenges while meeting in person outside in the cold and heat and via Zoom when the weather was just unbearable! Over the past two-three years, these students have grown tremendously, providing great hope not just for the future, but today! Please congratulate these amazing students for their dedication to growing in their faith! Eddy, Logan, Aria, Alena, Katie, Sydney, Eli, and Kiera.

A special "Thank You" to the mentors who played such a crucial role in the growth of our students!
Paula Mack, Bob Mack, Siri Nelson, Rick Benedetto, Jim Pantazi, Sandy Bowen, and Ann Swindell.



SUMMER YOUTH GROUP

During the summer months, Youth Group will move to Wednesday nights to accommodate weekend travel! Our time together will consist of creating Corn Hole/Bag sets for Rally Day, games, and snacks! Youth will meet on the Carriage House Driveway on the following dates from 6:30-8:00 pm:
June 9 & 30
July 7, 21, 28

All Youth are encouraged and invited to volunteer June 14-17 from 3:30-5:30 pm as Vacation Bible School helpers! If interested, contact Pastor Mollie:
pastormollie@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

YOUTH MISSION EXPERIENCE: Aug. 3-5 ALL DAY!

Youth will be serving local non-profits and our neighbors with home projects! If your home is in need of a simple repair, paint, window cleaning, yard work, etc (or you know someone in need), please contact Pastor Mollie!

We will end the service experience with an ALL Youth Swim Party at Hinkley Pool from 7:00-9:00pm. Youth (even if they cannot attend service days) are invited and encouraged to invite their friends!

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

Eric Biedke

Eric is graduating from Maine South on May 22! He is still on wait lists at Northwestern and Washington University, but is excited to have accepted admission at University of Iowa, to study Astronomy, Physics, Astrophysics, and more!



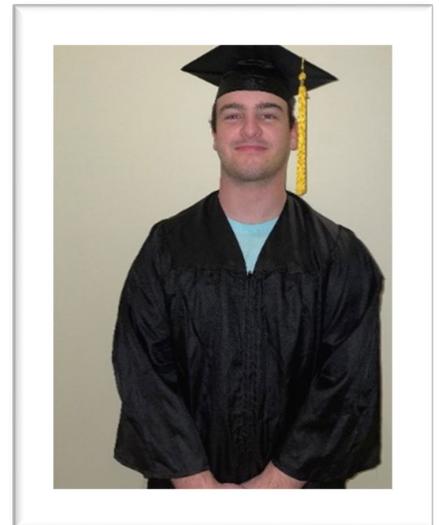
Mark Biedke

Mark will graduate from Northwestern University's School of Education & Social Policy, with a degree in math education. He's currently looking for a teaching job for Fall 2021.



Luke Naudzius

Luke graduating from UIC with a Bachelor in Business Administration, making the Dean's list! Luke will stay in the area and has already started working for a data storage company.

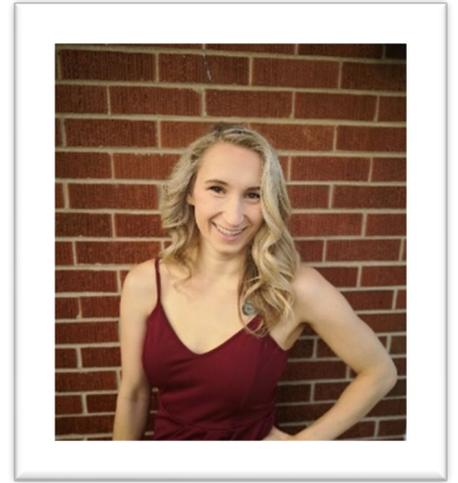


Molly O'Brien

Molly has been at PRCC her whole life! She plays softball, loves yoga and meditation, loves her family and church family. She'll be going to University of Colorado Springs in the fall. Majoring in Psychology with a minor in criminal justice. She would like to work with youth in the juvenile detention system because she believes in the good of all people, especially the young and thinks she can help them realize their true potential.

Sarah Odeshoo

Sarah's MA is in Industrial and Organizational Psychology from Elmhurst College, and she will be starting my MBA in the fall of 2021! Sarah is currently serving as a Stephen Minister.



Kevin Plach

Kevin is graduating from Niles West HS. Will attend Oakton Community College majoring in HVAC. Will also play baseball for Oakton.



Megan Wilcox

Megan Wilcox is graduating from Syracuse University, College of Visual and Performing Arts with a bachelor of Fine Arts degree. Megan was featured in the Syracuse Showcase 2021, and was able to virtually portray Bridget from Heartbreak County. Following graduation, Megan will pursue a career in theater and the arts as a New York City based actor, singer, and model. Megan is eager to start collaborating with artists who also want to tell impactful and honest stories that inspire audiences to live more passionate and compassionate lives.



OUTREACH NEWS

Questions about any of these outreach opportunities can be directed to outreach@parkridgecommunitychurch.org.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE

OUTREACH PARTNERS

As schools are resuming in-person learning, our partners have some new and specific needs. We will collect the items listed below for our outreach partners: Jeanine Schultz Memorial School in Park Ridge, Maryville Academy's Jen School in Des Plaines, and The Bridge Project. All items may be dropped off in the appropriate labeled bins in the Park Place Room.

Clothing - New, Unopened Adult Undergarments

Men's underwear – Medium, Large and XLarge (boxers or briefs)

Men's T-shirts – Medium, Large and XLarge

Women's underwear – Medium, Large

Cleaning Supplies

Hand Sanitizer – Large

Disinfectant Wipes

Individual Kleenex Boxes

Paper Towels

Multipurpose Cleaning Spray

Protective Gloves

School Supplies - Middle School and High School Students

Backpacks

Ball Point Pens – Black, Blue, Red, Purple, Green

Pencils, Erasers and Sharpeners

Mechanical pencils, Colored pencils

Highlighters and Markers

Spiral notebooks and Composition books

Loose leaf paper and computer paper

Ruler - metric measurements

Pocket folders

Index cards, ruled and unruled

Calculators

CANS OF CARE

We are still collecting food donations at the PRCC members' homes listed below, all located in Park Ridge. Each house has a large, labeled Cans for Care bin in front, so you can drop non-perishable items any day and anytime at your convenience. Food donations may also be dropped off in the Park Place Room.

Monetary Gifts

If you're unable to shop but still wish to give, we can do the shopping for you! You may U.S. mail a check*, drop off a check* in the mail slot on the Courtland side of PRCC, or give online through the PRCC website.

* Please be sure to make a note on the MEMO LINE of your check: *Community Outreach*

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY SERVICES

Prepare various parts of a meal in your home that will serve 35 people at Lincoln Park Shelter and/or volunteer to deliver the meal on our assigned date. Our next assigned dates are **Thursday: June 3rd, July 1st, and August 5th.**

If you can help, please visit [PRCC website](#) to avoid duplication of efforts/food selection.

Questions about any of these outreach opportunities can be directed to outreach@parkridgecommunitychurch.org.

Thank You!!

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in and contributed to the outdoor Baby Shower on Sunday, May 16th!

Our collection bin was overflowing with diapers, baby wipes, onesies, socks, undies and much more. In addition, we received gift cards and monetary contributions that will also support the Maryville Crisis Nursery, Mom's Recovery, and Casa Imani.

The collection bin and gift card box will remain in the Park Place Room for anyone who still wishes to donate. We anticipate delivering all shower gifts to Maryville the week of May 23rd.

Thanks again for the outpouring of love and support.

The Community Outreach Committee



MAY SNAPSHOTS:



The Big Top!



Annual Meeting 2021



Ellinger Stained Glass
Restoration Complete-
Thank you Tom K.!

Final Confirmation Class
2021





Youth Garden progress!





100 S. Courtland Ave
Park Ridge, IL 60068

**First-class
Postage
Required**

**Place Stamp
Here**



Contact Us:

847-823-3164

office@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

parkridgecommunitychurch.org

Like us on Facebook!

Our Staff:

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pastorcarol@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

Pastor Mollie Foster, Associate Minister

pastormollie@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

Sasha Gerritson, Director of Music Ministries sasha@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

Shelley O'Brien, Director of Children's Ministries sundayschoool@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

Liz Swanson, Director of Pastoral Services liz@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

Jaclyn Weir, Parish Coordinator office@parkridgecommunitychurch.org