

THE PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH NEWSLETTER

November 2019



Over the past year, I have striven to learn about Park Ridge Community Church - each individual, the committees and teams, your families' generations, the history of the church, and some of your hopes and dreams for the years ahead! It has been an honor to spend time in ministry alongside you, considering some of life's most challenging questions and some of our deepest questions of faith. I have gotten to pray for you, visit with you in your homes and in the hospital, enjoy a glass of wine over a meal, laugh about children's shenanigans, and dream of air conditioning! I have been chastised for overuse of exclamation points, have traveled with our staff to the wilds of Wisconsin, and driven home from New York with a youth mission team with very tiny bladders. We have exchanged stories and tears, grieved for loved ones lost, marched together advocating for justice and shared some vulnerable, holy moments. You have welcomed my family and me into the Park Ridge Community Church fold and accepted me as your Senior Minister - and I am grateful beyond belief. Thank you. Truly, thank you.

Before we came to PRCC, you spent time in a World Cafe' sharing some of your values as a church and what you felt were some of your greatest needs. You worked with Pastor David, Chris and Kathy Chandler, and your Structure and Vision Teams to come up with where you felt God was calling you as a church. Here's where you landed:

Celebrating unity in Christ, diversity in faith in our worship by...Learning, Growing, Serving, and Playing.

In Rachel Held Evans' book *Evolving in Monkey Town*, she considers the importance of community. She writes, "Maybe God left us with all this discontinuity and conflict within Scripture so that we would have to pick and choose for the right reasons. Maybe he let David talk about murdering his enemies and Jesus talk about loving his enemies because he didn't want to spell it out for us. He wanted us to make the right decisions as we went along, together. Maybe God wants us to have these discussions because faith isn't just about being right; it's about being a part of a community."

I am so thankful to be a part of a community that is intentional about learning together, wrestling with scripture. We grow together, through worship and life together. We serve together, responding to the needs of one another and the world around us. We serve in mission endeavors near and far. And we play together, building a community that we can trust and count on throughout every stage in life. **As a people of faith, we are learning, growing, serving, and playing.**

I would add that we do it all in LOVE. I have been amazed by your capacity to love. You love this church. You love one another. You love the children. You love the community. You love strangers at Lincoln Park, Maryville Academy, Maine Township Food Pantry, and Honduras. I experience the outpouring of LOVE at Kindred Spirits Cafe', at Bible Study, through Stephen Ministry, Sunday School teachers, yoga, and even meetings! This is a community of faith, devoted to loving God and loving through everything we do. What a gift!

November is Stewardship Month (yes, it's a month later than it's typically been due to our series on diversity of faiths). We are going to consider what we can commit to giving in the year ahead - all of us: children, youth, and adults. Everyone can learn about our ministries and sign up for new ways to serve at the Ministry Fair on November 10th! Some of the ministry areas are getting really excited and ambitious in their dreaming...and we are praying that the commitments of our congregation will support those big dreams. It takes all of us giving our time, talents, and treasure to accomplish the ministries of this church!

The Finance team wondered about possibilities and what could happen if every person chose to take a step forward in their giving - serving in a new area, giving a little more offering, attending a new study...how might our church and community and world might be impacted? I don't have many certainties, but I believe that when we step forward in faith, God can use us and our gifts in ways we never imagined. The Bible is filled with stories of people saying yes to God then being blown away by what God was able to accomplish. I hope that together we might step forward in faith and in love, and find that God continues to surprise us with what God can do!

Grateful to be stepping with you,
Pastor Carol



WORSHIP

WORSHIP WITH US IN NOVEMBER

Let All You Do Be Done in Love

November 3 **Learn:** *Mark 12:28-34*
(Food Collection) Holy Communion
All Saints Day
Stewardship Message
Daylight Savings Ends
Service of Remembrance at 7:30 pm

November 10 **Grow:** *Mark 4: 26-32*
Stewardship Message
Ministry Fair
Pastor Mollie's Install at 5:00 pm

November 17 **Serve:** *Mark 19:17-31*
Stewardship Message
Youth Group

November 24 **Play:** *Mark 2:18-22*
Consecration Sunday
ONE Service at 10:00 am
(followed by lunch)
Kids Club

- Nursery Care is available each Sunday for infants through 5 years.

SERVICE OF REMEBRANCE

On Sunday November 3rd at 7:30 pm, there will be a special service to honor the memories of loved ones within our church family who have died during the past year. The names of those who will be honored are listed on the following page, if you have someone you would like to include in this service, please alert the Church Office or Liz Swanson.

CONSECRATION SUNDAY

As has been our wonderful tradition, we will worship together on Consecration Sunday, **Sunday, November 24th, 2019 at 10:00 am**. All will be invited on that day to pledge our gifts of gratitude for God's blessings and to God's work for us as a family of faith, our community and the world. After the service, we will gather together for a catered lunch to celebrate God's gifts. All are welcome.

PASTOR MOLLIE'S INSTALLATION SERVICE

Pastor Mollie's Installation Service will be held on November 10th at 5:00 pm. This very special service will feature guest speakers, the Angeli Choir, and the official installation of Pastor Mollie as our Associate Minister! The whole church is encouraged to attend. The service will be followed by a meal in Jordan Hall hosted by the Associate Search Committee. Please RSVP to the Church Office or respond to the Evite that was sent out by November 1st.



MINISTRY FAIR

November 10th in the Great Hall

Following both services on Sunday, November 10th, join us in the Great Hall for the 2019 Ministry Fair! The Hall will be filled with information and ideas for how to best use your talents here at PRCC and beyond. Our committees and Board Leaders will be present to tell you more about the many ways you can become engaged in the life of the church.

PARK RIDGE ECUMENICAL COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

This year PRCC will host the community Thanksgiving Service Tuesday, November 26th at 7:30 pm! Rev. Amanda Joria will preach, and a combined Community Choir will lend their voices. This will be a moving, heartfelt community event with light refreshments served after. As hosts, PRCC is encouraged to bring dessert to share.



2019

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

All Saints Day is Sunday, 11/3 and our traditional Service of Remembrance will be 7:30 pm in the sanctuary. All are welcome to attend this meaningful service to honor the memory of your loved one who entered life in the Resurrection over the last year. Below are those to be named, please take this time to review spelling or to add any additional information. If your loved one is not listed and you would like to include them, please contact the office.



Annette Adamczyk	David Hibbard	Pat Nelson
Mary Beall	John Hoffman	Gus Nicolopoulos
Janice Berg	Judy Jolie	Kelly O'Donnell
Ken Brat	Jim Kaiser	Drason Pace
Martha Bridges	Jerry Katzer	Bonnie Palumbo
Janis Browning	Fred Keady	Mel Pirok
Sevryn Bruyn	Lee Konken	Robert Pritz
Denise Cenedella	Mary Ann Lagoni	Jim Reeder
Rev. Alison Cheek	Irma Lambert	Corry Regnier
Mary Alice Dixon	Armand Landerghini	Celia Sciurba
Bob Douglass	Bobby Larsen	Doris Siegel
John Douglass	Matt Mantell	Roy Schwabe
Rett Evans	Jim Mathews	Heidi Smith
Ginny Farrell	Virginia Mayer	Joan Smith
Catherine Flannery	Kevin McKee	Ginny Sutton
Millie Friess	Carolyn Merrifield	Jim Thalhammer
Diane Gallentine	Greg McDonough	Gabrilyn Watson
Gudmundur Valur Hauksson	Charles McGowan, Jr.	Evelyn Wyatt
Irene Ginger	Ruth Naudzius	Nancy Zuegel
Dolores Grandi	Emily Nelson	Roy, a friend of Charlie Giera
Barb Halliday	Carole Nelson	
Kathy Hartzler	Lynn Nelson	

OUR PRAYER MINISTRY

In this time of Thanksgiving we praise God and give thanks for blessings seen & unseen. We are grateful for the gift that prayer offers.

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

We also keep in our prayers the following October requests:

Life in the Resurrection

- Prayers of comfort for Cindy Jones, daughter of longtime Martha Bridges who passed away on September 30th.
- Kathy Davis asks for prayers for her brother Jim who entered hospice. Jim entered Eternal Life on 10/7.
- Prayers for the family of Drason Pace, who passed away last week.
- Larry Adams asks for prayers for Gabrilyn Watson, who entered life in the resurrection this past week.
- Prayers for Sharon Kemerer and her family, her cousin Dolores Grandi passed away last week after a long illness.
- Karen Nelson asks for prayers for Emily and Sonia, the wife and daughter of her dear friend and colleague, Matt Mantell who passed away last week.
- Prayers for Judy Sindt as she grieves the loss of her sister, Evelyn Wyatt.
- Prayers of comfort for Pastor Carol whose Oma, Corry Regnier, entered Life in the Resurrection on 9/25.
- Brian Keady asks for prayers for his and Jude's friend Bonnie who passed away.
- We pray for the family and friends of Gus Nicolopoulos who entered Eternal Life on 10/14.
- Please hold in your prayer's Liz Swanson and family as they celebrated the life of Mary Beall on 10/18.
- Please keep Lonn Naudzus and family in your prayers as they grieve the loss of Lonn's mother, Ruth Mary. There will be a memorial service here at PRCC on November 2nd at 10:00 am.

Healing and Recovery

- Prayers of healing and ability to return home for Paula Mack's father who is recovering from Pneumonia.
- Sarah McCarty asks for prayers for her neighbor, Regina, who is struggling with health issues.
- Jenny Sanderson asks for prayers for a friend's daughter who is being treated for an eating disorder.
- Prayers for Sue Sandstrom recovering from a cardiac procedure this past week.

- Ginny Feurer asks for prayers for her friend Mary Ann whose cancer has metastasized.
- Prayers for John Born's cousin, Mary, who was recently diagnosed with breast cancer.
- Prayers of healing for Melissa and Phil Nelson's son Eric who awaits surgery.
- Lorenzo asks for prayers for his cousin Katherine Stellini who is entering hospice care.
- Please pray for Linda LeDuc having surgery on 10/15.
- Ann Siena asks for prayers for her friend who is waiting for medical test results.
- We pray with Ginny Jacobson a successful surgery & recovery from hip replacement surgery for her cousin Penny.
- Please keep 2 year old Axl in prayer as he seeks treatment for kidney disease at John Hopkins.
- Linda LeDuc is grateful for your prayers as she faced knee replacement surgery last week. Please continue to pray for pain relief and quick recovery.
- Please pray for Dave Kapolnek's sister Susan as she faces multiple, serious health concerns and for the family to support her choices.
- We hold in our prayers those affected by the wildfires in California.

Birthdays/Anniversaries

- Prayers of joy for Siri Nelson who celebrated a birthday on October 8th.
- Owen and Wendy Hayes are away celebrating the 50th birthday of son Owen.
- Julie Bruno and Sue Laurie are celebrating life together for 37 years.
- Prayers of celebration for Mike Artrip whose birthday is on October 22nd!
- We celebrate with Nancy and George Skoog their 63rd wedding anniversary.
- Happy BIG birthday to Mike Artrip on 10/22!

Joy

- Charlie Giera shares good news of a healthy report at the doctor.
- Prayers of joy for Isaac Hubbard who was student of the month!
- It's a joy to be together in the Pumpkin Patch and welcoming the whole community to this fall favorite event.
- We are celebrating a new roof over the Great Hall and all the faithful planning & stewardship that has made that possible.
- It was a joy to be together at the Women's Prayer Breakfast on 10/19 and we are grateful to the Angeli Choir & PRCC members who participated in that.
- How wonderful to welcome in 13 new members at the 10:00 service on the 20th!
- Prayers for those participating in the Chicago Marathon.
- Prayers of joy and for those in the LGBTQ community on National Coming Out Day!



Grief and the Holidays

Grief & the Holidays is a workshop for people anticipating the holiday season after the death of a loved one. This presentation will explore strategies for coping with memories, feelings and activities associated with the holiday season.



Sunday, November 17, 2019

2:00 - 3:30pm

**Park Ridge Community Church
100 Courtland Avenue
Park Ridge, IL 60068**

Sponsored by Rainbow Hospice and Palliative Care Grief & Loss Services.
There is no charge for the presentation. Donations welcome.
Registration preferred.

For further information or to register, please call **847-653-3141**.

STEPHEN MINISTRY MESSAGE

We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood." I John 4:6 (NIV)

Stephen Ministry is described most often as a "listening ministry." It is precisely for that reason that a large portion of the training for Stephen Ministers is spent developing listening skills. Many of us think of ourselves as good listeners, and in fact, we may actually be good listeners. But I discovered when I took the training class that I didn't really understand this kind of listening at all. "Listening" for a Stephen Minister is an action verb, an act of faith.

Douglas V. Steere was a Quaker theologian whose vision of a life of faith continues to inspire me and lots of others. His notion of the "uplifting of others" was listening – really listening as an action verb: "– listening others to a condition of awareness of the Eternal Listener, that is, to the indwelling Christ." Steere believed so deeply in the value of that kind of listening that he wrote, "To 'listen' another's soul into a condition of disclosure and discovery may be almost the greatest service that any human being ever performs for another."

But is that kind of listening really different than the kind that we are accustomed to doing? Almost certainly. Steere says the basic elements of real listening are vulnerability, acceptance, expectancy, and constancy.

As one might expect, vulnerability implies real attentiveness as opposed to the half-hearted ear you might give someone while you watch TV or make dinner. But more than that, it requires an openness, a willingness to risk being drawn into the heart of the other person. Not, as the Stephen Ministry program puts it, that you get into the pit with a person in distress, but that you are willing to enter into their heart.

Acceptance implies more than toleration "born of indifference." Rather, it means having an interest in the other person "so alive that judgement is withheld." For Stephen Ministers, this manifests itself in making sure we meet each person where they are – not where we wish them to be, or expect them to be. Clearly that is not a simple or easy attitude to adopt.

It is in listening with expectancy that gives the exercise of listening the element of hope. Steere believed that listening to each other in love will "evoke some 'partially concealed capacities within the speaker.'" Nothing of value is ever imposed on us; we, each of us, must find it within, indeed we must find God within. Stephen Ministers have found it to be true for themselves as well as for their care receivers in our listening ministry.

And last, but not least, is constancy. The listener "must have an infinite patience grounded in faith in what the person may become." Those of us who have been involved in the Stephen Ministry program have learned that God *is* in the listening, in the relationship, in the room. That makes us ready every time, with every care receiver, for some new thing to be born, and we patiently wait for as long as it takes knowing that the person we are listening to matters, matters more than what they or we can accomplish or manage to accumulate – vain laurels and worldly goods.

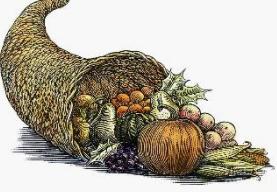
Steere knew that this kind of deep attention and non-judgmental listening is rare, because the kind of love and acceptance necessary for it is rare as well. Further, each of us brings to the relationship our own fears, evasions, desires, and aspirations that can further compromise our ability to hear – truly hear, one another. Stephen Ministry training addresses the skills and faith elements of listening; bimonthly Supervision sessions provide the support to address issues that come up in the caring, listening relationships whatever the source.

If you believe you may be called to this ministry, now is the time to pray about it. We are beginning another training class after the first of the year and extending through June. You can discuss this upcoming class with any Stephen Leader, Liz Swanson, Katie Reboletti, Peggy Fergus, Ginny Feurer, or me. To further clarify the time involved, a draft schedule is available.

And as always, if you are in need of someone, a Stephen Minister, to listen to you, really *listen* to you, contact Pastor Carol (847-823-3164) or Ginny Feurer (847-299-1781).

- Anita Rifkind





FALL NEWS

KINDRED SPIRITS CAFÉ

All are welcome to join us on Tuesday's for lunch in Jordan Hall. Just bring your sack lunch and we will provide a delicious dessert and beverages. You can plan on coming first to Chair Yoga in the Great Hall at 10:15 or just come when you can. November activities are as follows:

11/5 – Celebrate November Birthdays & Bingo

11/12 – Liz Swanson; highlights from the last biking adventure.

11/19 – Paris Donehoo talking about his book 'Polarized'

11/26 – HAPPY THANKSGIVING (No Kindred Spirits)

2020 PRCC WOMEN'S RETREAT: February 7-9

Please see the flyer on the next page for details!

KNITTING KNIGHTS

As the days get shorter, are you looking for something to brighten those dark evenings? If so, connect with the Knitting Knights. We meet at 7 pm in Jordan Hall – November 4th and 18th and would love for you to join us or take a project home with you. Talk with Liz Swanson for more information.



CIRCLE 10 NEWS

Circle 10 Women are hosting an event for the women of PRCC and their friends on November 20, 2019!

We hope you are planning on joining us for dinner, drinks and shopping at the Park Ridge Country Club.

Circle 10 Women will have tickets are on sale on Sundays in the Park Place room between services and Jaclyn will have tickets in the office during the week. You can sit at a table with a group of friends or get a random seat assignment and make new friends!

There will be a buffet dinner, cash bar and some unique vendors for holiday shopping. All vendors are donating an item for our raffle so don't forget to bring some extra money for raffle tickets. You definitely don't want to miss out attending this fun and popular event! Tickets are \$30 and can be paid for with cash, check or credit card.



ADULT EDUCATION

As we consider ways that we are learning and growing together as a faith community, we try to provide possibilities for adults to deepen their faith and understanding of scripture. Two ongoing classes are offered weekly:

- Mondays at 10:30 am in PRCC Library. Join Winnie Erikson and Pastor Mollie in the Library to discover the beauty of scripture as it applies to everyday life. This group has covered a variety of topics and curriculum. The group gathers at 10 am, but the study doesn't begin until 10:30 am. For more information, ask Pastor Mollie. All are welcome!
- Wednesdays at 7:30 - 9 pm in Ellinger Transept. Pastor Carol leads this group through Bible Study, aligned with the worship series. In November, there will be a Seder Meal (Nov. 6) and Overview of the Gospel of Mark (Nov. 13). **There is NO BIBLE STUDY on Nov. 20 or 27.**
- We are still scheduling additional field trips for 2020 to visit a Hindu Temple, a Buddhist Temple, and Jewish Synagogue. These trips will continue to increase our understanding of other peoples of faith.
- Want to get involved? If you would like to join the Life-long Learning Team to help design and schedule classes and events, please contact Jackie Tilles, Chair of Life-Long Learning subgroup of Faith Development.



LIVING WATER RETREAT FOR WOMEN OF ALL AGES

WHEN

February 7th - 9th

7:00 Friday (leave at 6:00pm from PRCC parking lot) to noon Sunday

WHERE

Cenacle Retreat & Conference Center (513 W. Fullerton Chicago)

WHO

Women of all ages are welcome! You do not need to be a member of PRCC so invite your friends.

WHY

Come for a weekend of renewal and refreshment to explore how water brings life to us physically & spiritually. Rev. Anna Voinovich will lead the conference.

COST

Single room - \$250.00 by November 9th

Shared room - \$205 by November 9th

Prices increase after November 9th and scholarships are available.

*\$50 deposit required to hold a spot

QUESTIONS? Ask Pastor Mollie at pastormollie@parkridgecommunitychurch.org or Liz Swanson at liz@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

REGISTRATION FORM (Please return to the office)

NAME _____

PHONE/EMAIL _____

I HAVE ATTACHED

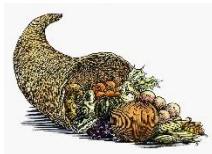
\$250 for a single room including meals

\$205 for a shared room and I would like to share with _____

\$50 deposit

I would be happy to drive and have room for _____ others.

I will need a ride from the PRCC parking lot.



FALL NEWS

COFFEE HOUR

In between services and after the 10 am worship concludes, we have a wonderful opportunity to fellowship and connect with other PRCC friends and families! All are invited into Jordan Hall to drink coffee, eat lite snacks, and mingle. We are always seeking hosts to volunteer to prepare treats EITHER after the 8:30 OR after the 10 am service. This can be as simple or elaborate as you'd like. Reimbursement is available to cover the cost of food. **We are in need of a host for Sunday, December 22nd.**

PRCC GOLF OUTING

Thank you to all the golfers and supporters of the PRCC family that joined us at this year's Annual PRCC Golf Outing! It was a little wet, but everyone had fun. We were excited to see nearly 100 of us gathered for golf and dinner.

A special thank you to our generous sponsors and donors: Chef Beau's Klean Kitchen, Coyne & Company Insurance, Mark Holihan - Farmers Insurance, Harp & Fiddle, Nelson Automotive, Keith Reboletti - Remax Properties, Park Ridge Stationers, Signorama Des Plaines, Technology Advisors, Steve Wind (In memory of Rhea and Scotty Wind), Bill and Luan Zoellner, Beer on the Wall, FCC, Patrice Conway, and the Jazz Community Big Band.

As a result of their generosity and support we raised nearly \$4,000 for PRCC. These proceeds will benefit PRCC's ministries such as our Medical Lending Closet, Park Ridge Ministerial Association Sunday Suppers, Lincoln Park Shelter, Youth Mission trips and Stephen Ministry Program, amongst all the other ministries our church supports.

We are currently collecting responses to a Survey Monkey about the event, and will be announcing plans for the 2020 Annual PRCC Golf Outing soon!

Thank you again to all!

PRCC Golf Committee
Lauren Kleingers
Paula Mack
Sarah McCarty
Ryan McGuffey



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

There are many people who volunteer their time to our church and we are so grateful for each and every one of them. Our Volunteer Spotlight is a way of saying thank you to them and also letting members and newcomers know 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



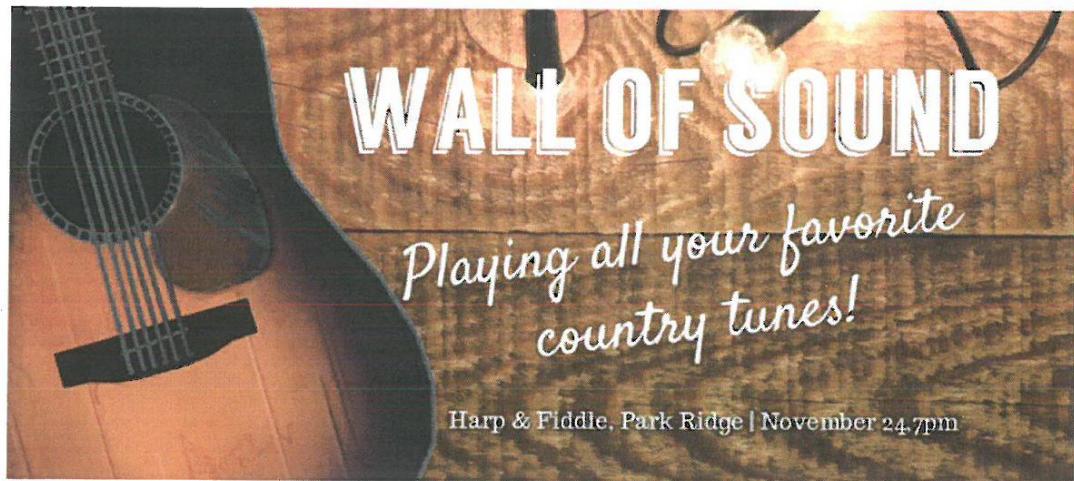
This month Jennifer Gudmundsson is in our volunteer spotlight with her husband, Haukur and children, Drake and Grant. The Gudmundsson family have been members at PRCC for a few short years but you've probably seen them as they've participated as a family in activities such as the annual Crop Walk, puppy stuffing, helping at the pumpkin patch, preparing dinner for Lincoln Park Shelter with the Young Families group and Uncle Pete's lunch ministry with the Sunday School group among other outreach and fellowship activities.

What you might not be aware is that Jennifer donates some of her free time volunteering as the Church's accountant where she takes care of preparing the monthly financial reports for the Finance Committee and Board of Directors. In this capacity she works closely with the Treasurer and Parish Coordinator. If you are at church on a weekday morning you might find Jennifer in the workroom next to office hard at work.

We are so thankful for the gifts and the time that Jennifer and her family share with PRCC as they serve our church family.

ADULT DEVOTION CONTRIBUTORS WANTED

We are going to assemble a brief Advent calendar for our congregation to read a short reflection and scripture daily. These devotions will focus on the ways we find God's revelation through music. This devotional Advent calendar will complement our worship and study series on Handel's *Messiah*. If you are willing to write a short (500 words or less) reflection, please contact Pastor Carol.



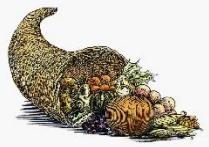
WALL of SOUND

Annual Fundraiser for
Park Ridge Community Church

Harp & Fiddle
November 24th
at 7:00 pm

110 Main St, Park Ridge, IL 60068

MEMBERSHIP NEWS



Greg Sarlo

WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

We are so excited to welcome our newest members to the PRCC Family: Danny Brewer, Pastor Mollie Foster, Lisa Irwin, The McGuffey Family, Michael Proue, Greg Sarlo, Kay Snow, and The Zweifel Family.

If you are interested in becoming a member of PRCC, please see our Membership co-chairs, Sara Born or Sue Douglass.



Danny Brewer



Robert & Magdalena Zweifel
and children, Lydia & Oliver



Michael Proue & Lisa Irwin



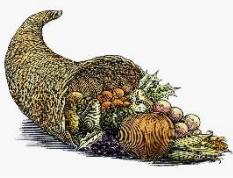
Ryan & Candace McGuffey
and children, Jackson & Reese



Kay Snow



Pastor Mollie Foster



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

All preschool through high school children are invited to Sunday school. Bring a friend! Below is our typical schedule.

*Meeting space information below.

- 10:00-10:15 All gather in the sanctuary to begin worship with family members. Pastors dismiss children to Sunday school.
- 10:15-10:30 **Preschool to 3rd grade** children ~ music time in SS wing
- 10:30-11:15 **Preschool to 3rd grade** children in classrooms
- 10:15-11:15 **4th-12th grade** go to class from sanctuary
- 11:15 classes end; parents pick up young children from classrooms

Please complete a registration form, available from Park Place Room or the Sunday school wing or our website, www.parkridgecommunitychurch.org, so that we have contact and allergy info for each child. Return forms to Teri or Shelley, or to the church office.

NURSERY CARE

Nursery care is available each Sunday 8:30-11:15 am for infants through 5 years of age on the lower level, next to Jordan Hall.

Seeking loving adults and youth to fill out our nursery care roster! Vicki Kelly and Kyrie Nelson are doing an amazing job of running our nursery week after week, but from time to time, we need extra hands or substitute caregivers. You get the opportunity to hang out with amazing little people, and you get paid for it! If you have any interest in helping out, please contact Shelley or Teri, sundayschool@parkridgecommunitychurch.org.

KIDS' CLUB

On Sunday November 24, we celebrate Consecration Day in a single service at 10 am. Children, youth, and adults will be invited to turn in pledge cards, noting how we will each contribute to our PRCC community. While there is no regular Sunday school that day, children preschool through 3rd grade are invited to Kids' Club in the Sunday school wing for games

and crafts. Older children and youth will remain in worship. Then all are encouraged to attend the luncheon after worship!

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT PREPERATIONS

Our beloved Christmas Pageant will take place during 10 am worship on **Sunday, December 8**. A required rehearsal will take place the morning of Saturday, December 7. Children preschool through middle school are invited to participate by singing or speaking, and each will wear a fabulous costume! Even babies and toddlers have a part to play, as cherubs carried into the Sanctuary by teen angels. There is room for everyone at this inn ☺.

Registration forms, detailing which parts are open for each age level, will be available in early November and due December 1. Pageant songs will be rehearsed during regular music time November 3 - December 1, so please do your best to register, attend and prepare! Please contact Teri or Shelley for more information,

sundayschool@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

OUTREACH PROJECTS

Sunday school students are encouraged to use their time, talents and treasure to make the world a better place. In September, we donated \$68 to IFSA - Illinois Fire Safety Alliance, which offers fire safety education and camps for children who have experienced burn injuries.

The outreach projects for October included decorating pumpkins to be delivered to PRCC senior citizens, bringing offerings for CROP Walk, and holding a mini CROP Walk and coin collection in worship. In addition, the 4th-5th grade Sunday school class worked at the Pumpkin Patch Oct. 13!

November 3 - December 1, we will gather offerings for the children served by Maryville Academy in their many programs. Our children's time, talents and treasure are being put to good use!



ALL AGES ADVENT FESTIVAL

Everyone is invited to join us Wednesday, December 11, 6-8 pm in Jordan Hall to be reminded of the meaning and importance of Advent. We will visit stations to create crafts, reflect and pray, and find other ways to learn about and celebrate Advent as a church community. We will enjoy a light meal as well. Please RSVP if you plan to attend!



OUTREACH NEWS

MAINE TOWNSHIP FOOD PANTRY

Food Pantry donations are always needed! Feel free to drop off Sundays or during office hours throughout the week. Thank you in advance for your help!

OUTREACH MEETING

Tuesday, November 5 at 7:00 pm

If you are interested in getting involved with PRCC Outreach, join us at our next meeting November 5 at 7 pm in Jordan Hall. All are welcome!

FIRST SUNDAY NIGHT SUPPER

PRCC will cook, serve and provide four Sunday Night Suppers this year for the homeless. Our first dinner on November 24th is fully staffed with volunteers and ready to go! We will participate in more suppers in 2020, keep a lookout for volunteer opportunities on: March 1, April 26, and May 17!

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Jeannine Schultz School – Supplies Collection

Thank You!

We've had a wonderful response collecting school supplies in support of the 64 students and the teachers of the Jeanine Schultz School in Park Ridge.

Items Needed:

#2 Pencils, Pens, Colored Pencils, Highlighters, Assorted Markers, Glue Sticks, Erasers, Spiral Notebooks, Pocket Folders,
3 Ring Binders, Packets of Lined Paper(wide rule) Construction Paper
Kleenex, Sanitizer, Disinfecting Wipes.
Wish to participate, but unable to shop? Donations/Gift cards are appreciated
Questions? Contact: Paula Mack - paula.mack@parkridgecommunitychurch.org or paula.mack@parkridgecommunitychurch.org or purchasing supplies as well! Questions?
Contact paula.mack@parkridgecommunitychurch.org.

2019 CROP WALK

Thank you so much for ALL of your help and support for Crop Walk this year. **We exceeded both of our goals with 75 walkers raising nearly \$11,000 with donations still coming in.** THANK YOU!





50 YEARS OF CROP WALK!



LET ALL THAT YOU DO BE DONE IN
Love



PRCC Youth News

Youth Schedule:

-Confirmation: Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30pm

-Sunday School: 2nd-4th Sundays of the month

-Youth Group: Sundays 4:00-6:00pm
(except for special outings)

For more info:

pastormollie@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

YOUTH PUMPKIN PATCH

The 16th Annual Pumpkin Patch is underway, and the pumpkins are selling like, well pumpkins! We are so grateful for all the help that has come our way to make this year the best and most sincere Patch ever! We will give a summary after the Great Pumpkin has visited The Patch!

"WHAT ARE 6th – 12th GRADERS DOING DURING SUNDAY SCHOOL?"

GOOD QUESTION!

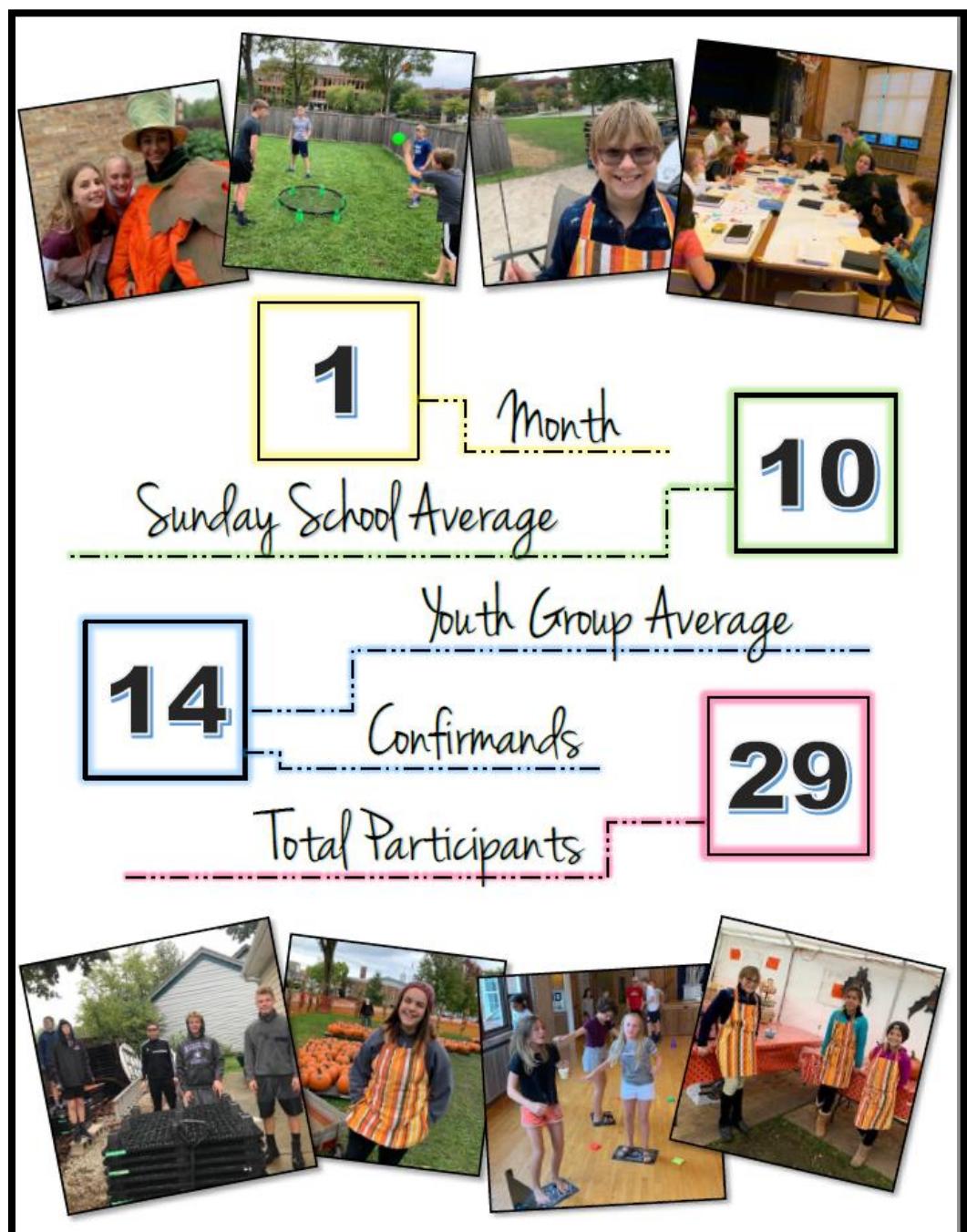
We have started a new series, [reform by Sparkhouse](#) that engages youth in a deeper biblical and theological reflection of hard questions such as:

1. Why does the Bible contradict itself at times?
2. Is God male?
3. Can I be a Christian without going to church?
4. Why did Jesus get baptized?

[Check out the full scope and sequence here!](#)

Each week focuses on a question and is accompanied with a video.

[Here's an example:](#)



BOARD NEWS

Our Board of Directors gathered on Tuesday, October 15 under the leadership of Laura Sissman, Chair of the Congregation. The Executive Committee was called at 7 pm to approve housing allowances and exclusions for the ministers, in accordance with tax law. The entire Board gathered at 7:30 pm, welcoming and celebrating our new Associate Minister, Pastor Mollie Foster. Here are just a few highlights from our meeting:

SENIOR MINISTER REPORT

Pastor Carol shared her gratitude for this first year of ministry together. She and our Chair and Vice Chair have completed the Annual Evaluations of our staff members, and Pastor Carol's Annual Evaluation is coming up, utilizing feedback from the staff and members of the Executive Committee. Pastor Carol celebrated the ways the church is active and engaged in meaningful ministry, from Confirmation to trips to other worship spaces and more. Pastor Carol will be travelling to the Holy Land in 2020 to prepare to take a church trip to Israel in 2021.

ASSOCIATE MINISTER REPORT

Pastor Mollie shared a number of new and reactivated ministries since beginning at PRCC six weeks prior. She is holding weekly youth group activities, weekly youth Sunday School, weekly Confirmation class, and renovating the youth spaces to reflect current youth desires and needs. She has 29 different students engaged in youth programming, and the Pumpkin Patch team has been hard at work! Pastor Mollie has begun her ordination process with the UCC, which began with becoming an official member on September 29. Pastor Mollie's installation service and dinner will take place on Sunday, Nov. 10 at 5 pm, and it will be a beautiful service of celebration and welcome! The Board is hopeful that PRCC will all participate.

FINANCE UPDATE FROM ERIC JOHNSON

The teams are going to begin assembling their hopes and plans for 2020. The Stewardship team has been working hard to get materials out, which will culminate with Consecration Sunday on November 24 with one service followed by a meal together. As of the end of September, our expenses exceeded our income by \$28K, and we are hopeful that giving will pick up in the months ahead. Spending in the fall as programs kick off often spikes and then levels off, but our Finance team is keeping a watchful eye on our budget. We have been blessed by the income from the Pasta Divine and Golf Fundraisers in 2019, which raised over \$12K. Also, the expenses for hiring a full-time Associate Minister have been incurred and will be offset, according to Board Approval, through the Contingency Fund at years end.

MINISTRY FAIR – NOVEMBER 10

On Sunday, November 10, every ministry area and team will exhibit their programs and ministries, along with opportunities for congregants to get involved. This Ministry Fair 2019 will be held in the Great Hall (along with Coffee Hour) following both the 8:30 and 10 am services. This will be a chance for celebration, information/education and recruitment.

OUTREACH UPDATE

Laura Lapp, Chair of the Christian Outreach committee celebrated that we collected 123 backpacks for undocumented minors, which were delivered to Maryville Academy. The Lincoln Park Shelter cooking and serving continues the first Thursday of each month. On November 24, we need additional volunteers to help cook, serve, and clean up at the Park Ridge Presbyterian Church for Sunday Suppers. This will be a busy day due to Consecration Sunday and the Wall of Sound, so the dedicated support of Sunday Suppers is greatly appreciated.

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Board of Directors has approved the formation of a new Staff Parish Relations Committee to tend to Personnel matters and work in conjunction with the Executive Committee. Laura Sissman updated the Board that she is going to be inviting members to participate in this newly formed committee.

TRUSTEES UPDATE

Bill Williams, Chair of Trustees updated the Board that the roof on the Great Hall would be replaced in October, and the funds for this work will come from the Capital Replacement Fund. There were also a number of repairs made to the Carriage House to prepare for Pastor Mollie's arrival.

STRUCTURE TEAM UPDATE

Bill Williams updated the Board that for upcoming Board meetings, the Structure team will suggest an item for conversation and discussion, based on the book *Governance and Ministry*, which was given to each Board Member to read over the summer. This book will guide our conversation about structure of the Board, effectiveness in meeting, and any potential bylaw changes to come.

Laura Sissman gave thanks to the dedication of all the members of the Board of Directors and the ministries they are leading!



OCTOBER ROOF PROJECT

October brought with it a major change to our beloved building, the beautiful red tiles had begun to show their age and were in need of a replacement. It was a week full of excitement and surprises, we hope all are happy with the end result. Tiles were saved for those that may want one for a keepsake, please contact the Church Office or a Trustee if you would like one.



OCTOBER SNAPSHOTS



Crop Walk 2019



Roof Work



Monday Morning Bible Study



PRCC Field Trip to Ismaili Center



Confirmation Class



PRCC Friends Abroad

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Love



100 S. Courtland Ave
Park Ridge, IL 60068

First-class
Postage
Required

**Place Stamp
Here**

Save the Date

CONSECRATION SUNDAY

November 24, 2019

Contact Us:
847-823-3164
office@parkridgecommunitychurch.org
parkridgecommunitychurch.org

Like us on Facebook!

Our Staff:

Rev. Carol Hill, Senior Minister
Pastor Mollie Foster, Associate Minister
Teri Biedke, Director of Children's Ministries
Sasha Gerritson, Director of Music Ministries
Shelly O'Brien, Director of Children's Ministries
Liz Swanson, Director of Pastoral Services
Jaclyn Weir, Parish Coordinator