



# January Newsletter

## What's Coming Up in Worship

Good news for this time between permanent pastors: rather than hire another full-time, transitional pastor, the Presbytery is allowing Rivermont to hire two part-time, contractual pastors in January 2026:

Rev Dr Paul Rader, the full-time pastor at Northside Presbyterian Church, has agreed to moderate our Session meetings and work with the Mission Study Team. The Mission Study has to be completed before we can form a Pastor Nominating Committee. Both functions have to be done by an ordained pastor, so this will allow us to keep moving forward.

Rev Bill Bond will be our supply preacher. Thank you, Bill!

### **Rivermont Worship in January 2026:**

⇒ January 4: Rev Jay Banasiak  
Communion Sunday and Table to Table

### **Sermon Series: Traits of the Church I Would Want to Join**

- ⇒ January 11: Rev Bill Bond *Community*  
"I Want to Know What Love Is" Matthew 4:24-5:3; Acts 10:34-48
- ⇒ January 18: Rev Bill Bond *Encouraging*  
"Can I Talk to the Architect?" Matthew 5:4; Jeremiah 18:1-5
- ⇒ January 25: Rev Bill Bond *Mystical*  
"Have I Told You Lately That I Love You" Matthew 6:5-19; 2 Corinthians 3:12-11

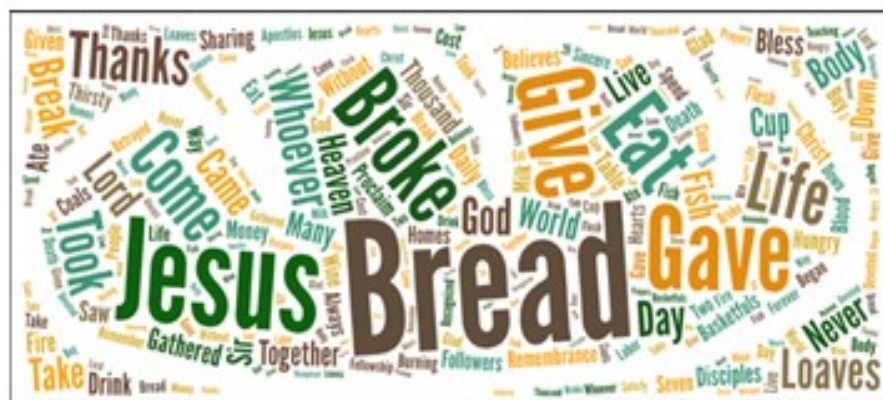
If you have any questions or concerns  
we encourage you to speak to one of our Elders.

## Session Updates

**In recent action, your Session**

- Completed the sale of the Blue House and vacant lot on Black Oak Circle.
- Approved the contract hiring of Dr. Paul Rader to moderate session meetings through our transition period and oversee the Mission Study Team as they write the report for presbytery review.
- Approved the contract hiring of Rev Bill Bond to preach as our regular pulpit supply through our transition period, and requesting presbytery to authorize him to serve communion as designated by the session.
- Approved communion in 2026 to be offered on the first Sunday of each month and on Maundy Thursday.
- Heard report from Buildings & Grounds that atrium roof is fixed and new skylights have been installed.
- Established an ad-hoc committee to pursue loan options from presbytery to assist with HVAC repair/replacement costs.

## Table to Table



**The next Table to Table celebration  
will be held January 4 at 11 am.**

From the Communion table to a shared table, we will break bread together, giving thanks to God and for the ties that bind.

This month we will enjoy a brunch together. Bring your favorite brunch foods- a quiche, a favorite breakfast casserole, hash browns, fruit, etc. to share with friends. While not required, you are invited to prepare a dish or dessert and drop it off in the kitchen prior to the worship service. Thank you!



## Choir Cantata

Our chancel choir presented their Christmas Cantata, "Joy to all the World" by Lloyd Larsen on December 21 during worship. If you missed it you can watch on our website or our YouTube channel.





# The Nutcracker Christmas Carol

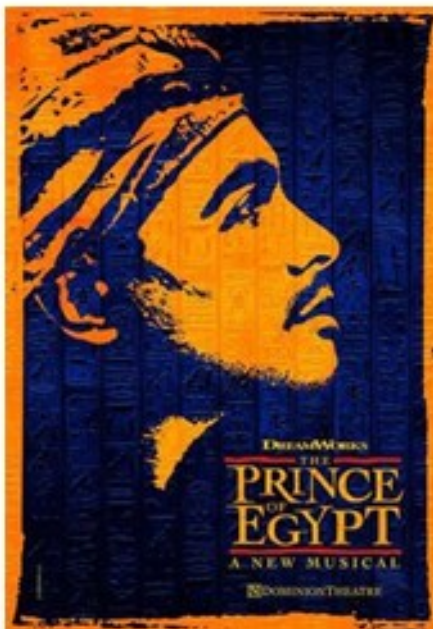
Our bonus production, *The Nutcracker Christmas Carol* was a HUGE success! Most of the shows were sell outs! Special thanks to Ensemble Theatre of Chattanooga, Rex Knowles and Sherry Landrum, Chattanooga State Community College, and the Arts Advisory Board: Lee Larson, Jane Lupton, Garry Posey, Gay Sakich, Brenda Schwab and Carol Secord.







## Worship and the Arts Presents. . .



Our upcoming Music and the Arts production is *Prince of Egypt*

Auditions:

Sundays, January 18 & 25, 2026

Rehearsals:

Sundays & Thursdays 5:30 - 8:30 pm



# Youth Ministry

Our Youth Group had an amazing Christmas party this year!  
Special thanks to Becky Geren for hosting!





## Mission News & Opportunities



The mission committee wants to say a big thank you to everyone who contributed to supporting the FIT families at Rivermont Elementary! We filled five large tubs with non-perishable food items that will not only provide a Christmas dinner, but also many meals throughout the school break. In addition, each family received a generous amount of gift cards to purchase gifts and maybe even a Christmas turkey or ham. Thank you for helping share the Christmas spirit with our neighbors!

Each month the Mission Ministry at RPC donates time and resources to help those at the CHATT Foundation. What is the CHATT Foundation? They are long time resource for community members who need assistance. They work to "maximize strengths and minimize barriers. They collaborate with community partners and support clients to find housing, clothing, food, and care as well as education, job-skills training, financial literacy and life-skills learning."



What can you do? We offer not only our time but we pack sack lunches each month:

**Help the CHATT Foundation with Sack Lunches:** This month, collection will be on Monday, January 26. Lunches include two peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, a piece of fruit, a salty snack, a dessert, and a bottle of water.

**In person:** Our next day to serve will be Friday, January 23. 4-5 volunteers are needed to be there from 10 am - approximately 12:30 pm to prepare and serve lunch. Please sign up by contacting the church office.

The Mission Committee invites you to bringing non-perishable food donations to church the first Sunday of the month. Come enjoy our monthly Table to Table meal after church, and bring canned and/or dry goods to donate to the Northside Neighborhood House.



## Congregational Care

Galatians 5:14 says, *"For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'"*

We love our neighbors by serving them joyfully, giving our time and energy and resources to help. Being a true neighbor will cost you. Take a moment to prayerfully consider who around us needs our help. Ask God to reveal how Rivermont can love and serve our neighbors. We are blessed to be a blessing.

Join us as we serve. Contact Gay Sakich at 423-269-8667 or [gsakich@gmail.com](mailto:gsakich@gmail.com).

## Bookstore News

Happy New Year! Starting new calendars, new resolutions and new routines seems like enough to tackle for one month, so a little self-care is in order for those chilly January days. Come to the bookstore to find a new book to curl up with on days you don't want to leave your cozy spot indoors. We have lots of devotionals and inspirational books, and some new authors you ought to check out. Pick out some fair trade coffee, tea or hot chocolate from our Equal Exchange products, so you can sip something warm while you read. Resolving to take some time to recharge is a smart decision to give you new energy for the next projects to tackle. Come in Sundays before or after worship, or whenever the lights are on!





## Presbyterian Women

**The PW Day Circle** will meet on Monday, January 12 at 11 am in the Commons. All women of the church are invited to our meeting and to lunch. Hope to see you there!

**The PW Night Circle** will not meet again in January with a new study topic. Watch for more information in your weekly Constant Contact emails.



## It's Time to Update our Directory

In order to have a correct and up to date directory we need to update any information that may have changed. Do you have a new phone number? New email address? Did you move or something other change has occurred? Let us know! Email our Church Administrator, Allison Janis, any changes so she can update everyone's information at [hellorivermontpc@gmail.com](mailto:hellorivermontpc@gmail.com).

### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

3	Jennifer Beene
7	Wiley Thompson
8	Tom Shipley
11	Emma Hines
11	Megan Hines
15	Paul Phillips
16	Jan Dodd
22	Tracy Mozingo
24	Alice Woolson
27	Mary Burr
31	Harriet New
31	Lauren West



## Office Closures 2026

The church office will be closed on the following days:

- ♦ January 1 & 2
- ♦ January 19
- ♦ April 6
- ♦ May 25
- ♦ June 19
- ♦ July 3
- ♦ September 7
- ♦ November 26 & 27
- ♦ December 26

