

January 18, 2026

THE
VISION
WORTH FOLLOWING



**I will pour out my spirit on all flesh;
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
your elders shall dream dreams,
and your young people shall see visions.
Even on the most unexpected people,
in those days I will pour out my spirit.**

Joel 2:28

PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

The Vision Worth Following
January 18, 2026

The Vision that Challenges Us
8:30 & 10:00 am

WELCOME!

We welcome you to worship today. Park Ridge Community Church affirms that all people are made in the image of God and are worthy of God's love and grace. We commit to the ongoing work of being a church journeying together to deepen our understanding of the nature of God's love and to fulfill our responsibility to embody the Christ Spirit in the world. No matter who you are or where you are on this journey, you are welcome and loved.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

O God, all people are your Beloved, across races, nationalities, religions, sexual orientations and all the ways we are distinctive from one another.

We are all manifestations of your image. We are bound together in an inescapable network of mutuality and tied to a single garment of destiny.

You call us into your unending work of justice, peace and love.

Let us know your presence among us now.

Let us delight in our diversity that offers glimpses of the mosaic of your beauty.

Strengthen us with your steadfast love and transform our despairing fatigue into hope-filled action.

Under the shadow of your wings in this hour may we find rest and strength, renewal and hope that we might faithfully implement your vision of the Beloved Community.

*HYMN

In Christ There is No East or West

440

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we long to co-create with you the Beloved Community which looks to the common good; privileges all equally, and creates societal systems which celebrate the humanity and the gifts of all.

And yet we focus on our differences, envy each other's gifts, devalue manifestations of you, O God, that are not like our own.

Perhaps our sin is a slow wait for justice: We allow the voices of those who do not look like us, love like us, or worship like us to be silenced.

We have told them to wait for freedom, justice and equality. We foster in them a denigrating sense of nobodiness. Lord, have mercy.

Or perhaps we have kept silence ourselves in the face of their struggle for full human life.

For it is not solely hateful words and actions, but also the appalling silence that follows the path of oppression. Christ, have mercy.

Perhaps our sin is to give in to weariness, discouragement, bitterness: You have called us to be drum majors for justice, peace and righteousness,

Yet the work of peace and justice overwhelms us at times. To build with God the Beloved Community seems impossible, and we grow weary.

We cry, "Peace, peace," but there is no peace within us or around us. We find ourselves on the path of hatred and oppression, violence and war.

Lord, have mercy.

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Family of God, God is at work in us and with us!

God has promised: "I will not keep silent and I will not rest until the vindication of my beloved people shines out like the dawn and their salvation like a burning torch.

My people shall no more be termed 'forsaken' and their land shall no more be termed 'desolate.'" We remember that you have given your Beloved people a new name: "My delight is in them."

**Thank you, God for delighting in us even now,
for forgiving us our slow action, our silence and our weariness,
for empowering our work and inviting us once again
to create with you the Vision of the Beloved Community you long for.**

***GLORIA PATRI**

577/579

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

FIRST LESSON

Amos 5:14-15, 21-24

MINISTRY OF MUSIC (10 am)

Wayfaring Stranger

Traditional

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (10 am)

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

MUSICAL RESPONSE (8:30 am)

We All Are one in Mission, v. 1

435

***PREACHING LESSON**

Luke 4:16-30

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Wait - Are They Talking To Me?

Adrian Hill

OFFERTORY

Make Them Hear You

Ragtime

***DOXOLOGY**

593/592

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

O God, we commit to use all our gifts - our time, our talents, our treasure, our protest, our voices, our energy, our insight - in the service of acting as co-workers with you and each other that peace and justice might flow like a mighty stream. Amen.

HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

339

***BENEDICTION**

CHORAL BENDICATION

In Thee I Put My Trust

Bach

***POSTLUDE**

** INDICATES TO PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR IN SPIRIT*

BOLD INDICATES TO SPEAK ALOUD IN ONE VOICE

In the event of an emergency, please follow the direction of the ushers.

Leading Us in Worship:

Rev. Carol Hill, Senior Minister
Pastor Mollie Foster, Associate Minister
Adrian Hill, Preacher
Lois Zitoli, Lector

Sasha Gerritson, Director of Music Ministries
Angie & Andrew Weber, Musicians
Sue Douglass, Organist
Jane Kenas-Heller, Pianist
Chancel Choir
Lorenzo Formosa, Baritone

CREDITS: Phrases from the speeches of Martin Luther King, Jr. have been woven into the prayer texts. They are identified by italics. Texts of King's work are available in A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings of Martin Luther King, Jr., edited by James M. Washington; © 1986 Coretta Scott King. A Prayer of Confession, Words of Assurance, Prayer of Thanksgiving and Benediction were written by the Rev. Dr. Cari Jackson, Founder and Director of the Center for Spiritual Light, New York City. Copyright 2010 Local Church Ministries, Congregational Vitality and Discipleship Ministry Team, United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115-1100

PLEASE SEE AN USHER...for seat cushions and/or hearing assistance devices for use during worship. Thank you to our January Ushers: Bill Barsanti (captain), Tom Brunet, Lorel Brunet, Cindy Klimmick, Rich Roecker, Sharon Kemerer, Sandy Bowen and Katie Reboletti.

ITEMS OF NOTE

WELCOME GUESTS! We are glad you are joining us in worship today. Please fill out a postcard found in the pew baskets or in the narthex to share your information with us!

Please email office@parkridgecommunitychurch.org if you have any questions.

ALTAR FLOWERS are \$60 to sponsor! You can sign up to sponsor flowers on the sign-up sheet on the office bulletin board.

RESTROOMS are located on the lower level at each end of the church. All-gender/family restrooms are located at the bottom of the stairs at the back of the sanctuary.

ONLINE DONATIONS can be made via Zelle (our Zelle email is giving@parkridgecommunitychurch.org), or via our new online giving platform! You can text "GIVE" to (847)-908-9088 or scan the QR code to make a donation!



CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Nursery (0-5 years old) Our nursery is open from 8:30–11:15 am for children up to 5 years old. The nursery is a safe, welcoming space located downstairs next to Jordan Hall.

Pre-K – 5th Grade Children are invited to join our special Kids Club following the Children's Message during worship. This week, we'll head downstairs to Jordan Hall to work together as we help host Coffee Hour. Serving our church community and others is an important part of our ministry, and we're excited for the kids to be part of it. You may pick up your child in Jordan Hall after worship. We look forward to seeing you at Coffee Hour!

6th-12th Grades There is no Youth Sunday School today as our Confirmation Class is visiting Trinity United Church of Christ!

Wacky Wednesday (6th-8th Grades) Wacky Wednesday provides a fun and safe space at PRCC for Middle School Students on Early Release Wednesdays from 2:30-3:30 pm.

Youth Choir The Youth Choir meets on Wednesdays from 3:30-4:45 pm.

Feed My Starving Children - February 7th All are welcome—ages 5 and older—to join us for our annual Feed My Starving Children outing! This is a meaningful opportunity to serve together and make a difference. Please [sign up HERE](#) so we know you'll be joining us.



ADULT MINISTRY

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY - 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm in Ellinger Transept

Wednesday Night Bible Study is discussing "The Bible and the Transgender Experience". Books are \$10 from the Church Office. This study is convened in person with a zoom option.

MEN'S BREAKFAST - Thursdays at 9:00 am

Calling Men of all ages! Join us for coffee and pastries at 9 am every Thursday in the Church Library. We chat about the latest news, check in with each other about life, and enjoy the absence of an agenda! All are welcome! Join us on Zoom!



TODAY Expanding our Welcome: A Mental Wellness Perspective January 25, 2026, 3:00-5:00 pm

Join in the conversation as we welcome Rev. Gilbert Martinez from Christ Church UCC in Des Plaines. Rev. Martinez will share the impact and importance of welcoming those living with mental health challenges, supporting all who are affected by mental health conditions, and engaging in ways to live out a congregational commitment to mental wellness.

OUTREACH

100 YARDS FOOD DRIVE Help tackle hunger and bring your A-Game to donate 100 yards of food by Super Bowl Sunday (Feb. 8) for the Maine Township Food Pantry. Drop off non-perishable food in Ellinger. Items will be measured each week!

JOURNEY'S TOILETRY COLLECTION Throughout January, we are collecting small, travel size toiletries such as shampoo (no conditioner needed), bar soap, hand/body moisturizer, toothpaste, etc. for JOURNEYS: The Road Home. They are also in need of women's and men's new packs of underwear, warm socks, hats, and gloves. Look for the drop off location in the Butler Place Entry!



"Courage and Connection Art Gallery: Stories of Refugee Neighbors"

Saturday, January 31, 7-8 pm, Jordan Hall

All are welcome to come and hear stories, see powerful portraits, experience the resilience of refugee neighbors as they have made their homes in the United States. Over coffee and dessert, we will learn about how refugees connect with the volunteers who walk beside them and what opportunities exist for involvement! A free-will collection will be received to benefit Exodus World Service.

PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
ANNUAL FUNDRAISER



CARNIVAL

FEBRUARY 28, 2026

A NIGHT OF CASINO GAMES, DINNER, COCKTAILS,
LIVE MUSIC, AND AMAZING AUCTION ITEMS--
CARNIVAL STYLE!

\$100 PER TICKET
\$750 A TABLE OF EIGHT
\$50 AFTER DINNER TICKET

5:00 PM: COCKTAILS
6:00 PM: DINNER & LIVE AUCTION
7:30 PM: DESSERT, CASINO GAMES,
& LIVE MUSIC



This event is for ages 21+





JOIN US for MOVIE NIGHT

"Rio" MOVIE NIGHT - Saturday, January 24 at 7:00 pm

Fellowship invites people of all ages to join us for a movie night on Saturday, January 24 at 7:00 pm in the Parlor. We'll be watching the Disney movie *Rio* as we get excited for our upcoming [Carnival Event](#) on February 28. Popcorn will be provided—please feel free to bring your favorite beverage. We hope to see you there!

Office Will Be Closed



PRAYER REQUESTS

One of the gifts of community is that we hold one another in prayer. Each week, we share our joys and sorrows with one another so that we might feel the support of the community. No one is alone. God is with us, and we are supporting one another.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR CONGREGATION AND OUR LOVED ONES:

Laura Beaudion, Tom Berry, Evan Curtis, Amber Douglass, Wylie Douglass, Jon Forsythe, Ginny Feurer, Kym Giera, Christine Kotecki, Michelle Leach, Joey M., Michael McDonough, Tracy McKenzie, Kappy Muenzer, Pete Muenzer, Sandra, Brian Stevens, Kathleen Weller, Joyce Wright, and Bernice Zabawski.

PRAYER REQUESTS FROM January 11th:

- Julie B. celebrates that AJ's bone marrow transplant has worked. He is officially in remission.
- We pray for Kym and her sister in law, both of whom are preparing for surgery.
- We pray for Janet J.'s niece Maria, who is hospitalized with pancreatitis and unidentified health challenges.
- We continue to pray for Ryan, Candace, Reese and Jackson M. We pray for the newness of this year, for strength in resolve, forgiveness, healing, and hope in the weeks, months, and years to come.
- We pray for Seth in this next chapter that God would prepare him, guide him, and lead him in every decision and every step forward.
- Yvonne asks for prayers for an ongoing legal battle, for strength, patience, and peace throughout.
- We pray for Sheila B.'s aunt who will have a total spinal fusion on Monday.
- We pray for beloved member Ginny F. who has lost quite a bit of weight and has entered hospice care.
- We pray for Kathy C.'s mother Ruth P. as she continues her hospice journey.
- We pray for Jake, Ava and family, whose grandfather entered life in the resurrection this week.
- We pray for the McHugh family and all those who are grieving the death of Marty M., whose life will be celebrated on Jan 11.

CHURCH EVENTS

SUNDAY, January 18

8:30 am - Chapel Worship

9:00 am - Confirmation Trip to Trinity UCC

10:00 am - Worship Service (Sanctuary)

MONDAY, January 19- OFFICE CLOSED MLK DAY!

TUESDAY, January 20

12:00 pm - Kindred Spirits Cafe (Jordan Hall)

6:30 pm - Executive Committee Meeting (Library)

7:00 pm - Stephen Ministry Training (Parlor)

7:30 pm - Board of Directors Meeting (Library)

WEDNESDAY, January 21

10:00 am - Staff Meeting (Pastoral Office)

10:00 am - Women's AA (Parlor)

2:30 pm - Wacky Wednesday (Great Hall)

2:45 pm - Girl Scout Meeting (Jordan Hall)

3:45 pm - Youth Choir (Music Room)

6:00 pm - SPRC Committee Meeting (Library)

7:00 pm - Bible Study (Ellinger Transept)

THURSDAY, January 22

9:00 am - Men's Breakfast (Library)

7:30 pm - Chancel Choir (Music Room)

SATURDAY, January 24

8:30 am - Stephen Ministry Training (Parlor)

7:00 pm - Movie Night- Rio (Jordan Hall)

*Happy
Birthday*

01/18 Luke Goodwin

01/18 Linda Le Duc

01/18 Spencer Stewart

01/20 Cooper Larson

01/22 Jonathan Larson

01/22 Todd Weir

01/23 Sharon Kemerer

01/23 Miles Thompson

01/23 Massimo Thompson

01/24 Jim Meltreger

01/24 Ethan Tone

01/24 Allen Wells

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