

January 25, 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 25, 2026

The Vision that Stretches 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**

The invitation is given to every person by Jesus:

"Come to me! Follow me! Be my disciples!"

We come to this place, to this time, at the invitation of Christ.

In the name of Christ,

We accept the invitation to discipleship.

In the name of Jesus, as His disciples,

We worship and praise God.

In the midst of a world where cruelty abounds,

We proclaim the God of Compassion.

In the midst of despair that threatens to swallow up whole lives, whole peoples,

We proclaim the God of Hope.

In the midst of indifference and apathy,

We proclaim the God of Love.

Come, let us worship together and share our witness of God's living presence in the world that continues to call us forward in faith.

***HYMN**

I've Got Peace Like a River

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***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

You call us and we ignore your whisper, listening to the voices of this world. You call us and we choose a different path, following our own devices. You call us to be your voice in this world, to be your hands in this world, to be your feet in this world, to proclaim your peace, your comfort, forgiveness, healing, love and grace. You call us to take the next step into your Vision on earth, and we choose to look the other way. Forgive us, open our ears, call us again, and use us, we pray.

Silent Prayers are Offered

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

The God of Light and Love continues to shine forth a vision of hope, calling us, forgiving us, and equipping us for all that is to come!

Thanks be to God. Amen.

**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**

Acts 10:19-35

MINISTRY OF MUSIC (10 am)*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

Showalter

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 5:1-11

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

Thanks be to God.**SERMON**

The Next Right Thing

Rev. Carol Hill

OFFERTORY*Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*

Traditional

***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**

Great God of Heaven and Earth, you call us to leave behind our preoccupations and to follow you into the future. Sometimes we find your call challenging. We are comfortable, maybe even complacent, in our present. May this act of giving be a gesture of our willingness to follow where you lead. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

HYMNBe Thou My Vision*

339

BENEDICTIONIn 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
Rick Graham, Lector

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

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

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Pre-K-5th Grade Children are invited to join Sunday School after the Children's Message during worship. They will head to the Sunday School Wing to explore the Bible story Jesus Goes to Nazareth through hands-on crafts and interactive learning. Families may pick up children in the Sunday School Wing following the service.

6th-12th Grades Youth will meet in the Library following the Children's Message for Sunday School! Today's lesson is "God's Vision".

High School Holy Chow TODAY, 11:45 am-1:00 pm We will gather in the Butler Place Entry and walk Uptown for a meal together with meaningful discussion with Pastor Mollie! No money needed!

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.



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.

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!

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+



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 18th:

- We pray for our Confirmation students as they experience worship at Trinity UCC this morning.
- We celebrate with the Joyce family that they are expecting a new arrival in June!
- We pray for all of those who are facing unspeakable hardship - loss of employment, loss of healthcare, loss of freedom, and so much more.
- We pray for our Transgender friends, family and members that grace would protect their spirit, as decisions are made at the federal level about their lives.
- Sally M. asks for prayers for her best friend who has been diagnosed with frontal temporal dementia and is struggling with balance issues and double vision. We pray for these challenges to be resolved and that her next scan can provide a clear path forward.
- Grace C. asks for prayers for her cousin, Mark, who will undergo heart surgery on Wednesday.
- We hold Bernice Z. in prayer as she experiences some medical complications; be with her medical team as they discern the cause and best path forward.
- We hold Marc E. in our prayers as he is experiencing some health challenges. We all God to be with him and his medical team as they work to diagnose the issue.
- Janet J. asks for continued prayers for her niece, Maria, as she recovers after a recent hospitalization.
- We pray for Gregory S. as he awaits a treatment plan for newly discovered cancer.
- Our prayers are with Tom and Grace C. as they mourn the death of their beloved dog, Bo.
- Bill B. asks for prayers for his friend, Tina P., who is navigating knee replacement surgery while also undergoing chemotherapy.
- We pray for the McGuffey family as they travel to and from Georgia this week and readjust as a family to new realities.
- We pray for Susan C. and family as their loved one experiences new health challenges.
- Our prayers are with all the loved ones of Ginny Feurer who entered life in the resurrection on Thursday, Jan. 16.
- Sheila B. asks for prayers for her aunt, whose spinal fusion was successful and now has begun the healing journey.



VOLUNTEER
WITH PRCC!

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

FAMILY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

FEBRUARY 7 | 9:00 AM
740 Wiley Farm Ct, Schaumburg

REGISTER HERE 

Be a part of our annual Family Service outing at Feed My Starving Children. Everyone aged 5 and older is invited to join us!



GATHERING WARMTH
PRACTICES FOR HARD SEASONS

Feb. 16
7:00 - 8:30 PM
PRCC PARLOR

Join us for a gentle, supportive workshop for those navigating emotional heaviness during the winter months. When the world feels cold or dim, we will explore ways of creating steadiness, comfort, and connection—both within ourselves and with one another.

Through guided discussions and simple rituals, we will offer opportunities to slow down, honor what has been lost, and tend to the parts of ourselves that need warmth and rest. Together, we will explore practices that help cultivate a sense of nourishment and quiet resilience during hard seasons.

You're encouraged to wear comfortable attire and bring along something that embodies coziness to you: a blanket, your favorite mug, slippers, etc. Warm drinks and fresh baked treats will be provided.

Register Here 

CHURCH EVENTS

SUNDAY, January 25

- 8:30 am** - Chapel Worship
- 10:00 am** - Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 10:00 am** - New Member Sunday (Sanctuary)
- 11:45 am** - High School "Holy Chow"
- 3:00 pm** - WISE Social Justice Event (Jordan)

MONDAY, January 26

- 1:00 pm** - PEO Meeting Chapter DA (Jordan Hall)
- 7:00 pm** - Carnival Planning Meeting (Library)

TUESDAY, January 27

- 12:00 pm** - Kindred Spirits Cafe (Jordan Hall)
- 5:30 pm** - Rainbow for Children
- 5:30 pm** - Pride in Park Ridge Planning Meeting (Library)
- 7:30 pm** - Stephen Ministry Supervision (Library)

WEDNESDAY, January 28

- 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)
- 7:00 pm** - Bible Study (Ellinger Transept)

THURSDAY, January 29

- 9:00 am** - Men's Breakfast (Library)
- 7:30 pm** - Chancel Choir (Music Room)

