

THE GRACE OF  
*Les Misérables*

*You no longer  
belong to what is evil  
but to what is good.*



February 26, 2023 ♦ 10:00 am  
Park Ridge Community Church

# PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

## The Grace of Les Misérables: Journey Toward Grace

FEBRUARY 26, 2023

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

Come, gather, O People, and hear the stories of what God is doing!

Brokenness is made whole, sin is forgiven, unhealthy patterns are left behind, and new possibilities arise!

**If anyone travels with Christ, they start to become a new creation;  
old patterns become obsolete as they are being made new.**

Holy God, we are tired of being the same, old people, trapped in our same, tired sins.

Help us to name your work among us. Help us to dare to be made new!

**If anyone travels with Christ, they start to become a new creation;  
old patterns become obsolete as they are being made new.**

May we move towards God's grace in our lives.

Let us worship this God who sees into the human heart, and through Christ Jesus makes all things new.

### \*HYMN

*I Want Jesus to Walk With Me*

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### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Our hearts are thankful as we gather today, O Lord, for you continually forgive us and give us chances to begin again. You invite us to exchange our heavy-hearted guilt for joy in your offering of new life. You are patient with us when we fall, and continually reassure our hearts that you do not give up on us. You are the refuge we seek when we are troubled, and the courage we need each day. May we hear your words of love and encouragement as we grow in trust and in faithfulness to you, journeying nearer to your grace.**

*Silent prayers are offered*

### \*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God, you are our hiding place! Your endless grace surrounds us, and you fill our hearts with songs of joy! Continue to guide us in the way we should go, and watch over us, so that our lives may bring honor to your name. **Amen.**

### \*GLORIA PATRI

*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.*

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### \*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

### MINISTRY OF MUSIC

*Life is Hard*

J. Lindsey

### FIRST LESSON

Psalm 32

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE****Bible Presentation**

Receive the Word of God. Learn its stories and study its words. Its stories belong to us all, and these words speak to us all. The Bible tells us who we are. It reminds us that we belong to one another, for we are the people of God. We are the Community of the Faithful.

*We receive these Bibles with thanks.*

*We will read and study the Bible together.*

**We rejoice in this step in your journey with God. We pray God will guide you as you read its stories and learn about God. May God bless you as you use this Bible in your home, Sunday school, and worship. We will continue to learn and grow together with you in our love for God's Word.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

***Our Father, which 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.***

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC**

*Bring Him Home*  
from the musical *Les Misérables*

Boublil & Schönberg

**\*PREACHING LESSON**

2 Corinthians 5:14-21  
This is the word of God for the People of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

"Bring Us Home"

Rev. Carol Hill

**INVITATION TO OFFERING****OFFERTORY**

*Thy Will Be Done*

Courtney

**\*DOXOLOGY**

***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.***

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**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**Loving God, we thank you for all the ways your grace sustains us. Thank you for your presence in our lives and your endless steadfast love. Bless these gifts that they might be a means of grace for those in need. Bless our efforts that through our ministries, suffering would be alleviated and your name made known. Amen.**

**\*HYMN**

*God, You Spin the Whirling Planets*

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**\*BENEDICTION****\*CHORAL BENEDICTION**

*Christ, We Do All Adore Thee*

DuBois

**POSTLUDE**

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

**BOLD** INDICATES TO SPEAK ALOUD IN ONE VOICE

LEADING US IN WORSHIP FEBRUARY 26, 2023 10:00 AM

Rev. Carol Hill, Senior Minister  
Pastor Mollie Foster, Associate Minister  
Ann Siena, Lector

Sasha Gerritson, Director of Music Ministries  
Sue Douglass, organ  
Jane Kenas-Heller, piano  
Jr. & Middle School Choirs  
Alex Makkawy, tenor  
Chancel Choir

CREDITS: Call to worship and Prayer of Confession are by Katherine Thomas Paisley, 2022.

Prayers of the People written by Patrick Ryan, Pastor at Kuhn Memorial Presbyterian Church in Barboursville, West Virginia and Katherine Thomas Paisley.

# 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!

**COFFEE HOUR** is held in Jordan Hall immediately following the 10 am service. Thank you to the Youth and Social Justice and Committees for hosting coffee hour this month!

**PLEASE SEE AN USHER...**for seat cushions and/or hearing assistance devices for use during worship.

*Thank you to our February ushers:* Adrian Hill, Bruce Nelson, Fred Siebert, Anita Rifkind, Tim Lapp, Lonnn Naudzius, and Laura Sissman.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are in celebration of Dolores Stenerson's birthday!

We've got a brand new sign-up sheet for all Sundays in 2023 just outside the office! If you're interested in purchasing flowers to dedicate, you can sign up on the sheet and the office will contact you closer to that Sunday. Our flower vendor has increased the price of our altar flowers to \$55. Payments can be made by check or through the church zelle/paypal!

**RESTROOMS** are located on the lower level at each end of the church.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** is offered for children and youth from Pre-K through 12th grade during the 10:00 am service! Pre-K-4th grade gather in the Sunday School Wing, 5th grade in the Library, and 6-12th grade in the Great Hall! On the 1st Sunday of each month, 6-12th graders will remain in worship for Holy Communion. The Nursery is available for all those under 3 years of age located on the lower level.

**ONLINE DONATIONS** can be made via PayPal or Zelle, our email is [giving@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:giving@parkridgecommunitychurch.org). Thank you!

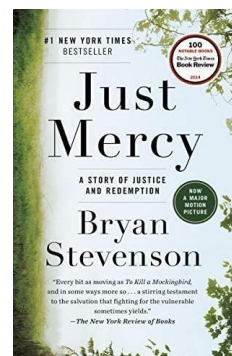
# ADULT EDUCATION

## BOOK GROUP

Everyone is invited to join! Our next book will be "Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption" by Bryan Stevenson. The discussions about the book will be led by Sarah McCarty. The plan is to discuss the book over 3 meetings, covering five chapters at a time. Then for a fourth gathering we will offer the chance to view the 2019 movie as a group.

Mon., Mar. 6, 7:00-8:00 pm (Ch. 12 - Epilogue)

Sun., Mar. 12, 3:30-6:30 pm, Watch movie version, dinner & discussion to follow

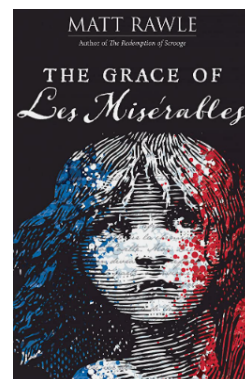


## LENT BIBLE STUDY

### Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in the Ellinger Transept

Victor Hugo's Les Misérables is a truly epic story. Throughout Lent, we will dive into six ideals found in the story—grace, justice, poverty, revolution, love, and hope—each represented by a character in Hugo's story. As these imperfect and relatable characters interact, we can see how these ideals work together (perhaps even in spite of each other) out in the world.

**Books are available for \$10 from the church office.**



# CHURCH EVENTS

## SUNDAY FEB. 26

- 8:30 am - Worship Service (Chapel)
- 10:00 am - Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 11:30 am - Youth Group (Great Hall)

## MONDAY FEB. 27

## TUESDAY FEB. 28

- 12:00 pm - Kindred Spirits (Great Hall)
- 4:00 pm - Jr. Choir (Choir Room)
- 5:00 pm - Middle School Choir (Choir Room)
- 7:30 pm - Stephen Ministry Supervision (Sunday School Wing)

## WEDNESDAY MAR. 01

- 10:00 am - Staff Meeting
- 6:00 pm - Intergenerational Basketball (Great Hall)
- 7:00 pm - Fly Fishermen Group (Sunday School Wing)
- 7:00 pm - Bible Study (Transept)

## THURSDAY MAR. 02

- 9:00 am - Men's Breakfast (Library)
- 6:15 pm - Bells on High (Sanctuary)
- 7:30 pm - Chancel Choir

## FRIDAY MAR. 03

## SATURDAY MAR. 04

### **NOTICE:**

**The downstairs area of the church  
will be closed for floor cleaning and  
sealing from 2/27 - 3/3**

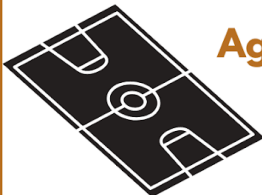
### **Happy Birthday!**

- 2/24 - Michael Jarvis
- 2/26 - Emma Hollingsworth
- 2/27 - Tom Klimmeck
- 3/1 - Eric Biedke, Benjamin Sacor, &  
Zander Gilliam
- 3/2 - Marilyn Sandnes
- 3/3 - Jaclyn Weir

## INTERGENERATIONAL BASKETBALL

**Wednesdays 6-7 pm  
in the Great Hall  
Beginning March 1st!**

**Ages 12 and up**



# YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

## SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER SIGN UP

A very special THANK YOU to all of the families who have helped in Sunday School already! We have loved having so many new faces in Sunday School! We are still in need of more volunteers for some upcoming Sundays. You can sign up [here](#).

## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL (Pre-K-5th Grades)

Children depart the service during the Children's Message and gather in the Sunday School Wing. Children rotate rooms by grade level and engage in scripture lessons, crafts, stories, and music!

## YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL (6th-12th Grades)

Youth will consider the topic "Simon Peter: The Earnest Blockhead" today in Sunday School! Youth Sunday School meets in the Great Hall and departs the service following the Children's Message.

## YOUTH GROUP (6th-12th Grades)

Today, Youth Group will meet in the Great Hall from 11:30-1:00 to create "Happy Accidents"!. We will learn how to paint from Bob Ross and apply his lessons in life to our faith! Lunch included!

# 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 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, Heather Cannon, Evan Curtis, Jon Forsythe, Candace Kidston, Christine Kotecki, Tommy Mack, Michael McDonough, Tracy McKenzie, Brian Stevens, Kathleen Weller, Joyce Wright, & Kate Zoellner.

## PRAYER REQUESTS FOR FEBRUARY 19TH:

- We give thanks for the success of a few different folks' medical procedures this week and pray for continued healing and strength for all.
- We continue to hold Mark M. in our prayers as he prepares for additional medical procedures.
- We pray for Marty M. as he moves to a new apartment this week.
- We give thanks that Dave K's sister in law's surgery went well. We pray for her as she heals and prepares for the upcoming chemo regimen.
- We hold Sasha's friend Darren's family in our prayers as Darren's father entered life in the resurrection this week.
- We hold Tom and Grace Curtis and their family in our prayers as Tom's father, Thomas, entered life in the resurrection on Feb. 14.
- We hold Fred and Naomi Siebert and their family in our prayers as Fred's father, Fred Sr. entered life in the resurrection early Friday morning (2/17).
- Jenny S. asks for prayers for a friend whose daughter was in a serious car accident with four other teenagers. We ask for continued healing for all involved.
- We pray for Paula's sister, Laura, as she heals and regains some of her vision following her surgery in November.
- We pray for Laura S's sister-in-law, Susan, who is having surgery for ovarian cancer this week. (2/21)
- We pray for Kim and Gary's trip to Europe and their travels be safe and smooth.
- We pray for the family of Brian Fergus, whose brother Rick, entered life in the resurrection this week.
- We pray for the communities of Michigan State University and El Paso as they've experienced the loss of loved ones by gun violence this week.

# VOLUNTEER



## LOVING LUNCHES - March 12th, 2023

Come join in serving PRCC's newest Outreach Partner, Loving Lunches. Each month PRCC will assist Loving Lunches by preparing and assembling 300+ lunches which will be delivered to those experiencing homelessness in the Chicagoland area. If you would like to volunteer, sign up by clicking [here](#), scanning the QR code, or by contacting Paula Mack at [paula.mack@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:paula.mack@parkridgecommunitychurch.org).



## LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY SHELTER - April 6th, 2023

Assistance is needed to help prepare food for Lincoln Park Community Shelter. Join the team for meal prep at 11:30 am in the church kitchen. If you would like to volunteer, you can do so by [clicking here](#), scanning the QR code, or by contacting Luan Zoellner at [lzoellner@ameritech.net](mailto:lzoellner@ameritech.net).



## SUNDAY SUPPER - May 21st, 2023

PRCC works with the Park Ridge Ministerial Association to prepare meals 3-4 times a year for those having difficulty providing enough food for their families. Sunday Suppers are hosted at Park Ridge Presbyterian Church. Meals are prepped at PRCC and served at the host site. The demand has increased for Sunday Suppers so we will prepare and serve food for 100 guests. [Click here](#) to sign up to volunteer today! Thank you for considering to help provide meals for local families in need.



## THE BRIDGE PROJECT - Collection March 1st - 19th, 2023

Beginning on March 1st through March 19th we will be collecting new cosmetic bags, like the ones given with sample products, along with travel size toiletries. On March 19th we will be filling the bags after the 10 am service. All donations will be given to the Bridge Project for distribution to the homeless. A collection box will be in the Park Place room. As always your generosity is so greatly appreciated.

## SUPPORT THE YOUTH MISSION TRIPS!

HAVE FUN SWIMMING WHILE HELPING  
THE PRCC YOUTH MAKE THEIR WAY TO  
PHILADELPHIA & MILWAUKEE THIS SUMMER!

SUNDAY, MARCH 5  
2-4PM

GOLDFISH SWIM SCHOOL  
678 N NORTHWEST HWY

\$20 PER PERSON  
ALL AGES WELCOME!



# Connections

A Peer Support and Social Group



7:00–8:30 pm at PRCC

Two Thursdays a month

Starting March 9th & 23rd

Connections is a non-religious community-wide group open to students ages 13-18 who identify as LGBTQ+ and allies.

All are welcome here!

To learn about opportunities to volunteer or for general information, please contact Shelley O'Brien at [rainbows@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:rainbows@parkridgecommunitychurch.org)

**Park Ridge Community Church**  
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