



Park Ridge Community Church

August 2026

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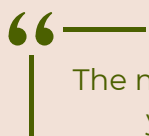
Church Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 9 am - 3 pm

*Pastors are off on Fridays/Saturdays except
for emergency pastoral needs.*

AUGUST ONLY:

OFFICE IS CLOSED ON FRIDAYS



The mountains and the hills before
you shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall
clap their hands.
Isaiah 55:12



AUGUST 2: Strength in the Storm- Bryce National Park

Psalm 69:1-3, 13-18, 33-34;

Matthew 8:23-27

Rev. Carol Hill preaching; Communion

AUGUST 9: Perspective Rocky Mountain National Park

Psalm 121; 1 Kings 19:11-19

Rev. Carol Hill preaching

AUGUST 16: Border Crossing Big Bend National Park

Deuteronomy 10:16-19; Luke 10:25-37

Rev. Carol Hill preaching; Baptism at 10

AUGUST 23: Grandeur Grand Canyon National Park

Isaiah 55:6-13; Psalm 139

Rev. Carol Hill preaching; Baptism at 10

AUGUST 30: Naming Denali National Park

Exodus 3:11-15; Matthew 16:13-20

Rev. Carol Hill preaching

The Pastor's Note

Rev. Carol Hill, Senior Minister

847-823-3164 x. 14

pastorcarol@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

Life's Endless Adventure



I think one of my grandparents' favorite words was "adventure." Whether we were headed to the grocery store or to climb a mountain, it was an adventure! It's been fun hearing stories of your trips through National Parks and the variety of adventures you have taken. We took our kids to the Grand Canyon when the twins were only 18 months old...THAT was an adventure! They've seen Niagara Falls and been terrified by the power of the waterfalls. They've hiked and seen black bears in the White Mountains in New Hampshire. When we've planned road trips, whether to the Smoky Mountains or even to Alaska, often the biggest adventures were the ones we didn't plan.

Perhaps that's one of the blessings of Creation. We didn't make it. We can't control it. We are responsible to help preserve and protect it, but ultimately when we stand under a starry night sky or spot a moose...our natural response is almost always simply wonder and awe! We know who God is...and it's not us!

*When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have established;
what are humans that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?
Psalm 8:3-4*

As we prepare for another year of ministry, another school year, another year of making plans and then taking a few detours along the way, I pray that our summer road trip through the National Parks together will keep us grounded. I hope that God's whispers will echo in our hearts as we pause to be amazed at the wonders of God's movement! We are constantly striving to add tools to our spiritual toolbox to help us navigate life using our faith as a guide. Our current realities and those that are to come will almost certainly bring joys and challenges alike. I pray that we will find our strength and wisdom bolstered because of this summer-time adventure! And when we face detours and are re-routed, may we experience each moment as a new adventure with God as our pilot and the Spirit as our guide.

LET'S GO

ADVENTURE



Board Update



Happy Summer! It has been a hot one but... WE HAVE AIR CONDITIONING! What a blessing it is to sit in the pews and enjoy the service! Gone are the days of picking a seat based on where the fan is pointing and hoping someone does not block the flow from reaching you.

While attending a few PRCC Celebrations of Life this summer, it was wonderful to see people enjoying time together while the air conditioning kept the Sanctuary and our guests cool and comfortable. What a blessing!

PRCC was busy in June with Vacation Bible School, the Youth Mission Trip to Portland and the Chancel Choir Trip to Italy (it was hot there too)! July had some smokey days (the air conditioning was crucial to keeping our doors open), an ice cream social, a Christmas in July party, an Outreach School Supply Drive for Kids Above All, and never missing Loving Lunches or dinner for Lincoln Park Shelter. Wow!

In June, Morgan Tone notified the Board of Directors she was stepping down as Director of Children's Ministry. Morgan accepted a teaching position in her children's school where she will teach 5th grade. We wish Morgan the best and celebrate all she has done to help PRCC children and their families. Morgan has been a blessing to PRCC and we will miss her!

The SPRC moved swiftly by posting the Director of Children's and Family Ministry position, reviewing resumes, and conducting interviews. After thoughtful and prayerful consideration it was clear that the best candidate was Kate Joyce! We are delighted to have Kate join the PRCC team and look forward to the ways she will contribute to PRCC.

The Trustees inch toward completion of the fire and safety projects. PRCC looks well cared for and beautiful. A new door has been installed by the Sunday School wing as part of the fire/safety grant. Another door is coming for the far end of the Sunday School wing. The internal steeple project remains ongoing as the Trustees await quotes.

The Finance Committee assures us that pledged giving is on track and reports we recently received a generous estate gift from our beloved Ginny Feurer. Ginny intended her gift to help bring air conditioning to PRCC! We beat her to it! Once again, Ginny was trying to take care of us.

A [churchwide survey](#) was opened in July to gather the thoughts of our PRCC members and visitors alike. The survey is meant to help guide the Board of Directors over the next

couple of years. What you think matters! Thank you for taking the time to thoughtfully complete the survey. A Board retreat is planned for **August 22** where we will use the survey results to help guide future planning.

It is always wonderful to be in community with you on our church lawn, in the church kitchen, on a mission trip or singing in Italy! God Bless,
Colleen Moriarty and Scott Hollingsworth



AUGUST Birthdays!



8/1 Marylynn Collentine
8/2 Rosie Pringle
8/4 Jay Crowley
8/6 Eddy Dase
8/8 Terry Krah
8/9 Denise Steele
8/10 Gisella Milla
8/11 Mary Lynch
8/11 Sean Lynch
8/12 Chloe Sanderson
8/13 Liz Swanson
8/14 Ann Merrell

8/15 Lynn Doherty
8/15 Mary Hannon
8/16 Elijah Johnson
8/16 Zach Nelson
8/16 Carrie Plach
8/17 Charlotte DiCristofano
8/17 Will Smith
8/18 Aria Geye
8/19 William Zarach
8/21 Jimmy Muenzer
8/21 Pete Muenzer
8/22 Justin McCarty

8/22 Paul Rauch
8/23 Archer Geye
8/25 Bill Scharringhausen
8/26 Max Chandler
8/26 Rich Sivertsen
8/27 Angie Papassavas
8/27 Jan Steiner
8/28 Michael Proue
8/29 Bob Mack
8/30 Everly Makar
8/31 Andrea Goodwin
8/31 Joe Salamone



Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa

• **Aug 23rd Chicago Dogs Baseball Game Outing!**

						1
2	3 7 pm Yoga 7 pm Trustees Mtg.	4 10:15 am Chair Yoga 6:30 pm Floor Pilates 6:30 pm Ministry Council	5 10 am Women's AA 10 am Staff Mtg.	6 9 am Men's Breakfast 10:30 am Lincoln Park Services 6 pm Outreach Committee Meeting	7	8 11 am Greg Sarlo Memorial
9 8:30 am Garden Worship 10 am Sanctuary Worship 11:30 am Loving Lunches 4 pm Youth Pool Party	10 6:30 pm Memorial Gifts 7 pm Yoga	11 10:15 am Chair Yoga 6:30 pm Floor Pilates 7 pm Welcome/Memb ZOOM	12 10 am Women's AA 6 pm Faith Dev. Mtg.	13 9 am Men's Breakfast 11 am Ronald McDonald Services	14	15 Vine St BBQ Competition & Fest
16 8:30 am Garden Worship 10 am Sanctuary Worship	17 1 pm Knitting Knights 6 pm Finance 7 pm Yoga	18 10:15 am Chair Yoga 12 pm Kindred Spirits 6:30 pm Floor Pilates	19 10 am Women's AA	20 9 am Men's Breakfast	21	22 9-12 BOD Retreat
23 8:30 am Garden Worship 10 am Sanctuary Worship 3:00 pm - Chicago Dogs!	24 6:30 pm Exec Comm 7:30 pm BOD Mtg.	25 10:15 am Chair Yoga 12 pm Kindred Spirits 6:30 pm Floor Pilates	26 10 am Women's AA	27 9 am Men's Breakfast Fire & Wine FUNDRAISER	28	29
30 8:30 am Garden Worship 10 am Sanctuary Worship	31 7 pm Yoga					



stephen MINISTRY



By: Anita Rifkind

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9

Father Anton, a Trappist Monk at the Abbey of Gethsemani, recently sent me a homily in which he addressed what he called “among the saddest words in our Bible ... ‘and Judas Iscariot who betrayed Jesus.’”

Although the New Testament doesn't say why Judas did it, Fr. Anton says we know how it was possible. “God can summon, (God) can invite, offer, but (God) cannot forceThe choice is ours.” Judas had free will, he could choose; and he chose to trade his soul for 30 pieces of silver.

Fr. Anton points out, “Throughout history we run into choices made by others, not by inspiration, nor by grace, but choices made by human passions out of control: anger, greed, envy, hatred, lust... it's all through our family tree.” Even in our own lives “...we choose the course, one way or the other. It's like we're trading, giving up something that's good in exchange for something that seems to be better.”

To me the “choosing” is not limited to monumental decisions. We are asked by the God of Love to “trade up” as Fr. Anton calls it, many times every day, and often in ways that aren't immediately obvious. We may choose reconciliation over being right; patience over expediency; humility over hubris; sacrifice over sanctimony; simplicity over supremacy; or hope over fear. There are uncountable numbers of such moments. And each and every time, each and every one of us can choose Love. Or not.

Fr. Anton reminds us that some of the “trades” we have made haven't been any better than those of Biblical, historical, or even contemporary figures. “The difference is ... we have said: I am sorry.” We don't know if Judas ever asked God for forgiveness, but we do know that he, lots of other people in the Bible and in history, likely even each of us, have made choices we regret. However, we also know that God would forgive all of them — and us — if we ask.

Stephen Ministers trade many hours of their lives for the training to be truly present when they are needed, to meet a person wherever they are on their journey, to empathize with whatever difficult situation is being experienced. In that trade, Stephen Ministers make the choice to Love.

What of you? Are you or your loved ones facing devastating challenges or consequences because of choices made by others, or even your own? Perhaps you are facing a difficult conjunction of circumstances over which you have no control, such as illness or loss. Whatever the cause, whatever the situation, as Viktor Frankl reminds us in *Man's Search for Meaning*, there is always a choice. You can choose to accept compassion over pride, comforting presence over stoic loneliness, and Love over fear and alienation.

One choice might include whether (or not) to have a Stephen Minister walk with you. Speak to either Pastor Carol or Pastor Mollie, or any Stephen Leader: Sarah McCarty, Liz Swanson, Naomi Siebert, Laura Sissman, or me. You'll definitely be trading up!

Stephen Ministry: One-on-One, Confidential, Christ-Centered

STEPHEN LEADERS:

Sarah McCarty: sarah.mccarty@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

Anita Rifkind: anitar@att.net

Naomi Siebert: naomi.siebert@gmail.com

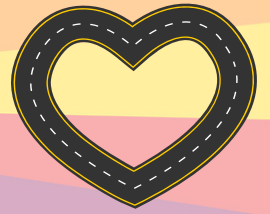
Laura Sissman: lsissman741@gmail.com

Liz Swanson: liz@parkridgecommunitychurch.org



A Reflection on a Hopeful and Joyful Pride Month

By Jim Davis



In reflecting on this past Pride Month, Scott and I have become even more thankful for PRCC and its' commitment to being open and affirming. Every week, I enter a sanctuary where LGBTQ+ people are not merely accepted, but unconditionally loved, valued, celebrated, and encouraged to live out our faith as our authentic selves, fully made in the image of God. This acceptance is a gift I never take for granted.

This past year has been filled with unexpected blessings. Through serving on the Pride in Park Ridge planning committee, I found another expression of God's love. I was given the opportunity to use my skills in marketing and event management to maintain the event website and manage social media. Telling stories of joy, belonging, and celebration didn't just bless others—it transformed me. Sharing hope has a way of creating hope.

Then, after becoming Co-Chair of the Social Justice Team at PRCC this past spring, I had the privilege of learning about the Chicago Coalition of Welcoming Churches (CCWC). I am deeply grateful to Rick Graham, who invited me to serve as his co-chair and to help represent PRCC within the coalition as we prepared for the Chicago Pride Parade.

What began as an opportunity to serve quickly became a meaningful and joy-filled experience, as I found myself coordinating the coalition's social media and documenting the powerful witness of more than 150 people of faith marching together in love.

When you consider that this outreach joined 15,000 other parade participants, with over one million people lining the streets and even more watching on ABC 7, it is truly inspiring. It fills me with hope to think that if even a handful of people saw us and were reminded that there is a faith community—perhaps even in their own neighborhood—that will welcome and affirm them just as they are, then every moment of effort was more than worth it. I am thankful to have been part of something that so clearly reflects love, inclusion, and the good news we are called to share.

In a world where so many LGBTQ+ people still hear they are "less than," that kind of love I have discovered at PRCC is profoundly healing. Especially in these uncertain times, this church has become a sanctuary of hope.

To each of you: thank you for your courage to lead with love, your open hearts, and your commitment to a theology that refuses to put limits on God's grace. I know that God is amongst us, because I can see God's love in your faces. Your ministry changes lives. It has certainly changed mine.

I am deeply grateful to walk this journey of faith alongside you. Scott and I are proud to call Park Ridge Community Church our home. My hope is that we never stop building a world that reflects God's heart—a world where every person knows they are beloved, has a seat at the table, and is free to live, love, serve, and flourish as God created them to be.

A Big Thank You to our Garden Angels

Our church gardens are looking great this year, and it is all thanks to a dedicated group of members who are quietly pulling weeds, trimming and keeping things watered and happy.

Many thanks to the following "Garden Angels" (in no particular order)

John Sasser
Paula and Bob Mack
Barbara and Bill Scharringhausen
Ulla and Rich Sivertsen
Colleen Moriarty and Lonn Naudzius
Sandy Bowen and Lauri McCleneghan
Julie Bruno



Hollyhock by
Sandy Bowen

Pastor Mollie Foster
Sharon and Bill Peterson
The Reynolds Family
The Figgins Family
Marylynn and Dick Collentine
Janet Johnson
Mary Belke

Volunteer Spotlight

Each month we highlight one of many extraordinary volunteers whose contributions are making a difference at PRCC!



This month we recognize Kathy Erlandson!

After joining PRCC with her husband Marc in September 2022, Kathy jumped right into anything and everything she could.

Kathy has a way of putting everyone at ease with her listening ear which she has put to use as a long time Stephen Minister. She is always willing to lend a helping hand where ever she can and has been an active member of the senior contact team. She is always ready to bake, send a card, drop off flowers to whoever is in need. In addition, Kathy has served on the Staff

Parish Relations Committee and is currently one of the co-chairs of the Memorial Gifts team. Kathy has added her musical talents in the choir and has been joined the groups to travel to both Greece and Italy with her fellow church friends.

Thank you Kathy for always having open arms to all and anyone who is in need. Your commitment to PRCC is a gift to everyone around you.

Welcome, Kate Joyce:

Director of Children and Family Ministries

Many of you already know Kate as a familiar face around PRCC. She has been an active member of our congregation for many years, serving in a variety of roles including Sunday School teacher, Vacation Bible School volunteer and director, youth ministry leader, Church Clerk, and most importantly, as a parent whose own family has been nurtured by this community. Her deep love for PRCC and its mission, along with her passion for helping children and families grow in faith, make her a wonderful fit for this ministry.

Professionally, Kate brings more than twelve years of experience in education. She holds a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a master's degree in Special Education, and has served as an elementary teacher, instructional coach, English as a Second Language teacher, and Camp Invention Director. Throughout her career, she has been committed to creating welcoming, engaging, and inclusive learning environments where every child can thrive. Kate is excited to partner with families, recruit and encourage volunteers, and continue building a vibrant children's ministry where infants, children, and families can learn, grow, serve, and experience God's love together. We are excited to see how God will work through her leadership in the months and years ahead.



RALLY DAY!



September 13, 2026

Celebrate as we kick off the ministry year!

ONE SERVICE: 10:00 AM



LUNCH & FUN

FOLLOWING ON THE LAWN

- DEACON DOGS - BOUNCE HOUSE -

August News

All Church Survey

Open until August 15th!

Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts, dreams, feedback, and suggestions! The Board will use these ideas in our Retreat! [Click Here.](#)



Women's Circle 10

Circle 10 Swap-a-looza!

Tuesday, September 15 @ 7:00 pm

All are invited to an evening of good company and guilt-free "shopping"! Let's catch up over dessert and drinks while we pass along a few beloved goodies. Here's how it works: Bring 3 home decor or personal accessory items you're ready to part with—those charming treasures that deserve a second life.

Then, shop the swap and go home with 3 "new to you" finds from someone else's collection! Suggested \$5 cash donation goes to the Women's Circle 10 Fund, supporting our Bereavement Ministry.

Bring your friends, your treasures, and find something new.



Men's Breakfast



Thursdays at 9 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!*



Knitting Knights

Monday, 8/17 @ 1:00 pm



The Knitting Knights will be meeting on Monday, 8/17 at 1:00 pm in Jordan Hall. We are still working on hearts for the Medical Lending Closet, Red scarves and Twiddle muffs for the memory care at Central Baptist Village. Join us and learn more about all these projects while we have fun together crafting and chatting. If you need more information, please reach out to Liz Swanson.

Kindred Spirits Café

Tuesdays at 12:00 pm

Come one, come all! Join us for an hour of fun and fellowship each Tuesday in Jordan Hall. Bring your lunch and we'll provide dessert. Our programming changes monthly, so see the schedule below for our August plans. Email Sarah with questions or to be added to our email list:

sarah.mccarty@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

Aug. 18: Celebrate August Birthdays and Catch Up on Summer

Aug. 25: Guest Josephine Bernero from Resurrection Village - Lunch Provided!



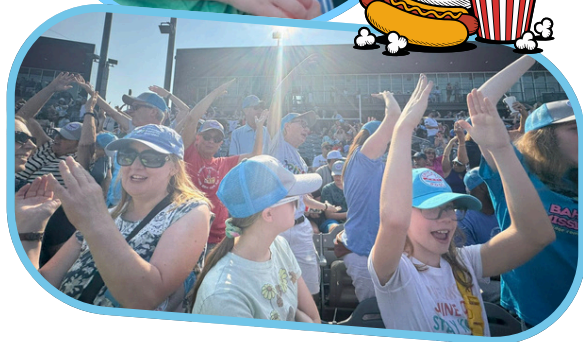
Summer Cleaning

Are you free to lend a helping hand? We'll be cleaning out and organizing some of our storage spaces in anticipation of the ministry year ahead. Sign up for a two hour slot to help us keep our building in tip-top shape! Reach out to Pastor Mollie or Sarah McCarty with any questions. We appreciate your help!

**SIGN UP
HERE!**



Fellowship News



PRCC is heading to the ballpark!
Come watch the Chicago Dogs take on the
Gary SouthShore RailCates!

Sunday, August 23rd at 3:00 PM!
Tickets are \$17.00 each. All ages welcome!

It's Family Sunday at the park and includes:

- Free Dogs Hat!
- Catch on the Field
- Autographs
- Bottomless Popcorn (\$3.50)
- Bottomless Fountain Drinks (\$3.50)

GET TICKETS HERE!

Volunteer Opportunities

THE MEDICAL LENDING CLOSET (MLC) has been a service ministry at PRCC for over 33 years! It has been staffed solely by volunteers and provides short-term loans of durable medical equipment (walkers, wheelchairs, bath seats, etc.) to anyone in need.

The MLC is currently in need of additional volunteers to add to our team. The days/hours are Mon., Wed., Fri., and Sat. from 9:30 am to noon. Volunteers typically sign up for 2 or 3 days per month and self-select the days they are available.

Training for volunteers is provided, and you will work with another volunteer until you feel comfortable on your own. The people we help are so appreciative and it's a great feeling to help those in need.

For more information or you're ready to volunteer, contact Tricia Williams at 847-707-0713 (triciablakew@sbcglobal.net), Sandy Bowen at 847-727-7297 (prccsandy@msn.com), or Karen Nelson at 847-293-5151 (knelsonmusic@gmail.com).



SENIOR CONTACT: Want a quick and easy way to make someone's day?
Join the Senior Contact Rideshare Team!

We have a few folks in our congregation who no longer drive but would like to be able to attend services in person occasionally. Could you help? Please contact Julie Bruno at 773-647-4437 (jbruno61@comcast.net) or Sarah McCarty at 312-505-1730 (sarah.mccarty@parkridgecommunitychurch.org) to learn more.

Outreach News



GREAT FOOD GREAT CAUSE!

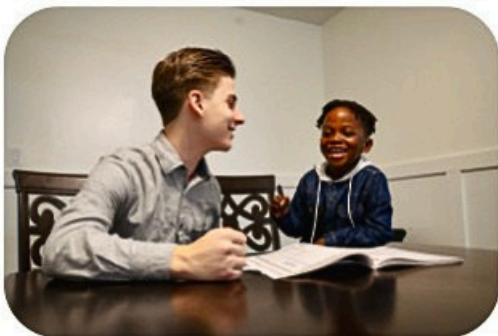
**Tired of cooking in the
summer heat?
Need to take one thing off
your back-to-school to-do list?**

Join us on **Thursday, August 27**
by dining in or ordering carryout from **Fire + Wine**.

20% of your purchase will benefit our Christian Outreach efforts.
Mention PRCC's Christian Outreach fundraiser when you place your order
so your purchase counts toward the donation.
Good food, no dishes to wash, and support a great cause—
it's a win for everyone!



Be a Friend to a Refugee Youth!



Visit a youth in their home
(1 hour weekly, 3 months)



Volunteer at Kids Club in Chicago
(1.5 hours weekly/bimonthly, 3 months)



Sign up by Sept 15!

You'll help with homework, English language practice, reading, and more, supporting students as they build academic skills and confidence.

Outreach News

SERVE WITH US!



Lincoln Park Community Shelter

August 6

We prepare and cook a healthy meal for approximately 35 adults who are experiencing homelessness on the first Thursday of each month. Our prep/cook time is 10:30 am - 1:30 pm. SIGN UP if you are available to help. We need 3 people to prep/cook and 1 person to deliver the prepared meal to Lincoln Park.



Loving Lunches

August 9: Please SIGN UP HERE.

There is an ongoing need for donations of items used to pack 160 Loving Lunches each month! We lovingly accept donations of the lunch items! Contact Paula Mack at pcbmack@gmail.com for more information or if you know an outside group or organization that would like to help.



Ronald McDonald House

August 13

The Christian Outreach Committee provides lunches quarterly for the Ronald McDonald Family Room at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge. Let Kathy Erlandson know if you wish to help that day. You are always welcome to contribute food/snacks for families of children undergoing treatment; please use their WISHLIST.



Disaster Relief Funds

The Christian Outreach Committee contributed \$500 toward flood relief for the state of Hawaii that experienced devastating floods in Spring. We are pleased to report that \$300 was also received from the congregation and directed to the UCC for relief efforts. We will now direct funds from the congregation for **earthquake recovery efforts in Venezuela**.

Contributions can be sent to the church office, online, or through Zelle. Please designate "Venezuela" on the memo.



Food Pantries

Non-perishable foods can be dropped off at any time on the cart in Butler Place for our Little Outdoor Pantry or the Maine Township Food Pantry (MTFP). We will ensure donations are distributed where most needed. You can always view and shop the Maine Township Food Pantry online wishlist conveniently from home. MTFP reports elevated food needs and that volunteers are very much needed. The Pantry will be relocating to handle larger refrigeration capabilities.



Children's Ministry

Morgan Tone, Director of Children's Ministry



Dear Church Family,

As I write this final newsletter message as Director of Children's Ministry, I am filled with more emotions than I can easily put into words. For the past five years, it has been an incredible privilege to serve the children and families of this congregation. This ministry has been so much more than a job to me. It has been a place where I have watched children grow in faith, ask meaningful questions, form friendships, discover their gifts, and learn just how deeply they are loved by God.

Thank you to every parent who trusted me with your children, every volunteer who generously shared your time and talents, every staff member who encouraged and supported me, and every member of the congregation who prayed for and invested in our young people. Children's ministry is truly the work of an entire church family, and I have been continually inspired by the love and generosity of this congregation.

Although I am stepping away from this position to return to the classroom full-time, I will always carry the relationships, experiences, and memories from this ministry with me. Serving here has shaped me both personally and professionally, and I am deeply grateful for the ways you have welcomed, encouraged, and loved me and my family.

Transitions are bittersweet, but I am excited to see how God continues to work through the children's ministry in this next chapter. I know this congregation will continue to surround its children with faith, joy, compassion, and belonging. Thank you for allowing me the honor of being part of your children's lives and faith journeys. **It has been one of the greatest blessings of my life.**

I hope to see you all in the pews!

With love and gratitude,

Morgan



thank you

Children's Ministry



NURSERY CARE IS
AVAILABLE ALL
SUMMER & IN
WORSHIP BAGS ARE
AVAILABLE FOR
CHILDREN WHO STAY
IN WORSHIP.

Sunday School
Registration 2026-2027
Pre-K - 5th grade:
Registration for the
2026-2027 Sunday
School year is
underway! Every child
who attends Sunday
School must have a
registration form on file.
Please register today!

REGISTER
HERE!

SUMMER KIDS SCHEDULE

We won't meet every Sunday during the summer, but we'd love to gather once a month for Messy Church during the 10:00 worship service. We'll meet to learn, play, and grow together through fun, hands-on experiences!



PRCC Youth 6TH-12TH GRADES

BIG DATES TO SAVE:

- **AUG 9: BACK TO SCHOOL POOL PARTY:** See below!
- **SEPT 2: WACKY WEDNESDAY BEGINS**
- **SEPT 13: RALLY DAY**
- **SEPT 20: SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS / CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION**
- **SEPT 27: YOUTH CELEBRATION SUNDAY:** Sharing of the Portland Mission Trip stories in worship at 10am, followed by a celebration lunch in Jordan Hall! 2027 Mission Trip revealed and registration opens!
- **OCT 24-25: YOUTH FALL RETREAT:** An overnight getaway with high adventure activities at Camp Timber-Lee!

POOL PARTY

AUG. 9TH
4-6 PM
PASTOR CAROL'S
POOL!

All youth entering 6th-12th grade are invited for a back to school splash party! swimming- hot dogs- fun!



Celebrating Our Story

Summer Snapshots



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



CHRISTMAS IN JULY



ITALY CHOIR TOUR



PORTLAND MISSION TRIP



WORSHIP MOMENTS





...MORE

Summer Snapshots



JACK TILLEY TURNS 100!



ICE CREAM SOCIAL



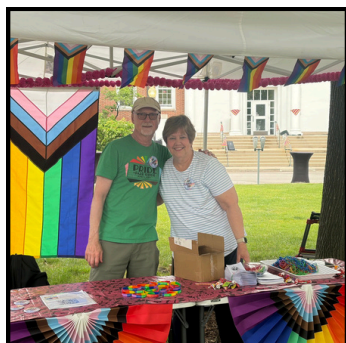
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FOLK SUNDAY



PRIDE IN PARK RIDGE 2026



TRUSTEE WORK



AT CITY COUNCIL



ANNIVERSARY FUN!



Ministry Council

PRCC Ministry Council includes EVERY ministry area!

The Ministry Council will meet on **August 4 at 6:30 pm** in Jordan Hall to plan the fall and look at the big picture of the 2026-2027 ministry year! We will consider the preliminary results of the Church-wide Survey as we plan, dream, and prepare for all that is to come!



Our Prayer Ministry

As the days of summer begin to soften and we prepare for the changing seasons ahead, we are reminded that God's faithfulness never changes. Whether we come with hearts full of gratitude or weighed down by worry, we are blessed to bring our joys and our burdens before God together as a community of faith. Trusting in God's abiding presence and steadfast love, we especially lift up those on our long-term prayer list:

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



Joys

- We give thanks for the life and faith of Ginny F. whose estate just blessed our Church Endowment.
- We give thanks with Bill and Tricia W.'s friends and family as they celebrating their son, Winston's, marriage.
- We are grateful for Morgan's contributions and leadership in our Children's Ministries over the past five years and, although it is sad for us, we celebrate a new professional opportunity for her that will begin in August
- We celebrate the Kapolneks' 40th anniversary and Kym's good test results!
- We celebrate the joy of summer travel and pray for the rest and renewal for those who are away. We rejoice in memorable family moments, like first roller coaster rides, and visits with those near and dear to us, like Sandy B.'s sister.
- We give thanks for Keith R. and Lonn N. who installed our new Sunday School security door.
- Rick B. shares prayers of gratitude that both his brother, Mark, and his childhood friend, Robin, are both cancer-free after completing their respective treatments.
- We give thanks for the gardeners in our congregation who have weeded and cared so tenderly for our grounds.



Healing & Recovery

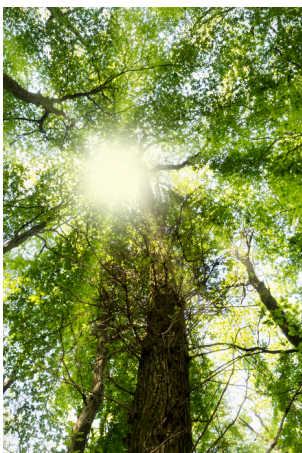
- Dave and Gretchen K would appreciate prayers their nephew, Pete S., having an angiogram and sister-in-law, Bonnie, having heart valve replacement surgery.
- Naomi S. asks for prayers for her cousin, JoEllen, who recently suffered a stroke.
- Louis K. asks for prayers for his friend and colleague Dave D. who had emergency brain surgery after a hemorrhage this week.
- We give prayers of thanksgiving for the healing of Dorothy L.'s son, Cary, after a serious car accident in May and pray for his continued progress.
- We pray for Karen N.'s brother, Bron, that the doctors are able to discern the type of cancer he has and the best treatment plan moving forward.
- Jenny S. asks for prayers for her mom who begins care with a new caregiver while we still struggle with her ongoing needs and next steps. A prayer for my dad as he manages all of this while healing from his own surgery.
- Prayers for Angie P.'s close friend having surgery for pancreatic cancer on Tuesday.
- We hold in prayer a family member who is recovering from a fall. May their healing be swift and without complication.
- Sandy B. asks for prayers for newborn baby Simon on life support.

Our Prayer Ministry



General Prayers

- We pray for Katie R.'s friend, Carleigh, who is undergoing diagnostic testing for serious cardiac disease.
- We pray for Kym's health and an upcoming tests, and diagnoses.
- Brendan J. requests prayers for his friends Vince and Beas as they navigate the anxiety-filled early stages of a high-risk pregnancy.
- Prayers for Jason H. who has just been laid off and seeking guidance for what comes next.
- We hold Pastor Carol's grandparents in our prayers as her Grandfather Don has begun hospice care, her grandfather Alex has just been moved to skilled nursing, and her grandmother Carolyn suffered a stroke this week and is still in the hospital.
- We pray for a friend and a family member who are both pursuing new jobs.
- We pray for those impacted by the devastating effects of climate change, including the wildfires currently raging in Canada and northern Minnesota.
- Prayers for a friend and husband who have lost their jobs and have a daughter beginning high school in August.
- We pray for families who are feeling overwhelmed by the costs of gas, costs of groceries, costs of tuition, and trying to make ends meet.



Life in the Resurrection

- Kathy C. asks for prayers for her mother's caregiver, Odette, who died unexpectedly this week. We pray for the peace and comfort of her loved ones.
- We continue to surround the Sindt family with our love and prayers, as the celebration of life for Judy continues to echo in their hearts.
- We mourn with Charlyn and Paul R. as their son, Kevin Paul Rauch, entered Life in the Resurrection yesterday. (July 25)
- We celebrate Fred F.'s life and that such a joyous celebration was shared.
- Blaire S. requests prayers for her friend, Kathleen, who recently lost her mother. May she be surrounded by love and peace during this difficult time.

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 40:31





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