



Park Ridge Community Church

January 2026

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Happy
New Year

Church Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 9 am - 3 pm

The office is closed from 12-12:30 pm for lunch.

*Pastors' Days off are Fridays and Saturdays.
Please only contact in an emergency.*

“—

When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was.

Matthew 2:9



January 4: The Vision that Beckons Us
Epiphany; ONE SERVICE at 10 am
Exodus 13:17-22; Matthew 2:1-12

Pastor Mollie preaching; Communion

January 11: The Vision that Changes Us
Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 3:2-3,7-16, 21-23

January 18: The Vision that Challenges Us
Amos 5:14-15, 21-24 Luke 4:16-30

January 25: The Vision that Stretches Us
NEW MEMBER SUNDAY
Acts 10:19-35; Luke 5:1-11

The Pastor's Note

Rev. Carol Hill, Senior Minister
pastorcarol@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

A Vision for the New Day

A New Year offers us the opportunity to reset, and even though we can choose to reset our habits and patterns anytime we want, a new year gives us a mile marker, which often is exactly the incentive we need. We will begin our year together considering the vision worth following. The Wise Ones followed a star because they were convinced it would be worth the trek. Disciples followed Jesus because they sensed something about this guy that was different. The Christian Church grew by leaps and bounds as folks were attracted to the new ways that people were treating each other, new ways of relating to the Divine, and new possibilities for community.

We will consider the vision we have for our own lives and the vision we have for our community of faith, not just for the next few months, but for the years to come. What are we about? What is it that we do differently that brings people through our doors? What do you think God is calling us to do that we have been too afraid to consider in the past?

We have plenty of scriptures to inspire us onward: Jeremiah 29: 11 "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." Isaiah 43:18-19 speaks of the new thing God is about to do. Revelation 21:3-4 paints the vision of the new day: "See, the home of God is among mortals. God will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and be their God; God will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."



"Do not remember the former things
or consider the things of old.

I am about to do a

NEW THING

now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?"

Isaiah 43:18-19

When Jesus began his public ministry, crowds followed and word spread. His revolutionary teachings created enemies as well, but the hope that emerged spread like wildfire. The joy and hope is present today - we see it as we live into Jesus' call to feed his sheep, to welcome the outcast, and resist injustice.

A few new things on the horizon this year:

- New Nominations of leaders & Teams;
- A Bible study to learn about transgender persons, biblical foundation, and better understanding of gender diversity; AND Pride in Park Ridge 2026;
- Intentional Building improvements to make our spaces more accessible and hospitable (decluttering, furniture arrangement, paint & decor, etc.);
- Understanding Mental Health initiatives that could benefit our congregation and wider community (Jan. 25 at 3 pm);
- A new fee structure for outside group using our building to help underwrite costs;
- Inviting feedback and conversation about what ministries need more focus, where we could grow, and how we can increase meaningful engagement

What has God placed on your heart? What vision has God shared with you? I am excited to step into this new day with you as we faithfully consider God's call for this moment!

Board Update



Happy New Year!

Hoping this newsletter finds you well and you had a great Christmas. With a short breath during the holidays, the Board of Directors is ready to begin the second half of our year as we finish our budgeting process that is FILLED WITH HOPE based on the faithful generosity of this congregation! We are so thankful for all the gifts we receive throughout the year. We'll also continue working on our church policy to help ensure our whole church is operating from a place of shared understanding. There is a lot to do and we are moving forward!

Both the Executive Committee and Board of Directors met in December to continue to move forward with our annual goals:

1. Engaging Our Church Body

- a. Growing in Numbers of Active Members
- b. Engaging the Faith of all ages - in Love of God and Love of Neighbor
- c. Empowering Ministry Involvement/Leadership
- d. Meaningful Connections - Small Group
- e. Encouraging "Sweat Equity"

2. Invitation into Faithful Fellowship

- a. To Build Our Connections with one another
- b. Clarifying Our identity & What PRCC is about
- c. Projecting Our Values Outward to Invite Others In
- d. Broaden Our Impact on the World

3. Updating Our Resources to Facilitate Ministry

- a. Teaching Faithful Stewardship
- b. Building a Foundation for Generations to Come
- c. Investing in Safe and Welcoming Spaces
- d. Updating our Technology

If you feel 2026 is the year for you to work closer with PRCC or God is calling you to plug in more to the community, please reach out to our pastors or any member of the Board of Directors, or member of the Nominations Committee as we soon will begin our Nominations process. Every team and committee can use help as we observe term limits and we will make sure we plug you into the group that best fits your interests and talents. As always your time and energy is important, appreciated, and impactful as we continue to do God's work.

Wishing you a Happy and
HOPE-FULL New Year,

Dan Smith

Chair of the Congregation



January Birthdays!

01/01/ Alexa Wang
 01/02 Lonn Naudzius
 01/03 Julie Bruno
 01/03 Bruce Nelson
 01/04 Rick Benedetto
 01/04 Dave Figgins
 01/05 Laurie Runtz
 01/06 Jen Laudadio
 01/07 Gail Benedetto
 01/08 Julie Black
 01/08 Jim Pantazi
 01/08 Oscar Schrimpf

01/13 Maggie Weir
 01/13 Magda Zweifel
 01/14 Paula Mack
 01/14 Rex Parker
 01/14 Sarah Thompson
 01/15 Milo Runtz
 01/15 Naomi Siebert
 01/15 Bruce Webster
 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
 01/25 Logan Desmedt
 01/25 Katie Hill
 01/26 Kendall Battaglia
 01/27 Eugene Jarvis



January 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><i>If you notice an error on the calendar, please share that information with office@parkridgecommunitychurch.org.</i></p> <p><i>Please note: Jazz in January will NOT be happening in 2026 due to scheduling difficulties.</i></p>				1 OFFICE CLOSED New Year's Day	2	3
4 9:30 am Faithful First Prayer 10 am ONE Worship Service 11:00 am All Church Brunch 3:00 pm Sunday Night Supper	5 7 pm Trustees 7 pm Yoga	6 10:15 am Chair Yoga 12 pm Kindred Spirits Café 6:00 pm Adult Ed Meeting 7:00 pm Social Justice Team	7 10 am Staff Mtg. 2:30 pm Wacky Weds 3:30 pm Youth Choir 7 pm Bible Study	8 9 am Men's Breakfast 6:00 pm Outreach 6:30 pm Bells on High 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	9	10
11 8:30 am Chapel Service 10:00 am Worship Service 11 am Loving Lunches 11:45 am MS Holy Chow 2:00 pm Marty McHugh Memorial Service	12 6 pm Finance Mtg. 7 pm Yoga	13 10:15 am Chair Yoga 12 pm Kindred Spirits Café 7 pm Get to Know PRCC Session 7:30 pm Stephen Min Supr	14 10 am Staff Mtg. 2:30 pm Wacky Weds 3:30 pm Youth Choir 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm Action Ridge	15 9 am Men's Breakfast 6:30 pm Bells on High 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	16	17
18 8:30 am Chapel Service 9:00 am Confirmation Trip 10:00 am Worship Service	19 OFFICE CLOSED MLK Day 7 pm Yoga	20 10:15 am Chair Yoga 12 pm Kindred Spirits Café 6:30 pm Exec Comm Mtg. 7:30 pm Board of Directors	21 10 am Staff Mtg 2:30 pm Wacky Weds 3:30 pm Youth Choir 6 pm SPRC Mtg. 7 pm Bible Study	22 9 am Men's Breakfast 6:30 pm Bells on High 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	23	24 8:30 am - 1 pm Stephen Ministry Training
25 NEW MEMBER SUNDAY 8:30 am Chapel Service 10:00 am Worship Service 11:45 am: HS Holy Chow 3:00 pm Workshop on Mental Health in the Church	26 7 pm Yoga	27 10:15 am Chair Yoga 12 pm Kindred Spirits Cafe 5:30 pm Pride in Park Ridge Planning Mtg. 7:30 pm Stephen Min. Supr	28 10 am Staff Mtg 2:30 pm Wacky Weds 3:30 pm Youth Choir 7 pm Bible Study	29 9 am Men's Breakfast 6:30 pm Bells on High 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	30	31 7 pm Refugee Art Gallery and Program

stephen MINISTRY

by Sarah McCarty

*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

Hard as it may be to believe, it is now (or, as I'm writing this, is almost) 2026. This past year has at times felt like it would never end, and then there were whole months that flew by before I could flip the page on my calendar (even the virtual one). Time is tricky that way - sometimes stretching before us like a vast, blank page, overwhelming in the possibilities of what could be written; sometimes slipping between our fingers like sand, a day gone before we can even process its impact.

To that end, I was struck by something Pastor Carol said in a recent sermon: we run the risk of being unable to experience awe and wonder because we miss what's right in front of us. She stressed the importance of pausing and noticing, not only the big, impressive things we may encounter on occasion, but also the small, quiet moments of beauty, generosity, and kindness that are so easy to miss when we're rushing from one task to the next. When we pause and give ourselves time to recognize the sacred moments amidst our everyday struggles, we open ourselves up to wonder and awe in a way that is transformative.

In her book *Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers*, Anne Lamott writes:

When we are stunned to the place beyond words, we're finally starting to get somewhere. It is so much more comfortable to think that we know what it all means, what to expect and how it all hangs together. When we are stunned to the place beyond words, when an aspect of life takes us away from being able to chip away at something until it's down to a manageable size and then file it nicely away, when all we can say in response is "Wow," that's a prayer.

If you're struggling to find the "Wow" right now and would benefit from talking to someone, reach out to me or any of our Stephen Leaders. We're always happy to connect you to one of our excellent Stephen Ministers who will listen, pray, and walk alongside you during difficult times. May this new year be one filled with moments of "Wow" and prayers of thanksgiving for our capacity to see and appreciate them.

STEPHEN LEADERS:

Sarah McCarty: sarah.mccarty@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

Anita Rifkind: anitar@att.net

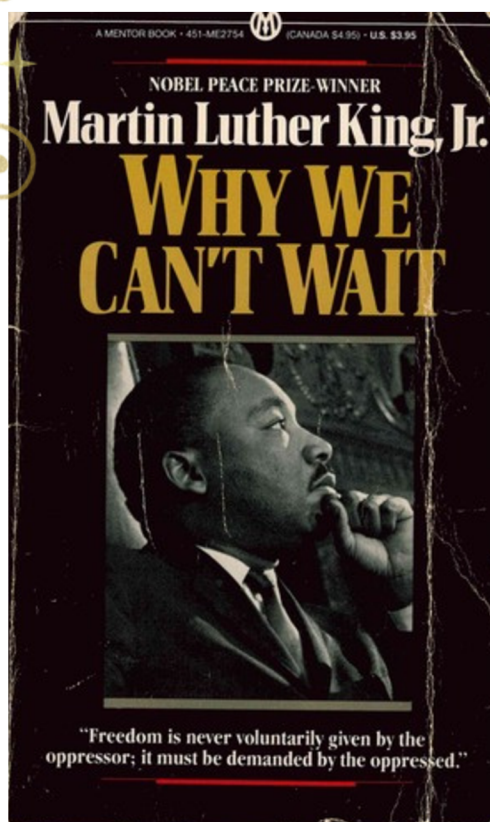
Naomi Siebert: naomi.siebert@gmail.com

Laura Sissman: lsissman741@gmail.com

Liz Swanson: liz@parkridgecommunitychurch.org



Is the idea of praying in front of others daunting? Do you ever feel like you just don't know what to say? Join the Stephen Ministers for Faithful First Sundays as we explore different approaches to prayer the first Sunday of the month. We'll meet in Ellinger Transept (off the sanctuary opposite the chapel) from 9:30-9:50 and we'll cover a different perspective each month. On tap for Jan. 4: Meditation - Finding God in the Quiet Places



Faith Development: Prophets, Dr. King, and a New Year

This autumn Adult Education offered *Disciple: Remember Who You Are* which was a slog through the Old Testament Prophets. It started out difficult. A lot of reading. Then it got worse. There were weekly titles of *Famine*, *Obey*, *Doom* occasionally interrupted with *Courage* and *Restoration*.

We learned that Hebrew kings were flawed or evil. The temple was destroyed. Wars and deportations to foreign lands recurred. Power was corrupt. People wanted freedom.

The Prophets had no special ability to predict the future. Instead, they were charged with reminding people of God and their place as a covenant people. The early liberation from oppression in Egypt had been led by Moses. Moses received the Ten Commandments. While grateful to be freed from Pharaoh, how did we get there in the first place? It was no fun.

Prophets reminded people of God and Moses. Of the Ten Commandments. They called out the sins of the people. Amos names greed and hypocritical worship services. (Amos 5: 21-24) Micah says it is not that hard... Do justice, Love kindness, and Walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8).

The life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King fit this description of prophet. He was educated by his church upbringing and academic work at Boston University. He was offered prestigious placements but instead followed a call to Montgomery, Alabama as a young man.

By 1963, he joined with Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth in Birmingham, AL to oppose the white supremacy. As people were rising up to confront the segregation and discrimination, they were asked to commit to a nonviolent witness. Leaders listed a "Ten Commandments" for volunteers. It included:

- 1. Meditate daily on the teachings and life of Jesus.**
- 2. Remember always that the nonviolent movement in Birmingham seeks justice and reconciliation – not victory.**
- 3. Walk and talk in the manner of love, for God is love.**

Dr. King was hated for this. Rev. Shuttlesworth's parsonage had been bombed years before. Black leaders criticized them for allowing young people to join and sign the pledge. Prophets are not popular – not fun to have around.

Yet there was a faithful urgency in 1963. As events in Birmingham became more intense Dr. King was jailed. He composed a document for freedom. It was not written to his enemies. Instead he called out the sins of progressive white pastors and leaders to heed the call of Jesus. He reminded Christians who they were as a covenant people. It was uncomfortable because they preferred "patience."

Perhaps this year we can gather to read this together: "[Letter from a Birmingham Jail](#)"

As we finished our class before Christmas, the hopefulness of Isaiah found in the lyrics of Handel's Messiah had a deeper understanding: Comfort ye, comfort ye my people... prepare ye the way of the Lord... (Isa 40:1) and this Chorus: (Isa 9:6)

**"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder;
and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God,
The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."**

May God continue to bless us with deeper understanding,

Sue Laurie



Courage and Connection Gallery: **Stories of Refugee Neighbors**

Educational Presentation

Saturday, January 31, 7:00–8:00 pm

Park Ridge Community Church

100 Courtland Avenue, Park Ridge, IL

Service, Sweets, and Stories



This event will reveal the stories behind the portraits. View the gallery January 24–31 on display in Jordan Hall.

**Join us for this special event led by
an Exodus staff member! You will:**

- See powerful images that highlight the resilience of refugees. Dive deeper into the real-life stories behind the portraits.
- Learn about refugees' connections with volunteers who walk beside them. Enjoy desserts and coffee while you hear
- stories of refugees and opportunities to serve.

QUESTIONS? Contact Jody May
jody.may@exodusworldservice.org | 847.514.9924 | exodusworldservice.org

12TH NIGHT BRUNCH

JANUARY 4TH
11:00 AM
THE GREAT HALL



Everyone is invited to our 12th Night Brunch on Sunday, January 4, following worship in the Great Hall! Enjoy a delicious brunch provided by Circle 2 and great fellowship with friends in the New Year! Suggested ticket cost is \$7 for adults and \$5 for children 10 and under, with all proceeds benefiting the Angel Fund.

Gluten-free options will be available.

We hope to see you there!

RSVP FOR BRUNCH!

Volunteer Spotlight

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

This month we recognize Karen Nelson!



Karen and her husband Bruce became members in 1987 and raised their two sons in PRCC! She has served as a Sunday School teacher and on the Deacons, Senior Contact, Stephen Ministry, Creation Care and Circle 10! These days you can find Karen working in the Medical Lending Closet where she inventories, cleans and repairs equipment that is given to those in need! Karen is also a talented musician and often plays the violin during services! Sure glad Karen made PRCC her home back in 1987!

Welcome

NEW MEMBERS!



Come and get to know PRCC on Tuesday, January 13 from 7-8 pm in the Parlor.

Our next New Member Sunday is January 25th and we look forward to welcoming more individuals and families to our congregation!

For questions about membership or get more details on the above, contact

Kate Joyce:

katrina.joyce@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

Susie Hollingsworth

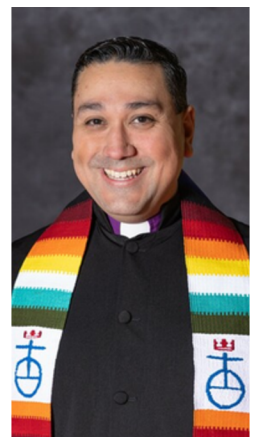
susiereynolds77@hotmail.com

Expanding Our Welcome Sunday, January 25 from 3-5 pm

The Social Justice Team & Stephen Ministries will co-host "EXPANDING OUR WELCOME", a presentation by Reverend Gilbert Martinez of Christ Church UCC Des Plaines. SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2026. From 3:00-5:00 pm, Rev. Martinez will describe his church's journey to becoming a W.I.S.E. (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, Engaged) Congregation.

In May 2022, PRCC adopted the ONA (Open and Affirming) Just World Covenant, and this is another way we can consider expanding our welcome.

Please join us for this important presentation and conversation. Childcare will be provided as needed. Snacks will be served.



Music Notes

Bells On High Practice: Thursdays, 6:30 pm

Chancel Choir Practice: Thursdays, 7:30 pm

Youth Choir Practice: Wednesdays, 3:30 pm



MEET THE MUSIC STAFF MEG THOMAS-CARY

Hi! I am Meg Thomas-Cary, and I am currently involved in the music ministry by being an Alto section leader/soloist and Sasha's assistant for the youth choir. My initial introduction to Park Ridge community church was through friends of mine who introduced me to Sasha and the Angeli choir. That was back in 2008. After returning from Germany, I have been back regularly involved with the Community church again and it has been a joy!

I have a Bachelor of Music: Contemporary Urban and Popular styles with a minor in women and gender studies from Columbia College, Chicago as well as a Master of fine arts: pop vocal performance, from Popakademie Mannheim, Germany.

My favorite accomplishment as a singer was singing with my own band playing original music in the music venue Capitol, in Mannheim. It was a huge venue with a huge audience and professional lights and I got to play some of my favorite originals. My favorite styles of music to sing are R&B and Funk/soul. My favorite hymn is *Be thou my vision*, and my favorite anthem is *I Believe*. Most of my favorite PRCC memories consist of me and Rachel giggling about something at a moment when we should be quiet.

Kindred Spirits Café

Tuesdays at 12:00 pm

Free for lunch on Tuesdays? Join us for an hour of fun and fellowship each week in Jordan Hall! Bring your lunch and we'll provide dessert. Our programming changes monthly, so see the schedule below for our January plans. Contact Sarah to be added to our email list: sarah.mccarty@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

- **Jan. 6:** Celebrate January Birthdays
- **Jan. 13:** Travel Tales: Anita in the Galápagos Islands
- **Jan. 20:** Recipe Resurrection: Share a recipe that you've loved in an earlier era
- **Jan. 27:** Bingo!



Knitting Knights

The Knitting Knights will be meeting in January to socialize and craft items for outreach and general PRCC needs. If you would like to learn to crochet or knit, please join us. We would love to have as many people as possible helping us use up the wall of yarn we have!

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+



Outreach News



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.**

JOURNEYS, a non-profit agency in Palatine, provides shelter, social services, and housing to people experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity.

Look for the drop off location in the Butler Place Entry!



FOOD ITEMS

Canned Goods: soup, tomato sauce, vegetables, beans, fruits

Condiments: salt & pepper, mustard, catsup, mayo, vinegar, vegetable oil, jam, applesauce, peanut butter

Dry Goods: lentils, bouillon cubes, cereal, coffee, pancake mix, cake mix, sugar, flour, instant pudding or Jello, crackers, ramen noodles, cookies

Snack Foods: fruit cups, juice boxes, popcorn, pudding cups, granola bars & other snacks

You can also view and shop the [MTFP online wishlist](#) conveniently from home!

Outreach News

JOIN US for a meeting and see what we're all about!

Our next meeting is Thursday, January 8th at 6:00 PM in the Parlor.

EMAIL US at outreach@parkridgecommunitychurch.org with questions or suggestions



Sunday Night Suppers

January 4

We know calendars fill up quickly as the holidays approach, so we are enlisting help early for volunteers to prepare and cook a healthy meal for 75 people in the PRCC Kitchen and serve it at Park Ridge United Methodist Church. We need 4 cooks and 12 servers for our next assigned date on January 4, 2026. Please [SIGN UP HERE](#) if you are able to help.



Loving Lunches

January 11

Help pack lunches for those in need with Loving Lunches! Please [SIGN UP HERE](#) to help assemble 160 lunches or supply items. The Christian Outreach Committee provides lunchmeat and cheese for sandwiches as well as fresh fruit using our Committee budget (the bread is generously donated). We are always in need of items for the lunches: individual chips, granola bars, juice boxes, and baggies.



Lincoln Park Community Shelter

February 5

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 11:30 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.

THANK YOU!



Giving Tree

Our goal to collect 100 toys/gifts for children from Avalon Park Church was not only met, but exceeded. Our Youth delivered the toys on December 14th so that families could "shop" among the donated gifts for their children. Thank you to all who helped spread joy!

The Night Ministry

We delivered 22 pairs of boots, 10 scarves, 6 pairs of gloves and 24 pairs of socks in December and will make another delivery in January! The NM is Chicago-based and provides housing support and health care to those who are unhoused or experiencing poverty. Thank you to everyone who donated to keep others warm.





Children's Ministry

Morgan Tone, Director of Children's Ministry

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Sunday School News

A JOYFUL START TO THE NEW YEAR!

The New Year brings fresh opportunities for our Sunday School community, and we're excited to grow together in faith and fellowship!

This past Advent and Christmas, the children explored the season through stories, crafts, and music. Highlights included our Advent Festival, where we spent a magical afternoon in Bethlehem, and the Christmas Pageant, with beautiful performances during both the Park Ridge Stroll and our traditional pageant. A heartfelt thank you to all who helped make these celebrations so memorable—we couldn't have done it without you!

Looking ahead, we have so many exciting activities planned for the new year, including hands-on Bible lessons, creative projects, and opportunities for the children to serve and share God's love in our community. We can't wait to continue this journey of faith with your children in 2026!



Children's Ministry

JANUARY SUNDAY SCHOOL

4: WINTER BREAK: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
11: WISE MEN
18: SUNDAY SCHOOL COFFEE HOUR
25: JESUS IS BAPTIZED

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!

2026

MY BIBLE CLASS



MEETING DATES

HELD DURING REGULAR SUNDAY SCHOOL TIME

February 1

February 8

February 15

My Bible Recognition:

March 22

OPEN TO 3RD GRADE AND UP!

PRCC Youth

6TH-12TH GRADES

YOUTH
MISSION TRIP
JUNE 7-13, 2026



REGISTER YOUTH HERE!

WHAT: We will travel to PORTLAND, OR in collaboration with Praying Pelican to learn and serve in the city and beyond! We will learn of the community needs due to those displaced from their homes, environmental issues, and more!

WHO: All youth who will have completed 6th-12th grades are invited to attend-- 40 youth spots available!

COST: \$800.00 PER PERSON / SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!!!

PLEASE DO NOT let the cost detour youth from participating! Please speak to Pastor Mollie for assistance! We are very blessed with a memorial gift and other generous gifts!

What does my payment cover? Payment covers registration cost and "some" of our transportation. Overall trip expenses equate to \$1,200.00 per person. The \$400 difference between overall expenses and your payments will be covered by generous donations and fundraising. Youth meals (except for airport travel days), transportation, t-shirts, and sleeping accommodations will be covered for the week!

HOW WILL WE GET THERE: Flying to Portland, vans rentals once we arrive

HOW CAN I SUPPORT THE TRIP: We are in need of youth scholarships, baggage and transportation expenses! If you would like to financially help support this trip, please reach out to Pastor Mollie!



PRCC Youth

6TH-12TH GRADES



Middle School: Jan 11

High School: Jan 25

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!



Jan 18:

Field Trip

Trinity United Church of Christ

We will gather in the Butler Place entry at 9:20 am; depart PRCC at 9:30 am; and return to PRCC at 2:00 pm.



Wednesdays

2:30 - 3:30 pm

Open gym and homework time!
All Middle Schoolers are welcome!

WW will conclude will resume on 1/7/26



JANUARY:

4- STAY IN WORSHIP / COMMUNION DAY

11- EPIPHANY

18- CONFIRMATION TRIP

25- GOD'S VISION



Celebrating Our Story



Our Prayer Ministry

In this season of holy awakening, our hearts are stirred with renewed hope as we remember how God gathers us into one family of faith—calling us to rejoice with one another and to shine Christ's light into moments of struggle, sorrow, and uncertainty. As we stand at the threshold of a new year, open to God's presence made known among us, we lift up the joys, concerns, and blessings of our community, trusting that each prayer is received with compassion, faithfulness, and grace. We especially remember those on our long-term prayer list:

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, Bernice Zabawski

Joys

- Gretchen and Dave celebrate the clear follow up scans for niece Sara and sister in law Bonnie.
- We celebrate the joy of the season shared through caroling, the Christmas Stroll, Advent Festival, Christmas Pageant, and Choir Cantata!
- We give thanks for our children and the joy they bring!
- We give thanks for our choir, our Music ministers, guest musicians and all those who enhance our worship with their talents and instruments!
- Rick B. gives thanks that his friend Robin received a "cancer-free" result after recent treatment for breast cancer.
- We rejoice with all of our beloved friends who have celebrated birthdays and anniversaries this month!

For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven:

*a time to be born and a time to die;
a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to kill and a time to heal;
a time to break down and a time to build up;
a time to weep and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn and a time to dance;
a time to throw away stones and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing;
a time to seek and a time to lose;
a time to keep and a time to throw away;
a time to tear and a time to sew;
a time to keep silent and a time to speak;
a time to love and a time to hate;
a time for war and a time for peace.*

Ecclesiastes 3:1-12



Our Prayer Ministry

General Prayers

- We continue to hold the McGuffey family in our prayers.
- We pray for a son who is struggling with depression and is unable to find a job.
- Kathy B. requests prayers for her brother, Tom, as he discerns the best path forward with a difficult health diagnosis.
- Pete M. asks our prayers for Viola S., Victor M, and Joan M.
- We pray for safe travels for those who will be on the road to visit loved ones.

Healing & Recovery

- Julie B. asks for prayers for her nephew-in-law, who is struggling with pain and side effects following a bone marrow transplant. We ask for his healing and wholeness.
- We pray for Diane M. as she prepares for and recovers from eye surgery.
- We pray for a loved one who has just been diagnosed with cancer.
- We give thanks that Kym's surgery went smoothly this week and pray for her stitches removal and continued recovery.
- Julie S. asks for prayers for Aunt Alberta undergoing surgery on an infected hip.
- Jim M. asks for prayer for his cousins Rosemary and Kevin K.
- The Blackburns ask for prayer for Cousin Pete, who is experiencing heart failure.
- We pray for Pastor Mollie's dad, Mike, as he prepares for a heart procedure on Tuesday.
- Luan asks for prayers for her son's friend, Katie M., who is having diagnostic tests this week as she awaits serious surgery on January 2nd.
- Tim and Sally M. ask for prayers for their dear friend, Suebee, as she recovers from surgery for breast cancer. We pray for a straightforward diagnosis and treatment plan as she heals.
- Grace C. asks for prayers for her husband Tom who has just been diagnosed with melanoma.

Life in the Resurrection

- Brendan J. requests prayers for the family and friends of John K., who entered Life in the Resurrection on Dec. 2. John was a strong entrepreneur, great mentor, and a friend to many.
- Dan S. asks for prayers for the loved ones of long-time family friend, Kate McNeil, who entered Life in the Resurrection unexpectedly on Dec. 10. We pray especially for Kate's husband, Rob, and their six children.
- We pray for the Lumley family as they mourn the loss of Brittany, a friend of Jaclyn W., who leaves behind an 8 year old daughter, Charlotte.
- We hold Dorothy L. and her family in our prayers as they mourn the loss of her sister-in-law, Darlene, who entered Life in the Resurrection yesterday, Dec. 13.
- We hold the Mack family in our prayers as they mourn the loss of Bob's younger brother, Tommy, who entered Life in the Resurrection on Dec. 7, after battling sarcoma for the past eight years. Your prayers for the whole family are appreciated, but especially for Tommy's wife, Barb, their kids, Lauren and Brandon, and Bob and Tommy's mom, Gerry.
- We hold the loved ones of Marty McHugh, beloved friend and PRCC member, who was recently diagnosed with leukemia and entered life in the resurrection on Tuesday, Dec. 18.



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