

# Park Ridge Community Church News

March 17, 2008

## A WORD ABOUT EASTER

“ON EASTER SUNDAY 1980, I was living in Boise, Idaho, and had boarded a plane destined for Fargo, North Dakota.” So begins a story told by the Rev. Norman Shawchuck. “I was feeling sorry that I had to travel on Easter, yet I was reflecting and praising God for resurrection—the true meaning of Easter.”

**THE PILOT EASED THE PLANE INTO THE AIR.** Then, what began as the standard greeting of the captain became an epiphany—a moment of revelation. “Good morning, ladies and gentlemen...and Happy Easter. It’s going to be a bit choppy on our climb-out today, but we’re expecting it to be somewhat smoother when we reach our assigned altitude at thirty-one thousand feet. The weather at our destination is beautiful. The temperature there is a balmy fifty degrees.”

**HE SAID IT ALL!** In a flash of insight, he thought to himself, “He just told us the entire Christian story, including Easter, in that brief announcement. Our life in Christ is similar: For a time we have to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of our faith—though being tested by fire—may be found to result in praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.” (see I Peter 1:6-7)

**DOES EASTER REALLY MATTER?** For many of us, the stresses and struggles we face on an almost daily basis make us wonder about the reality of resurrection. How can we call ourselves “Easter People” when so many of our days beg for the weight of the stone to be rolled away?

*If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.  
If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,  
even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.*

--Psalm 139:8-10

**THIS IS THE WORK THAT CHRIST DOES FOR US IN THE HOLY SEASON.** When Jesus “turned his face toward Jerusalem,” he made the clear and conscious decision to enter into the fullness of human suffering and despair. One version of the Apostles’ Creed confesses, “he descended into hell.” The creed speaks of the time between death on a cross and resurrection on the third day. I would suggest the meaning to be more extensive: betrayal by a trusted friend, denial by another, abandonment by the disciples, left alone to confront the inevitability of an excruciating death, the utter despair of the cross. He willingly descended into the most hellish precincts of our common humanity. He did so to reveal once-and-for-all the power and presence of the love of God. On every twist and turn of that hellish journey, the love of God sustained him and, ultimately, triumphantly brought him fully into life in the resurrection.

“**WE CAN EXPECT A FAIR AMOUNT OF TURBULENCE** as we begin our descent into Fargo,” the pilot reported near the end of the flight. Rev. Shawchuck mused, “Our troubles are not over yet...but we have hope, and Easter assures us of our arrival at our final destination.”<sup>1</sup> So it is: Christ has gone on before us to blaze the trail through the turbulence, willfully serving as “the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.” [Hebrews 12:2]

**WE CAN EXPECT A FAIR AMOUNT OF TURBULENCE.** On this side of Easter, however, we can also join with the apostle Paul in this great affirmation of faith: “For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” [Romans 8: 38-39]

Grace and Peace,  
Brett W. McCleneghan

<sup>1</sup>from *A Guide to Prayer for All Who Seek God*, Shawchuck and Job, eds., c 2003, Upper Room Books

**THE SEASON OF EASTER**  
**JOIN US FOR WORSHIP DURING HOLY WEEK AND EASTERTIDE**

*Sunday, 8:00 am 9:00 am 10:30 am (unless otherwise noted)*

**HOLY WEEK**



**MARCH 20** – Maundy Thursday  
Sermon: *The Way of the Servant*  
Text: John 13:1-17, 31b-35  
6:00 pm Passover Meal  
7:30 pm Worship



**MARCH 21** – Good Friday  
Noon-Intergenerational Service  
**7:30 pm** Reflections and Requiem:  
The Chancel Choir presents *Requiem* by John Rutter

**MARCH 23 Easter Sunday**

8:00, 9:00 & 10:30 am Services  
**Easter Breakfast 8:30-11:00 am**  
Sermon: *Expect the Unexpected*  
Texts: Colossians 3:1-4 John 20:1-18



**MARCH 30** – First Sunday in Eastertide Jazz Service & Holy Humor Sunday  
Sermon: *If You Want To Make God Laugh...*

**APRIL 6** – Second Sunday in Eastertide Holy Communion –Folk Music Service  
Sermon: *Disciple of Peace: In Honor of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*  
Text: John 20:19-31

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***PRCC OFFICE BREAK-IN***

On Sunday evening, March 2, Pastor Stephen entered the church office only to be confronted by a stranger who had broken into the office. After a brief exchange of words, the man quickly left the building. Moments later, it was discovered that he had taken some \$200 (not \$2,000 as erroneously reported in the local papers) collected for Beatles' Nights tickets from an envelope in Pastor Stephen's office mail box and approximately \$150 in postage stamps from the desk drawer.

In response to this unfortunate event, we are asking that:

1. When you leave the building, please be certain that the door closes securely.
2. When you are leaving the church office, please be sure that it is fully closed and locked behind you.
3. If you are the last person in the building, please make sure that all exterior doors are closed and locked.

We have reviewed these procedures with the staff and the ushers and will do so with the members of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. New signs have been placed at all exits and at the office door as further reinforcement. In addition, all cash and stamps will now be secured in the safe. Together, we can help keep the building more secure.

However, it is also important that we recognize that if someone is determined to enter the building, in all likelihood they will find a way. Church break-ins are not unusual. In churches I have served in the past, locked and secured exterior doors

have been pried open, exterior and interior windows have been smashed, a safe was ripped open with a crow bar. Last year, we experienced another break-in, that time by the removal of an air conditioner in the office window. Churches do what is reasonable to ensure security but, again, those who are set on breaking-in often find a way.

At the same time, we are called to open our doors to the community and to all who seek what the church can provide. Park Ridge Community Church holds a unique position in the very heart of our community and, as a congregation, we have been intentional in extending our welcome and our ministries. The good news is that there are many activities in the church, with many people experiencing our hospitality and the faith life of our congregation.

We do not know who the man was that broke into the church office and took the money and stamps. We do know that he, too, is a child of God, a child of God who has clearly fallen into very hard times—perhaps as a result of addiction, past criminal activity, job loss, poverty, emotional or psychological difficulties, certainly of poor choices. As a people of faith, we are called to pray for all of God’s people, friend, stranger, and enemy alike, and so I ask that we keep this man in our prayers. During Holy Week and Easter, we might well remember that Jesus was crucified with two thieves, one of whom responded with faith to Christ’s gracious love for him in the most desperate moment of his life.

With the economic conditions of our nation apparently worsening, with economic hardship and poverty on the rise, many of our brothers and sisters find themselves in increasingly desperate situations. As individuals and as a congregation, we might do well to consider how we respond to those in need and so to obviate crime as a solution to want. Should you want to discuss this, or any questions or concerns you may have, please do contact me either by phone (847-823-3164) or by email ([revdocbret@sbcglobal.net](mailto:revdocbret@sbcglobal.net))

Grace and Peace,  
Brett W. McCleneghan

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*Our Church Family*

At all times, the Lord is with us. We reach out with our prayers in celebration, and prayers of hope. We know that prayer is the most powerful action we can take. Please remember in your prayers these church members and their families and friends:



- Continuing prayers for the easing of Pauline Numrych’s arthritis and numbness in legs.
- Renewed prayers of healing and health of Wilma Limper.
- Prayers in Celebration of Laura & Marty’s 21<sup>st</sup> Wedding Anniversary on St. Pat’s day.
- Prayers for our PRCC ministers and leaders that they can stay rooted in and follow the guiding of the Holy Spirit especially as a new Board is nominated in the next few months.
- Prayers of recovery for the residents of Cabbagetown in Atlanta as they rebuild their community, and prayers of gratitude for the safety of Michael Kemerer.
- Prayers of health and recovery for Harleigh Caithamer, recovering from cancer surgery (Marg’s brother-in-law).

**Prayer Ministry:**

We keep in our prayers, Sharon Kemerer’s sister, Barb Bereza; Isabelle Schmid; Deborah Gallagher; Pauline Numrych; Mark Huening; John Schaul (Tom’s brother); Brian Babcock Lamish and Ted Schmidt (Dot’s nephew), both deployed to Iraq; Mark Holihan’s mother, Phyllis; JoEllen Flener and family; Lisa Fischbach; Linda Bear; Elsie Matthys; Florence Fertig; Holly Sindelar, god-daughter of Audre Thompson; Brian Fogarty (Marie Degaard’s grandson) deployed to Iraq; Eileen Kaczmarek and her sister Janet Healy; Grace Curtis and her mother, Yoshiko Urasaki; Jean Dennis, sister-in-law of Cindy and Tom Klimmeck; Mike Artrip; Siri Nelson’s father; Aimee Collins; John Hurd’s mother, Mary; Lambert Decardy; Dwight Beery; Wilma Limper; Marie Degaard; Carolyn Merrifield; Pat Reynold, the family of Geraldine “Gerry” Cady. (If you or a loved one is listed in our weekly prayer list, we hope you will find comfort in knowing that Stephen Ministers are praying for those listed.)

Our sympathy to:



The family and friends of Clare Craig, who passed to life triumphant on March 3. The memorial service will be held on May 17 at 11am.

The family and friends of Isabelle Schmidt, who passed into life triumphant on March 7.

The family and friends of Stephen Cady upon the passing of his Grandmother, Geraldine "Gerry" Cady in Kansas.

"The Eternal God is Your Dwelling Place, and underneath are the Everlasting Arms." *Deuteronomy 33:27a*  
Please keep these families in your prayers.



### April Birthdays



Joseph Anderlick	04/01	Stephen Rifkind	04/11	Lara Zimmerman	04/21
Judith Kolk	04/01	Jerome Patt	04/11	Nathan Tumminello	04/22
Ellen Longman	04/01	Charlie Vinopal	04/11	Jennifer Williams	04/22
Kate Schaul	04/01	Lauren Ladley	04/12	Dolores Wilson	04/23
Stacy Schaul	04/01	Luke Kapolnek	04/12	Lyle Clapper	04/24
Jane Kehoe	04/02	Molly Schultze	04/13	David Swanson	04/24
Rebecca Klauck	04/02	Marilyn Andersen	04/16	Otto Moll	04/25
Nikolaus Wagner	04/03	Jane Meagher	04/16	Oliver Gaddini	04/26
Michael Nolan	04/04	Kyler (Charles) Bell	04/16	Allen Cherry	04/26
Janice Cannon	04/04	Matthew Eatherton	04/17	Shirley Grand	04/26
Barbara Madro	04/05	Martha Douglass	04/17	Cynthia Coggin	04/26
Julie Johnson	04/05	Paula Johnson	04/17	Anita Rifkind	04/27
William Barsanti	04/06	Marian Stettler	04/18	Matt Holihan	04/27
Jean Collier	04/06	Barbara Scharringhausen	04/19	Matthew Caddell	04/27
Donald Walsh	04/07	Marie Degaard	04/19	Lee Andersen	04/28
Norma Cherry	04/08	Marilyn Webster	04/19	Craig Williams	04/28
Alyssa Van Pelt	04/08	Melissa Mackin	04/19	Joshua Timm	04/28
Robert Hemphill	04/09	Roy Schwabe	04/20	Lynn DeJonge	04/29
John Mackin	04/09	Charles Baumel	04/20	Jocelyn Wind	04/29
Laura Baratta	04/10	Dolores Durbeck	04/20	Jeanne Fisher	04/29
Faith Bailey	04/10	Lynne Duffy	04/20	Gary Beckner	04/30
Kevin Shotsberger	04/10	Melissa Manson	04/20	Scott Kopecky	04/30
Elaina Rubeo	04/10	Elizabeth Thon	04/21		

Are you a member of PRCC and your name's not on this list? Please call the office (847) 823-3164 to make sure that (a) you're listed as a "member" and (b) that we have your birthdate (including the year). All information is strictly confidential! (You can also email to [PRCCoffice@aol.com](mailto:PRCCoffice@aol.com))



The beautiful palm trees that decorated our Sanctuary on Palm Sunday are a gift to the church from June and Jack Hedrich. We thank them for their generosity!

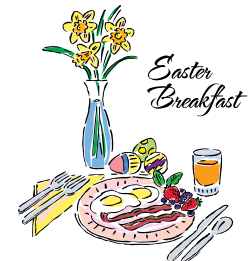


Ken Ross wishes to thank the ushers for the special plaque and cake. The ushers had a special recognition on March 16<sup>th</sup> for Ken's many years of service.

Could you help? We're having a baby boom here at PRCC, and have the need for a new Bouncy seat for our Nursery. If you'd like to donate one, please contact Grace Curtis at 847.296.5785.

### *For Your Information ...*

Join us Easter Sunday, March 23 - 8:30am to 11:00 am  
In Jordan Hall  
Donations to help defray costs gratefully accepted





**ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE IN BY MARCH 8. PLEASE SUBMIT THEM ELECTRONICALLY IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. "WORD" DOCUMENTS AND EMAIL TEXTS ARE PREFERRED. THANK YOU!**

***FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE***



**FINANCE REPORT**

The past two years for the PRCC Finance Committee have been focused on process improvement and consistency of operations for PRCC. The committee has successfully engaged Ahlbeck and Company to review and certify our financial statements, our record keeping and accounting systems are working smoothly and the major projects of the church have been tracked and accounted for before, during and after the project begins. Our annual reports to the congregation have been supported by concise, accurate financial statements and budgets for future years.

As it relates to Fund Management, as required in the by-laws, a great deal of time has been spent on the oversight of the investments of the church. During the past year and as shared with the congregation at the 2007 annual meeting, a group of three individuals have been serving

as the church Fund Management Panel. This group has reviewed our investment policies, tracked funds and returns and, after significant due diligence, engaged a new investment advisory firm. They have also worked hard to update the by-laws to accurately reflect the addition of the Capital Replacement Fund (formerly known as Renewing God's House and the 15 year plan) as well as the committee structure. We are pleased to report that these functions are working as we anticipated and have been effective in optimizing the responsibilities of the committee. We are excited about the improved financial position of PRCC, the performance of our investments and the progress we've made this year. We'd like to thank the congregation for your confidence and the support you've shown.

If you would like more information about all that's happening with the finances of the church, please contact Liz Swanson or Bruce Webster.

***HAVE THE SILVER BELLS RUNG FOR THE LAST TIME????***

As I am now down two ringers, I find it necessary to consider disbanding this group that has been ringing for over 20 years. It seems that no-one in the church is interested in participating in this form of music worship. Isn't there anybody who would like to commit



to one hour a week on Friday morning, and ring in church every 6 weeks or so??? Bell ringing is not gender specific. Please let me hear from you if you would like to give it a try. Barbara Scharringhausen 847 825 4630 or [splus14@att.net](mailto:splus14@att.net).

***Medical Loan Closet News***

The Loan Closet has lost another volunteer—that is, one SUPER volunteer. Over many years, Char Kenzel has helped hundreds of people with their medical equipment needs. Come snow, rain, bitter cold weather—Char was on duty in the loan closet office. She will be greatly missed!!!

We do have two substitute volunteers who have taken on permanent shifts now – Jane Fizzell and Luan Zoellner. Thanks, Jane and Luan, for filling in the blanks on the schedule.

***Farmers' Market and Brunch: How Did It Go?***

PRCCs first Winter Farmers' Market and Brunch on March 9 was a wonderful experience on so many fronts. Our amazing PRCC volunteers worked long and hard to

make the event successful and to offer a helping hand to struggling farmers. . . and the return on that investment was heartening.

First of all, the farmer/vendors were very pleased with their sales at our Farmers' Market. They each rated the sales from good to excellent. For a first market, many found their results exceeded expectations. For example, the meat vendor is very pleased if he sells \$1,000 in a first market. For a mature market, \$1,600 is excellent. At PRCC, he sold \$1,400 – first time at bat! We had approximately 200 attend the market itself, and they bought everything from tilapia (sold out!) to syrup to yarn to mushrooms!

Second, people seemed to like the brunch, too! We served around 125 people. Many were at PRCC for the first time, and several commented on our beautiful Great Hall, the friendliness of our church family, and the joyful atmosphere. From the brunch proceeds, we were able to donate \$300 to CCLP (Churches' Center for Land and People), which helps struggling farmers in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Iowa. CCLP was thrilled!

And third, we had an unexpected blessing! Homeless folks we haven't even met benefited from our brunch, too. While Bob Johnston was talking with the nun who sold the beautiful pastries at our market, he discovered she manages a homeless shelter which offers dinner each night in Elgin. Well, Sunday night those at her shelter enjoyed our delicious leftovers! Nothing was wasted; everything was put to good use.

Thank you to each person who ate, bought, cooked, cleaned up, toted, promoted, welcomed or participated in any way in our first Winter Farmers' Market and Brunch! We had so much fun, and we did so much good!

P. S. Several families and couples have already signed on for CSA (Community Supported Agriculture), but we need 20 subscribers in order for PRCC to become a drop off point. Read the item about CSA in this PRCC News. Then, if you are interested, check out details at [scotchhillfarm.net](http://scotchhillfarm.net) under the CSA link.

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***C.S.A -- FRESH . . . PURE . . . DELICIOUS PRODUCE FOR YOUR FAMILY – YOU CAN STILL ENROLL!***

Develop a relationship with a small farm family while you feed your family the very best foods available and help protect the Earth and its resources – all at the same time!



Here's how it works: You subscribe to Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) through Scotch Hill Farm, one of the vendors at our Farmers' Market. Then, starting in mid-May and each Saturday for 20 weeks, a box of fresh, sustainably-grown produce is delivered to PRCC just for you. It's an assortment of the very best the Scotch Hill Farm has produced!

As a CSA subscriber, you'll be invited to special events at Scotch Hill Farm (near Janesville, WI), and

you'll receive cooking tips as well as farm-tested recipes!

In order for PRCC to become a destination point, we need a minimum of 20 subscribers. (You can partner with a friend if you wish.) The cost of each subscription is \$28/week, a total of \$560 for the entire season. Payment is due up front for the season.

Scotch Hill Farm has been participating in CSA for 14 years. Isn't it time you made healthy, natural foods part of your table? The grower's family benefits, your family benefits, and the earth benefits, too. . . week after delicious, healthful week. Visit [scotchhillfarm.net](http://scotchhillfarm.net) to learn more or enroll.

***Support Team Orientation***



Become part of this exciting, new team concept at PRCC! Being on a Support Team means you offer service to someone who needs help -- and you do it so it works within the reality of your life! The Support Team concept works for busy people because it allows you to

- do what you enjoy doing and find fulfilling
- at a time which is convenient for you

- within an organized approach
- with the support of a team.

If you are ready to join a Support Team, attend our orientation on Wednesday, April 9 from 7 pm until 9 pm. Please call Marie (847-823-3164) to register in advance or if you have questions.

***Are you missing your ... ???***

Favorite plates, bowls, casseroles, cookie tins - if you can't find yours at home, take a look in the church kitchen. If you've brought any food contribution since Christmas and haven't reclaimed your dish, it's probably

on the counter right around the corner from the west kitchen doorway. Those items NOT reclaimed will next be seen in the Youth Garage Sale in June!!!

## You ought to be in pictures, our directory, that is....

**SAVE THE DATE: MAY 28<sup>TH</sup>, 29<sup>TH</sup>, 30<sup>TH</sup>, 31<sup>ST</sup> OR JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup>**



With all the new faces in our church community, it's time to update the PRCC directory. LifeTouch Photography will be at PRCC on the above dates to take individual and family portraits. There is no fee for the sitting. You will receive a free 8x10 of your photo along with a free directory. Additional photos and portraits may be purchased separately from LifeTouch, but are not required.

If you consider PRCC to be your church, whether

you are a member or a visitor, our directory will not be complete without you. So, please plan on being available for one of the photography dates. Sign-up information and additional details will be forthcoming, but for now: **SAVE THE DATE!**

We will be needing help with this project. If you would like information on volunteering, please contact Dave Kapolnek at 847-318-6845 or Jan Steiner at 847-692-4318.

### *Baskets for Communion in the Pews*

On Communion Sunday you may be wondering what to do with your cup after you have finished the grape juice. The pews no longer have cup holders but there are black woven baskets at the end of each pew for the collection

of your cup. Please place your cup in the basket and return the basket to the end of the pew. The Deacons and Deaconesses will collect the baskets after the service.



### *Monthly Food Pantry Collection*



Our Food Pantry Collection is the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month. All non-perishable food items are requested.

Examples of non-perishable items most

needed are:

corn flakes, mac & cheese mix, peanut butter, jelly, canned fruit, spaghettios and noodles, chili, and corned beef hash. Thank you!

**PRCC Drama Ministry**  
*presents*  
*the St. Sebastian Players in*

## *Politics Can Be MURDER*

By James Massini

A "whodunit" murder mystery in the style of *Shear Madness*

**Park Ridge  
Community Church  
100 S. Courtland Avenue  
Park Ridge, IL 60068**

**Saturday, April 12, 2008  
at 6:30 pm**



**Tickets \$25.00 each  
Includes dinner, wine, dessert and  
a murder mystery for you to solve!**

**Call 847.823.3164 for more information and ticket reservations.**

## *The power of Earth Hour*

ComEd, the City of Chicago, and the World Wildlife Fund will host an innovative environmental event called *Earth Hour Chicago*. On Saturday, March 29, 2008, from 8pm to 9pm CT, residents, businesses and organizations are asked to **voluntarily turn off lights** to reduce energy consumption. The goal is to raise awareness about climate change and demonstrate how we can help fight global warming.

To encourage long-term benefits, participants will be asked to replace incandescent light bulbs with ENERGY STAR qualified compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) and pledge to reduce their energy consumption in 2008.

*Earth Hour* is a global initiative, including cities like Toronto, Tel Aviv, Copenhagen, Brisbane, and more, and several U.S. cities including Phoenix, San Francisco and Atlanta. Chicago will be the flagship city in the United States.

### ***Earth Hour encourages safety***

For *Earth Hour*, streetlights, lights impacting public safety, and hospital and security/emergency lighting will remain on. If you use candles, do not leave them unattended or near flammable items. Keep burning candles out of reach of children and pets.

To participate, please visit [www.EarthHour.org](http://www.EarthHour.org). Also visit [www.ComEdCARE.com](http://www.ComEdCARE.com) for energy conservation tips.

Come to ... The Forty-Third Annual Park Ridge Men's Prayer Breakfast  
Saturday, April 12, 7:30 a.m. -- Park Ridge Country Club  
Delicious Buffet Breakfast including fresh fruit  
\$25.00 per person  
For further information, call 847 825 4630 (Bill Scharringhausen)

 NothingButNets.net

## ***April 6 - Noon to ??? Free-Throw Contest.***

Dave Hoelscher is planning another great Congregation-wide outreach project - Nothing but Nets Free-throw Contest. Sign-up sheets will be available in Park Place Room between Services each Sunday, until March 30. The suggested donation is \$10. For more information, please contact Dave at 847.825.1695 or email: [davner2@comcast.net](mailto:davner2@comcast.net)



*What is Nothing but Nets? Please read the article on the next page.*

Dave Hoelscher is planning another great Congregation-wide outreach project - Nothing but Nets Free-throw Contest. Sign-up sheets will be available in Park Place Room between Services each Sunday, until March 30. The suggested donation is \$10.



**Malaria kills. Send a net. Save a life. What is Nothing But Nets?**

Nothing But Nets is a global, grassroots campaign to save lives by preventing malaria, a leading killer of children in Africa. Inspired by Sports Illustrated columnist Rick Reilly, who challenged each of his readers to donate at least \$10 for the

purchase of an antimalaria bed net, thousands of people have joined the campaign that was created by the United Nations Foundation.

**Here's a short explanation about this project:**

**Nothing But Nets** Rick Reilly, *SI.com*

I've never asked for anything before, right? Well, sorry, I'm asking now.

We need nets. Not hoop nets, soccer nets or lacrosse nets. Not New Jersey Nets or dot-nets or clarinets. *Mosquito* nets.

See, nearly 3,000 kids die every day in Africa from malaria. And according to the World Health Organization, transmission of the disease would be reduced by 60% with the use of mosquito nets and prompt treatment for the infected.

Three thousand kids! That's a 9/11 every day!

Put it this way: Let's say your little Justin's Kickin' Kangaroos have a big youth soccer tournament on Saturday. There are 15 kids on the team, 10 teams in the tourney. And there are 20 of these tournaments going on all over town. Suddenly, every one of these kids gets chills and fever, then starts throwing up and then gets short of breath. And in seven to 10 days, they're all dead of malaria.

We *gotta* get these nets. They're coated with an insecticide and cost between \$4 and \$6. You need about \$10, all told, to get them shipped and installed. Some nets can cover a family of four. And they last four years. If we can cut the spread of disease, 10 bucks means a kid

might get to live. Make it \$20 and more kids are saved.

So, here's the ask: If you have ever gotten a thrill by throwing, kicking, knocking, dunking, slamming, putting up, cutting down or jumping over a net, please go to a special site we've set up through the United Nations Foundation. The address is: [UNFoundation.org/malaria](http://UNFoundation.org/malaria). Then just look for the big *SI's Nothing But Net* logo (or call 202-887-9040) and donate \$20. *Bang*. You might have just saved a kid's life.

Or would you rather have the new Beastie Boys CD?

You're a coach, parent, player, gym teacher or even just a fan who likes watching balls fly into nets, send \$20. You saved a life. Take the rest of the day off.

You have *ever* had a net in the driveway, front lawn or on your head at McDonald's, send \$20. You ever imagined Angelina Jolie in fishnets, \$20. So you stay home and eat on the

dinette. You'll live.

Hey, Dick's Sporting Goods. You have 255 stores. How about you kick in a dime every time you sell a net? Hey, NBA players, hockey stars and tennis pros, how about you donate \$20 every time one of your shots hits the net? Maria Sharapova, you don't think this applies to you just because you're Russian? Nyet!

I tried to think how many times I have said or written the word "net" in 28 years of sports writing, and I came up with, conservatively, 20,000. So I've already started us off with a \$20,000 donation. That's a whole lot of lives. Together, we could come up with \$1 million, net. How many lives would that save? More than 50 times the population of Nett Lake, Minn.

I know what you're thinking: *Yeah, but bottom line, how much of our \$1 million goes to nets?* All of it. Thanks to Ted Turner, who donated \$1 billion to create the U.N. Foundation, which covers *all* the overhead, "every cent will go to nets," says Andrea Gay, the U.N. Foundation's Director of Children's Health.

Nets work! Bill and Melinda Gates have just about finished single-handedly covering every bed in Zambia. Maybe we can't cover an entire Zambia, but I bet we could put a serious dent in Malawi.

It's not like we're betting on some scientist somewhere coming up with a cure. And it's not like warlords are going to hijack a truckload of nets. "Theoretically, if every person in Africa slept at night under a net," says Gay, "nobody need ever die of malaria again." You talk about a net profit.

My God, think of all the nets that are taken for granted in sports! Ping-Pong nets. Batting cage nets. Terrell Owens's bassinet. If you sit behind the plate at a baseball game, you watch the action *through* a net. You download the highlights on Netscape and forward it on the net to your friend Ben-net while eating Raisinets. Sports is nothing *but* net. So next time you think of a net, go to that website and click yourself happy. Way more fun than your fantasy bowling league, dude.

One last vignette: A few years back, we took the family to Tanzania, which is ravaged by malaria now. We visited a school and played soccer with the kids. Must've been 50 on each team, running and laughing. A taped-up wad of newspapers was the ball and two rocks were the goal. Most fun I ever had getting whupped. When we got home, we sent some balls and nets.

I kick myself now for that. How many of those kids are dead because we sent the wrong nets?





## Inquirer's Class

**Don't Be Bashful...  
JOIN US!**

If you are seeking more information about our church or about the church's membership, you are invited to attend our next Inquirer's Class, April 20, after the 10:30 am worship. Participants will then be invited to join the church the following Sunday. These classes are held the third Sunday of every month.

**Are you receiving our all-church emails containing only pertinent Church-related news and events? If you haven't, it's easy to sign up. Just send us an email requesting to be put on our distribution. The office email is: [prccoffice@aol.com](mailto:prccoffice@aol.com)**

## Education



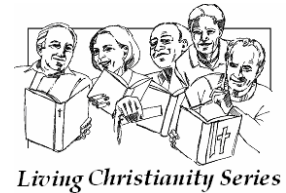
**Sunday 3/23** Easter Sunday - Worship - no Sunday school

\*\*\*\*\*

**Coming soon:** Spring Bible book buddies. In the works is a Heifer International - read to feed - book theme. You can visit this site to learn more: [www.readtofeed.org](http://www.readtofeed.org).

## LIVING CHRISTIANITY SERIES SCHEDULE

We have ended our series on poverty and will be starting a new spring series on Religious Literacy and Religious Pluralism. **Noted speaker and author Ken Vaux of the Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary will be presenting on this interesting topic on March 30<sup>th</sup> and April 6<sup>th</sup>.** In the following weeks, we will be hearing from speakers on three different world religions.



Please come and join us **in the parlor at 9 A.M.** as we dialogue on these interesting topics that will broaden our horizons.

## Women's Circle News

### Just a few reminders:

March 25, 9:30am - Circle 6

April 10, 10am. - The Circle Board meeting takes place.

Noon - Luncheon - hosted by Circle 8.

Our program will be on "Delectable Desserts" (*as in Chocolate*) presented by Kendall College Culinary School



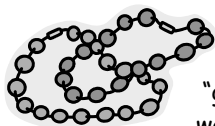
Circle 7 Meets March 25 and April 15.

Circle 7 will host member John Davis, DDS, at our March 25 meeting in the Church Parlor, starting at noon. He will share stories and photos of his team's recent trip to Guatemala and their medical and humanitarian projects in that country. Guests are cordially invited. A light lunch will be provided.

Change of date: Next month Circle 7 will meet on the

3rd Tuesday, April 15th, at noon in the Library. PRCC Member Bill Scharringhausen will share his experiences working with the PRCC Habitat for Humanity team building homes in Louisiana for victims of hurricane Katrina. Come join us at noon in the Library to learn more about the fabulous work this group is doing to make life a bit better for someone else.

## Circle 10 Needs Your Help!!!



We will be hosting an Accessory/Jewelry Sale. We're looking for "gently used" jewelry; rings, bracelets, watches, earrings and necklaces; also handbags, belts, and scarves. You know - nice things that you just don't wear anymore. Maybe your style has changed or you're just tired of it. Perhaps Grandmother gave you a stash you don't know what to do with. Well, we do!!!

On Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am to 12:30pm, Circle 10 will host Le "Cheap" Boutique in the Great Hall. All the items collected will be cleaned, displayed and priced for



members of our church and their friends to purchase. We're looking to collect a wide variety, from Precious Stone to Costume, so there is something for everyone. Donations kindly accepted on the following Sundays from (9:45 to 10:45 am, March 9, 16, & 30 in the Park Place Room. If you have any questions, please contact Robin Doubek at 847 825 7927.

\*All monies raised will go to fund Circle 10 projects, particularly Bereavement. Our Bereavement project provides food for the wakes of members of PRCC who have lost an immediate family member.

## PRCC Circle Ten Presents the 4th Semi-Annual Spring Tea



Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> • 1-3 pm in The Great Hall



### Guest Speaker Marie Clapper

Tickets \$12 -  
for tea, sweets & fun



Tickets available beginning  
March 30<sup>th</sup> in Park Place

## Caring for our Family



MESSAGE by Anita Rifkind

*He (Jesus) told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. Matthew 24:46, 47*

Guess what? The people in charge of these things have decided that there is now a new set of seven deadly sins, especially designed for the beginning of the 21st century. They are: polluting, genetic engineering, being obscenely rich, drug dealing, abortion, pedophilia and causing social injustice. Just as a reminder, the old list, (which is based loosely on the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, and *Dante's Inferno*) was: lust, gluttony, avarice, sloth, anger, envy and pride. Of course, one could probably make a case for all of the new deadly sins falling under one or more of the old ones, but making the link between polluting and gluttony (for example) would require a nuanced discussion in which most people would likely lose interest before the connection was made.

It turns out to be tricky to try to come up with a new list that has universal acceptance. For example, many people would find genetic engineering in cases where certain diseases can be prevented or alleviated to be beneficial, not sinful. And we have been having a lively debate for a number of years now as to whether abortion in every circumstance should be considered immoral, let alone illegal. Further, I suspect that Warren Buffet and Bill Gates will take exception to the characterization of extreme wealth as inherently sinful. They would ask: if they didn't hurt anyone amassing their fortunes, shared the wealth with their employees and/or stockholders, and are now giving billions of dollars away to charity - how is that sinful? Maybe the whole point is to discuss these things.

But it is ironic, isn't it, that just about the same time as the Pope issued the new list, the nation has been discussing not the "new" sins, but Ex-Governor Spitzer of New York committing one or two of the old ones. (I suppose it could be three of the old ones depending on how you want to count hypocrisy.) Publicly humiliating one's spouse and children isn't on either list of sins, and is very likely its own kind of hell.

New list or old, one thing is for certain: none of us manages to get through life without making mistakes, doing what we wish we had not done, hurting other people, failing to do what we know we should do. But we have been given an incredible gift - Easter: the promise that whenever we turn away from wrong-doing

and back towards God we will be forgiven. The Easter promise is that we don't have to face the consequences of our actions alone. Christ has promised to be with us, to stand next to us at the microphone (with or without a long-suffering spouse) as we take responsibility for what we have done.

The process of acknowledging wrong-doing and making amends, which is another way of saying "repenting," is not easy. Taking a new path can be both painful and lonely. As part of their training, Stephen Ministers promise to be with anyone who is in need of the reassurance of God's love and forgiveness. If you are in need of such company, contact Pastor Brett (847-823-3164) or Ginny Feurer (847-299-1781.)

~~~~~  
*Health and Wellness Corner*

**Celebrate**  
*Second Adulthood!*

**The Trouble with Green Tea – and the Cure!**

Did you know that many of the free-radical fighters in green tea never make it to your bloodstream? But there's a solution. To get a better grasp on the healthy catechins in your green tea, flavor your cuppa with a squeeze of citrus juice.

*Catechins* -- the antioxidants in green tea famous for lowering your risk of chronic disease -- quickly lose their power in your intestine. In fact, as much as 80 percent of the catechins in green tea are never absorbed. The solution to boosting absorption, researchers recently found, is as simple as flavoring your tea with freshly squeezed and strained lemon, orange, lime, or grapefruit juice.

So – take C with tea! The vitamin C in citrus may help with absorption by increasing the acidity in your small intestine. Other unidentified substances in the juice probably lend a hand, too. Researchers found a 50-50 mix had the greatest catechin-preserving effect, and lemon did it best, closely followed by orange, lime, and, in last place, grapefruit.

**Seniors: Be Modern – Thoroughly!**

All PRCC Seniors (you will self-define, please) are welcome to attend Maine South High School's musical presentation of *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (curtain: 4 pm) followed by a thoroughly yummy dinner back at PRCC on Thursday, April 24.

Dinner reservations are very much appreciated, and, naturally, advance notice is desirable. So call the church office (847-823-3164) to let us know the number in your party. Let us know if you need transportation, too.

This event, organized by the Senior Contact committee and always one of the most popular programs of the year, is our

congregation's gift to our wonderful Seniors. Won't you come and join in?

**Never Too Late for a Fresh Start**

So you spent your youth smoking, eating doughnuts, or keeping the couch warm. Don't despair. There are four simple steps middle-aged people can take to lower the risk of death in the ensuing four years by *40 percent* -- even if they haven't been a health superstar to date.

Make these modest changes to start undoing all the unhealthy things you did before:

- 1.) Eat more than five servings of fruit and vegetables daily.
- 2.) Walk at least 2.5 hours a week.
- 3.) Shave your BMI to under 30; 24.9 is ideal.
- 4.) Quit smoking.

Try to take all four changes to heart -- it's your best shot at lowering your risk of heart disease. But tackling even one or two items will still have an impact on your longevity.

**Visit The Moorings**

The folks at The Moorings are planning a lovely lunch and tour for us on Thursday, April 17, starting at 11:30. (Our original date of the 10<sup>th</sup> had to be changed.) If you are a.) considering a move to a Senior residence, b.) curious about the place behind the white fence, or c.) ready for a lovely lunch and pleasant company – then by all means join us! Just call Marie at 847-823-3164 by Monday, April 14 to have a place reserved for you or you and a friend. And if you need a ride, we will do our best to arrange that for you, too!

**A moment's thought:** *"I want to dance always, to be good and not evil, and, when it is all over, not to have the feeling that I might have done better."* Ruth St. Denis





## YOUTH GROUP is for YOUTH! - Every Sunday Night!

*Middle School - 5pm, High School - 6pm*

Youth Group this past fall was great, but the best is yet to come. This winter and spring, we have great topics, fun events, and lots of games planned for both middle and high school youth group. We meet on Sunday evenings in "Heaven" at church.

**Bring a friend!**

***All are invited and friends are always welcome!!!***

5:00-6:00pm - Middle School Youth Group    6:00-6:30pm - All Youth Meal    6:30-8:00 - H.S. Youth Group

### ***Upcoming Middle School Youth Groups:***

3/23 - EASTER - NO YOUTH GROUP

3/30 - SPRING BREAK - NO YOUTH GROUP

### ***Upcoming High School Youth Groups:***

3/23 - EASTER - NO YOUTH GROUP

3/30 - SPRING BREAK - NO YOUTH GROUP

For further information please email Stephen Cady at [stephen@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:stephen@parkridgecommunitychurch.org)

### **SPONSOR A YOUTH MEAL! HELP NEEDED!**

Every Sunday evening, dinner is included for all youth attending youth group. We ask each family to take one Sunday night and provide these dinners. You can get together with others to split up the cost of providing the meal and you should plan for around 30 unless you hear otherwise. Meals should be simple;

pizza, pasta, or anything easy for feeding a group. To sign up for a Sunday evening, please contact Jane Meagher at 847-696-4466 or email her at [janemeagher@comcast.net](mailto:janemeagher@comcast.net). You may also sign up on the sheet in the Park Place Room.

Youth Stock Sale

# April 2008

**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

8:00 am Garden Worship  
 9:00 am Worship  
 9:00 am Sunday School for All Ages  
 10:30 am Worship  
 9:50-10:25 *Coffee and Fellowship*

**Youth Schedule**  
 5-6pm Middle School Youth Group  
 6-6:30 All Youth Meal  
 6:30-8pm High School Youth Group  
 8pm Men's Basketball



The deadline for articles for the next CCNews is Monday, April 7, at 10:00 am. Articles can be e-mailed to [PRCCoffice@aol.com](mailto:PRCCoffice@aol.com), faxed, or brought to the church office. If you're creating your article on the computer, in Word or text format, you can submit a copy of your article on a 3½" diskette, or a CD, which will be returned to you. Thank you.

**March 30**

*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter*

Jazz Service and Holy Humor Sunday

**31**

9am Boot Camp  
 10am Circle 11-Library  
 4-5pm Jr. Choir  
 7pm Support Teams  
 Monthly Meeting-Library  
 7-8pm Basketball

**April 1**

10:30am Sr. Yoga in the Great Hall

**2**

7am Men's Breakfast  
 9am Boot Camp  
 1:30 pm Staff Meeting  
 6:30pm H2H  
 7pm Fly Fishers-Jordan Hall  
 7pm Yoga – Great Hall

**3**

Noon-F.A. Meeting  
 5:30 Cherub Choir  
 6:30 Bells on High  
 7 pm Narc. Anon.  
 7 pm Basketball-Great Hall  
 8pm Chancel Choir

**4**

9am Boot Camp  
 10:30am Silver Bells

**5**

7am Boot Camp  
 9:30am University Women Meeting - Library

**6** *3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter*

8:45-12:30pm Le "Cheap" Boutique  
 Circle 10 Jewelry Sale-Great Hall

Noon-3pm Nothing But Nets Tourney—Great Hall

**7**

**10 am CCNews Deadline**

10am Circle 11-Library  
 4-5pm Jr. Choir  
 7-8pm Basketball  
 7pm Stephen Ministry Support – Library

**8**

10:30am Sr. Yoga in the Great Hall

**9**

7am Men's Breakfast  
 1:30pm Staff Meeting  
 4:30-6:00pm Angeli Choir  
 6:30pm H2H—Huddle (leaders only)  
 7-9pm Support Team Orientation  
 7pm Fly Fishers-Jordan Hall  
 7pm Yoga – Great Hall  
 8:00pm Basketball

**10**

10am Circle Board Meeting  
 Noon-Luncheon  
 Noon-F.A. Meeting  
 5:30 Cherub Choir  
 6:30 Bells on High  
 7 pm Narc. Anon.  
 8 pm Chancel Choir

**11**

9am Boot Camp  
 10:30am Silver Bells

**12**

7am Boot Camp  
 6:30 pm Dinner Theater

**13** *4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*

11:30pm Pfaff meeting - Parlor

**14**

9am Boot Camp  
 10am Circle 11-Library  
 4-5pm Jr. Choir  
 7-8pm Basketball

**15**

10:30am Sr. Yoga in the Great Hall  
 1pm Circle 7  
 7:30pm Board of Directors Meeting

**16**

7am Men's Breakfast  
 9am Boot Camp  
 1:30pm Staff Meeting  
 4:30-6:00pm Angeli Choir  
 6:30pm Confirmation-8<sup>th</sup> Grade only  
 7pm Yoga – Great Hall  
 7pm Fly Fishers-Jordan Hall  
 8pm Basketball

**17**

Visit the Moorings  
 Circle 8 Meeting-  
 Noon-F.A. Meeting  
 7 pm Narc. Anon.  
 8 pm Chancel Choir

**18**

9am Boot Camp  
 10:30am Silver Bells

**19**

7am Boot Camp

**20** *5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*

Jarvis Baptism

11:30pm Inquirer's Class

**21**

**10 am CCNews Deadline**  
**All May Information needed**

9am Boot Camp  
 10am Circle 11-Library  
 7 pm Stephen Minister Support –Library  
 7-8pm Basketball

**22**

9:30am Circle 6  
 10:30am Sr. Yoga in the Great Hall  
 7:30 Trustees Mtg.

**23**

7am Men's Breakfast  
 9am Boot Camp  
 1:30pm Staff Meeting  
 6:30pm Serve and Play  
 7pm Yoga – Great Hall  
 7pm Fly Fishers-Jordan Hall  
 8pm Basketball-Great Hall

**24**

Noon-F.A. Meeting  
 5:30 Cherub Choir  
 6:30 Bells on High  
 7 pm Narc. Anon.  
 7 pm Basketball-Great Hall  
 Senior Contact Theater/Dinner

**25**

9am Boot Camp  
 10:30am Silver Bells

**26**

7am Boot Camp  
 1-3pm Spring Tea—Jordan Hall

**28** *6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*

**28**

9am Boot Camp  
 10am Circle 11-Library  
 4-5pm Jr. Choir  
 7pm Support Teams  
 Monthly Meeting-Library  
 7-8pm Basketball

**29**

10:30am Sr. Yoga in the Great Hall

**30**

7am Men's Breakfast  
 9am Boot Camp  
 1:30 pm Staff Meeting  
 6:30pm Confirmation-8<sup>th</sup> Grade only  
 7pm Fly Fishers-Jordan Hall  
 7pm Yoga – Great Hall  
 8pm Basketball-Great Hall

**May 1**

Noon-F.A. Meeting  
 5:30 Cherub Choir  
 6:30 Bells on High  
 7 pm Narc. Anon.  
 7 pm Basketball-Great Hall  
 8pm Chancel Choir

**2**

9am Boot Camp  
 10:30am Silver Bells

**3**

7am Boot Camp

**Please Note:**

The annual **Congregation Meeting** will be held on **Sunday, May 4.**

There will be one service at 10am,  
 followed by the Meeting and Brunch.

Office hours are 8:30 am to Noon, 1 pm to 4 pm, Monday through Friday.

Medical Lending Closet hours: 9:30am to noon, Monday through Friday.

CCNews Articles due in 10am **Monday, April 7** to Post Office April 10/11. Any additional articles.





# Park Ridge Community Church

**Our Staff:**

Rev. Dr. Brett McCleneghan, Senior Minister  
Sasha Gerritson, Minister of Music  
Marie Clapper, Pastoral Services Coordinator  
Rich Short, Custodian

Rev. Stephen Cady, Associate Minister  
Rick Hagedorn, Organ  
Evelyn Priebe, Parish Administrator

**Office hours are** 8:30 am to Noon, 1 pm to 4 pm, Monday through Friday.

**Medical Lending Closet hours:** 9:30am to noon, Monday through Friday.

**CCNews** Articles due in 10am **Monday, April 7** to Post Office April 10/11. Additional articles and May Calendar items.

**ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE IN BY MARCH 28.**

**PLEASE SUBMIT THEM ELECTRONICALLY IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. "WORD" DOCUMENTS AND EMAIL TEXTS ARE PREFERRED. THANK YOU!**

*Just a reminder:*  
Please, no food or drink in the sanctuary.  
And remember to turn off all phones & electronic devices.  
Thank you!

**Moving? Please notify the office of your address change so that you won't miss any issues of CCNews!**

Date mailed March 20, 2008

*Our Staff:*  
Rev. Dr. Brett McCleneghan, Senior Minister  
Rev. Stephen Cady, Associate Minister  
Sasha Gerritson, Minister of Music  
Rick Hagedorn, Organ  
Marie Clapper, Pastoral Services Coordinator  
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Phone: 847/823-3164  
Fax: 847/823-3165  
E-Mail: [PRCCoffice@aol.com](mailto:PRCCoffice@aol.com)  
Web: [www.parkridgecommunitychurch.org](http://www.parkridgecommunitychurch.org)

