

# THE PRCC NEWS

PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH AUGUST 2011 ° VOLUME TWO ° ISSUE ELEVEN

## A WORD ABOUT THE SOUNDS OF SUMMER

**“LOVE IS LIKE A HEAT WAVE, BURNIN’ IN MY HEART!”** The exquisite vocals of Martha and the Vandellas (and later, Linda Ronstadt) wafting over the beach was always a beloved –and welcome--sound of summer in my long-ago youth. In recent days, I have heard some who sing the praises of the actual record-breaking heat wave that is currently roasting much of the country. Others would rather be singing “White Christmas”. Having been born and raised south of the Mason-Dixon Line, my beloved Lauri has never quite acclimated to Chicago winters. Yet with the sizzling sounds of the heat index rising into the 90s and above, memories of sweltering childhood summers spent in Virginia, Alabama and Texas put things in perspective. What are your favorite sounds of summer? Lawn sprinklers? Cicadas? Children playing in the yard? Burgers broiling on the grill? I invite you to take a moment to listen to the sounds of a few favorite words about summer and then to listen more fully to the sounds of this summer season.

**“WHAT DREADFUL HOT WEATHER WE HAVE! IT KEEPS ME IN A CONTINUAL STATE OF INELEGANCE.”** (Jane Austen, 1775-1817) I’m not sure that I ever achieve a state of elegance in any season. Nonetheless, I can appreciate Miss Austen’s delicate and witty description of wilting under the heat and humidity. I suspect that she took advantage of the season to sit back and reflect on life around her; a most profitable activity for a novelist of her skill and insight. Perhaps a fine idea for us as well. This summer, be sure to take time to s-l-o-w d-o-w-n, rest, and reflect. Walk through the garden, have a picnic in a cool forest glen with a good friend. Strive for simple elegance, in spite of the rising mercury.

**“HEAT, MA’AM! IT WAS SO DREADFUL HERE THAT I FOUND THERE WAS NOTHING LEFT FOR IT BUT TO TAKE OFF MY FLESH AND SIT IN MY BONES!”** (Sydney Smith, 1771-1845) In the Rev’d. Mr. Smith’s day, air conditioning was unknown, so I suppose drastic measures were necessary to keep one’s cool. His misery reminds me of the first summer I served as a chaplain at the Westborough State Psychiatric Hospital in Massachusetts. As the heat of August hovered well above 100° F. for the better part of two weeks, we, the staff, continued to work on the non-air-conditioned wards wearing buttoned collars and neckties while the patients removed excess clothing and stretched out on the cool linoleum floors. Again, the drastic measures needed for coping with summer are often the wisest.

**“AH, SUMMER, WHAT POWER YOU HAVE TO MAKE US SUFFER AND LIKE IT.”** (Russell Baker, b. 1925) Truth be told, no matter how much I claim to be an “Autumn person” I do love the summer. Without high heat and humidity, we would never know the pleasure of sensing an advancing thunderstorm in the middle of a sweltering evening, to feel the cool breeze pick up as the front slowly arrives. The primal fear coupled with the simple thrill of lightning bolts and thunder and rain pounding on the roof would be unknown. So, too, we would lose that spectacular moment of plunging into the deep, dark, coolness of a lake on a sizzling afternoon. We do suffer and we do like it, for there is much more to like than to suffer.

**“EVERY MAN WHO POSSIBLY CAN SHOULD FORCE HIMSELF TO A HOLIDAY OF A FULL MONTH IN A YEAR, WHETHER HE FEELS LIKE TAKING IT OR NOT.”** (William James, 1842-1910) There is a great deal of talk these days about “year-round school.” Children have an instinctive reaction against the idea because, I suspect, they know summer to be the perfect time to force ourselves into that required holiday. What better season for time off and a little R & R? I agree, an entire month may be a bit difficult, but how about a week or even a few days? Are you making plans?

**“TOTAL PHYSICAL AND MENTAL INERTIA ARE HIGHLY AGREEABLE, MUCH MORE SO THAN WE ALLOW OURSELVES TO IMAGINE. A BEACH NOT ONLY PERMITS SUCH INERTIA BUT ENFORCES IT, THUS NEATLY ELIMINATING ALL PROBLEMS OF GUILT. IT IS NOT THE ONLY PLACE IN OUR OVERLY ACTIVE WORLD THAT DOES.”** (John Kenneth Galbraith, b. 1908) Just how blessed we are to live on the shore of Lake Michigan cannot be expressed in words. It must be experienced. The “total physical and mental inertia” available on one of our beaches is a gift from God. Such times are moments of Sabbath. We join with our God to step back, rest, and pronounce all of Creation to be “very good” indeed.

**“SUMMER’S LEASE HATH ALL TOO SHORT A DATE.”** (Wm. Shakespeare, *Sonnet 18*) Love it or loathe it, summer is but a fleeting moment. Take it for all it’s worth, I say. Embrace these days and the new life they bring, for in sunshine and flower, laughing children and quiet conversation by the shore, God again reveals to us the boundless beauty of Creation and offers us fresh opportunity to glory in the simple fact of being alive.

Grace and Peace,

Brett W. McCleneghan

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Marylynn Collentine	8/1
Mary Crowl	8/1
Chris Disher	8/1
Linda Eatherton	8/1
Kevin Muscarello	8/1
Carly Cara	8/2
Eleni Johnson	8/2
Jackie Lau	8/3
Jay Crowley	8/4
Sam Kunkel	8/4
Bobbe Peak	8/4
Elle Riordan	8/4
Janet Timm	8/4
Anne Berndtson	8/5
Dee Mrugacz	8/5
Connor Schaul	8/5
Charlie Vinopal Sr.	8/5
Dawnie Ewald	8/6
Rachel Renz	8/6
Thomas Schaul	8/6
Kristin Clarke	8/7
Alex Zorn	8/7
Douglas Crawford	8/8
Terry Krahl	8/8
Claire Newton	8/8
Brian Johnson	8/9
Paul Johnson	8/9
Henry Hoelscher	8/10
Lynne Kolze	8/10
John Fisher	8/12
Nichole Ziols	8/12
Ella King	8/13
Rachel Parker	8/13
Liz Swanson	8/13
Donna Hapeman	8/14
Pauline Numrych	8/14
Ross Gitter	8/15
Steve Eatherton	8/16
Zachary Nelson	8/16
Virginia Paige	8/16
Penny Turk	8/16
Alex Biardo	8/17
Marco Padula	8/17
Grace Taglia	8/17
Amanda Black	8/18
Bobby Elliott	8/19
Wayne Ewald	8/19
Charlie Gitter	8/19
Charles Goetz	8/19
Matthew Peters	8/19
Eric Sivertsen	8/19

## JOIN US FOR WORSHIP IN AUGUST

### SUNDAY WORSHIP HOURS:

**8:30 AM—9:15 AM:** Garden Worship, Weather Permitting

**10:00 AM—11:00 AM:** Sanctuary Worship

\* Nursery open from 8:15-11:30 am \*

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July 31—Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

Sermon: We Are The Church Together

Text: I Corinthians 12:12-26

August 7—Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Mission Trip Returns

Text: Galatians 1:1-10

August 14—Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

Sermon: Signed, Sealed, and Delivered

Text: Ephesians 1:3-14

August 21—Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

Hymn Sing

Sermon: Great Expectations

Text: I Thessalonians 5:1-11

August 28—Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

Sermon: A Practical Primer For Patient Practitioners

Text: James 1:1-8

September 4—Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Holy Communion Labor Sunday

Sermon: Getting Down To Work

Text: I Peter 2:9-17

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

### PRAYER MINISTRY

**We keep in our prayers:** Donald Anderson (Siri Nelson's father), JoAnn Anderson, Stephanie Beery and her grandsons, Phil Berent, Michael Bianchi, Mike Brown and family (Barbara and Bill Scharringhausen's nephew), Randal Carpenter (father of Cheri Carpenter), Evelyn Claire, Marie Degaard, Don (co-worker of Martha), Bob Douglass (brother of Dave Douglass), Winnie Erickson, Brian Fogarty, Shirley and Virgil Grand's great-grandsons, Rick Hoyt, (co-worker of Mary Crowl, Alice Keating, Candace Kidston, Grace Koenig and her family, Walter and Christina Kotecki (Bernice Zabawski's brother), Patricia Koziol, Jim Lego (Mary Biardo's brother), Lou Limper, Alexis Marsh, Elsie Matthys, Jimmie McSpadden, Lurana Nelson, Chester and Leo Netko (father and uncle of Cindy Winter), Pauline Numrych, Lisa & Abigail O'Grady, Carol Potter, Leah Schaul, Yoshiko Urasaki, Ben Wright (father of Grace Curtis).

**We also keep in our prayers the following friends and family:**

- Prayers of joy for Jessye Wright and Larry Adams' marriage on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
- Prayers for choir member, Alex Makkawy, on the passing of his grandfather.
- Prayers of recovery for Katie Gaby's great aunt Isabelle who is in the hospital.
- Prayers of thanksgiving for all veterans who gave and continue to give their lives for our country.
- Prayers of joy for Ellie and Luke Naudzius' birthdays on July 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Prayers of joy for Sandy Bowen's birthday on July 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Prayers of joy for Scott Nelson as he celebrated his birthday on July 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Prayers of thanksgiving for Sasha Gerritson and Rick Hagedorn's birthdays.
- Prayers of healing for Carolyn Merrifield who broke her shoulder.
- Prayers of recovery and strength for Jessye Wright's mother, Sally, who is undergoing medical treatments.
- Prayers for the safety for all mission trippers in this church and others and they provide work in areas across the globe.
- Prayers of celebration of Joshua Sissman's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday!
- Prayers of celebration for Sara and John Born who welcomed their daughter, Leah Coakley Born into the world on Wednesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011 at around 11:15 am. Leah weighed 5 pounds, 14 ounces and was 19 inches long. Both mom and baby are doing wonderfully.

**With Deepest Sympathies:**

Please keep in your prayers the friends and family of the following Park Ridge Community Church members' loved ones who have recently passed away during the summer months:

The family and friends of Floy Meagher, mother of Jane Meagher and grandmother of Robert, Andy, and Kevin Hemphill, who entered into life in the resurrection on June 4<sup>th</sup>, after a long struggle with Alzheimer's.

The family and friends of Bill Olsen, brother of Dolores Durrbeck, who entered into life in the resurrection on June 30<sup>th</sup>. A service was held at St. Raymond's in Mt. Prospect on Wednesday, July 6<sup>th</sup>. Bill was a retired Chicago Police Commander.

The family and friends of Patricia Koziol who entered into life in the resurrection on July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The family and friends of Helen E. Laing, who entered into life in the resurrection on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011 in Newton, Kansas. Helen was the mother or Park Ridge Community Church member Janet Frantz.

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Audre Thompson	8/19
Owen Hayes II	8/20
Cliffy Kessem	8/20
Taylor Crowley	8/21
Kelly Mack	8/21
James Muenzer	8/21
Peter Muenzer	8/21
Carla Prado	8/21
Brenda Allison	8/22
Leah Barsanti	8/22
Michael Fuerst	8/22
Roger Ginger	8/22
Carol Mraz	8/22
Jordan Thorpe	8/22
Olivia Brunning	8/23
Bob Patterson	8/24
Zachary Malinsky	8/25
Bill Scharringhausen	8/25
Tina Bianchi	8/26
Richard Sivertsen	8/26
Sarah Deitke	8/27
Anne Schwartz	8/27
Shaina Slaughter	8/27
Jan Steiner	8/27
Colleen Hannon	8/28
Jaime Mackin	8/28
Michael McParland	8/28
Jeremiah Padula	8/28
Libby Rehder	8/28
Jennifer Rujawitz	8/28
Alex Shotsberger	8/28
Leena Swanson	8/28
Dean Whitford	8/28
Dylan Arends	8/29
Kevin Dienhart	8/29
Lauren Dienhart	8/29
Bob Mack	8/29
Rae Ann Van Pelt	8/29
Kerrick Hanrahan	8/30
Claire Peters	8/31

If you or someone you know is not list on our monthly birthday list, please let the church office know so we can include you. Simply call 847-823-3164!

## CIRCLE 10 NEWS UPDATE

Circle 10 is a lovely group of women from our church and we want to let you know what we have been up to during this past year.

We usually meet once a month from September to June.

We typically hold two fundraisers during the year to support our on-going contributions to PRCC and other community outreach projects.

This year we hosted a Holiday Spirit of Christmas event at Amphora in November and "Le Cheap Boutique" in April for our PRCC friends as well as friends, family and neighbors.

Some of the ongoing ministries that our Circle supports are the CROP Walk, Sunday Night Suppers at St. Paul of the Cross, our monthly Lincoln Park Shelter dinners, Feed My Starving Children, Bethel Family Christmas adopt-a-family and PRCC Sunday night youth group to name a few.

We also assist with bereavement for church members. Our Circle provides light refreshments at the visitation or wake if a family desires us to do so.

We rely on the church staff to let us know if a member passes away so we can help in this way.

We would like to welcome any PRCC women who are looking to join a Circle to join us.

Contact Tricia Williams at [triciablakew@sbcglobal.net](mailto:triciablakew@sbcglobal.net) or 847-685-0887 if you are interested in joining or want more information.

## HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY!

In our combined June and July summer newsletter, we regretfully omitted some birthdays from the Zimmerman family who are longtime PRCC members. We wish to send them very happy belated birthday wishes and again are deeply sorry for the error.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

June Zimmerman on June 2nd,  
Lawrence Zimmerman on June 5th,  
Nadya Zimmerman on June 27th, and  
Christie Zimmerman on July 29th.

## FOOD DONATION—AUGUST 7th!

Don't forget! The first Sunday of every month is our food donation collection day. All items benefit the Maine Township Food Pantry. Items most needed are non-perishable foods such as peanut butter, jelly, macaroni and cheese, pasta, pasta sauce, etc. Questions can be directed to the church office (847-823-3164) or you can visit their website at [www.maintownship.com](http://www.maintownship.com) or call 847-297-2510.

# CHRISTIAN BELIEVER

## *KNOWING GOD WITH HEART AND MIND*

**CHRISTIAN BELIEVER** is a 30 week study with daily preparation and weekly two-hour group sessions, integrating Bible study and study of the basic beliefs of the Christian faith.

**CHRISTIAN BELIEVER** yokes doctrine with the Bible as source and vision for renewal of the church.

- Helps clergy and laity become more familiar with the Bible and what the church believes and teaches.
- Motivates members and equips them for outreach and evangelism
- Enriches worship by helping persons understand the language of the faith in hymns, creeds, symbols, sermons, and Scripture.
- Encourages preaching that focuses on the heart of Christian teaching

To sign up or receive more information, contact Teri Biedke, Director of Christian Education  
at 847-823-3164 x114 or [teri@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:teri@parkridgecommunitychurch.org).

You may also fill out the interest form below and return it to the church office by either dropping it in the Sunday morning offering plate, visiting the office during the hours of 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, or mailing your form to: PRCC Attention: Main Office, 100 Courtland Ave, Park Ridge, IL 60068.

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## CHRISTIAN BELIEVER

### *KNOWING GOD WITH HEART AND MIND*

A high-commitment, small-group study that combines Bible study and the classical doctrine of the Christian faith.

Yes! I'm interested in the **CHRISTIAN BELIEVER** study! Please contact me with more information.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## A SPECIAL NOTE FROM PASTOR BRETT

Dear Ones in Christ,

Beyond a shadow of a doubt, Keith Reboletti proved himself a master of surprise when he turned the tables on me during the Second Mile Award presentation on Sunday, June 12th. And you were all a party to it! For once, I was completely speechless. To this moment, it is still difficult for me to find words sufficient to express my deep gratitude for the surprise celebration of ten years together in ministry with you. Thank you for the kind gifts, memory book, songs, tributes and a fabulous surprise party!

“You know we’ve come a long way,” the old Cat Stevens song has it, “we’re changing day by day.” We have experienced change and growth, love, and yes, loss. By the grace of God, I believe we continue to grow in love of God and of one another. The expansive welcome we offer to children and youth, families of so many different configurations, young and the not-so-young brings vitality to our life together. Even more, I think, is the expansive welcome we offer to one another in our often significant differences in our understanding of what it means to be faithful. The profound and gracious respect that forms the foundation for our beloved church community is a rare and good thing in this world: this place where the very conservative and the very progressive, the very moderate and those who are very intentional in their search for faith and meaning and purpose come together “in diversity of faith and unity in Christ.”

I am so moved by the many, many anniversary words of appreciation and affection I have received in recent weeks. They are at once heart-warming and humbling. There has been and there continues to be much love shared between us. Yet with love comes loss. During the course of these ten years, we have entrusted over 70 souls from our church and community to the everlasting arms of God. The presence of these saints is palpable. They constitute “that great cloud of witnesses” of which scripture speaks. Who they have been to us, how they lived and worshipped and served among us continues to shape our life together to this very day. I miss them all very much.

There are others who have been lost to us because of changes in career and calling and circumstance, those who have moved from our area. Often we are blessed with a visit from these dear ones as they return for a few days or stop by along the course of their travels. Their time with us also continues to shape and inform who we are as a congregation.

The especially difficult losses, the losses that continue to haunt me are those who have been lost to us because of my own all-too-real humanity. Through my words, deeds, inaction, inattention or just plain ineptitude, there are those who found themselves compelled to separate themselves from our family of faith. In many ways, these losses are the most heart-rending of all the losses incurred over ten years. Thank you for the ways in which you have helped me through these losses and especially for the ways in which you have helped me to learn from these losses and so to discover a way forward, a “more excellent way,” as the apostle Paul puts it.

So it is that through ten years together, God has blessed us with grace, comfort, healing and the promise of resurrection. As ever, God lifts us up on eagles’ wings and sends us off to live life renewed and renewing. Thank you, each and every one, for allowing me to serve you. Thank you to my truly remarkable colleagues who make ministry a joy. And thank you to my beloved Lauri, Whitney, Taylor, Bromleigh and our growing family for your love, encouragement, insight and inspiration.

Near the end of the surprise party, George Brant said to me, “It was wonderful to celebrate this anniversary, but the best part was to see everyone having such a marvelous time together.” Amen, George. Our “one great fellowship of love,” as the old hymn has it, is our core, our strength, our glimpse of God’s kingdom, and the foundation from which we will go forward together into the future God is already unfolding before us.

Grace and Peace, Brett

# THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS!

## SECRET GARDENERS

Have you noticed how lovely all of gardens and planting beds look? Well there is a team of “secret gardeners” that tend to our flowers, bushes, and plantings weekly by trimming, watering, and transplanting them as needed.

We’d like to acknowledge their endless work to beautify our church (especially during these very HOT months). A very special thank you to:

Nancy Ady, Jane and Jim Fizzell, Barbara Pfaff, Barbara Scharringhausen, Nancy Skoog, and Eddie Young.

Below are some pictures of their beautiful work.



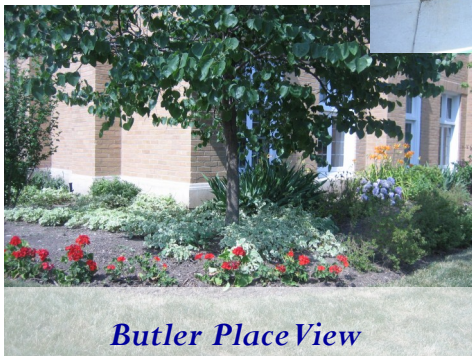
*Prospect Avenue View*



*Prospect Avenue Entrance*



*Butler Place Entrance*



*Butler Place View*



*Main Entrance*

## PRCC'S NEW BIKE RACK

At long last, we have a new bike rack for those Sunday morning riders! Located next to the Park Place entrance, the newly installed rack came to fruition through several volunteers and a very generous donor. We’d like to thank Carol Longman, Jane and Jim Fizzell, and Owen Hayes for all for all of the effort to install and beautify the new rack. Thank you!

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### RALLY SUNDAY

Please join us for Rally Sunday on September 11th. The whole church is invited to come together after a busy summer to focus on the next phase of our spiritual lives. Beginning at 9:00 am, children are welcome to register for Sunday School and visit their new classrooms in an "open house" format. Families may then proceed to light refreshments and crafts related to our Sunday School theme for this year, "Peace on Earth." Meanwhile, all adults are invited to learn more about our new series, "Christian Believer," which will be offered at various times each week. Registration for adult education and for children's Sunday School may be completed in advance of September 11th as well. Please contact Teri Biedke, Director of Christian Education, 847-823-3164x114 or [teri@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:teri@parkridgecommunitychurch.org) with questions.

Schedule for Rally Sunday:

9:00 - 9:50 am: Sunday School registration and open house

Christian Believer series (adult education) information and registration

light refreshments and crafts

10:00 - 11:00 am: Rally Sunday service for the whole congregation

11:15 - 12:30 pm: church picnic and games for the whole congregation on the lawn -- three-legged races, anyone?!

### SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Just a few open spots remain on our roster of Sunday School teachers. Would you like to help guide the children of PRCC on their spiritual journey? We provide an excellent curriculum of Bible lessons created by our own Pastor Nicole. Youth and adult assistants are also welcome (no lesson planning needed!). An orientation and planning meeting will be held for all teachers and assistants a few weeks prior to Rally Sunday. Please contact Teri Biedke, 847-823-3164 x114 or [teri@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:teri@parkridgecommunitychurch.org) with questions, or to volunteer.

### VBS THANK YOU

PRCC's Shake It Up Café Vacation Bible School was a wonderful experience for 32 children from PRCC and the community. Thank you to the many youth and adult volunteers who guided children through fun yet meaningful projects, games and singing, and thank you to the congregation for your support and interest. More pictures from VBS can be found on the Park Place Room bulletin board.



## YOUTH SCOOP—SUMMER SCHEDULE—AUGUST

### Summer Youth Activities

#### AUGUST

Sunday, August 7, 8:30 & 10a Worship,  
PRCC MISSION TRIP RETURN SERVICE

Sunday, August 21, 5-7p, Carriage House  
END-OF-SUMMER BBQ FOR  
MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

### Pumpkin Patch Updates

Mark your calendars for these upcoming Pumpkin Patch Meeting dates and times. Can you believe it's almost here?!?

#### SEPTEMBER

Tuesday, September 6th—7:30 pm

Tuesday, September 19th—7:30 pm

Tuesday, September 26th—7:30 pm

#### OCTOBER

Tuesday, October 4th—7:30 pm

Tuesday, October 11th—7:30 pm

### Car Wash—A Clean Success!

Thank you to all volunteers and youth who helped make both of our summer car washes (held on June 18th and July 16th) a success! It was HOT, but fun and a great fundraiser for our PRCC youth!

**THANK YOU!**

Visit [www.prccyouth.org](http://www.prccyouth.org) or the church calendar for more information about these upcoming activities.

### Mission Trip Updates

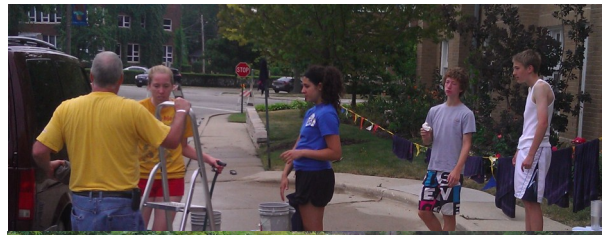
#### JULY

Sunday, July 24-Sunday, July 31  
INT'L MISSION TRIP COSTA RICA

#### AUGUST

Sunday, Aug 7, 8:30 & 10a Worship,  
PRCC MISSION TRIP RETURN SERVICE

*Come learn about this year's incredible mission trip to Talamanca, Costa Rica.*



**CAR WASH 2011!!!**

## STEPHEN MINISTRY MESSAGE BY ANITA RIFKIND



*Jesus said to him,*

*“Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham.*

*For the Son of Man came to seek and save the lost.”*

*Luke 19:9-10.*

In the most recent issue of *Weavings*, a Baptist minister and college professor named E. Glenn Hinson extrapolates on the notion that if the church is anything, it is what Bernard of Clairvoix called “a school of love.” (*Schola caritatis* in Latin if anybody cares.) As if love is something that can be learned! Both Bernard of Clairvoix and Hinson believe it can.

Hinson’s essay references a Quaker meeting where the guest speaker was Martin Buber, the Jewish theologian most famous for writing *I and Thou*. At that meeting, Buber said, “The greatest thing one can do for another is to confirm what is deepest in another.” In the audience that day was the Quaker minister Douglas Steere who Hinson says took that message from Buber and made “*confirming what is deepest in another* the object of his life and ministry.” To Hinson, the love the church must learn to express is in that confirmation.

As always, the question is where and how to begin. Hinson has some ideas on that score as well. He uses the story of Zacchaeus from Luke 19 to show how Jesus modeled this confirmation of what is deepest in another in his dealings with the height-challenged tax collector who climbed a tree to get a better look. Hinson says that Jesus first gave Zacchaeus his attention: he looked up at him in the sycamore tree. Jesus noticed him. He didn’t walk past preoccupied with his own problems, or turn away because Zacchaeus was unpopular, or odd, or any one of a hundred reasons we give when we ignore someone. Jesus attended to him. Lesson One.

Next Hinson says that Jesus accepted Zacchaeus. Jesus does not merely wave and move on, he stops, calls the man by name, and then invites himself to dinner. Jesus was willing to risk his own reputation by not merely recognizing Zacchaeus as fellow human being, but also by going one step further and associating with Zacchaeus. Never mind how it looked to other people. Never mind the talk and gossip. Jesus gave Zacchaeus legitimacy, declared him to be a person worthy to be acknowledged and befriended. Lessons Two and Three.

Finally, Hinson says that Jesus gave Zacchaeus what he craved, what we each crave most – affirmation. To Hinson, Jesus’ actions were consistent with the message of the Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector from Luke 18: 9-14: humility is the basis of justification before God. Jesus gave to Zacchaeus the message that this affirmation came “(n)ot as a consequence of any worthiness in this tax collector,” but instead was entirely based on God’s infinite mercy and grace. Lesson Four.

PRCC is fortunate to have a *schola caritatis* master’s degree program: Stephen Ministry. As I was reading the four steps Hinson describes as being the components of “confirming what is deepest in another” – attention, acceptance, association, and affirmation – it reminded me of what the Stephen Ministry program is all about. A Stephen Ministry tries to give “another” (i.e., a care receiver) his/her undivided attention, to accept that person wherever they are on their faith journey or in their life, to spend time with that person, and finally, to affirm for that person that God’s infinite mercy and grace – God’s love, extends to each of us.

The Stephen Ministry program is just one way that we at PRCC try to confirm what is deepest in the people with whom we share a pew, or a pot-luck dinner, or a choir stall, or a cup of coffee; there are lots of others. But if you are feeling disconnected, isolated, or alone, or if you are facing some issues and could use a little extra attention, contact Pastor Brett (847-823-3164) or Ginny Feurer (847-299-1781) to talk about whether or not a graduate student would be right for you.

## SECOND ADULthood

### NORTH SHORE SUPER SENIOR—LUAN ZOELLNER

Luan Zoellner, PRCC member recently was awarded the North Shore Super Senior Award in our community! Below is some of the information that helped Luan be recognized for all that she does here at PRCC and in our area.

#### At Our Church

At Park Ridge Community Church, Luan has served on dozens of committees over the years. Three years ago, she was trained to be part of PRCC's Support Teams and further assisted with her work for active seniors at PRCC through its Kindred Spirits Café.

#### In Our Town and Throughout Our Metropolitan Area

In the city of Park Ridge, Luan has made her mark, too as a staunch supporter of the Park Ridge Ministerial Association that sponsors monthly suppers for area homeless and those in need. She has worked in this capacity for years.

Luan's dedication reaches into Chicago. For years, she has led a group that cooks and delivers home-made dinners each month to the Lincoln Park Community Shelter. Additionally, Luan has worked with Bethel New Life in Chicago's inner city.

All Luan's work has been done without thought of reward. Her motives are pure: She simply wants to help. Her goodness is legend: She is the Good Samaritan among us. Our gratitude to her is beyond measure.

Submitted by Marie Clapper—Former Director of Pastoral Services, Park Ridge Community Church

### KINDRED SPIRITS CAFÉ

Don't forget to come to Kindred Spirits for lunch and conversation on Tuesdays starting 11:30. There is still a lot of fun to be had this summer! Join us on August 2nd for our August birthday celebration party!

### SENIOR DINNER AND CONCERT IN THE PARK

Once again the Senior Contact committee is looking forward to showing our appreciation for your being part of our church family by hosting the Annual Dinner and Concert in the Park.

Dinner will be served in Jordan Hall at 6:30 and the concert will featuring Big Band music will begin at 8:00 pm on Friday night August 5th. If you are joining us for dinner, please RSVP to the office by August 3rd and if you are joining us for music just come by anytime. Either way, please bring lawn chairs for the concert and set up in the reserved area on the lawn by the Courtland office door. We look forward to a relaxing evening of fun and fellowship. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact Liz Swanson at [liz@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:liz@parkridgecommunitychurch.org) or 847-823-3164 x106.

### MARGARET MENDENHALL IS CELEBRATING A SPECIAL BIRTHDAY!

Long time PRCC member Margaret Mendenhall is celebrating a special birthday July 30th. If you would like to wish her a happy 90th birthday, please send cards to:

The Moorings Health Center room 234-2

761 Old Barn lane

Arlington Heights, Il 69995

# PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

100 S. Courtland Avenue  
Park Ridge, IL 60068-4187  
www.parkridgecommunitychurch.org  
847-823-3164  
847-823-3165 (fax)

Email:  
office@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

Office Hours: 8:30 AM—12 PM,  
1:00 PM-4:00 PM  
Monday through Friday

Medical Lending Closet Hours:  
9:30 AM—12:00 PM  
Monday through Friday

## *Our Staff:*

*Rev. Dr. Brett McCleneghan*  
*Senior Minister*

*Rev. Ms. Nicole Urbach*  
*Associate Minister*

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*Teri Biedke*  
*Director of Christian*  
*Education*

*Patrice Dombro*  
*Parish Secretary*

*Sasha Gerritson*  
*Minister of Music*

*Rick Hagedorn*  
*Organist*

*Nicole Kremer*  
*Parish Coordinator*

*Liz Swanson*  
*Director of Pastoral*  
*Services*



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## AUGUST 2011

### Photos needed! Were you there?

Were you at Pastor Brett's  
10 Year Anniversary Party?

If so and you took some great shots,  
please email them to Liz Swanson at  
liz@parkridgecommunitychurch.org

Liz is working on a memory book  
for Brett and would love to add  
some "memories"  
from that day as well.

Thank You!