

# The Pulse

May  
2016



## of Rocky River Presbyterian Church

### Our Artist Concert Series presents... **Western Reserve Brass Band** **Sunday, May 1 at 4:00 p.m.**

Established in the fall of 1997 to present a varied repertoire that enthralls audiences, Western Reserve Brass Band's prestigious concert venues have included The Amphitheater of the Chautauqua Institution, Hoover Auditorium at Lakeside and Severance Hall, Cleveland.



Membership of the band is by audition and, in addition to music educators and music students, several other professions are represented. The band has recorded several highly-acclaimed CDs and its most recent one, *Fanfare And Celebration*, was released in early 2013. They will be available at the concert.

The concert is offered at no charge. A freewill offering will be received. Our concerts offer a useful and affordable opportunity to introduce children to the concert experience and concert etiquette.  
—Nancy McGillicuddy, Artistic Director

### Memorial Day to Labor Day **Wake up!!** **"Early Worship" is back**



That's right—starting Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup> (Memorial Day Weekend) our extra, early-morning worship service returns to Walker Chapel for the summer months.

No, the usual 10:30 a.m. service is not going away—we're just *adding* a worship opportunity from Memorial Day through Labor Day. The 8:30 a.m. chapel service is identical to the customary 10:30 a.m. sanctuary service except that it omits a hymn, a soloist, and perhaps a few other things—consequently the 8:30 a.m. service is only 35-45 minutes long.

If you have Indians tickets, or an early tee time, or gardening or boating on your Sunday schedule, "come as you are" to our 8:30 a.m. "Early Worship" in Walker Chapel this summer.

—Worship Committee

### June 13-17: "SURPRISE! Stories of Discovering Jesus" **What's more fun than being a kid at VBS?** **Being a volunteer at VBS!**

Mark your calendars now for June 13-17, this year's Vacation Bible School experience. We will spend our week hearing stories of finding Jesus in unlikely places. This program is open to all children age four through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and will run from 9-11:30 a.m. each day. Look for registration forms on the church website or in the church office and the CE office.

RIGHT NOW... we are putting together the planning team that makes this incredible week happen; planning sessions have begun. WE NEED YOU: adults and teens who are willing to help out in a variety of areas like worship, snacks, recreation, mission, music, crafts and shepherding. If you would like to be involved in this week of fun, faith and fellowship, you can get more information by calling or stopping by the Christian education office. We're sure you'll love the experience!



—Lisa Watts, Dir. of Christian Education

### Bonus concert benefits mission of North Coast Health **Renowned "Singers' Club of Cleveland"** **performs Sat., May 14, 7:30 p.m.**

A concert to benefit **North Coast Health** will be offered by the renowned male chorus, the **Singers' Club of Cleveland**, on Saturday evening, May 14 in our sanctuary. The concert, titled "All That Jazz," will present many well-known selections from America's most distinctive contribution to the world of music including *Sing Sing Sing*, *Fascinating Rhythm*, *Take 5*, *When the Saints Go Marching In*, *Blue Skies*, *The Pink Panther*, and *Cry Me a River*. In addition to the Singers' Club, a jazz combo of students from Cleveland State University will perform.

The Singers' Club is a male chorus dating back to 1891, making it the oldest performing arts organization in our area. Throughout its long history it has included men from all walks of life and all parts of our community.

North Coast Health in Lakewood offers health care for the medically-underinsured in western Cuyahoga and eastern Lorain counties. RRPC has supported North Coast Health with volunteers and financial gifts for many years.

—Jon Fancher

## From Your Pastor

### What I'm hearing, reading, learning, pondering...

Shortly after I began as an Associate Pastor at a suburban Detroit church in 1985, the pastor of that church—my friend and mentor Dave—said something prescient that I didn't understand at the time. He said, "I feel sorry for you. Ministry during your career is going to become very hard." Being young, enthusiastic and naïve, I dismissed his comment. But obviously, I didn't forget it.

Now I'm starting to appreciate what Dave may have meant. I still don't completely understand it... but more on that in a moment.

What we know is that the Christian Church is undergoing a profound change. I've commented on this previously. The twenty-five years I've served at this church happen to coincide with one of the largest changes in the character of Christianity, not just in the United States but apparently in much of the Western world.

The current change is not the first to send a shockwave through the Church. Consider these events that caused major shifts in the character of the Christian faith:

- Of course we must start with the Holy Spirit's empowerment of believers in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost (as described in Acts Chapter 2). The timid believers realized that God was at work through them!
- Constantine, the leader of the Roman Empire, converted to Christianity in the year 313 A.D. His Edict of Milan brought to an end the legal practice of persecuting Christians. It led to the establishment of Christianity as the *official religion* of the Empire in 380 A.D. This marked the start of the concept of "Christendom," that is, the idea that Christianity was so dominant and prevalent that its beliefs and practices were assumed to be universally accepted and applicable. [Example: why does our federal government declare the *Christian* holy day of Christmas as a *federal* holiday? Because of the *assumption* that "everybody" in our country wants to observe the holiday.]
- Gutenberg's development of the moveable-type printing press c. 1439 A.D. led to the words of the Bible becoming available to the masses rather than just to the educated elite. The people were no longer dependent on clergy to learn what

the Bible said; once they became literate, they could read scripture for themselves.

- Starting in 1517 A.D. the Protestant Reformation led to wrestling ecclesiastical authority away from the religious hierarchy and creating a more egalitarian relationship between religious leaders and the people in the pews.

...Which brings us to what's been happening in the Christian church for the past 50 years or so. It used to be that most people assumed that belonging to a church was part of what it meant to be a good American, a good neighbor, a good community-minded citizen. Being related to an institution like the church felt important; it imparted a sense of order and meaning to one's life; and of course, it offered comfort, inspiration and hope for the human spirit.

No one completely understands the change, the shift that's happening in Christianity these days... but church sociologists and historians in the U.S., England, Canada and elsewhere are studying what's going on.

One such person is historian and author Diana Butler Bass, author of such thought-provoking books as [Christianity for the Rest of Us](#), [Christianity After Religion](#), and [Grounded: the Shape of Emerging Religious Experience](#). I attended a seminar she presented recently at Old Stone Church. She pointed out that rising generations (teens, 20s, 30s) don't "speak the language" or share the assumptions that everyone "just knew" in the world of Christendom. Christianity isn't assumed anymore. Young people today are more aware that the world is filled with a diversity of religious traditions, beliefs and experiences. They don't automatically assume that one structure of belief and practice (Christianity) is more legitimate than any other.

Diana Butler Bass cautions that the question "What did we do wrong?" is irrelevant. We used to see that young people might drift away from the church in their teen or college years... but we knew they'd come back when they were ready to be married and ready to start a family. But that pattern doesn't hold anymore. It's not that we didn't teach them the parables of Jesus and help them act out the Christmas story. They know that stuff. But they don't know how the story of the church relates to the story of their own lives—the story they're living. Because they fail to see the relevance of church practices and religious traditions, these folks fall into the growing category that pollsters call "No religious affiliation" or the "Nones."

(By the way, this is true not only of teens and 20- and 30-year-olds. Research is revealing that this "disconnect" is affecting people

in their 40s, 50s, 60s, and even older, though to lessening degrees.)

But before this great shift in Christianity causes you to become discouraged about the future of the Church—and of Rocky River Presbyterian Church—know this: church historians and sociologists don't see only bad news.

Diana Butler Bass reported this good news that research is discovering: the "Nones" do believe!

- 95% of those who aren't attached to any religious institution report believing in God.
- 72% of self-identified secularists report the same thing!
- What's more, great percentages of Americans report having had "mystical/spiritual experiences" that had a profound effect on their lives.
- Finally, a large percentage of Americans report experiencing "deep peace," "gratitude," or "wondering about the universe" weekly or more frequently.

The people who aren't "here" in church are not non-believers; they just haven't perceived language or practice from the church that helps them describe their experience of the "awe-some," the "holy," the "transcendent." And there's no compelling reason for them to come into a church to see if it has anything to offer them.

That's why historians, sociologists, theologians, and pastors sense that in the future, ministry and mission will happen more beyond the walls than within the walls of the church. Actually, it's happening already. In Cambridge, England, St. Michael's Church was built sometime before 1217 A.D. As recently as 1910 the parish struggled to survive. In 2002 the church reimagined its mission to the community by remodeling to offer affordable meeting space, a modern and *very* popular café, display and performance space, and a chapel still set aside for meditation & prayer. ([www.michaelhousecafe.co.uk](http://www.michaelhousecafe.co.uk))

Yes, that's an extreme example of taking ministry and mission beyond the walls. I'm not looking to do that! But right here in Rocky River, I know one pastor who offers a monthly "Smokin' Bible Study..." at a cigar shop! To "be where the people are," another pastor writes all of his sermons while sitting in... McDonalds!

We don't completely understand what this shift in Christianity means. But we can be open, trusting that God will work in and through us in some way.

*Jon*

May Birthdays



May 1	Kristen Wiggers
	Julianne Gresh
May 3	Audrey Bruggers
	Forest Bishop
	Grace Bennett
May 7	Walt King
	Aileen Busher
May 8	Dave Clash
	Griffin Roberts
May 9	Kay Wallis
May 10	Jean Bowen
	Susan Variakojis
May 12	Jessica Bohannon
	Kira Katterle
May 14	Kathy Roos
	Lisa Poole
	John St. Pierre
May 15	Kevin Costello
	Raymond Bohannon
May 16	Susan Pierce
May 17	Carol Garibaldi
	Kendal Purohit
May 18	Ellen Schickel
	Christopher Heierding
May 19	Todd Celmar
	Dean Cashmere
May 20	Cher Bourne
	David St. Pierre
May 21	Rudy Gulstrand
	Sue Krizman
	Jack Ward
May 22	Reg Regula
	Julie Heald
	Thomas Matile
May 23	Kathy Grace
May 24	Bill Buettner
	Allie Sakai
	Brian Fancher
May 25	Chuck Erickson
May 26	Judy Bryan
	Bernie Hisey
	Melissa Stickney
May 27	Joshua Kirchner
	Jacob Shaver
May 29	Patrick Gorman
	Thomas Stickney
May 30	Doris Harris
May 31	Bill Allport
	Mike Yezbak

**Benefit Ronald McDonald House**  
**Give us your tired, your poor...  
 aluminum can pull-tabs!**



You know you can recycle aluminum cans, right?

And you know that the Rocky River Fire Department collects aluminum cans to raise funds for burn unit patients?

But did you know that if you collect the pull-tabs from aluminum cans, those pull-tabs can benefit Ronald McDonald House in University Circle?

The church has pull-tab collection receptacles by the pop machine and in the church office.

Now you can collect pull-tabs at home, then simply bring them to the church office. When he makes hospital calls at the Cleveland Clinic or University Hospitals, our pastor will deliver your collected pull tabs to Ronald McDonald House for you!

—Mission Committee

**Memorial Day May 30**

**Help us honor veterans and remember  
 the fallen of our armed services**

On Memorial Day each year the Joint Veterans' Council of Lakewood & Rocky River stages a Memorial Day parade from Rocky River High School to Lakewood Park Cemetery. Our church provides parking spaces and restroom access for parade-goers.

The parade is followed by a Memorial Tribute Ceremony at Lakewood Park Cemetery. I encourage you to include these tributes as part of your holiday weekend plans.

The Council encourages all veterans—any generation, any branch of service—to attend the Tribute and to participate in the parade. Veterans are urged to call the Rocky River Mayor's Office at (440) 331-0600 to learn more or to indicate their desire to participate.

—Pastor

**During worship Sun., May 22**

**Enjoy and thank our talented, generous  
 volunteer musicians on  
 Music Celebration Sunday**

Throughout the year our Children's & Youth Choir (under Hilary Watts' direction) and our Handbell and Chancel Choirs (under the direction of organist Glen Loeffler) enrich our worship with vocal and instrumental music.

Our volunteer and staff musicians are going to "let loose" on Sunday, May 22: worship will feature a Celebration of Music, reprieving some of their favorite musical pieces from the past year. You never know what surprises may be up a choir robe's sleeve!

*\*\*If your birthday is missing from our birthday list, please contact Office Administrator Crystal Duffield at: [info@riverpres.org](mailto:info@riverpres.org) or (440) 333-4888.*

**High School? Trade School? University? Grad School?  
Graduate Recognition Sun., June 5**

If you or someone in your family will be graduating from high school, college or graduate school this spring please give the church office a call with the details and supply a picture if you are able. We would like to honor the graduates during our worship service on Sunday, June 5.

**Give it a try before the summer break!  
Adult Education class views, discusses  
award-winning video**

Please join us from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the West Room as we watch and discuss the documentary series from the award-winning producers of *American Experience* and *Frontline - God in America* an in-depth exploration of the historical role of religion in the public life of the USA. "For those who know that in America, religion matters, and for those who wish it didn't matter so much, *God in America*, is a sweeping history of how religious faith has shaped America. Interweaving documentary footage, historical dramatizations and interviews with religious historians. We will examine the complex interaction between religion and democracy, the origins of the uniquely American concept of religious liberty, and the controversial evolution of that ideal in the nation's political arena, *God in America* considers the role religious ideas & institutions have played in social reform movements, and how guarantees of religious freedom created a competitive religious marketplace in America."

**Church summer camp can change a kid's life!  
Summer Camp information now available**

It is time to start thinking about summer camp. We have information on several excellent Christian camping opportunities for kids of all ages. For more information or to pick up camp flyers, see Dir. of Christian Education Lisa Watts.

**Day of Pentecost will have you "seeing red"!  
The Day of Pentecost Sun., May 15<sup>th</sup> is  
the 50<sup>th</sup> day after Easter; welcome our  
confirmands that day!**

On the Jewish holiday of Pentecost God graced the fledgling believers with the Holy Spirit. On Pentecost this year, we'll see that Spirit breathing new life into our church.

Gather for worship that day as we welcome this year's class of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders who have completed their Confirmation.

AND DON'T FORGET... **you're encouraged to wear clothing featuring the color RED** symbolizing the "fire of the Holy Spirit" that we celebrate on the Day of Pentecost.

—Christian Education &  
Worship Committees

**Synod of the Covenant presents "Covenant Gathering"  
Presbyterians offer annual camp/conference  
for singles, families, youngsters, oldsters...  
everybody!**

Join Presbyterians from Synod of the Covenant (Michigan and Ohio) and Synod of Lincoln Trails (Indiana and Illinois)—and beyond!—for a week of intergenerational fellowship, study, recreation and worship. "Covenant Gathering" began decades ago as "Presbyterian Synod School," a "vacation-with-a-purpose" for individuals and families to balance recreation and leisure with worship-for-all-ages and classes on topics dealing with the life of the Spirit.

Nowadays "Covenant Gathering" takes place at the spectacularly beautiful Michindoh Conference Center near the borders of Michigan, Indiana and Ohio ("Mich-Ind-Oh") in Hillsdale, MI. The event runs from Sun., July 3 at 4 p.m. until Fri., July 8 at 11 a.m. (The Fancher Family and Busher Family have attended these "family conferences" many times!)

With this year's conference theme "One in the Spirit," you can learn what the Bible says about one spirit, how to nurture children's spirituality (and your own), the real story behind the issues between science and scripture. You'll find ways to make your backyard into a spiritual and sustaining habitat, how to become more in touch with sacred stories, and deepen your understanding of communion through other traditions.

Children and youth will be exploring their places in the world God created in age-appropriate classes with experienced, seasoned teachers. Everyone can enjoy the trails, lake, water slide and water sports at Michindoh!

Covenant Gathering is an affordable, all-inclusive family vacation (maximum \$1200 for any one household for entire week). Go to **covenantgathering.com** for details on classes, costs, registration forms and brochures. Check out **Michindoh.com** for more information on the amazing facilities, including handicap-accessible meeting place and accommodations.

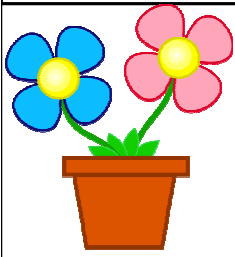
—Christian Education Committee

**Allow extra time to get to church!  
Rite Aid 2016 Cleveland Marathon will  
interrupt traffic Sun. May 15**

On Sunday morning, May 15 the annual marathon that begins downtown will reach its western-most point in Rocky River. From around 7:30—11:30 a.m., Lake Road and intersections will be closed to traffic from the Clifton Bridge as far west as Kensington Intermediate School in Rocky River.

Residents living in Rocky River's "Tangletoen" neighborhood will have 3 ways to cross Lake Road:

1. Drive under Lake Road using the Beachcliff Blvd./Lake Road viaduct.
2. Cross Lake Road at Wagar Rd.
3. Cross Lake Road at Elmwood Rd.



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

### Semi-Circle

Semi-Circle will meet on **Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>** at 12:00 p.m. in the West Room. Brown bag your lunch; dessert will be provided, as well as the coffee & tea. If you have questions you may contact Ruth Regula at 440-331-7357. New members are always welcome!

### Priscilla Circle

Priscilla Circle will be meeting on **Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. in the West Room. All are **welcome!** If you have any questions you may contact Gretchen Koch or Sara Gresh through the Church Office.

### Expressions of Faith

Our group meets twice a month: **Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>** and **May 24<sup>th</sup>** at 9:30 a.m. in the West Room (or D-3). We welcome anyone who knits or just enjoys a cup of coffee with friends. For more information contact Mary Murphy (440-785-8614).

### Women of Grace

Women of Grace will meet **Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Room (D-3,4). Plan to join us for great discussion and light refreshments! For more information contact Lee Sabolich or Lisa Watts through the Church Office.

### Sanctuary Flowers

Do you have a loved one you would like to honor for a birthday or anniversary. Would you like to memorialize that special person who has passed away? By signing up for a Sunday to provide our sanctuary with flowers you can do this. The cost is only \$30.00 and you may take the flowers with you after our 10:30 a.m. worship service. Your "in honor of" or "in memory" attribution will be listed in our bulletin announcements as well as on the card with the flowers. The sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board by the Parlor. Please contact Crystal in the church office if you have any questions.

## Save the Date and Plan to Attend!

### Wednesday, May 4

Enjoy a time of fellowship & join us at a PW Pot Luck Supper from 6:00-8:30 p.m. A representative from 'Next Step' will be our guest speaker. Learn how this program assists young people who age out of the foster-parent program at age 18.

### Saturday Morning, June 4, and Saturday, July 9

9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. in the West Room. Join us for a **hands-on mission opportunity** to make washable Feminine Hygiene Kits for 'Days For Girls'. **NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!** We will cut, stack, sew, and finish edges of fabric. To learn more about this organization <http://www.daysforgirls.org/>. We want to hear from 20 young women of all ages to participate in this RRPC community event! Look for sign up boards in early May or contact Ellen Schickel at [peschickel@hotmail.com](mailto:peschickel@hotmail.com)

### Saturday, June 10 – Sunday, June 11

Synod Gathering in Tecumseh, Michigan Rev. Katie Kinnison will provide the introduction to the 2016-2017 *Horizons Bible Study*, "Who is Jesus" and offer leadership training in workshops. Martha Bettis Gee, former PC(USA) Associate for child Advocacy will speak about the new Human Trafficking policy coming to General Assembly and its focus on human trafficking as a human rights issue. Contact Sara Gresh for more info and registration forms.

### Saturday, October 1

**Trash and Treasure** – *how you can help now:* **PLAN TO VOLUNTEER TO HELP MAKE THIS POPULAR, 'HANDS-ON' MISSION PROJECT, A HUGE SUCCESS!**

- ◆ Collection of donations starts September 18
- ◆ Sorting Sunday – September 25

Sign up for volunteer jobs and times (including evening hours) will be published later this summer.

Thank You, Ellen Schickel

"Strength and dignity are her clothing,  
and she smiles at the future."

~ Proverbs 31:25

Yet another option for spiritual/emotional support**Nancy McGillicuddy commissioned as a “Stephen Minister”**

She’s already a familiar face—and voice—from our Chancel Choir. But now you might get to know Nancy McGillicuddy in a different way. After a winter’s worth of training through John Knox Presbyterian Church’s approved Stephen Ministry program, Nancy has received certification to offer lay pastoral support as a “Stephen Minister.”

Stephen Ministry is a nationwide program of lay pastoral care. It gets its name from Stephen who, in Acts Chapter 6, was given responsibility to provide a caring ministry for those in need. Stephen Ministry prepares members of congregations to be able to listen, care, encourage and provide emotional and spiritual support to people who are facing a crisis or going through tough times—things like recent hospitalization, chronic illness, retirement, financial setback, personal losses, and more. Stephen Ministers are not psychologists, but “spiritual friends.” The care they offer is confidential, free and very helpful.

Stephen Ministers do not “look for clients,” so you need to take the first step, either by contacting Nancy directly (440-724-1738 or ncmack@hotmail.com) or through our parish nurse or pastor. You decide when and where you’d like to meet, and you also decide when you no longer feel the need to meet with our Stephen Minister.

Even if you’re not sure you “need” the listening ear of a Stephen Minister, feel free to reach out to Nancy. Together you can decide your next step.

—Jon Fancher

Support our women in helping the Cuyahoga County Diaper Bank**Women of Grace Circle plans to walk “Lappies for Nappies” Sun., May 22**

Picture this: the household money is running out. You need food. Your baby needs diapers, too, but those are expensive. What’s your choice? One source of hope is the Cuyahoga County Diaper Bank.

Nationally, nearly 1 in 3 families struggle to find the funds to keep an adequate supply of diapers for their children and/or their adult family members with incontinence issues. Diapers and incontinence supplies are very costly, and the gap between needing these products and being able to afford them is a little-known problem. Since there are no publicly-funded programs or government subsidies available to help people purchase these supplies, the Cuyahoga County Diaper Bank is in place to help meet this need and give everyone a chance and better physical and mental health, and ultimately happiness.

With every \$5 donation they have the buying power to purchase 50 diapers and 80-100 wipes for families in need or 60 briefs and pads for an adult suffering from incontinence. This is a tremendous bargain compared to retail purchasing. (To learn more, visit [www.thedowneyhouse.com](http://www.thedowneyhouse.com).)

After worship on Sun., May 22 our Women of Grace Circle will stage a walkathon to raise funds for the Cuyahoga County Diaper Bank. Think of us as walking “Lappies for Nappies”!



So...

- ⇒ After worship that day you’re encouraged to donate the suggested \$5 (or any amount you choose) at our “diaper depot.” (Donations by check can be made payable to “RRPC,” memo: “diapers.”)
- ⇒ From about 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m., our circle members will walk laps around the church to “earn” your donations.
- ⇒ You’re welcome to join us in our walking for any amount of that time—for conversation, exercise, fellowship, snacks.

Please support us in this unique, practical and desperately-needed mission project.

—Lee Mincer, for Women of Grace Circle



## Healthy Happenings

## ... Notes from the Parish Nurse

Dear Friends and Family,

Greetings! Who is at risk for lead poisoning? Children under age 6 and pregnant women are most at risk for lead poisoning. When children are young, their bodies are still growing and are more sensitive to the harmful effects of lead. If a pregnant woman has too much lead in her body, it can increase her risk for miscarriage (losing the baby). Lead can also pass from the pregnant mother to her unborn baby. Lead poisoning often has no signs or symptoms, but it can cause problems with kids' learning, behavior, and development. Some effects of lead poisoning may never go away. Lead poisoning is caused by swallowing or inhaling lead. In the United States, most lead poisoning is caused by lead-based paint in homes built before 1978. The older the building, the more likely it will contain lead-based paint. Take steps inside and outside to protect your family from lead poisoning.

Outside your home:

✓ Check fences and porches; lead based paint was often used in these areas. Look for chipping or peeling paint that could get into the soil where your children play. Soil can become contaminated when exterior lead-based paint from houses or buildings flakes or peels; it can get into the soil around your home. Lead dust can also be tracked into the home from the soil outside. Soil can also be contaminated from lead sources outside the home including lead in gasoline, industrial sites and mining activity. Some people choose to have the family keep their shoes by the front door.

Entrances into and out of your home:

✓ Dust from doors and hinges containing lead-based paint can be created when painted surfaces rub together as you open and close doors. Check your windows and windowsills, both inside your home and out. Dust from lead-based paint can be created and build up where painted surfaces rub together, like when you open and close your windows.

Inside your Home:

✓ Check water lines and plumbing to see if you have plumbing with lead or lead solder and if your water utility uses lead service lines. Remember, you cannot see, smell or taste lead. Boiling your water will not get rid of lead and can increase the lead concentration in the water. Check for any peeling, cracking or chipped painted baseboards, stairs, banisters, doors, built-in bookcases and shelves. Be careful of generating dust when hammering or sanding walls that may have lead-based paint. Don't forget to check where your vinyl mini-blinds were made. Some imported, non-glossy vinyl mini-blinds can be a lead hazard. Sunlight and heat can break down the blinds and may release lead-contaminated dust.

Catherine A. Patton RN, BSN

440-333-4888 ext: 105

[Parishnurse@riverpres.org](mailto:Parishnurse@riverpres.org)



Looking ahead: June's Month of Mission**Hand's-on mission opportunity will be "handed to you on a plate"**

For RRPC, June means two things:

1. Vacation Bible School, and
2. **North Church Month!**

"North Church Month" is when RRPC provides 4 to 6 workers to prepare and serve dinner plus clean up after dinner. This occurs each Sunday morning and two Thursday afternoons in June. On Sunday mornings we also worship with the congregation of North Church.

Our duties include assisting their cook by cutting vegetables, stirring pots, pouring drinks, serving the meal, greeting and talking with the men, women and children seeking a good meal.

Note: ALL volunteers must wear close-toed shoes (sneakers, boat shoes, etc. For health/safety reasons, no sandals, Crocs, etc. allowed.)

**Time commitment**

- Sundays, June 5, 12, 19 (our VBS Sunday), 26  
9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Thursdays, June 23 & 30  
3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
⇒ Because of many peoples' work schedules, we split the Thursday shift so you can work either 3:00-5:00 p.m. or 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Many families from our church have found the Sunday shift is a good way to involve children in the work of the church. You will be surprised how helpful the children are!

North Church is located at 4515 Superior Ave., (east of the Innerbelt), just 5 blocks east of their former location. Free paved parking is in the church's lot across the street. If you'd like to volunteer but need a ride, note "need ride" when you sign up.

A sign-up sheet and additional information for "North Church Month" are posted outside the church Parlor. Last year 36 individuals from our congregation provided support and fellowship for North Church Month!

RRPC will also receive a special offering every Sunday in June to supplement the mission needs of North Church.

—Rudy Gulstrand, Chair,  
Mission Committee

**April's Session highlights**

After devotions offered by Sara Gresh, Session speedily dispatched its business:

- Finance & Memorials received approval to name members of an Investment Subcommittee: Paul Busby, Bill Bishop, Bill Knoble, Karol Hoeffler, Jim Penning.
- Finance negotiated a new insurance policy for the church, saving \$2,700 over our previous coverage.
- Human Resources completed its review/updating of all employee job descriptions.
- Mission received approval to repeat last year's effort: receiving a special offering for North Presbyterian Church over the four Sundays in June (which is our annual Month of Partnership with "North Church").

—Moderator of Session

**"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace..." 1 Peter 4:10**

**We'd love to count on you to count**

Do you enjoy working with figures? If your answer is Yes, consider becoming a member of our church's Counting Committee. Our Deacons organize four two-person teams who count once a month (with a rotating 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday). Teams count the Sunday offerings, special offerings, and facility fees received each week.

A team typically meets on Monday morning around 9:00 a.m. to count the checks and cash, fill out a deposit slip, make copies as needed, and deliver the bank deposit. The counting process can be as fast as a half an hour and usually does not take more than an hour.

We are currently looking for church members who would be interested in becoming a substitute counter on an experienced team with the option of becoming a regular team member in the future. Substitute counters fill in when a team member has a scheduling conflict.

Counting is an easy but important job. If you would like to observe one of our teams in action or talk to one of the members of our committee please contact deacons Lisa Poole: (440) 376-9495 or Eva Rudolph: (440) 356-4006.







## May 2016 LIBRARY LINGO

Mary Schulz, Librarian

### DISPLAYS:

Mother's Day books for adults and children



I have created a new area in the children's section of the library. We have many wonderful books in the nonfiction section which are for young children and are illustrated beautifully. But, they don't belong in the picture book section because that is for fiction. So, I have established two shelves (in between the fiction picture book section and the nonfiction section) of NONFICTION PICTURE BOOKS, marked with a sign. This would include Bible stories; books about baptism or people in the Bible or dealing with death in the family; Psalms; devotionals, etc. The original nonfiction section will continue to be non-illustrated nonfiction books, or books for older elementary and middle school kids.

### New books for children:

#### Fiction books:

##### Henry Hodges Needs a Friend

E AND

Henry is a little shy and lonely, and wishes he had a friend of his own. His parents offer to help him find a one-of-a-kind friend and Henry's overactive imagination runs wild. Could it be a joke-telling beaver, a flying hamster? This rhyming story offers comfort to children who feel left out or are in need of a good friend.



##### The Boy and the Ocean

E LUC

The little boy loved the ocean, mountains, and sky. But, try as he might, he couldn't see where they ended. His parents show him that God's love is like the ocean, the mountains, and the night sky- always there, always big, never-ending, special.

##### The Plans I Have for You

E PAR

This book inspires readers to dream about their future and to trust that God has great plans for each of us.

##### Each Kindness

E WOO

Chloe doesn't know why she snubs Maya when Maya tries to befriend her. So Maya always plays alone. And then one day she's gone. When Chloe's teacher gives a lesson about how even small acts of kindness can change the world, she is stung by the opportunity that she lost.

#### Nonfiction books:

##### Love Letters from God: Bible Stories

j220.95 NEL

In this heartwarming lift-the-flap picture book, children can open and read their own personal mail from God as they experience some of the best-loved stories of the Bible. The final envelope encourages them to write their own personal letter to God.



##### The Lord Is My Shepherd

j223.2 LOR

A version of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm written in language for a young child to understand while looking at the illustrations of a young lamb who helps present the message.

##### God Is Always Good

j231 FOR

God filled the world with wonder and goodness, but sadly, bad things happen sometimes, too- friends moving away, bullies, sickness, sadness, death. But God is bigger than any badness. Scriptures and sweet animal characters fill the pages, showing how God never leaves us.

##### Case for Grace for Kids

j234 STR

Here's a book written in kid-friendly language that gives you all the answers. Packed full of stories of everyday people whose lives have been changed, it shows that God's love is for everyone.


### New DVDs for children:

Veggie Tales Double Feature: Very Silly Songs! and The Ultimate Silly Song Countdown

HAPPY READING!!

(All descriptions have been taken from book jacket, title page verso, or review article)

# May 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>1 Communion/Food Sunday</b>            9:00 a.m. Adult Education            10:30 a.m. Worship /KISS /Nursery            11:30 a.m. Time of Fellowship            11:35 a.m. Children &amp; Youth Choir            11:45 a.m. Mission Committee Mtg.            4:00 p.m. ACS presents "Western Reserve Brass Band"            7:00p.m. High/Middle School Groups</p>	<p><b>2</b>            7:00 p.m. Women's AA Mtg.            7:30 p.m. Special Session Mtg            Examination of Confirmands</p>	<p><b>3</b>            7:30 p.m. Alanon/Alateen Mtg.</p>	<p><b>4</b>            10:00 a.m. Koinonia Prayer &amp; Bible Study            6:00 p.m. PW Spring Gathering            6:30 p.m. Worship            Committee Mtg.            7:30 p.m. Men's AA Mtg.</p>	<p><b>5</b>            6:15 p.m. Handbell rehearsal            7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir</p>	<p><b>6</b>            7:00 a.m. Friday morning Men's Group (RR Starbuck's)</p>	<p><b>7</b>            7:00 p.m. Altered Attitudes AA</p>
<p><b>8 Mother's Day</b>            9:00 a.m. Adult Education            10:30 a.m. Worship /Nursery /Children            11:30 a.m. Time of Fellowship            11:35 a.m. Children &amp; Youth Choir            11:35 a.m. Evang. &amp; Membership Mtg.</p>	<p><b>9</b>            12:00 p.m. PW Semi-Circle            5:00 p.m. Finance Committee            7:00 p.m. CE Committee            7:00 p.m. Deacons Mtg.            7:00 p.m. Women's AA Mtg.</p>	<p><b>10</b>            8:30 a.m. Rocky River Clergy            9:30 a.m. RRPNS Board Mtg.            9:30 a.m. Expressions of Faith            7:30 p.m. Alanon/Alateen Mtg.</p>	<p><b>11</b>            9:15 a.m. RRPC Staff Mtg.            10:00 a.m. Koinonia Prayer &amp; Bible Study            11:30 a.m. Teacher Appreciation Lunch—School            12:00 p.m. Pre-School Fundraiser @ Five Guys            7:30 p.m. Men's AA Mtg.</p>	<p><b>12</b>            8:30 a.m. Senior Men's Bible Study &amp; Breakfast            6:15 p.m. Handbell rehearsal            7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir</p>	<p><b>13</b>            7:00 a.m. Friday morning Men's Group (RR Starbuck's)</p>	<p><b>14</b>            7:00 p.m. Altered Attitudes AA            7:30 p.m. Singers Club of Cleveland Concert to Benefit North Coast Health</p>
<p><b>15 Day of Pentecost</b>  <b>Confirmation Sunday</b>            9:00 a.m. Adult Education            10:30 a.m. Worship /Nursery /Children            11:30 a.m. Time of Fellowship            11:35 a.m. Children &amp; Youth Choir            7:00p.m. High/Middle School Groups</p>	<p><b>16</b>            7:00 p.m. Women's AA Mtg.            7:30 p.m. Session Mtg.</p>	<p><b>17</b>            7:30 p.m. Alanon/Alateen Mtg.</p>	<p><b>18</b>            10:00 a.m. Koinonia Prayer &amp; Bible Study            7:30 p.m. Men's AA Mtg.</p>	<p><b>19</b>            6:15 p.m. Handbell rehearsal            6:30 p.m. Bethesda Prayer Circle Mtg.            7:00 p.m. PW Priscilla Circle            7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir</p>	<p><b>20</b>  <b>Last day of Pre-school</b>            7:00 a.m. Friday morning Men's Group (RR Starbuck's)</p>	<p><b>21</b>            7:00 p.m. Altered Attitudes AA</p>
<p><b>22 Music Sunday</b>            9:00 a.m. Adult Education            10:30 a.m. Worship /Nursery /Children            11:30 a.m. Time of Fellowship            11:35 a.m. Children &amp; Youth Choir            1:00 p.m. Private Party/Carmack            7:00p.m. High/Middle School Groups            *Last meeting until September</p>	<p><b>23</b>            9:00 a.m. Pre-School Teacher Work Day &amp; Luncheon            7:00 p.m. PW Women of Grace            7:00 p.m. Women's AA Mtg.</p>	<p><b>24</b>            9:30 a.m. Expressions of Faith            7:30 p.m. Alanon/Alateen Mtg.</p>	<p><b>25</b>            9:15 a.m. RRPC Staff Mtg.            10:00 a.m. Koinonia Prayer &amp; Bible Study            7:30 p.m. Men's AA Mtg.</p>	<p><b>26</b>            8:30 a.m. Senior Men's Bible Study &amp; Breakfast            6:15 p.m. Handbell rehearsal            7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir</p>	<p><b>27</b>            7:00 a.m. Friday morning Men's Group (RR Starbuck's)</p>	<p><b>28</b>            7:00 p.m. Altered Attitudes AA</p>
<p><b>29</b>            8:30 a.m. Early Worship begins            9:00 a.m. Adult Education            10:30 a.m. Worship /Nursery /Children            11:30 a.m. Time of Fellowship            11:35 a.m. Children &amp; Youth Choir</p>	<p><b>30 Memorial Day</b>  <b>Church office closed</b>              7:00 p.m. Women's AA Mtg.</p>	<p><b>31</b>            7:30 p.m. Alanon/Alateen Mtg.</p>				

# “The Pulse”

the monthly newsletter of  
**Rocky River Presbyterian Church**

**May 2016 issue**



## Inside this Issue:

- From Your Pastor 2
- Birthdays 3
- Christian Ed. & Youth 4
- Presbyterian Women 5
- Healthy Happenings 7
- Church Happenings 8
- Library Lingo 9
- May Calendar 10

**Rocky River Presbyterian Church**  
*Rev. Dr. Jon M. Fancher, Pastor*  
21750 Detroit Road  
Rocky River, OH 44116-2220  
(440) 333-4888  
[www.riverpres.org](http://www.riverpres.org)