



RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5000 Southwest Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76116 ❖(817) 732-3388
www.RIDGLEAPRES.org

December 2021

10:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE Join Zoom Meeting

Every week on Sun, until December 26, 2021,
4 occurrence(s)

**Please note we will continue to stream our
service of worship on Facebook and Zoom
(see below for Zoom info)**

December 5, 2021 10:30 a.m.
December 12, 2021 10:30 a.m.
December 19, 2021 10:30 a.m.
December 26, 2021 10:30 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86053446311?
pwd=cjRUWG10dU92SE1ZVFVSa1lmNUN0dz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86053446311?pwd=cjRUWG10dU92SE1ZVFVSa1lmNUN0dz09)

Meeting ID: 860 5344 6311

Passcode: 960664



**We will celebrate Communion
on Sunday, December 5, 2021
And Christmas Eve,
December 24, 2021, 6:00 p.m.**



SESSION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
DECEMBER 16, 2021 At 7:00 P.M.

DECEMBER NEWSLETTERS ARE
AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE



**CHRISTMAS JOY
SPECIAL OFFERING
NOVEMBER 28—DECEMBER 19, 2021**



PASTOR'S NOTES

Stretching Faith

When I was younger, I loved throwing a baseball. We'd play catch in the backyard, in the street, up at the school. I wasn't all that interested in playing the game of baseball, just throwing and catching. What I particularly liked was the sound of the ball whizzing through the air, and the "thwack!" when the ball hit the glove. I remember times when Randy and Greg and I would be out in the backyard just throwing the ball to each other as hard and fast as we could, until our hands hurt. In seminary I started playing a lot of softball, and learned that those big old things can really make a gorgeous sound smacking into the web of a glove.

In my first pastorate (in the late 1980's) I was part of a softball league, with a bunch of guys who played more for the fun of being together than to win trophies, which was great for my limited skills. I was having a great time until my shoulder kept hurting more and more. When I finally had someone look at it, the doctor said "I bet you just pick up the ball and start throwing, and try to throw it as hard as you can, don't you?"

"Well, sure," I said, "and why does that matter?"

It mattered because, since I was not stretching my arms and shoulders, and since I was not gradually working up to throwing faster and faster, I had been aggravating the bursa sac in my right shoulder. To top it off, then the doctor said it mattered because I wasn't getting any younger! Remembering those words, I think the only thing wounded more than my shoulder was my pride – I hadn't even gotten to middle age and I was suffering from bursitis.

In the years since then (okay, in the decades since then) I haven't played much softball, or even catch for that matter, but I tried to take care of my shoulders, with a thorough routine of stretching before golfing, skiing, or weight-lifting. Taking care of my shoulders means that I rarely have trouble with them, and can enjoy many outdoor activities. And when I forget to stretch, my right shoulder reminds me for weeks on end!

It is a combination of those painful memories and a bit of maturity that brings the wisdom of preparing, of getting ready for particular activities, be they sporting or contemplative. There is a lot to be said for building up, slowly but surely; of taking time to do things right, not just fast. In a way, that is the message of the season of Advent. As we joyfully anticipate the celebration of the birth of the Christ-child, we are also mindful of the call to prepare our hearts, our minds, our world for the return of Christ.

Back in 1999, with the impending millennium, and then again in 2012 with the looming conclusion of the ancient Mayan calendar, a lot of time and energy was spent equating major "calendar events" with the return of Christ – forgetting that, among other things, every time someone has come up with a time-frame for the second coming of the Lord they have been, to put it bluntly, wrong. The overriding message of the Advent season is not trying to guess the day and time and circumstances surrounding Christ's return, but to make sure that the ways we live out our faith are true to the expectations of discipleship, of stewardship, of humility and mercy and love. Expectations which Jesus modeled and taught and, yes, died for.

I encourage you, this holiday season, to take the time to stretch your faith, to warm up to the spirit of this "giving season" and to make sure that you are "in shape" for whatever God brings to you and your loved ones. Have a peaceful Advent, and a joyous Christmas, and see you next year!

Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Regan".

Making contact...

Ridglea Presbyterian Church is a member of the Presbyterian Church (USA). It is governed by the Session, an elected body composing of elders and pastors. Our committees, led by elders, oversee our ministries. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us. Email: Clerk@RidgleaPres.org. Our deacons oversee our ministries of care and compassion. Email: Deacons@RidgleaPres.org

RPC SESSION

Class of 2022

Delaine Godwin
Katrina Little
George Tischler
Reeve Van Nostrand

Class of 2023

Miriam Gallagher
Gayle Johnson
Nancy Staples
Nick Thoni

Class of 2024

Susan Everts
Marji Raunikar
Mike Strange
Dale Wagner

Clerk of Session: Karen Landon

RPC TRUSTEES

Class of 2021

Jean Hadley
Ken Kibler

Class of 2022

Chris Henderson

Class of 2023

Jim Godfrey

2021 RPC DEACONS

*Betsy Kibler - Moderator

Michelle Birdwell - Home Member Care Coordinator

Jane Johnson—Home Member Care Coordinator

Kit Van Nostrand—Home Member Care Coordinator

Lynne Payne—Hospital Care Coordinator

Ruth Ann Rinewalt—Hospital Care Coordinator

Dean Phillips – Hospital Care Coordinator

Jean Godfrey – Funeral Reception Coordinator

*Not active Deacon

RPC FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Class of 2021

Thylis Chambless

Class of 2022

Micky Severson

Class of 2023

Will Stallworth

Class of 2024

Steve Staples

Designee

Shiryl Thompson Gillaspie

Staff

Roger Harwerth, Pastor

Patricia Taber, Office Manager

John Sauvey, Director of Music Ministries

Dale Bench, Organist

Kate Morrell, Youth and Children's Ministry Coordinator

Thomas Rodriguez, Church Custodian

roger@ridgleapres.org

patricia@ridgleapres.org

john@ridgleapres.org

dalepipeorgan@sbcglobal.net

kate@ridgleapres.org

Church Office #817.732.3388

GET TO KNOW OUR MEMBERS.... *BETTER*

GEORGE TISCHLER

GEORGE IS THE MAN THAT HAS MANY TALENTS THAT HE HAS SHARED WITH RIDGLEA. YOU MIGHT SAY HE IS A "JACK OF ALL TRADES". HE IS ALWAYS AROUND RPC REPAIRING OR INSTALLING SOMETHING AND IS VERY INSTRUMENTAL WITH THE AUDIO VISUAL FOR SUNDAY SERVICE. HE PRESENTLY SERVES AS AN EDLER INVOLVED IN THE B&E COMMITTEE.

GEORGE WAS BORN IN FLORIDA, BUT MOVED AROUND AS A CHILD AND LANDED IN FW AND JOINED RIDGLEA IN 1983. HE GRADUATED FROM THE ORIGINAL UT- UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE WITH A BS IN AEROSPACE ENGINEERING. AS AN ENGINEER HE HAS WORKED FOR GENERAL DYNAMICS AND LOCKHEED MARTIN IN GEORGIA. HE RETURNED TO FW TO WORK WITH HIS FATHER RUNNING TEXAS AIRPLANE FACTORY AT MEACHAM AIRPORT. THEY ESSENTIALLY BUILT BATCHES OF WW2 AIRCRAFT SUCH AS GRUMAN F3F, MESSERSCHMITT ME262 & NAKAJIMA KI-43 "OSCAR". HE IS CURRENTLY EMPLOYED AT BELL HELICOPTER ON THE NEW V-280 TILT-ROTOR AIRCRAFT.

YOU CAN FIND GEORGE ON MONDAY NIGHTS PLAYING HIS GUITAR WITH THE "JAM" SESSION GROUP AND EVEN SOMETIMES IN OUR CHURCH SERVICE.



Many of us know the blessings of having fellow church members pray for us and others.

Prayer Request items are distributed to a list maintained by PWR. Anyone who would like to be added to this distribution list should call the Church office.

Anyone who has a prayer request can send the information to Ruth Ann Rinewalt at r.rinewalt@att.net.



The Board of Deacons wishes to encourage the congregation to send a note, a card, or make a phone call to a Home Member to brighten their day, since visitors are not allowed at this time. For a Home Member's contact information, please call either Jane Johnson @ 817-307-9776 or Betsy Kibler @ 817-560-3141. Thank you for reaching out to our Home Members!

RPC Board of Deacons



PRESBYTERIAN NIGHT SHELTER
of Tarrant County
Providing safety and hope since 1984

Please help us help others!!

There are sign ups for sandwich makers for the Presbyterian Night Shelter in the hallway on the bulletin board with the Flower Calendar. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Aprilant
nAprilant@charter.net



Wednesday mornings at 8:00 a.m.
Sanctuary



PLEASE NOTE, WE NOW HAVE CHILDCARE AND SECURITY FOR CHILDREN INFANT TO AGE 7 DURING THE 10:30 A.M. SERVICE.



JOIN US FOR OUR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE AT 6:00 P.M. ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24TH IN THE SANCTUARY

THE YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES WILL BE CAROLING ON THE CHURCH STEPS BEGINNING AT 5:30 P.M.

OUR SERVICE WILL BEGIN AT 6:00 P.M. WITH A CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION AND ENDS WITH LIGHTING OF CANDLES.

IT'S A MESSAGE FULL OF JOY AND CELEBRATION TO FOCUS YOUR HEART ON THE TRUE REASON FOR CHRISTMAS.



The Flower Calendar is now posted in the Narthex

Sign up to provide the floral arrangement in the worship service. You can honor or remember a loved one, celebrate a special occasion, or just provide some beauty for our new worship space. Arrangements are normally \$50.00. You may take the flowers with you after the worship service.

If you have any questions, contact Patricia at the church office 817-732-3388.



The Jam Sessions for December will be on Monday, the 13th and 27th in the Sanctuary from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Lots of bluegrass, folk, Americana and country music is shared with acoustic (unamplified) instruments. Musicians of all skills are encouraged!



Presbyterian Women

December, 2021

What a joy to finally be able to gather for a general meeting. About forty people, including guests from Westminster PW and St. Stephens, came to hear Meghan Forest Farmer. Working in the fashion industry for ten years, it was easy to see her passion. She also revealed a passion for justice. She had been concerned for years with poor working conditions in factories and also the fact a lot of garments were no longer made in the U.S. She wanted to educate and help workers. She started by doing research into what she would need to start and run a factory. Her dream: providing jobs making t-shirts to women who have been incarcerated. It would incorporate child care, training programs, and, hopefully, counseling. She has a core group working with her. While it is still in the planning, fundraising stage, the dream is very much alive. Her obvious enthusiasm and determination will make it happen—watch for further news on “The Bright Factory”.

Tentative circle plans:

Circle One	December 14, 2021	Church	10:30 a.m.
Circle Two	December 14, 2021	Church	10:30 a.m.
Circle Three	December 7, 2021	Zoom	7:00 p.m.

Just Bring It—December Toiletries for Presbyterian Night Shelter and Westaid

SAVE THE DATE:
 PWR SPRING WOMEN’S RETREAT
 APRIL 22 (FRIDAY EVENING) AND APRIL 23 (SATURDAY)
 LOCATION: THE CHURCH
 THEME: FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

BIBLE STUDY - MISSION - FELLOWSHIP
 All Women, Always Welcomed



- ◆ We Welcome
- ◆ We Witness
- ◆ We Work (and play!)
Putting faith in action is what we do!

PWR General Meeting 10-26-2021



Chris Shahan
Meghan Forest Farmer
Katrina Little



Guest Speaker:
Meghan Forest Farmer
"The Bright Factory"



SAVE THE DATE:
PWR SPRING WOMEN'S RETREAT
APRIL 22 (FRIDAY EVENING) AND APRIL 23 (SATURDAY)
LOCATION: THE CHURCH
THEME: FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

RPC Youth & Children's News.....

RIDGLEA STUDENT NEWS ADVENT & CHRISTMAS EDITION

December 2021

Monthly Issue, No. 3



MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP

A brisk hello RPC! Join us Sunday, December 5th for an afternoon of winter fun and ice skating at Panther Island Ice! The cost is \$11 per person (*scholarships available*) and RPC will buy everyone's lunch there! We will be taking the bus from the church at noon and returning by 3 pm. Additional concessions are available for purchase and outside food/beverage are not permitted. Be sure and bring a coat and gloves, just in case! Even if its not too cold outside, the rink is outdoors, and will be about ten degrees cooler than the air temperature. We SNOW look forward to seeing you!



LOCAL MISSION DAY

Sunday, December 19th our Christmas Mission is to bring cheer and glad tidings to the RPC Homebound. We will be caroling from a safe distance to their doorsteps! Lunch will be served at RPC at noon. Parent pick up at RPC @ 3.



CAROLING ON THE STEPS

The Youth & Children's Ministries will join together for this years' Christmas Eve Service in caroling on the steps of the church before the service to welcome people within! Let us know if you would like to join us! We will gather at 5:30 PM before the service.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are still seeking volunteers to read the liturgy for January, February, and March of 2022. **Also, who is going to be the camel this year? Let us know your interest asap.**

Third Sunday, December Lectionary:
Mandy Hand

BONUS MISSION: CHOIR & ENSEMBLE

Youth Ensemble will meet on Sunday December 19th after the service to rehearse for the Christmas Eve Service. Bring your music and your instruments to practice! Noon- 1:30

HOLIDAY MUSIC

Hello RPC Families!
We are again asking all youth to participate in the Christmas Eve service, again. Just like last year, we are looking for anyone willing to provide music or to read scripture on December 24. We had an amazing turnout for Christmas and Easter last year and are hoping for just as many people to be willing to participate this year. We are open to any skill level and holiday song (it doesn't have to be a hymn). This tradition is a wonderful opportunity to share your God-given gifts with your church family. Please let Kate or John know how you would like to serve! Merry Christmas!
-John Sauvey

Youth Calendar

Sunday December 5th-
Sunday School @ 9:15
(Youth Room)
Ice Skating @ Panther Island
Ice from Noon-3

Sunday, December 12th-
Sunday School @ 9:15
(Youth Room)

Sunday December 19th-
Sunday School @ 9:15
(Youth Room)
Christmas Choir & Ensemble
Practice Noon-1:30
Christmas Caroling to
Homebound 1:30-3 PM

Friday, December 24th-
Caroling on the Steps-5:30 PM
Christmas Eve Service @ 6 PM

Sunday, December 26th-
No Sunday School



ADVENT FUN!

The youth will be sent home with a DIY advent wreath to brighten your home throughout the season.

The youth will be decorating gingerbread cookies on December 5th.

December 12th they're creating "Cups of Cheer" hot chocolate gifts for West Aid on the 12th alongside our church members.

SHYC 2022!
JANUARY 28-30TH
LAST DAY TO REGISTER:
DECEMBER 15

RIDGLEA KIDS DECEMBER NEWS



"GLORY TO GOD
IN THE HIGHEST HEAVEN, AND ON
EARTH PEACE TO THOSE ON WHOM
HIS FAVOR RESTS."

-LUKE 2:14



KIDS CALENDAR

Sunday December 5th-

Sunday School @ 9:15
(Pre-K Room)

Ice Skating @ Panther Island Ice
from Noon-3

Sunday, December 12th-

Sunday School @ 9:15
(Pre-K Room)

Sunday December 19th-

Sunday School @ 9:15
(Pre-K Room)

Christmas Choir & Ensemble
Practice Noon-1:00 (Sanctuary)

Friday, December 24th-

Caroling On The Steps @ 5:30 PM
Christmas Eve Service @ 6 PM

Sunday, December 26th-

No Sunday School

FAMILY FUN: PANTHER ISLAND ICE

Meet us at the rink!

Sunday, December 5th at 1 PM, we will have an afternoon of winter fun and ice skating at Panther Island Ice! The cost is \$11 per person (with RSVP group rate). Concessions available.

CAROLING ON THE STEPS!

Join us in Caroling as a congregation for Fort Worth! On Christmas Eve, before the dinner and service we will carol together on the steps of the church. We are inviting the Ridglea Hills Addition, Bomber Heights, and other Ridglea Neighborhoods to come listen and hopefully they will stay for the Christmas Eve Service and be blessed by.



KID'S CHOIR

Kid's Choir will be rehearsing this month for Christmas! Ms. Mary will be rehearsing with them as usual Sundays during the service. They will get to sing the following songs for the church body:

- Away in a Manger*
- Happy Birthday Jesus*
- Jingle Bells (ringing)*
- Christ Was Born Today*

Kids will also rehearse one time in the sanctuary, on:
Sunday December 19th from Noon-1:00 (Lunch Provided).

"Optional caroling afterwards with youth"



ADVENT FUN!

Sunday School
Advent Activities

The children's ministry will be sent home with an advent wreath to use in worship with their families.

Then they will be busier than Christmas elves working on their "Secret Project," from December 5th- 19th to be a blessing to parents!

KIDS WHO SERVE

Our kiddos will be partnering with our Care Team this Christmas to create handmade cards to send as encouragement to those who are homebound or living in a care facility. What a way to be a blessing!



The Teachers' Note

Happy Christmas season all! This December promises to be a busy and fun one in the Pre K - K classroom! We will be focusing on, "How anything is possible with God," by hearing about, "The Christmas Story," beginning with Mary and her surprising but good news. Next we will learn about, "Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem." The children will imagine the bumpy ride on a donkey and how a stable full of animals is a good, although unusual place for giving birth. They will hear about and imagine what it was like to have singing angels and shepherds hurrying to the manger to see the new baby.. Then they will hear the story of, "The Wise Men," focusing on Jesus being the best gift and how they followed a star to find him. As a mission project, the children will have participated in the hanging of the greens by putting together Christmas ornaments and hanging them on a tree in the church. Also, other "secret" things will be happening as well... How exciting!

Thank you all for giving such joy to two shall we say "seasoned" teachers by giving us the gift of time with your sweet kiddos.

Merry Christmas!

Ms. Susan and Ms. Jean

LET'S GIVE A Cup of Cheer!

BENEFITTING WESTAID
Sunday, December 12th

Join us for an intergenerational church event after the service on Sunday, December 12th as we assemble 400 cups of hot chocolate for Westaid and the families they serve! We hope you will join us in warming people's hearts by sharing the love of Christ and chocolate this Christmas!



Cherub Choir + Youth Ensemble
YOUTH + KIDS WILL MEET ON SUNDAY DECEMBER 19TH AFTER THE SERVICE TO REHEARSE FOR THE CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE. BRING YOUR MUSIC AND YOUR INSTRUMENTS TO PRACTICE! LUNCH WILL BE SERVED @ RPC @ 12. REHEARSAL UNTIL 1:00 FOR KIDS AND 1:30 FOR TEENS.

December Local Mission

SUNDAY
DECEMBER 19TH
(12-3)

Caroling to the Homebound

THEN JOIN US IN OUR CHRISTMAS MISSION AS WE BRING CHEER AND GLAD TIDINGS TO THE RPC HOMEBOUND. WE WILL BE CAROLING FROM A SAFE DISTANCE TO THEIR DOORSTEPS UNTIL 3 PM FOR RPC PARENT PICK UP AT RPC.



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

JUST BRING IT—DECEMBER 2021 TOILETRIES FOR PRESBYTERIAN NIGHT SHELTER AND WESTAID



Service Session Work Group:

Primary task is to provide for the service of the people of God, focusing on the external life of the church.

1st Monday of the Month *(as needed)*

December 6, 2021

Ministry Teams meetings

1st Tuesday of the Month

December 7, 2021

- Outreach Team: Focus on Mission

Miriam Gallagher, Chair (6:00 p.m.)

2nd Wednesday of the Month

December 8, 2021

- Commitment Focus on Guests

Katrina Little, Chair (as needed)

1st Tuesday of the Month

December 7, 2021

Ministry Team meeting at 10:00 a.m.

- Board of Deacons: Focus on Members

Betsy Kibler, Chair; Jane Johnson (as needed)

1st Wednesday of the month

December 1, 2021

- Worship Team: *Delaine Godwin, Chair*

(as needed)

Worship & Nurture Work Group:

Primary task is to provide for the service of the people of God, focusing on the internal life of the church.

2nd Tuesday of the Month

December 8, 2021

Ministry Teams meeting

- Christian Education: *Julie Ritz, Chair*

(6:15 pm)

- Fellowship Team: *Gayle Johnson, Chair; Butch*

Saxton, Vice Chair (as needed)

2nd Thursday week prior to

Session Meeting week

Ministry Team meeting

- Finance & Budget, *Reeve Van Nostrand (6:00 pm) (as needed)*

YOUR SESSION INVITES YOU TO FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE STEPS:

1. FIND YOUR PASSION
2. FIND YOUR MINISTRY TEAM
3. IDENTIFY YOUR MEETING NIGHT
4. GET INVOLVED!

Government Session Work Group:

Primary task is to provide support & resources for the church.

2nd Wednesday of the Month

December 8, 2021

Ministry Teams meeting

- Building & Equipment *(as needed)*
George Tischler & John Godwin, Co-Chairs
- Personnel *(as needed)*
Nick Thoni, Chair and Julie Ritz
- Clerk of Session
Karen Landon

December, 2021 Birthdays



Nereyda Sabido	12	1
Sara Carpenter	12	2
Wanda Delulio	12	4
Kathy Doty	12	6
Bailey Martin	12	6
Jeff Sills	12	7
Ivey Ramsey	12	9
Mary Fisher	12	10
Myra Marrow	12	10
Ransom Lockhart	12	10
Paul Morrison	12	13
Marsha Dueease	12	14
Robin Roberts	12	17
Barbara Dorman	12	18
Claire Dearman	12	21
Jeanne Owens	12	21
Alisha Dunkin	12	22
Billye Kane	12	23
Hannah Severson	12	23
Miriam Gallagher	12	24
Ruth De La Rosa	12	24
Beth Duncan	12	25
George Sloan	12	26
Paul Duncan	12	27
Aubrey Henderson	12	27
Micky Severson	12	29
Glen Walker	12	30

The next
newsletter
deadline
will be
December 16,
2021 at noon.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5000 SOUTHWEST BOULEVARD
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76116