

The Spirit

April 2015

Of Ridgefield-Crystal Lake Presbyterian Church

Ridgefield-Crystal Lake Is Bringing a Scientist to Church

On Sunday, April 19, in Fellowship Hall during the 10:00 education hour, the Earth Care Team welcomes climate scientist Dr. Jason Webster to RCLPC as part of the spring series of earth care classes. Webster, from Aurora, Illinois, founded AtmoSci in 2009 to deliver forensic meteorology reports and has since developed a portfolio of services to enhance weather and climate decision-making. His efforts focus on effectively communicating the most accurate and current science to decision-makers. He will describe the causes and potential impacts and opportunities of climate change, as well as take questions.

People of faith want to be good environmental stewards. This event has been organized in partnership with GreenFaith, an interfaith environmental organization who partners with PC(USA) Environmental Ministries, and Climate Voices, a non-profit dedicated to bringing scientists and citizens together to discuss climate science and the local impacts of climate change.

You are encouraged to invite others who are interested in this topic to join us. Dr. Webster will continue conversations with us informally at noon. For questions about April 19's event, contact lois-rick@comcast.net. For further information on GreenFaith Day, visit: <http://www.greenfaith.org/success-stories/greenfaith-day-2015>

JOIN US at the RCLPC Community Garden!

This year we will be at Crystal Lake Park District's Community Garden at Hill Farm Acres at 705 Barlina Road in Crystal Lake. Next year we hope to have it on our own church property. If you enjoy the outdoors, saving money and growing plants, you'll want to join us on our 40' by 20' garden plot! Flowers, vegetables, herbs, or whatever you desire, will grow well in the rich soil. If interested in joining this exciting project, contact Karen Ray or Steve Connell or the church office.





SUNDAY SCHOOL
TEACHER
APPRECIATION DAY

Join us Sunday May 17th to thank our wonderful Sunday school teachers. Immediately following the congregational meeting we will be celebrating our teachers with cake and punch in the fellowship hall.

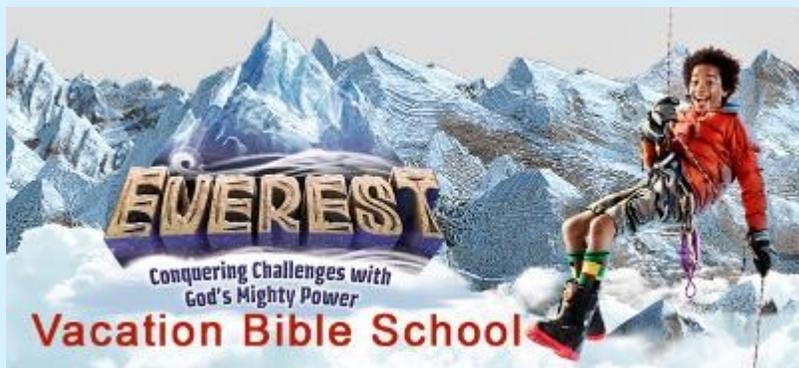


Tuesday April 28, 7:00 p.m. at FCC
(First Congregational Church,
Crystal Lake 461 Pierson St, Crystal Lake, IL 60014
(815) 459-6010.

Taize is an ecumenical sung and silent participatory prayer service designed to achieve a contemplative state through music, song and silence.

Spring Has Arrived

...and with it come many special events. Click on the Earth Care Team button at rclpc.org to learn about the county Earth Day celebration, a local faith-based climate conference, the Health Department's electronics and recycling event, and more.
~ Earth Care Team



VBS Registration is Open!

VBS is coming to RCLPC June 22-26. VBS will happen daily from 9am-noon for ages pre K -5th grade. Registration forms can be found on our website or in the Connecting Link. If you have any questions or are interested volunteering, please contact Matthew Brown by email matthew@rclpc.org or by phone (810) 965-6719.

*Deadline for
May Spirit is
May 1st!*



MEET YOUR DEACON CINDY HARVEY

I live in Crystal Lake and have been a member of RCLPC for two years. My favorite meal is anything I don't have to cook myself, but specifically I like barbecued spare ribs. I grew up in Beloit and Green Bay, WI, and my favorite childhood summer activities were reading, biking, and hanging out with friends at the pool.

My favorite school subject was always English, with history being a close second. Oddly enough, I also liked geometry, but not math in general. I really liked school, learning anything new and playing the saxophone in the band. What I liked least about school was group projects.

I've had many memorable travel experiences, but probably the most memorable were two we took with our kids. One was to Australia and New Zealand when Andy and Jessie were 8 and 6, respectively and the other was to Italy when they were 22 and 20. I would really like to spend some time in Eastern Europe, perhaps doing a river cruise. It would also be wonderful to tour Scandinavia, the fjords, etc. I have a list

The accomplishments I am most proud of are related to family; having raised two wonderful children to adulthood without any major hiccups and being in a "still going strong" marriage for 35 years. The main lessons I've learned from life are that kindness, patience, and tolerance usually produce good results and that having high, attainable expectations is satisfying, no matter how large or small the project.

I hope to be remembered by my family for my love for them and by my friends for my sense of humor, my friendliness and my dependability.

Cindy's Deacon group includes: Glenn & Cathy Bereiter, Steve & Amy Connell, David & Sherri Dees, Alan & Beth Esche, Esther Hueckstaedt, Joan Jensema & Linda Peel, Dave Meyer, Fred & Sue Neuschel, Jim & Andrea Pracht, Chuck & Connie Rasmussen, Mike Rugh, Rod Russell, Dan & Diane Terlep, Cary Vandermyde & MollyHolmes.

YOU OUGHT TO BE IN PICTURES !!

It is time to update our photo directory for the church. Once you are captured digitally, your photo will be posted in the display case that is outside the doors to Fellowship Hall (located on the brick wall). If you are happy with the picture of you or your family that is already posted, there is no need to take a new one. If you are not on that display board or you need updating, we would like to add your handsome face. This helps all of us to put names and faces together, so we could use your help. Please join Dave Steele in Fellowship Hall on the following three Sunday mornings:

April 12, 19, and 26 to do your photo. He will be there before and after services and looks forward to seeing your smile!



Guide to Giving at RCLPC

At Ridgefield-Crystal Lake Presbyterian Church (RCLPC), we live with a spirit of thankfulness. Whether it's serving, leading, sharing in fellowship, or placing financial gifts in the offering plate, the evidence is all around us. Time, talents, financial resources. All given freely in response to God's gift of grace.

A variety of avenues are available for giving to the General Fund:

Personal checks/cash directly to RCLPC

Online banking (bill pay) -- Your bank sends a check drawn from your funds.



Online giving through church website at www.rclpc.org -- Click on "Giving to RCLPC" to be directed to the General Fund through our partnership with Presbyterian Mission Exchange.

QR code -- Readable barcode directs givers to RCLPC's General Fund through Presbyterian Mission Exchange

Using Presbyterian Mission Exchange:

A receipt, which you need to keep for tax purposes, will be emailed to you directly by the Exchange. When giving online, direct transfer is preferred.

If you are interested in giving online, look for a how-to handout on the ushers' tables. Contact the church office if you need more information.

Whatever way you choose to give, please include your RCLPC contributor number. It serves as your account number.

Join Us at the 10:00 Education Hour

Wired Word

Each week the Wired Word meets in the lounge to discuss world events and how they affect our faith. The weekly installment is delivered via e-mail on Thursdays, including biblical commentary and discussion questions related to a topic in the news that week.

Don't receive the materials? Call the church office to be added to the list. Didn't have time to read through it? Come anyway to join in the discussion led by Jim Bauman.

Earth Care Classes

The earth and all creation are God's. God calls us to be careful, humble stewards of this earth, and to protect it and restore it for its own sake, and for the future use and enjoyment of the human family.

April 19 *Bring a Scientist to Services*

As part of national GreenFaith Day, Dr. Jason Webster, whose expertise includes meteorology, oceanography, and climatology, will speak and answer questions in Fellowship Hall at 10. He is willing to continue conversations informally at noon.

April 26 *Towards a Sustainable Landscape*

Roger Wiese from our congregation will bring slides that show us the benefits of a sustainable landscape and how ecological restoration affects the landscape.

May 3 *Power Up Your Home with Solar Energy*

Come hear the story of how the sun is providing Terry and Pat Dieckhoff with energy and reducing their utility bills. What are the costs and benefits? Where are they nearly a year later? Optional tours from 11:15am-1pm at the Dieckhoffs' home, either following class or after the 11am service. Directions provided during class.

May 10 *Seeing the Signs of the Times: Climate Change in Alaska*

Yukon Presbyterians for Earth Care hosted a regional conference in September 2014 to share first-hand how climate change is impacting Alaska. Join Cindy and David Theobald to see what they experienced and learned during this conference.

"The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it."

Psalm 24: 1

Session Highlights

March 23, 2015

- Welcomed Rev. Phyllis Mueller as the meeting's moderator
- Approved Session Meeting Minutes from February 23, 2015
- Discussed Assistant Treasurer position. Personnel Committee and Finance Team working on Job Description for Assistant Treasurer
- An update on the PCUSA marriage amendment was given.
- Reviewed the January 2015 Year to Date financial report – and discussed budget deficit.
- Blackhawk Presbytery meeting on April 14th needs more volunteers
- Approved communion for the Presbytery Meeting on April 14th
- Approved the Nominating Committee candidate proposal for:
 - Session: Tom Lafontaine, Bruce Randall (2 more needed)
 - Deacons: Sue Neuschel, Deb Steele (1 more needed)
 - Nominating Committee: Connie Rasmussen, George Steffen
 - Endowment: Pat Kay, Audit: Todd LeFevre
- Building and Grounds reported that they will be painting the gathering area and showed the changes planned for fellowship hall. (to be paid for out of dedicated accounts)
- Stewardship reported that no one volunteered to lead the golf outing so there won't be a golf outing this year.
- Mission created a brochure to be placed in the pews for visitors to see what we do regarding mission. 83+ letters were sent for the offering of letters. Earth Care classes will be starting in April.
- Christian Ed reported that Sunday School will restart on April 12th
- Discussed the length of services (over an hour) that are becoming frequent at the 9am service
- Approved to clarify Matt Brown's position as an exempt position
- Approved to hold a congregational meeting on May 17th for the purpose of elections.
- A discussion was had regarding the creation of a "Behavioral Covenant" regarding how members of leadership treat each other and fellow members.
- Next meeting April 23, 2015.