

December 18, 2022

Joys and Prayer Concerns

for the death of a loved one:

Family of Jim Iddings

for healing and recovery of ongoing health concerns:

Marge Stewart's son, Tom; Nancy Blakely's father, Tom; Cathy Christensen's friend, Richard Russel; Ann Legg; Raechel Sowa's sister in law, Terri; Tom Lafontaines sister, Kathy; Cy Zank; Walt Rosquist; Ron Miller; Cindy Theobald's sister, Cheryl Kirchner; Deb Steele's, sister-in-law Linda and family; Chris Pickett's brother, Mark; Tom; Sharon Ray; Glenn Bereiter

Jim Iddings passed away on Tuesday, December 13. Visitation is Wed., Dec. 21 from 3:00pm to 7:00pm at Querhammer & Flagg Funeral Home, 500 W Terra Cotta Ave, Crystal Lake. A memorial service will be held Thurs., Dec. 22 at 4:00pm at RCLPC.

Upcoming Worship Leaders

Liturgists

December 18 Deb Bendis and Daryl Bassant

Ushers

December 18 Bev and Dick Kerman

December 24 4:00 pm -

December 24 7:30 pm - Vicki Brown & Anne Marie Provenzano

Greeters

December 18 David and Pam Palmer

December 24 4:00 pm - Bev and Dick Kerman

December 24 7:30 pm -

Happenings this Week at RCLPC

Sunday

10:00am Worship - All Church Pageant

11:00am Multigenerational Advent Faith Formation

4:00pm Parents Night Out/Jesus Birthday Party

Tuesday

7:00 pm Climate Lobby on Zoom

Wednesday

12:15pm Staff Meeting on Zoom

5:45pm MidWeek Soup and Adult Faith Formation in FH

Thursday

4:00pm Jim Iddings service

Saturday

Christmas Eve Services

4:00pm Family Service (in Person Only)

7:30pm Traditional (in Person & on Zoom Live streaming)

Sunday, Dec 25

Christmas Day Service

10:00am Worship - online only - no in person service

Sunday, Jan 1

10:00 am Worship in person and online

Church office closed December 26 - 30

Save The Date



Kim Stewart is retiring and we are going to celebrate her in a big way! Mark your calendars now for January 22, 2023 and stay tuned for details.

Session Highlights

December 12

Rev. John Dillon Moderator

- Approved Session Meeting Minutes from November 28, 2022
 - Approved Session Meeting Minutes from September 26, 2022
 - Approved Pastor John Dillon's 2023 HRA Plan
 - Approved for membership by transfer for Patsy Ihrke from Itasca Presbyterian
 - Approved for membership by Affirmation of Faith for Drew Duffen
 - Approved Lenten worship time team presentations
 - Approved Consent Agenda items
 - Noted that we need communion server and ushers for 4pm Christmas Eve service
 - Approved the 2023 RCLPC Operation Budget
 - Approved acceptance of Kim Stewart's resignation as Website and Database Administrator effective December 31, 2022
 - Approved Call for Annual Congregation Meeting on January 29, 2023 immediately following 10am service in Sanctuary and via Zoom to present and approve the RCLPC annual report; present and approve the Pastor's 2023 Terms of Call and present and approve RCLPC By-law change.
 - Approved presenting 2023 Terms of Call for Pastor John Dillon for Congregation approval at January 29, 2023 Congregation Meeting
 - Approved holding the 2023 January and February Session meetings via Zoom
 - Shared Joys and Concerns
 - Next Session meeting is January 23, 2023 at 7pm via Zoom
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Worship

Join our Illumination Team and Help Us Light the Night

We need help to light the streets of Ridgefield on Christmas Eve. You have three ways to be part of this exciting new team. 1. Sign up to set the luminaries out at 10am on Christmas Eve 2. Light the candles (ok, turn on the candles) at 3:45pm 3. Collect the bags after the 7:30 pm worship service. This tradition is well loved by our neighbors and worshipers on Christmas Eve but in order to keep it going we need a few more hands. To volunteer please contact Raechel Sowa or sign up in the Gathering Space.

Christmas Eve Worship

Join us on Christmas Eve for our 4:00 pm (in person only) family worship service and at 7:30 pm (in person and online) for a traditional candlelight service.

Christmas Day will be recorded on our [YouTube](#) page.



Faith Formation

Word on Wednesday 2023

During January and February there will be two short three Wednesday discussions.

JANUARY : "10 things they never told me about Jesus"

A beginner's guide to a larger Christ. By Rev John L.Bell.

January 4 .4:00pm Zoom Chapter 7 "Talking to Strangers"

January 11 4:00 pm Zoom Chapter 3 "Fully equipped"

January 18 4:00pm Zoom Chapter 6 "Feminine faces"

(Details of February and Lenten studies will be sent out in due course.)

Most of us know John Bell's hymns which we often use in worship. However, John is also a remarkable preacher, broadcaster and wit. "10 things" recounts some of his most memorable experiences as a guest speaker at a wide variety of events and some of his most interesting viewpoints on Jesus and the church. I have chosen three of the chapters which I find most interesting.

Why not ask for a copy of the book for Christmas and join our lively discussions in January?

(PS Our last study book was The Return of the Prodigal Son by Henri Nouwen and it was suggested we study "The Wounded Healer" his most widely praised books. However, it does not lend itself to group study. If anyone wishes to read it privately there are 6 free copies in the Gathering Space.)

Multigenerational Faith Formation Sundays in Advent following Worship

We will explore the text each week by preparing an item to add to your home as a reminder of the season. Don't rush off to the next event, go home or run to the grocery store. Give yourself a chance to be present in Advent.

This Week in Fellowship Hall:

- Post a Note about what brings you joy
- Participate in our Christmas Card Challenge
- Luminaries

Christmas Card Challenge

Each week during Advent you will be given the opportunity to think about different people in your life and to send them a Christmas card. Think about the prompts for each week, pray for that person, and send them a card.

Week 1: A person that has had an impact on you. Maybe that person is a family member, friend, favorite teacher, mentor or personal hero.

Week 2: Think about someone that helped you say "yes" to something big or encouraged you to take a chance on something that scared you?

Week 3: Someone in your life that helped you make a big decision.

Week 4: Who bears the Christ-light for you?

Mid Week Advent Reflection

Come join us for some Advent reflection time on Wednesdays starting November 30. We'll begin at 5:45 pm with a simple soup supper (about 20 minutes) and then open with prayer and listen to a biblical text for the coming Advent Sunday. After hearing the texts, we'll write down our reactions to the texts, and share them if we feel moved to share. Then we'll move on to the second text. The goal is to provide a simple discussion tool that all can embrace—youth, young adults, long-time and new members too. We may refer to Richard Rohr's book, *Preparing for Christmas*, but it's not necessary to have the book unless you're looking for more: it provides daily meditations for the Advent season.

Let us know you are coming so we have enough soup! Class will end in time for choir
Deb Bendis and Raechel Sowa



Mission News

Last Week - Fair Trade Store Open!

Discover handmade items from around the globe and fight global poverty through fair and ethical trade at the annual RCLPC Christmas Fair Trade Gift shop!



Shopping is [on-line](http://www.servv.org) and in person at RCLPC starting December 4th. By shopping on www.servv.org or in person at RCLPC, you'll empower small-scale global artisan and farmers, helping them build sustainable employment, resources, rights, and a vision of hope in their communities. All the funds gathered from this event go to the artisans. This is not a fund-raiser for RCLPC.

From handcrafted jewelry, to metal art, to wooden creations, holiday crafts, wall art, gourmet food and more, there's something for everyone! Shop early for the best selection. Don't forget, we always have Zatoun olive oil from Palestine, and fair-trade coffee and tea available.

A huge, heartfelt thank you to all who participated in the 30th annual Cookie Walk. Thank you to the bakers, the volunteers, the advertisers, the box haulers, the sign putter uppers, the buyers, the chef hat maker, the artists, and anyone else we might have forgotten to mention.

Many people are struggling with mental health issues, and the numbers continue to grow. Thanks to the great success of the Cookie Walk, it is wonderful that the National Association of Mental Illness (NAMI) will receive over \$1700 to help with their programs in order to provide services to those struggling. RCLPC will be receiving the other half of the proceeds

Thanks again,

Vicki and Anne Marie