



RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

January, 2023



**We will celebrate the
sacrament of Communion on
Sunday, January 1, 2023**



Congregational Meeting
January 29, 2023 immediately
following Worship Service

ECLECTIC CAFÉ SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

The Eclectic Café Sunday School
Zoom code is 661 636 9082.

No password required;
Attendees will be admitted from the waiting
room.

Lesson: Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Mapping his
biography to events in Germany during World
Wars I and II, and discussion of the Barman
Declaration, and sample his book "The Cost of
Discipleship".

Join Zoom Meeting (US and Canada)
Topic: Ridglea Worship for January 2023
Time: Jan 1, 2023 10:30 AM Central Time (US and
Canada)

Every week on Sun, until Jan 29, 2023,
5 occurrence(s)

Jan 1, 2023 10:30 AM
Jan 8, 2023 10:30 AM
Jan 15, 2023 10:30 AM
Jan 22, 2023 10:30 AM
Jan 29, 2023 10:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81887468483?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81887468483?pwd=VUNkSjBDbmNUN2NXc01SM2IUZjRoQT09)
[pwd=VUNkSjBDbmNUN2NXc01SM2IUZjRoQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81887468483?pwd=VUNkSjBDbmNUN2NXc01SM2IUZjRoQT09)

Meeting ID: 818 8746 8483
Passcode: 175800

JANUARY NEWSLETTERS
ARE AVAILABLE
IN THE CHURCH OFFICE

SESSION MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON
JANUARY 20, 2023 At 7:00 P.M.



PASTOR'S NOTES

Beyond the Basics

I started when I was in my mid-40's, with a low-price electric bass guitar, a small amp, and some books. I taught myself how to get around the neck, how to pluck with two fingers, and gained some basic knowledge, all in the comfort and solitude of our home. In the decade-plus since beginning, there have been boxes of more books, a couple of music camps, a few dozen gigs, hundreds of jam sessions, and more basses (just three, now). My skill level has gone from basic beginner to what is probably an early intermediate, with a bit of walking lines and passing tones, while also staying in a basic box pattern. I have a few picks for the guitars, and a bow for the upright, but I rarely practice with them, because I'm so comfortable using only my fingers.

That bit of background is shared as a way of saying that in the dozen or so years of playing, reading, performing, and learning, and now in my early 60's, a plateau of skill was achieved which was serviceable, friendly, and comfortable with my fingers. I'm playing for fun and having fun playing, and in the style that I've watched lots of others play. Until this morning, less than a week before Christmas, when I clicked on a video about "playing arpeggios in three positions," and realized that what I have been doing, versus what could have been doing, was as simple as expanding the box pattern into a narrow band based on which finger played the first note.

AAARRRGGGHHH! What is with all this musical lingo? Why aren't we reading about the new year, or even the previous year, instead of basses and fingers and box patterns? Well, watching that short video on arpeggios helped me to realize that, a lot of the time, when we think we understand, when we expect the expected, when we stick to a pattern, the alternatives and options and choices are missed or overlooked. Remember when Samuel went looking to anoint a new king, and, looking at Jesse's fine, favorable sons, his expectations of what a king ought to look like was not the pattern God was using? (*cf.* 1 Samuel 16) Or, remember when Magi from Persia brought extravagant gifts for a new king, and the familiar pattern of palaces and politics was put aside in a lowly manger and swaddling cloths? (*cf.* Matthew 2)

We can easily point to national and international events, from the not-yet-over pandemic to wars, from inflation to education, and point to changes and challenges all around us. On a more personal scale, what routines, skills, or practices have been deepened or changed over this past year, and which were we surprised by? Was a recipe tweaked? Did a detour lead to a pleasant surprise? Was familiarity challenged or changed in any way? One of those surprises, for me, was found in the familiarity of the fret-board, just two weeks before the year was finished.

Stepping into a new year can provide an opportunity to celebrate how we made it through the ups and downs of 2022 and also remind us that the Holy Spirit will continue to teach, inspire, and strengthen us in our journeys of faith, justice, hope, and love.

Peace,

2 

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 2023

Miriam Gallagher
Gayle Johnson
Nancy Staples
Nick Thoni

Class of 2024

Susan Everts
Marji Raunikar
Dale Wagner

Class of 2025

Mick Stuart
John Little
Durinda Walker
Mary Fisher

Clerk of Session: Karen Landon

RPC TRUSTEES

Class of 2022

Chris Henderson

Class of 2023

Jim Godfrey

Class of 2024

Tom Sisolak

2022-2023 RPC DEACONS

Lynne Payne - Moderator
Kit Van Nostrand—Home Member Care Coordinator
Ruth Ann Rinewalt—Hospital Care Coordinator
Dean Phillips – Hospital Care Coordinator
Jean Godfrey – Funeral Reception Coordinator
Jo VanOosterhout
Glenna Cleworth

RPC FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Class of 2023

Will Stallworth

Class of 2024

Steve Staples

Class of 2025

Ken Kibler

Designee

Shiryl Thompson Gillaspie

Staff

Roger Harwerth, Pastor
Patricia Taber, Office Manager
John Sauvey, Director of Music Ministries
Dale Bench, Organist

roger@ridgleapres.org
patricia@ridgleapres.org
john@ridgleapres.org
dalepipeorgan@sbcglobal.net

Church Office #817.732.3388



JANUARY FELLOWSHIP LUNCH Sunday, January 15, 2023

Our January Fellowship Lunch will be our annual chili cookoff.

- Bring a pot of your best chili to share and if it's judged the best you will win a prize.
- Fellowship Committee will provide cornbread and crackers, beverages, and dessert.

You can **register on Realm** to attend this event and let us know if you'll be entering a pot of chili. Or see a member of the Fellowship Team on Sunday mornings in the Narthex to get registered.



COME JOIN US! January 7, 2023 Dinner With Friends 1st Saturday of the month

We have changed the name of "Dinner for Eight" to "Dinner With Friends". Once a month small groups of 6-8+ will gather to enjoy a meal and fellowship at a local restaurant or the host's home. Our first Dinner with Friends in 2023 will be **Saturday, January 7th**.

You can **register on Realm** to attend or host a group for this event or see a member of the Fellowship Team on Sunday mornings in the Narthex to get registered.

DON'T FORGET TO TAKE PICTURES OF YOUR GROUPS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

JANUARY "JUST BRING IT"



Center for Transforming Lives is in need of
diapers, pull-ups and baby wipes.



PWR General Meeting—December 2022



PWR Circle One Christmas Luncheon
December 13, 2022

TREES, TREES, TREES

As we drive around town and walk in the park, it has been amazing seeing the canvas God has painted for us with the Fall Foliage. We cannot remember a Fall Foliage as vibrant as this one.

The same can be said as pull into our parking lot and see our very own trees changing color. We are so thankful for Ridglea Hills Addition Neighborhood Association(RHANA) and the trees they donated and planted for us. What joy it is to see them growing and how thankful we are for RHANA!

The last tree was donated by Mark Imbert whose daughter lives in the neighborhood. Mark does not even live in the neighborhood. I am a little behind thanking him for donating and planting our last tree last spring.

It has become our "Charlie Brown" Tree because the hot dry summer played havoc on its growth, but it has survived It's the little tree that could.

Thank you Mark!

Landscaping Committee



As I look at these trees, I am reminded of the poem by Joyce Kilmer.

Trees

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree;

A tree whose hungry mouth is pressed
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain,
Who intimately loves with rain;

Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.

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



Senior High Youth Connection (SHYC)
is scheduled for January 27-29 at Austin College.
If any Ridglea Presbyterian youth are interested, we will take a group.

The link for details is:

<https://www.gracepresbytery.org/ministry-mission/youth/>



Presbyterian Children's Homes and ServicesSM

To all the RPC folks who stuffed stockings full of wonderfulness, those who made quilts, and all who support the ministry of Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services, you have been such a blessing, and we are so grateful!

Roger, your sermon on Sunday was excellent, and challenged each of us to go out into the world and make a difference. So many at Ridglea have already been hard at work sharing God's love with others, and I am so grateful that those others included the children, youth and families of PCHAS! Thank you!

Following worship on Sunday, we loaded 37 Christmas stockings into my car and on Tuesday, I took them to the Itasca campus. The staff there were delighted to receive them and to know that each child will have a stocking on Christmas morning. Including a gift card in each stocking is a very generous touch and insures that each child gets to pick something they would like to have. A new experience for some!

Jo was so gracious when I called late last week to say that we had two emergency placements. She quickly made sure that they too would have stockings.

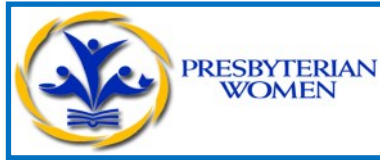
In addition, Kit has coordinated an effort to provide each of our kiddos with a personalized fleece blanket . . . and they LOVE them! For kids who arrive with their few possessions in a garbage bag, a quilt with their name on it is precious!

Thank you! Thank you for being our partner in ministry! Thank you for caring about kids in a very practical way! Thank you for making this Christmas so special for our children and foster families at Itasca!

I am doing another church visit this week, and then headed to Ohio for Christmas. Please share my deep gratitude with others. In 2023, PCHAS will celebrate 120 years of ministry. It is possible only because of the partnership and generosity of congregations like Ridglea Presbyterian Church! Thank you so much!

Merry Christmas!

Maria Shupe
Development Officer



January, 2023

Beautifully decorated tables, delicious food, an inspirational story and joy filled instruments and voices combined to make the merriest of Christmas celebrations. It was the first time in three years we were able to meet together for the holiday. We have missed it!

During a short business meeting, Mac gave us a look ahead at future programs. Linda read the story “An Exchange of Gifts.” Katrina opened the meeting with prayer and closed with a plea for all to consider an opportunity to fill a need for a moderator next year. Then...let the festivities begin! Straight from their Monday night jam session in the sanctuary, our own “Presbyterian Band” entertained and led us in the harmonious singing of Christmas carols. A Big THANKS to our wonderful musicians:

Roger Harwerth
Jim Godfrey
Ashley Coles
George Tischler

Circles: We continue to study “Celebrating the Sabbath”

One	January 10	At church (Fish Classroom)	10:30 a.m.
Two	January 10	At church (Eclectic Café Classroom)	10:30 a.m.
Three	January 3	At church (Eclectic Café Classroom)	6:15 p.m.

Save the Date: January 24—All circles meet together to hear a speaker from Pythian House in Weatherford.

Retreat News: Women’s Retreat in Granbury this year—March 24—25. Our leader, Reverend Jennifer Hayes, has set the Theme: A Time for... taken from Ecclesiastes 3, “For everything there is a season and A Time for...”



Just Bring It: January, 2023. Center for Transforming Lives is in need of diapers, pull-ups and baby wipes.

All Women, Always Welcomed

BIBLE STUDY - MISSION - FELLOWSHIP





Wednesday mornings

8:00 a.m.

Sanctuary

The men's prayer breakfast has been a vital part of Ridglea's mission and ministry for decades. We enjoy a home-cooked breakfast (just \$4.00) and pray for people and events throughout the world.



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.



We need ushers, communion servers, and liturgists for the remaining Sundays during the 2022 year of worship. Please volunteer to help with the Sunday morning worship service.

Also, if you signed up for a particular Sunday and something comes up, please contact Durinda Walker at 817-229-9880 in order to fill those positions.

Matthew 25 Bible Study
For prayer and reflection



Matthew 25 Book Club

We've had two meetings of the Matthew 25 Book Club and had interesting and challenging discussions.

The January 24 book is: A Beginner's Guide to America by Roya Hakakian. Marji Raunika will be the leader. This is a follow up book to the one we discussed on November 29. You don't have to read the first one before reading this one.

On February 28 Chris Shahan will lead a discussion of the book Three Girls from Bronzeville by Dawn Turner Trice.

We bring our supper bags and eat together at 6 in the Eclectic Classroom, and the discussion begins at 6:30. You don't have to read the book to come. We'd love for you to join us.

Matthew 25 Committee

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON
MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2023,
IN OBSERVANCE OF
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY**



THE 2023 FLOWER CALENDAR IS POSTED IN THE NARTHEX FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES IN RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL DATES, OCCASIONS OR LOVED ONES YOU WOULD LIKE TO CELEBRATE IN THE UPCOMING YEAR.



Congregational Meeting
January 29, 2023 immediately
following Worship Service



The Jam Sessions for January will be on Monday, the 2nd, 16th and 30th 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!

**YOUR SESSION INVITES YOU TO
FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE STEPS:**

- 1. FIND YOUR PASSION**
- 2. FIND YOUR TEAM/COMMITTEE**
- 3. IDENTIFY YOUR MEETING NIGHT**
- 4. GET INVOLVED!**

1st Tuesday of the Month
January 3, 2023 10:00 a.m.
Board of Deacons: Focus on Members
Kit Van Nostrand, Moderator

2nd Tuesday of the Month
January 10, 2023 6:15 p.m.
Christian Education: Focus on Learning and Growing
Susan Everts, Chair

1st Tuesday of the Month
January 3, 2023 7:00 p.m. & Zoom
Fellowship Team: Focus on Social Gatherings
Gayle Johnson, Chair

2nd Wednesday of the Month
January 11, 2023 5:00 p.m.
Commitment Team: Focus on Guests
Mary Fisher, Chair

1st Wednesday of the Month
January 4, 2023 5:30 p.m.
Worship Team:
Focus on Sunday & Special Services
Durinda Walker, Chair

2nd Wednesday of the Month
January 11, 2023 6:00 p.m.
Building & Equipment :
Focus on Physical Structures
Dale Wagner, Chair

1st Thursday of the Month
January 5, 2023 6:00 p.m.
Personnel: Focus on Staff Support
Nick Thoni, Chair

2nd Thursday
(week prior to Session Meeting)
6:00 p.m. - Zoom
Finance & Budget: Focus on Stewardship
Reeve Van Nostrand, Chair

2nd Tuesday of the Month
January 10, 2023 6:00 p.m.
Outreach Team: Focus on Mission
Marji Raunikar, Chair

3rd Thursday of the Month
January 19, 2023
7:00 p.m.—RPC Sanctuary & Zoom
Session Meeting
Pastor Roger Harwerth, Moderator

Clerk of Session
Karen Landon

January, 2023 Birthdays



Adrian Cleworth	1	1
Joy Key	1	2
Michael Bo Birdwell	1	4
Karen O'Dell	1	7
Nancy Marchant	1	12
Betsy Kibler	1	18
Marsha West	1	21
Jared Welch	1	21
Dean Phillips	1	25
Charletta G Long	1	28
Rita Margarida Ferreira	1	28
Reagan Henderson	1	31

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

RIDGELEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5000 SOUTHWEST BOULEVARD
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76116

The next
newsletter dead-
line
will be
January 19, 2023
at noon.