



# RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

December, 2022



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84000464012?pwd=V1hQWnh6OFhSRVp6Qm1UUHF1YmpPZz09>

Meeting ID: 840 0046 4012  
Passcode: 090504



We will celebrate the sacrament of Communion on Sunday, December 4, 2022

**Join Zoom Meeting** (US and Canada)

Topic: Ridglea Worship for December 2022  
Time: Dec 4, 2022 10:30 AM Central Time  
(US and Canada)

Every week on Sun, until Dec 25, 2022,  
4 occurrence(s)  
Dec 4, 2022 10:30 AM  
Dec 11, 2022 10:30 AM  
Dec 18, 2022 10:30 AM  
Dec 25, 2022 10:30 AM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86809077371?pwd=L3ZrcDFDQjRab0I0bGVNaFh4dmhxZz09>

Meeting ID: 868 0907 7371  
Passcode: 027677

## 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".

SECOND, THIRD & FOURTH  
SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 4, 11, & 18, 2022





# PASTOR'S NOTES

## Christmas and Calendars

Yes, we will be gathering to worship at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, December 25th, and we hope you will be able to join us either in person or on-line. It has been a handful of years since Christmas Day fell on a Sunday, but I wasn't aware that there is a pattern to its reoccurrence. Since our calendar has 365 days plus leap years, there is a 6-5-6-11 pattern of repetition for celebrations that are based on a particular date, such as March 17, July 4, and birthdays. Christmas was on a Sunday in 2005, 2011, 2016, and 2022, and it will be 2033 before it will again be on Sunday (that is the 6-5-6-11 pattern).

The calendar of the church year begins with Advent, the four Sundays prior to Christmas, and the season of Advent begins by challenging our understandings of calendars and planning. Every Advent, we start with readings focused on apocalypse. This year the season began with Matthew 24:36-44, where the gospel has Jesus talking about destruction, about sacrilege, about persecution, about the end of the age, and telling the disciples that "About that day or hour no one knows... keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming...for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour." Every year these gospel readings are also paired with Old Testament and Epistle readings with similar themes. There are good, historic, theological reasons that Advent is about preparation and anticipation, similar to the way that the season of Lent points us toward both the cross and the empty tomb; I'd like to highlight one of those perspectives of Advent, particularly the first- Sunday focus on apocalypse.

More than a thousand years before Jesus, there were already sun-based and moon-based calendars that were instrumental in agriculture, sailing, religion and civic activities. Calendars were early tools for humanity to prepare planting and harvesting cycles, to understand and utilize tides and currents, and commemorate spiritual and civic histories. This way of organizing seasons and cycles, months and days came to be known as "chronos" in the Greek language: how humanity measures time. But there is another aspect of time, nearly impossible to measure or quantify, and that is "kairos" time, which might be called spiritual, or divine time. It is this kairos aspect of time, of being in God's presence, that the Advent One readings tilt toward, because we are not ever going to be able to mark, on a calendar, "what day your Lord is coming."

This focus on not knowing when - while also staying alert, watchful, and prepared - this focus reminds us that God's time is not ours to control. God's people wander in the wilderness; God's people struggle with prophets and kings; God's people are taken into exile and are restored generations later, in God's kairos time. Advent, and especially the opening of the season, remind us that faithfulness is more than what we look toward, and more than what we have on our calendars - important as those calendars are!

The season of Advent can help us to remember that faithfulness also includes daily expressions of mercy, gratitude, kindness, and hope; being active and watchful in living the gospel message that came into the world in a Bethlehem manger.

Peace,

# 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](mailto:Clerk@RidgleaPres.org). Our deacons oversee our ministries of care and compassion. Email: [Deacons@RidgleaPres.org](mailto:Deacons@RidgleaPres.org)

<b>RPC SESSION</b>		
<u><b>Class of 2023</b></u>	<u><b>Class of 2024</b></u>	<u><b>Class of 2025</b></u>
Miriam Gallagher	Susan Everts	Mick Stuart
Gayle Johnson	Marji Raunikar	John Little
Nancy Staples	Dale Wagner	Durinda Walker
Nick Thoni		Mary Fisher
<i>Clerk of Session: Karen Landon</i>		

<b>RPC TRUSTEES</b>		
<u><b>Class of 2022</b></u>	<u><b>Class of 2023</b></u>	<u><b>Class of 2024</b></u>
Chris Henderson	Jim Godfrey	Tom Sisolak

<b>2022-2023 RPC DEACONS</b>
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

<b>RPC FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b>				
<u><b>Class of 2022</b></u>	<u><b>Class of 2023</b></u>	<u><b>Class of 2024</b></u>	<u><b>Class of 2025</b></u>	<u><b>Designee</b></u>
Mickey Severson	Will Stallworth	Steve Staples	Ken Kibler	Shiryl Thompson Gillaspie

<b>Staff</b>	
Roger Harwerth, Pastor	<a href="mailto:roger@ridgleapres.org">roger@ridgleapres.org</a>
Patricia Taber, Office Manager	<a href="mailto:patricia@ridgleapres.org">patricia@ridgleapres.org</a>
John Sauvey, Director of Music Ministries	<a href="mailto:john@ridgleapres.org">john@ridgleapres.org</a>
Dale Bench, Organist	<a href="mailto:dalepipeorgan@sbcglobal.net">dalepipeorgan@sbcglobal.net</a>
<b>Church Office #817.732.3388</b>	



**HAPPY RETIREMENT  
TO  
THOMAS RODRIGUEZ.  
THANK YOU  
FOR OVER  
TWENTY YEARS  
OF SERVICE  
TO THE  
RPC FAMILY.**



# Certificate of Appreciation

presented to

**RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

for

**Fill the Dish Pet Food Drive**

*Thank you to both ACVP and PDC for collecting 395 pounds of pet food during our Fill the Dish Pet Food Drive! You are helping people feed their pets during difficult times. We appreciate your support and community service!*

*Your efforts make the difference between stay...or go.  
From all of us at Don't Forget to Feed Me, a big THANK YOU!*



**Don't Forget to Feed Me | PET FOOD BANK**

[www.DontForgetToFeedMe.org](http://www.DontForgetToFeedMe.org) • PO Box 471277, Fort Worth, TX 76147 • 817-334-0722

*Marvin A. Kemp*  
Director

November 2, 2022

Date

Thank you so much for collecting, bagging and delivering 395 pounds of pet food for our Fill the Dish pet food drive! We are so humbled. This will go a long way in helping feed local pets in need. We count on our community to help us provide these blessings to so many. Thank you for your part in this.

**Debbie Sharpe**

Don't Forget To Feed Me Pet Food Bank  
Community Outreach Coordinator



**Don't Forget to Feed Me | PET FOOD BANK, Inc.**

DECEMBER NEWSLETTERS  
ARE AVAILABLE  
IN THE CHURCH OFFICE

SESSION MEETING  
WILL BE HELD ON  
DECEMBER 15, 2022 At 7:00 P.M.



December, 2022  
 BIBLE STUDY - MISSION - FELLOWSHIP  
 All Women, Always Welcomed

What a joy at completion of a long awaited event! That's the feeling of a small group of Circle Two women who set off November 5th, accompanied by a few husbands and Pastor Roger, to the Presbyterian Children's Home & Services in Itasca. They have been working most of the year making tie blankets for the children. It was hard to tell who was more excited, the women or children. Smiles and hugs says it all. The House Mother gave them a tour of the facilities. Later, they toured some other parts of the campus, almost a city unto itself. There were also blankets to be given to other group homes there.



December 6—All circles meet to celebrate Christmas. There will be a program and “pot luck” luncheon following at 10:30 at the church.

Circles: Continue to study “Celebrating the Sabbath”			
One	December 13	At church (Fish Class)	10:30 a.m.
Two	December 13	At church (Eclectic Class)	10:30 a.m.
Three	December 6	At church (Eclectic Class)	6:15 p.m.
(bring bag supper/dessert provided)			



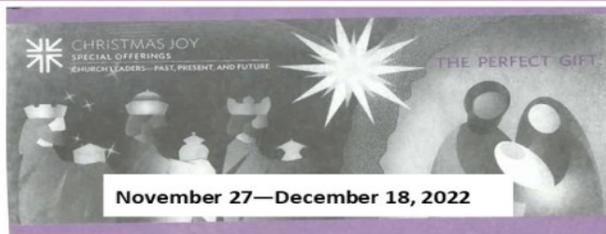
**DECEMBER “JUST BRING IT”**

Presbyterian Night Shelter

**Presbyterian Night Shelter** is in need of small toiletries, i.e. soap, shampoo, lotion, etc.



**Day Resources Center (unhoused)** is in need of warm accessories i.e. socks, gloves, hats, scarves, etc.



**CHRISTMAS JOY**  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
LEADERSHIP, PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE



The Christmas Joy Offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need, and develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.



**Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**  
Presbyterian Mission

The Christmas Joy Offering is one of four annual special offerings. The church-wide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church in the 21st century, bringing together the diversity of the PC (USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Special Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness and they profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.

**WAYS TO GIVE**



Through your congregation



Donate by credit card online at [pcusa.org/christmasjoy](http://pcusa.org/christmasjoy)



Text **CHRISTMASJOY** to 91999 to give or visit [pcusa.org/christmasjoy](http://pcusa.org/christmasjoy)



**CHRISTMAS JOY**  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
LEADERSHIP, PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

And the Word became flesh and lived among us...

— JOHN 1:14



THE PERFECT GIFT.

When we give to the Christmas Joy Offering, we share our love with the leaders of our Church — past, present and future.

**50%**

of your gifts assist current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs.



Rev. Sunjae Jung was living in Korea with his family when he was called to serve the Athens Korean Presbyterian Church near Atlanta. Shortly after the family arrived, COVID struck, leading to a severe financial impact on both his congregation and his family. The family found itself struggling to make ends meet. They applied for and received an Emergency Grant split evenly between the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and the Northeast Georgia Presbytery.

*"I truly believe these programs have met Rev. Jung at a time of real need, and I'm hopeful good momentum is on his horizon so he can continue to lend his gifts towards ministry."*

— Lucas McCool, Assistance Program Operations Manager, PC(USA) Board of Pensions



**50%**

of your gifts make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

Samual Polanco credits his experience at the Menaul School as being instrumental in breaking down life's many barriers. That Jesus broke down dividing walls and welcomed everyone is very much a reality on the Menaul campus, especially during mission week. Samual and his classmates spent five days on the U.S.-Mexico border with the goal of building understanding and relationships.

*"We teach that faith is to be lived out in the world. Because so many young people today see the church as building walls to isolate and separate, we at Menaul are all about opening doors to the richness of God's creation."*

— John Sittler, Teacher, Menaul School

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY...  
FOR WHEN WE ALL DO A LITTLE,  
IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!





During the four weeks of Advent, Pastor Roger will lead a mid-week study series at the church, from noon to 1 p.m. each Wednesday. The gathering will be both in person and on Zoom – the link is below – beginning on November 23<sup>rd</sup> and concluding on December 14<sup>th</sup>. For this study series the primary book will be *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes* by the Rev. Dr. Cynthia Campbell, president emerita of McCormick Theological Seminary. For each week of Advent, Rev. Campbell reflects on the distinctive perspective of the birth of Jesus offered by each Gospel – reimagining the season and inspiring new and exciting reflections. Additional resources, such as *Faces at the Manger* by Rev. J. Barrie Shepherd will also be utilized.

The books are not required for the study; a brief introduction will be provided each week. For instance, in considering the Gospel of Mark, “the sketched house is ... a simple residential structure ... a single door in the center framed by two windows ... this simplicity of form expresses the idea ... of what is meant by the word *home*.” (*Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes*, Westminster/John Knox Press, © 2019, pg 59).

Each week we will plan to spend about forty minutes in discussion, with “grace time” for those arriving and departing around a working lunch. We hope you can join us!

Topic: Ridglea Advent Study Series

Time: Nov 23, 2022 12:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Wed, until Dec 14, 2022, 4 occurrence(s)

Nov 23, 2022 12:00 PM

Nov 30, 2022 12:00 PM

Dec 7, 2022 12:00 PM

Dec 14, 2022 12:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84515376534?pwd=emhPV0JpdERFTHZ1SXhmT0ZYMS9sZz09>

Meeting ID: 845 1537 6534

Passcode: 418989



**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.**

**Sign up**

**<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d49a4ae2ea3f85-ushers1>**

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



**“A Christmas Party for the Youth is planned for December.  
Details to follow at a future date.”**



Senior High Youth Connection (SHYC)  
is scheduled for January 27-29 in Sherman, TX.  
If any Ridglea Presbyterian youth are interested, we will take a group.  
The link for details is:

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



**COME JOIN US!**  
**Dinner With Friends**  
**3rd Saturday of the month**

We have changed the name of our "Dinner for Eight" event to "Dinner With Friends".

We will be resuming beginning in the month of January, 2023.

More information will follow at a later date for instructions to register.



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](mailto:r.rinewalt@att.net).



## Mah Jongg



While the Benbrook Senior Center is undergoing reconstruction, we are also hosting Mah Jongg games at RPC. The invitation is open to all, just come to the church any Thursday at 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For more information, contact Lynne Payne at 915 248-9789 or [lpayne4621@yahoo.com](mailto:lpayne4621@yahoo.com).



**PER RIDGLEA SESSION, MARCH, 2022**

**MASKS ARE ENCOURAGED TO BE WORN IN RPC BUILDING DURING ALL EVENTS.**

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR MASKS.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.**



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.

Quarters for Westaid




The Ridglea Presbyterian Women will be collecting quarters on the second Sunday of each month in order to assist Westaid in providing funds for laundry services and supplies to those in need.





Beautiful note cards created by Jeanne Owens' sister, Jackie, will be available on the third Sunday of each month for RPC members to send to our "at home members." These cards will be in white baskets in the narthex on a first come basis along with other cards. A special thanks to Jackie and Jeanne for sharing your creative talents with us.



The Jam Sessions for December will be on Monday, the 5th and the 19th 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**  
**December 6, 2022 10:00 a.m.**  
**Board of Deacons: Focus on Members**  
**Kit Van Nostrand, Moderator**

**2nd Tuesday of the Month**  
**December 13, 2022 6:15 p.m.**  
**Christian Education: Focus on Learning and Growing**  
**Susan Everts, Chair**

**1st Tuesday of the Month**  
**December 6, 2022 7:00 p.m. & Zoom**  
**Fellowship Team: Focus on Social Gatherings**  
**Gayle Johnson, Chair**

**2nd Wednesday of the Month**  
**December 14, 2022 5:00 p.m.**  
**Commitment Team: Focus on Guests**  
**Mary Fisher, Chair**

**1st Wednesday of the Month**  
**December 7, 2022 5:30 p.m.**  
**Worship Team:**  
**Focus on Sunday & Special Services**  
**Durinda Walker, Chair**

**2nd Wednesday of the Month**  
**December 14, 2022 6:00 p.m.**  
**Building & Equipment :**  
**Focus on Physical Structures**  
**Dale Wagner, Chair**

**1st Thursday of the Month**  
**December 8, 2022 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**  
**December 13, 2022 6:00 p.m.**  
**Outreach Team: Focus on Mission**  
**Marji Raunikar, Chair**

**3rd Thursday of the Month**  
**December 15, 2022**  
**7:00 p.m.—RPC Sanctuary & Zoom**  
**Session Meeting**  
**Pastor Roger Harwerth, Moderator**

**Clerk of Session**  
**Karen Landon**

## December, 2022 Birthdays



Nereyda Sabido	12	1
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
Paul Morrison	12	13
Marsha Duecase	12	14
Robin Roberts	12	17
Barbara Dorman	12	18
Jeanne Owens	12	21
Billye Kane	12	23
Miriam Gallagher	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
John Bacon	12	31

The next  
newsletter  
deadline  
will be  
December 15,  
2022 at noon.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
5000 SOUTHWEST BOULEVARD  
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76116