

# ROGERS PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The People's Press

September/October 2009

## Committee News

### Invitation Committee

Next month, in conjunction with the Clothing Pantry, the Invitation Committee will conduct the annual RPPC Halloween Party. Stay tune and watch for more information next month!

Also the committee is developing with the assistance of Pastor Debbie, a welcoming brochure for brand new visitors!

### Nurture Committee

September 13 also starts the new season of Sunday School which will be right after the "time with young disciples" segment of the Sunday morning worship 11AM service. Sunday School is for children in Kindergarten through 7th grade. See Begona or Michael for older children. See Maurice for infants and children up to 4 years old.

Young adults are welcomed to be active on the Youth Group meetings in September and October for activity planning. Come & explore your creative ideas.

The Nurture Committee is looking for members and friends interested in educating other members, friends and children about the life and times of Jesus Christ. Contact Daphne or Michael Chisholm in church.

### Stewardship Committee

You are invited! If you are handy with tools and have the know-how and the attitude, and would like to help take care of the RPPC, please sit in on regularly scheduled meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month after Fellowship hour.

For more information call **Peter Horth** at **773-407-6327** or email him at [peter@goodnewspartners.org](mailto:peter@goodnewspartners.org).

### Worship Committee

This first Sunday, September 6, 2009, we will have Holy Communion. It is also Christian Vocation Sunday, but at RPPC it is also "Education Sunday" focusing on back to school and it's importance. On September 13, 2009, we will begin worship at 11AM. September 13-19 is also Education Week so pray for your educational ministry, and ALL teachers and students everywhere.

Next month we will be celebrating and observing World Food Day, October 16 and Reformation Sunday on October 25.

Please save the date: May 16, 2010 @ 2PM for RPPC's 100<sup>th</sup> Year celebration. "Watch" for the first of a series of concerts and events to start April 18' 2010.

## Choir

RPPC's adult choir will resume singing on Sunday, September 13 - the same Sunday that worship returns to 11am. Rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings in the choir room, beginning Tuesday, September 8, at 7pm. The only requirement is an interest in singing and a willingness to attend rehearsals. New members wishing to join us are asked to leave a message in the office so that materials will be ready for you when you come to rehearsal.



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## Clothing Pantry

This month the Clothing Pantry sponsors the Back-to-school-give-away for needy children in Rogers Park community. On September 6, 2009, Elder Frank Rhodes will facilitate the give-away after Sunday Service at 10:00AM.

Next month, in conjunction with the Invitation Committee the Clothing Pantry will conduct the annual RPPC Halloween Party. Also in October, RPPC will sponsor an in-door rummage fundraiser. Stay tune and watch for more information next month!

## RPPC Community Choir

Elders Maurice Glover and Frank Rhodes are planning to restart the RPPC Community Choir. If you are interested in singing, playing or directing a community choir, please contact Elders Maurice Glover or Frank Rhodes at 773-262-3667 or [rogersparkpres@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rogersparkpres@sbcglobal.net)

## Deacon Board

The Board of Deacons is appealing to the Elders to join us in a mission to visit, with Pastor Debbie, some of our shut-in and members requesting and/or needing pastoral care visits. If you are interested in joining our compassion group for the next three months, please contact Suzette Johnson at [rogersparkpres@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rogersparkpres@sbcglobal.net) or 773-262-3667.



## Good News Community Kitchen Dinner!

Special thanks to: Christy, Barbara D., Danielle, Debbie M., Debbie P., Falando, Georgette, Monique, Peter, Stephanie, Terrance, Wayne. The dinner was very successful! The work was not easy; from preparing large casseroles, serving in the super hot kitchen, picking up meal trays, delivering them to the tables, busting tables, to sweeping, mopping and dishwashing, our RPPC crew was diligent and very helpful with GREAT attitudes! Good News Kitchen expresses their thanks and appreciation for RPPC sponsoring dinner on the 5<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the year. "You guys are truly a blessing", says Head Chef, Rosaria Valdovinos.

## Activities @ RPPC

*Sundays:*

RPPC Service begins at 11AM after Sept. 6, 2009 until after Father's Day in June, 2010.

Bethel Ghanaian Presbyterian congregation service at 1PM in the sanctuary on Sundays with Bro. Paul Asiama.

United Haitian Church morning service at 11:30AM in the Boardroom and at 7PM, evening service is located in the Fellowship Hall.

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## *Mondays thru Fridays*

Christopher House Head Start School at 8AM to 5PM. Ages 3 to 5.  
Call 773-274-5477. Enrollment is currently open.

## *Tuesdays and Wednesdays*

English as a Second Language Classes at 6PM to 8:30PM Teachers are needed to volunteer.

## *Wednesdays*

United Haitian Church Bible Study at 7PM in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Rev. Radel Ilmet.

## Community Bible Study

Bible Study with Jackie Forbes and Raymond Call, Jr. at 7PM in the Choir room.

## *Thursdays*

Cook County Program – Communities Dare to Care

## *Fridays*

St. Augustine Fellowship meetings 7PM to 9PM in the Boardroom on the first floor.

Chicago Public School's (CPS) SMART Program – Participation in the CPS's SMART Program is by appointment. Please contact Sherry Heard @ 773-535-8067 or email sbheard@cps.k12.il.us for more information.



## *A Letter to Mom by Essie Jones*

Dear Mother,

All the love in my heart could not make you well but I am thankful for many things:

1. I had you as my mother, for more than half a century.
2. You taught me the value of honesty (never lying for us as teenagers, no matter the circumstances).
3. You showed me that good nutrition is more important than manicures, pedicures, or designer clothes.
4. Last but not least, you showed me the power of prayer.

I secretly called you the Bounce Back Lady because no matter how sick you were, a few days went by and you were on your feet again and out the door! It was hard watching your body weaken, failing to keep up with that lively spirit of yours. I prayed for God to leave you with me just one more day and discovered that you and I were praying two different prayers. I didn't have the courage to ask God to take you, so I just asked him to ease your pain. When my time comes, I only hope to be as brave.

I will end this letter with a prayer for you, Mother: "Enter into paradise, may the angels lead you".

Your daughter,  
Essie



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## Members in the News

Diane and Robert Richmond are back from their sailing experience. Welcome back!

### *September and October Birthdays:*

We will miss celebrating with Miriam. Her birthday is 9/10!

Phillip Semrau, 9/14  
Harold Johnson, 9/18  
Frank Rhodes, 9/20  
Daphne Chisholm, 9/26  
Rosa Lee Johnson, 10/15  
Monique Johnson, 10/28

## A Note from the Pastor

Well, it has been one month since my arrival, and I am still feeling a bit disoriented, even though I have found several good restaurants and an excellent coffee shop. I have had opportunity to walk around the neighborhood, and found my way in and out, up and down the church building.

Mostly I have enjoyed the opportunities to meet with individuals and committees, to get to know some of you and the work of the church better. I look forward to many more meetings and conversations as together we consider the way forward as a church. In this brief time with you I have discovered a dedicated and friendly bunch of people, a well loved and well worn building, and programs that reach out to the community and in to the heart of individuals. I am delighted and grateful for the search committee and session's call to journey with this congregation. I look forward to worshiping, studying, praying, talking, planning, working, reflecting, and being

with you as together we seek to be the people of God in this time and place. If you have time and would like to get together as individuals or groups to share stories and dreams, please contact me by calling the church office. I would happily make time for you.  
Peace. Debbie

*"While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them" Luke 24:15*

The Rev. Deborah Paton (pronounced Pay-ton) recently served as stated supply pastor of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in northwest Chicago. She is a graduate of Warren Wilson College and Princeton Theological Seminary. She describes herself as a person who is "passionate about the good news of the Gospel, open to the Spirit's leading, and dependent upon the grace of Jesus Christ." Deborah has gifts in the areas of preaching, teaching, small groups, pastoral care, creativity, working collaboratively and challenging others to reflect and grow in faith. She believes building relationships in a congregation, the larger community and even globally is key to her ministry and to building God's kingdom. We are excited to welcome the Rev. Deborah Paton back to Rogers Park and to this ministry that we share.

