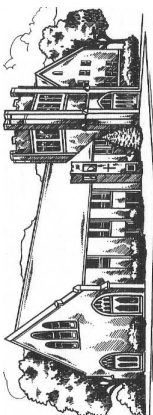


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**Third Presbyterian Church**

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# Third Pres Times

Volume 21, Issue 9

September 2021



**Sunday,  
September 12th  
Rally Sunday  
breakfast at 9 am  
in the park  
( page 4)**

**Sunday,  
September 19th  
Church Picnic  
at  
Lockwood Park  
after worship  
( page 5)**



Rev. Stephen Loch Bowie, Pastor  
Phone: (815) 962-7889  
[www.thirdpreschurch.com](http://www.thirdpreschurch.com)  
WTPB - LP 99.3 FM  
[thirdpreschurch@yahoo.com](mailto:thirdpreschurch@yahoo.com)

**Third Presbyterian Church of Rockford**

Calendar Page

Calendar Page

## Session, Deacons, and Trustees

### Session met at Fauerbachs:

The session met on Tues. August 10th at the home of Fred and Jeanne Fauerbach. Those present included Jeanne and Fred Fauerbach, Pam Reed (Clerk of Session), Elizabeth Duckett, Cathy Logsdon, Dan Chiodini, Brad Facer, Kay Carriglito (by Zoom), Elaine Jacoby, and Pastor Steve Bowie.

Prayed for a portion of the membership roster  
 Noted that investments have performed exceptionally well.  
 Were encouraged by learning that 120 members have actively participated in worship over the past months  
 Heard a summary of each committee's current work;  
 Affirmed planning to make online giving possible

### Deacons met at Bergquists:

The Board of Deacons met on August 17th at the home of Larry and Dawn Bergquist. Final plans will be made for the All Church Picnic on September 19th at Lockwood Park.

There was also an opportunity for Deacons to check in about their flocks and to share prayer and other concerns.

### Trustees:

The trustees met on Tuesday, August 17th and discussed plans for completing various maintenance and upkeep measures for the church building and the rental houses. They scheduled a Fall Clean-up Day and encourage everyone to participate after worship on Sunday, September 29th. Look for a sign-up sheet or talk with a Trustee to participate.

## Worship and Celebration

### Sept. 5th - Laboring Sunday

9:45 am Coffee and Donuts

10:15 am Worship with Holy Communion  
 "The Gifts of Labor and Leisure"

11:45 am Lunch Bunch at Beef-a-Roo



**LABOR DAY**



### Sept. 12th - Rally Day

9:00 am Rally Day Breakfast

10:15 am Worship

11:15 am Fellowship Half Hour

### Sept. 19th - All Church Picnic

9:00 am Convocation & Sunday School

10:15 am Worship

11:45 am Church Picnic

Lockwood Park—5201 Safford Rd



### Sept. 26th - Welcome Sunday

9:00 am Convocation & Sunday School

9:45 am Coffee and Donuts

10:15 am Worship

11:30 am Discipleship 101:  
 "Waking Up White"

**1 in 4 physicians and  
 1 in 6 nurses are  
 immigrants.**



Sunday, September 12



**9:00 AM**

**Brown Bag Breakfast  
In Brown Park  
(weather permitting)**

Including:

**Energizers  
Singing & Games  
Memory Verse  
Meet your teachers**

Followed by

**Rally Sunday Worship at 10:15 am  
AND**

Fellowship Hour with coffee and donuts  
after worship!

Women's Group's Meetings



The next meeting of the Women's Association will be Wednesday, September 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:30pm. Questions? Call Marion Lingel at 815-885-2757.

**Dorcas Circle** Will meet Thursday morning, September 9, at 9:30 at church. Call **Alyce Lutzow** at 815-962-1194 for more information.

**Lucia Circle** will meet Tuesday afternoon, September 28 at 1:00 pm at the church. Questions? Call **Laura Chiodini** at 815-654-8780.



### Piece Corps Quilting Group

The Piece Corp Quilters have been busy all summer! Quilts have been distributed to Stronghold, Hospice, the NICU at Mercy Health, the medical wing of Wesley Willows and more!

**The quilters meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays  
each month at 9:30 am.**

**Why not join them on September 8 and 22?**

Bring a sack lunch and eat together at 11:30 a.m. You don't need special skills to cut out squares of fabric and tie knots. You may sew, too. Bring a sack lunch and join us for lunch anytime....we love to have company!





## Did You Know....

### 'Big Blue' Gets a New Floor

On Friday, July 30, a youth work crew from Christ United Methodist Church participated in a local mission week in Rockford. One of the projects they undertook was installing a new floor in the Third Presbyterian Church Bus. And at no cost to us! How wonderful that this project makes Big Blue sturdier for all who use it!



### Women's Stronghold Retreat Wed., October 6

#### "Don't Let Franny Sing at My Funeral!"

Enjoy the fall air, fellowship with one another and find rest and inspiration with Pam Roberts.

Meet at the church at 9 am.  
We will car pool to Stronghold.  
Come. Invite a friend.

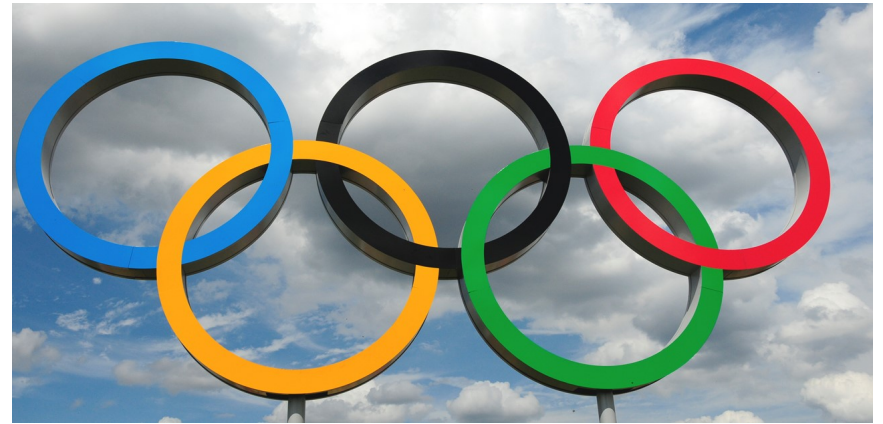
Sign-up in the  
Church Fellowship Room.

### Fall Church Clean-Up Day Sunday September 26 after worship

The Trustees will provide a light lunch for volunteers. Afterwards, everyone will work together to complete some projects and get the building and grounds spruced up for the upcoming Fall and Winter season.

**Are you able to help?**  
Watch for a sign-up board.

## All Church Picnic, September 19



The Olympics at Lockwood Park  
5201 Safford Road  
All Church Picnic  
11:45-2:00 pm Sun. Sept. 19

- ♦ Main Dish provided
- ♦ Water, Coffee and Tea provided
- ♦ Bring tableware and a dish to pass
- ♦ **Invite a neighbor or friend!**
- ♦ Connect with YOUR Deacon!

Balloon toss Relay races Hula hoop marathon Bingo Tug of war Bags Tournament Husband/Wife calling contest Softball throw Croquet Field games Singing Frisbee Toss Games and contest for all ages

**Sponsored by the Board of Deacons**

## Growing Your Faith—Sundays

### Sunday Morning & Mission Gathering

*Adults gathering for community and  
to make a difference for Christ*

*Looking for an opportunity for fellowship and engagement  
while your children or teens are in Sunday School?*

M&M, which happens in Fellowship Hall at 9 am on Sunday mornings, may be just the right place for you.

Besides talking and praying with one another, you'll be invited to help with a hands-on mission projects while enjoying coffee, donuts, great fun and fellowship. We are working together to make 815 even better! Contact Liz Duckett with any questions or if you have a project idea.

### Sunday Morning Classes for All Ages

|          |                                       |
|----------|---------------------------------------|
| Pre-K    | Miss Julie, Miss Laura, and Miss Lori |
| 1st-5th  | Rotating staff                        |
| 6th-8th  | Heidi Milner, Pastor Steve            |
| 9th-12th | Jeannette Stromquist-Sheehan          |
|          | Dan Chiodini                          |
| Adults   | M & M— See above!                     |

Forums of Faith—Following Worship

Oct. 10th — “Waking Up White”

Oct. 24th — “Waking Up White” II

## Your Tithe Empowers Third Pres. to do Kingdom Work across the region

### Stewardship Season 2021 October 10th through November 21st

Prepare yourself now for coming updates from each of the initiatives that benefit because Third Presbyterian Church is committed to making a difference in our world in the name of Jesus Christ.

For 111 years this congregation has persisted in shining the light of Christ in Rockford and its surrounding communities. Its ability to do so is directly tied to the commitment of people like you. Your tithe turns on the lights, pays the bills, and empowers Pastor Steve to lead in the way that Jesus would have us go.

Look in the mail in the coming days for an invitation to consider what you believe that you are able to contribute in the coming year. For each and every act of faithful giving—thank you.

Don Hartshorn, Chairperson  
Stewardship and Finance



## 99.3 FM Enters the Fall Season

Each month and each season of the year brings about something new for WTPB-LP 99.3 FM, our radio station.

August this year was the time for the testing of the national emergency alert system for broadcasters across the country. Preparation includes updating emergency network software for our equipment. I fill out technical forms on the internet for the FCC. On the day of the national test, I must complete an online technical report on our station's participation and how our equipment responded. There is a longer final report that must be completed by the end of the next day. It is all a worthwhile effort, and we can always feel good that our station has always had the practice of airing alerts, weather warnings, and so forth, IMMEDIATELY upon receipt of the alerts and warnings.

September brings featured programs like Labor Day specials, as well as the airing of a program marking the 20th Anniversary of September 11, 2001, produced by the (Mormon) Tabernacle Choir (9 AM on Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday, and other special times).

Don Ferguson has three special programs he has put together for those of us who love musicals and musical performers. Currently you can hear Don's programs (Music from Broadway and Hollywood) (Mon and Fri 10 AM, Wed and Sun 4 PM) with these three themes: The Ertha Kitt Radio Show, Gypsy, and a third original story by Don: "South on 51" about going off to college in the fall on old Highway 51!

Good listening to you all ... listen on the internet via our website [wtpblp.com](http://wtpblp.com) and listen on your radio on 99.3 FM. LIKE ANY OTHER RADIO STATION, sometimes moving your radio a little this way or that way, or to another location in your home, can significantly improve the sound that you hear.



Very best wishes, and as I like to say,

"Thanks for Listening"

Murray Hanson, Station Manager

## And through the week



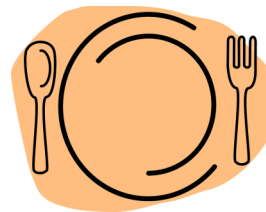
**Begins Thursday, September 16th  
10:00 am Blue Tile Room**

This year Laura Chiodini and Debbie Schulz will coordinate a round-table study of God's Word on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month. Each week a member of the group will prepare and lead a lesson meant to increase your knowledge of Scripture and demonstrate how to put your faith in Jesus Christ to work.

All are welcome!

## Take a Walk on the Wild Side!

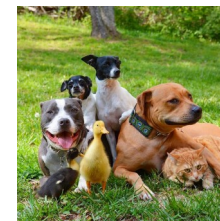
**Vespers  
Supper and Study**



**Wednesdays 5:30-7 pm**

Bring a simple dish to pass and your Bible to reflect on what lies ahead for Sunday.

**Blessing of the Animals  
Sunday Oct. 10 4pm  
Brown Park**



Bring your animal companion to receive a blessing in the tradition of St. Francis.

## Celebrations



### Birthdays

|      |                        |      |                   |
|------|------------------------|------|-------------------|
| 9/1  | Kirsten Birch          | 9/17 | Eleanor Hanson    |
|      | Arianna Edwards        | 9/20 | Vernon Taylor III |
| 9/3  | Jayden Dieter          | 9/21 | Steve Birch       |
| 9/4  | Jeanne Fauerbach       |      | Mary Hanson       |
|      | Dave Minnick           | 9/23 | Elaine Zimmerman  |
| 9/6  | Jalen Craglione        | 9/24 | Ann Marie         |
| 9/7  | Becky Martin           |      | Deverneuil        |
| 9/14 | Alyssa Archer          | 9/25 | Shirley Johnson   |
| 9/15 | Karen Gray             |      | Mike Adams        |
| 9/16 | Isaac Gray             |      | Jody Minnier      |
|      | Bradley Baker          |      | Elyjah Baker      |
| 9/17 | Laurie Frey-Baquendano | 9/28 | Calvin Smith      |

### Married 40+ Years

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 9/1  | Jerry and Cindy Genrich                 |
| 9/4  | Wes and Ginny Carlson                   |
| 9/5  | Dale and Connie Hollenbeck              |
| 9/9  | Robert and Linda Zinnecker              |
| 9/12 | Dick and Dixie Lindsey <b>67 years!</b> |
| 9/10 | Robert and Heather Genrich              |
| 9/24 | Earl & Alyce Lutzow <b>66 years!</b>    |



## Communication Updates

**Ginny & Wes Carlson** (moved to ground floor of condo)  
5548 Springbrook Road #G-1, Rockford, IL 61114

**Charlie & Mary Raum**, 3113 Applewood Lane,  
Rockford, IL 61114

**Brandon Chiodini**, 6516 N. University St. # 703  
Peoria, IL 61614

**Dick & Jeanette Detrick**, new phone # (815)708-7908

## Outreach

**Join the Third Pres CROP Walk team!**  
**CROP Walk (4K)**  
**Sunday, October 17**



### 2021 IS A HYBRID WALK—

This year the Rockford Area CROP Hunger Walk will be a hybrid event. This means we will gather again at 1 p.m. in the Riverfront Museum Park on the third Sunday in October **IF** Covid conditions allow. You can always **Walk on the Web**, and fundraise on your favorite social media platform. It's easy and we can show you how.

Join the Third Pres. CROP Team and walk in person or on-line and demonstrate that Third is a church that is a part of the **Community Responding to Overcome Poverty!**

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/event/rockfordil> or contact **Pastor Steve**

### Ghana Update Cont.

and have talked with a minister sent from the Presbytery. This minister may be moving into the Mission House when the second room is complete. The journey of Agave Church will then be of a district church, spurring on evangelism outreach to other villages and ensuring the growth of the Agave Village.

Our goals this year for the Ghana Mission Team will be to have several fund raisers to help complete the Mission House, to continue to support the School, and to provide financial and spiritual assistance to the growing youth group of Agave Presbyterian Church.

Thank you for your assistance over the years and praise God for the opportunity to reach out to those in a foreign land, thereby showing the reach of our Saviors love.

— Gene



## Mission and

### Soup Kitchen News

This year Third Presbyterian Church sponsored and served lunch at the Emmanuel Episcopal Church Jubilee Center on February 6th and July 3rd.

We have been serving sack lunches since April 2020. This has enabled guests to get their meal with minimal social contact. In July we fed approximately 40 guests with the 70 bagged lunches we had prepared. Many ask for two lunches.

The Soup Kitchen Committee has now opened the center for inside dining. Our next lunch will be on Saturday, December 11th from 10:30am to 1:30pm. We will be looking for volunteers to help and to donate food items. We usually serve 100-150 guests when we have inside dining.

Thank you for your continued support of this service project. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered and donated items for the soup kitchen. We have a lot of fun serving and our guests are very thankful.  
—Sue Peck and Jeanne Fauerbach

### Ghana Update:



John Awutor, Catechist for Agave Presbyterian called me to thank his family at Third Presbyterian for all their help over the last years. Speaking broken English, and Ewe, John mentions that they have been blessed by us in so many ways: Providing assistance in building the church, supporting their school, church youth groups and other areas, we have experienced God's Love. Discussion with David Kportufe established that they have completed the main room in the Mission House, where the new district minister will live



## Congregation News

### Thank You!

Earl and I want to thank everyone for their concern and cards after the passing of my brother in Arizona. Our church family is always there when needed. —Earl and Alyce Lutzow



Dear Friends,  
Words cannot express how much all your cards meant to me—especially the little added notes! I feel very blessed to have such a church family. Much love to you all,  
—Edie Blank

### Golf Play Day— Sunday, October 3, 1:30 PM Red Barn Golf Course in Rockton

**For Golfers of all ages and skill levels!  
Invite a Friend!**

\$20 fee covers 9 holes of golf and a deli meal in the clubhouse! \$2 of each entry will be donated to support One Body Collaboratives as they provide services to people in our community.



For more details and to sign up, see the poster in the church Fellowship Room. Turn in your payment (cash or check payable to Don Hartshorn and clearly marked with your name) by Wednesday, September 29.

Questions? Contact Don Hartshorn at (815)-978-1291.

## ***“On the way back to normal...”***

***...by Pastor Steve***

Over the past weeks most of us have found it invigorating – even exhilarating – to resume dining out, gathering for worship, and attending events from which we have shied away for months. Now, the appearance of the Delta variant has taken the shine off of much of that feeling. This is especially true for those areas of the country where the experience of COVID-19 has taken what might even be a harsher turn:

- \* **Hospitals and clinics are not only stressed but vastly under-staffed**
- \* **Young people who haven’t yet had the option to be vaccinated risk becoming ill**
- \* **Misinformation continues to contribute to people being hesitant about getting the shots**

**What will it finally take to “get back to normal?”**

**What if there is no “normal?” What if we affirm that what transpires every day – even a day that might be classified as “routine” – is a never-to-be-repeated miracle? A one-in-a-million “snowflake” spun from the grace of God, the breath that fills our lungs, and the blood that courses through our veins? An adventure?**

**For much of the world (including many in our country) every day is indeed an adventure of a much riskier kind: finding food and shelter, seeking safety for their family. Folks seeking refuge are often glad simply to have a place to be able to lay their head and rest with a sense of security.**

**This fall will mark the anniversary of our congregation having committed to being an asset to the community around us, striving as we can to confront systemic racism, and adding our efforts to the fight to end chronic poverty. Each of these goals finds its rational in the injunction in Scripture to show compassion for “the least of these my brothers and sisters.” (Matthew 25:40).**

**That verse is the “punch-line” for a parable about Judgment – the notion that we are accountable on every “normal” as well as “abnormal” day to our Creator for what we make of our lives and how we connect with the saving grace found in Jesus Christ.**

**As individuals and as a collective we will continue to adjust to what is being asked of us. We will continue to “reform” our practice and our understanding to what is being revealed in our willingness or unwillingness to act together to end the pandemic.**

**School, in a cosmic sense, is back in session. And we have much to learn.**

**In the name of Jesus,**

**Pastor Steve**

