

Third Presbyterian Church

1221 Custer Avenue
Rockford, IL 61103
Return Service Requested

Third Pres. Times

Volume 22 | Issue 5

May 2022



*“Blessed is she who
believed
that the Lord would
fulfill His
promises to her.”*

Luke 1:45



Rev. Stephen L. Bowie, Pastor
815-962-7889

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WTPB - LP 99.3 FM
thirdpreschurch.com

May 15th 9:00 Breakfast for All !!

May 1 - May Day Worship
"Head Over Heels for Jesus"

Acts 9:1-20, Revelation 5:11-14
 The Lord's Supper Celebrated

May 8 - Honoring Mothers and Others
"Trials and Tribulation"

Acts 9:36-43, Revelation 7:9-17
 Gifts for Mothers and Others

May 15 - Sunday School Promotion
 9:00 am Promotion and Full Breakfast
"Tears in Heaven?"

Acts 11:1-18, Revelation 21:1-6
 Gifts for Teaching Staff

May 22 - Recognizing Volunteers
 and Habitat for Humanity Engagement
"Rivers of Living Water"

Acts. 16:9-15, Revelation 21:1-10, 22:1-5

May 29— Memorial Day Remembrance
"Keep Your Eyes On The Prize"

Acts 16:16-34, Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21



May 1 Isabelle Gray
 May 4 Mary Edwards, John Watton
 May 5 Kenny Michaelis
 May 6 Abby Rose Ponder, Royal Wurm
 May 7 Donna Peterson
 May 8 Lillian Hanson, Tim Marsh, Vernon Taylor IV,
 Noah Layng
 May 10 A'lisa Barbour, Jacqueline Vandercreek
 May 11 Evan Archer, Alyce Lutzow, Earl Lutzow
 May 13 Brandon Chiodini
 May 15 Alexander Bertolasi, Mary Smith
 May 17 Matt Vosberg
 May 18 Joyce Pearse
 May 19 Kelly Smith, Erik LaPier
 May 20 Brian Hollenbeck, Hudson Insko
 May 21 Mackenzie Wurm
 May 23 David Kportufe, Shannon Cassaro
 May 24 Brad Facer
 May 25 Ivy Bowen, Mary Hartshorn, Brandon Haven,
 Mark Jacobs
 May 26 William Gross, Murray Hanson, Lewis Haven
 May 27 Loretta Keating
 May 28 James "JD" Schwager, Jr.
 May 29 Lucas Peck
 May 31 Cindy Watton, Christine Cavin, Kylene Gray



Happy Anniversary 40+ years

Brad and Laurie Claussen—May 22

This and That



May is the Pantry's Peanut Butter Drive. Pantry use grows during the summer when children do not receive school lunches. A jar or two of PB is included in every food bag in the months of June, July and August. Bring jars of peanut butter and jelly. A big **THANK-YOU** goes out to Third Pres Church for 115 pounds of food donated to The Food Pantry.

Attention Graduates

Graduating? Whether it's from high school, college or graduate school, we ask you to notify the Education Committee to be acknowledged on Promotion Sunday, May 15! We also want to feature you in the June Newsletter. We're proud of you, so please contact Jeannette Sheehan 815-979-0045 or the church office at 815-962-7889. **Info needed by May 8!**



Third Pres. Community Garden

Get ready. Spring is here and we are almost ready to garden. We have six garden beds needing to be "adopted" by you.

Choose plants or seeds that you will enjoy caring for and harvesting. Choose a garden bed to care for. The garden will be tilled during outside clean-up and ready for planting. Call or text Cindy Miner at 815-543-2070 or the church office at 815-962-7889 if you would like to "claim" a bed for the season.



May 7 Framing Day 8-3:30 pm

On Saturday, May 7 Habitat Rockford will be framing all of their 2022 houses. It's the closest thing to a barn-raising you may ever be part of! Register with the office or visit rockfordhabitat.org to sign up.

Community Build Work Days June 18th and August 13th

Save these dates to take part in building on a Habitat House. No special skills are required and all tools are provided. Volunteers must be 16 years or older. Look for a roster in the Fellowship Room or call the church office to sign up.

Habitat Minute for Mission May 22nd During worship

HFH Impact in Rockford in 2021

- 17 families served through ownership or critical home repairs
- 11 children moved into homes that Habitat sold
- 3 Habitat mortgages were paid off
- \$175,000 in property taxes paid by Habitat homeowners
- 2 student scholarships were generated
- 218 volunteers served with Habitat
- \$556,676 worth of volunteer hours were logged
- 12 Faith Partners (including Third PC)
- 900+ lunches donated

Welcome New Members!



On Palm Sunday two young people confirmed their faith in Jesus Christ before the congregation.

Sydney Facer, who was baptized as a child, reaffirmed the faith that led her parents, Brad

and Jennifer Facer, to have her receive that sacrament as a child. Sydney will complete her time at West Middle School next month and begin 9th grade at Guilford High School next fall. She loves to play Sudoku and solitaire (with real cards) and watches "Bob's Burgers." Sydney has one sister, Nicole.

Noah Ekstrom, son of Rod and Heather Ekstrom, received the sacrament of baptism as he confirmed his faith. Noah attends Christian Life School, where he will be entering the 9th grade next fall. He enjoys playing flag football in the summer and loves to swim. He has a younger brother, Jasper. Noah has a lively sense of humor.



L to R) Julie Leber, Noah Ekstrom, Brad Facer, Pastor Bowie, Sydney Facer and Jody Minnier.

Play (Soft) Ball!



Recreational Softball
Wed. 6:30 pm -8:00 pm
June 22—August 3
St. Bernadette ball diamond

Sponsored by Third and other churches

Opening day: June 22nd-Ice Cream Sundaes
End of Season: Aug. 3-BBQ and potluck

A great way to have fun, meet people, and enjoy a summer evening. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Come to play or watch. Bring a folding chair. Supervised play area for younger children.

Notes from Session

Sat. April 2nd Called Meeting

Pastor Steve called a special meeting of the Session on the night of the confirmation dinner. Noah Ekstrom and Sydney Facer answered the questions of confirmation in the affirmative and were received into the membership of the church.

Tues. April 12 Stated (Regular) Meeting

- *Approved minutes from the March 8 and April 2 meetings
- *Received a positive Treasurer's report for the month
- *Ministry areas reported current activities
- *Acknowledged the resignation of Custodian Frank Lasker
- *Approved an Evangelism and Outreach initiative to take place between now and Pentecost 2023
- *Received a report of the meeting of Blackhawk Presbytery
 Julie Leber, Clerk of Session

Happy Happenings

By Kay Carriglitto

- ♦ In January, Linda Cooper welcomed a new grandson, Cade Joseph Landolo. He entered the world at 9 lbs 13 ozs and 22 ½ inches long. Congratulations to Linda and family! This really is **BIG** news!
- ♦ Chris and Miranda Lingelbach along with Jeanette Sheehan enjoyed Girl Scout Camp for a weekend. They were even lucky enough to go sledding due to a late season snowfall. Next up, they will be planting trees. What a **treemendous** idea!
- ♦ Nicole Facer received a scholarship to Rockford University from Rockford University Pathways, Rockford Promise. She graduates from Guilford next month. **Congratulations** Nicole, way to make us proud!
- ♦ Dan Chiodini, Don Hartshorn, and Eric Milner along with five others from their Wednesday night bowling league went to Las Vegas to bowl in the Nationals. They are competing against 49,000 other bowlers. Look for the results in the near future, when we will have details to spare!

Send your "Happy Happenings" to Kay at RLYBRD1@gmail.com or call at 815-962-4753.



Important VBS news 2022

We are joining together with Halsted Road Baptist Church for VBS this year.

7th-12th Grade Spark Studio
July 5-8th, 6-8:30 pm.

K-6th Grade Kids Spark Studios
July 11-15th, 11am-2 pm.

Where?

Halsted Road Baptist Church, 3326 Halsted Rd, Rockford, IL. 61101

Register online at:

www.HalstedRoadBaptist.org

Radio Station WTPB 99.3 FM and Online

Live Broadcasts of Third Pres Worship Resume May music highlights

Listeners can once again hear live broadcasts of Sunday morning worship at 10:15 am, with a replay on Wednesday morning at 10:15 am on WTPM-FM.

Thank you to our Radio Board Operators who are in the studio on Sunday morning to host these broadcasts. Of course, they take turns, and are not all there at once! Thank you to Andy Hanson, David Fagen, Don Hartshorn, Eric and Heidi Milner, and Don and Katie Ferguson.

And, a big thank you to Tom and Elaine Jacoby who recorded for broadcast the Sunday service during the pandemic!

Don Ferguson is also the host of Music from Hollywood and Broadway, which is heard on Mondays and Fridays from 10-11 am, and on Wednesday and Sundays from 4-5 pm. During May you will hear Don present the tunes from these musicals, and also share his narration of the story line of the musical. Listen for: Carousel; You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown; Anne, Get Your Gun; and Oliver. These play in rotation.

The month of May will include the music programs of David Fagen and Mike Williamson as always. Every Sunday and Wednesday at 2-4 pm we are proud to carry Dick Robinson's national music show, "American Standards by the Sea."

I also look forward to the programs the week leading to Mother's Day, Sunday May 8th. Listen for a Tabernacle Choir special with music and story at 9 am on May 3, 5, and 7, as well as airings on Mother's Day.

Thanks for listening!

Murray Hanson
Station Manager www.wtpblp.com

Take Note!

Wear Work Clothes to Church!

Sunday, May 1 is

All Church Clean-Up!

We need help with:

Dusting

Cleaning tables,

Pruning shrubs,

Picking up garbage,

Prepping the gardens and more!

Stay for an hour or two.

A light lunch will be served.



Camping Good Times are Coming!

But... camps fill up quickly!
And the **extra \$15 early
registration discount ends
on May 15.**

Did you turn in your registra-
tion yet? For more info con-
tact Julie Leber 815-298-9305
or go to:

www.strongholdcenter.org.

Do not be anxious about anything,

But in every situation, by prayer and petition,

With thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

*And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your
hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7 (NIV)*

Pastor Page

"Learning to Bear Witness"

By Pastor Steve

Imagine that you know a secret that would change the life of anyone who learns it, especially if he or she is suffering, in pain, or without hope. This secret, which was once shared with you, is the guiding force of your life. It will help you face anything, even your own death.

This secret is, of course, the message of the Gospel: that in Jesus Christ, God has given us an invitation to be saved from our limited human capacity. God has enabled us to gain what Jesus called *the abundant life*. Access to this life is available to anyone. It is summarized in a passage of scripture which I call TNT because of its power. When we affirm it, we are changed from the inside out and called to a new way of living, the way of discipleship to Christ.

If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous, by confessing with your lips you are saved.

Romans 10:9-10 (The Jerusalem Bible)

I am challenging each of us at Third Presbyterian Church to reflect upon a way that we can share this "secret" with the world around us. Over the course of the next 13 months I hope that every Board, committee, taskforce, and member of Third will reflect upon how to act on this initiative in an explicit, concrete way. This will include learning how to share our faith in Jesus Christ with others by overcoming the barriers that keep us from doing so: a) I don't know what to say b) I'm not good at it c) I don't want to be pushy.

Next month we celebrate the Day of Pentecost and the power of the Holy Spirit working within and through us. My hope is that we will look forward to Pentecost 2023 when we will have experienced the Spirit in a new way.

Pastor Steve

Church News



Wish List

Shampoo and conditioner
Cereal (in single serve containers)
Body lotion (8-20 oz.)
Tampons and pads— all sizes
Yo-Yo's
Bottled water

Change of address and phone numbers Of Members and Friends

Hannah Insko, 107 S. Elida St., Winnebago, IL.
61088.

Gerald and Judy Wubbena home phone number changed 779-475-0058.



Have You Thought considered supporting Third Church into the future? It can be done by naming it as a beneficiary to your life insurance, or in your will or trust. We have a legacy from the past that made today possible. Let's keep it going for the sake of the Kingdom!

Now at an earlier date!
Let's start summer earlier!



All-Church Picnic
Lockwood Park
June 26 Noon-3 pm
Invite a friend!

BBQ Pulled Pork and Chicken
Bring a salad or dessert to pass.
Bring your own tableware.

This year we will beat the heat and the bees by heading to the park some weeks earlier! We begin with prayer, enjoy eating in each other's company, and end with games (Bingo!) for all ages.

Sponsored by the Deacons
Diane Archer, Moderator

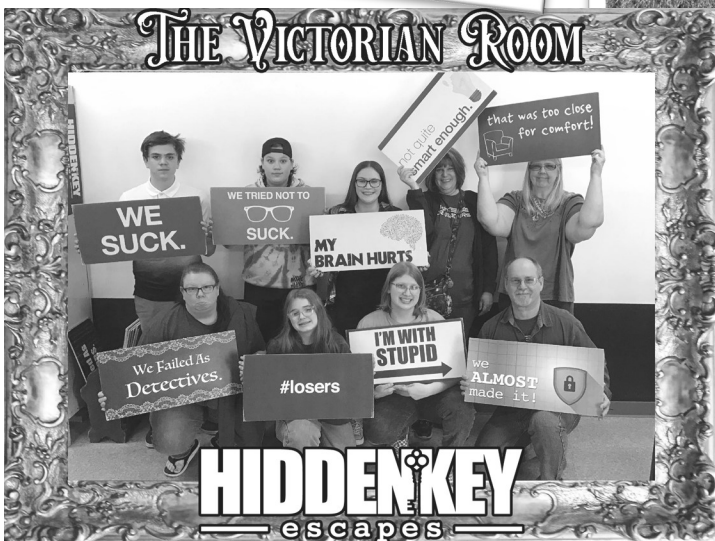
We are a **Matthew 25** Church.

We are actively engaged in
building congregational vitality,
in seeking to dismantle structural racism
and eradicate systemic poverty.

Church Life

Our Noahs like to eat!

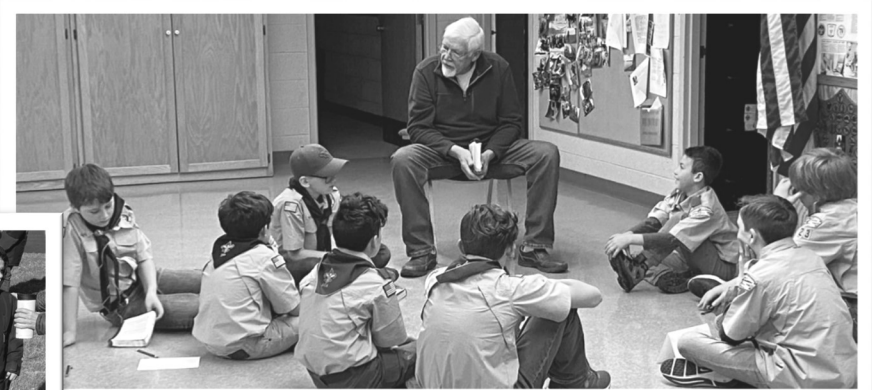
Palm Sunday Egg Hunt



The Youth DIDN'T make it out of the Escape Room.

In Pictures

Troop # 23 and Board Chairman and Mentor, Chuck Jansen



Piece Corp celebrates Nancy Justman's birthday with a cake baked by Glenda Hammer

Jeannette Sheehan at recent youth 'axe-throwing' outing

