

# December 2017

## DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE

**Rev. Michael Hafele**  
Pastor

**Elizabeth Britton**  
Office Manager

**Judy Bartine**  
Acting Music Director

**Diana Amtower**  
Organist

**Chuck Torgler**  
Sexton

**Cecilia Quist**  
Nursery

**Jeff Janowich**  
Audio

**Karen Ward**  
Sound Tech

**Doug Kasimier**  
Treasurer

### *December Worship Calendar*

#### **December 3**

##### **COMMUNION SUNDAY**

8:45 AM Contemporary Service

10:00 AM Sunday School

11:15 AM Traditional Worship

#### **December 10**

8:45 AM Contemporary Service

10:00 AM Sunday School

11:15 AM Traditional Worship

#### **December 17**

8:45 AM Contemporary Service

10:00 AM Sunday School

11:15 AM Traditional Worship

#### **December 24**

No Morning Worship

4:00 PM Family Friendly Service

7:00 PM Candlelight Worship

#### **December 31**

10:00 AM Service

# Advent

*Hope · Love · Joy · Peace*



## December Birthdays

William Bond	12/2
Chris Herrnkind	12/2
Amy Gregory	12/3
David Bartine	12/6
Dale Tumelson	12/6
Judy McCrery	12/8
Cathy Pfeiffer	12/8
Chris Hardcastle	12/10
Joyce Ringerwole	12/10
Daniel Gregory	12/13
Robert Yost	12/17
Daniel Coon	12/19
Shelli Buckley	12/21
Barbara Grewe	12/21
Tom Dathe	12/24
Ron Seeger	12/26
Rich Bernard	12/27
Becca Bower	12/29
George English	12/30



### CHRISTMAS COOKIE SUNDAY

When you get out your favorite Christmas cookie recipes, don't forget to make some extra for Christmas Cookie Sunday, December 17th. Not only will you get to enjoy a variety of everybody's favorite cookie during Fellowship time after each service, but our church family who can no longer make it to services will get to enjoy them in the Christmas baskets that our Care and Support Team members deliver. Please bring your cookies to Fellowship Hall before the services on December 17th and get ready to enjoy some good food after worshipping!

## RIVERSIDE INDONESIA SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

The Riverside Sunday School that our church supports in Indonesia is seeing results! As you know, Indonesia is a Muslim country, so it is good to see that children are being reached for the Lord. Be encourage by this December 2017 update:

The attendance number is very good even though the school has so many programs because they are celebrating Indonesia's Independent Day. One of our kids parents came to us and told us how much she appreciates our Sunday School. She told us that she is hoping that we can teach in this village for a very long time. Some of the kids have been growing so much these past couple years. They were struggling to memorize verses, but now they are able to and they actually love it. We are so grateful to see how God works in their lives and their parents lives. Please continue to pray for this Sunday School. May the Lord help the children to witness and to grow in Him.



## December News from the Riverside Presbyterian Women

All ladies of Riverside please save the date of Saturday, December 2nd at 2:00 PM to join in our annual Christmas Tea in Fellowship Hall. Let's all come and enjoy this festive time of the year with each other. This year's theme is "The Lord's Light Within." Our musical program will be presented by Cheryl Kaye. The Salvation Army Christmas Stockings will be collected at the tea. Please come and join in the holiday fellowship. The PW members will meet at 1 PM on Friday, December 1st for the Christmas Tea setup.

The Riverside Presbyterian Women invite all ladies to join in the Deborah Circle, the Hannah Ruth Circle or the Rebekah Circle. The Deborah Circle and Women's Bible study meet on Wednesday evenings at 7 PM. Hannah Ruth Circle meets the third Tuesday of the month at 1 PM and Rebekah Circle meets the third Thursday of the month at 9:30 AM. All circles meet in our Knox Parlor. This year's Bible study is entitled "Cloud of Witnesses, The Community of Christ in Hebrews."



## December in the Kid's Corner One Room School House

Children are invited to the Pfeiffer room to participate in Old Testament stories and prepare for the advent season. Class time will begin with hands on activities at 10 AM between the two services. Children who are participating in the children's choir may join in the Bible lesson at the conclusion of choir practice. This is a multiage class for children in grades kindergarten through third grades. Miss Vickie Geiler and her group of volunteers will be awaiting their arrival.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!



## Christmas JOY Offering

Spread some JOY to others by participating in the Christmas JOY offering—an offering that supports past, present and future leaders of our church. It is split between two different ministries of PCUSA: 1) It helps with funding for Presbyterian racial-ethnic schools and colleges that provide life-changing experiences for teens from other countries as well as those from the U.S. and 2) It helps the Presbyterian Board of Pensions provide assistance to current and retired church servants and their families who find themselves in tough financial circumstances. Check out the stories of how this offering has helped people on the PCUSA website:

<http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/christmasjoy>

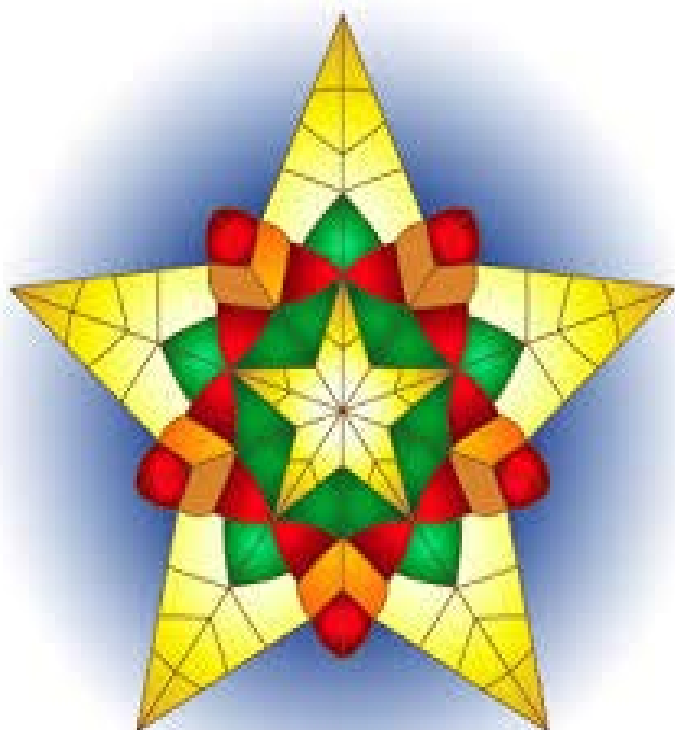
Most of all we need to remember the reason for the season—Jesus! Then we should look to help Others and last of all, seek for Yourself.

### ***THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM***

*“New Star” will be presented on  
Sunday, December 10th,  
during both worship services.  
Please join us for this wonderful story of  
Jesus’ birth from the perspective of  
Old Star and New Star.*

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*A heartfelt thank you to all who sent cards and  
flowers for my recovery!  
Your support means so much!  
~In Christ, Grace Rudy*





## RPC Music -Join US CHOIR ROCKS!

This is a wonderful time to join the Chancel Choir to sing the beautiful songs of the season. Join in the opportunity to share your faith and minister to our congregation through music. Experience the joy of praising God through music. All are welcome with open arms!

**Chancel Choir:** Meets 7 pm on Thursdays in Calvin Hall.

**RPC Youth/Children's Choir:** Our youth/children's choir rehearses on Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM in the Sanctuary. Come join the musical fun with Diana Amtower! Any questions? Call Diana @ (410) 353-5983.

**RPC Bell Choir:** We meet weekly on Tuesdays, at 6:30PM in Calvin Hall. It's not scary, you only need to know how to count, mostly to 4. Hope to see you Tuesday.



# BLOOD DRIVE

**Sunday, December 31st  
8:30 AM to 1:00 PM**

All donors will receive a wellness checkup including blood pressure, temperature, iron count, pulse and cholesterol screening.

*Please consider donating to help people in need.*



Free Ticket Is Required  
Visit the Box Office or call 321-525-7825 for tickets

Sunday, December 3, 2017, 3:30 PM  
An Old Fashioned Christmas  
Indialantic Chamber Singers & Brevard Youth Chorus  
SOLD OUT!

Sunday, January 14, 2018  
Double Performance 3:00 PM & 7:00 PM  
Big Band Greatest Hits  
Swingtime Band

Thanks for Riverside's support of Operation Christmas Child!  
Through the generosity of Riverside members, young girls and boys around the world will receive a gift for Christmas. They will smile and their hearts will be open to hearing of the saving grace of God through Our Lord, Jesus Christ. We appreciate all you have done and wish to thank all who have donated boxes and made financial donations to support this endeavor. Thank you to all those who helped pack and load the boxes. Again, thanks to Riverside, for your continued support of Operation Christmas Child's Shoebox Ministry.



#### POINSETTIAS FOR THE SANCTUARY

Please help the Deacons decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas Eve services by ordering poinsettia plants. The deadline is Thursday, December 14th. Order forms are available December 3rd & 10th. Please fill out your order form, put check or cash inside the envelope and drop the envelope into the offering plate or bring by the church office.



**ANGEL TREE**

*Once again we have the privilege of being “angels” for the children at Cape View Elementary School. The needs are many for a number of the children at the school and we can help by providing a pair of shoes or a lightweight jacket. Simply take a tag off the tree in Fellowship Hall and purchase the item requested. Bring it back (unwrapped) and place it in the bin near the tree in Fellowship Hall by December 17 or before and help a child this Christmas!*



## THANK YOU FAMILY PROMISE VOLUNTEERS

Your volunteering, generosity and concerns are incredible. We have one last visit scheduled for 2017 - Dec 17th. Please stay involved. Watch the board in Fellowship Hall to determine where you are needed or call a captain. Our first 2018 visitation - Jan 14.

At Riverside, Family Promise of Brevard falls under the auspices of Outreach, Missions and Evangelism Commission (OMEC), a broad umbrella for many ways that Riverside reaches out to our community and the world. With the help of St. Davids Episcopal, Merritt Island Pres and Pineda Pres we are blessed with many (but still not enough) volunteers having many skills, talents as well as those financially involved. God bless you all and thank you!

In four years this non profit program has not proved to be a hardship for Riverside, but has provided challenges. Family Promise started these efforts with Riverside as one of the original thirteen churches and that number has progressed now to some 25 affiliates. The latter allows Riverside to host three times in 2018 instead of four. FPB will continue to augment its growth goal by dividing the county north, south, and west with additional churches in each sector. This will happen!

Riverside and the above assisting churches are part of the solution by providing emergency shelter and meals so that families can focus on achieving sufficiency without worrying about these stresses. Eighty-six percent of families move back into stable housing by the end of 34 days.

Moreover, this past July FPB announced its selection as a pilot in a national partnership between FP and Help Us Move In (HUMI), a Washington state-based non profit working with communities to fund and create programs helping families facing housing crises. FPB is one of ten selected nationally from Florida to Oregon. Each will receive a \$20,000 Homeless No More Grant from HUMI over the next two years (\$10,000/yr) to launch a program aimed at diverting families from homelessness. FPB needs to qualify for fund distribution and have already used some of the money to help pay back rent and the like. Families are kept out of hotels, their cars and off the beach without entering the program. In addition, after graduation, the families are carefully monitored by our Rockledge case managers. Not one family swings in the wind and, in fact, 87% are remaining in housing after one year.

The rest of the story:

We have assisted 87 families

305 people composed of 174 children (82% under ages 12)

All of the above has been our progress over three years. FPB is indebted to our efforts and loyalty. What a blessing for these 87 families. Only your imagination and observation can summarize the joy you have provided these families. THANK YOU!

ONWARD CHRISTIAN VOLUNTEERS Praise the LORD!



# December 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>3</b> COMMUNION SUNDAY 8:45a Worship 10a Sunday School 11:15a Worship 3:30p Concert	<b>4</b> 7:00p NA Meeting	<b>5</b> 9:30a Senior Fit 9:30a Worship 6:30p Fellowship 6:30p Bell Choir 7:00p Education	<b>6</b> 7:30a Men's Bible 930a 'Stitchin' Sisters 10a Prayer Circle 7p Women's Bible	<b>7</b> 7:00p Choir	<b>8</b> 9:30a Senior Fit	<b>9</b> 8:45a Lab School 2:00p Mansfield Service
<b>10</b> 8:45a Worship 10a Sunday School 11:15a Worship 3p Blue Christmas Service	<b>11</b> 7:00p NA Meeting	<b>12</b> 9:30a Senior Fit 6:30p Bell Choir 7:00p Deacons	<b>13</b> 7:30a Men's Bible 10a Prayer Circle 7p Women's Bible	<b>14</b> 7:00p Choir	<b>15</b> 9:30a Senior Fit	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 8:45a Worship 10a Sunday School 11:15a Worship Family Promise Week @ RPC	<b>18</b> 7:00p NA Meeting	<b>19</b> 9:30a Senior Fit 6:30 Bell Choir 7:00p Session	<b>20</b> 7:30a Men's Bible Study 930a 'Stitchin' Sisters 10a Prayer Circle	<b>21</b> 7:00p Choir	<b>22</b> 9:30a Senior Fit	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 4p Family 7p Candlelight <b>31</b> New Year's Eve 10a Worship	<b>25</b> Christmas Day Office Closed	<b>26</b> 9:30a Senior Fit 6:30 Bell Choir 7:00p OMEC	<b>27</b> 7:00a Men's Bible Study 9:30a 'Stitchin' Sisters 10a Prayer Circle 7p Women's Bible	<b>28</b> 7:00p Choir	<b>29</b> 9:30a Senior Fit 4:00p Wedding Rehearsal	<b>30</b> 9:30a Senior Fit 5:00p Wedding
					<b>1</b> 9:30a Senior Fit	<b>2</b> 2:00p PW Christmas Tea