

The Broadcaster

ROSE CITY PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2014



OUR NEW ORGANIST, MARTIN ELLIS



Please join the Personnel Committee and the staff in welcoming Martin Ellis, our new Organist.

Martin is no stranger to Portland after serving as organist at St. James Lutheran Church for two years in the late 1990s and maintaining connections with local musical collaborators through his membership in the organ performance group—Trio Con Brio. Most of Martin’s musical life has been centered in Indiana where he started organ studies in the 6th grade, and at age 15 began studying with hymn festival designer/teacher John Ferguson at Manchester University in North Manchester, Indiana. At DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana, Ellis majored in keyboard performance and composition and was also active in the vocal music department.

Since his university days Martin has held several church organist positions, serving at North United Methodist Church in Indianapolis and Northminster Presbyterian Church of Indianapolis, among others. He has also served as accompanist for both the Indianapolis Children’s Choir and Youth Chorale and the Butler University School of Music.

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PASTOR’S MESSAGE

It is no surprise that there have been significant shifts in the church during the last 50 years. It used to be that membership, attendance and financial support defined a good church member—at least that was true of Presbyterians. In our current post-institutional and even post-Christian culture, what used to be doesn’t make sense anymore.

Instead of our old “institutional” measures, now we are more involved with questions of spiritual formation, mission participation, prayer practices and experiencing God’s presence. Those are now part of the discussion about what it means to be Christian. There are places where even using the term “Christian” is being questioned. Some prefer to refer to themselves using the more descriptive term, “*Jesus followers.*”

Rose City Park Presbyterian has existed in a time when church membership was largely expected and defined by institutional measures. Many of our current practices and expectations fit nicely into that era, but fit less well into our current culture. We still measure our success and health primarily by institutional measures such as worship attendance, membership figures and monetary contributions. We don’t concern ourselves as much about whether people are in prayer groups, Taizé services, or Bible studies, or whether they encounter God’s presence in worship. It is a “mixed blessing” that churches are, by necessity, institutions; there is no way to escape it.

We have begun another program year, and yes, we are face-to-face with that most institutional of creatures—the annual stewardship campaign. Church congregations need reliable funds to pay for programs, salaries, mission activities, building upkeep and so much more. But as people have come to understand being “Christian” less in terms of institutional membership and monetary commitment, churches encounter increased budgetary strain.

(Continued on page 2)

ROSE CITY FAMILY NEWS

BAPTISMS

Roselyn Lee Field was baptized on October 5th. Parents are Tori and Greg Field, grandparents are Ray and Kris Amling.

THANK YOU

Community of Rose City Park Presbyterian,
We wanted to send you a special thank you for your special gifts to Sisters this year. The heart of our work reflects your hearts of generosity. Please come down and visit any time.

—Charla for Sisters of the Road Café

WITH SYMPATHY

Peggy Higgenbotham died on August 28th. No services were held.

HYDE ASSUMES YOUTH ACTIVITIES ROLE

Chris Hyde needs no introduction, having been our Program Coordinator since the beginning of the year. However, it is good to remember how blessed we are to have Chris with us. He hit the ground running in January and has not let up. Whether kicking off the stewardship season with an innovative worship service organized around the four “Ts” (Trees, Time, Talent, and Treasure) or starting a Contemplative Spirituality group that meets Tuesday mornings, Chris is always looking for ways to help us “joyfully live and worship together in faith, hope, and love according to God’s word.” He has graciously agreed to take on the duties of Youth Activities Coordinator in addition to his other work. Thank you, Chris!

PASTOR’S MESSAGE,

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This shift prompts us to connect our stewardship more directly to faith, a central part of Jesus’ call to love God with our entire being and love our neighbor as ourselves. This is a more theologically sound approach than stewardship campaigns that are simply fundraising by a different name. Such approaches can seem to treat church giving as a crude measurement of people’s faith rather than the joyful expression of it.

So, think about what it means to be Christian at this time in your life at Rose City Park Presbyterian. Wonder a bit, and ask yourself what leads to joyful, abundant generosity toward God and neighbor. Truly joyful, extravagant generosity is most often connected to feelings of love and compassion, to things that have touched people’s hearts. Joyful, extravagant generosity rarely emerges from rational calculation alone, but also from the inclination of one’s heart.

Our Session diligently works to ensure that our activities, missions and programs are well designed, well run and in keeping with Christ’s call. I encourage us to take the next step of making sure that all of our life together—programs, mission, worship, giving and more—emerge from hearts that have been touched by the warmth and wonder of God’s love in Jesus; we would be transformed by that encounter.

Blessings,

David

Rev. David C. Dornack

OUR NEW ORGANIST, CONTINUED FROM PAGE I

Martin has also had an extensive career as a concert organist and arranger of music. He was named the house organist of the Hilbert Circle Theatre in October of 2009. In 2012, his arrangement of *The Star Spangled Banner* was performed by Kelly Clarkson, the Indianapolis Children's Choir and percussion for Super Bowl XLVI at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis.

Martin and his partner Shane Donald moved to the Portland area in September along with their historical instrument collection and six exotic birds. The search committee took an instant liking to Martin and to his musicianship, and we know you will feel the same. He will be a valuable addition to our worship leadership.

—Woody Richen, Chair
RCPPC Personnel Committee

THE DEACONS' CORNER

During Advent, the Deacons will again be delivering holiday plants to individuals in our church family who are unable to attend worship. This is supported by donations made during Lent to the Deacons' flower fund.

The Deacons will give brief updates on the post-high school activities of our young adults in each of the next several issues, as described in the most recent issue of *The Broadcaster*. Get to know these young people in this first installment:

Regan Allen is completing a 5-year accelerated masters' program, into which she was accepted as a freshman, in architecture at the University of Kansas at Lawrence. She interned this past summer at a local firm involved in the renovation and remodeling of schools in the Portland area.

James Church completed his studies at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. in December 2013 with majors in finance and accounting and a minor in German. He completed an internship in South Africa in April, spent July training at Deutsche Bank in London and is currently working for the bank as an analyst in New York City.

Sophia Howe graduated from the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, WA with a major in psychology. She then worked in customer service at Capital One and is currently attending an accelerated nursing program at the Bellarmine University School of Nursing in Louisville, KY.

Zachary Howe received a degree in physical therapy from the University of Oregon. He is currently working in research at the Dunthorpe Marketing Group and is scheduled to join the Peace Corps in June.

Maeve McGranahan graduated this past June from Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO, with majors in philosophy and human development/family studies. After working in Jackson, WY this summer, she will spend four months this fall experiencing New Zealand.

Keep an eye out for more profiles in the next issues!

—David Bell for the Board of Deacons

THANKSGIVING OFFERING

As is our custom, the Thanksgiving Offering will once again support the Deacons' Fund. The Deacons use your gifts to support four local helping organizations that ease the burden for people in our community experiencing hardship. If you are a pledger, you will find a special envelope marked "Thanksgiving Offering" in your envelope box. If you do not use pledge envelopes but would like to contribute a seasonal gift, please use a Deacons' envelope from the pew racks and clearly mark it "Thanksgiving Offering."



RCPPC CURRENT EXPENSE MID-YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

With three quarters of the year in the books, here is a quick update of how the year has gone so far. In summary, things are in very good shape. Our income is nearly \$5,000 ahead of budget and our expenses are approximately \$14,000 less than budgeted. As a result, our operations fund is just over \$19,000 ahead of budget. This is truly good news and, provided things go as expected for the balance of the year, we should not need to draw on our reserve fund, as budgeted, to balance our operations fund. In other financial news, we continue with our improvements on the house next to the church, and have spent approximately \$67,000 of the \$95,000 total budgeted improvements. We appreciate your generosity that supports our mission.

—John Thoma, RCPPC Treasurer

November Calendar

Sat. 1st

8:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast

Sun. 2nd

All Saints Day

Daylight Savings Time begins

9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir

10 a.m. Worship

11 a.m. Dollars for Donuts

Tues. 4th

10 a.m. Contemplative
Spirituality

Wed. 5th

9 a.m. Personnel Committee

10 a.m. Martha Service

4:30 p.m. Wshp. & Arts Comm.

6 p.m. Free Yoga

Thurs. 6th

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Sun. 9th

9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir

10 a.m. Worship

Tues. 11th

Veteran's Day

9:45 a.m. Veteran's Day Parade
on Sandy Blvd.

10 a.m. Contemplative

Spirituality

7 p.m. Sarah Circle

Wed. 12th

1:30 p.m. ChristCare

4:30 p.m. Building &
Grounds Committee

6 p.m. Free Yoga

Thurs. 13th

6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Sat. 15th

9 a.m.-4 p.m. Antique &
Artisan Faire

Sun. 16th

Stewardship Sunday

10 a.m. Communion Worship

11 a.m. Antique & Artisan Faire

Tues. 18th

10 a.m. Contemplative
Spirituality

Wed. 19th

1 p.m. Reading in the Afternoon

6 p.m. Free Yoga

Thurs. 20th

6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Sun. 23rd

*Christ the King/Thanksgiving
Worship*

9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir

10 a.m. Worship

Tues. 25th

10 a.m. Contemplative
Spirituality

Thurs. 27th

Thanksgiving Day

Building Closed

Fri. 28th

Building Closed

Sun. 30th

First Sunday in Advent

10 a.m. Taizé Communion
Worship

2014 ANNUAL REPORT DEADLINE

With November upon us, it is time for boards, committees and groups to submit their annual reports for the year. The deadline for Annual Report submissions is **St. Nicholas Day, December 6th** by end of day. It is preferred that you to submit your reports via email to michelle@rosecityparkpres.org, but if email is not available to you, dropping off a hard copy to the church office is also acceptable. If you need a copy of your committee's or group's report from last year for reference, please contact the church office. You can count on at least one email reminder before your time is up! Remember, if your committee doesn't submit an article, there will be no information in the Annual Report.

LOOKING AHEAD

ADVENT SEASON

Advent and the Christmas season will be here before we know it! Here are a few events that will help us welcome this joyous season. Be sure to check out the next issue of *The Broadcaster* and the Sunday bulletins for more information.

First Sunday in Advent:

November 30th

A Feast of Carols: Come to our annual Advent Festival event following worship on December 7th.

Christmas Program:

December 21st

Christmas Eve Worship:

December 24th—Watch the December issue for details.

ALL-SAINTS WORSHIP

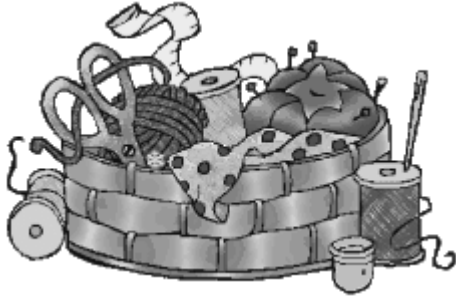
On the first Sunday of November, we will remember the saints past and present with our morning worship.

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

Join us for our Thanksgiving Worship on November 23rd, the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Give thanks for all that God has blessed our community with and enjoy a time of fellowship before the hectic holidays begin!

MARTHA SERVICE

Join this group for a good time and a good cause as we continue to make quilts and other projects for those in need in our community. Meetings are the first Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. Bring a sack lunch and enter room 8 at the lower ramp door. Join us on November 5th and December 3rd!



READING IN THE AFTERNOON

“Books are the quietest and most constant of friends; they are the most accessible and wisest of counselors, and the most patient of teachers.”

—Charles William Eliot

We invite you to join our book group—we are open to new participants any time! Here are some reasons you should consider joining us:

- 1) You get to know people in the church a lot better.
- 2) You read things you wouldn't otherwise read.
- 3) Some books really need to be discussed in order to digest them fully.
- 4) Sometimes it's fun just to chat!

So pick up one of the books we're reading and come for a great discussion.

Reading in the Afternoon meets on the third Wednesday of each month from 1-2:30 p.m. in the chapel.

Upcoming dates and books:

- **November 19th:** *Chasing Francis* by Ian Morgan Cron
- **December 17th:** *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline

SARAH CIRCLE

The women of Sarah Circle meet at 7 p.m. in the church library on the second Tuesday of each month, September through June for prayer and study. This year's *Horizon's Bible Study* is, "Reconciling Paul: A Contemporary Study of 2 Corinthians." Women interested in participating in this evening study are welcome to join at any time. Contact David Dornack for materials.

STEWARDSHIP IN 2014

"The Gifts of God for the People of God." These words are used as an invitation to share the bread and the cup of communion in our worship. In the context of stewardship they may be used as an invitation to reflect on God's bountiful blessings. It is good to name the gifts and to count our blessings. In the waning Sundays of October and the early Sundays of November, our worship is filled with reminders of our roles as stewards of God's creation, giving us abundant opportunities to acknowledge and consider God's gracious gifts.

Living as disciples of Jesus involves being transformed into Christ's image and having our orientation transformed from that of a consumer to that of a steward. Being a steward of the gifts God has given us doesn't come naturally—particularly in a society that measures success by what we achieve, consume and own. It requires intentionality and training to learn to be a faithful steward.

During this year's Stewardship Campaign, we invite you to join us as we explore the connection between being a manager of all that God has given us, and the sacrament of communion. Stewardship Commitment cards were sent in a mailing in October. Cards are also available in the narthex literature rack. You may make your confidential pledge online if you wish at www.rosecityparkpres.org/outreach/giving. We will celebrate our stewardship commitment on Sunday, November 16th with a special communion worship service.

NEW BOOKS IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY



Rainy autumn days are perfect for curling up with a new novel and a cup of something hot to drink! Here are a few of the new books in the church library:

- *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant
- *Someone Knows My Name* by Lawrence Hill
- *Friendship Cake* by Lynne Hinton
- *Lake Wobegone Days* by Garrison Keilor
- *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver
- *Dreams of Joy* by Lisa Lee
- *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes
- *The Glass Castle* by Jeanette Walls

**Rose City Park
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ROSE CITY PARK
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www.rosecityparkpres.org

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
WORSHIP at 10:00 AM
9:30 am nursery: Birth—3 years
11:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship
11:20 a.m. Adult Education

CHURCH STAFF

- David C. Dornack, Pastor
david@rosecityparkpres.org
- Christopher Hyde, Program Coordinator
and Youth Activities Coordinator
chris.hyde@rosecityparkpres.org
- Ruth Heald, Director of Choirs
ruth@rosecityparkpres.org
- Martin Ellis, Organist
- Romalia Stickney-Shibley, Office Manager
romalia@rosecityparkpres.org
- Ruth Heald, Receptionist
office@rosecityparkpres.org
- Michelle Veazie, Publications
michelle@rosecityparkpres.org
- Roberto Del Rio, Custodian
- Gerry Mohr, Sexton
- Joshua Gillooly, Nursery Attendant

Antique & Artisan Faire



9 a.m. - 4 p.m. on
Saturday, November 15th and after
church on Sunday,
November 16th

The *Antique and Artisan Faire* is coming soon! Interested in being a vendor or a support person? Contact a member of the committee: Cynthia Church, Diane Hanken, Peggie Irvine-Page, Cindy Robertson, or Beverly Smith.

Stop by coffee hour on any Sunday before the Faire weekend to purchase tickets for the quilt raffle. Quilt squares were created by Peggie, Cynthia, Cindy, and Diane, and the quilt was constructed by Beverly. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Proceeds from the raffle go to the church general fund. Help the Faire be even more successful and make a larger contribution to RCPPC this year!

NEXT BROADCASTER DEADLINE: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH

Brief articles may be submitted in person, via e-mail to Michelle at michelle@rosecityparkpres.org, or by mail and must be in the church office by the end of the day Sunday, November 9th. This issue will cover the months of December and January.