



# richwoods

## Christian Church

**October**

**Senior Pastor:**  
**Jim Powell**

**Associate Pastor:**  
**Marty Hunt**

**Worship Pastor:**  
**Nathan Peterson**

**Director of  
Children's Minis-  
tries:**  
**Christy Sandberg**

**Ministry  
Assistant:**  
**Ann Sawyer**

**Admin. Assistant:**  
**Jeannie Orr**

*Lift up the Lord*

*Evangelize the lost*

*Add to the  
fellowship*

*Disciple to maturity*

7116 N. Terra Vista Dr.  
Peoria, IL 61614

(309) 691-5252

**www.richwoods.  
org**

### "Facing the Future"

For the past several years the Eldership has been monitoring the growth of our church and prayerfully discussing our options along the way. A little over two years ago the decision was made to re-model and add on to our current facility in order to facilitate continued growth. This decision was made with the intention that if God continued to bless our ministry that we would add a third service and then actively begin seeking to re-locate. We are now at that point where we feel that God is clearly leading us to this next step.

While we confidently believe that the Lord is moving us in this direction we feel much like Abraham whom the Bible says, "By an act of faith, he said yes to God's call to travel to an unknown place that would become his home. When he left he had no idea where he was going" (Hebrews 11:8 NLT). We too are not exactly sure when or where we are going to end up but we are thoroughly convinced that the Lord is preparing us to do so.

One question that has been brought up is the possibility of staying where we are and "planting" a new church. While that is an option that we are open to, the Eldership does not feel at peace with that decision at this time. This has been confirmed by research that we have gathered on church planting stating that it is generally not advantageous to birth a new congregation until the home church is in excess of 800 people. To do so before then lessens the potential success of the new church, and severely risks crippling the home church.

Therefore, we are asking the church body to support us during this time by **praying** for God's will and direction to be revealed to us. Secondly, to help us with **suggestions** or contacts regarding potential re-location sites. We are at looking at turn-key facilities, existing buildings that could be re-modeled, properties for leasing, and even land that could be used to build a new structure.

As you pray for us and consider potential sites please keep the following criteria in mind. These are requirements that we feel are necessary moving forward:

- 40 thousand sq. foot of available space
- A large enough space to have a 500 seat sanctuary
- Two larger areas for Kids ROCK and Youth ministry
- Smaller partitioned rooms for classes
- Large Foyer and Hospitality area
- 300 parking places and/or 15 acres of land
- Property should be in this area of town

Once again we are keeping all of our options open as we pray for God's guidance. We hope that you will join us in this endeavor as we prepare to step out in faith in order to impact a growing number of lives for God's glory. The thought of this can be a little daunting, but just as Abraham found out, that is often when the Lord does His best work.

Pastor Jim



### RCC Family News & Updates

Join us in congratulating the following families and their "new" additions:

Matt, Jenny, & Jonathan Penrod on the birth of Allison Grace on Sunday Sept. 10 at 12:42 p.m. Alison weighed 7 lbs. and was 20" long.

Cole & Kristi Espenscheid on the birth of Kenzi Jean on Wednesday Sept. 13 at 10:21 p.m. Kenzi weighed 8 lbs. 5ozs. and was 20" long

Please welcome the following brothers and sisters to our RCC family:

Brandon & Amanda Henley and Jeff and Heatharlyne Wilkes who formally joined Richwoods on September 10. Jeff and Heatharlyne's children, Charlotte and Elijah, participate in our Kids ROCK program.

Please rejoice with us and those who were recently baptized: Beth Hummert on August 27, Tony & Lorri Linthicum and Tom & Courtney Bardwell on September 15, Eileen Williams on September 17. Please encourage them in their Christian Walk.

Congratulations to Jason Stewart & Jenny Evans who were married on September 24. They will live in Colorado. Jenny is the daughter of Dave & Nancy Evans

Please extend your sympathy to the following families on their losses:

Maxine Priest whose son, Richard Priest, died on Thursday September 21 in Wichita, Kansas.

Jason & Jamie Evans on the death of Jamie's mother, Sandy Cannon, on Tuesday September 26.

### Upcoming Events/Notices

**New Sermon Series, *Wake Up, Zombies* begins Oct. 15.**  
This will be a series on life-change and spiritual growth.

Pastor Jim will be out-of town for a spiritual retreat October 1st through the 8th. Please pray for him during this time of personal and spiritual renewal. If you have a need during this time, please call Pastor Marty or one of the elders.

Don't forget the the **Richwoods Christian Church Fall Picnic on Sun. Oct. 1** starting at 4:30 p.m. at Detweiller Park (Moose Shelter). All are welcome. Bring yourself & a dish to share (plus lawn chairs if you have them).

**Wonderful Ones** will meet for lunch on Sun. Oct. 15 at 12:30 p.m. at Copperworks Restaurant in Mt. Hawley Ct. Contact Wendy Ward 689-0703 w/ ?s.

**Discovery Classes**—Are you interested in more information on Richwoods? Discovering Richwoods 101 (taught by Pastor Jim) will be held on Sun., Oct. 22 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Dinner & childcare are provided. Please sign up on your yellow card, call the church office (691-5252) or email office@richwoods.org.

Discovering Richwoods 201 will be held beginning Sun. Oct. 29 at 9:30 a.m. This will take place in our new 4-week format. Please sign up on your yellow card, call the church office (691-5252) or email office@richwoods.org.

**October is Pastor Appreciation Month.** In addition to refreshments, we will have baskets available for cards on October 22nd. Please remember to show our pastors how much they are appreciated.

**Senior Saints** will meet for lunch at noon on Tue. Oct. 24 at Weaver Ridge. Please RSVP to Jan Peasley, 689-3405.

**Fall Landscape Clean-Up Day** will take place on Sat. Oct. 28 starting at 9:00 a.m. Wear your work gloves and bring shovels, rakes, hedge trimmers, chainsaws, etc. Many hands make light work but more importantly it's a great time for fellowship.

Are you looking for a place to serve that will give you an opportunity to meet others? Consider one of our "1<sup>st</sup> Serve" ministries, the Hospitality Team. This ministry helps in the kitchen on Sunday mornings and for special events throughout the year. For more information, please contact Ted & LaDonna Spragg at 698-6648.

### Mission Ministry Report

Women's Pregnancy Center and Esther House need the following items at any time: Maternity Clothes, Baby Food, Baby Formula, Onesies, Diapers (regular packages sizes 4, 5, & 6), Bus Passes. For more information 688-0202.

The Mission Ministry will be sponsoring "Operation Christmas Child" this year. This is a project of Samaritan's Purse which delivers millions of gift-filled shoe boxes to hurting children around the world. This project—a shoe box filled with various items can be as unique as the person packing it. It is a wonderful way to share God's love and encourage the opportunity of sharing. Watch for additional information coming in the month of October.

Washington Christian Church sponsoring bus trip to NMC Fri. Nov. 17. For more information call 444-2113.

## kids ROCK (infant - 5th grade)

Leading children to Rely On Christ the King!

### Greetings to Kid ROCKers and Parents,

How are you? Is your family as busy as mine? It's cliché. Everyone says it all the time, but it is true. Have you ever heard an empty nester say, "Hurry up and raise those kids?" Not me. They always say, "Enjoy them now; they grow up so fast." I encourage you to find those few quiet moments with your children to enjoy the cool fall air, take a walk on the crunchy leaves and talk about the beauty of God's creation. Find out what they are thinking about and tell them some things you have on your mind. Those moments spent just quietly together will bless you both!

We'll be asking parents to register their children in Kids ROCK beginning in October so we can update our records. Registration cards will be available at the check in counter or you will be able to do it on the Richwoods website.

Volunteers, remember the schedule is available on the Kids ROCK section of the forum. Go to [www.richwoods.org](http://www.richwoods.org) and choose "Forum" under the main menu. The Kids ROCK section of the forum is also a great place for feedback and discussion on parenting issues, posting events, links to articles of interest, etc.

Stop by the bulletin board in the Kids ROCK hallway and fill out a star for anyone – child or adult – in Kids ROCK that let their light shine in a special way. Let us not tire of encouraging one another!

Remember to thank the dedicated teachers, assistants and check in workers that diligently come each Sunday morning to ensure Kids ROCKers are safe, loved and challenged to grow closer to God. We look forward to seeing your child there this month!

God Bless!

Christy Sandberg

[csandberg@richwoods.org](mailto:csandberg@richwoods.org)

## for the student

### Junior High News

Thanks goes out to everyone who attended the Parent's Picnic. We had a great turnout & it was encouraging to our new leadership team. Info packets are available for those who could not attend. They contain phone numbers and a calendar of events.

A reminder that Youth Group will meet on October 4<sup>th</sup> and October 18<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 8:30 pm at Jeff & Sue's home, 4721 N. Woodview Ave., Peoria. This time of fellowship will be setting the stage for the future of Jr. High ministry at RCC so please encourage your Jr. High students to attend.

We will have a "Freaky Friday" party on October 13<sup>th</sup>. Information will be sent home with your students or you can call Jeff for details at 360-2747.

### Senior High News

Special Event – STOP THE BLEEDING -  
towriteloveonherarms  
October 21<sup>st</sup> @ 7:00pm  
3300 W. Willow Knolls Rd.  
(formerly Stage 2, Revelations)

To Write Love on Her Arms is a work in progress. This began with one broken girl, one painful night; addiction, depression, cutting. This is a glimpse at the five days that followed, a decision to love and to begin telling her true story. To Write Love on Her Arms is becoming something bigger, something hopeful. It's the realization of what life can be when we commit to meeting a need. A friend of mine told me there's no such thing as suicide prevention. This is an attempt to prove him wrong, to say that love can change a life. We can hold back the darkness. Rescue is possible. Join us as we continue to write her story, and as we begin to offer hope to the many hopeless who walk these dark roads.

## RCC Small Group Ministry— "Doing Life Together"

**Don't Miss Out!** The small group experience provides the best atmosphere where *friendships are fostered, journeys are shared and lives are changed.*

**Take a Chance!** Its not too late, to check out and get a taste of what *"Doing Life Together"* at RCC is all about by visiting one or more of our existing groups or by being a part of forming a new group.

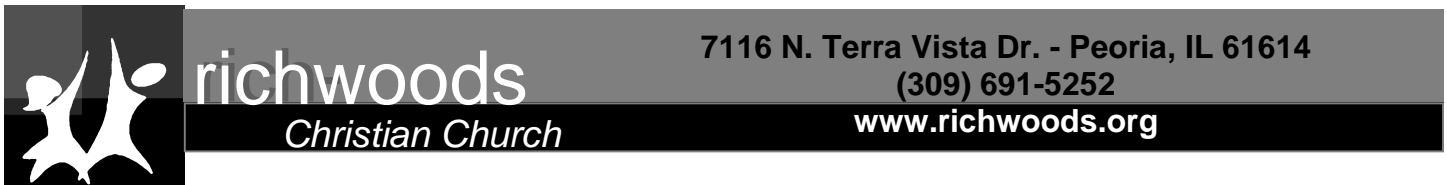
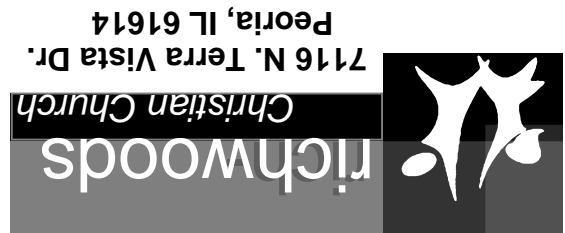
**If you are interested** or have further questions regarding our small group ministry, **please contact Pastor Marty:**

- Phone at church (691-5252)
- e-mail [mhunt@richwoods.org](mailto:mhunt@richwoods.org)
- RCC's Yellow Card

### Leaders VHS Huddle

- Leaders/Apprentices/ Potential Apprentices
- Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup> from 9 to 12pm @ the church
  - Snacks and refreshments

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Therefore, we are asking the church body to support us during this time by praying for God's will and direction to be revealed to us.

Complete Article Inside

**See inside for details on :**

- Upcoming Events
- Kids ROCK
- Life Groups
- Wonderful Ones
- Senior Saints
- Missions Ministry
- . . . And more

**RCC Worship Services Every Sunday at 8, 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.  
Nursery available all services, Kids ROCK at 9:30 & 11.**

## October Birthdays

Brett Ellen	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Scott Presuhn	13 <sup>th</sup>
Dave Evans	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Anna Evans	14 <sup>th</sup>
Mike Marincic	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Alice Goodwin	14 <sup>th</sup>
Donnie Williams III	3 <sup>rd</sup>	David Horn	14 <sup>th</sup>
Jacob Curry	7 <sup>th</sup>	Roy Lingenfelter	15 <sup>th</sup>
Janelle Presuhn	4 <sup>th</sup>	Scott Tranchitella	16 <sup>th</sup>
Sarah Burnett	5 <sup>th</sup>	Teri Boedecker	19 <sup>th</sup>
Jack Boedecker	5 <sup>th</sup>	Larry Lingenfelter	19 <sup>th</sup>
Alexis Jefferson	7 <sup>th</sup>	Wilma Steidley	19 <sup>th</sup>
Pat Lingenfelter	7 <sup>th</sup>	Jim Powell	21 <sup>st</sup>
Jason Maurer	7 <sup>th</sup>	Kathy Schwindenhammer	21 <sup>st</sup>
Kindrid Sandberg	7 <sup>th</sup>	Greg Shen	21 <sup>st</sup>
Jesse Church	8 <sup>th</sup>	Melinda Selke	22 <sup>nd</sup>
Benjamin Malson	8 <sup>th</sup>	Monica Parrish	23 <sup>rd</sup>
Curtis Burdette	9 <sup>th</sup>	Corry Kiplinger	24 <sup>th</sup>
Kaleb Hacker	9 <sup>th</sup>	Kathy Kirkman	26 <sup>th</sup>
Kim Tanner	9 <sup>th</sup>	Kim Cook	28 <sup>th</sup>
Lori Frye	10 <sup>th</sup>	Steven Frye	29 <sup>th</sup>
Jude Morris	11 <sup>th</sup>	Elle Hoover	30 <sup>th</sup>
Bill Boedecker	13 <sup>th</sup>	Bill Sawyer	30 <sup>th</sup>

## October Anniversaries

Gardner & Fran Hatch	1 <sup>st</sup>
Mike & Marci Marincic	1 <sup>st</sup>
Gary & Diane Schopp	4 <sup>th</sup>
Randy & Cecelia Cushman	5 <sup>th</sup>
Greg & Kate Geesaman	6 <sup>th</sup>
Dave & Nancy Evans	9 <sup>th</sup>
Phil & Sherri Parrish	10 <sup>th</sup>
Martin & Nichole Blasé	21 <sup>st</sup>
Sherwood & Doris Fitch	22 <sup>nd</sup>
Ken & Vicki Williamson	22 <sup>nd</sup>
Cory & Cassi Rabe	26 <sup>th</sup>

### RCC Worship Statistics for September

	Sept. 3	Sept. 10	Sept. 17	Sept. 24	'06 Average	'05 Average
Attendance	352	477	454	428	426	360
Offering	\$11,837	\$9,913	\$8,973	\$10,189	\$10,228	\$6,519

### Greeters, Ushers and Communion Prep for October:

Fellowship Door: Jeremy & Sandy Claus, Jennie Littlejohn, Tim Wright & Jill Addy, Heather Malson

North Door: Grace Ward, Debbie Streeter

Worship Center Door: Ida Thopson, Cheryl Mumbower, Teresa Stout, Alice Goodwin, Tom & Courtney Bardwell, Judy Brown

Communion Preparation: Sarah Mabry