

The Presbyterian Church of Barrington

Reference Guide for Visitors,
Prospective Members, and New Members

2017



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Introduction

Welcome to the Presbyterian Church of Barrington. This introductory guidebook has been designed to introduce our church to visitors, prospective members, and new members. If you would like further information about anything in this guidebook, please call the church office (847-381-0975) to be referred to members who can best help or refer to our website www.pcbarrington.org

Location - Our church was founded over fifty years ago on a beautiful five acre site in Barrington Hills. We are part of The Presbytery of Chicago (Presbyterian Church USA) which has nearly 30,000 members in more than 90 diverse, dynamic church congregations and worshipping fellowships throughout Chicago and the surrounding area.

Contact

- Address: 6 Brinker Road Barrington Hills, IL 60010
- Office Phone: 847-381-0975
- Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Worship services - We have two services each Sunday: 8 am and 10 am, with extra services on Christmas and Easter.

Our Mission - We are a compassionate community of faith, following the teachings of Jesus Christ, affirming His grace, sharing God's love and serving all those in need.

Our Vision As faithful and caring members of the Presbyterian Church of Barrington, we will welcome all to join with us to worship and serve God.

- We will challenge each other to become better disciples of Jesus Christ as we celebrate our faith, share it with all and invite others to join us in our common journey.

- We will encourage and equip all to become contributing ministers while providing service opportunities for all age groups.
- As we strive to expand our presence, we will develop and accept opportunities to join with others in our community, from local to global, to serve those in need.
- As stewards of God's resources we will have church facilities and grounds, which are accessible, functional, pleasing and safe for all who enter.

Meet our pastor and music director

Senior Pastor Joe Dorociak – Joe came to PCB during 2013. He was previously the head pastor at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Boise, Idaho, and has served in ministerial capacities for over 30 years. Pastor Joe, as he prefers to be called, brings talented preaching skills, and an engaging personality, and a hands-on approach to working with people of all ages, and deep Christian adult education knowledge. He is a father of two grown children.

Director of Music, Kirsten Hedegaard – In addition to her role as director of music at PCB, Kirsten is currently Director of Choral Activities at Loyola University. She has taught conducting at Concordia University, River Forest and has conducted choirs and orchestras for various institutions including Eastman House, Chicago Children's Choir, Gallery 37, Loyola Academy, and the University of California. In addition to her choir activities, Kirsten has enjoyed careers as a singer and conductor.

Worship experience

Worship at PCB is carefully planned by Pastor Joe and our Worship Committee. Pastor Joe says "A Worship service is high drama. The members of the congregation are the actors and God is the audience."

Worship planning – The Session, through its Worship Committee, manages our overall worship experience throughout the seasons of the Christian year. Pastor Joe develops the sermon outline about three months in advance and shares it with our music director Kirsten Hedegaard. This gives her the time that she needs to select the hymns and music that best fit with the message, and find the right outside supporting singers and musicians to support our organist and our choirs to make beautiful music together.

Messages - Pastor Joe develops a series of sermons about topics that he feels are important for us. Some are contemporary and challenging (as Christ challenged the rabbis in the temple); others are based upon what Joe feels that we need as a congregation. Each sermon provides a clear message about what the biblical text said and meant then, and what the implications are for today. We always learn something new, and develop a new perspective each Sunday.

Seasons and volunteers - Our church changes visually with the calendar and the seasons. Dedicated volunteers change the draping colors behind the cross and decorate for Pentecost, Christmas, Easter, and the fall harvest season. They arrange weekly sanctuary flowers, print and stuff Bulletins, usher, read the liturgy, serve communion, collect the offering, and secure the money given each week.

For children

We offer 10 different classes and programs that are led by our Associate Pastor, Kate Kelly and our Director of Children's Ministry, Dana Litwin, and by our over 35 volunteer teachers and leaders. With this program, we seek to migrate each of our children through the sixteen years from nursery to mission and confirmation. Our programs are

- Nursery care
- Years 4 – first grade
- 2nd and 3rd grades
- 4th and 5th grades
- Middle school
- Confirmation
- Sunday Night live
- Vacation Bible School
- Youth Mission Trip

For adults

Adult education programs – We are all ministers of our faith. Christ has entrusted us with the responsibility to practice Christianity now, here and everywhere through a deep understanding of His teachings as they apply in our world, 2000 years later. We presently offer six adult education opportunities at varying dates and times to make it easy for everybody to participate in one or more programs. They are:

- Theology on Tap moderated by Pastor Joe. Held Wednesdays at 7:00 pm at Chessie's. An example of recent study material is Brian McLaren's book Why Did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha, and Mohammed Cross the Road? Christian Identity in a Multi-Faith World
- Weekly Bible Study moderated by Pastor Joe. Held Thursdays at 1:30 pm at the Garlands.
- Men's Breakfast Book Study moderated by Pastor Joe. Held Fridays at 6:30 am, at Egg Harbor. An example of a recent discussion topic is Adam Hamilton's book Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves, and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Say.
- GTIF (Growing Together in Faith) moderated by Jill Minner. Held the third Tuesday of the Month at 7 pm, in alternating home locations and moderators, except August and December. A recent topic was *Exodus*.
- New Perspectives moderated by Bob Kosobud. Held the first Monday of the month, 11:00 am at Chessie's. A recent topic is what the disciples did after the resurrection to spread the faith, and what can we learn from them today. A recent book resource was The Search for the Twelve

Apostles by William Birnie.

- Wednesday Morning Bible Study moderated by Susan Raaths. Held the second Wednesday of the month (September – May), at 9:15 am at the Church. A recent book resource is Who is Jesus, What a Difference a Lens Makes by Judy Siker.

BPW (Barrington Presbyterian Women) - BPW is the church's primary women's organization. BPW is open to all women of the church, and is overseen by a group of elected officers. Listed below are examples of the other things that it does for our church throughout the year, all oriented to fund raising, community, fellowship, service, education and spirituality.

- Raises funds through the Christmas Benefit which provides about \$10,000 each year to local charities.
- Decorates for and hosts the Lenten Breakfast, a spiritual event for men and women at Easter.
- Hosts a Fall Women's Fellowship Potluck Dinner.
- Manages and provides hospitality in Fellowship Hall for memorial services.
- Sponsors our Shawl Ministry ... women who knit prayer shawls for members who have had serious health and other significant problems.
- Oversees our Meals on Wheels program

Men's fellowship group – On the third Thursday of each month except December, men of our church meet for dinner, typically in a member's home. This is primarily a social group, with the host often providing a discussion topic. New members find that it is a good forum to meet others in a casual setting.

Kitchen Kabinet – This men's and women's group meets for a lunch program, mid-week 6-8 times per year typically at a local country club. About 35-35 people plus our pastors attend. It is always a good social event, a chance to meet new friends, and a learning opportunity.

Prayer Shawl Ministry – We knit prayer shawls that we donate to people who need a little help in their recovery process from illness or loss. We are happy to teach beginners how to knit.

Retreats – In past years we have held separate men's and women's retreats. While some have been off site and overnight, our most recent retreats have been Saturday mornings at the church to encourage wider participation.

Music opportunities

PCB offers a wide range of professional quality participation and listening music programs under the Leadership of Kirsten Hedegaard, who is a unique talent in choir, conducting, and singing. Kirsten also

taps into the Chicago area musical talent pool to supplement our home grown choirs to enhance the musical experience. These programs include:

- Choir – Our choir performs 9 months of the year. During the summer months we often invite individual guest artists to assure a high quality musical experience.
- Bell Choirs – We offer both adult and youth bell choir opportunities
- Youth choir
- Music on the Hill – Two to three times per year Kirsten Hedegaard offers a unique concert program that is open to the public.
- The Gaudete Brass ensemble often plays at Music on the Hill, and during our Sunday 10 am service.

Opportunities to serve

Stephen Ministry - Stephen Ministry is a model for those of us who want to commit our time and talent to the service of others in need. Here are some interesting facts about our world-class Stephen Ministry program.

- For the past 15 years, over 60 of our Stephen ministers have put in over 23,000 hours serving over 115 care receivers.
- Each Stephen Minister completes 50 hours of formal training and and contributes about 125 – 250 hours to each care receiver. To assure the best possible care, a supervisory team monitors each case in a completely confidential manner.
- Worldwide there are over 600,000 Stephen Ministers in over 12,000 congregations doing this vital work.

Adult mission trip – We normally have a one week-long adult mission trip to help people in need. In past years we have gone to New Orleans to help rebuild homes destroyed by hurricane Katrina. Most recently we have had volunteers travel to Nicaragua to help dig water wells and educate local residents on sanitation.

Participation in service programs beyond our church – Members of our church regularly participate in the service programs that are externally organized. The list below is representative of our service.

- Woodstock Soup kitchen – Stocking shelves and serving meals for the homeless at the Woodstock Soup Kitchen
- Habitat for Humanity – Participating in local Habitat for Humanity projects.
- Build team – The Build Team, based in Barrington and serving northwest Cook and surrounding counties, provides essential home repair services to people and families in need. Since mid-2014, more than 70 people, including members of the church congregation, have volunteered at all skill levels to provide those essential repair services to nine families in need.
- Meals on wheels – Members of our church regularly deliver meals to shut-ins on a scheduled route basis.

Mission

The following local charitable organizations are some of those supported by The Presbyterian Church of Barrington and its various groups.

- Barrington Community Meal
- Christopher House, including Family to Family at Christmas and TAPPS
- Crop Walk
- Elgin Crisis Center
- Feed My Starving Children
- FISH of Barrington and Carpentersville
- Food drives spring, summer, and fall
- Home of the Sparrow
- Meals on Wheels
- PCB Shawl Ministry
- Sunny Hill School Snacks and Backpack programs
- The Woodstock Food Kitchen

Additionally, our church through its Hope Fund can provide specific confidential financial assistance to local families in extreme financial need.

Congregational life

Throughout the year we offer events for our congregation and guests to enjoy each other's company, and make new friends. The events below are representative of our activities.

Advent dinner – This is a family potluck meal at Advent to celebrate the season

Card party – This is a social adult mixer with a lot of fun.

Church picnic – Each summer we have a picnic with games and events for children. Bring your game chairs or blankets for the grass and enjoy a summer day of fun.

Our church's organization

Three groups of ordained members manage the most critical parts of the church. These are:

Session – Our church is governed by the Session, a fifteen member board nominated by the nominating committee, and elected by the membership. Session committees include: membership and congregational life, adult education, mission, personnel, children's education, youth education, worship, stewardship and finance, nominating, and communications and outreach.

Trustees – A board of trustees manages the church’s physical property under the direction of the Session.

Deacons – Eighteen deacons are divided into geographic parishes. Each deacon is responsible for caring for his or her parishioners. Pictures of the present deacons are usually posted on a bulletin board by Fellowship Hall.

Financially supporting the church

Stewardship – Our church requires regular and predictable financial contributions to effectively conduct its business. Presently our annual budget is around \$750,000. Staff costs for our ministers and support team account for about three fourths of the budget, with the remainder primarily going primarily for physical church maintenance and operations, youth programs, and to mission. We ask that all members seriously consider making an annual pledge in three areas, your time, your talent, and your treasure. The annual pledge campaign begins in mid-September.

Annual per capita payment – As a member of our Presbytery, we are required to make an annual donation to that organization of \$35 per member. We ask that you pay this separate from your annual pledge.