

2007  
MAY

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

## REMEMBERING ROD HIGBEE

BY ERIC DIEKHANS



Rod , a dedicated and hardworking LVPC member, died March 24. He was 81.

Born in North Dakota, Rod grew up in Washington State. He earned a degree in Physics from Washington State University. During World War II, Rod was a bomber stationed in the Pacific. He was on the second plane to land in Japan after its surrender.

Rod was always fascinated with the printing industry. He worked as a sales representative for several large companies, first in Seattle, then in San Francisco. He came to Chicago in the early 1960s and settled in the Lake View area, where he lived for the rest of his life, except for a short stint in Los Angeles during the 1970s.

A knowledgeable antique collector, he later used his skills as an electrician to work for several lighting companies restoring antique fixtures.

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*“We enjoyed his presence and excellent advice. Sometimes his advice was on Buildings and Grounds topics and sometimes words of wisdom about life.”*

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GEORGE REYES



LVPC member Jeff Glenn grew up in the same building Rod lived in. He says Rod was “a constant presence over the years.”

“He was very good to me,” Jeff continues. “He was a role model during my whole coming out process.”

“Rod would not hesitate to share stories of his youth and his journeys,” remembers LVPC member George Reyes. “I and others would often stop whatever we were doing just listening to him. When Rod reflected, I always felt as though I was sitting in a comfortable old sofa chair and listening to Rod’s ‘Prairie Home Companion’ experience.”

Rod joined LVPC in 2000, and it was almost impossible to be at church on a weekday without running into him. A tireless volunteer, Rod performed countless tasks around the church.

“During the exterior construction project I saw a lot of Rod,” says George. “He was often at the church by 6:30 a.m. in the winter to add water to the organ humidifier. In the summer he was checking over the past day’s work. He asked a lot of questions about the project and enjoyed talking with the carpenters and me. We enjoyed his presence and excellent advice. Sometimes his advice was on Buildings and Grounds topics and sometimes words of wisdom about life.”

Rod spent a great deal of time working with Lake View Academy. Principal Debra Bailey calls him their “unofficial deacon.”

“He would stop in every morning,” shares Debra. “He served as a mentor for some of the younger male teachers, and he took the students on health walks down to Belmont Harbor.”

One time, Debra says, she needed to make sure a letter was delivered into the hands of a student’s relative. “I called Rod and ten minutes later he was there to take the letter.”

A few years ago, the Academy presented Rod with a plague with a verse from Mark: “Whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant.”

“That sums of Rod,” says Debra.⁹

# CALENDAR



# MAY

## EVERY SUNDAY

Study the Bible with the Niners Class. They meet at 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

Sunday service in the Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Childcare is provided in the Mulford Room. Coffee hour and time for fellowship immediately follows both services.

Sunday school for children at 10:00 a.m. Classes for ages 3-4, grades K-5, and 6-8 meet in the Academy.

Choir practice at 10:00 a.m.

Share your thoughts about faith and life in Begin@10 class, 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

Free parking is available evenings and weekends in the Recycled Paper Company lot north of the church. Access the lot from the alley.

Help beautify the Sanctuary by donating flowers. To sponsor a Sunday sign up in the back of the Sanctuary.



### ADVANCE WARNINGS: SIGN UP NOW!

*Food for Thought: Presbyterians Go Global—See May 1*  
*New Members Class—See May 10*

## TUESDAY, MAY 1

Regular exercise is the key to vitality, so join the Seniors in Motion fitness class. An exercise specialist from Advocate Fitness leads the group. Class begins at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Join us for a special Food for Thought series that takes a trip around the world looking at the Presbyterian Church. With leadership from members and friends from places like Korea, Ghana,

Cameroon, and the Philippines we hope to find out more about the Presbyterian Church and their ministries. How did Presbyterians get there? What have they done to help? What are the longtime results of missionary efforts started long ago? Class begins at 7:00 p.m. Sign up in the back of the Sanctuary.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 2

Choir practice at 7:15 p.m.

Christian Nurture Committee meets at 7:30 p.m.

Young Adult Bible Study meets at 8:30 p.m.

## THURSDAY, MAY 3

Senior Movie at 12:30 p.m.

Running Club meets at 6:15 p.m.

The Out and About Discussion Group meets at 7:15 p.m.

## FRIDAY, MAY 4

It's fun for the under-five set at Playgroup beginning at 9:30 a.m. Call Kirsten Gettings at (773) 275-4487 to find out where they're meeting.

A Taize service features scripture reading, repetitive singing, and meditative silence, combining traditional worship forms in a contemporary way. The goal is to enable participants to remain open to the voice of God and discover the prayer within themselves. Join us at 7:30 p.m. for Taize.

The Cafe Pride Coffeehouse meets from 8:00 p.m. to midnight and serves a safe place for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender youth ages 17 – 21 to get together.

## SATURDAY, MAY 5

LVPC hosts its fifth Fair Trade Bazaar from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Fair Trade means the people making the product receive their fair share of the purchase price. It connects consumers with the producers in positive ways.

## SUNDAY, MAY 6

Lake View Pantry food donations and Two Cents A Meal offerings will be taken at the morning worship services. Remember to bring your peanut butter and jelly!

The Knitting Circle meets at 12:30 p.m.

A Lake View Academy Board retreat begins at 1:30 p.m.

## MONDAY, MAY 7

Running Club meets at 5:15 a.m.

Deacons meet at 7:00 p.m.

The Eco-Justice Taskforce meets at 7:00 p.m.

# CALENDAR MAY



## TUESDAY, MAY 8

Seniors in Motion fitness class meets at 10:00 a.m. See May 1.

Food for Thought continues with Presbyterians Go Global. See May 1.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 9

Worship Committee meets at 6:00 p.m.

Choir practice at 7:15 p.m.

Young Adult Bible Study meets at 8:30 p.m.

## THURSDAY, MAY 10

Senior Movie at 12:30 p.m.

Spend time with long-time LVPC members at a Presbyterian Homes Fellowship from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. in Evanston. The gathering offers an opportunity to stay connected with an important part of our church family. Volunteers are welcome. Contact Sue Cox at (773) 281- 2655 for more information.

Running Club meets at 6:15 p.m.

Find out what it means to be a Presbyterian and a member of LVPC at the New Members Class beginning at 7:00 p.m. Sign up in the back of the Sanctuary.

## FRIDAY, MAY 11

Playgroup meets at 9:30 a.m. See May 4.

Cafe Pride meets from 8:00 p.m. to midnight in the Fellowship Hall. See May 4.

The whole church community is invited to Out at the Movies, a special presentation of a gay-themed film. The show starts at 9:00 p.m.

## SATURDAY, MAY 12

Join the men of LVPC for good food and good conversation at the Men's Breakfast, beginning at 8:15 a.m.

A Deacons retreat begins at 9:00 a.m.

## MONDAY, MAY 14

Running Club meets at 5:15 a.m.

## TUESDAY, MAY 15

Seniors in Motion fitness class meets at 10:00 a.m. See May 1.

Food for Thought continues with Presbyterians Go Global. See May 1.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

Reflect on God's healing presence and pray for wholeness at a special Service for Health and Wholeness at 6:30 p.m.

Choir practice at 7:15 p.m.

Young Adult Bible Study meets at 8:30 p.m.

## THURSDAY, MAY 17

Senior Movie at 12:30 p.m.

Running Club meets at 6:15 p.m.

The New Members Class meets at 7:00 p.m.

There will be a LGBT potluck at 7:15 p.m.

## FRIDAY, MAY 18

Playgroup meets at 9:30 a.m. See May 4.

Cafe Pride meets from 8:00 p.m. to midnight in the Fellowship Hall. See May 4.

## SUNDAY, MAY 20

Today is the last day of Sunday School. Our wonderful teachers will be recognized.

New members will be received during morning worship.

## MONDAY, MAY 21

Running Club meets at 5:15 a.m.

## TUESDAY, MAY 22

Seniors in Motion fitness class meets at 10:00 a.m. See May 1.

Food for Thought continues with Presbyterians Go Global. See May 1.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 23

Buildings and Grounds Committee meets at 6:00 p.m.

Choir practice at 7:15 p.m.

Young Adult Bible Study meets at 8:30 p.m.

## THURSDAY, MAY 24

Senior Movie at 12:30 p.m.

Running Club meets at 6:15 p.m.

## FRIDAY, MAY 25

Playgroup meets at 9:30 a.m. See May 4.

Café Pride meets from 8:00 p.m. to midnight. See May 4.

## SATURDAY, MAY 26

The Gardening Club meets from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

The Women's Book Study meets at 10:00 a.m.

## SUNDAY, MAY 27

Today is Pentecost Sunday. Everybody should wear red to morning worship!

## MONDAY, MAY 28

Running Club meets at 5:15 a.m.

## TUESDAY, MAY 29

Seniors in Motion fitness class meets at 10:00 a.m. See May 1.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 30

Choir practice at 7:15 p.m.

Young Adult Bible Study meets at 8:30 p.m.

## THURSDAY, MAY 31

Senior Movie at 12:30 p.m.

Running Club meets at 6:15 p.m.<sup>9</sup>



LVPC



ARTS

Jennie Martin production manages:

*Widowers' Houses* by George Bernard Shaw, May 5-July 1,  
TimeLine Theatre, [www.timelinetheatre.com](http://www.timelinetheatre.com)

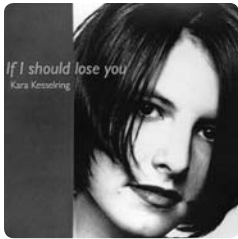
Laurie Empen featured in:

*The Fourposter*, through May 6, Citadel Theatre,  
[www.citadeltheatre.org](http://www.citadeltheatre.org)

Stephanie Browning performs:

Fridays, Stetson's Chop House, Chicago (312) 239-4490  
Saturdays, Peninsula Hotel, Chicago (312) 337-2888

CD of the Month



*If I Should Lose You* by Kara Kesselring  
[www.karakesselring.com](http://www.karakesselring.com)

CHIMES

STAFF

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Submission deadline for the June issue is May 15. Send  
calendar listings, rants, and raves to Eric Diekhans at  
[ericdiekhans@ameritech.net](mailto:ericdiekhans@ameritech.net)



Lake View Presbyterian Church

716 West Addison Street  
Chicago IL 60613  
(773) 281-2655

[www.lakeviewpresbyterian.org](http://www.lakeviewpresbyterian.org)

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