

CHRIST

OVER ALL



THE BOOK OF COLOSSIANS

SOUTH  PARK
CHURCH

Welcome!

SOUTH  PARK
CHURCH

MISSION

WHAT'S OUR PURPOSE?

South Park Church exists to help people walk with God, connect as family & love people in Jesus' name.

VISION

WHAT DO WE HOPE TO ACHIEVE IN THE FUTURE?

WE ARE ONE...

- Being **ONE with God** means living in the awareness of the Holy Spirit's presence & promptings in our lives. Being ONE with God, means we recognize & obey His voice above all the others.
- Being **ONE Body** is about creating loving relationships within the church. God created the Body of Christ to be a diverse group of believers. It is important to maintain our unity IN diversity as a part of our witness to this world. The key to that unity comes when we make our identity as God's children our most important identity.
- Being **ONE Kingdom** is about creating loving relationships outside of the church with other kingdom minded churches/ministries. We recognize that South Park Church is one small part of the global Christian Church and we desire to serve the Kingdom in partnership with those who share our belief in Jesus Christ.

CORE VALUES

WHAT ARE THE FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS THAT DRIVE OUR BEHAVIOR & MINISTRY?

- **STAY CONNECTED TO GOD** - We want to serve out of the fullness of life and power that comes from God (*Ephesians 3:19*). Staying connected to God is how we learn to yield our will to His.
- **ACCEPT THAT ALL PEOPLE ARE OF UNSURPASSABLE WORTH TO GOD** - Scripture teaches us that Christ died for us while we were still sinners (*Romans 5:8*). Therefore that is the example of love we will follow. We will love and welcome people who are sinners... just like us.
- **LIFT YOUR ENEMIES UP IN PRAYER** - We don't want to respond to the sin & hate of this world with more sin and hate. We want to respond the way Jesus taught us to in His Sermon on the Mount - by lifting our enemies up in prayer (*Matthew 5:44*)
- **TAKE STEWARDSHIP SERIOUSLY** - We want to use all that we are and all that we've been given to give glory to God and grow His Kingdom (*Matthew 25:14-30*).

OCTOBER 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 MEN'S GREAT BANQUET IRON MEN MEAN CAMP WORSHIP SERVICE @ 10 SUNDAY AT 6 PM	2 CELEBRATE RECOVERY & THE LANDING 7 PM	3 CBS 9:15 AM	4 JAM AT 6:30 PM	5 NO THRIVE	6 < WOMEN'S GREAT BANQUET > THROUGH SUNDAY	7 NO IRONMEN
8 WORSHIP SERVICE @ 10 ASCENT KISSING DAY NO SUNDAY	9 OFFICE CLOSED	10 CBS 9:15 AM	11 First Wednesdays at 500 JAM AT 6:30 PM	12 THRIVE CRAZY LOVE 9:30 AM & 7 PM	13 DISCOVERY HYMN SING AT 1PM High School Fall Retreat →	14 IRON MEN 7AM
15 PRAYER @ 9 AM EQUIP @ 9 AM WORSHIP SERVICE @ 10 High School Fall Retreat (NO SUNDAY)	16 CELEBRATE RECOVERY & THE LANDING 7 PM	17 CBS 9:15 AM Pledge Cards 1st Year Anniversary no Sewer Postcard	18 MOPS 9:30 AM JAM AT 6:30 PM	19 THRIVE CRAZY LOVE 9:30 AM & 7 PM	20 DISCOVERY POTLUCK AT NOON SMORES & MORE & PIC	21 IRON MEN 7AM
22 PRAYER @ 9 AM EQUIP @ 9 AM WORSHIP SERVICE @ 10 1st COMER'S BRUNCH @ 11:30 SUNDAY AT 6 PM	23 CELEBRATE RECOVERY & THE LANDING 7 PM	24 CBS 9:15 AM	25 JAM AT 6:30 PM	26 THRIVE CRAZY LOVE 9:30 AM & 7 PM	27 DISCOVERY FALL PARTY AT 1PM	28 IRON MEN 7AM
29 PRAYER @ 9 AM EQUIP @ 9 AM WORSHIP SERVICE @ 10 Thank or Treat @ 5pm SUNDAY AT 6 PM	30 CELEBRATE RECOVERY & THE LANDING 7 PM	31 CBS 9:15 AM	Nov 1 First Wednesdays at 500 JAM AT 6:30 PM	Nov 2 THRIVE CRAZY LOVE 9:30 AM & 7 PM	Nov 3 DISCOVERY HYMN SING AT 1 PM Thank Fall Gathering 4:30-6:30	Nov 4 IRON MEN 7AM Thank Fall Gathering 4:30-6:30



Have you heard the exciting news that we will be going to two services the first Sunday of Advent, December 3? The service times will be 9 & 11 am. Family ministries will take place during the 9 am service. In order to continue building community, we'd love to hear your plans. [Click here to fill out a pledge card online!](#)



EQUIP

Mental Health

Sundays

October 15 - November 19

9:00 - 9:50 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

Teens - Adults Welcome!

October 22 & 29 - Depression: What helps & what hurts.

Depression is at an all time high and while some things have changed regarding how to respond—many truths have remained. Come and learn from Nancy Vitacco LCSW as she helps us understand what depression is and what we, as believers, can do to deal with it. On October 29 we will hear testimonies from those that have found some victory in their own lives.

November 5 & 12 - Anxiety & Prayer: What works, What doesn't & Why.

Prayer is one of our most powerful allies for battling anxiety but why doesn't it always seem to work? This topic will be based on a combination of neuroscience, psychology and Biblical principles delivered in an interactive format. We will be reminded how prayer can reclaim its rightful role as the strongest pillar of the peace and calm that God offers us in this anxious world. Led by Troy McLennan LCSW.



Our next baptism will take place on Sunday, November 12 at the 10:00 a.m. service and we can't wait to celebrate with you! If you would like to learn more or register to be baptized, [click here!](http://www.southparkchurch.org/baptism)



Join us later today for our South Park Church Trunk or Treat. We're excited for EVERYONE to get involved in this ALL CHURCH EVENT! This event will happen rain or shine. (If it rains, we'll pass out treats inside). We can't wait to see you and your friends at 3 p.m.!

first WEDNESDAYS
A Midweek Ministry for 1st - 5th Graders

5:00- 6:30pm

1st - 5th grade students are invited
to **FIRST WEDNESDAYS**
at South Park Church

October 11, 2023
November 1, 2023
December 6, 2023
January 10, 2024
February 7, 2024
March 6, 2024
April 3, 2024
May 1, 2024

FUN

FELLOWSHIP

FOOD

Don't forget to invite a friend, or 3!

1st-5th graders, join us on Wednesday, November 1st from 5 - 6:30 p.m. for First Wednesdays-- an evening of fun, fellowship, and food! First Wednesdays is an environment specially tailored to help 1st-5th graders know and grow in their relationship with Christ. Dinner will be provided. And don't forget to invite a friend!

Fall Gatherings

Join us on one of these dates!

Friday, November 3rd | 6:30 - 9:00 PM
Saturday, November 4th | 9:30 AM - NOON
Saturday, November 11th | 6:30 - 9:00 PM

THRIVE Women's Ministry invites you to join one of the fall gatherings which offers a time of intergenerational fellowship as six to eight women gather to share a meal together in the home of various hosts. [Click here to register.](#)



SOUTH PARK
CHURCH

Family dedication

SUNDAY

November 5, 2023

8:30- 9:30A

*Celebration will be during the service on
November 5, 2023 as well*

Join Us for our
Family Dedication Class

(and some delicious breakfast)

Family Dedication is a time when parents publicly express their commitment to raise their child in a home that honors Christ. We invite you to join our class on Sunday, November 5, from 8:30a- 9:30 am.. Breakfast will be provided, as well as Child Care if needed. [Click here to register.](#)



2023 4TH ANNUAL
**BLESSING
BAGS**

Have you ever driven past someone in need and wondered what you could do to help?

EVERYONE is welcome to join us as we put together bags with clothing, basic toiletries, snacks, & items to keep warm!

MAKE & TAKE BAGS
*South Park Church
Sunday, November 5
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.*

Please visit the info hub at www.southparkchurch.org/info to find a list of items to donate.

Have you ever driven past someone in need and wondered what you could do to help? On Sunday, November 5th in Fellowship Hall (after the worship service), everyone is welcome to help us put together "Blessing Bags!" [Click here for items and more information!](#)



Grief Share

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

Friday, November 17, 2023
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

SOUTH  PARK
CHURCH
1330 Courtland Avenue, Park Ridge

Learn more and register at
www.southparkchurch.org/info

The poster features a collage of four photos: a clock, a Christmas tree, a snowy path, and a table with pumpkins and food.

Join us to find support and gain encouragement and tips for the days ahead. At the same time, we'll be hosting a group for kids ages 6-12. [Click here to learn more and register.](#)



NIGHT OF Thanks

**WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 22
7 PM**

SOUTH  PARK
CHURCH
1330 Courtland Avenue | Park Ridge, IL

The poster features a dark background with a pie, a bowl of crumbs, and spices.

Everyone of all ages is invited to attend our annual *Night of Thanks!* This year we will gather in the Sanctuary to share stories of God's goodness. Then, directly following, we'll dismiss to the MPR for friendship, laughter and, of course, pie! Bring family, friends and, if you'd like, a pie to share!

PRAYING FOR EACH OTHER

These prayer requests represent just one way in which we pray as a church body and just some of the people we are lifting in prayer. For an additional opportunity to pray, share, and celebrate answered prayer, please attend Sunday Morning Prayer each Sunday at 9am in the Staff Conference Room and over Zoom [Click here for the link to the zoom meeting](#). Meeting ID: 874 0226 6783 Password: 807766 And please email kristin@southparkchurch.org if you have a prayer request you'd like shared with the confidential Prayer Chain.

Please pray for God to mightily intervene in the Middle East. Please pray that our sovereign God, for whom nothing is impossible, will bring an end to the violence, will protect the innocent, will comfort the grieving, and will heal the injured. Pray that those in positions of power will choose dialogue and empathy over discord so that an end to the immediate crisis can be reached and so that plans for sustainable peace can be created. And, pray that people in the Middle East and around the world would come to know Jesus as the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

Please join our church in covering the Executive Pastoral search process in prayer every day at 3:56pm. Thank the Lord for the connections that have been made and for the applications received so far. Pray that candidates will hear the Lord's calling to pursue this opportunity and that even more will apply. Pray wisdom, discernment, and energy to fill the search team as they review applications, conduct interviews, and assess the candidates in the limited time they have. Pray that ultimately God will be honored and that His will will be done.

Continue to pray for: Ramiro Flores, Rich Schreiber, Catherine Hankins, Dawn Phillips, Kathy Palansky, and our Outreach Partners in Ukraine

SERMONNOTES

Colossians 2:8-2:23 - Paul's warning against...

1. Intellectualism (vs. 8-10)

- a. Sufficiency of Jesus

2. Ritualism (vs. 11-13)

- a. Circumcision & Baptism

3. Legalism (vs. 14-17)

- a. What we eat
- b. What we celebrate

4. Mysticism (vs. 18-19)

- a. Leads to pride

5. Asceticism (vs. 20-23)

- a. Self discipline ≠ holy

DIGGING DEEPER

1. When you think about your faithlife, what kind of “high-sounding nonsense” have you bought into in the past?

2. What does a healthy relationship with Jesus look like in your current stage of life? How has that changed over time?

3. We talked about how mysticism and asceticism often lead to pride. Are there any spiritual practices in your life that tempt you to become proud of your own abilities/self-discipline?

4. Which of the two takeaways (knowing God’s Word, resting in the sufficiency of Christ) do you feel God is prompting you to work on? What would that look like in your life?