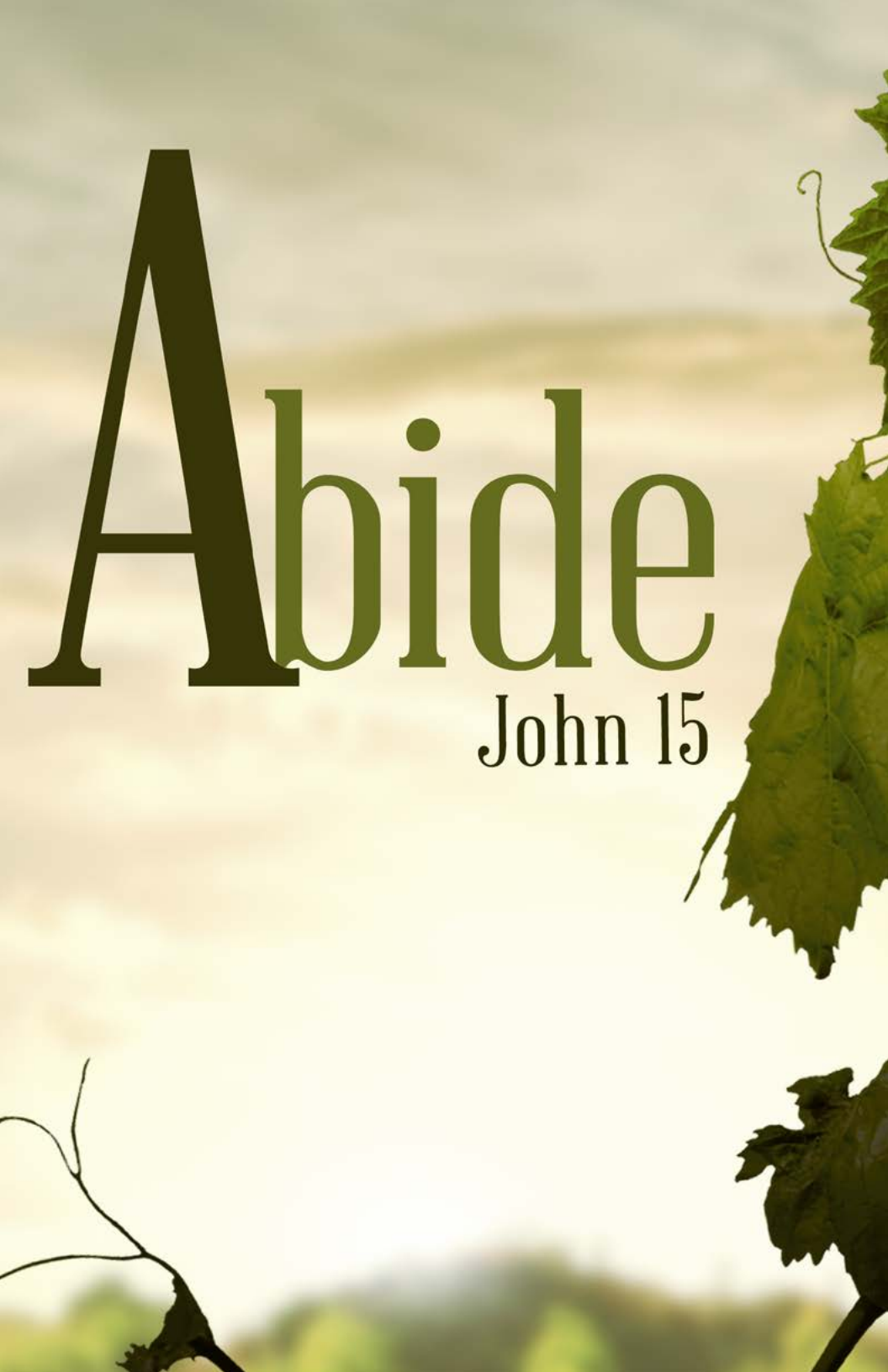


# Abide

John 15



# 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*).



If you're a believer in Jesus Christ and are ready to take the next step in your faith journey, we invite you to declare your faith through baptism.

Baptism is an extraordinary act of obedience, a public proclamation of your unwavering belief in Jesus as your Lord and Savior and an opportunity to affirm your commitment to following His teachings and surrendering your life to His divine will.

Our next baptism will take place on Sunday, September 10 at the 10:00 a.m. service and we can't wait to celebrate with you!

**If you would like to be baptized, visit  
[www.southparkchurch.org/baptism](http://www.southparkchurch.org/baptism).**

# Congregational Meeting

**Sunday, September 24**

Multi-Purpose Room, 11:30 a.m.

Want to know how we are growing and where we are going as a church? Come to the congregational meeting to find out! Everyone is invited and members will have the privilege of voting in new members and new leadership! Check your email for info about the candidates. Childcare will be provided for ages 0-5. Please pre-register your kids for childcare so we can plan for volunteers by [clicking here](#).



The graphic features a dark grey background on the left and a light pink background on the right. On the left, a large stylized 'M' logo is at the top, followed by the text 'MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS'. Below that, 'Wednesdays' and '9:15 - 11:15' are written in a large, white, serif font. At the bottom left, the church's address is listed: 'South Park Church, 1330 Courtland Avenue, Park Ridge, IL 60068'. A website URL 'WWW.SOUTHPARKCHURCH.ORG/MOPS' is at the very bottom. On the right, the text 'Register today!' is written in a bold, dark grey font. Below this text is a large QR code with a black border. At the bottom of the QR code, the text 'FLOWCODE' and 'PRIVACY.FLOWCODE.COM' is visible.

MOPS meets every other Wednesday from September through May at 9:15-11:15 am Childcare is available. For more info and to register, click on the image or visit [www.southpark-church.org/info](http://www.southpark-church.org/info).



Join us for the Prayer & Worship Night as we pray specifically for THRIVE Women's Ministry, MOPS (Moms of Preschoolers) & MOMSNEXT (Moms of School-aged children), and CBS (Community Bible Study) as they all begin a new year of ministry to women.



In a world that is increasingly absurd, chaotic, and out of control, come and find out why you need even more craziness in your life! Join us this fall as we study RightNow Media's Crazy Love video series with Francis Chan! Intentionally develop a deeper relationship with God as well as deeper connections with other women who have a "crazy" love for God. Registration is open! [Click here to register.](#)





DISCOVERY  
SEPTEMBER EVENTS

**SEPTEMBER 8 AT 1 PM: HYMN SING**  
JOIN US FOR THIS DISCOVERY FAVORITE LED BY MARY GEMMEL

**SEPTEMBER 15 AT 12 PM: POTLUCK**  
PLEASE BRING YOUR FAVORITE MAIN DISH, VEGETABLE, SALAD, SIDE DISH OR DESSERT TO SHARE.  
RSVP TO MARGARET AT 847-298-9535 TO LET HER KNOW WHAT YOU ARE BRINGING.

**SEPTEMBER 22 AT 1 PM: BINGO**  
JOIN US FOR THIS DISCOVERY FAVORITE LED BY GLORIA AND BE READY TO SHOUT, "BINGO!"

EMAIL [KRISTIN@SOUTHPARKCHURCH.ORG](mailto:kristin@southparkchurch.org)  
OR CALL 847-825-5507 X125

SOUTH PARK CHURCH  
1330 COURTLAND AVENUE, PARK RIDGE IL

Discovery Senior Ministry events kick off again on September 8 with Hymn Sing. Make plans to join us Friday afternoons. For more information, call Kristin at 847-825-5507 x125 or email [kristin@southparkchurch.org](mailto:kristin@southparkchurch.org)



 EST. 1948  
THE WOODS

**MAN CAMP**  
Men's Retreat

**September 29 - October 1**

REGISTER ONLINE:  
[www.thewoodscamp.org/man-camp](http://www.thewoodscamp.org/man-camp)

This year we have a great opportunity to join the Bridge Community Church and several other churches at their annual Men's Retreat, September 29 - October 1, 2023 at The Woods Campground in Fredonia, Wisconsin. Register online today!

**SOUTH**  **PARK**  
CHURCH

*family ministry*

# REGISTRATION

Please register your child today!

Scan the QR code or visit  
[www.southparkchurch.org/family-ministry](http://www.southparkchurch.org/family-ministry)



Family Ministry Registration for the 2023 - 2024 ministry year is now open. Click on the link in the info hub at [www.southparkchurch.org/info](http://www.southparkchurch.org/info) to register so we have you and your child's updated information.



South Park Church is dedicated to hosting Community Bible Study, an in-depth study of God's Word, whose mission is "To make disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ in our communities through caring, in-depth Bible study, available to all." This year the study will be Ruth, 1&2 Samuel & Ephesians. Visit their website to learn more!

SOUTH  PARK  
CHURCH



## Sunday Morning Prayer

Each Sunday at 9 a.m.

Fellowship Hall & Zoom

Each Sunday morning you are invited to join in-person or on-line for a time of group prayer prior to the worship service. Come try it out! Want to join online?

[Click here for the link to the zoom meeting.](#)

Meeting ID: 874 0226 6783 Password: 807766

# Info Hub



[www.southparkchurch.org/info](http://www.southparkchurch.org/info)



@southparkchurch



@southparkchurch

[Learn more](#)

We've made it easy for you to find info about what's happening at South Park Church! Visit the info hub!

[www.southparkchurch.org/info](http://www.southparkchurch.org/info)



## 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 Fellowship Hall and over Zoom (email [info@southparkchurch.org](mailto:info@southparkchurch.org) for the Zoom link). And please email [kristin@southparkchurch.org](mailto:kristin@southparkchurch.org) if you have a prayer request you'd like shared with the confidential Prayer Chain.

Please continue to pray for Ramiro Flores. Pray that the concerns which led to the diagnostic surgery being postponed will be resolved so that this important surgery can take place as it will provide valuable information on how to effectively treat the recently diagnosed brain and neck AVM's and trigeminal neuralgia. Please pray that Ramiro will abide in God and His word and that this abiding will bring great comfort and peace as he walks this medical journey.

Please pray for all of those affected by the devastating wildfires in Maui. Please pray for the families of those that lost their lives, for the countless people that are displaced, and for the communities that are in ruins.

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: Rich Schreiber, Dave Wolfe, Doug Volden, our Outreach Partners in Ukraine, Catherine Hankins, Dawn Phillips, Kathy Palansky

# SERMON NOTES

## ABIDE - Week 3 John 15:12-17

Friends of God:

1. Love the way God loves (vs. 12-13 & 17)

a. John ch. 13-17

2. Do what He commands (vs. 14)

a. Luke 6:46

3. Understand God's Truths (vs. 15)

4. Are chosen to produce lasting fruit (vs. 16)

a. Eph. 1:4, Jn 6:39 & 13:23; Reve 1:17

## DIGGING DEEPER

1. When you look at the way you've experienced love in your life, what are some of the things/experiences that get in the way of loving the way Jesus loves you?
2. When you compare how much of God's Word you know...with how much of God's Word you obey... what is the difference? Is there anything you're purposefully not putting into practice?
3. Is there anything in your life that you've been arguing or questioning God about? What do you do with those struggles?
4. Is there anyone you've been thinking about sharing the Gospel with...any potential "lasting fruit" you feel the Holy Spirit calling you to invest in?