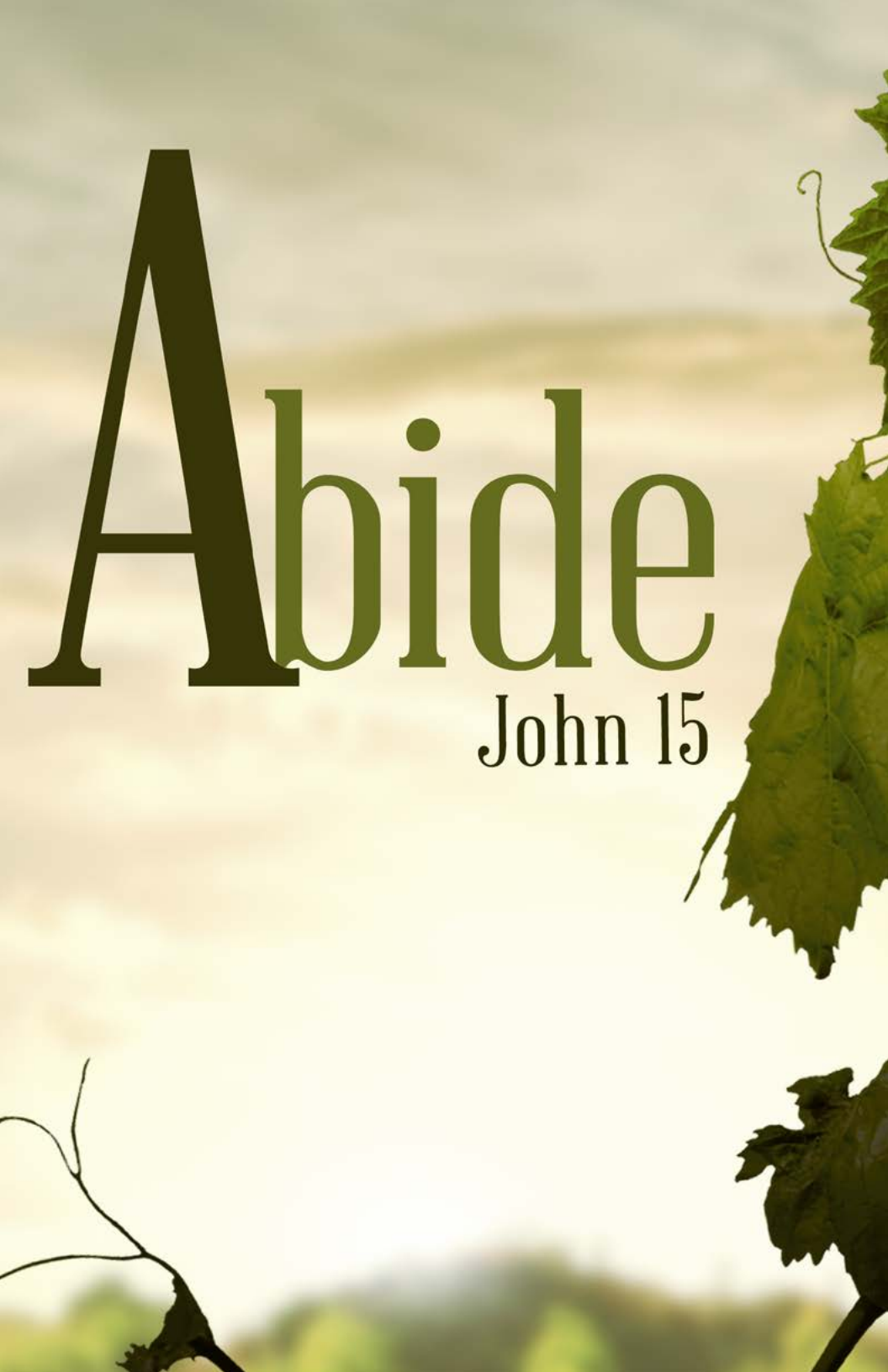


Abide

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*).



Let's kickoff the 2023 Ministry Year with a celebration on September 10! In service we'll hear testimonies of God at work and witness baptisms. After service we'll enjoy an all-church lunch to fellowship over food, cake and music. You won't want to miss this special Sunday celebrating with your South Park Church family!



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 learn more about how to be baptized, visit our website at www.southparkchurch.org/baptism.

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, September 24

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

Everyone is invited to the fall meeting 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](#).



Save the Date

SOUTH  PARK
CHURCH

FAMILY MINISTRY
ANNUAL LEADER TRAINING

11:30 AM
SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

[Please RSVP](#) for our Annual Leader Safety Training to be held on September 17th at 11:30am, following the service. This training is for adult leaders AND student leaders who serve in the various Fam Min environments (Wonderland, ECHO, BaseCamp, Ascent, Summit, Jam, First Wednesdays, Buddies).



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
 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



 **THE WOODS**

MAN CAMP
Men's Retreat
September 29 - October 1

REGISTER ONLINE:
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



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

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



@southparkchurch

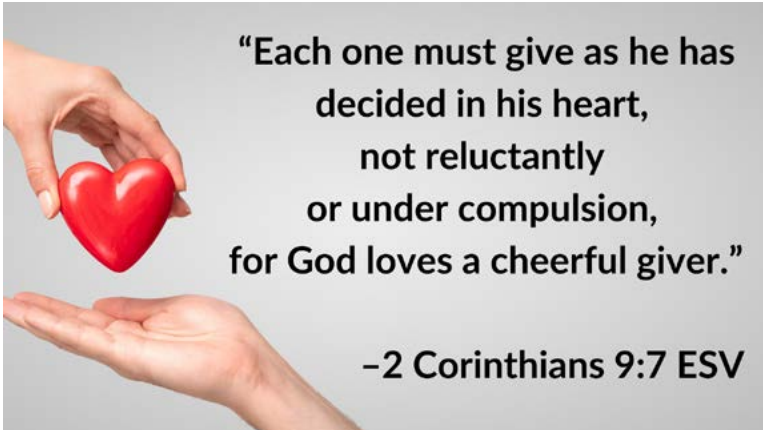


@southparkchurch

[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



“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

-2 Corinthians 9:7 ESV

Financial Update

8/27/2023

Budgeted Giving Year To Date	\$834,667
Actual Giving Year to Date	\$674,210
Last Year Actual Giving Year to Date	\$681,723

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 for the Zoom link). And please email 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. The diagnostic surgery did provide valuable information to guide his medical team in next steps. Please pray an upcoming brain MRI will do the same so that Ramiro and his team can proceed with confidence in the treatment of the AVM's and facial nerve issue. 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.

Pray for those suffering from recent tragedies including the wildfires in Maui and the gun violence in Jacksonville. Pray that Christ would be made known in the midst of heart-break and that suffering would cease through the powerful name of Jesus and the spirit-led actions of believer

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, our Outreach Partners in Ukraine, Catherine Hankins, Dawn Phillips, Kathy Palansky

SERMON NOTES

ABIDE - Week 4 John 15:18-27

1. What to expect from the world:

a. Our relationship with Jesus will divide/unite us
(vs. 18-19)

i. Eph. 2:2-3, Mt. 12:30

b. If the Word loves us, we may need to check our witness
(vs. 19)

i. John 14:6, Mt. 5:11-12

c. If we aim to be Christlike, then that's how they will treat us
(vs. 21-22)

i. Eph. 2:2-3, John 6:66

d. Jesus exposes sin
(vs.22-24)

i. Rom. 3:23, John 3:19-20, Lk. 12:47-48

e. The World's hatred confirms God's sovereignty
(vs. 25)

2. How to respond to the world:

a. Bold, Holy Spirit led obedience
(vs. 26-27)

DIGGING DEEPER

1. At times, the Apostle Paul prayed for boldness in his witness and at other times he encouraged the church to be sensitive in their witness. Where is that balance, and what does it look like in your life?

2. Have you ever been put in a difficult situation where you felt the expectation to “go along” with something that disagreed with your faith? What was that like and how did you respond?

3. When you consider which parts of the culture/world to embrace, (i.e. music, movies, clothes, etc.) what helps you know where to set a boundary?

4. Which Christian beliefs are most offensive to “the world” and how do you navigate those conversations? Are there times you avoided them and wished you hadn’t...times you engaged and you wished you didn’t?