

THE BURR RIDGE MESSENGER

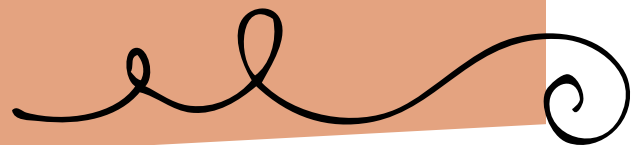
The monthly publication of Burr Ridge Community Church



MORE IN THIS ISSUE:

BRCC Updates - 3
Upcoming Events - 5

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR



continued pg. 2...

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Friends in Christ,

As the calendar turns, we find ourselves on the cusp of Advent—a season of expectation, reflection, and profound hope.

This year, our Advent theme is The Will to Dream. Dreaming is not merely wishful thinking; it is a sacred act of imagination, a willingness to believe in a reality greater than the one we currently experience. It is the courageous spiritual discipline of cultivating hope even in the longest nights.

The weeks of Advent invite us to reclaim our "will to dream," reflecting on the prophets who dreamed of a messiah, and on Mary and Joseph who dreamed of a future for their child. It is in this dreaming that we find the true meaning of Christmas: God's dream for the world, a dream of peace, justice, and light.

In anticipation of turning toward the new calendar year, I am planning to start up a confirmation program to meet on Sundays following worship. If you would like more information and are interested in your child participating, please contact me directly before the end of this calendar year.

Last, certainly not least, I invite you to share in the excitement about the opportunities we have to live out this dream together this season:

- Warm Clothing Drive: Our community's dream of warmth and comfort for all begins with action. Please join us in collecting coats, scarves, and gloves for those in need.
- Annual Holiday Jazz Concert: A Joyful Fundraiser



MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Usher in the true spirit of Christmas with our highly anticipated Annual Holiday Jazz Concert, featuring the renowned Heisenberg Uncertainty Players! Join us for a festive evening of exceptional music, as their vibrant performance fills our sanctuary with classic Christmas melodies infused with their unique and sophisticated jazz flair. This is more than just a concert—it is a vital fundraiser for our church community. All proceeds from ticket sales will directly support our essential community outreach initiatives, helping us provide invaluable resources and assistance to those in need throughout the coming year. Tickets are available now; secure yours early and invite friends and family to share in a wonderful evening of spectacular music and meaningful giving, directly supporting our mission and impact.

- **Homemade Cookie Sale:** Support our church community and enjoy delicious treats at this annual favorite on Saturday, December 12th 9am- 2pm and Sunday, December 13th 10am-1pm
- **The Longest Night Service:** We recognize that for many, the holidays can be a time of sorrow and loneliness. Please plan to join us for a special service of quiet reflection and remembrance on the winter solstice. The exact date is Sunday, December 21st at 7pm.

May you be blessed with the courage to dream this Advent season.

In faith,

Rev. Kim Whisler-Vasko
Pastor



COUNCIL UPDATES

BOARD OF ELDERS

The holidays are upon us whether you are ready or not. December is closer than around the corner. Upcoming holidays can be very stressful or very joyful depending on what is going on in your life. If emotional or physical things have you down right now, please know that others are praying for you. If all is well right now, then Praise the Lord, right? Whatever we are all at this time of year, please know that when you pray for others, others are praying for you.

Burr Ridge Community Church Board of Elders are praying for you and your situations, now and always. Here is the list of those that would appreciate your sincere and loving prayers.

Linda McMahon's niece. Rescued from a kayak accident in California.

Trevor - Healing from accident that crushed his feet.

Linda A - Healing from 2 surgeries from breast cancer.

Mike & Eileen Gambil - Healing from separate accidents

Noel

Kathy A

Rayetta

Frank K

Carrie & Robert

Preston Suva

Mark Suva

Brian & Shannon Fong & Family

Nancy K

Michelle & Boys

Deb Sanford

Chris McNally

Teri Madden - Grandfather Tom passed away

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COUNCIL UPDATES

Prayer request from the BRCC website are as follows:

Nicholas, father of 9 needs prayer of support and help for his family who are living in unhealthy rental home conditions.

William Skasick - Healing from illness and is disabled. Needs calmness

Steve - Healing and calmness needed. Loss of mother and illness.

Prayers for Pastor John Thomas who broke his leg a month ago. Prayers for Pastor Mike Montgomery who had knee surgery a month ago. Prayers for Pastor Joe Mills on the death of his father and mother this past year. (All of these leaders were our pulpit supply in 2024 and 2025.

Pray for peace in our world

Please pray for the lady who was intentionally set on fire in Chicago recently. She is in critical condition.

Carol - Friend of Jane Fiala - Carol broke a bone in her thigh and must stay in hospital for therapy.

Weesie - Waiting for results of a surgery. Been waiting a long time.

Prayers of joy to Sorenson Christmas Trees - Thank them for donating our fresh tree in our Sanctuary as well as garland and wreaths. Their success this season is our success!

Prayers of joy for all new visitors and step into our doors for both food for the soul and their tummies! We appreciate you.

If any member is interested in joining the Board of Elders board, please contact Pastor Kim or Susann for more information.

Happy Holidays from your friends on the Board of Elders.

Kathy Alvisu

Susann K. Pedersen - Chair

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BRCC UPDATES AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

November Sunday Volunteers

Week	Greeter/Opener	Usher	Worship Assistant	Audio/Livestream	Coffee Minute
12/7	Kamal Puthumama	Tom Fong	Susann Pedersen	TBD	Carrie Delzer
12/14	TBD	TBD	Tom Fong	TBD	Kathy Alvisu
12/21	TBD		Tom Fong	TBD	Ann & Tom Fong
12/28	TBD	TBD		TBD	Deb Sanford

MANNA ORDERS

You can submit your upcoming *January 4* Manna Gift Card order any of the following ways:

- Submit completed order form and payment at worship, Sunday, January 4
- Call the church office with your order and submit payment via mail or on-line giving;
- Send an email with your order and submit payment via mail or on-line giving.

All payments must be submitted at the time the order is placed. ***please be aware if you use a credit card for your Manna purchase, there is an additional processing fee charged to BRCC by the bank.***

Next Manna Order date: February 1st

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Join us for Worship every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. either in-person or on Facebook Live or YouTube. If you are worshipping with us at home, follow along with the weekly Worship Folder found on our website. You can find the worship live stream by following the link below:

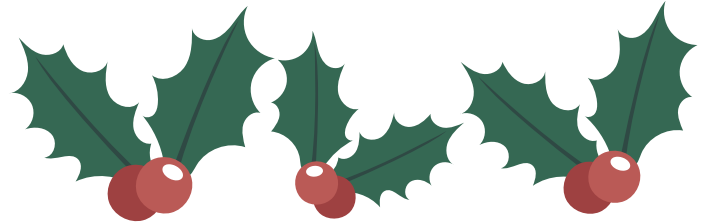
[Facebook Livestream](#)

[YouTube Livestream](#)

WOMEN'S WELLNESS

Women of the congregation are invited to attend Women's Wellness on **Thursday, December 18th at 6:30 pm.**

Anyone who is or has gone through an emotional or physical situation and would like to come, relax and enjoy each other's fellowship are welcome. All conversations are personal and confidential. What is spoken at the gathering, stays at the gathering.



MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

Month of October 2025

Income \$ 25,065.74

Expenses 16,031.13

Over \$ 11,478.40

Year-to-Date as of 10/31/2025

Income \$ 109,475.68

Expenses 105,737.70

Over \$ 3,737.98

"The substantial amount of income in October represents the collection of funds from our annual Pumpkin Sale. Just over \$13,000 in sales for the event this year, with our profit coming to almost exactly \$5,000! Also during the month of October, we received an unrestricted donation of \$5,000 from a member!!"



UPCOMING EVENTS & COUNCIL UPDATES



TRUSTEE UPDATES

Blink camera placement and range availability/fix so other doorways to exits can be covered.

- pastor office door window addition- keeping existing door
- shed electric to be updated. Will coordinate with Sorensen when work will take place.
- improving parking lot brightness and light angles for better coverage - will get estimate
- gave update to Sofia's cleaning service to include altar and spiral staircase
- exterior lights facing south side of building will not turn off as the original timer is broken. Working on having this unit replaced



RESERVE ACCOUNT FUNDING

Thank you everyone for supporting our Reserve Account Fundraising! The balance is as follows:

Interior Reserve: \$811

Can be used for sound system, interior updating & repairs.

Exterior Reserve: \$0

Can be used for exterior projects such as parking lot sealcoating and new outdoor church sign.

Total Reserves (including the above): \$111,912

Feel free to either mail or drop off your donation to the church. Please indicate where you would like your donation applied.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

We wish Happy Birthday to those that celebrate this month. We hope you have a wonderful day!

Nash Madden - December 4
Blake Madden - December 11
Kathy Alvisu - December 12
Larry Jefferson - December 16
Janet Suva - December 19
Carly Miller - December 22
Cheyenne Stiltner - December 27
Andy Fore - December 29

Please join us after service on December 28 for cake as we celebrate all our birthdays this month!

RESERVE ACCOUNT DONATION

If you would like to donate to the Reserve Account Fundraiser, please complete the below information and return with your donation to the church office. If you prefer, you can make your donation on our website, and select the funds category to which you are supporting.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Select the project(s) you are supporting and the amount of the pledge.

☐ General Operating Expenses

☐ \$ _____

☐ Exterior Projects (Parking Lot Preservation, Building Stain, New Church Sign)

☐ \$ _____

☐ Interior Projects (Lounge Updates, Office Technology, Boiler Maintenance)

☐ \$ _____

Total Donation: \$ _____



DECEMBER

2025

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
30 10am Sunday Service	1	2	3	4 Jazz Concert	5	6
7 Manna Due 10am Sunday Service	8	9	10	11	12	13 9:00am Cookie Sale
14 10am Sunday Service 11:00am Cookie Sale	15	16	17	18 6:30pm Women's Wellness	19	20
21 10am Sunday Service	22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26	27
28 10am Sunday Service 11am Monthly Birthday Celebration	29	30	31 New Years Eve	1 New Years Day	2	3