



POPLAR CREEK CHURCH

◆ 300 Schick Rd. ◆ Bartlett, IL 60103 ◆

**Journeying with others into a viable
and thriving relationship with Jesus Christ**

2/12/2012

"Prison Letter of Joy"

*Finding Joy
Amidst Difficulty*

A Journey Through Philippians

630.483.1000 • www.poplarcreek.com

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CONTACT INFO:

Shepherds

shepherds@poplarcreek.com

Church Office

Pastor Ian

ian@poplarcreek.com

Kathleen Malick

office@poplarcreek.com

9-2pm M-F

READ ME FIRST

Children's Worship – Children's worship takes place on the lower level at the same time as our worship gatherings and is for children ages 3 years through grade 6. We are committed to teaching our children about the Good News of Jesus Christ in a safe, environment offering age-appropriate, biblically-based curriculum.

Nursery – For our youngest attenders we have a fully staffed nursery during our worship gatherings located in the back of the auditorium. For children from birth to age 3.

Communication – Each week, Poplar Creek Church sends out an e-mail newsletter to our congregation with last minute reminders, changes and updates to events for the upcoming weeks. You too can be added if you just write your email address on the Attendance Pad, send Kathleen an email office@poplarcreek.com or call her at 630.483.1000. You will be added to the list and receive the most up-to-date information we have. We also welcome feedback from you. Comment/Suggestion Cards can be found in the Attendance Pads along with the Prayer Request Cards.

Communion – Communion is offered weekly as part of our worship gatherings.

Offerings – We do not pass a plate during our worship gatherings at Poplar Creek. Instead, we have our “**Joy Box**” at the back of the auditorium where we leave our gifts.

Prayer – In need of prayer? We have prayer team members and shepherds available to pray with and for you at the end of each service in front by the stage. You are also welcome to fill out a request card and place it in the Joy Box at the back of the church. All requests will be sent to the church prayer chain alerting them of the need.

If you would like to be part of the prayer chain and will commit to praying faithfully for any request submitted, please contact the office at 630.483.1000 and we will be happy to assist you.

Our prayer team meets every Friday in the Sanctuary at 7pm to pray, and everyone is welcome to join us.

We hope that your time with us is Christ-focused and inspirational - and we invite you to share with us again.

GREETINGS!

We're so thrilled that you decided to join us this morning as we kick-off our new series Prison Letters of Joy!

We deeply hope that your time here today is not only encouraging, but inspiring and challenging as well.

If you have any questions whatsoever, please do not hesitate to ask one of our Shepherds up front or one of our Greeters in the back of the sanctuary.

Grace and Peace,
– Pastor Ian Simkins

Come and See – TODAY

Today we wanted to be particularly intentional about providing an opportunity for our friends to actually get to know Poplar Creek Church, not as a building or an organization, but as a community of broken and loving people.

To help facilitate a time of friendly conversation, a number of us will be getting coffee or food after the services, and we greatly encourage you to join us!

- After 9am service - **Starbucks** (*Army Train and 59 - 1681 Route 59, Bartlett*)
- After 11am service - **Stratford Square Mall food-court** (*Schick Rd and Gary Ave - 152 Stratford Square, Bloomingdale*)

We look forward to getting to know you better!

-Poplar Creek Church

Our Weekly E-mail Newsletter:

Do you know that Poplar Creek has a weekly E-mail Newsletter? It is sent out every Friday and it is a condensed version of the Program. It contains upcoming events, announcements and is also occasionally used to send out emergency notifications. You don't have to wait until Sunday to hear about what is going on!

Get in on the club and get it earlier! Just drop Kathleen in the church office an E-mail or phone call and she will sign you up! 630.483.1000 or office@poplarcreek.com.

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CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

3 Yrs. – Kindergarten

Children ages 3 through kindergarten will learn about God's word through songs, Bible stories, art projects and age-appropriate games and activities. Available during Sunday worship services.

1st – 6th Grade

Students in 1st-6th grades enjoy an age appropriate worship experience including fun songs, prayer, interactive Bible stories, games, art projects and more. Available during Sunday worship services.

5th & 6th Grade Small Group

God doesn't call us to be "culturally relevant". In fact, Jesus often went against what was cultural during his life. But God's word is just as relevant today as it was when the Bible was first written. "Starting January 8th, the PCC Children's Ministries will be mixing up the structure of our worship services. One of the exciting new additions is a group dedicated specifically for 5th and 6th graders. It is our hope to be rooted in scripture while exploring connections and relevance to students' every day life. For more information about the groups, or to learn about how you can get involved, please contact Kim Cody: kim@poplarcreek.com

PADS Volunteering Report – January 2012 –

Our Congregational volunteers served at PADS on Wednesday, February 1st and Thursday, February 2nd. We were at our usual partner site, Corpus Christi Church who has been serving as a site for 17 years now, and this is our 6th season helping from PCC. There were 13 persons setting up the pads and serving a full Turkey dinner, and an additional 10 persons donated food. We also had several musicians play some acoustical music during dinner for the 39 guests present. We had another 14 volunteers work as night shift monitors and breakfast shift. It always amazes me how things come together and all of our guests immediate needs are met by God's providence. For me, there is nothing more that I can do that is personally pleasing to God. The opportunity to serve Him directly is a blessing and enhances my relationship with Him. Personally, I feel blessed and honored that so many of the congregation of PCC has chosen to volunteer for this service project. By so doing, all of you enable it to happen every month. Blessings and grace to you all.

We can always use more volunteers, especially true in the past few years of this recessionary period. We need you to be involved in helping to set up and prepare dinners, to share your faith at dinner, to serve as staff night aides, to help with breakfast preparation and serving and finally at morning cleanup.

Please contact

Mark or JoAnn DeAngeles at **630.293.1642**, or Debbie Jackson at **630.372.7829**

or email Mark at - triumph2974@comcast.net

JoAnn at - tfnjoann@comcast.net

Debbie at - jackson4527@sbcglobal.net



STUDENT MINISTRIES

—Ian Simkins

630.379.9222 • ian@poplarcreek.com

Ignition - Wednesday 7-9:30PM

Ignition starts with game time and is followed by a teaching time for the entire group before they break into their small group discussion time. This allows us to engage the students on matters specific to their age group and context on a weekly basis. We conclude our evening with fellowship and snacks. Ignition is for any student 7-12th grade.

Sex Series February 15

We will be addressing the topic of sex, and discussing it bluntly and head-on. We ask that parents decide for themselves if they wish for their student to participate.

If you would like to discuss this further, please send us an email to matchbox@poplarcreek.com.

Matchbox Weekly Challenge!

LOVE OTHERS

¹ If I speak with human eloquence and angelic ecstasy but don't love, I'm nothing but the creaking of a rusty gate. ²If I speak God's Word with power, revealing all his mysteries and making everything plain as day, and if I have faith that says to a mountain, "Jump," and it jumps, but I don't love, I'm nothing. ³⁻⁷If I give everything I own to the poor and even go to the stake to be burned as a martyr, but I don't love, I've gotten nowhere. So, no matter what I say, what I believe, and what I do, I'm bankrupt without love.

Love never gives up. Love cares more for others than for self. Love doesn't want what it doesn't have. Love doesn't strut, Doesn't have a swelled head, Doesn't force itself on others, Isn't always "me first," Doesn't fly off the handle, Doesn't keep score of the sins of others, Doesn't revel when others grovel, Takes pleasure in the flowering of truth, Puts up with anything,

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FACEBOOK If you're not a part of our Facebook group yet, I'd highly recommend that you do so!

facebook.com/matchboxministries

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Sermon Notes

Happiness is the primary object of human pursuit. The desire for happiness, urges our weary steps in the pilgrimage of life.

– D.R. Thomason

The reason we resist God's laws and pursue our own sinful strategies is because we believe that we can do better at securing our happiness than God can.

– Sam Storms

Do not let your happiness depend on something you may lose...only (upon) the Beloved who will never pass away.

– C.S. Lewis

COMMUNITY GROUP: Cody/Buss**When:** Every Sunday, 6:30-8pm**Where:** Buss house**Notes:** Childcare @ Cody house if needed

For more information, contact the following:

- Leslie Buss: leslie.buss@comcast.net
- Kim Cody: codyfamily@live.com

COMMUNITY GROUP: Zirkel/Laker**When:** Every Sunday, 7-8pm**Where:** Zirkel house**Notes:** College Age Ministry. No Childcare

For more information, contact the following:

- Carly Zirkel: carlyz156@yahoo.com
- Becca Laker: soccer_girl369@yahoo.com

COMMUNITY GROUP: Cozza**When:** Every Monday, 10-11:30am**Where:** Pastor's Office @ Poplar Creek Church**Notes:** No childcare

For more information, contact:

- Dominick Cozza: dom@dcozza.com

COMMUNITY GROUP: Cullen**When:** Every Monday, 7:30-9:30pm**Where:** Cullen house

For more information, contact:

- Brian Cullen: bricullen@comcast.net

COMMUNITY GROUP: Anders**When:** Every Tuesday, 7-9pm**Where:** Anders house**Notes:** Childcare as necessary

For more information, contact the following:

- Rob Anders: rob.anders@gmail.com
- Nicole Anders: nicole.anders@gmail.com

COMMUNITY GROUP: Cornelius**When:** Every Tuesday, 7-9pm**Where:** Poplar Creek Church**Notes:** Topic: 10 Basic Steps to Christianity. This group is limited to 2-3 people & requires approximately a 2 year commitment.

For more information, contact:

- Jean Cornelius: jeancornelius@sbcglobal.net

COMMUNITY GROUP: DeAngles**When:** Every Tuesday, 7-9pm**Where:** DeAngles house**Notes:** This group meets every Tuesday evening except for the first week of each month when they serve with the PADS program on Wed. night.

For more information, contact:

- Mark DeAngles: 630-293-1642 or triumph2974@comcast.net

COMMUNITY GROUP: Lum**When:** Every Tuesday, 7:30-9pm**Where:** Blasucci house**Notes:** Men & Women welcome!

For more information, contact:

- Guy Lum: guylum@foxvalley.net

COMMUNITY GROUP: Lawrence/Cullen**When:** Every Wednesday, 9:30-11:15am**Where:** Cullen house**Notes:** Childcare is available.

For more information, contact the following:

- Deb Lawrence: deb.lawrence75@gmail.com
- Kay Cullen: alrightok8@comcast.net

COMMUNITY GROUP: Reynolds**When:** Every Wednesday, 7-8:30pm**Where:** Reynolds house**Notes:** No Childcare. Cats are present.

For more information, contact:

- Juliette Reynolds: romeosgalpal@yahoo.com

COMMUNITY GROUP: Padron**When:** Every Wednesday, 7:15-9pm**Where:** Padron house**Notes:** This group rotates member/leader houses in the Bartlett area. Topic - Various

For more information, contact:

- Cathy Padron at cpadron7@yahoo.com

COMMUNITY GROUP: Lazzara**When:** Every Wednesday, 8-10pm**Where:** Lazzara house

For more information, contact:

- Tom Lazzara: 630-926-6674 or tljazzara79@yahoo.com

COMMUNITY GROUP: Velen**When:** Every Thursday, 7:30-9:30pm**Where:** Velen house**Notes:** Topic - Being a Mary in a Martha world. No childcare.

For more information, contact:

- Gail Velen: itsmegv@sbcglobal.net

COMMUNITY GROUP: Panico**When:** 2nd and 4th Thursday of the Month, 7-8:30pm**Where:** Panico house**Notes:** Topic - New Testament. No childcare.

For more information, contact the following:

- Lou Panico: bigloupnico@comcast.net
- Lee Panico: lee_panico@ibi.com

COMMUNITY GROUP: 20-30 Something**When:** Every Friday, 7-9pm**Where:** Drew house

For more information, contact the following:

- Alissa Cullen: alissacullen@gmail.com
- EJ Drew: ejsimagin8ion4@aol.com

COMMUNITY GROUP: Kraft**When:** Every Friday, 7-8:30pm**Where:** Kraft house**Notes:** Childcare if necessary. Dogs & cats are present

For more information, contact:

- Rich Kraft: richkraft@gmail.com

COMMUNITY GROUP: Gates**When:** Every Saturday, 10-11am**Where:** Kliesner house

For more information, contact:

- Karen Gates: doctorkaren@comcast.net

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UP- & COMING-EVENTS

The following shows the ministries, events and Community Groups (👤). This (📦) designates a Matchbox event.

Check the website for the most up-to-date list of events.

Sunday, February 12

- 9:00am Worship Gathering: Come & See
11:00am Worship Gathering: Come & See
3:00pm Children's Ministry:
Dance - Lower Level
4:00pm Children's Ministry:
Puppets - Lower Level
6:30pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Cody/Buss
7:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Zirkel/Laker

Monday, February 13

- 10:00am 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Cozza
7:15pm Make Believers - Sanctuary
7:30pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Cullen

Tuesday, February 14

- 6:30pm Children's Ministry:
Expression Groups - Lower Level
7:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Anders
7:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Cornelius
7:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: DeAngeles
7:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Ripples
7:30pm Silent Messengers - Sanctuary

Wednesday, February 15

- 7:00am Wednesday Morning Prayer -
Pastor's Office
9:30am 👤 COMMUNITY
GROUP: Lawrence/Cullen
7:00pm 📦 Matchbox: Ignition - Lower Level
7:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Reynolds

- 7:15pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Padron
8:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Lazarra

Thursday, February 16

- 7:00pm Praise Team - Sanctuary
7:30pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Velen

Friday, February 17

- 6:00pm Celebrate Recovery - Lower Level
7:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY
GROUP: 20-30 Something: Drew
7:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Kraft
7:00pm Friday Prayer Meeting - Sanctuary
7:00pm The Great Recovery: Finding
Financial Peace - Sanctuary

Saturday, February 18

- 9:30am Kids Against Hunger:
Packaging Event - Roselle
10:00am 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Gates

Sunday, February 19

- 9:00am Worship Gathering
11:00am Worship Gathering
3:00pm Children's Ministry:
Dance - Lower Level
4:00pm Children's Ministry:
Puppets - Lower Level
6:30pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Cody/Buss
7:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Zirkel/Laker

Please refer to the website calendar for the most up-to-date list of events, and while you are there check out the past sermons available to listen to online at www.poplarcreek.com

Matchbox Continued from pg 5

Trusts God always, Always looks for the best, Never looks back, But keeps going to the end.

⁸⁻¹⁰Love never dies. Inspired speech will be over some day; praying in tongues will end; understanding will reach its limit. We know only a portion of the truth, and what we say about God is always incomplete. But when the Complete arrives, our incompletes will be canceled. — 1
Corinthians 13 (The Message)

Your challenge-if you choose to accept it is- to read this verse and pray for God to reveal to you what part you should focus on. What part of truly loving is most difficult for you?

Have you given up? Do you put yourself before others? Are you proud and a show off? Do you keep score? Do you love it when some one kisses your feet (not for real, eewww)?

This challenge is difficult- but it wouldn't be a "challenge" if it wasn't. Try it and see- you will grow into an amazing person if you work on the areas you're weakest in.

Helping Hands

The goal of the Helping Hands Ministry is to "love one another" as Jesus commanded in John 13:34-35, and that by doing so, "all men will know that we are His disciples." The sort of help we have most often provided has been meal preparation and delivery. If you have ideas for ways that Helping Hands can be more helpful, please fill out the form below and drop it into the Helping Hands box in the back of the sanctuary.

Also, we could always use more "hands"! If you would be interested in being included in our pool of beautiful, warm-hearted, much-appreciated volunteers, please check that box in the form below, or email LeeAnn Walther at leeann71011@gmail.com.

This ministry is a great way to get involved and connected on a small scale without a great financial or time commitment. Once we are notified of a need, you would receive an email stating the need and asking for help. If you are able to help, great! If not, just say no and we'll keep you on the list for the next time. It's really that easy!

POPLAR CREEK CHURCH - HELPING HANDS MINISTRY

Please add me to your list of beautiful, warm-hearted, much-appreciated volunteers!

Name: _____

Email: _____

Here's a way Helping Hands could be more helpful: _____

I could use a helping hand! Here's my name and number/email and a brief description of the help I need: _____

We will try our best to accommodate each need.

Please drop completed forms into the Helping Hands Box in the back of the sanctuary.

**text POPLAR + ANY QUESTION
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POPLAR CREEK CHURCH

Vital Signs

Our offerings are received through the gifts box at the entrance to the worship auditorium. We do not collect offerings in the service, and if you are a guest today, please understand we do not consider it your responsibility to support this ministry unless you wish to do so.

Vital Signs for the week of February 5TH

- ★ Total Attendance: 253
- ★ Worship Attendance: 199
- ★ Children: 43
- ★ Sprouts: 11

Needed Weekly: \$ 8,541.00

Total Received this Week

\$9,500.25

Are You In Need of Prayer? Would you like to pray with someone?

The prayer team, along with our Shepherds, will be available to pray with you immediately following each service. Intercessors will be standing in front of the stage area at the end of each service. All prayer requests are kept confidential.

"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed."

James 5:16



The Best Place to be On a Friday Night!

Is Celebrate Recovery for You?

Are you struggling with an issue in your life? Do you have a hurt that is consuming you? Are you struggling with forgiving another person in your life, yourself, even God? Is anxiety or depression making life difficult?

If you have answered yes to any of these questions, then Celebrate Recovery is for you!

February 17TH

Hope

6PM-7PM	Dinner
7PM-8PM	Large group meeting
8PM-9PM	Small Group meetings

Childcare Available

NOW MEETING EVERY FRIDAY

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Visit us at www.poplarcreek.com

— POPLAR CREEK BINGO! —

Someone who has a birthday in June, July, or August	Someone who is a Cubs fan	Someone who is left-handed	Someone who has a sister	Someone you've never met before
Someone who has been to Colorado before	Someone who has lived in their neighborhood for more than 10 years	Someone who plays a musical instrument	Someone who is a legitimate "American Idol" fan	Someone who is the oldest child in their family
Someone who likes to run or cycle	Have someone tell you about the best Christmas gift they ever received	FREE!	Someone who watches "The Office" regularly	Someone who speaks a Foreign language. Which one?
Someone who has a birthday this month	Someone who wears contact lenses	Someone who is a vegetarian	Someone who hates pizza	Someone who has been to Europe
Someone to listen to you say "toy boat" ten times fast	Someone who has blue eyes	Someone who has a pet. What kind?	Someone who has been to Disney World	Someone whose first name begins with a vowel

Have the person write their first name in the appropriate square. You can only ask each person ONCE. The first person to get 5 in a row (down, across, diagonal) must yell "BINGO!" at the top of their lungs to win.

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The Great Recovery: Finding Financial Peace

Starts **THIS Friday**, February 17th • 7pm - 9pm

It's no secret that thousands of families find themselves in extremely difficult financial situations and the months following Christmas can be among the most challenging for many.

More than 1.5 million families have attended Financial Peace University with amazing results. On average, these families paid off \$5,300 in debt and saved \$2,700 in just the first 90 days! Stop worrying about money, and start your journey to Financial Peace this winter with Poplar Creek Church.

Cost: \$93/family

Contact our office to RSVP or for more info about how to join this powerful 13-week class:
office@poplarcreek.com - 630.483.1000 **** There is no class on April 6th ****

BEAT DEBT & LEAVE A LEGACY
with Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University

Financial Peace University is a 13-week, biblically based program that teaches you to eliminate debt and leave a lasting legacy!

More Info:
February 17, 2012 at 7:00 pm
office@poplarcreek.com

www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/org/37929/class/201798

PLEASE FILL OUT AND PLACE IN THE JOY BOX IN THE BACK OF THE AUDITORIUM

THANKS FOR VISITING!

Name: _____

If it is your first time with us, or to record changes to your information, please complete below

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

- First time guest
- Occasionally attend
- This is my home church
- Please contact me
- Male Female
- Single Married

- Lifestage:
- HS Student
- College Student
- 20-30s
- 40-50s
- 60+

- I heard about PCC by:
- A friend
- Drive by
- Website
- Sign
- _____

