

WELCOME

May 24, 2026 - 9:00am

Welcome and Announcements - Kathy Olson

Time of Preparation for Worship

Call to Worship

L: Sovereign God, Lord of all nations, we pause to reflect on the high cost of the freedoms we enjoy.

P: Lord, we ask you to pour out your healing grace upon the families, friends, and communities who are less because of their loss, on this Memorial Day Weekend.

L: For those who gave their lives in service to our country, and for the families who grieve them,

P: we lift up thankful hearts and prayers of comfort.

L: We honor their sacrifice, the heavy price they paid to protect the liberties we hold dear.

P: We offer our prayers of solemn remembrance and thanksgiving.

L: Until the day comes when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, we will remember.

P: We will remember them. In the name of the One who grants us everlasting peace, we pray. Amen

Song: God Bless America/How Great is Our God

Memorial Day Presentation - Nan Good, Lydia Roberts

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Spirit of the living God, we confess that we persistently make self-centered decisions, rather than Christ-centred ones. Forgive us. When our faithfulness is weak and our discipleship lacks credibility, forgive us. In this aggressive world, it's easy to believe we can't get anywhere by a spirit of gentleness or even self-control. Spirit of the living God, grant us your forgiveness and your love, so that we may truly care for one another. Refresh and renew us so that we are fruitful and vital disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Song: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Scripture: John 14:26-27; Gal. 5:22-26; Eph. 5:18

Sermon: "From Ashes to Flames"

Song: Breathe on me Breath of God (#259)

Graduation Sunday Presentation

Prayers of the People - Lydia Roberts

Offering and Doxology

Song: I Give You My Heart/I Love You Lord

Blessing

Volunteers from 1st Presbyterian are needed to work at the Rochelle Christian Food Pantry from 12:20-3:00 pm on Tuesday, May 26th.

Please contact Kurt Wolter at kwolter@gmail.com, or call in to the church, to get more details if you are able and interested in helping this important ministry.

VBS is coming soon! June 8-12th

We are still in need of a few adult helpers!! We have A LOT of great middle schoolers who are eager to help this year, but need some adult HEAD LEADERS, too.

We really need helpers for:

CREW LEADERS (need 1 more)—walk your group around to the stations

GAMES LEADER—Play organized games with the kids!

BIBLE LESSON LEADER—Teach a lesson to 4 groups each day (lesson is provided and can be read from the book)

SCRIPTURE ROOM—Kids will come to your station for a video clip and will work on memorizing a simple verse each day

Please see SARA SLATTENGREN if you would like to help!

NEW LIFE LIBRARY

I recently did a review on a book by Travis Thrasher, titled The Second Thief. When I noticed one of our recently donated books also by him, I decided to read Invisible. I imagine some of you saw the movie by the same title based on a true story.

“Darren and Heather Turner share a passion for serving God, family, and country. When Darren is deployed to Iraq as an army chaplain, Heather vows to serve military families back home as she cares for the couple's three young children.”

Neither one is aware of what they will be involved in during this difficult and dark time. Nor did they expect the changes in each upon his return fifteen months later. “It's at home that the Turners face their biggest battle to save their marriage.”

The movie and the book are “a tribute to the beauty of serving our country, the courage of choosing love in the darkness, and the power of a God who never gives up hope.”

Judy Schermerhorn of the Library Committee

Congratulations to Kayla Keilman on her graduation from Illinois State University with a Bachelor's of Social Work.



WORSHIP Join us for a fun-filled day at the Rochelle Conservation Club on Sunday, July 19th!

POTLUCK We will have worship at 10:00am and gather together for a potluck at 11:30am

FISHING  Please Sign Up

GAMES for ALL AGES

BRING YOUR OWN KAYAKS OR BIKES

We want to have enough meat ready for lunch! You can use this QR code or call the office and let us know! Thanks!

3501 S Sweeney Rd, Chana, IL
rochellewildlife.org

Fellowship will provide the main dish, please bring a side dish to pass and your own beverages.

VBS RAIN FOREST FALLS

JUNE 8-12TH
9AM-12NOON

 **FREE**

Please Sign Up

Pre-K - 5th Grade
GAMES . CRAFTS . SNACKS . SKITS
SONGS . BIBLE LESSONS

1st Pres Church - 1100 Calvin Rd.
Rochelle . 815-562-7053

We want to make you aware that you can contact, connect and give electronically to this congregation.

We hope that our worship and fellowship is something that you will continue to take advantage of. We are not pushing the idea of contributing, but want to offer it as well as other services that we provide, for those who want them. You can give electronically. There's a button on our website, or you can mail to our address at First Presbyterian Church, 1100 Calvin Road, Rochelle, IL.

But you can also visit with us electronically if you would like to. Our deacons offer individual visits, as well as our pastors. Counseling is available electronically from wherever you are.

And if you would like to join the church and be on the committee, we are very open to our committee members being with us through zoom.

If you would like to give your offering digitally, we have our Venmo and a QR to our website.



Coming Up

SUNDAY, May 24
Graduation Sunday, Pentecost & Memorial Day Sunday
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour, Adult Ed
1:00 p.m. Cagle Family
6:30 p.m. Chunko's Small Group
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

MONDAY, May 25
Office Closed for Holiday

WEDNESDAY, May 27
6:00 p.m. Choir
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

THURSDAY, May 28
7:00 a.m. Kiwanis

FRIDAY, May 29
GRACE Homeschool Sale

SATURDAY, May 30
12:00 p.m. Davis Party
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

SUNDAY, May 31
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour, Adult Ed
6:30 p.m. Chunko's Small Group
6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

We have a new church directory printed - if you would like to pick one up, we have them in the office or on the Welcome Center in the Narthex.

2026 GRADUATE SPOTLIGHT



What was one of your favorite memories from high school?

Getting to cheer the boys on at the Friday night football games.

What is a piece of advice you would give to your younger self?

Choose your friends wisely and take time to fully experience high school- those experiences can help you get you where you need to be.

What are you most excited about in the next chapter of your life?

Starting fresh going into college and seeing what God has in store for me.

What is something you've learned in high school that you think will be valuable in the future?

Having the right friends and making choices for my future.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I plan to go to Kishwaukee College to get my Associates in Science. I also hope to make it into the radiology program.



Rylie Thomas
Philippians 4:13

2026 GRADUATE SPOTLIGHT



What was one of your favorite memories from high school?

One of my favorite memories from high school was being part of track and field. I loved competing with my teammates, traveling to meets, and pushing myself to improve every season. Some of my favorite moments were celebrating PRs and spending time with the team before meets.

What are your plans for after graduation?

After graduation, I plan to attend the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and study Urban and Regional Planning

What is a piece of advice you would give to your younger self?

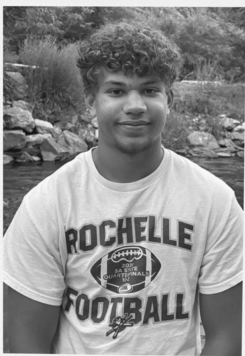
I would tell my younger self to stay confident and trust the process. Don't compare yourself to everyone else because everyone grows at their own pace. Focus on working hard and enjoying the moment.

What are you most excited about in the next chapter of your life?

I'm most excited about meeting new people, gaining independence, and experiencing college life. I'm also excited to challenge myself academically and continue growing as a person.

What is something you learned in high school that you think will be valuable in the future?

One thing I've learned in high school is the importance of discipline and consistency. Whether it was school, sports, or life, staying committed and working hard every day helped me improve and will continue to help me in the future.



Reece Harris
John 16:22



Parker Slattengren has been selected to be the recipient of the Chad Ramsey Memorial Scholarship for 2026.

Parker will be working on staff at Camp Timber-Lee this summer, and plans to use his time there to prayerfully discern his next steps. Having been deeply impacted by Pastor Todd Ackland, Parker seeks to serve and impact others in the same way. Parker's servant's heart and humility are seen in the many ways he chooses to love and serve others whether that's here at church, in school, or in the other various ministries he's involved in. All of these things, and many others, led the Christian Education Commission to choose Parker as this year's recipient.

Congratulations, Parker! Thank you for all the ways you have served God and will continue to do so!

2026 GRADUATE SPOTLIGHT



What was one of your favorite memories from high school?

It's hard to choose between football and track- the time with my teammates and coaches on both has been incredible!

What are your plans for after graduation?

I plan to attend Monmouth College and study exercise science, as well as continuing to run track and field there.

What are you most excited about in the next chapter of your life?

I am looking forward to all I will learn in college, as well as being able to compete at a collegiate level.

What is a piece of advice you would give to your younger self?

Enjoy everything you can to the fullest in high school, because it will be over before you know it.

What is something you learned in high school that you think will be valuable in the future?

Keep giving everything your very best, even when it gets hard.



Nolan Johnson
Romans 8:28

2026 GRADUATE SPOTLIGHT



What was one of your favorite memories from high school?

Football, in general, is my favorite memory from high school. I had a lot of fun the four years I played.

What are your plans for after graduation?

This summer I will be working at Camp Timber-Lee, and in the fall I plan to get an apprenticeship to become an electrician.

What is a piece of advice you would give to your younger self?

I would tell myself to relax and don't procrastinate - just get stuff done.

What is something you learned in high school that you think will be valuable in the future?

I learned how to work hard for what I want and how to accomplish my goals

What are you most excited about in the next chapter of your life?

To start new and see what God has planned for me. I'm also very excited for my summer at Timber-Lee and all the new people I'll meet there.



Parker Slattengren
Romans 8:38-39

PRAYER LIST

We have a prayer chain that is texted to anyone who has requested to be on the list.

If you would like to be added to the text group, please let Sara know. sara@placeforgrace.com

We also LOVE Praising the Lord for what He has done through prayers. If you have a PRAISE Request, please don't hesitate to send that along, too!!

Did you know ... we email out a newsletter every Tuesday afternoon. If you would like to get our weekly newsletter, please email Sara at sara@placeforgrace.com and we can get you added on the list! We do mail a hard copy out every other week to those not able to get the email version. If you would prefer to receive your newsletter that way, please let the office staff know and we can get you added to that list.