

September 2026

The Center gives people of all faiths, backgrounds, and ages the space to dream, grow, and become fully alive- physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually.



The Chicago Southwest Suburban Community
Parish and Community Center Foundation
Sunday services: 8:30am and 12:30pm
<http://www.thecenterpalos.org> 708-361-3650

WHEN THE WIND CAME

For more than 20 years, I have looked out over our pine forest almost every week. I have driven hayracks full of children past the trees. I have watched campers swing in hammocks, families celebrate Farm & Nature School graduations, and people gather beneath the pines for Vespers and quiet moments of reflection. I have watched children step into the Easter Bunny's Magic Forest with wide eyes, and I have watched countless people slow down long enough to hear the wind through those trees. The pine forest was never just part of our landscape. It became part of the memories people carried home from The Center. I never imagined I would see so many of those same trees lying on the ground.

Back in June, a storm with 105-mile-per-hour straight-line winds tore through our property in a matter of minutes. When it was over, more than 40 mature trees had fallen and four buildings had sustained significant damage. The damage extended far beyond the pines. Roofs on four buildings were damaged, windows were shattered, and several buildings sustained structural damage. Picnic tables were crushed beneath fallen trees, tents and fences were damaged, and our riding trails became nearly impassable instantly.



Then came five days without electricity at the Farm. With no power, our wells could not run, every gallon of water for our animals had to be hauled from the People Barn. Generators kept our freezers running to protect months of beef and pork harvests. Farmer Chris even ran a single extension cord from a generator to his home so he could keep one refrigerator running and charge his phone while continuing to care for the farm.

Over the past two months, we have been working through the insurance process. Repair work has not started yet as adjusters and contractors work through the scope of the damage, but we're hopeful construction will begin in August. Even with insurance, our building deductibles alone will exceed **\$62,000**. That does not include cleanup, restoring our grounds, or the many unexpected expenses that come with a storm like this. For an organization that works hard to stretch every donated dollar, an unexpected expense of this size has a real impact. It means resources we had planned to invest in programs, facilities, and the people we serve must instead be directed toward recovering from this storm.



Some losses, though, simply cannot be repaired. Our beloved *Pines* were planted in 1954 by Frank and Sandy Sanders. For years, they were harvested as Christmas trees, but as they matured, they became so much more. They became a place for camp adventures, school lessons, Easter traditions, quiet walks, worship, and moments of peace. Those trees took more than seventy years to become what they were. We know we cannot replace them overnight, but we also know the children who will come after us deserve to grow up beneath a forest that someone cared enough to plant today.

As heartbreaking as the damage has been, we have never lost sight of what matters most. No one was hurt. Every child, guest, staff member, volunteer, and animal was safe. We are so thankful for God's protection that day and for the neighbors, volunteers, and friends who showed up afterward with equipment, encouragement, and willing hands. It reminded us that The Center has never simply been a place. It has always been a community.

Today, we are inviting our community to help restore this special place.

If The Center has ever been part of your story, we hope you will make a gift to our Storm Recovery Fund. Right now, our focus is on cleaning up the damage, repairing our buildings, and restoring the parts of our property that allow us to continue welcoming children, families, schools, campers, and guests every day. In time, we will begin the long journey of replanting our beloved pine forest.

We have always believed The Center belongs to this community. This storm reminded us that caring for it does, too. Thank you for believing in The Center, for praying for us, and for walking alongside us through the unexpected. Together, we will repair what was damaged, replant what was lost, and make sure this place continues to be where children discover wonder, families reconnect, and people of all ages find joy, peace, adventure, and God's presence for many years to come.

With endless gratitude,



Amy Donze
Executive Director

TO DONATE TO THE STORM RECOVERY FUND:

1. SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW

2. SELECT "STORM RECOVERY
FUND" FROM THE DROPDOWN
BAR



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

SPIRITUAL OFFERINGS

VESPERS IN THE PINES

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 8:30 A.M. AND 12:30 P.M. IN THE PINES

This is a special opportunity to attend Vespers in "God's Chapel" with special music. You will be able to drive the farm road back to The Pines or park in farm parking lot and stroll past our farm fields. There will be seating provided, but feel free to bring your own portable chair if you prefer.



SERVICES

8:30 a.m. in the Parlor

This early morning Vespers is an informal gathering that incorporates silence, prayer, Scripture, and conversational reflection. It's a time of sharing collective wisdom and building community, and you are invited!

12:30 p.m. in the Chapel

Each Sunday, we have a non-denominational service of music, meditative message, and prayer. Immediately following Vespers, we gather in The Great Hall of The Lodge for a time of fellowship and light refreshments. We would love to have you join us!

Communion Sunday

Sunday, September 13 and October 4, 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Join us as we gather for Communion. Non-alcoholic juice and gluten-free bread are provided, and all are welcome at the Lord's table.

A Prayer for Peace at the Labyrinth

The first Tuesday of each month, September 1, October 6, 4:00 p.m. at the Labyrinth

Let us meet at the Labyrinth to walk in silence with Love for peace. All are welcome! No registration is necessary. We will walk rain or shine! Email revc.spirituality@gmail.com with any questions.



Anniversary Dinner & Vow Renewal Ceremony

Sunday, September 13 at 4:30 p.m.

Whether or not you were married in our Wayside Chapel, we invite you to celebrate your July, August, and September wedding anniversaries here at The Center on Sunday, September 13th. Beginning with fellowship in the Great Hall at 4:30 p.m., enjoy a delicious candlelight dinner followed by a meaningful Renewal of Wedding Vows ceremony in the Chapel. For reservations, please contact our front office 708-361-3650 to make your payment of \$110 before September 6th.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Spiritual Direction (Companionship) is a long time non-denominational practice that offers a person confidential space to reflect on the connection between life and God's presence. A Spiritual Director is trained to listen with compassion and to help navigate through life's challenges from a divine perspective. To make an appointment, call The Center at 708-361-3650, and one of our spiritual directors will return your call to schedule a meeting. **The fee is \$30 per session.**

MINDFULNESS

Sunday mornings 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in the Forest View Room (FVR)

Mindfulness: the practice of being present to what is with kindness and curiosity. We invite you to come and find the support, guidance, and companionship that you need to be present wherever you are in life. Please contact Dan Morley with any questions you may have at 708-280-3945.

MEDITATION

Loving-Kindness Meditation (Metta)

Every Monday, 9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. in the Forest View Room (FVR)

All are welcome to gather in the Forest View Room for 45 minutes of getting centered. Metta includes a silent meditation, but it is primarily a group prayer for peace in the world, beginning with ourselves. No registration is necessary. Questions may be directed to Peggy Quinn at 773-841-3203.



Zen Meditation

Tuesday nights, 5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. in the Parlor

Jim Matson, a Zen Buddhist Priest, is teaching a class on the background and practice of Zen Meditation. He comes with 24+ years of experience and describes Zen Meditation as "the art of becoming aware of the movement of the mind. It permits an understanding and realization of the deeper and more subtle aspects of our lives and points toward a compassionate and more confident way of living."

Class fee: \$5 suggested donation per session

RETREATS

Awake at The Center: A Day of Mindfulness in the Out of Doors

Saturday, October 10, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The grounds of The Center hold a beauty and peace that, when we take the time, can be truly felt. Please join us for a day retreat led by Dan and Sharon Morley. You will be invited to sit, to walk, to listen, to share, to hear, and to see the beauty and wonder that abounds all around us. Wear clothing and shoes appropriate for the weather, as we will be spending most of our time outdoors.

Retreat fee: \$50. Includes leadership, in-room refreshments, and retreat supplies. Please plan to bring a sack lunch.

PROGRAM

Toastmasters

Wednesday, September 2 and 16, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Toastmasters is an opportunity for folks who wish to improve their public communication skills, to develop the confidence to stand and speak before large or small groups of people. The Center's Toastmasters Club consists of staff, volunteers, and friends of The Center. No commitment is necessary to try it out: for more information, contact Lois Lauer.



WomanTalk Discussion Group

Tuesday, September 29, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor

"WomanTalk," hosted by Kate Atkins-Trimnell, is a gathering of women who meet this month on the last Tuesday in the Parlor to nurture and support each other on their personal journeys of creativity and self-discovery. Rooted in Sarah Ban Breathnach's Simple Abundance, the group, now in its 29th year, seeks ways to live authentically and joyfully.

Simple Abundance starts September's consideration of Beauty, as readers are encouraged to "[b]egin to reap the rich harvest that Love hath sown." This month's Joyful Simplicities encourages each of us to "end Summer on a high note" either by enjoying a last cookout, sitting outside watching the fireflies, or enjoying favorite Summer recipes as you "bid summer a fond adieu." Group members regularly share the books they are currently reading.

We hope that you'll be able to join us in the Parlor. We generally take a group outing together each month. If you have any questions about the group, or the outing, please contact the Center office by e-mail at tarag@thecenterpalos.org.

Reiki Circle

4th Sunday of the Month, September 27, October 25, November 22, 1:00- 2:30 p.m. in the FVR

Join us for our monthly Reiki share at The Center! Whether you are trained in Reiki (I, II, or III) or not, you are welcome to participate. Reiki is a Universal Life Force Energy that can activate natural healing and restore physical and emotional well-being. We will meet together in circle and share healing Reiki energy. There is no fee but a donation to The Center is very much welcomed. No need to register. Please contact Eileen Hurn (773-550-6174) or Karen Signore (708-860-7813) for further information.



**CALLING ALL
VOLUNTEERS!**

The Children's Farm needs your help this fall!

September & October are our **busiest months of the year**, when thousands of schoolchildren and families visit the farm for fall fun. We rely on **dozens of volunteers each day** to keep everything running smoothly!

Here are a few of our greatest needs:

- Educational Farm Tours
- Animal Attendants
- Tractor Drivers
- Admissions & Popcorn/Drink Sales

**No experience
necessary!**

**Volunteers under
the age of 13 must
be accompanied
by an adult.**



Whether you can help
for one shift or many,
**your time makes a
BIG difference!**

If you can help or are interested in learning more,
please contact Adele at
adeleg@thecenterpalos.org
or call (708) 361-2434

FARM AND NATURE DISCOVERY SCHOOL

We are so pleased to be welcoming returning and new families to our school! We spent the month of August getting our school and faculty ready for the new school year. We had our annual staff training, cleaned and organized the whole school, and prepared our rosters for our families!

The whole month of September will be a time for our new and returning students to get used to their new routine and classrooms while building bonds with their teachers and fellow students. We will be exploring the theme of "Family and Community," which will have subthemes of "Welcome to School," "All About Me," "Friends and Family," and "Community Helpers." We will also be celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month all month long while learning about the rich Hispanic culture and history.

September 12th will be our Open House and Barn Dance! We are excited to celebrate the start of the school year with families with music, food, open barn, and hayrack rides. The school will be open to any families attending the Barn Dance, enrolled or not! Come join us for a celebration of a new school year and see our beautiful facility all set up and ready for students.



There is still time to join us for the 2026-2027 school year! We still have some morning spots available in our pre-kindergarten class on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings. We also have plenty of room in our afternoon slots. If you or someone you know would like to learn more about our school, or would like to set up a tour, you can reach me, Danielle Bell, at 708-361-8933 or email me at FarmandNature@TheCenterPalos.org.



**A Family Night of Music & Fun at
The Children's Farm!**

BARN DANCE & OPEN FARM

- ▮ Live music & dancing on a wooden dance floor
- ▮ "Weenie Wagon" with grilled favorites, popcorn & root beer floats
- ▮ Visit the barn animals (open until 7:00 p.m.)
- ▮ Hayrack rides & marshmallow bonfire all evening

September 12th | 5PM-8PM

ADMISSION: \$10/PERSON



September

Open Farm Hours*

*Through Sunday, September 13th

Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays
10AM - 2PM

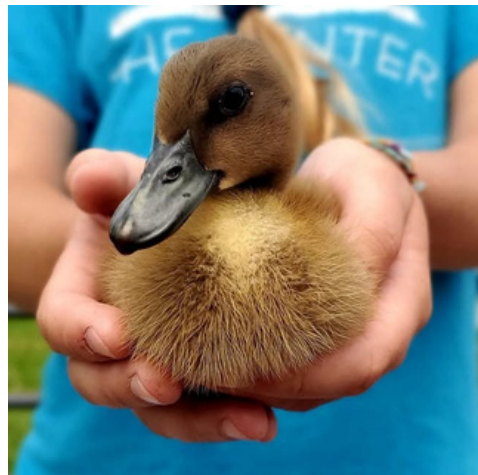
Animal Barn • **Hayrack Rides**
Concessions • **Walking Trails**

ADMISSION \$9/PERSON
AGES 2 & UP



*** PLEASE NOTE: THE FARM IS CLOSED FRIDAY, SEPT. 18TH ***

GRAND OPENING PUMPKIN DAYS WEEKEND FESTIVAL SEPT. 19th & 20th
 FOLLOWED BY PUMPKIN PLAYLAND EXTENDED HOURS THROUGH NOV. 1st



The Children's Farm

Pumpkin Playland



OPEN BARNs (CHICKENS, PIGS, GOATS, COWS, SHEEP, AND MORE!)
 HAYRACK RIDES ~ SPOOKY WOODSHED ~ HAYBALE CLIMBER ~ CONCESSIONS
 CRAZY MAZEY CORN BOX ~ U-PICK PUMPKIN PATCH ~ FALL DÉCOR

SEPTEMBER 19TH - NOVEMBER 1ST

HOURS
 SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS (& MONDAY, OCTOBER 12TH) : 10AM - 4PM
 FRIDAYS : 10AM - 1PM

\$15 ADMISSION FOR AGES 2+

NO ADVANCED RESERVATIONS REQUIRED!



2ND ANNUAL FIELD TO FORK DINNER

Join us for a five-course farm-to-table dinner that celebrates the gifts of the season and the joy of gathering around the table!

Pasture-raised meats, eggs, and honey from our SAGE program are featured alongside fresh produce from O.A.K. Farm and other local growers. Each course is paired with a handcrafted, non-alcoholic beverage thoughtfully created to complement the flavors and enhance the dining experience.

Tickets: \$125 per person
November 14 | 4PM
The Lodge at The Center

SAVE THE DATE



SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2026 ART CLASSES FOR CHILDREN

AFTER SCHOOL FUN WITH CLAY Instructor: Heaven Newsom

Three Tuesdays starting October 6, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Class fee: \$47 Plus a \$13 Materials fee

Students will work with clay each week creating a variety of sculptures and pottery pieces. Open to students in grades K-6.

KIDS SEWING WORKSHOPS AND CLASSES Instructor: Angela Gonzalez

Open to students in 3rd - 8th grade. Bring your own sewing machine or use one of ours.



BACK TO SCHOOL BOOKMARKS

Sunday, September 13, 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Class fee: \$32 Plus a \$3 Materials fee

Sew a fabric bookmark to hold your place while reading

UPCYCLED WATER BOTTLE HOLDER

Sunday, September 27, 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Class fee: \$32 Plus a \$5 Materials fee

Sew a bag for your water bottle by reusing a pair of pants. Bring a pair of jeans to upcycle and your favorite water bottle to measure size.



FAMILY ACRYLIC PAINTING WORKSHOPS Instructor: Heaven Newsom

Class fee, per class: \$30 Plus a \$6 Materials fee

(Pricing includes one child and one guardian; family members will share a large canvas and create beautiful artwork together, open to all ages)



SUNFLOWER

Saturday, October 3, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

By using leaves to create prints that look like flower petals, you will create a beautiful sunflower painting.

FALL TREES

Saturday, October 10, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Paint a fall tree and do some fun finger painting techniques to create leaves.

FAMILY CERAMIC WORKSHOP: GHOSTS Instructor: Corrine Miller

Wednesdays, September 9 or September 16, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Class fee: \$40 Plus a \$10 Materials fee each session

(pricing includes one child and one guardian, open to all ages)

Create cute ghost sculptures out of clay! Students will be able to add colorful glazes as well. We will need to fire your pieces in our kiln after class and call you to pick them up when ready.

FAMILY WATERCOLORS PAINTING WORKSHOP: AUTUMN'S FIRST LEAVES- GROWING TOGETHER Instructor: Brigid Kiruci

Wednesday, September 30, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Class fee: \$32 Plus a \$6 Materials fee

(pricing includes one child and one guardian, open to all ages)

Celebrate the changing season through art, nature, and family connection! In this beginner-friendly watercolor class, families will explore the beautiful colors and patterns of autumn leaves while learning foundational watercolor techniques. Inspired by the strength and growth of trees, each participant will paint leaves that represent themselves and contribute to a collaborative "Family Tree" keepsake. Along the way, you'll enjoy mindful moments, creative conversation, and time together in a relaxed, supportive environment. Leave with both individual artwork and a meaningful family masterpiece to display all season long.

WEAVING WORKSHOP FOR KIDS Instructor: Corrine Miller

Two Wednesdays, September 9 and 16, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Class fee: \$35 Plus a \$5 Materials fee

Learn how to weave and create a colorful weaving that hangs on the wall from a stick. Students will choose from our selection of colorful yarn.



SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2026
SCHEDULE OF ART CLASSES FOR ADULTS

Teens are able to register for most adult classes. Please inquire with interest

BROOM-MAKING! Instructor: Lois Lauer

Saturday, September 26, 9:00 a.m. - Noon

Class fee: \$36 Plus a \$15 Materials fee

The traditional art of broom-making is enjoyable and productive, providing both creative fun, and also useful brooms for your home! New students will learn the basic principles of traditional broom-making by creating your own small whisk broom that is functional and decorative. Returning students will learn advanced techniques like plaiting, attaching wooden handles to larger brooms, adding "shoulders" and "turkey wings", plaiting with cut stalks, fancier wraps, and stitching.



BASKET WORKSHOP Instructor: Jane Dwyer
Two Friday mornings, September 18 and 25, 10:00 a.m. - Noon
Class fee: \$55 Plus a \$30 Materials fee

Learn the steps to weave this basket, perfect for transporting snacks throughout the holiday and football season.



CANDLEMAKING WORKSHOP Instructor: Kim Taylor
Saturday, October 3, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
Class fee: \$20 Plus a \$20 Materials fee

Brighten and enlighten yourself in candle-making basics, while walking away with your own beautifully handmade crackling wood wick candle creation! We will use 100% organic soy wax, crackling wood wicks, and aromatherapy fragrances (optional) to make candles. With fall in the air and the holiday season around the corner, your candle can make a thoughtful gift or become part of a fun family tradition.

CERAMICS WORKSHOPS AND POTTERY CLASSES

ADVANCED POTTERY Instructor: Maddie Burns
Four Monday nights starting September 14, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Class fee: \$127 Plus a \$38 Materials fee

A class for students with previous experience in wheel and hand-building. Students will refine skills and techniques through independent projects with teacher assistance.

CERAMICS WORKSHOP: BEAUTIFUL MONSTERS Instructor: Robin Power
Two Wednesdays, October 7 and 14, 10:00 a.m. - Noon
Class fee: \$55 Plus a \$16 Materials fee

While working with clay, you will learn the steps to sculpt your own "Beautiful Monster" sculpture. Students will paint with colorful glazes on the second day of class. We will call you when your sculpture has been fired in the kiln and ready to pick up.



CERAMICS WORKSHOP: CHIPMUNK SCULPTURES Instructor: Heather Young
Thursday, September 24, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
Class fee: \$30 Plus a \$10 Materials fee

Learn the steps to create a chipmunk sculpture out of clay. Students will have the option to add colors. Heather will finish glazing your pieces after fired and call you to pick up after they've been fired in our kiln.

CERAMICS WORKSHOP: FALL TREE SCULPTURES Instructor: Robin Power
Two Wednesdays, October 21 and 28, 10:00 a.m. - Noon
Class fee: \$55 Plus a \$16 Materials fee

Create a sculpture of a fall tree on the first day of class and paint colorful glazes on the second day. We will call you when your sculpture has been fired in the kiln and is ready to pick up.

PIT FIRING CERAMICS WORKSHOP Instructor: Robin Power
Three Wednesday mornings starting September 16, 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. **Class fee: \$105 Plus a \$25 Materials fee**

Experiment with the ancient process of firing your ceramics in an outdoor fire pit!! On the first day of class, students will create ceramic sculptures out of clay. During the second class, students will paint with terra sigillata and learn burnishing techniques. On day three, students will prepare their pieces for the fire, dig a fire pit, and start a fire. We will call students to pick up their pieces when ready, since they will need time to cool.



POTTERY

Instructor: Robin Power

- **Four Tuesdays starting September 8, 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**
- **Four Tuesdays starting October 6, 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**
 - **Class fee: \$127 Plus a \$38 Materials fee**

Instructor: Madeleine Burns

- **Four Monday afternoons starting September 14, 1:00 - 3:30 p.m. or**
- **Four Tuesday nights starting September 15, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.**
 - **Class fee: \$127 Plus a \$38 Materials fee**

In this multi-level class, students will take turns on the pottery wheel and create pieces by hand, learning the art of ceramics. Students will create with clay each week and then glaze on the last day. Pottery will need to be picked up after a final kiln firing.

COLLAGE Instructor: April Schabes

Six Wednesday mornings beginning September 9, 9:30 a.m. - Noon

Class fee: \$160

Experiment with color and composition to create your own mixed-media collages... an opportunity to "play in your own world of artistic expression with a fun and easy art form!"

CROCHETED PUMPKIN WORKSHOP Instructor: Marissa Nugent

Friday, September 18, 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Class fee: \$25 Plus a \$5 Materials fee

Learn how to crochet a little stuffed pumpkin, great for decorating this fall season!



ENAMELED JEWELRY WORKSHOP Instructor: Aimee Leang

Wednesday, September 30, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. or

Saturday, October 17, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Class fee: \$35 Plus a \$18 Materials fee, per workshop

Learn the art of enameling while torching your own colorful designs on copper pieces. Students will have the opportunity to create earrings or a pendant with their enameled creations.

FALL OR HOLIDAY SIGN IN CHALK PASTELS Instructor: Sandy Safranek

Saturday, September 12, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Class fee: \$33 Plus a \$17 Materials fee

Become familiar with chalk pastels as a drawing medium while completing a drawing of a Fall or holiday sign for either Halloween, Thanksgiving, or Christmas. Art will be created on paper, and students will take home matted. Please bring some design ideas to use as a reference. The instructor will also have some available for students to use. Your sign will be a perfect way to welcome the season of Fall or the holidays!



FELTING WORKSHOPS Instructor: Barb Simon



FELTED BIRDS WORKSHOP

Thursday, September 17, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Class fee: \$25 Plus a \$8 Materials fee

Learn the art of felting and create a whimsical felted bird perched on a stump.

FELTED GHOST

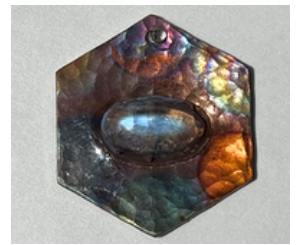
Thursday, October 8, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Class fee: \$25 Plus a \$8 Materials fee

Learn how to turn soft wool into a cute needle-felted ghost that's perfect for decorating your home this Halloween season.

FIRE PAINTED PENDANT Instructor: Aimee Leang
Saturday, September 26, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. or
Wednesday, October 21, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Class fee: \$35 Plus a \$16 Materials fee

While using copper pendant blanks, students will learn to hammer textures, then "paint" with the flame of a micro torch. Affix your piece with a semi-precious stone, then seal with a UV resin.



FLUID ART PAINTING WORKSHOP Instructor: Thomas Dunn
Thursday, September 24, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Class fee: \$35 Plus a \$15 Materials fee

Create an original abstract painting on canvas. Students will experiment with color while paint pouring. Learn techniques in creating cell images and lacing techniques.

LAPIDARY (ROCK POLISHING)

Four Monday mornings starting September 14, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Instructor: Larry Rothenberg

Four Thursday nights starting September 10, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Instructor: Jackie Burger. **Class fee: \$100 per four-week session**

Learn the art of rock polishing as you turn rough chunks of rock into beautifully polished gemstones. Create a pair of round or oval stones and then advance to more complex designs. Stones are not included but can be purchased from our instructor for projects.



LAYERS OF COMFORT- A MIXED MEDIA EXPLORATION OF COZY TEXTURES AND FALL FEELINGS

Instructor: Karen Signore

Sunday, September 13, 12:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Class fee: \$40 Plus a \$12 Materials fee

The shorter, cooler, crisp days and all the seasonal changes in Autumn invite us to pause, reflect, and welcome in all the comfy & cozy pleasures of fall. This experiential workshop is an invitation to slow down, embrace self-care, and savor autumn's soft textures, soothing colors, and beauty. This afternoon of nourishment, creativity, and connection includes guided meditation, reflective journaling, and creating a personal mixed-media art piece that celebrates comfort, inner calm, and the cozy rituals that make fall feel magical. No art or journaling experience needed.



METALSMITHING FOR JEWELRY Instructor: Mary Michaelson

Six Tuesday nights beginning September 8, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. or

Six Thursday mornings beginning September 10, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Class fee: \$167 Plus a \$58 Materials fee per 6-week session

By working with silver, copper, or brass, students can create either a silver ring or pendant. Students will learn the basics of metalsmithing such as sawing, filing, sanding, and soldering to create their own original jewelry pieces. Students are welcome to bring in stones for which to create their own settings. Advanced instruction will be given to continuing/advanced students.

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY PRESENTATION

Instructor: Jack Martin

Saturday, September 26, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Class fee: \$20

Discover how to capture the beauty of the natural world- even in your own backyard. This presentation-style workshop covers simple tools, essential techniques, and practical tips to capture good photographic nature images. Learn what professional photographers look for when composing a shot, what is important, what to avoid, and what went wrong. Whether you are just starting out or already have experience, this program is designed for all skill levels and camera types. No prior knowledge needed, all are welcome.



PAPER CRAFTS Instructor: Barb Thompson
Three Tuesday mornings starting September 15, 10:00 a.m. - Noon
Class fee: \$75 Plus a \$6 Materials fee

Discover the possibilities of creating with paper in a variety of projects, including origami, weaving, paper mache, and more.

PAPER MACHE WITCH SCULPTURE Instructor: Barb Thompson
Two Fridays, September 25 and October 2, 10:00 a.m. - Noon
Class fee: \$50 Plus a \$5 Materials fee

Create a whimsical Halloween witch from paper mache. Students will create their sculpture on the first day, then paint details during the second class.



SACRED SOUND AND RHYTHM: EXPERIENCE THE HARMONY WITHIN
Saturday, September 26, 10:00 a.m. - Noon
Class fee: \$36 Plus a \$4 Materials fee.

Instructors: Co-led by Eric Dean Spruth, MA, ATR and Dr. Cherie Lechner
 Step into a deeply immersive and transformative experience where sound becomes medicine, rhythm becomes regulation, and your voice becomes a pathway back to yourself. In this unique workshop, we will explore the profound healing power of sound, music, and intentional expression together. You will leave feeling more aligned, more regulated, and more connected to your body, your voice, and your inner wisdom.

STAINED GLASS WORKSHOP Instructor: Savannah Kristof
Sunday, October 18, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Class fee: \$100 Plus a \$50 Materials fee

Learn the steps to create a stained glass sun catcher from start to finish using the copper foil method. Students will choose glass colors and cut their glass, then grind, foil, and solder to finish their project. There will be multiple designs from which to choose, and they will be able to take their project home by the end of class. All supplies provided. Please wear closed-toe shoes.



WATERCOLOR PAINTING Instructor: Lenox Wallace
Six Monday afternoons starting September 14, 1:00 - 3:30 p.m. (Advanced Class)
Six Thursday mornings beginning September 10, 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (Beginner Class)
Class fee: \$160 per class

Structured lessons for beginning watercolorists with critique and guidance in composition, values, textures, negative painting, brush stroke usage, and more. Experienced painters will work individually with occasional guidance and critique. Materials list can be accessed through this link: www.thecenterpalos.org/watercolors.



WOODCARVING Instructor: Larry Rothenberg
Six Thursdays starting September 10, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Class fee: \$112 per six-week session

Learn and practice the tools and techniques of woodcarving in basswood. New students will gain knife-handling skills and create beautiful, simple relief, or three-dimensional projects such as a star, shoe, or bird. If you are experienced, you may design your own projects. Wood and bench knives are available for purchase in class from the instructor (approximately \$25 for wood and bench knives)

REJUVENATE YOURSELF AT THE CENTER, YOGA, AND MORE!

Class will take place in the beautiful Forest View Room in The Lodge. Bring your own yoga mat and props.

NEW!! FAMILY YOGA WORKSHOP “THE FAMILY TREE: YOGA AND MINDFULNESS”

Wednesday, October 14, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Instructor: Brigid Kircuci

Class fee: \$30 (pricing is for two participants, open to all ages)

Join us for a calming family yoga experience inspired by the strength and beauty of trees. Through gentle mindful movement, breathing exercises, and guided mindfulness, families will explore what it means to feel rooted, grounded, and open to growth. Perfect for all ages and experience levels.

GENTLE YOGA Instructor: Maura Therese

Three Friday mornings starting September 11, 9:30 - 10:45 a.m.

Class fee: \$48

These 75-minute hatha yoga classes are perfect for releasing tension, connecting with the breath, and helping students gain strength and flexibility.

SLOW FLOW YOGA Instructor: Danielle Schaar

Six Thursday nights starting September 10, 6:00 - 7:15 p.m.

Class fee: \$96

This 75-minute yoga class combines Hatha Yoga and functional mobility to help students gain strength, flexibility, and ease in movement. We'll finish by settling into a restful meditation, finding peace in body and mind.



SUNDAY MORNING YOGA Instructor: Maura Therese

Three Sundays starting September 13, 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. Class fee: \$48

Treat yourself to a yoga class that's “Easy like Sunday Morning”, a gentle session to help you ease into your Sunday. Expect mindful, breath-led movement at your own pace, and leave with that “good morning stretch” feeling. Bring your own yoga mat and yoga blocks if you have them.

TRANQUIL YOGA Instructor: Debbie Jacob

Four Monday nights starting September 14, 6:15 - 7:15 p.m. Class fee: \$64

Invest in your health through gentle yoga and a sprinkling of Qigong and natural movements for simple challenges to your everyday posture transitions. Bring your own yoga mat and yoga strap.



GONG BATH Facilitator: Debbie Jacob, Vibrational Sound Therapy Certified Practitioner

Sundays, September 13 or October 4, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Fee: \$26 per event

Spend an evening immersed in the serene sounds and vibrations of the gong, accompanied by singing crystal and Tibetan bowls. Relax on your yoga mat and allow these ancient healing sounds and vibrations to wash over and through your body to deepen your state of relaxation. Don't forget to bring your yoga mat, pillow and blanket to maximize your relaxing experience. Will take place in the Forest View Room. Advance registration required.

Pre-registration is required 24 hours in advance for all Log Cabin classes and workshops. Class and materials fees are due at time of registration; we cannot reserve space without payment. No refunds or transfers of fees are available for cancellations made less than 72 hours prior to the beginning of class. Any cancellations made by students will subtract a \$10 administration fee. To register you can visit our website at thecenterpalos.org You can also call 708-361-3650 or visit our main office between the hours of 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. daily.



The Witches Tea

Friday, October 9th 2:00 - 4:00pm



Dust off your witch's hat and broomstick to prepare for another magical Witches Tea!! A bewitching event held in The Great Hall of the Lodge. Our cackle of witches will serve you spider cider, a special herbal elixir brewed from our garden, and a fanciful spread of finger foods. Actress and Storyteller Megan Wells will enchant with a bewitching tale.

Event price: \$48 per person

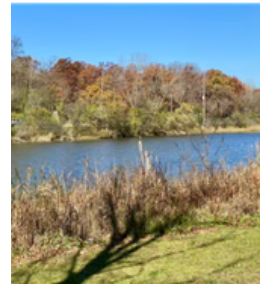
Registration will open on Wednesday, September 9, at 10:00am

LUNCHEONS

Luncheons run from noon until 2:15 p.m., cost \$40 per person, and offer a delicious meal and the best in entertainment and educational programming.

Tuesday, September 8 "The Parable of the Pond" with Ray Fischer

Ray Fischer, a Northern Seminary graduate & Catholic school teacher, brings a creative, energetic edge to his presentation of "The Parable of the Pond." Growing up on a farm, Ray enjoyed fishing with his brother in the country ponds that scattered the area. Ray is hopeful that his visual analogy of the life of a pond can enlighten an audience to better understand how God judges & gives grace to a sometimes sinful world. This presentation includes your own artistic expression as you'll draw your very own version of The Parable of the Pond!



Tuesday, September 15 "Illinois 250: Road Trips Through Illinois History" with Melanie Holmes

Illinois travel guru and author Melanie Holmes will cover road trips that highlight Illinois history as it relates to the nation's 250th birthday. She'll take you back to 1776 to see what Illinois looked like, and suggest trips that highlight the people and events that forged what we see today!

Tuesday, September 22 "Harry Houdini" with Bob Trzeciak

Local historian Bob Trzeciak returns to share the history and mysteries of the legendary illusionist and greatest escape artist of all time, Erik Weisz, um, probably better known to you as Harry Houdini!



Tuesday, September 29 "Oktoberfest" with Glenn Ellison & the Deutsch Meisters

Celebrate Oktoberfest at the Center with the Deutsch Meisters band. The Group has been performing since the late 1960's. They play all the traditional German/Polish Oktoberfest music, and it's sure to be a rousing afternoon!

TRUNK OR TREAT!

OPEN BARNs (CHICKENS, PIGS, GOATS, COWS, SHEEP, AND MORE!)
HAYRACK RIDES ~ SPOOKY WOODSHED ~ HAYBALE CLIMBER ~ CONCESSIONS
CRAZY MAZEY CORN BOX ~ U-PICK PUMPKIN PATCH ~ FALL DÉCOR



**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30TH
10AM-1PM**

**ADMISSION \$15/PERSON
CHILDREN UNDER 2: FREE!**

**THE CHILDREN'S FARM
12700 SW HWY PALOS PARK, 1L 60464
TRUNK OR TREAT CANDY IS WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!**



The Center



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Parish and Community Center Foundation
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708-361-3650
Website: <http://www.thecenterpalos.org>
Email: admin@thecenterpalos.org

**DATED MATERIAL
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



RUMMAGE SALE 2026

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday
August 28, 29, and 30
8 am - 1 pm all three days.



ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING!

THE CHILDREN'S FARM PUMPKIN DAYS GRAND OPENING WEEKEND

HAYRACK RIDES

PUMPKIN PATCH

CRAZY MAZEY

OPEN ANIMAL BARNES

CORN BOX

**SEPTEMBER 19 & 20
10AM-4PM
\$15 PER PERSON**

HAY CLIMBER & SLIDES

FOOD CONCESSIONS

SPOOKY WOODSHED

VENDORS

KIDS CRAFTS



*Live Music 11am-3pm
Saturday: Grace & John
Sunday: Fred & Friendz*

