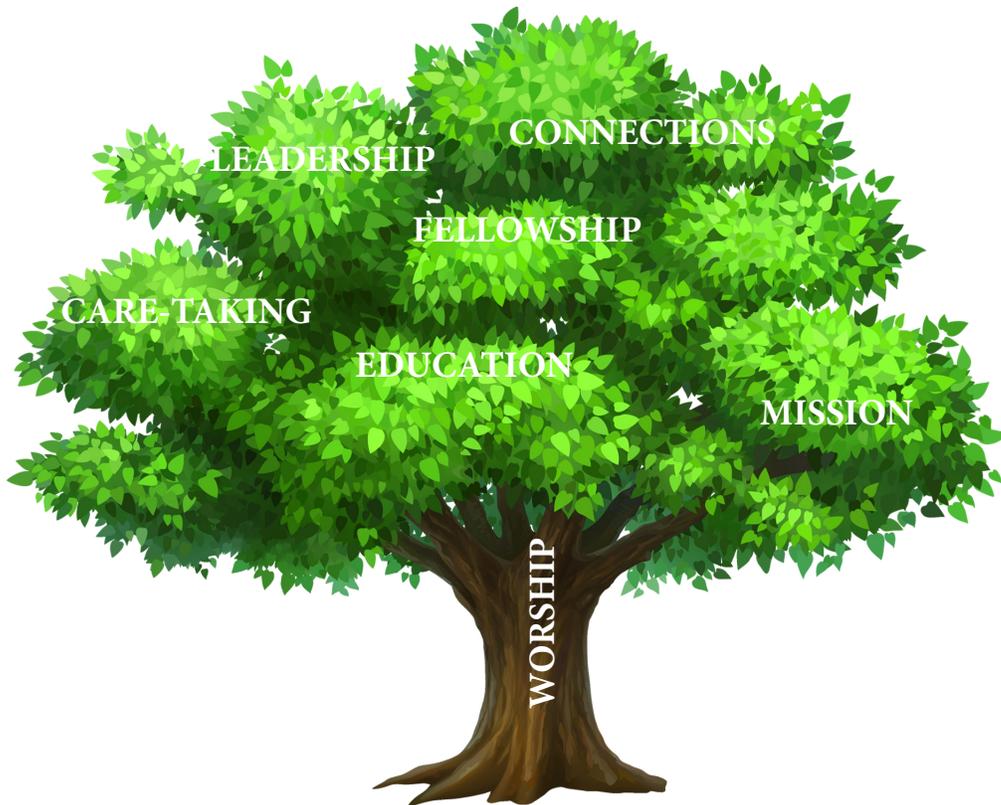


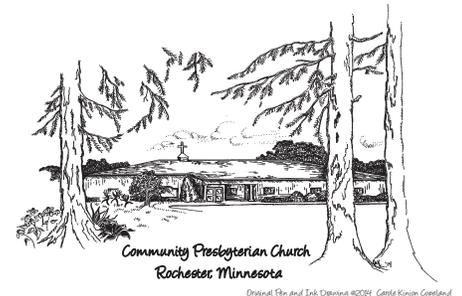
COMMUNITY PRESS

A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROCHESTER, MN



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We are all part of the “tree of life” at Community Presbyterian Church!

First, we worship together each Sunday. After being grounded in faith through worship, we can then grow in many ways! Education such as the discussions that Pastor Steve has been and will be leading, the PW Bible Study, the Book Group, etc... Mission such as the “Pack the Pews” drive and the “One Great Hour of Sharing” that we just completed or the youth volunteering at Channel One coming up here in April... Fellowship such as coffee hour each Sunday, as well as Membership Events like Popcorn and a Movie later in April... Care-taking such as being part of the Spring Fling and cleaning up in the building and outside... or care-taking of each other such as being part of the Deacons and reaching out to members. Leadership such as being on session or on one of the committees that make CPC what it is. And then there are connections... within CPC, within the community and within the presbytery... many of which are listed in each month’s newsletter. There are many ways to grow! Which branch(es) are you sitting on? Be sure to check out the many opportunities in this newsletter! You can also keep up with what is going on through the website and the Facebook page!

APRIL 2018

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 2018 LEADERSHIP

Session

The Session is the governing board of the church. It consists of six ruling elders, elected for three years. Much of the business of the church is conducted through committees. Each ruling elder chairs one of the committees. The Pastor, who is a teaching elder and moderator of Session, is an ex-officio member of every committee.

<u>Class of 2018</u>	Dave Copeland Ivy Pillers	Nominating Mission
<u>Class of 2019</u>	Gene Kopecky Amanda Ross	Building and Grounds Christian Education
<u>Class of 2020</u>	Jean Abels Kim Nickander	Worship and Music Finance and Stewardship
<u>Officers:</u>	Mary Alice Richardson Ronda Marshall Joanne Powell	Clerk (Non-voting) Financial Secretary (Non-voting) Treasurer (Non-voting)

2018 Nominating Committee

Ann Hesley, Mary Meyer, Jeanette Hallbeck, and Peggy McCarty

Membership (a sub committee of Mission) Chairperson: Stacy Kopecky

Deacons

The Board of Deacons is responsible for ministering to all those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to all those who may be in distress. Deacons provide meals and transportation, among other requested needs. They maintain the Prayer Chain. Deacons are elected in classes of two for three years.

<u>Class of 2018</u>	<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>
Jennifer Hall	Louis Bouchard	Marcia Britain
Jeanette Hallbeck	Mary Meyer	Ann Hesley

Staff

Head of Staff/ Transitional Pastor	Pastor Steve Pannkuk
Choir Director	Meg Britain
Pianist	Glenna Muir
Bell Choir Director	Judy Kereakos
Custodian	Nancy Sanford
Office Manager	Stephanie Pasch

Ministers to the world

Congregation Members

Dear Saints,

I thought of you recently, and of our time together at Community when I was “half-listening” to something on NPR. You know “half-listening,” when you’re focusing on driving, or cleaning the kitchen or reading something, and the radio is playing in the background. One quote just reeled me in. It went something like this: **“My greatest goal at this work is getting them comfortable with being uncomfortable.”**

Wow! Talk about relevant! That really applies to being a disciple of Jesus, to church and pastoral ministry, and especially Interim/Transition Ministry. Of course now I’m searching the web to try to find more the speaker and the context...

As I think back, before the quote, the speaker was deeply committed to the difficult work of advocacy and of preparation and of change. I think they worked with young people who were challenged in some way... They advocated for their clients and the neighborhood they lived. They were deeply committed to helping them to live their best lives. But what drew me in was the hope and potential in their voice. Change was possible. **“My greatest goal at this work is getting them comfortable with being uncomfortable.”**

Think with me for a moment about Jesus and his three and a half years of ministry alongside his disciples. Jesus was coaching them, but the disciples were not, **comfortable with being uncomfortable**. Remember in Mark’s gospel writing, Jesus took his disciples aside at least three times. He told them that he was to be handed over and betrayed and killed, but on the third day, he would rise again. Talk about uncomfortable. Of course they protested. Of course they didn’t understand.

The disciples must have grown quite comfortable being alongside the living Jesus and his every move... Healing, Teaching, Preaching, Reaching must have been just epic! They just couldn’t wrap their minds around his prediction of the horror and shock of the cross, let alone that same thing might happen to them... The reality of the cross... The betrayal, the shame, the shock, their greatest fear. Jesus was vulnerable, and their hero died. You can almost hear him say to them: **“My greatest goal is getting you comfortable with being uncomfortable.”**

After the Resurrection, they had the courage and conviction to carry this good news to the ends of the earth. Only after the Resurrection that they got **comfortable with being uncomfortable**.

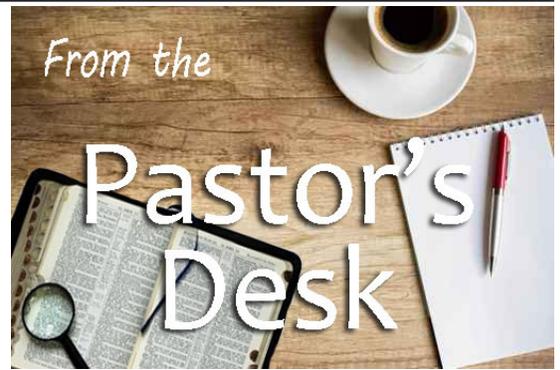
So is it any surprise, dear saints, that Jesus might want us to be **comfortable with being uncomfortable**, so that we might better carry this awesome radical message to our neighborhoods and our community?

Think about it for a moment. Interim Ministry is uncomfortable ministry. The transition/interim pastor goes into a church for a year or two and does all the normal pastoral work. But at the same time, that pastor asks all kinds of questions... and intentionally leads them through a process to get them ready to call the next pastor to best lead them into the future. Their ultimate goal is to work themselves out of a job. Talk about Uncomfortable... I’m trying to work myself out of a job! My job is to pastor and lead you as best I can, so that I can leave you! And my next call is uncertain, but only certain in God’s hands!

In this intense time of transition... for you to get you to know who you are, and who’s you are, your gifts, and your strengths and your abilities and your challenges... so you might call a future permanent pastor that fits Community Presbyterian Church. I know for some of you this is an uncomfortable time to be in the church. It’s not easy to get on the balcony and look at the challenges that face Community. Please remember that we do so alongside the strengths and the assets God has blessed us with. If you think back on your history you’ve been uncomfortable before. That discomfort alongside passion and conviction led to you to worship in at least two different settings before the current location of Community Presbyterian Church.

I really need to challenge you... to be a part of the conversation. To be a part of the transition. To commit and to recommit. And to get **“comfortable with being uncomfortable.”** We will continue the conversation on what it means for us to be a Vital Church on April 15 and the remaining Sundays of April. Your voice matters. Your vision matters. Together we are making great progress.

Peace, Pastor Steve



ABOUT THE TRANSITION

Over the last couple of months, Pastor Steve has been asking a lot of questions! He led a mini-retreat with Session where they brainstormed answers to his questions and then had a great conversation about who CPC is and where we are being called. The discussion was then opened up to the congregation. Pastor Steve led *“Our Church: Our Mission, Vision and Values in Times of Adaptive Challenge”* during the education hour on Sundays. Once again, the conversation has been fruitful! If you haven’t had the opportunity to participate, now’s your chance! The questions are listed below. Please take a few moments to jot down your responses, and share them with Pastor Steve. These responses, along with responses from Session and the Our Church discussions, will shape the next conversation about what is a “Vital Church” and how are we called to be one. That conversation will start on April 15 at 10:45 am and will continue for a few weeks.

What do we do well? What are we already doing that we should keep doing?

What are we passionate about?

Weaknesses? Where are we vulnerable?

What are our strengths? And what are our greatest assets?

What is our neighborhood’s greatest need? Our community?

Why are we here?

What makes our church unique? Special?

Who is our target audience? How might we reach them?

How are we known around town? How would people describe us?

What are potential opportunities?

Where are we struggling?

What are our greatest challenges?

How would you describe your church?



Don't forget to sign up for helping in worship! Each week we need :

- a liturgist
- worship assistants (3)
- a greeter
- nursery volunteers
- a refreshment host

Once a month, we need 4 (ordained) communion assistants. Please look at your schedule and sign up to help! Sign up in the narthex or by emailing/calling the office!



The Season of Easter

Easter isn't just a Sunday — it's a season. One day out of 365 is hardly sufficient to celebrate the great mystery of our faith — that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Accordingly, the season of Easter lasts seven weeks (a "week of weeks"), spanning the 50 days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday and encompassing the festival of the Ascension of the Lord.

The season of Easter is intended to be a joyful time for celebrating the presence of the risen Christ in the church. If your congregation doesn't already celebrate the Lord's Supper (a feast with the risen Lord) each week, the season of Easter is an excellent and appropriate time to explore this practice.

Of course, Easter really isn't just a season either. In the fullest sense, Easter is a new way of life — in which we are "dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 6:11), called to "walk in newness of life" (Rom. 6:4). Every year, for fifty days, the church celebrates and rehearses this new way of life in the Season of Easter — as we await its completion in the fullness of Christ's reign.

An excerpt from the Companion to the Book of Common Worship (Geneva Press, 2003, 117)

For seven weeks, a week of Sundays, we acclaim the resurrection of Christ by the power of God. The period of seven weeks of jubilation can be traced back to its Jewish roots of the fifty days celebrated from the day after Passover to Shavuot (Feast of Weeks, Exodus 23:16). For Jews, the Feast of Weeks closed the season of harvest, which had been initiated by the Feast of Unleavened Bread. In a similar manner, early Christians observed a fifty-day period of celebration from Easter to the Day of Pentecost. To underscore the uninterrupted rejoicing of these fifty days, fasting and kneeling in prayer were forbidden at least as early as the end of the second century. On the pentecoste ("fiftieth") day, not only was the fifty-day period concluded, but a festival with its own proper content was celebrated. The Jews observed a feast of covenant renewal and eventually commemorated the giving of the Law. Christians celebrated the gift of the Spirit as preparing the way for the day of the Lord. What Moses and the Law did for the Jewish community, the Holy Spirit now does for the community of Christ.



Christian Education

Christian Education for Children and Youth

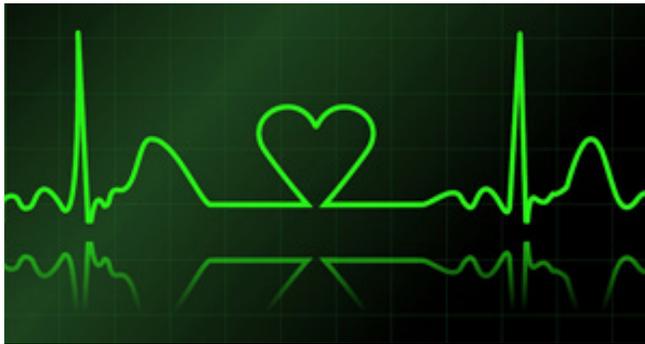
April 1 • Easter Sunday

April 8 • Love is a Response to Grace • John 20:19-31

April 15 • Love Means Showing Up • Luke 24:36b-48

April 22 • Love in Truth and Action • John 10:11-18

April 29 • Love Abides • John 15:1-8



Adult Education beginning April 15 at 10:45 am in the library: Vital Church. This discussion will continue April 22 and 29.

What does it mean to be a “vital church” in today’s world? Join Pastor Steve in this discussion!



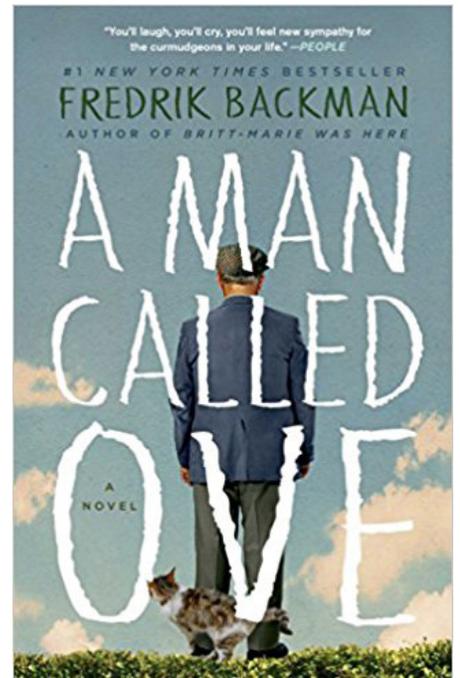
Youth Serve at Channel One on Tuesday, April 10 beginning at 6:00 pm. This is a great opportunity to learn about Channel One and how they reach out to hungry families and individuals! It’s also really fun to serve alongside your friends! Volunteers must wear closed-toe shoes (no sandals), dress comfortably and be ready to work! Sign up in the narthex.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



The Book Discussion group will meet on Sunday, April 22 at 11:45 am to discuss A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman.

“A feel-good story in the spirit of The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry and Major Pettigrew’s Last Stand, Fredrik Backman’s novel about the angry old man next door is a thoughtful exploration of the profound impact one life has on countless others. “If there was an award for ‘Most Charming Book of the Year,’ this first novel by a Swedish blogger-turned-overnight-sensation would win hands down” (Book-list, starred review).”



Come to church for
Popcorn and a Movie!
 Friday, April 20 at 6:30 pm



“The story of how a stray dog, Pluto, comes out of nowhere and impacts the Davis family, who are struggling in many ways. In just a short time, Pluto the Wonderdog manages to save a toddler, bring comfort and companionship to a hurting 9-year old boy, help restore a marriage, and repair a broken father-son relationship. Pluto is not only a guard dog - he is a guardian angel.”
 This movie is rated PG.



BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Have you seen the flags out in front of the church? Gene Kopecky and the Building and Grounds have been working on bringing more attention to our church through signage and flags. The flags won't be out every day, but many days!

*If you see them out in the evening and you are the last to leave the building, please bring them inside....



Spring Fling
 Sunday, April 15 1:00-5:00 pm

Help give our church some cleaning TLC both inside and out! And then, enjoy Ice Cream treats together! Sign up in the narthex or by contacting the church office!

This year, we will also be burning the brush pile at our Spring Fling.

Questions? Contact Gene Kopecky

See you here!



BIRTHDAY WISHES

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Birthdays and Anniversaries are listed in the print version of the newsletter... pick up a copy at church today!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

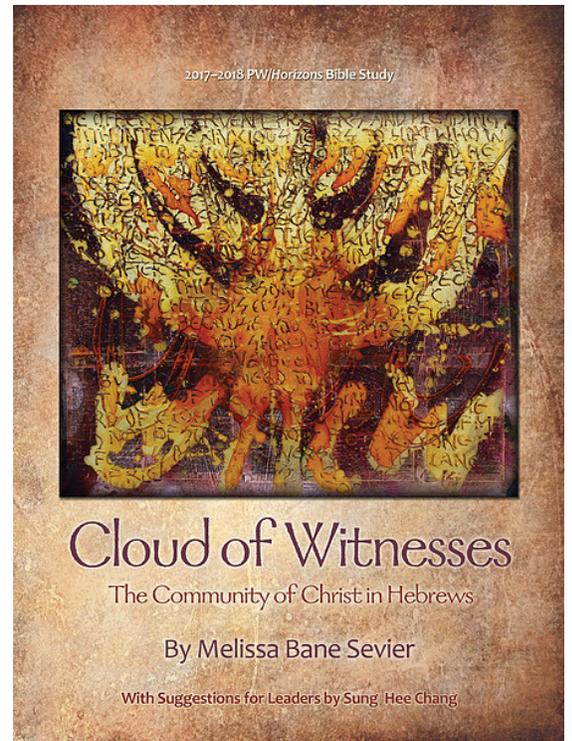


PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW Monthly Get Together
Wednesday, April 4 at 12:30 pm, Library at CPC
Our hostess: Nancy Massaro
Topic: Violence, Violence Everywhere



Beginning April 9 at 10 am in the CPC Library, and continuing weekly through April 30, the PW Bible Study resumes! The Bible study is *“Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews”* by Melissa Bane Sevier With Suggestions for Leaders by Song Hee Chang. Rev. Julie Beck will be leading us for the remainder of this study.



AROUND THE COMMUNITY

“We celebrate the full potential of people living with dementia.”

We are looking for singers – no experience required—who are living with mild memory loss or dementia and their care partners or friends, as well as volunteers of all ages to participate in a joy-filled experience that is good for the brain and overall wellbeing!

Choir members & volunteers are needed!

The Resounding Voices Choir will begin SOON! The choir will be directed by local choral conductor, Suzy Johnson. Choir members will learn vocal technique and ensemble skills and share in the benefits of music and song. Rehearsals will be once a week on Tuesday mornings starting April 3rd from 9-11am at Calvary Evangelical Free Church in Rochester with a public performance scheduled for early June. We are looking for singers AND volunteers for rehearsals and concerts.

For additional information or to complete a registration form please email info@resoundingvoices.org or call 507-218-8376



Sing, Sing a Song!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF THE PRESBYTERY

Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area

Invite you to our Spring Gathering

GRACE IN THE MARGINS: The Role of Compassion and Hope in a Broken World'

“And what does the Lord require of you?” —Mic. 6:8

Saturday, April 28, 2018

9:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Registration, coffee and fellowship start at 9:00 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church
512 3rd St. SW, Rochester, MN

Karen Edmonds of Project Legacy
Keynote Speaker

*Talk to Margie Peters-
en if you are interested
in going.*

**ALL REGISTRATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER
THAN FRIDAY, APRIL 19. (registration form on last page)**



It may still be chilly outside, but camp is right around the corner! Clearwater Forest offers camp experiences for those entering third through recent graduates and more! With a wide variety of programs centered on the theme "Light the Fire," there is sure to be something for everyone this summer!

All camps include activities such as Quest (Interactive Bible study), high and low challenges and team building, crafts, games, worship, kayaking, canoeing and more!

Check out www.clearwaterforest.org for more information about their programs happening this summer at Clearwater Forest!



Registration is underway for Synod School 2018

Celebrating 65 years, Synod School is described as "a learning and personal enrichment experience for people of all ages." Coming off of a record-setting year in 2017 when 686 people gathered for the week-long event, this year's program features Jason Brian Santos, mission coordinator for Christian formation at the Presbyterian Mission Agency, as convocation speaker. Jana Childers, dean of the seminary and vice president of academic affairs at San Francisco Theological Seminary, will lead evening worship. Check out complete details online!

www.lakesandprairies.org/SynodSchool

Synod School 2018



"Synod School is well organized, with inspiring worship leaders, talented instructors, and a great children's program."

July 22-27, 2018

Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, Iowa

www.lakesandprairies.org/SynodSchool
800-328-1880, ext. 207

**Dance Joyfully
Where'er You May Be**



[Movement](#) addresses the need of desperately hurting people to be heard, noticed and seen within their faith communities. The workshop, sponsored by the Southeast Minnesota Chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, begins with check-in at 8:30 a.m. A light breakfast, lunch and refreshments will be served.

Event registration is at

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/soul-shop-tickets-43851534119?aff=efbeventtix>.

April 2018 - Community Presbyterian's Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>EASTER 9:30am Worship with Communion 10:30am Easter Egg Hunt and Fellowship</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Office Closed (Easter Monday) 6:00pm Med City Tai Chi Class</p>	<p>3</p> <p>5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo 6:00pm Brain Injury Support Group 7:00pm Christian Education Committee meeting</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group 12:00pm Bulletin info due 12:30pm PW Monthly Get-Together 7:00pm Choir</p>	<p>5</p> <p>5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Channel One Sunday 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Christian Education 10:45am Mission Committee Mtg</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10:00am PW Bible Study 6:00pm Med City Tai Chi Class</p>	<p>10</p> <p>5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo 6:00pm Worship & Music Meeting 6:00pm Youth Serve at Channel One</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group 12:00pm Bulletin info due 7:00pm Choir</p>	<p>12</p> <p>5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Noisy Can Sunday 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Christian Education 10:45am Adult Discussion: Vital Church 1:00pm Spring Fling 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10:00am PW Bible Study 6:00pm Med City Tai Chi Class</p>	<p>17</p> <p>5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo 5:30pm Finance & Stewardship meeting</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group 12:00pm Bulletin info due 7:00pm Choir</p>	<p>19</p> <p>5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo 6:30pm Building & Grounds Meeting</p>	<p>20</p> <p>12:00pm Newsletter articles due 6:30pm Movie Night w/popcorn</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Christian Education 10:45am Adult Discussion: Vital Church 11:45am Book Discussion Group</p>	<p>23</p> <p>10:00am PW Bible Study 6:00pm Med City Tai Chi Class</p>	<p>24</p> <p>5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo 7:00pm Session Meeting</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group 12:00pm Bulletin info due 7:00pm Choir</p>	<p>26</p> <p>5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo</p>	<p>27</p> <p>4:30pm Building Rental</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Christian Education 10:45am Adult Discussion: Vital Church 6:30pm Girl Scout Troop</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10:00am PW Bible Study 6:00pm Med City Tai Chi Class</p>					

Community Presbyterian Church
3705 Fairway Place NW
Rochester, MN 55901

Put these dates on your calendar!

**April 1 Easter Sunday
Worship with Communion
Easter Egg Hunt and Fellowship**

April 9 PW Bible Study Resumes

April 10 Youth Serve at Channel One

**April 15 Adult Ed begins: Vital Church
Spring Fling**

April 20 Movie Night with Popcorn

April 22 Book Discussion Group

**A full calendar can always be found
on the CPC website! www.cpcrochester.org**

Community Presbyterian
*is “an open-hearted, open-
minded Christian commu-
nity sharing a ministry of
faith, hope and love.” CPC
is a proud member of the
Presbyterian Church USA
(PCUSA).*

*We’re located at 3705
Fairway Place NW, just
across 55th Street from
Sam’s Club.*

**Join us for worship at 9:30
Sunday mornings!**

**You are invited to join us
on this journey of faith!**