

COMMUNITY PRESS

A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROCHESTER, MN

ANNUAL MEETING



Community Presbyterian's **Annual Meeting and Potluck**

will take place on January 24th following worship.

Plan to be here on this important day in the life of
Community Presbyterian.

Following the meeting, we will have a fantastic potluck
together! Watch for a sign up in the narthex.

Plates, silverware, cups, and beverages will be provided.

Table of Contents

CPC Leadership	2
Musings from the Pastor	3
Worship and Music	4-5
Christian Education	6
Library	7
Presbyterian Women	7
Membership/Fellowship	8
Mission	9
Celebrations and Kudos	9
Member Spotlight	10
Building and Grounds	11
Other Announcements	11
Around the Community	insert
Calendar	Insert



Community Presbyterian is “an open-hearted, open-minded Christian community sharing a ministry of faith, hope and love.”

Community Presbyterian Church is a proud member of the Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA). We were founded by a group of Rochesterites who were committed to building a church based on the simple idea that Christians should be “open-hearted, open-minded.” We’re located at 3705 55th Street NW, just across from Sam’s Club. Join us for worship at 9:30 Sunday mornings! You are welcome to join us on this journey of faith!

*Community Presbyterian Church * 3705 55th Street NW * Rochester, MN 55901 * 507-280-9291 * www.cpcrochester.org*

JANUARY 2016

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 2015 LEADERSHIP

Session

The Session is the governing board of the church. It consists of nine ruling elders, elected in classes of three, 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 2015</u>	Ellen Warner Mary Meyer Ivy Pillers	Worship and Music Nominating Mission
<u>Class of 2016</u>	Bruce Felger Stacy Kopecky Amy Anderson	Building and Grounds Membership Personnel
<u>Class of 2017</u>	Ronda Marshall Mark Neville Amanda Ross	Finance and Stewardship Clerk Christian Education

2015 Nominating Committee

Bruce Bigelow, Judy Leal, Katie Marker, Mary Alice Richardson
Deacon representative: Peggy McCarty, Ruling Elders: Mark Neville & Mary Meyer

Deacons

The Board of Deacons are 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. They 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 2015</u> Carol Bigelow Linda Overton	<u>Class of 2016</u> Louis Bouchard	<u>Class of 2017</u> Peggy McCarty Bernie Nicholson
--	--	---

Pastor/Head of Staff
Choir Director
Pianist
Pianist
Bell Choir Director
Office Manager

Rev. Laurene M. Lafontaine
Meg Britain
Laurie Priniski
Glenna Muir
Judy Kereakos
Stephanie Pasch

Ministers to the world

Congregation Members



Happy New Year! Happy Epiphany!

May this year exceed all of your hopes, dreams and expectations! I do love this time of year when we are reminded that all things are made new through the birth of the Christ child. Through our celebration of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, we are again encouraged to fully embrace the life God has for each of us. It is through the gift of Jesus that we are reminded that our own lives are a gift from God. This significance often seems beyond our ability to fully comprehend the love and grace of God made manifest in the birth, life and ministry of Jesus. Sometimes I wonder what the world would be like if we could only just grasp 50% of this reality. Perhaps that is why we celebrate Advent and Christmas with such grandeur and ritual, it is our attempt to connect with the profound depth and meaning of God coming to be with humankind as a babe.

Embracing the new beginnings of the Christian year is an opportunity to remember that this part of our journey is built on the strong foundation of faith expressed through the followers of Jesus over the past two millennium. We do not start over, we are simply called to dream anew as led by the Spirit of God. As a congregation, we have the opportunity to pray, dream and wonder together how God is using us here and now. Building on Ralph Waldo Emerson's adage, "*Life is a journey, not a destination,*" I would suggest that congregation life is a journey. We are always in process, there is no point of finally having arrived, albeit much to our chagrin. Now some might suggest that if a congregation has a certain size with specific programs, then that congregation has arrived! As much as I want our congregation to numerically grow and develop specific programs, I know that if that is our destination point, it will not be sustainable. There are simply too many examples of churches who have energy, resources and vision to build a building and then once the project is completed, the energy dissipates.

So if we focus on our journey together, at this specific time and place, with all our hopes, dreams and expectations and the knowledge that the Spirit of God is indeed leading us, we will be sustained beyond our wildest dreams. I believe God is calling us to be the best Community Presbyterian Church in Rochester, Minnesota that we can be. We are called to express the love of God through our ministry and mission here in Rochester and beyond. We are called to reach out to our brothers and sisters, inviting them to join us for worship and fellowship activities. We are called to pray for a deeper understanding of how God is present in our own lives so that we might share it with one another and the larger community.

It is going to be a great year together! I am increasingly hopeful as we continue on this journey together. It's all good.

"Now to God who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus too all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

Ephesians 3:20

Peace,

Pastor Laurene



What a fabulous surprise Christmas gift!

Thank you to everyone who contributed towards the purchase of four brand new tires! To say that I was overdue for new tires is a bit of an understatement! Thank you!

Because of your overwhelming generosity, I was able to use the remaining monies toward the expenses of moving into my new house in Pine Island! I am so excited to be living in such a fabulous house, where I can regain my health. I can hardly wait to have you all over for a celebration! Again, I am so very grateful and touched by your support!

- Pastor Laurene

Worship is one of the most important things we do together each week! You are invited to participate!

Our Worship Volunteers create a warm, welcoming, and orderly environment so the focus of our worship services can remain on worship. Volunteering for one of our Worship Teams as an Assistant, Greeter, or Liturgist is an important way to contribute to the CPC community. In addition to liturgists, worship assistants, greeters, and communion assistants; nursery volunteers and refreshment hosts are needed!



There are three ways to volunteer for worship at CPC! Sign up in the narthex, contact the office (email or call), or use Sign-Up Genius. You can see the dates and volunteer opportunities available for each Sunday on Sign Up Genius or on the sign up in the narthex. The January Volunteer link is: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0449afab23a3fd0-january>. Stephanie also sends a Monday E-blast with Worship needs for the upcoming Sunday.



**It's a new year!
Try something new this year!**

Worship Volunteers are needed!

Choir is always open to new members!

Bell Ringing is fun!

What are you going to try in 2016?



CPC is blessed with a fantastic choir! They practice most Wednesday evenings and sing most Sundays. If you enjoy singing, you are most welcome to give it a try! Talk to Meg Britain if you have questions!



Jubellation Handbell Choir, led by Judy Kereakos, will play during worship on Palm Sunday, March 20. Practices will begin on February 24 and run through March 16. Bellringers - Mark it on your calendars!

WORSHIP AND MUSIC CONTINUED



The Christmas Program put on by the Children and Youth of CPC was well done! Thank you to all who made it possible!



Upcoming Christian Education for Children and Youth

January 3, 2016 • De-greening of the Church
January 10, 2016 • Named and Claimed Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
January 17, 2016 • Overflowing Love John 2:1-11
January 24, 2016 • Proclaiming Jubilee Luke 4:14-21
January 31, 2016 • Ministry on the Edge Luke 4:21-30
February 7, 2016 • Fully Alive Luke 9:28-36, 37-43



A couple of important thoughts on Bible Study

I am a creature of a day. I am a spirit come from God, and returning to God. I want to know one thing: the way to heaven. God himself has condescended to teach me the way. He has written it down in a book. Oh, give me that book! At any price give me the book of God. Let me be a man of one book.--John Wesley

"I am busily engaged in the study of the Bible. I believe it is God's word because it finds me where I am. I believe the Bible is the best gift God has ever given to man. All the good of the Savior of the world is communicated to us through the Book." Abraham Lincoln

Upcoming Adult Education Classes

January 3 - "De-greening" of the Church
January 10 - PCUSA at Work Around the World
January 17 - The Legacy of Martin Luther King Jr.
January 24 - Annual Meeting and Potluck
January 31 - To be announced

Watch for more, interesting Adult Education Opportunities in the coming weeks and months!

The Book Discussion

Group will meet January 31 at 1:00 at Madonna Towers. This month, the book that will be discussed is If You Leave This Farm, the Dream is Destroyed by Amanda Farmer. It is a biography about a Mennonite girl who moves with her family to Minnesota and the "subsequent challenges they face as farmers, a family and Mennonites."

Talk to Margaret Neslon if you have questions about the Book Group. All are welcome!



LIBRARY

The Church Library? Isn't it just for books about religion?

Of course there are books about Church and Bible, but there are many other books too.

This halfpage each month will introduce you to a wide range of books in our library:

Books for kids, teens and adults

Books of fact and books of fiction

Books that are serious and books that are fun

We will start here:



but each month we hope
to add books from here :



and here:



and some-
times videos
and DVDs,
too.

Each month the featured books will be located in a special place in the library - Until they are checked out, that is. Where should this special place be?

We will need help. We need people who like to read to help us choose the books to feature each month. Who would like to be a Co-editor of the Library page? Talk to Marg Nelson about how you might help with the Library.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



Presbyterian Women Gathering

January 9

12:00

Luncheon at CPC



Come to Community Presbyterian for a Catered Lunch with the women of the church! Great food, fun and fellowship! The offering will go towards the Crisis Nursery (money or baby-related items can be donated). Questions? Contact Nancy Massaro. Sign up in the narthex or by contacting the office. Cost is yet to be determined, watch the bulletin and the eblast for updated information.

The **PW Weekly Bible Study** will take a break this winter. We will be off in January.

Watch for news on the study for Lent 2016!

MEMBERSHIP/ FELLOWSHIP EVENTS



Fun was had by all on the Holly Jolley Trolley Ride in December!

The trolley made two stops at houses in town. One with a Santa and candy canes and the other with a Santa and hot cocoa and cider.

It was great fun! "I would sign up again!"



New Year's Wine and Cheese Party

Saturday, January 2, 2016 3:00-7:00 pm

Mark and Ivy Pillers Home
(2536 Hawk Hill Lane SW)

Open House

Cheese, Wine, and Beverages
provided

Bring an appetizer to share,
if you wish

Children Welcome

Sign up in the narthex or call/
email the church office.



There will be a
**Potluck after the Annual Meeting,
Sunday, January 24th.**

Plan to stay after church and take part in the annual meeting and the fellowship that follows! Watch the bulletins and the eblasts for more information. Questions? Talk to Stacy Kopecky!

We want to be a church....
We want to spend some time...

together
... we will eat, pray, share, talk and have fun.

Saturday Noon Meal

Opportunity knocks for those who are willing to cut apples, make meatloaf, serve a meal or even bake some brownies! January 9 is CPC's next volunteer day to serve the Saturday Noon Meal at Christ United Methodist Church. Sign up for this event in the narthex. If you have done it before, we hope to see you again. If you have never helped, we would love to have you join us! No experience or expertise is required, just a warm heart and willing hands! If you have questions contact Ivy Pillers.

Other dates for Saturday Noon Meal will be: 3/19, 6/18 and 9/10.



CELEBRATIONS AND KUDOS

Celebrate with Members of Community Presbyterian!



Congrats, Meg! What a great achievement at work!



**Girard "Gerry" Calehuff
90th Birthday
October 13**

Girard (Gerry) Calehuff's five daughters and their husbands were in town recently to celebrate Girard's 90th birthday amidst much love, laughter and festivity. Girard was in the 87th Infantry in WWII, graduated from Penn State with a Masters in Aeronautical Engineering, married beautiful Carol McDaniel, RN in 1948, and worked for Westvaco Paper Company in numerous cities and capacities his entire career. One of his favorite pastimes was piloting sailplanes with the Cumberland Soaring Club. An inventor in business and at home, his grilled chicken was legendary, as was the portable grill he engineered to cook and turn 50 chicken halves at once. Girard and Carol moved to Rochester in 1993 and really appreciate the community and all it has to offer. Cheers to you Dad. We all LOVE you!

Highlight the Ward Family: Calvin, Amy, Tucker, and Luke

Amy and Cal met at an IBM summer program in Endicott, NY. Cal had been born in Binghamton, near Endicott, and they continued to live in nearby Owego and Newark Valley after their marriage. IBM brought them to Rochester in 1992. But Amy had moved several times before settling in Owego. Her parents, Girard and Carol Calehuff, were living in Covington, Virginia, near the West Virginia border when Amy, their fifth child, was born. The first four were girls and Girard had given up having a 'junior' so Amy was christened Amy Girard Calehuff. Girard's work at WestVaco, a paper producing mill, led the family next to Cumberland, MD and then to Hollidaysburg, PA, Amy spent the last semester of high school as an exchange student in Sweden, managing the language because she had studied German in school.

Amy graduated from Penn State with a major in Computer Science after spending only 3 1/3 years on the Penn State campus. Cal was living in Endicott and got his BA in Computer Science at Oswego State of SUNY. He then elected to begin his work with IBM in Endicott. Languages have played an important part in the life of the Ward family. Cal and Amy know German and have a smattering of Spanish and French. Their two boys, Tucker and Luke, spent several weeks during seven or eight summers at the Concordia Language Camp in Bemidji, Minnesota.

This interest in languages is closely related to their joy in traveling, especially in Europe. Cal recently spent time in Turkey and Georgia and presents an interesting program on his time there. Right now Cal has picked up Luke in Bethesda, MD and they are traveling to Cozumel, Mexico on a diving expedition.

Back in their Endicott days, Cal and Amy spent each weekend diving in the Finger Lakes. Now all four members of the family have licenses in diving and have enjoyed the sport in Grand Cayman and elsewhere. Before this, Amy's active sport when she was only fifteen was Sail Planing. "It was so good!" she said. Amy has done hand-work in sewing, embroidery, and both quilting and quilling, and has quilled The Twelve Days of Christmas. She co-directed the CPC choir with Kathy Remtema, and she still sings with them. Cal's sports are soaring, asparagus and tomato growing, and bow-hunting.

Their two boys (who some of us remember as cute little red-heads) are through college. Tucker, 25, has a degree from Dartmouth with majors in Arabic Studies, Microbiology, and Computer Science. He now works for Johns Hopkins in Laurel, MD and they are paying for him to study Computer Security at Stanford in California. He was married recently to a long-time friend, Gabi, who works for the Department of Defense and they are living in Alexandria. Luke, 23, attended the University of California, Berkeley majoring in Philosophy. He is living in Bethesda and works for a Law firm located just five blocks from the White House.

The Wards are a talented family. We're lucky Amy chose CPC when they moved here!

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Top 10 Reasons to Join the Clean Team

10. Cleanliness is next to Godliness
9. You make visitors feel welcome when they come to CPC
8. You feel good helping your church!
7. You take responsibility for your church building.
6. You teach your kids about responsibility.
5. It provides for a healthy environment for all in our building.
4. If not you, then who?
3. Cleaning is great exercise!
2. It gives the church mice a break
1. It's fun to hang out with the other members of the Clean Team!

The Building and Grounds committee has set up a cleaning plan that we all can be a part of! Thursday Evenings at 7 PM, help a little or help a lot! Help once a month or every week, every contribution is appreciated and needed!

**Join us every Thursday at 7 pm.
Checklists and supplies provided.**



OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

2016 Holidays (office closed)

The CPC Office will be closed on the following days for holiday observance.

January 1	New Year's Day
January 18	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 15	President's Day
March 28	Easter Monday
May 30	Memorial Day
July 4	Independence Day
September 5	Labor Day
November 24	Thanksgiving
November 25	Thanksgiving Friday
December 26	Christmas (Christmas is on Sunday, office is closed on Monday)

***Please turn in reports for the Annual Report
no later than January 15 (sooner is better).***

Community Presbyterian Church
3705 55th Street NW
Rochester, MN 55901

Put these dates on your calendar!

January 9 PW Luncheon

January 9 Saturday Noon Meal

January 17 Installation of Church Officers

January 24 Annual Meeting and Potluck

**A full calendar can always be found
on the CPC website!**

www.cpcrochester.org

January 2016 - Community Presbyterian's Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 New Year's Day	2 3:00pm Wine and Cheese Party
3 Birthday: Katie Marker 9:30am Worship with Communion 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am "De-greening" of the church	4	5 6:00pm Brain Injury Support Group 6:00pm C.E. Meeting 7:00pm Elders Prep Meeting 7:00pm Mission Meeting	6 6:30am Prayer Group at Madonna Towers 11:00am Staff Meeting 12:00pm Bulletin info Due 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	7 7:00pm Clean Team 7:00pm Special Session Meeting (2016 Budget)	8 Birthday: Amanda Ross 7:00pm AS Support Group in Library	9 Birthdays: Peter Marshall and Mary Meyer 9:00am Saturday Noon Meal 9:00am Building Rental (Umpire Training) 12:00pm PW Luncheon
10 Channel One 9:30am Worship with a Celebration of 2015 CPC Mission 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Sunday School	11 Birthdays: Will Anderson, Ann Hesley, Dalton Simms	12	13 6:30am Prayer Group 11:00am Staff Meeting 12:00pm Bulletin info Due 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	14 Office Closed 7:00pm Clean Team	15 Birthday: Lyal Powell Annual Report Articles Due	16 12:00pm Building Rental
17 Noisy Can Birthday: Dave Copeland Installation of 2016 Church Officers 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Sunday School	18 Office Closed	19 Birthday: Susan Olson 5:30pm Committees: Finance & Stewardship, Building & Grounds	20 6:30am Prayer Group 11:00am Staff Meeting 12:00pm Newsletter Articles Due 12:00pm Bulletin info Due 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	21 7:00pm Clean Team	22	23 Birthday: Bonnie Farris-Huston 9:00am Presbytery at Valley Community Church in Golden Valley
24 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Sunday School 10:45am Annual Meeting and Potluck	25 Birthday: Lori Hill	26 Birthday: Marc Brandt 7:00pm Session Meeting	27 Pastor Laurene Study Leave Birthday: Marianne Henderson 6:30am Prayer Group 11:00am Staff Meeting 12:00pm Bulletin info Due 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	28 Pastor Laurene Study Leave 7:00pm Clean Team	29 Pastor Laurene Study Leave Birthday: MariLynn Johnson	30 Pastor Laurene Study Leave
31 Pastor Laurene Study Leave Birthdays: Ed Burgstaler, Ronda Marshall, and Mary Alice Richardson 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Sunday School 1:00pm Book Group						

AROUND THE COMMUNITY



Last fiscal year, **Channel One** distributed 9.3 million pounds of food to over 100,000 individuals in need in 14 counties. Your generosity as our partner is changing lives just like *Kate's (read her story below!). You can help make every day hunger-free by offering a gift to Channel One today. So many neighbors in need will be grateful for your gift.

Gratitude

*For single moms like Channel One client *Kate, just meeting everyday needs for her family is a struggle, more so during the holidays. But thanks to you, Kate knows they will always have enough to eat. She said, "I'm grateful for Channel One! I think a lot of people are."*

*Name changed for privacy

Channel One Regional Food Bank | 507-287-2350 | lindaolson@channel-one.org | <http://www.helpingfeedpeople.org>



In Spring of 2016, Bethel Lutheran Church, in conjunction with Rochester Christian Drama, will once again present the play, *The Promise*. The Promise is a musical drama portraying the life of Jesus Christ. Performances will take place March 4-6 and March 11-13.

For this to be a success, actors, background actors (no singing needed), stage hands, off stage choir members, and production crew are needed. All are invited to auditions. Auditions are open to all in the community.

Auditions Friday, January 8, 5 PM -9 PM and Saturday, January 9, 9 AM -2 PM. They will be held at Bethel Lutheran Church, 810 3rd Ave. SE, Rochester,.

More information can be found at www.RochesterChristianDrama.org

AUDITION FOR "THE PROMISE"

Friday, January 8, 2016
5-9 p.m.

Saturday, January 9, 2016
9 a.m.-2 p.m.



A Rochester community production of the musical drama portraying the life of Jesus Christ

Needed: Actors, off stage choir, background (both singer and non), stagehands.

Info go to: www.RochesterChristianDrama.org

Auditions held at:

Bethel Lutheran Church, Music Room
810 Third Ave SE
Rochester, MN 55904