

COMMUNITY PRESS

A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROCHESTER, MN



“Worship is for everyone who longs for God – believers and seekers. Worship is about honoring and praising our Lord and Savior. It is a time when we gather together to experience the presence of the Holy Spirit, and express our joy and gratitude. The power of God’s word touches those who are hurting and awakens hope for the hopeless. ... We invite you to celebrate the good news in Jesus Christ!”

Even if these words come from a Methodist website, they hold true in many churches. We, at Community Presbyterian Church, invite you to worship this summer! Even if summer schedules take you away from Rochester on some weeks, when you are in town – come to church! The door is always open and we welcome you home!

You are invited

To fully participate in Worship

Community Presbyterian Church

Rochester, Minnesota

Each Sunday

Even in the Summer

9:30 a.m.

First paragraph from <https://fumcelgin.com/invitation-to-worship/>

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**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*

JUNE 2016

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 2016 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 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
<u>Class of 2018</u>	Dave Copeland Ivy Pillers Ellen Warner	Nominating Mission Worship and Music

2016 Nominating Committee

Bruce Bigelow, Ann Hesley, Mary Alice Richardson, and Mary Meyer

Deacon representative: Peggy McCarty, Ruling Elder: Mark Neville

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 2016</u>	<u>Class of 2017</u>	<u>Class of 2018</u>
Louis Bouchard Judy Leal	Peggy McCarty Bernie Nicholson	Carol Bigelow Jennifer Hall

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

Ministers to the world

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

Congregation Members

MUSINGS FROM PASTOR LAURENE



“We were not created to live in pain”

Recently a little stray cat started hanging out on my backyard patio. After posting a found ad with Camp Companion, I was asked if I would foster him until his owner was found or he was adopted since there was no one available to foster him. Of course, I said yes. The unfortunate thing for this sweet yet aloof cat, whom I named Baloo, was that his fur was not only terribly matted, but the fur all over his body was practically pelted to his skin. Every time he moved, it was painful so I was careful only to pet him on his head. Surprisingly despite a few burs, his fur was very clean. On Tuesday, Baloo experienced his freedom in that a local vet shaved him. Watching him after being freed from the constant pain has been quite remarkable. He doesn't hide in the garage when I let him out of the large dog carrier; he waits for me to let him jump up on my lap.

He is much more engaged, and playful. I'm grateful that a local family has already adopted him and he goes to his forever home this Saturday.

I couldn't help but think of my recent own battle with diverticulitis as I watch the transformation of this little cat. After literally gutting it out and trying to avoid surgery at all costs, I finally gave into the fact that I was merely surviving, pretty miserable and simply not improving. After having the sigmoid colectomy surgery in April, the past several weeks of recovery has helped me realize just how sick I was and the overwhelming sense of ongoing pain and misery I had experienced since August of 2013. Of course, reading the pathology report reinforced any doubts I may have had. I am so grateful for my docs at Mayo Clinic, especially for CPC member, Dr. Stephen Hauser. Last spring, he helped me see that this might be serious and helped facilitate a visit to one of his colleagues.

My sense is that my experience of denying pain is more common than some would like to admit. Almost everyone lives with some level of pain and subsequent denial of that pain, whether it is physical, emotional, psychological or spiritual. We assume that *“this is how life is”* and we suffer through life because we believe that we are unable to change, remove or minimize the pain. Instead we try to cope and end up self-medicating in a variety of ways: alcohol, busyness through working longer hours and having more commitments to avoid dealing with our own pain, negativity, pessimism, anger, etc. This perspective also transcends the personal. Many organizations, particularly churches, take on the identity of suffering through life and living with the pain of the past, pain of limitations, scarcity, etc. as if we were called to just be the suffering servant. We tend to forget that our ministry and mission means living out the whole ministry, mission, suffering and yes, hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. We are called to embrace the life-giving Spirit of God in all aspects of our life together as a community of faith.

The reality is that we were not created to live in pain, regardless of the source. This summer, you are invited to join me as we explore together a variety of life-giving spiritual practices and activities. Throughout the summer, we will gather after the worship service to discuss hot topics or anything that is on your mind over coffee. As a congregation, we will be reading Rev. Jane Vennard's book, *“Fully Awake and Truly Alive.”* Books are now available for purchase in the church office. Throughout the summer, we will meet in small groups for discussion, which will be organized around the schedules of those who are participating. Please sign up in the narthex. Donna Magtibay is willing to lead a Stress-Free Living Program as well as provide Reiki for those interested in experiencing it.

Building personal relationships and community is one of the best ways to reduce our suffering and pain. It reminds us that we are not alone and that together, we can experience the life-giving love of Jesus Christ, if we are even slightly open to this possibility. Please join me...it feels great to be fully alive, engaged with life again, and yes finally myself! Thank you for your prayers and support during this time of ongoing recovery.

Blessings, Pastor Laurene

Have you signed up to volunteer at worship at CPC?!



When you volunteer to help at worship, you are connected in a different, profound way. You are invited to be a worship assistant, a greeter, a communion assistant, a liturgist, a nursery attendant and/or a refreshment host! If you'd like job descriptions, please email the office! Job Descriptions will be highlighted in the newsletter in the coming months. Thank you for taking your turn volunteering in worship!

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 June Volunteer link is: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0449afab23a3fd0-june>. Stephanie also sends an E-blast early in the week with Worship needs for the upcoming Sunday.

Summer Music Program

The Summer Music Program features church members and community participants who provide a wide variety of musical talents for the summer Sunday worship services.

Musical talents have included vocalists, cellists, pianists, harpists, flutists and sacred dance plus groups such as bluegrass, dulcimer, brass, vocal quartet and piano duos.

If you have questions, suggestions or want to share your gifts, please talk to Meg Britain!

The program was begun in 2002 and continues annually.



The **Area VII Handbell Festival** is June 16-19 this year. It is only held every other year. The event is in Sioux Falls, SD. Our church is sending Judy Kereakos, Bruce Felger, and Abby Hall.



Christian Education Teacher
Recognition: Sunday, June
12th - don't miss it!



**Faith Camp:
God in Creation
August 8-11, 2016
Evenings**

Faith Camp is an awesome experience for all ages that happens right here at Community Presbyterian Church! Save the evenings of August 8-11 and be part of the fun!

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
2016-2017**

The group met and decided on the books to read next year. We would be glad to have others join us. We usually meet at Madonna Towers at 1:00 on the fourth Sunday of each month except that we combine November and December on the first Sunday of December, due to the two holidays. Watch the newsletter, bulletins and e-blast for exact dates. Some books come in a bag. Suggestions will be given for locating copies of others, perhaps through Inter-Library Loan.

September - The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown (Nine American boys and their quest for gold at the 1936 Olympics) Non-fiction

October - I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzai (The girl who stood up for education and was shot by the Taliban) Non-fiction

November/December - All the Light We Cannot See, by Anthony Doerr (A blind French girl and a German boy meet in Occupied France.) Fiction

January - The Road to Character by David Brooks (Ten lives illustrate how our culture has lost sight of the value of humility) Non-fiction

February - The Cape Ann by Faith Sullivan (Struggles of a family to stay together during the Great Depression, through the eyes of a child.) Fiction

March - My Beloved World by Sonia Sotomayor (Life from a NYC housing project to Justice of the Supreme Court.) Non-Fiction

April - Jayber Crow by Wendell Berry (Life's questions discussed by a pre-ministerial student and his professor in a Kentucky) Fiction

May - The House I Loved by Tatiana deRosnay (Attempts to save a historical house during the renovation of Paris in the time of Napoleon) Fiction

Food Share Month Wrap Up



Fill our empty hungrys!
The cupboard is so bare-
Who will answer and provide,
To show we really care?

Fill our empty hungrys!
For old who live alone,
For young, just barely getting by,
Living on their own.....

Fill our empty hungrys!
These challenges we face-
Together sharing, loving, caring,
Make this world a better place!
- MariLynn Johnson

Thank you from Mother Hubbard. She is happy for all the items and funds given to help Channel One during the Pack the Pews campaign in March. CPC brought in 179 items! We can be sure that her dog got a bone! Thanks also to MariLynn Johnson for her inspirational poetry!

Saturday Noon Meal June 18

Meatloaf! Apple salad! Brownies!
Serving the hungry. Once again
we will have the privilege to
make our famous CPC meatloaf.
Consider spending a few hours
of your time to show your
care and concern for those less
fortunate in our community.
Sign up in the narthex!

Remember the call of Christ to
'Feed my Sheep'.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Come Grow With Us Helping Hands



It is said that when you give away flowers some of the fragrance remains on your hands. So when Carol Bigelow offered to donate some lilies in memory of her mom, we benefit and so does she.

I am grateful for Mary Alice Richardson's donation of funds for the Garden of Life. The resources will be put to good use to help maintain the churches gardens.

And last- but not least- a BIG thank you to those who lent a hand at the Spring Fling. Ornamental grass was trimmed and hauled to the compost site. Trees and shrubs were pruned and branches hauled to the brush dump. Old paint, electronics and spent florescent bulbs that were sitting in corners of the church were hauled to hazardous waste. (At 50 cents a bulb recycling fee you'd be surprised how fast that bill added up!) A shout out to our youth for being so cheerful and helpful. A terrific example of many hands make light work!

I am grateful for the giving hands and the helping hands of our congregation. I put my hands together and gratefully thank you all.

Please join hands with me in maintaining our church's gardens either with volunteer time or funds. I can be reached at: Carole Kinion Copeland 990-0544.



Rev. Julie Beck will lead a bereavement support group Monday mornings at 10:00 am beginning June 6 in the conference room.

Bowling

Bonanza at

Bowlocity

June 26 at 2:00

Come have fun with your CPC family! Watch for a sign up in the narthex at church. Talk to Stacy if you have questions.



Birthdays and Anniversaries can be found in the printed copy of the newsletter at church.

Spotlight on MariLynn Johnson

MariLynn Lois (Tolzmann) was born to Louis and Lydia Tolzmann at St. Peter MN in January 1936. The family lived on a farm near LeCenter, MN until 1942 at which time they moved to Albert Lea, MN. MariLynn attended school there and was graduated from there in 1954. She met and married Robert Lee Johnson there in 1956. They had two children while living in Albert Lea. In 1968 they decided to move to Rochester, where their son was born.

MariLynn's work history in Albert Lea was highlighted by two years as the city's first female letter carrier plus planning and helping build the first of four houses that the family would eventually construct. A brief hiatus of two years on an acreage near Kasson ended in a return to Rochester and a return to higher education for MariLynn as she completed her nursing requirements. Also at this time she completed her EMT education which she put to good use as a four year volunteer in the Police Reserves. In 1993, she left full time work to care for her husband who passed away in 2000.

MariLynn's family: Kathryn and husband Mike who live in AR, Kristine and husband Craig Hall who live in Rochester, son David and wife Mary who are church members...Six grandchildren, four great grandchildren, and one extremely loving cat Patches..

MariLynn's interests: Writing poetry has been a number one interest since childhood (see the example below)... but she is also interested in creative photography and exploring abandoned buildings. The family constructed a total of four new homes and remodeled four others, a worthy accomplishment.

A founding member of Community Presbyterian Church, Marilynn has been an active member since the beginning. She has served two terms as Deacon, Chaired the Membership Committee in the early days, and has been a member of the choir until recently.

*Tomorrow is mine, indeed!
And all my yesterdays as well-
No meager glimpse, no taste I bide;
I want the whole of life, and then the shell!*

*Tomorrow is mine indeed!
If I the loser be, then lose I must-
There have been other days and other dreams,
I've watched far grander castles turn to dust!*

*Tomorrow is mine, indeed-
I'll peel it, gnaw it to its very core,
And when that final dawning grayly pales
Will still be seeking, searching, wanting MORE!*

Jeff's Jottings: You're Presbyterian? Why?

By Jeff Japinga, Transitional Executive Presbyter

So why is it important that **you** are Presbyterian?

There are actual answers to this question, in the recently-released results of an intentional church-wide listening effort last fall in which 3,427 persons participated (though only 40 from Minnesota)...

What we value, and what we agree on, as Presbyterians seems almost predictable, conclusions many if not most of us could affirm; here's how the report's executive summary reported the results:

Overall, Presbyterians value most about our denomination (in no particular order):

- Our outward focus and how we help others
- Our community and Presbyterian identity, heritage and tradition
- Our Reformed theology and the way we are intentional about theological education for ourselves and our pastors, so we can engage in collective discernment through intelligent dialogue
- How our Presbyterian polity provides connections, as well as accountability and equality of voice for ruling and teaching elders

We also have general agreement on four things the church is called to be and do (in no particular order)

- Help others
- Be biblical
- Nurture and support the church and its leaders
- Be a beacon of light and love in the world

It gets more complicated when the study sorts these "helpful, biblical, supportive, loving" Presbyterians into four categories (or five categories, if you count the 20% of people not assigned to one of the four):

- *Disappointed and Discerning* (19%): Those who are disappointed with their PC(USA) affiliation but feel stuck in the denomination for various reasons, or are conflicted and thinking about leaving.
- *Rooted and Resolute* (9%): Those who consider their PC(USA) identity to be very important, but feel that the denomination has strayed from the Bible, bowed to the demands of secular culture, and/or gotten too involved in liberal politics.
- *Family Facilitators* (15%): Those who value our theological diversity and would prefer reconciliation between liberals and conservatives, who have very different world views.
- *Purposeful Progressives* (35%): Those who would prefer that we narrow our focus to claim a more progressive identity both for theological reasons and to gain cultural relevance and our own societal niche.

Part of the continuing question we face as Presbyterians is whether a denomination with persons from such differing camps can continue long-term as a functioning identity, or whether we even want to. In the survey, just 56% of respondents said it was important that "any congregation to which (I) belong has a relationship with the PC(USA)." The largest number of people in that group cited the connectional nature of the Presbyterian Church as the reason for their loyalty.

But connected to whom?

The somewhat fractured nature of our church community not news, of course, and in this culture, perhaps it's inevitable and maybe even irreversible. But I keep wondering, perhaps revealing both Pentecost and the category (Family Facilitator) of Presbyterian that I likely am; Might we find our true selves as Presbyterians finally not in being correct but in being connected - in hearing it in theirs - and in doing so, building relationships that have the depth to engender both growth and transformation.

In the promise of Pentecost, our sons and our daughters still prophesy, our young people see visions, and our long-time members dream dreams. Might their professions of faith be received in ways that spur us to build new efforts of shared significance together.



**Presbytery of the
Twin Cities Area
website:
ptcaweb.org**

**PTCA weekly email
newsletter... contact
communications@
ptcaweb.org**

AROUND THE COMMUNITY AND OTHER NEWS



ROCHESTER SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA & CHORALE

and



34th INFANTRY DIVISION
"RED BULL" BAND

ECHOES OF 9/11

2016 marks the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. To commemorate this historic event, honor its victims and pay tribute to the magnificent valor of America's first responders, the Rochester Symphony Chorale in cooperation with the 34th Infantry Division "Red Bull" Band of the Minnesota Army National Guard will present a public concert on September 10, 2016.

You are invited to sing with us!

Rehearsals: Aug 1, 8, 15, 22, 28 and Sept 1 and 8, all 7-9pm at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
(singers are required to attend a minimum of 4 of the 7 rehearsals)

Dress Rehearsal: September 10, 10am—Mayo Civic Center Auditorium

Performance: September 10, 2pm—Mayo Civic Center Auditorium

Program will include:

The Star Spangled Banner
Flanders Field
A Hymn for the Lost and the Living
The Testament of Freedom
The Promise of Living from *The Tender Land*

The Battle Hymn of the Republic
America the Beautiful
Sounding of Taps
Hymn to the Fallen
The Stars and Stripes Forever

To sign up, visit rochestersymphony.org, email info@rochestersymphony.org, or call 507.286.8742.



Hollywood Calling

This summer, a Hollywood movie will open — *Genius* — a film about Scribner's famed book editor Maxwell Perkins, who worked with Thomas Wolfe, F. Scott Fitzgerald and Ernest Hemingway.

Before production began 18 months ago, the Presbyterian Heritage Center in Montreat was contacted about Thomas Wolfe's 1938 funeral at First Presbyterian Church in Asheville. The film company had questions about the minister, the funeral service and period clothing at that funeral. We supplied images, the order of worship and other information.

"Thanks ever so much for your help and all of your detailed research! It is most appreciated," wrote Beth Gillman, *Genius* Principal Costume Supervisor. "This gives us great idea of the robes he (the Asheville minister) would have worn — thank you very much for the images. It is great to see him in civilian clothes — we now know he definitely wore glasses! With very best wishes."

The movie stars Colin Firth as Perkins and Jude Law as Thomas Wolfe (above). Other stars include Nicole Kidman as Perkins' love interest Aline Bernstein and Dominic West as Ernest Hemingway.



Join us for a week of . . .

Worship for all ages, with spirited music and singing
Daily convocation on the theme
Classes for youth and adults of all ages
Bookstore and global fair-trade gift shop
Sing-a-longs and nightly coffeehouses with live music



July 24–29, 2016

Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, Iowa

Discover Synod School!

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

Connecting with Jesus
in an Over-Connected World

June 2016 - Community Presbyterian's Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:30am Prayer Group at Madonna Towers 9:00am Drop Off Day for Sale 11:00am Staff Meeting 12:00pm Bulletin info Due 3:00pm Drop Off Day for Sale	2 9:00am Drop Off Day for Sale	3 9:00am Drop Off Day for Sale	4 8:00am Rummage and Bake Sale
5 9:30am Worship with Communion 10:30am Fellowship 12:00pm Deacons	6 10:00am Bereavement Group	7 6:00pm Brain Injury Support Group 6:00pm Christian Education Meeting	8 6:30am Prayer Group 11:00am Staff Meeting 12:00pm Bulletin info Due	9 Office Closed 7:45pm Mission	10 7:00pm AS Support Group in Library	11
12 Channel One 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship	13 Med City Driving School 10:00am Bereavement Group	14 Med City Driving School 7:00pm NW Neighborhood Association meeting	15 Med City Driving School 6:30am Prayer Group 11:00am Staff Meeting 12:00pm Bulletin info Due	16 Med City Driving School	17 Med City Driving School	18 Saturday Noon Meal
19 Noisy Can 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship	20 Med City Driving School 10:00am Bereavement Group 12:00pm Newsletter Articles Due	21 Med City Driving School 5:30pm Committees: Finance & Stewardship, Building & Grounds	22 Med City Driving School 6:30am Prayer Group 11:00am Staff Meeting 12:00pm Bulletin info Due	23 Med City Driving School	24 Med City Driving School	25
26 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 2:00pm Bowling Bonanza at Bowlocity	27 10:00am Bereavement Group	28 7:00pm Session Meeting	29 6:30am Prayer Group 11:00am Staff Meeting 12:00pm Bulletin info Due	30		

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

Put these dates on your calendar!

June 1-3 Drop off Days for the sale

June 4 Rummage and Bake Sale

June 18 Saturday Noon Meal

June 26 Bowling Bonanza
at Bowlocity

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

RUMMAGE SALE

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3705 55TH STREET NW

ROCHESTER

BAKE

SALE

SAT. JUNE 4, 2016

8:00 AM— 3:00 PM

Cash Only

\$5 BAG SALE @ 2:00 PM



Donations accepted on

May 25 6-8 pm

May 28 8 am-12 pm

June 1 9 am-12 pm AND
3 pm-8 pm

June 2&3 9 am-3 pm

or by appointment. Please
price all non-clothing items.

QUESTIONS? CALL
CPC OFFICE 280-9291

PROCEEDS BENEFIT
CHURCH INITIATIVES.