

COMMUNITY PRESS

A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROCHESTER, MN



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Stewardship Sunday: November 11, 2018

We will dedicate our pledges for 2019 in worship

Each Fall season, as we give thanks to God for the blessings in our lives, we begin to look forward to a new year ahead. As God has been faithful to us, so we pledge to be faithful to support the ministries and life we share together at CPC.

This week, you will receive a stewardship packet with information about the many ways your gifts make our church's life and mission possible. You will be impressed with the ways that God is working in our midst. Give thanks for the opportunities for worship, service, friendship and fellowship, spiritual growth and learning. I am thankful for the contributions of time, talent and treasure that each of you bring so that all together, wonderful and life-shaping things are happening here.

Prayerfully consider how you will support CPC with your financial gifts, knowing that your gifts are vitally important to our continued life together. As we prepare to call a new pastor, your financial pledges enable the session to plan with confidence, so they are able to offer compensation that is fair and inviting.

Our church building is a centerpiece of our ministry of welcoming one another and our neighbors. Your pledge and giving enables us to provide a warm, inviting place to gather, a "home" and a place where God's presence is known.

Pray. Pledge. Participate as we dedicate ourselves to God's work through our hands on Stewardship Sunday, November 11.

NOVEMBER 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

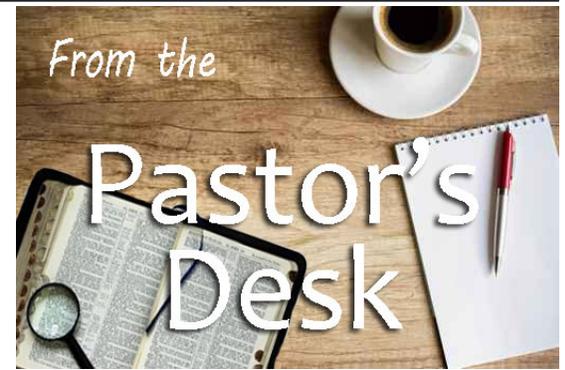
Head of Staff/ Transitional Pastor	Pastor Susan Li
Choir Director	Meg Cain
Pianist	Glenna Muir
Bell Choir Director	Judy Kereakos
Custodian	Nancy Sanford
Office Manager	Stephanie Pasch

Ministers to the world

Congregation Members

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

1 Thessalonians 5: 15-18



Every day is Thanksgiving for Christians, who live by faith. Still, it is good for us as a community to stop and reflect together on how blessed we truly are. Thanksgiving is our nationwide recognition that the health, well-being and abundance we enjoy comes to us as a gift from God. And so we give God thanks and praise.

We express our gratitude not only for past blessings, and present circumstances, but also because in Christ, our future is assured. The colonists who celebrated the first Thanksgiving in Plymouth, Massachusetts understood this well. They were not celebrating riches, but simply survival, for many of their number had died that first year in the “new world.” And so they gathered to recognize the blessing of God’s providential care and provision, for it is God who upholds us, in good times and in struggle.

This year of pastoral and missional transition has brought its challenges and also many joys and accomplishments. By God’s grace, working in you, Community Presbyterian continues to worship God, nurture one another in faith, and support those in need, within and beyond our walls. And so we can rejoice and look forward to the future.

Much of the joy of Thanksgiving is traditionally found in gathering around the table with family and friends, celebrating our blessings and the love we share. We are thankful for the gift of belonging. We are thankful for the gift of relationship with God and with each other. We miss those loved ones who cannot be with us.

I am reminded that Jesus gives us an image and promise of the heavenly kingdom as a great banquet, where all God’s people are gathered in, for a feast and celebration, praising and giving thanks to God. In the parable of the wedding banquet in Matthew 22, the master tells his servant, “Go into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.” And so they do, bringing in “all whom they found, both good and bad; so that the wedding hall was filled with guests.”

God desires to gather us and to bless us. God provides what we need, and more. We respond with thanks and praise, as we take our place at the table of celebration. Who else might we invite to join us at that table? It’s a party not to be missed, and everyone, **all of us**, is invited and welcome. Thanks be to God!

WORSHIP AND MUSIC



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

- a liturgist
- worship assistants (2-3)
- 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 e-mailing/calling the office!

FROM THE WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE

Advent Readers Needed

We will need individuals to read Advent Readings during the service during the four Sundays of the Advent season. Please consider volunteering with a friend or family member(s) during this season of lights. Please also consider sharing your talent with the congregation. Please let the office know if you are interested in volunteering.



Also consider stretching yourself a bit (and also showing support for other volunteers) by signing up to be a worship assistant, liturgist or greeter. Lighten the load of some of our very faithful volunteers.

SCRIBBLES FROM SESSION

The Session has been working on a variety of items designed to continue our important ministries as well as lay a foundation for the future. Here are some highlights:

Extending our Welcome and Invitation At our last meeting, we continued our discussion on how to make CPC better known in the community. Stephanie has been very active on Facebook, featuring CPC in frequent posts. Please check out the CPC Facebook page, "Like CPC" and offer a comment or two about our church. This is one way to reach people of all ages in Rochester. The website is also being updated. Stephanie, Pr. Susan and Carol Copeland are working on an invitation card we can all use to let others know about CPC. Watch for these!

Capital projects by Building and Grounds Lots of work is being done by Building and Grounds to keep our facility in good working order. .

We are working with the Presbytery and the City of Rochester to draft easements so that the water main will likely be completed in the spring. B&G members have been busy with gutter extensions, leveling a concrete pad by the back door, adjustments to the front door and fire alarm maintenance. Thanks to them for their continuing efforts!

Mission Forward: Transition Reflection and Planning for the Future Session has been reviewing the information gathered during the September after church sessions with Pastor Susan. This is very helpful in making plans for our church and new pastor. Discussion is beginning to see what direction CPC should head. Planning is most critical. All of the members of Session are very active in ascertaining what options are best for CPC. The session will work with the Presbytery to discern our direction for the future, and what model of pastoral leadership will best serve CPC going forward. We are doing our homework! We will bring these options to the congregation after careful consideration. In the meantime, session members are eager to hear from you. Please let them know what you are hoping for. And please keep CPC and Session in your prayers as we seek God's guidance and direction for the future.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Christian Education for Children and Youth

Sundays, 10:45 am

November 4 • The Way of Love • Mark 12:28-34

November 11 • The Way of Giving and Receiving • Mark 12:38-44

November 18 • The Way of Faithfulness • Mark 13:1-8

November 25 • Reign of Christ • John 18:33-37



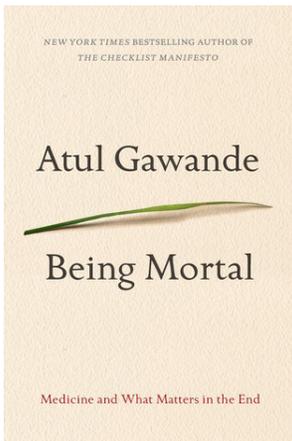
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



Sunday, December 2

10:45 am

Join in the discussion!



The book discussion group will meet on Sunday, December 2nd at 10:45 am. This will be a joint meeting for November and December due to the holidays. All are welcome to join in the discussion, whether you have read the book or not! But, it is a very worthwhile book to read! “In Being Mortal, bestselling author Atul Gawande tackles the hardest challenge of his profession: how medicine can not only improve life but also the process of its ending...Gawande, a practicing surgeon, addresses his profession’s ultimate limitation, arguing that quality of life is the desired goal for patients and families. Gawande offers examples of freer, more socially fulfilling models for assisting the infirm and dependent elderly, and he explores the varieties of hospice care to demonstrate that a person’s last weeks or months may be rich and dignified.” (amazon.com) **Come, share in this discussion!**

MISSION



It is beginning to look a lot like Christmas. We will be continuing our tradition of helping some people in our area have a little better holiday this year. CPC has always been more than generous to those in need. We will have the list of items to be purchased sometime after the middle of November. The wrapped gifts will need to be brought to church on December 2. More details will be available soon. Thanks you for thinking about others. If you have any questions, please contact Ivy Pillers, Jennifer Hall, or Mary Alice Richardson.

CPC's CHILI COOK OFF



Saturday, November 10, 2018 at 4 pm
One of the **HOTTEST** events of the year!
Whether you want to Cook and Compete...
or just want to Eat... you're bound to have a
whole lotta fun!

Prizes awarded for best chili!
Register in the Narthex

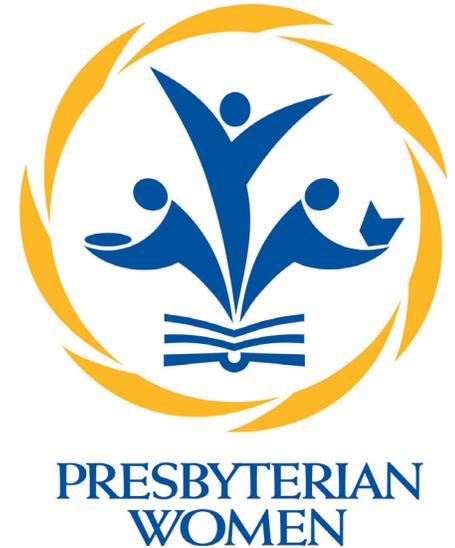


In October, a few hardy souls from CPC enjoyed the Northwoods Orchard and Corn Maze! It was an "A-mazing" adventure!

BIRTHDAY WISHES

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

*Birthdays and Anniversaries
an be found in the print edi-
tion of the newsletter. You can
pick one up at church!*



PW Thankoffering: Sunday, November 18

Presbyterian Women will be celebrating the 2018 Thankoffering by leading worship on November 18. Thankoffering began in 1888 by the women showing gratitude for God’s blessings by sharing with others. It continues to follow the goals set by these dedicated women so many years ago. Last year 83 grant applications were reviewed and 16 projects were selected. Health ministries received more than 40% of the funding, This year, Ronda Marshall and some of the other people who accompanied her on the mission trip will be the speakers. *Please come and give as you are able.*

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

Watch your mailbox!

If you haven’t already received it, you will be receiving a letter from the CPC Stewardship Committee. Included with the letter is your giving statement at this time, your pledge card and envelope for 2019. If you don’t receive this in the first week of November, please let the church office know so we can make sure you get that! Pledge cards will be turned in during worship on November 11.]

Per Capita

Have you paid your Per Capita yet?!? No??? It’s not too late!!! This year’s Per Capita is \$34.50 per member.

General Assembly	\$ 7.73
Synod	5.40
Presbytery	<u>21.37</u>
Total Per Member	\$34.50

Please help CPC fulfill our commitment!

Community Presbyterian Church
3705 Fairway Place NW
Rochester, MN 55901

Put these dates on your calendar!

November 4 All Saints Sunday

November 10 Chili Cook Off

November 11 Stewardship Sunday

November 18 PW Thank Offering

November 30 Greening of the Church

December 2 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!**

facebook

Be sure to “like” us on Facebook!
Look for “Community Presbyterian
Church”. Announcements and
interesting articles are shared here
regularly!

Spotlight on Margaret Nelson . . . written by herself

This will be the last Spotlight right now for two reasons: I have run out of members who seem interested in being spotlighted and I'm getting old and tired and it is time for someone else who likes to write to take over. I like to write and writing most of the Spotlights has given me that opportunity. For this I thank all of you who have been my subjects And to those who have written their own or who have aided me in part of the writing, you have added personal notes to make the stories more interesting. I believe we have included all our



current members who attend regularly enough for me to get the necessary information—a total of 35 spotlights, many including several family members. When we get more members to write about I trust we will also get a new writer to take over. So my last Spotlight will be on myself.

I was born in St. Paul, MN nearly 100 years ago and lived on Fry St. for two months until my parents moved to Chicago where I grew up on the South Side near Jackson Park. People I remember well were of course my good friends in the University neighborhood (I'm too old to have known the Obamas.) The annual Flower Show on Navy Pier was an important event for our family as was each Thanksgiving afternoon when our family took the Illinois Central commuter train (we had no car) downtown to see the moving characters in Marshall Field's windows. The 1933 World's Fair was not only an exciting event but provided visits from more aunts, uncles, and cousins than we ever saw before or since. Sometimes I even got to sleep in my own bed.

After college in Appleton, WI, I worked in downtown Chicago for investment advisors for a few years before concluding that there must be more worthwhile things to do with one's for life than to help rich people get richer, so I found myself again in Minnesota, getting a teaching certificate. I taught third grade in Redlands, CA, and then returned to Minneapolis for more education, ending up teaching in Cedar Falls at the Iowa State Teachers College, now the University of Northern Iowa. Cedar Falls was a nice little town compared to Chicago and I made good friends there, including my husband, Hank. He taught Geography, so for summer vacations he knew where to go and what to see. About fifteen years later Hank was invited to teach at the University of Wisconsin, La Crosse where we stayed until his retirement when we moved to Lincoln, NE, to be near family.

We both enjoyed Elderhostels in retirement, 25 in all, in the U.S. and England, and also volunteer work, mainly with Habitat for Humanity, and in a variety of libraries as I had gone to Library School when we lived in La Crosse.

And now I'm back in Minnesota. Methodists when we moved here, we preferred a small church so chose CPC. We also chose Madonna Towers as a place to live. Both were excellent choices and provided fine opportunities for our final years.

Community Presbyterian's Calendar

November 2018

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo	2	3 5:30pm Building Rental
4 All Saints Sunday Daylight Savings Time ends 9:30am Worship with Communion 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Christian Education	5 6:00pm Med City Tai Chi Class 7:00pm Christian Education Committee meeting	6 5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo 6:00pm Brain Injury Support Group	7 6:30am Prayer Group 12:00pm Bulletin info due 12:30pm PW Monthly Get-Together 6:30pm Jubellation Handbell Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir	8 5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo	9	10 4:00pm Chili Cook Off
11 Stewardship Sunday 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Christian Education	12 Office Closed 6:00pm Med City Tai Chi Class	13 5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo 6:00pm Worship and Music Meeting 6:00pm Building and Grounds Meeting	14 6:30am Prayer Group 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Jubellation Handbell Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir	15 5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo	16	17
18 Noisy Can Sunday PW Thank Offering 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Christian Education	19 6:00pm Med City Tai Chi Class	20 12:00pm Newsletter articles due 12:00pm Area Presby Clergy 5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo 5:30pm Finance & Stewardship Meeting	21 6:30am Prayer Group 12:00pm Bulletin info due 7:00pm Choir	22 Thanksgiving Office Closed	23	24
25 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Christian Education	26 6:00pm Med City Tai Chi Class	27 5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo 7:00pm Session Meeting	28 6:30am Prayer Group 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Jubellation Handbell Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir	29 5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo	30 6:30pm Greening of the Church	