

COMMUNITY PRESS

A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROCHESTER, MN



September 9: Annual Outdoor Worship Service

Please mark your calendar to attend Community Presbyterian's Annual Outdoor Service on September 9, 2018. Put your favorite lawn chair and sun bonnet/straw hat/baseball cap in your car ahead of time so you won't forget them.

The Reverend Ann Siverling will be conducting the service. Ann recently graduated from Mayo Clinic's Clinical Pastoral Education Residency Program. She has recently started a position with Heartland Hospice. Prior to her residency, Ann was a solo pastor at the Grand Meadow Lutheran Church and also a senior pastor at Good Shepard Lutheran in Rochester.

In addition, Brass, Etc will once again provide inspirational music. Following the service, there will be a pancake breakfast. Please plan to invite a friend and bring your appetite. Join us as we reconnect for the upcoming liturgical year.

Pancake Breakfast After the Outdoor Service

Join together for the annual pancake breakfast after the outdoor worship service on Sunday, September 9. Pancakes, sausage, fruit and beverages will be served. A free will donation will be collected to cover the costs. There are two sign ups in the narthex - one for volunteers for this event and one for attending this event. Contact Stacy Kopecky with questions!



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Join in three congregational conversations to encourage reflection on who we are and where we are going. The self-reflection and hopes that emerge can be woven into our Ministry Information Form, which is the form the PC(USA) uses to introduce congregations to pastors who are considering a new call.

The consensus on identity, core commitments, hopes, vision, goals and resources can be celebrated, reinforced and developed in the coming months to guide plans for the future.

Be part of the conversation!
September 16, 23 and 30
at 10:45 am!

SEPTEMBER 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 Jeanette Hallbeck	Louis Bouchard Mary Meyer	Marcia Britain Ann Hesley

Staff

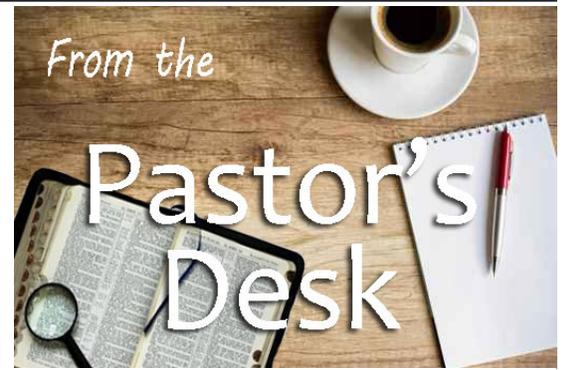
Head of Staff/ Transitional Pastor	Pastor Susan Li
Choir Director	Meg Cain
Pianist	Glenna Muir
Bell Choir Director	Judy Kereakos
Custodian	Nancy Sanford
Office Manager	Stephanie Pasch

Ministers to the world

Congregation Members

How Can I Keep From Singing?

Music speaks to our souls. Music reflects our beliefs and shapes our understanding. Some songs motivate us and move us to action (an anthem or fight song) and some calm us and enable us to rest. The hymns and songs we sing in worship reflect and shape our faith, move us to care for the world God loves, and assure us of God's loving presence so we can rest in God.



On August 19, I invited worshipers to share their favorite hymn. The songs you named reveal the wide variety of styles and faith expressions represented in our church's hymnody. In fact, you named 39 different songs! Only 6 hymns received more than one vote! They include *Be Thou My Vision* (2), *All Things Bright and Beautiful* (2), *What A Friend We Have in Jesus* (3).

Some were from the great hymn tradition of the church (*A Mighty Fortress*, Handel's *Hallelujah Chorus*). Some are more recent spiritual songs from the last century (*How Great Thou Art*, *For the Beauty of the Earth*, *Blessed Assurance*, *In the Garden*). Some we might call contemporary, within the last 25 years (*Here I Am*, *Lord*, *On Eagles Wings*, *Song of Hope*).

Hymns from our childhood remain favorites for many, their message is simple and clear, reminding us of God's love and the faith that has been ours from our birth (*Jesus Loves Me*, *This Little Light of Mine*, *I Love to Tell the Story*, *He's God the Whole World in His Hands*).

All of these hymns teach us something about who God is, and who we are in relation to God. Each opens us, in word and melody, to the presence and grace of the Spirit. They make us smile. The hymns we love remind us of loved ones who taught them to us, as well as beloved churches where we first learned to sing these favorites.

Amazing Grace was mentioned most often, with 6 "votes". Written by John Newton, a former slave ship captain who became a preacher, in 1773, it may be the best known hymn in the U.S. today. Perhaps it is so compelling for so many because of its message that God's grace is extended to us, no matter how off-course we may find ourselves. Newton felt great remorse for his participation in the slave trade. The forgiveness God offers, and the new life that is ours each day, moves us to sing with thanksgiving and awe. It's a song that humbles us and lifts us up in God's love at the same time. "I once was lost, but now I'm found; was blind but now I see...His grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home."

You may see the full list on the information table in the Narthex. Our favorite hymns reflect our wide range of appreciation for music of the faith. I'll enjoy including your favorites in worship in the weeks and months to come.

Keep singing! May the music fill your soul and give you joy.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Susan

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!

MISSION



Saturday Noon Meal Saturday, September 8 9:00-1:00 pm

Once again, we have the privilege to serve at the Saturday Noon Meal! Sign up in the narthex to be a cook or a server for this event. 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! The event takes place at Christ United Methodist Church. Questions? Contact Ivy Pillers



CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAY WISHES

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Birthdays and Celebrations are in the print edition of the newsletter - please pick one up at church!



Christian Education

Christian Education for Children and Youth
Sundays, 10:45 am
Season of Pentecost

September 16 • Who Are You, Jesus? • Mark 8:27-38
September 23 • First in Caring • Mark 9: 30-37
September 30 • Getting Out of the Way • Mark 9:38-50



Join us for a Back to School blessing for all students, teachers, administrators, and school support staff during worship on Sunday, September 16. Students of all ages are encouraged to take part (pre-school to graduate school!). Come, bring your backpacks, book bags and brief-cases as we ask God's blessing for the year ahead.

We will also commission our Sunday School teachers that day.



Seasons^{OF} THE SpiritTM
www.seasonsonline.ca

We use exceptional resources from Seasons of the Spirit that can equip and empower our leaders to make a profound difference in the lives of children and youth by bringing faith to life.

The vision...

Seasons of the Spirit provides faith communities with resources that empower all ages to be transformed in Christ as they:

- explore meaning and mystery in the Bible
- celebrate in worship, sacraments, education, and service
- engage in ministries of love, justice, and witness
- live in inclusive communities of faith, shaped and led by the Holy Spirit.

(The full text of the *Theological and Educational Foundations Paper* is available on the *Seasons* website.)

Seasons of the Spirit...

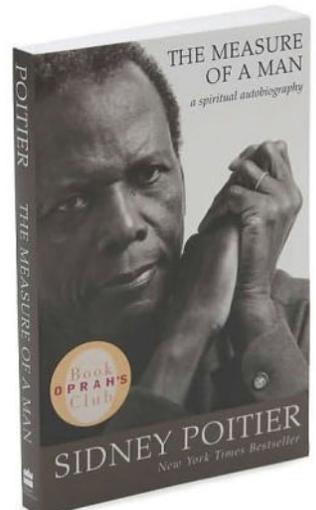
- is an ecumenical **lectionary-based resource** (see reverse)
- follows the **seasons of the church year** (see reverse)
- integrates the ministries of Christian education, worship, and service
- offers ritual and resources that nurture the imaginative spirit
- is created by an international team of writers and editors through a community development process
- is used by faith communities around the world, from Australia to North America to the United Kingdom

BOOK DISCUSSION
GROUP



Sunday
 September 23
 12:00 pm

The book discussion group will talk about [The Measure of a Man: A Spiritual Autobiography](https://www.amazon.com/Measure-Man-Spiritual-Autobiography-Oprahs/dp/0061357901) by Sidney Poitier. "... In this luminous memoir, a true American icon looks back on his celebrated life and career. His body of work is arguably the most morally significant in cinematic history, and the power and influence of that work are indicative of the character of the man behind the many storied roles. Sidney Poitier here explores these elements of character and personal values to take his own measure—as a man, as a husband and a father, and as an actor..." (<https://www.amazon.com/Measure-Man-Spiritual-Autobiography-Oprahs/dp/0061357901>). Bring a snack or sack lunch and join in on the discussion on September 23!



Spotlight on Pastor Susan Li**Where did you grow up?**

I was born in Washington, D.C. and grew up in the suburbs of Maryland. My dad was a lawyer, and my mother taught first and second grade for 37 years. They exemplified for me dedication and service to others. I was baptized in the Methodist church, and went to church every Sunday because my mother and aunt served as Sunday school superintendents. After our family moved further out of the city, we began attending a nearby Presbyterian church, where my parents serve as elders and deacons. Not surprisingly, I began helping teach Sunday school at the age of 14. Being actively involved in church and living the faith were a big part of my growing up.

Then what? I attended Duke University and majored in nursing. It felt like a vocation, or calling, to me. I worked as an RN for 2 years, primary in critical care. I learned a lot about life and death, the importance of hope and faith, and God's sustaining love through my experiences caring for others. As I contemplated getting a Master's degree in Nursing, I discerned a call to law school instead. I graduated from University of North Carolina Law School and worked as a lawyer in Raleigh. I enjoyed my work. Jim and I were married at the Duke Chapel.

Jim and I came to Rochester so that he could do a fellowship at Mayo Clinic. We thought we would be here only one year, and that was 34 years ago! We love it here. I worked for a law firm, had 2 kids, was a stay at home mom, and taught courses in law for St. Mary's and Augsburg in Rochester. We were members of First Presbyterian, and both have served on the session there.

How did you become a pastor?

God calls us to do things we never expected to do. Being a pastor is one of those things for me, maybe because when I was growing up I never encountered women pastors. I was teaching an adult class at First when a woman in the group said, "You ought to be preaching!" I laughed; it seemed absurd. But I kept thinking about what she said. I spoke to two of the pastors at the time, and they encouraged me. Through a series of events, including neighbors helping with my kids after school, God opened the way for me to attend Luther Seminary in St. Paul. Eventually, I became pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Rushford, MN.

Why interim/transitional ministry?

I had seen the difference a thoughtful, intentional transitional pastor can make as a member of First, Rochester. So, I took the three-part training through the National Association of Lutheran Interim Pastors. I find the time between called pastors as a creative opportunity to reflect on the congregation's life and ministry, imagining what comes next and discovering a vision for the future. I love helping church members identify their core commitments and particular callings as a congregation. Then they are able to seek new pastoral leadership to work toward that vision.

Every congregation is different and unique. Every congregation has a dynamic and purpose. Every congregation has talented members who together are able accomplish amazing things, as they grow in faith and love. I'm excited to discover with the members of CPC where God is leading next!

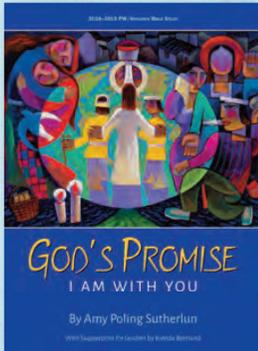
Coming Wednesdays at 10:00 am in October!

Introducing the 2018–2019 PW/*Horizons* Bible Study

God's Promise: I Am with You

By Amy Poling Sutherland

With Suggestions for Leaders by Brenda Bertrand



"I will be with you."

"I am with you."

These words—God's words to God's people—convey a profound truth for God's people. God is with us. Throughout scripture, God promises to accompany each of us throughout our lives and the lives of generations before and after us.

"I will be with you."

"I am with you."

The 2018–2019 PW/*Horizons* Bible study, *God's Promise: I Am with You*, takes readers on a journey through scripture to consider circumstances in which God articulated God's promise of presence. This study does not delve deeply into manifestations of God's presence—the tabernacle, the ark of the covenant, manna, the Temple, pillars of cloud and fire—but rather on God's actual articulation of God's promise. We will see anew that God offered these words of profound comfort and commitment to individuals and communities from the time of the patriarchs to that of the prophets; from the judges to the kings; before, during, and after the exile; into the New Testament and beyond, to the end of the age.

During these nine lessons, we will discover how God's promise speaks to our circumstances, as individuals and as a community. We will be encouraged to know of God's presence with us wherever we find ourselves on this life's journey—through uncertainty and discouragement; during trials and times of powerlessness; when we seek God's guidance and, yes, during our everyday lives.

Lesson One: God with Us Wherever We Are

Focus: God's promise to be with us allows us to consider the surprising and powerful intimacy of God's willingness to be with us in all our circumstances.

Primary Scripture: Genesis 26:1–6; 28:10–22

Lesson Two: God with Us in Our Uncertainty

Focus: God accompanies the called; it is God's presence in our weakness that equips us for our calling.

Primary Scripture: Exodus 3:1–12, Judges 6:11–27

Lesson Three: God with Us in Our Discouragement

Focus: God's promise of presence gives us courage, strength, boldness, and hope, when on our own we would lose heart.

Primary Scripture: Deuteronomy 31:1–8; Joshua 1:1–9; Haggai 1:1–15, 2:1–9

Lesson Four: God with Us When We Seek God

Focus: God summons God's people, and especially God's leaders, to walk in God's ways and to seek God.

Primary Scripture: 1 Chronicles 28:1–21; 1 Kings 11:1–13, 29–39

Lesson Five: God with Us When We're Powerless

Focus: God's promise of presence when we are powerless invites us to lay down our weapons of worry and keep our eyes on God.

Primary Scripture: 2 Chronicles 20:1–30; Deuteronomy 20:1–4

Lesson Six: God with Us Through Our Trials

Focus: God says, "I will be with you," and that promise of presence conveys the depth of God's love.

Primary Scripture: Isaiah 41:8–13; 43:1–7; Psalm 46:1–11

Lesson Seven: God with Us as Emmanuel

Focus: The promise shifts from the "God with us" promise to the "God with us" person of Jesus Christ.

Primary Scripture: Isaiah 7:10–16; Matthew 1:18–25

Lesson Eight: God with Us as the Holy Spirit

Focus: God who was incarnate in Jesus Christ is now present as the Holy Spirit.

Primary Scripture: John 14:1–31

Lesson Nine: God with Us

Focus: Jesus extends the promise of presence to his followers, whom he sends into the world.

Primary Scripture: Matthew 18:15–20; 28:16–20

About the authors



Amy Poling Sutherland grew up in Texas and New Mexico, the middle child of a sixth-generation pastor. She briefly bucked the family ministry tradition by earning a master's degree in education at Austin College and teaching school in intercity Dallas for two years. However, Amy also did mission work in Malawi and served

churches in Texas and Oklahoma before ultimately heading to Princeton Theological Seminary. Ordained pastoral ministry led her first to Huntington, West Virginia, then to San Marcos, Texas, where she currently co-pastors First Presbyterian Church. Her passion in ministry is exploring and witnessing the intersection between people's stories and the unfolding story of God's work in the world.



Suggestions for Leaders writer **Brenda Bertrand's** eclectic 20-year career spans work as a news anchor, a political appointee in Washington, D.C., a university and military chaplain, and a consultant for leading global firms. She invests her life energies in helping women find the courage and confidence to take their next leap of faith in work and

life. With master's degrees from the University of Texas and Princeton Theological Seminary, Brenda recently spent a year teaching in the People's Republic of China. A native of the U.S. Virgin Islands, she is a lifelong pilgrim, traveling the globe to find its most beautiful beaches and sacred spaces.

Subscribe to *Horizons* by April 1, 2018, to receive a copy of this study free with your subscription! To subscribe, call 866/802-8635 or visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons.

Community Presbyterian Church
3705 Fairway Place NW
Rochester, MN 55901

Put these dates on your calendar!

September 8 Saturday Noon Meal

**September 9 Outdoor Worship and
Pancake Breakfast**

**September 16 Blessing of the Backpacks
Congregational Conversations Begin**

September 23 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!



Committee on Congregational Vitality plans retreat on 'Good News'

The presbytery's Committee on Congregational Vitality is asking, "How would you like to spend a Friday and part of Saturday at the beautiful Clearwater Forest at the peak of the fall-color season reflecting on 'Good News?' Does the 'Good News' look different as seasons change? Do we proclaim a message that is 'Good News' to the world we now inhabit, or are we propping up a church built to address the needs of a world that no longer exists?" The committee is sponsoring a retreat, beginning Friday, Sept. 28, that will reflect on the proclamation of the "Good News" in a world that remains divided and filled with inequality. Registration details can be found at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/whats-good-about-the-good-news-rethinking-evangelism-tickets-49151520521>. Additional details are available on request by sending e-mail to ccv.ptca.program@gmail.com

Stewardship Kaleidoscope planned in St. Louis in September

This year's Stewardship Kaleidoscope, an annual conference offering speakers, workshops and networking opportunities for all who are passionate about stewardship and generosity, is planned Sept. 24-26 in St. Louis. Diana Butler Bass, an award-winning author and internationally known public speaker, and Chick Lane, pastor for stewardship and generosity at Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Maple Grove, Minnesota, will be the keynote speakers. Details about the conference can be found at <http://stewardshipkaleidoscope.org>.



Calling all Rochester Artists! Channel One Regional Food Bank is getting ready for its signature event, Empty Bowls. If you or someone you know has a talent for the creative, please consider making a bowl for this amazing event. All mediums of creation are welcome, and your bowl could end up on display and available for sale to the public to raise even more money to help end hunger. Get creative and help increase awareness of the issue of food insecurity! If you are interested in donating a piece to Empty Bowls, please call 507-287-2350. Thank you!

Community Presbyterian's Calendar

September 2018

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:30am Worship with Communion 10:30am Fellowship	3 Office Closed: Labor Day	4 5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo 6:00pm Brain Injury Support Group 7:00pm Christian Education Committee meeting	5 6:30am Prayer Group 12:00pm Bulletin info due 7:00pm Choir	6 First Day of School CPNS 5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo	7	8 9:00am Saturday Noon Meal
9 9:30am Outdoor Worship with Brass, Etc. 10:30am Pancake Breakfast	10 6:00pm Med City Tai Chi Class	11 4:00pm Presbytery Meeting 5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo 6:00pm Worship and Music Meeting 6:30pm Building and Grounds Meeting	12 6:30am Prayer Group 12:00pm Bulletin info due 7:00pm Choir	13 5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo	14	15
16 Noisy Can Sunday 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Christian Education 10:45am Congregational Conversations	17 6:00pm Med City Tai Chi Class	18 12:00pm Area Presby Clergy Group 5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo 5:30pm Finance & Stewardship Meeting	19 6:30am Prayer Group 12:00pm Bulletin info due 7:00pm Choir	20 12:00pm Newsletter articles due 5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo	21	22
23 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Christian Education 10:45am Congregational Conversations 12:00pm Book Discussion Group	24 6:00pm Med City Tai Chi Class	25 5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo 7:00pm Session Meeting	26 6:30am Prayer Group 12:00pm Bulletin info due 7:00pm Choir	27 5:15pm 4Kicks Taekwondo	28	29 Building Usage: Peggy McCarty
30 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 10:45am Christian Education 10:45am Congregational Conversations						