

Community Press

What you would like CPC to be—54 adult responses, 9 children responses

I love to hear Laurene's sermons. I need more of God's love.

Members regularly visiting elderly shut-in members.

What does church mean to me? It's a shelter from the storm—a place of warmth and refuge, welcoming and warm—music stirs the hungry soul and gives it total birth—so let's have even more of it to charm this sad old earth!

To have my soul fed by God through the word and the light of Christ.

More focus on finding within! Inner peace in the face of political turmoil.

Happy here—find way to increase membership.

More "attention" to the elderly—how? —I haven't any idea!

A variety of secondary activities to engage small groups: book study, film review

Share interests: groups to plays, crafts, etc.

A community that supports one another.

More children's activities outside of Sundays.

Gypsy (with a crayon drawing of a dog).

Try a Sunday service with audience participation to discuss current issues/Christian perspective (i.e. wars, poverty, health care, inclusiveness, with Laurene moderating/bringing in Christian view).

Spiritual growth.

Silence in community; intentional prayer group (i.e. centering prayer).

Working together. Feeling the needs and desires of others.

Handbells. Sense of family. Thought provoking.

Deeper spirituality. To truly know and accept and cherish one another.

Bouncy music.

A real sanctuary with pews and an organ.

We like the friendliness and concerns of the church. In the future we would like to see more association with other local churches.

To be a place where we can experience peace and joy and recharge our spiritual batteries in a way that becomes a beacon for others to join us.

Receive grace.

Good as is.

Restore calm, eliminate drama, as in last four months and beyond.

Longer Sunday school and more (scribbled out).

I hope people act more friendly to everyone, not only their friends.

CPC is my extended family.

My wish is not for something new, but for a continued commitment to music and fellowship as integral elements in worship and church life.

I would like to see an expanded musical program in the church.

More clapping during songs; make more joyful noise.

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From the Pastor...



It's hard to put into words what my recent encounter with the Minnesota ice and light snow on a very slippery wood deck has been like. After feeling so frustrated about "one more thing" occurring to me during my time here in Rochester, I have come to realize that sometimes things happen and what is important is how one responds. With that said, I am so grateful for all the support and care you have shared with me as I continue to struggle to deal with having a broken ankle and the subsequent complications of living in a house with multiple staircases.

A number of you have reminded me about my dear friend, Scott Anderson's advice during his installation charge to slow down and how maybe God was simply assisting me. Even though it has been a bit of a challenge being a self-sufficient kind of gal and all, I am learning that this is what it means to be a community of faith where we help one another. Guess I needed to learn to practice what I preach!

I spent the long MEA weekend in Thunder Bay, Ontario where I had ample opportunity to think, pray and reflect while hiking along in the Sleeping Giant Provincial Park, exploring the Blue Point Amethyst Mine and visiting the Terry Fox Memorial. During this time, it dawned on me that being a church is not about constant activity or planning, but it is about the relationships we develop with one another and with Jesus. It is about the quality of our time together worshipping, learning, praying and celebrating life! It is about focusing on the here and now, trusting that God has our future well in hand.

It was during this time that I realized that CPC has been through a whirlwind of change, ups and downs, and at times, a bit of chaos during the past few years. With Bill's departure and the subsequent events leading up to my arrival, a number of people have carried the burden of running the church, making sure everything was getting done and trying not to lose a step, all of which has led to significant church fatigue and feeling worn out. In many conversations, people have shared with me about wanting to grow as a church and yet, wondering about having the necessary energy for sustainable and healthy growth.

Out of these conversations and my own reflections comes our Stewardship campaign "A Season of Renewal." This is a time to reflect on the importance of our own spiritual health and well-being and what we along with our church family need so that we are nurtured. It is an opportunity to pray for God's guidance as to how each one of us can best help support the life and ministry of our church through the giving of our time, talent and treasure. It is a time of reflection about the importance of CPC in our own individual and family lives. This season of Stewardship is a wonderful time to reflect, pray and experience God's leading in how best to use all that God has given each one of us.

I am grateful for this community of faith and how I am learning what it means to be a part of a healthy and vibrant family. Thank you for all your support and care. I look forward to returning it throughout the years to come.

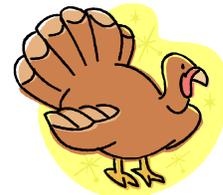
Peace,
Laurene

GIVING REPORT

<i>October '13 Weekly Average</i>	<i>\$1,786.50</i>	<u><i>Special Offerings</i></u>	
<i>Year to Date Avg. '13</i>	<i>\$3,088.18</i>	<i>One Great Hour of Sharing</i>	<i>\$1,219.82</i>
<i>Budgeted Weekly for '13</i>	<i>\$3,034.50</i>	<i>Christmas Joy Offering</i>	<i>\$922.00</i>
<i>Per Capita Received '13</i>	<i>\$1,416.49</i>	<i>Thank Offering</i>	<i>\$458.00</i>
<i>Total Per Capita Paid '13</i>	<i>\$4,402.00</i>	<i>Peace Offering</i>	<i>\$391.75</i>

(Per capita contribution per member is \$32.37 for 2013)

November 2013



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 10am Aikido 5pm Progressive Dinner
3 9:30am Worship & Communion 12pm Fall Work Day & Social 5:30pm Adult Ed	4 6:30pm Mem- bership 7pm Worship & Music 7:30pm Ai- kido	5 6pm BIG 7pm Mission	6 6:30am Prayer Group 12pm Bulletin Articles Due 7pm Choir	7 7:30pm Aikido	8 7pm AS Support Group	9 10am Aikido
10 9:30am Worship 9:30am Stewardship Sunday 9:30am Channel One Sunday 5:30pm Adult Ed	11 5:30pm Build- ing & Grounds 7:30pm Per- sonnel 7:30pm Ai- kido Newsletter Articles Due	12 10am Staff Meeting 7pm Women of the Church	13 6:30am Prayer Group 12pm Bulletin Articles Due 6:15pm Hand- bells 6:30pm Long- fellow 7:15pm Choir	14 7:30pm Aikido	15	16 10am Aikido
17 9:30am Worship 9:30am Noisy Can Sunday 5pm Movie Night 5:30pm Adult Ed	18 7pm Finance 7:30pm Ai- kido	19 5pm Christian Ed	20 6:30am Prayer Group 12pm Bulletin Articles Due 6:15pm Hand- bells 7:15pm Choir	21 7:30pm Aikido	22	23 10am Aikido
24 9:30am Worship 9:30am Thank Offer- ing-Praise Service	25 7:30pm Ai- kido	26 10am Office Staff Meeting 7pm Session	27 6:30am Prayer Group 12pm Bulletin Articles Due 7:00pm Choir	28 7:30pm Aikido Church Office Closed Thanksgiving Day	29 Church Of- fice Open	30 10am Aikido 11am Greening of the Church

Upcoming Events in 2013

December 1 Book Discussion Group

December 10 Women of the Church meeting

Coming up at CPC!

Lots to look forward in the days to come at our church!

November 2

Progressive Dinner

November 3

Fall Work Day and Social

November 17

Movie Night

November 24

Thank Offering Service

November 30

Greening of the Church

Women of the Church—

Tuesday, November 12 at 7:00 p.m.

November 12 is the date. The place is **Lois Nicholson's** at Fairway Ridge. The time is 7:00 p.m. Our speaker will be Diana Evans, program manager of NAMI (National Association for Mental Illness). Our church was represented at their recent walk, and we contributed \$3,000 to support this group. All women are welcome to come and learn about their work. Call Lois at 507-282-7255 if you plan to come.

For our December 10 meeting at Madonna Towers we are asked to bring either a dessert or an appetizer.

(Continued from cover)

More yummy food.

Sunday school (with a crayon drawing of a church).

Continue to grow—in my eyes I have the perfect church and we are blessed to have Laurene. In my eyes it's a privilege to worship in God's house.

Children taking part.

Sunday school.

I would like to see that we spend more time and effort to involve our shut-ins.

See my friends.

Keep the kids' Sunday school growing. A little more light in the sanctuary on Sunday so we can read!

Sermon then talks to me and friends.

More love in the congregation.

Program activities are needed to bring new/different people to church:

- For families
- For youth

For seniors.

Learning the value of prayer.

Fun fellowship opportunities and more adult education options on Sunday mornings.

To be fed spiritually with the word of God. The fellowship of fellow Christians. Reach out program.

Phase 2.

Keep up the great work and spirit that you've brought to this congregation.

A mom's group.

I hope someone will see that new members will be followed up—those missing a few weeks will be checked up on.

Social gatherings (i.e. potlucks every month to get to know everyone better).

An hour of fellowship, support and faith.

Opportunities for volunteering in community as a family with young children.

Children's music.

I need the church to grow and have more people carry the burden that I have borne.

Communion every Sunday.

Xander. Less time, less time.

Re-establish a building fund for our future growth!

To see us grow in the community and beyond.

Bible studies.

Go ahead with plans to add a gym and classrooms to the building so that Great Room can stay as sanctuary.

Longfellow Backpack Program

CPC began their third year of participation in Channel One Food for Friends program in November. Volunteers meet at CPC to pack food for Longfellow Elementary School families which helps provide weekend meals for children in need. Currently, we are providing food for 12 families totaling 29 children. We will fill the backpacks on Tuesday, November 26, at 2:00 p.m., and volunteers of all ages are always welcome. The schedule will be published in the Sunday bulletin insert and will include both daytime and evening volunteer opportunities. There will be future opportunities for our congregation to become more involved in this project. Watch for future announcements!!

In the photo the three volunteers working on November 6 were Denise Swinbank, Judi Berg and Gwen Riggan. George Berg picked up the food at Channel One and delivered filled backpacks to Longfellow on Thursday November 7.

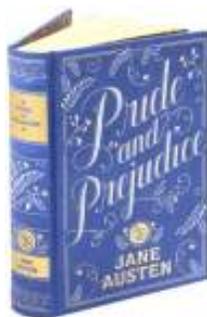


Thank Offering-Praise Service—Sunday, November 24

Sunday, November 24, is the Thank Offering-Praise Service at CPC. Women around the world share of their abundance to provide health and wholeness to women and children in the far corners of the world. The speaker will be Marcia Dollerschell, former Peace and Justice Coordinator for the PWPTCA and member of First Presbyterian Church, Rochester. Marcia, a long time social activist, was an attendee at the Church-wide Gathering of Presbyterian Women in Orlando, Florida, in July, 2012. She had some profound and unique experiences which she will share with the congregation. Her topic will be: "It's Not Fair!"

Book Discussion Group—Sunday, December 1 at 5:00 p.m.

How long has it been since you read Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice"? This is the selection for our November/December Discussion Group, which will meet on Sunday, December 1, at 5:00 p.m. in the church library. Join us for our discussion of this literary classic. This is a "Book in a Bag" which gives us 10 copies; if you would like a copy, please contact Gwen Riggan after October 25 at 251-7874 or gwenrig@live.com.



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Editor reserves the right to edit for content and space.

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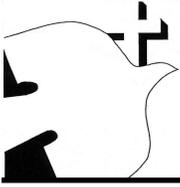
Noisy Can Collection

October's Noisy Can Collection amount was \$42.27. This month, we will use these funds to send Christmas gifts to Cristhian Gaspar in Bolivia. He is our Compassion International support child. We are also funding gifts for two other children who currently do not have sponsors. Small change can make big changes in our world!



Greening of the Church— November 30 at 11:00 a.m.

Join us on November 30 as we decorate the church for Christmas. There will be multi-generational activities, and children and youth will be able to make a family Advent log and feeders for the birds.



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Place
stamp
here

“Open Hearted—Open Minded”

Come Be Our Guest!
 Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School: 10:45 a.m. (September - May)
 Nursery is provided during Worship
 and Sunday School.



Way to Go CPC Volunteers!

United Way would like to thank CPC for our wonderful volunteer efforts. This year, we donated 23 items of winter outerwear for the United Way coat drive. Our youth were part of the 1,611.5 volunteer hours for Running Start for School, and CPC donated school supplies for the 4,259 students who were served. Thank you for your participation!

Holiday Packages for the American Indian Family Center in St. Paul

CPC has the opportunity to participate in a new mission project this holiday season. We have created a partnership with the American Indian Family Center to provide holiday packages to the children of families they serve in St. Paul. These families tend to move around significantly and many times the children cannot bring along a lot of items as they move from house to house. This is one of the many reasons why the AIFC and the mission committee felt this was an incredible chance to provide those children with what they need and do it all in a small shoe box.

More details will be available in November. As you are shopping, consider purchasing any or all of the requested items below. There will be a collection box placed in the Narthex for the items.

- Stuffed animals
- Fun soaps
- MP3 players (\$20-\$25 ones)
- Toothpaste/toothbrushes
- Nice fabric bags kids can use to hold other items
- Winter gear (hats/mittens/scarves)
- Fun socks
- Shampoos, lotions

Any children's sizes would be appropriate as they will hand out the boxes accordingly.