

COMMUNITY PRESS

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Community Gardens at CPC: 2020

This summer, the Community Garden at CPC is being run a little differently. With the pandemic, Covid-19, hitting in the late winter, Channel One needed to put its resources towards the immediate hunger needs in Rochester. So, this year, they were unable to be a partner with CPC in the Community Garden. That left a big hole! Amanda Nigon-Crowley with the Diversity Council contacted CPC about letting The Village Community Garden and Learning Center run the Community Garden program this year. This year, all 15 plots are being gardened with a waiting list of 45. There seems to be more interest and activity this year. Carole Kinion Copeland continues to have contact with Amanda. The Village has also added a shed for tools, a picnic table and new compost bins.



Summer in the Garden of Life at CPC

Allies &
Advocates
Diversity Council

Sunday, August 9, 2:00 -3:30 pm

Rochester's Diversity Council is offering CPC a special 90-minute skills-building event: "Allies & Advocates is an interactive, scenario-based training that provides individuals with the opportunity to learn about and practice responses to incidents they may encounter in their daily lives. The session provides tools and tactics to interrupt bias and hate through effective deescalation, respectful intervention, and social accountability." More information is available at www.diversitycouncil.org. If you are interested in participating, please RSVP to the office at church.

AUGUST 2020

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 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 2020</u>	Ivy Pillers Kim Nickander	Worship and Music Finance and Stewardship
<u>Class of 2021</u>	Ronda Marshall Dave Copeland	Mission Personnel
Class of 2022	Gene Kopecky Sue Chipman	Building and Grounds Christian Education
<u>Officers:</u>	Mary Meyer Mark Pillers Joanne Powell	Clerk (Non-voting) Financial Secretary Treasurer

2020 Nominating Committee

Jeanette Hallbeck, Peggy McCarty, Mary Alice Richardson, Bruce Felger, Dave Copeland

Membership (a sub committee of Christian Education) Chairperson: Amanda Ross

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 and serve a three year term.

<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>
Marcia Britain Ann Hesley	Jeanette Hallbeck Jennifer Hall	Kari Streff Ron Murray

Staff

Pastor/ Head of Staff	Rev. Jan Wiersma
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

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

August is nigh and the corn is high and gardening images wind through our Sunday texts like happy squash vines, blossoming everywhere. Jesus' parables, based on an agrarian society, still speak to us today. On July 12, we heard about the sower, recast in the present as a rogue farmer scattering seed all over Main Street with his 60' John Deere planter. On July 19th, the parable of the weeds and the wheat yielded more somber reflections on the nature of weeds, and how undesirable elements like racism and inequity not only pervade our culture, but infiltrate our own souls.



As I write, I'm thinking about the July 26 sermon on "the marvelous mystical mustard seed," signaling a return to abundance, and joy.

An exuberant reminder of God's faithfulness must surely live in our own gardens, at home and at church. The perennials in the Garden of Life and near the church have increased and multiplied and filled the earth; annuals spark color here and there. A small but valiant crop of carrots surrounds the whimsical sculpture at the entrance.

Great lessons, though, have come from the community gardens. Eagle Scout Tyler introduced participants to four charming chickens one Thursday: an ameraucana, a white Leghorn, an ISA Brown, and a Silkie (the Silkie doesn't lay much, and her eggs are small, but she makes a wonderful pet!). He demonstrated how comfortably and cheaply the birds can live in the movable home he built for them, now displayed next to the garden plots. He also designed and installed a compost bin for gardeners' use.

Every evening an informal society of international horticulturists arrives to hoe and harvest, water and watch for ripeness. I've learned from them about the valuable properties of plants we generally think of as weeds. East African spider plant, which grows wild, is used like spinach and rivals that American garden staple for nutrition, but tolerates heat much better. I first met amaranth as "pigweed," and fought a losing battle with it in past times. In the future I'll just harvest and eat it!

The best crop of all, though, is the friendship springing up between community gardeners and congregation members. As Carole Kinion Copeland, herself a Master Gardener, expressed it during our time of gratitude on Sunday: "CPC should be proud to share our land with the community. Let's continue to cultivate this relationship and grow together." Well said, Carole!



Chicken Coop Education Opportunity



Compost bins near the gardens

A BLESSING OF A NEW BEGINNING AT CPC

Thank You!

July 19th was a day of special celebration as we celebrated the “Blessing of the Pastor/Congregation Relationship.” Thanks especially to the Worship and Music Committee and the Marshall family who worked many extra hours so we could worship in the sanctuary, and to all who showed up as part of the worship team: Glenna Muir, Meg Cain, Ivy Pillers, Alayna and Stacy Kopecky, and Ronda, Peter, and Bill Marshall.

Special music was provided in person by Friedell 8th-grader Shea Morrey; her mother Ruth was also present. Shea is sharing her talents to raise money for rebuilding the East Lake Library in Minneapolis. As an avid reader, she was distressed to think that her aunt and cousins, who live near the library that was destroyed in the protests, wouldn’t have ready access to books. Her honorarium from CPC will go toward her library fundraiser.

Very special thanks go to Jean Emmons, Vice moderator of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area, who joined us by Google Meet to lead the liturgy and make the blessing official. We can all be thankful to share ministry with our progressive and compassionate Presbytery leaders.

CPC’S COMMUNITY GARDEN: EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

New This Year: Education Opportunity with the Community Gardens
Thursday, July 16, a Boy Scout, Tyler, gave a talk about chickens and led a construction project for a compost pile.

What’s especially beautiful about this garden is being able to get to know people we ordinarily might not meet, and in such casual friendly circumstances. It’s easy to chat in a garden. As Carole Kinion Copeland commented, these are relationships we want to “cultivate and grow!”

We give Tyler our thanks and appreciation for his really helpful and informative presentation. He is passionate about his subject (chickens) and that can’t fail to inspire others.



Pictures: Tyler (to the left), Compost Bins (above), a young boy holding a chicken during the event (above, right), and the chicken coop (to the right).



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

SCHEDULE FOR BOOK DISCUSSIONS 2020 – 2021

September 27	<u>Educated</u> , Tara Westover	Nonfiction
October 25	<u>Brinkley's Beat</u> , David Brinkley	Nonfiction
December 6	<u>Olive Kitteridge</u> , Elizabeth Strout	Fiction
January 31	<u>Where the Crawdads Sing</u> , Delia Owens	Fiction
February 28	<u>If You Lived Here, You'd be Home by Now</u> , Christopher Ingraham	Nonfiction
March 28	<u>Where Men Win Glory</u> , Jon Krakauer	Nonfiction
April 25	<u>No Ocean Too Wide</u> , Carrie Turansky	Fiction
May 23	<u>This Tender Land</u> , William Kent Krueger	Fiction
(If needed)	* <u>Love Does</u> , Bob Goff	Fiction

*Due to Covid-19, Public Library books may be difficult to obtain. Love Does was the book with the next highest number of votes. If necessary to substitute, we'll let you know. Remember, this fall we will discuss the three we missed March, April and May.



CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAY WISHES

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Birthdays and Anniversaries are listed in the print edition of the newsletter. Pick one up at church - or contact the office to have one mailed to you!

RESOURCES WORTH CHECKING OUT

Ten films that explore the sin of structural racism

The Rev. Dr. Edward McNulty, a Presbyterian pastor and film critic, has selected 10 films dating back to the early 1990s that expose and explore the effects of structural racism.

McNulty, pastor of Blue Ball Presbyterian Church south of Dayton, Ohio, is the author of three film books published by Westminster John Knox Press and the editor/reviewer of Visual Parables, which calls itself “a leading resource for faith-and-film reviews and study guides.”

“It was hard deciding what to leave out. There are so many available,” McNulty said of his list of recommended films.

To read the Rev. Dr. McNulty’s list of films, go to: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/ten-films-that-explore-the-sin-of-structural-racism>.



For further reading:

For other books on learning about and combating racism, try looking at Bookshop.org/lists/anti-racism. This link will take you to a variety of independent bookstores who are publicizing their own booklists. Bookshop.org is a healthy alternative to Amazon. Purchases made through the site support the independent bookstore of your choice.

The PC-USA website has some really great **Racial Justice Resources**. Included on that webpage are a number of interesting books. Most of the recommended books below can be purchased from the PC(USA) Bookstore online. Clicking on a link (for those reading this on computer) will take you to a more full description of the book. <https://www.pcusa.org/racial-justice-resources/>

[Good White Racist? Confronting Your Role in Racial Injustice](#) by Kerry Connelly (March 2020)

[For Beautiful Black Boys Who Believe in a Better World](#) by Michael W. Waters (coming September 2020) - *Preorder*.

[Ten Essential Strategies for Becoming a Multiracial Congregation](#) by Jacqueline J. Lewis and John Janka (March 2018)

[Brian the Brave](#) by Paul Stewart and Jane Porter (August 2019) – children’s book

[No Innocent Bystanders: Becoming an Ally in the Struggle for Justice](#) by Shannon Craigo-Snell and Christopher Doucot (October 2017)

[Anxious to Talk About It: Helping White Christians Talk Faithfully about Racism](#) by Carolyn B. Helsel (February 2018)

[Race in a Post-Obama America: The Church Responds](#) by David Maxwell and Otis Moss III (May 2016)

[Waking Up White, and Finding Myself in the Story of Race](#) by Debby Irving (January 2014)

[Me and White Supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the World, and Become a Good Ancestor](#) by Layla F. Saad (January 2020)

August 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:30am Online Worship with Communion 10:45am Deacons Meeting	3	4 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:00pm Brain Injury Support Group 6:00pm Christian Education Committee meeting	5 6:30am Prayer Group	6	7 12:00pm Online Conference Call	8
9 9:30am Online Worship 2:00pm Allies & Advocates	10	11 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Building and Grounds Meeting	12 6:30am Prayer Group 6:00pm Session Retreat	13	14 12:00pm Online Conference Call	15
16 Noisy Can Sunday 9:30am Online Worship	17	18 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due	19 6:30am Prayer Group	20 12:00pm Newsletter articles due	21 12:00pm Online Conference Call	22
23 9:30am Online Worship	24	25 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:00pm Session Meeting	26 6:30am Prayer Group	27	28 12:00pm Online Conference Call	29
30 Confirmation 9:30am Online Worship	31					

Community Presbyterian Church
3705 Fairway Place NW
Rochester, MN 55901



Please maintain your pledges, as you are able during this time since the work of the church goes on even when we aren't meeting in person. The mail is taken in daily, so no worries mailing a check! There is also an online option on our website, www.cpcrochester.org (look in the right hand column).

Also, our per capita responsibility this year is \$36.50 per member. Please make a note in the memo, if you are contributing your share.

Normally, CPC worships at 9:30 each Sunday and has Sunday School at 10:45 each Sunday (September-May).

Due to the COVID-19 virus, we will stay connected in these ways:

Online Worship, Sundays 9:30 am
<https://meet.google.com/vao-wjef-cbe>
+1 575-305-4527 PIN: 652 821 468 #
Bulletins for worship can be found on the homepage of our website.
www.cpcrochester.org

Tuesday and Friday Conference Call - 12:00 noon
<https://meet.google.com/kee-rcys-sdh>
+1 413-889-2244 PIN: 433 818 991#