

# COMMUNITY PRESS

A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ROCHESTER, MN

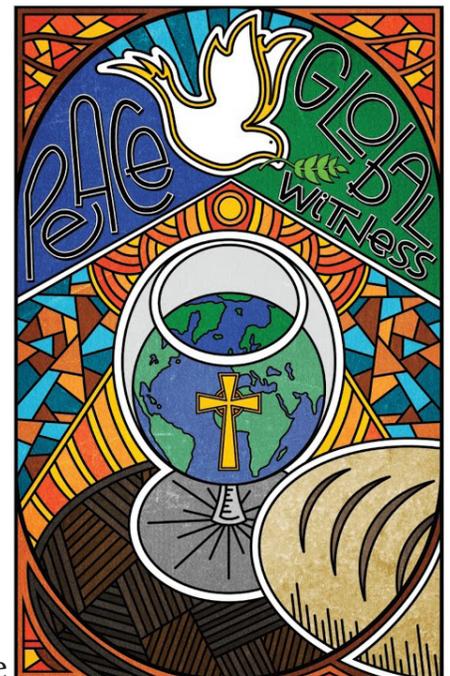
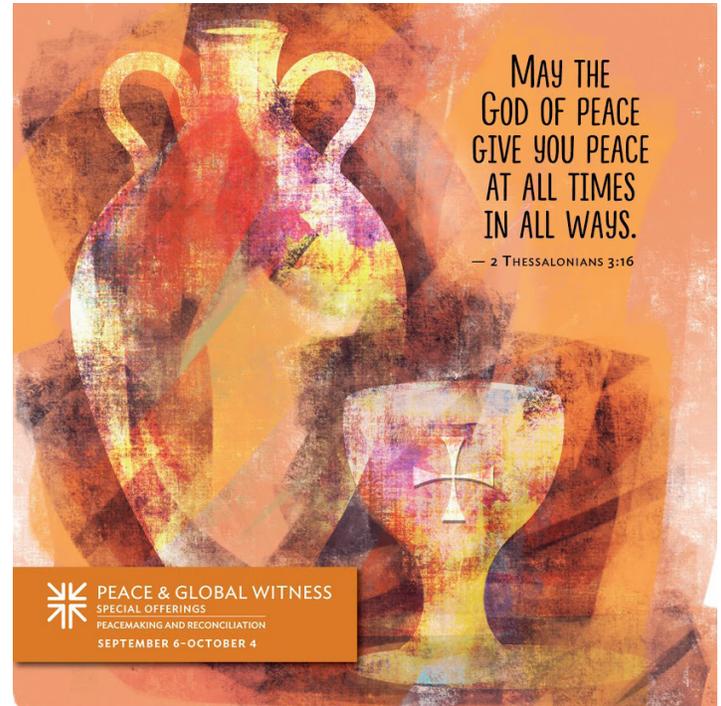


## World Communion Sunday -October 4

The first Sunday in October is designated as World Communion Sunday, which celebrates our oneness in Christ with all our brothers and sisters around the world. The peace of Christ is part of what our faith offers to us. In God's house, there are people of every background. In God's house, there are people of every race, age and gender. In God's house, people who are different from each other in almost every way live together and seek ways to bring about Christ's peace in every part of our lives.

On World Communion Sunday, we celebrate that Christ's peace extends throughout all creation. We celebrate that we are offered what we need to continue the work of building the household of God with active peacemakers here at home and around the world.

As a shared offering, your gifts on World Communion Sunday to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our own communities and around the world. Together we are building God's household of peace where everyone is welcome; where all can find compassion, peace and justice. Twenty-Five percent of the offering will go to the Diversity Council, here in Rochester.



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

## Diversity Council

From their website: "Diversity Council is a catalyst and convener, creating environments that allow every person the opportunity to reach their full potential. In our work we transform organizations, empower adults and youth to act as change makers, equip and mobilize nontraditional leaders, and galvanize equity work in the region." More information can be found at <https://www.diversitycouncil.org/>.

OCTOBER 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

As I look out my window, the glorious colors of the maple across the street catch my eye and fill my heart with joy, and with some sadness, too, at the passing of the summer. When our lockdown began, that tree was bare of leaves. Now its leaves are falling again.

I resist the temptation to be discouraged that so much time has passed while the coronavirus upended our lives. Instead, I choose to ponder all the amazing works of God among us, specifically here at CPC, during this time.

First and closest to my heart is that fact that God brought us together, people and pastor, in a more enduring relationship of mutual trust and a will to act together as God's witnesses and workers here and now.

We have learned how to worship in new ways we couldn't have imagined a year ago. We've seen, in this time of physical distancing, a spiritual convergence of people not just in our local community but from around the country and even beyond. Technology has been our friend and a gift of grace in its own way.

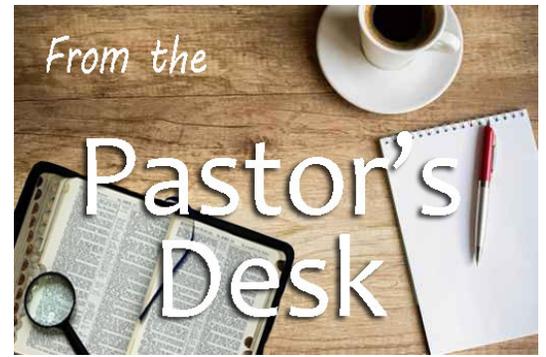
We journeyed to Minneapolis to witness the effects of the tragic death of George Floyd. Our own home state was the epicenter of a seismic shift whose shockwaves were felt around the world. In answer, we've responded to the call to end racism in various ways: we have joined the PC(USA) call to be a Matthew 25 church, and signed on to the local Commitment to Action to End Racism.

Five of the young adults who made that trip in June were confirmed in their faith and affirmed as necessary and vital members of this congregation in August. Their presence among us feels like a promise from God that the gospel is still alive and inspiring a new generation.

As we have watched the Garden of Life and the community gardens reach a peak of perfection, we also rejoice in new partnerships initiated this summer: with the Village and the community gardeners, with Diversity Council, with a Black congregation.

In all this, we have been aided and supported by the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area, whose assistance benefited, among others, our long-time building partner, Children's Place Nursery School. We are grateful for their continued presence! And, in the narrow window of their vacation time, we saw the completion of the long-awaited (sometimes dreaded) water main project.

All these things and so much more could not have happened without the leading of the Spirit and the open-hearted cooperation of all of you. I thank God for you, and for the blessings shared so far - and look forward to more!



## CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAY WISHES

*Birthdays and Anniversaries can be found in the print edition of the newsletter. Stop by church and pick one up, or email the office to have one sent!*

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

## WORSHIP AND MUSIC

In August, we were blessed with some beautiful music in worship. In case you missed them, or in case you want to hear them again....

### ***Encore!***

August 2, 2020

“The Eyes of All Wait Upon Thee” by Jean Berger  
Performed by the National Taiwan University Chorus  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oV1TuSvWiIU>

August 9, 2020

“Through the Walk of Life” by Matthew Compton  
Performed by Embellish Handbells from Grand Rapids, Michigan  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N4EozW2bhzY>

August 16, 2020

“Any Dream Will Do” by Andrew Lloyd Webber  
Performed by Angela Mair a German Classical Guitarist  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=flwDb2o3ScA>

August 23, 2020

“How Can I Keep from Singing” by Robert Lowry, Performed by Virtual Choir from New York  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VLPP3XmYxXg>

August 30, 2020

“Set Me as a Seal” by Rene Clausen, Performed by the Concordia Choir from Moorhead, Minnesota  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=piVtOKYerz4>

## MEMBERSHIP

It's time for CPC Members and Friends to get together virtually! Which ideas do you like? Do you have other suggestions? Talk to Amanda with your RSVP!

### Virtual Ideas

- Trivia Night- questions would be asked by a "Host" and you can play along or watch from home.
- Bingo- with cards mailed in advance and prizes mailed out to winners
- Movies Night Discussion (possibly November 7) - Watch a specific movie alone and then join virtually for discussion of the movie- bring your own popcorn.



## BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

### BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



### BRINKLEY'S BEAT



*People, Places, and Events  
That Shaped My Time*

DAVID BRINKLEY

**October 25, 10:30 am**

**Online - stay online after worship!**

Our group is still discussing the three books postponed from last spring due to Covid-19. The second one, to be discussed on **October 25**, is Brinkley's Beat: People, Places, and Events That Shaped My Time, by David Brinkley. This is a book to begin with the Table of Contents if you wish, as there are the three sections from the title, and then the details. If you can't read the whole book, you can choose. Under People the first ones he chose were his early contacts in D.C., not familiar names, but very interesting. The other people were mainly Presidents so we do 'know' them. Both Places and Events have fewer entries, but they are from different parts of the world and basically familiar, by name at least. If you can, read them all.

## ADOPT-A-FAMILY 33 YEARS OF CARING AND SHARING



The Mission Committee met recently to make plans for the Adopt-a-Family program for 2020. CPC has participated in this program since the late 1980's. We wanted to continue doing so despite covid-19.

We received a letter from Jan Vetter who has headed this program for 33 years. She and her committee have been working on what to do since March of this year. They realize that most, if not all of the community has been affected in some way, whether it is health or economic, loss of jobs and benefits, loss of housing, to name just

a few impacts to the community. In order to protect everyone and to help the local economy, they decided that they would provide a list of local businesses that can provide gift cards, to each individual or family or group to choose from to meet some of their needs. In this way, the recipient could choose a gift card from some local business to meet their needs. For example, if the recipient shops at Hy-Vee, the recipient could request a \$25.00 gift card from Hy-Vee to provide for a holiday dinner.

We know this is a very different approach, but it is safest for everyone, donors, recipients, as well the staff that "delivers" the gifts. The cards would be delivered in a contact-free manner at a location that allows safe distancing, adequate parking, even a bus lane. The Adopt-a-Family group has thought of everything!

The Mission Committee has decided to support 6 people for a total amount of \$450.00. We know that some of you may not be able to contribute this year. We will fill any deficit through the Mission budget. If you are able to contribute, please issue a check to Community Presbyterian Church, noting that it is for Adopt-a-Family as soon as you can. Checks can be mailed or dropped off at church on Wednesday mornings. Since the members of the Mission Committee will be purchasing the gift cards, it would be most helpful if you could make your contribution no later than Thanksgiving so we can "shop."

We will have details on the recipients around Thanksgiving and will provide that information to you in the December newsletter. We are requesting a family with children, a person who has challenges and an elderly person, just like we did last year.

We are most hopeful that we will be able to return to selecting gifts in 2021. We know that everyone enjoys shopping for these wonderful people, but the health of everyone necessitates this approach for 2020. If you have any questions, please contact Ronda Marshall, Ivy Pillers, Jennifer and/or Abby Hall, or Mary Alice Richardson. As always, we truly appreciate each and every one of you and your generosity and support of this program.



Jeremiah Program | ROCHESTER SOUTHEAST, MN

SAVE THE DATE!

GRAND OPENING EVENT  
MANY HEARTS  
MAKE A HOME

Tuesday, November 10  
7:00PM – 7:45PM

**LIVE streamed, featuring a guided campus tour, ribbon cutting, and more.**  
Formal invitation with details forthcoming.

## VOTE SAFELY THIS FALL

Session encourages all those with questions about voting safely, voting by mail, or ensuring their ballot is delivered and counted to call the office and someone will walk through the process with you.

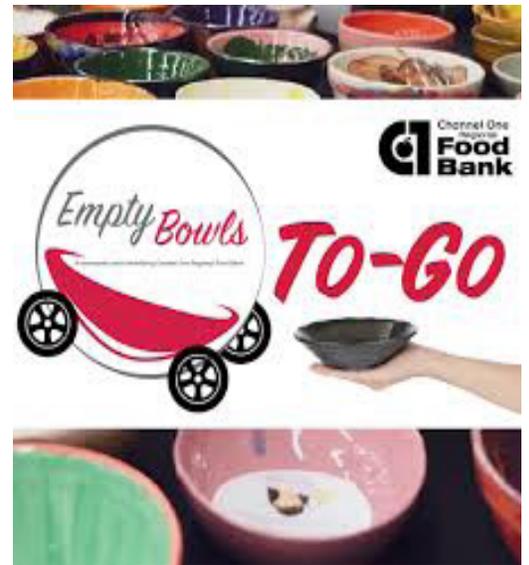
Information about voting can be obtained online or by phone from the Secretary of State's office:

<https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us>  
1-877-600-VOTE (8683)

For more information, or to get informed about candidates, go to: [Vote411.org](https://Vote411.org): View a sample ballot for your area; learn about national and local candidates; videos of candidates and debates also available.

<https://www.facebook.com/NaacpRochesterMn/>  
NAACP Rochester and the Rochester Interfaith Immigrant Rights Coalition (RIIRC) are hosting a series of forums with candidates in local races from school board to state legislature. Watch recordings of the talks on the NAACP Facebook page.

If you've already voted, call someone you know who might be hesitant and encourage them!



Thursday, October 8,  
11 am- 6 pm

With the uncertainty of COVID-19 and food insecurity on the rise across Minnesota, this event is more important than ever. In compliance with CDC recommendations and proper physical distancing, Empty Bowls will be partnering with Canadian Honker Restaurant and Catering to facilitate a two-day take-out event. Visit <https://www.helpingfeedpeople.org/empty-bowls/> for more information or to place your order!



## *Alternative mission giving is just a click away*

by Emily Enders Odom | Presbyterian News Service

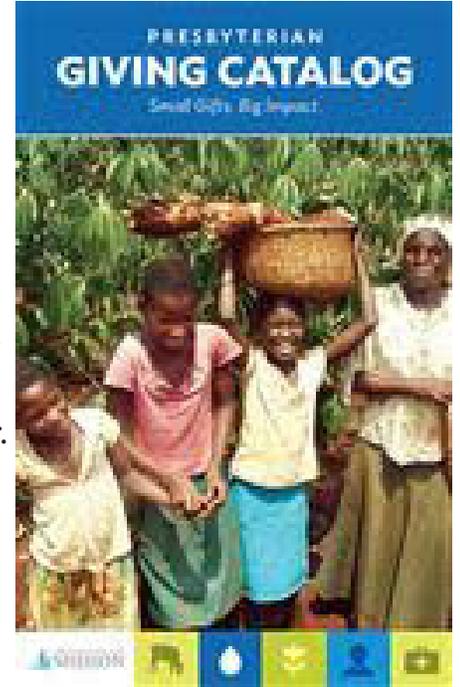
LOUISVILLE — The power to make a significant and lasting impact on people and communities around the world can be found on every page of the Presbyterian Giving Catalog.

Now in its seventh, record-breaking year, the Presbyterian Giving Catalog — which is available both in print and online — is filled with a wide variety of gifts that provide real and positive impact around the world, including aid for refugees, access to clean water and ways to end hunger.

“I love seeing the lives of people change,” says Sheku Sillah, regional project manager for Asia and Africa for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. “So that’s why I have my partners who go to hard-to-reach areas. You see people you met with nothing, and now they’re happy, their kids are happy. For me it means a lot of satisfaction ... a lot of satisfaction.”

To read the rest of this article go to: [https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/alternative-mission-giving-is-just-a-click-away/?utm\\_source=ActiveCampaign&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=Daily+News+from+the+Presbyterian+Church+%28U+S+A%29&utm\\_campaign=Daily+news+-+September+22+2020](https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/alternative-mission-giving-is-just-a-click-away/?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Daily+News+from+the+Presbyterian+Church+%28U+S+A%29&utm_campaign=Daily+news+-+September+22+2020)

As more of us are shopping less due to covid-19 concerns, and more people around the world experience hunger, the Presbyterian Giving Catalog provides a life-giving, life-saving alternative! The catalog can be found here: <https://presbyteriangifts.pcusa.org/>.



## *These kids could* **HELP A VILLAGE.**

Milk, cheese, yogurt, and butter. A pair of goats gives a family in need a sustainable source of nutrition—and your generous gift can make that happen.

Give at [presbyteriangifts.org](https://presbyteriangifts.org).



# September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>30</b> <b>Confirmation</b> <b>9:30am Online</b> <b>Worship</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:00pm Brain Injury Support Group 7:00pm Christian Education Committee meeting	<b>2</b> 6:30am Prayer Group	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 12:00pm Online Conference Call	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> <b>9:30am Online</b> <b>Worship with</b> <b>Communion</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due	<b>9</b> 6:30am Prayer Group 6:30pm Building and Grounds Meeting	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 12:00pm Online Conference Call	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 9:30am Outdoor Worship Service 9:30am Online Worship 10:30am Special Congregational Meeting	<b>14</b> <b>10:00am PW</b> <b>Bible Study</b>	<b>15</b> 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 5:30pm Finance & Stewardship Meeting	<b>16</b> 6:30am Prayer Group	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 12:00pm Online Conference Call	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 9:30am Online Worship 12:00pm Newsletter articles due	<b>21</b> <b>10:00am PW</b> <b>Bible Study</b>	<b>22</b> 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:00pm Session Meeting	<b>23</b> 6:30am Prayer Group	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 12:00pm Online Conference Call	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> Democracy Sunday (pm time tbd) 9:30am Online Worship 10:30am Book Discussion Group	<b>28</b> <b>10:00am PW</b> <b>Bible Study</b>	<b>29</b> 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due	<b>30</b> 6:30am Prayer Group	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 12:00pm Online Conference Call	<b>3</b>

Community Presbyterian Church  
3705 Fairway Place NW  
Rochester, MN 55901



## DONUTS?

Stay tuned in late October for information on this year's Stewardship Drive. The theme is Christ is our Anchor, from Hebrews 6:19-20. In addition to the normal operating pledging, we will be adding an additional opportunity for Mission directed pledging. We also hope to continue our tradition of offering DONUTS from TTB's Bakery in Byron, stay tuned for more information.

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](http://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#