

# COMMUNITY PRESS

A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ROCHESTER, MN



## ANNUAL MEETING



On Sunday, January 31st, Community Presbyterian Church will have its annual meeting following worship (about 10:30 am). Presently, the plan is to hold this meeting virtually - so just stay online after worship! If that should change, you will receive notification ahead of time. The Annual Meeting is a time to vote on leadership positions such as Worship & Music, Finance & Stewardship and two Deacons. It is also a time to look back on things that have happened and look forward to what is coming up. We will also receive the budget and finance reports. All members of Community Presbyterian are invited and encouraged to attend!

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Submissions for the Annual Report are due on Monday, January 18.

## BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

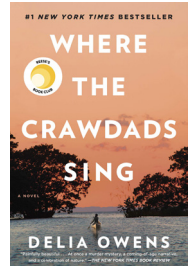


*Where the Crawdads Sing*

Sunday, January 24

10:30 am

*Just stay online after worship!*



As your reviewer has not read our January 24<sup>th</sup> selection, Delia Owens *Where the Crawdads Sing*, she will share with you what other reviewers and authors have to say about it.

“Reminiscent of Barbara Kingsolver”

“Fierce and hauntingly beautiful”

“Both a coming-of-age tale and a grossing whodunit”,

“The New Southern Novel”

“I didn’t want the story to end.”

“Her mystery wrapped in gorgeous, lyrical prose”

“Magnificent and very timely”

Plan to join in on the discussion about this fantastic book! All are welcome!

# THANK YOU

*Thank you for the lovely gifts bestowed on the staff at Christmas time! The thoughtful and generous gifts are very much appreciated. We wish everyone a peaceful New Year.*

*- Pastor Jan, Stephanie, Nancy, Meg, Glenna, and Judy*

JANUARY 2021

# 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 Joyful Darkness*

Every year, late in December, the world begins to turn toward the light. The darkness that descends on northern latitudes each winter recedes, minute by minute, day by day. But before we leave the long nights behind, consider the joy to be found in darkness.



In imagination, don't we see Jesus' birth taking place in darkness, in a stable lit only by a lamp or candle? The shepherds were shaken by the angel host, splitting the darkness with light and song. The season of Epiphany - the showing forth of God on earth - begins in darkness: the Wise Ones from the East must have journeyed through the night, the better to observe their guiding star. From the darkness of the womb to the darkness of a tomb, new life - resurrection - begins in darkness. In the darkness, even a little light may dazzle our eyes.

As a Minnesotan, I was proud that this year, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness was designated a "Dark Sky Sanctuary," all 1.1 million acres of it, making it the largest such sanctuary in the world. Darkness, though, is a vanishing resource. The International Dark Sky Association estimates that "99 percent of Americans can't experience a 'natural night,' with few opportunities to see the stars and other wonders of the night sky that have been part of human existence for millennia." (Read an article about this here: [Superfluous stars: Boundary Waters gets rare "Dark Sky" designation | Quetico Superior Wilderness News.](#))

Darkness and light are both essential for healthy life and growth; Night and dark invite slowing down, rest, and prayer, just as day and light encourage activity, energy, and movement. A simple chant reminds us of the necessity of both, and of their sacred interdependence:

Be still and know that day and night,  
Be still and know that dark and light  
Are one holy circle.

As science continues to unravel the mysteries of Covid-19, as we continue to feel our way into an unknown future, why not rest for a time in the joyful dark, where the light of Christ shines brightest? Throughout the season of Epiphany, these precious days between Christmas and Lent, we'll see how darkness itself may dazzle our eyes. We'll practice daring the dark with the Wise Ones, dreaming in the dark with the disciples, and maybe even dancing in a darkness that can still be full of joy.

Welcome, 2021! Welcome, gentle darkness! Welcome, light of the world!

## CELEBRATIONS

# BIRTHDAY WISHES

*For a list of members birthdays, pick up a print copy of the newsletter at the church!*

## WORSHIP AND MUSIC



~ Encore! ~

During November, Meg lined up some great music to enrich our worship services!



November 1st

“Esto les Digo” by Kinley Lange

Performed by the

St. Thomas More Collegiate Chamber Singers

from Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada

[St. Thomas More Collegiate Chamber Singers - Esto les Digo](#)

UBC - Chan Centre of Performing Arts November 2016

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-G44R8PQNU>

November 8th

“Keep Your Lamps!” A traditional spiritual arranged by

Stacey V. Gibbs

Performed by the Salem State University Singin’ Divas

from Salem, North Carolina

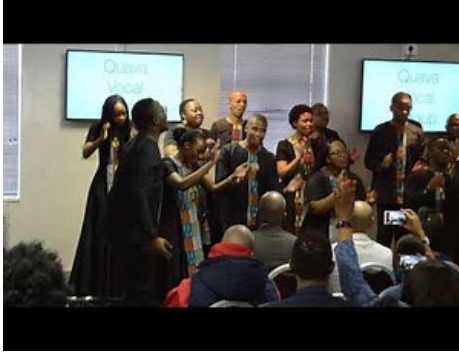
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MUICiilzBbc>

[Keep Your Lamps! - arr. Stacey V. Gibbs](#)

Keep Your Lamps! - arr. Stacey V. Gibbs Winston-Salem State University Singin’ Divas 12/7/14 Recorded live at Kenneth R. Williams Auditorium Winston-Salem State University Winston-Salem, NC Video and audio by Mark Manring Recording, Inc. [www.manring.net](http://www.manring.net)



## WORSHIP AND MUSIC, CONTINUED



November 15th

“Lord Have Mercy” by Pepper Choplin

Performed by Quava Vocal Group

From Johannesburg, South Africa

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oVtf4nLVT\\_I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oVtf4nLVT_I)

Quava Vocal Group - Lord have mercy [Negro Spiritual]

One of the most talented choirs in Johannesburg. Winners of the world choir games in their category. Recorded live at Metro Mission SDA church. Connect with Quava below.

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/quavavocalband/>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/QuavaVocalGroup>

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/quavavocalgroup/>



November 22nd

“Canon in D” by Pachelbel and arranged by Sandra Eithun

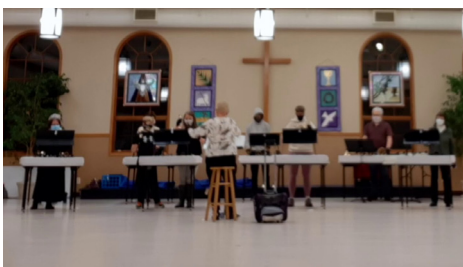
Performed by Jubellation Handbell Choir

From Community Presbyterian Church in Rochester, MN

[https://youtu.be/CEb4mfaKM\\_o](https://youtu.be/CEb4mfaKM_o)

Jubellation Handbells playing Canon in D 11.22.20

Lead by the wonderful Judy Kereakos, the Jubellation Handbell Choir is a collection of members ages 11 to (dare we ask) from Rochester, Minnesota's Community...



“Simple Gifts” a Shaker Hymn arranged by Judy Kereakos

Performed by Jubellation Handbell Choir

From Community Presbyterian Church in Rochester, MN

<https://youtu.be/C97oPVMxDLY>

Jubellation Handbell Choir Playing Simple Gifts 11.22.20

Lead by the wonderful Judy Kereakos, the Jubellation Handbell Choir is a collection of members ages 11 to (dare we ask) from Rochester, Minnesota's Community...



November 29th

“Veni, Veni Emmanuel” An 18th Century Hymn Arranged

by Michael John Trotta

Performed by the Vancouver Youth Choir

From Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IqaRpToQhS>

Veni, Veni Emmanuel - Vancouver Youth Choir

The Vancouver Youth Choir, under the direction of Carrie Tennant, perform “Veni, Veni Emmanuel”



# Community Presbyterian's Calendar

January 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>27</b></p> <p><b>9:30am Online Worship</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>28</b></p> <p><b>Office Closed</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>29</b></p> <p><b>Office Closed</b> 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>30</b></p> <p><b>Office Closed</b> 6:30am Prayer Group</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>31</b></p> <p><b>Office Closed</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>1</b></p> <p><b>Office Closed</b> 12:00pm Online Conference Call</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>2</b></p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>3</b></p> <p><b>9:30am Online Worship with Communion</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>4</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>5</b></p> <p>12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:00pm Christian Education Committee meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>6</b></p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>7</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>8</b></p> <p>12:00pm Online Conference Call</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>9</b></p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>10</b></p> <p><b>9:30am Online Worship</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>11</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>12</b></p> <p>12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Building and Grounds Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>13</b></p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>14</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>15</b></p> <p>12:00pm Online Conference Call</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>16</b></p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>17</b></p> <p><b>9:30am Online Worship</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>18</b></p> <p><b>Office Closed</b> <b>Annual Report Submissions Due</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>19</b></p> <p>12:00am Online Bible Study 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 5:30pm Finance &amp; Stewardship Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>20</b></p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group 12:00pm Newsletter articles due</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>21</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>22</b></p> <p>12:00pm Online Conference Call</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>23</b></p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>24</b></p> <p><b>9:30am Online Worship</b> 10:30am Book Discussion Group</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>25</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>26</b></p> <p>12:00am Online Bible Study 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:00pm Session Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>27</b></p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>28</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>29</b></p> <p>12:00pm Online Conference Call</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>30</b></p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>31</b></p> <p><b>9:30am Online Worship</b> <b>10:30am Annual Meeting</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>1</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>2</b></p> <p>12:00am Online Bible Study 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 7:00pm Christian Education Committee meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>3</b></p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>4</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>5</b></p> <p>12:00pm Online Conference Call</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>6</b></p>

Community Presbyterian Church  
3705 Fairway Place NW  
Rochester, MN 55901

**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#**