

COMMUNITY PRESS

A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROCHESTER, MN



Views of Worship in May!

In May, we were thrilled with worshipping together outdoors on May 16! Then on May 23rd, we moved indoors for in-person worship. Online worship continues to be available no matter where the in-person worship is! This summer, we will continue to have worship outdoors on the 3rd Sunday of the month - bring your lawn chair!

For indoor, in-person worship to be safe for all, we will continue to wear masks, stay 6 feet apart, and use hand sanitizer. We ask that you sign in when you come to worship - just in case we need to do some contact tracing.

While we're thrilled to be meeting in person again, we respectfully encourage all attendees to abide by the guidelines publicized in last month's newsletter until Session officially changes them, following CDC and MDH recommendations.

<http://www.cpcrochester.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/CPC-Covid-Plan-Draft.pdf>



Gage East Bike Rodeo on June 17th! For more information, turn to page four.



JUNE 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 2021</u>	Ronda Marshall Dave Copeland	Mission Personnel
<u>Class of 2022</u>	Gene Kopecky Sue Chipman	Building and Grounds Christian Education
<u>Class of 2023</u>	Ivy Pillers Kim Nickander	Worship and Music Finance and Stewardship
<u>Officers:</u>	Mary Meyer Mark Pillers Joanne Powell	Clerk (Non-voting) Financial Secretary Treasurer

2021 Nominating Committee

Dave Copeland, Mark Neville, Sue Chipman, Mary Alice Richardson, Bruce Felger

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 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>
Jeanette Hallbeck Jennifer Hall	Kari Streff Ron Murray	Margie Petersen Sherrie Wilson

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

Coming back strong, going out stronger

One Wednesday evening in mid-May, I had the most peculiar sensation as I drove up to the church. Cars were parked here and there in the lot; someone was stashing trash in the bin by the shed, a group of people folded a big tent in the Garden of Life. Indoors, a man stood in the vestibule, tinkering with electronic equipment. A couple more moved in and out of the sound booth. And from the Great Room came the heart-lifting sound of handbells ringing.



The sensation I felt? Wow, this is so totally foreign. And so completely familiar. This is what church is like. I'd almost forgotten. Busy people intent on tasks, groups stopping to catch up, making light conversation, discussing options. Preparing for worship. In a way, the preparation is worship, too: taking time from the rest of our lives to honor God in so many ways.

Now, details rehearsed that night are paying off on Sunday mornings as we meet again in person. Greeting each other with joy on our faces, even under masks. Turning our hearts together toward God who has brought us thus far on our way. Thanking. Praying. Praising. Rejoicing. Worshiping.

Oh. My. It feels good.

We are coming back strong, stronger than ever for being apart, gathering virtually, keeping up the work of God's church at a distance. Supporting and loving one another through it all. Charging our batteries through our Blue Sky conversations to be ready for what comes next. By all indications, it will be wonderful. (See the Blue Sky notes elsewhere in these pages!)

Because we don't return simply to hole up in the Great Room. We come back to church to be filled by the Spirit, refreshed, relieved of burdens, and ready to walk back out into the world with a lighter step, a clearer eye. We go out stronger than we came in, prepared for, well, whatever we meet.

As I drove out of the parking lot that night, I slowed to wave to familiar faces in the Community garden: growers from Africa, Asia, Central America tilling the soil, seeding the ground to feed their families through the summer and beyond. Thanks to the Village, this garden, and others like it, they can plant familiar crops in foreign ground, and know *here* as home, too.

What we do as church in these strangely familiar and foreign days feeds us, and feeds the world, as well. Thanks be to God.

BLUE SKY CONVERSATIONS

Good news from the *Blue Sky Conversations!*

We began our conversations because the COVID-19 pandemic put everything on hold. So, we decided that it was a perfect time to examine who we are as a church and, based on that, begin planning the important things we would do after the pandemic to advance our mission as God worked through us. Although the pandemic is not over, we have begun in-person worship again. That also means that we will be able to pursue some of the projects we have identified.



Gage East Event

Bike Rodeo for Gage East residents with the Rochester Police Department.

- Donated and repaired bikes provided for residents
- Bike helmets and locks also distributed free with bikes
- Traffic safety course offered for the kids
- Cookout by Gage East

Save the date and time: Thursday, June 17...set up @ 10:40...event from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm...clean up until 2:15.

- At the Empowerment Center (the former Gage School) next to the Gage East apartment building.
- 5-7 CPC volunteers needed for a variety of roles.
- Donations also needed for the cookout

Watch the eblast and bulletins for details!

Outdoor Summer Movies

CPC has been awarded a Technology Grant from the Presbytery which will allow us to purchase some important hardware and software to facilitate hybrid worship as well as future educational and community building opportunities. Among the items are the projector and screen for outdoor movie viewing this summer. Again, watch for more details in the weeks ahead. Contact the Christian Education Committee if you have a film to suggest.

Other opportunities to meet together and mingle with our Community Garden growers or share outreach to people in need with Lifegate Services (the Black immigrant congregation we partnered with in 2020) will be forthcoming, as well.

Tagline/logo

Exercise your creativity and help design a new tagline/visual logo that will identify us on these forays into the community! Share ideas at our next conversation, May 30 after church.

Rembmering April's Special Music!



April 1 - Maundy Thursday - Mark Neville sang "Were You There?"



April 11 - "Because He Lives (Amen)" by Bill & Gloria Gaither and performed by the West Coast Choir from Lancaster, California.

<https://youtu.be/-LwBqG7uXbY>



April 18 - "I Will Rise (Emi Yo Leke)" by Chris Tomlin arranged by Craig Courtney & Lynda Hasseler Performed by the Utah Valley Institute Singers with featured soloist Alex Boye from Orem Utah.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FQb-cVwbKE>



April 25 - The song is "Change is Gonna Come" by Sam Cooke... <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eZNa4ImUkac>

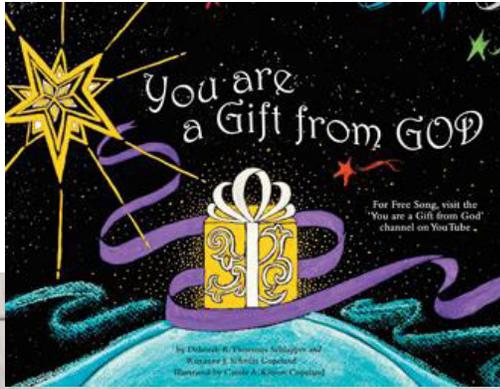
*Guest Preacher
June 13, 2021*



On Sunday, June 13th, CPC will welcome guest preacher, Rev. Jerry Locula. Jerry Locula comes from Liberia. He's currently with Peace Church in Rochester. Jerry has spent his adult life working for peace, human rights and social justice in Africa in both Church and society.

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN MEMBERS

*Beautiful illustrations,
Carole! Fun to read
about it in the paper!*



C4 | TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2021

BOOK NOOK

3 new titles coming from

BY KELSEY HAWLEY
khawley@postbulletin.com



Contributed images

amazing piano and vocals of the song, but as a stand-alone, the words/lyrics and illustrations are something special, too. This Christian book is designed to remind children how valuable their unique selves are. The jeweled-colored designs against the black pages are simple yet alluring. It has the feel of a great Christmas book for children.

ink. She enjoys nature and including that in her work. She lives with her family in Rochester. Her website is <https://carolekinioncopeland.com>. She also has some upcoming events at 125 Live. Visit <http://125livemn.org> for more information.

"You Are a Gift From God" is available online from WestBow Press (www.westbowpress.com), Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Christian Book (www.christianbook.com). The song and video are available on YouTube.

Deborah K. Thoennes Schlapper has a master's in mental health counseling, and currently works at her private practice. She lives with her husband and two sons in Spooner, Wis.

Roxanne J. Schmitt Copeland has had a desire to write and sing from a young age, and practices that in everyday life. She believes in following the path God sets for us.

Carole A. Kinion Copeland has a Bachelor of Science in art with a biology emphasis from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. She works with varying media, including watercolor, pastels, and pen and



Schlapper



R. Copeland



C. Copeland

"You Are a Gift From God" by Deborah K. Thoennes Schlapper and Roxanne J. Schmitt Copeland, illustrated by Carole A. Kinion Copeland; published by WestBow Press on March 22

This children's book is written as a song. There is an

accompanying YouTube video that includes the song sung by Jeweleeann Wilson, with piano accompaniment and backing vocals by Rebecca Heyn, who also composed the music.

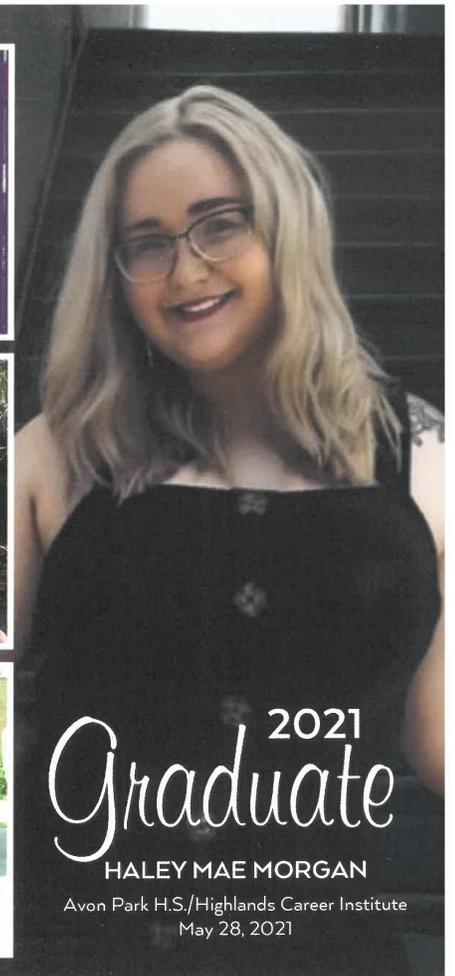
The book is definitely enhanced by the

May 11, 2021
Hi All!

We hope this note finds everyone healthy + happy. We continue to do well here in Sebring FL.

As you can see, Haley is now a grown young woman! She is graduating from high school in about 2 weeks' time. She plans to attend So FL State College in the Fall.

Our love + best wishes to everyone.
Love, Bonnie + Randy Huston + Haley Mae



2021 Graduate

HALEY MAE MORGAN

Avon Park H.S./Highlands Career Institute
May 28, 2021

BIRTHDAY WISHES

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Birthdays and Anniversaries can be found in the print edition of the newsletter. Pick one up at church!

NEWS FROM THE PRESBYTERY

Friends and Colleagues,

With overflowing gratitude, I write to let you know that my time as executive presbyter of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area will be drawing to a close this summer.

It has been my deepest honor to have served you for this chapter of the Presbytery's life. More than six years ago, in the midst of no small amount of turmoil in this Presbytery, you invited a barely known minister from another denomination to walk with you in ministry. Together, we worked on the trust and relationships that form the bedrock of community. We invested in supporting congregations, equipping leaders, and tackling the essential work of anti-racism in our systems. Amidst a pandemic, and the brutal racial disparities of our region confronting us anew, we responded and adapted, finding new and different ways to support pastors and congregations.



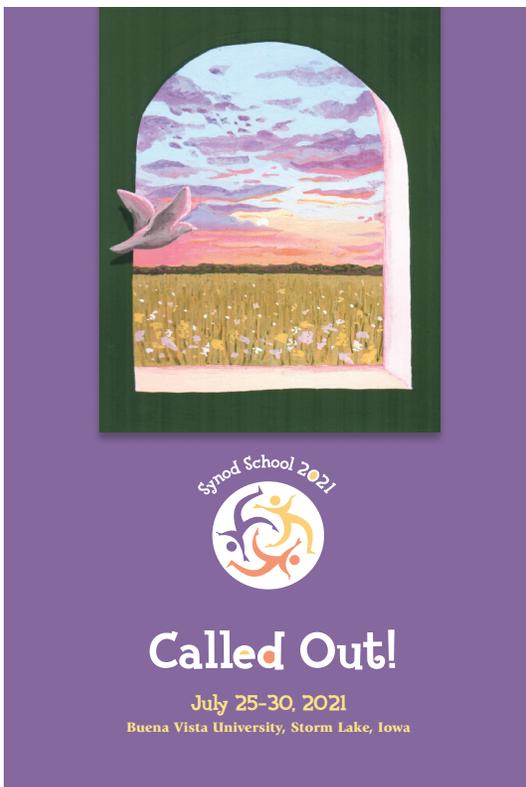
Now, I believe, we as the church are at a new kairos moment. Ministry will not, and it cannot, go back to the way it was. The necessary post-COVID-19 reboot will require a bold and prophetic voice for racial justice and the shaping a new vision of church for a new generation. A long-term vision and boldness that matches the expectations of the moment and of this position. A level of courage, collaboration, and resilience our terrific team of officers, staff, and members deserve as we undertake the full breadth of the work before us. The ability to see—and seize—this new day with the eyes and energy of a new generation...

The words I have right now, the ones written here, are inadequate to express the enormous privilege it has been to serve among you these six years. I do know it has been my deepest honor to have been trusted to be a part of this chapter of the Presbytery's life. I hope you might hear in this letter my heartfelt thanks to each of you, for your skill, your grace, your commitment to this work, in the deeply grateful and hopeful spirit in which it is offered.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Japinga, executive presbyter
Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area

AROUND THE PRESBYTERY AND SYNOD



Synod School offers week-long classes in personal and professional development and is open to everyone. This program, in its 67th year, annually draws more than 600 people of all ages from 27 states. We invite you to participate!

This year Jill Duffield, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, NC, and former editor of Presbyterian Outlook, is our convocation speaker and Samuel Son, manager of diversity and reconciliation at the Presbyterian Mission Agency, is our evening worship leader. Bryce Wiebe, director of special offerings, will lead the youth convocation speaker. Heidi and Greg Bolt, co-pastors of First Presbyterian Church in Red Wing, MN, will lead morning prayers.

Mark your calendars for July 25-30, 2021!

For more information, go to <https://www.lakesandprairies.org/engaging-leaders/synod-school/>

Calling All Photographers! That Includes iPhone photographers...

The Presbytery is launching a new website! After much discussion and research, we are completely redesigning our website. We need your photos of life in the Presbytery, to be featured on the new website.

Your newer iPhones (11 and above) can take good photos, if you don't have a digital camera you can use.

We need the highest resolution (largest "file size") possible.

Outdoor photos and photos with good indoor lighting are preferred.

Photos should be horizontal (hold the camera sideways) <----->

We want to represent the Presbytery in all its diversity, from city, suburb and rural areas. And we want to credit the photographers, so please include that info with your submissions. Send photos to office@ptcaweb.org.

*Please note, photos "grabbed" off the internet or Facebook are not likely to be of high enough resolution; and there may be copyright concerns.

We understand that photographic documentation is often a last-minute thought, especially now with so much of our worship activity happening online. (Does your group or congregation have digital ambassadors? Click the link to read more!) Here are some ideas for photos we would love to feature:

Photo of your church building or sanctuary

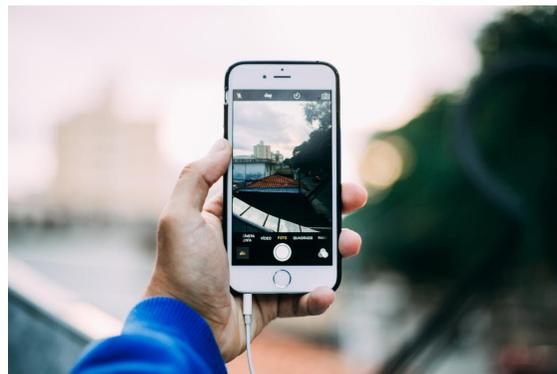
Scenic photo of the town or neighborhood where you are located

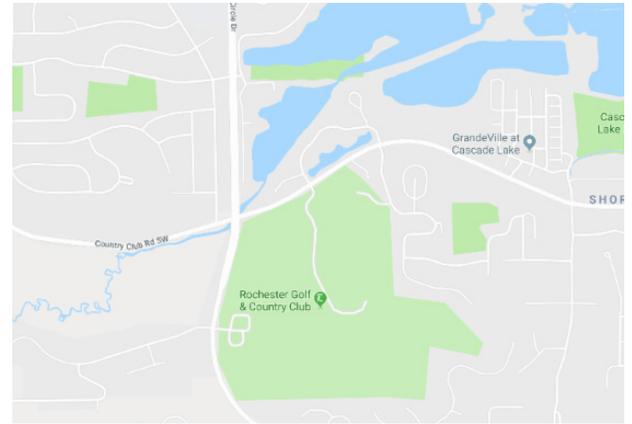
Photos of past events (no older than 3 years please.)

Photos of the people you serve in your community

High-quality "screen shot" of online worship or events

Remember the guidelines shown above; we can only accept digital photo files. This is an ongoing project -- we want to routinely change the photos shown on the PTCA home page. Thank you!





Join us for our 37th Annual Gift of Life Golf Tournament at Rochester Golf & Country Club!

When?

Monday, July 12, 2021

Staggered Tee Times: 9:00 - 1:00

Included with your ticket is Golf, Golf Cart and a post golf meal.

Game Passes: \$40 Includes 2 mulligans, and our on course games

NEW this year is the Golf Ball Cannon Launcher!

Check it Out Here: www.gatewaygolfgroup.com/fundraising

Where?

Located at the beautiful Rochester Golf & Country Club:

3100 Country Club Road SW

Rochester, MN 55902





PEARLS

Program to Encourage Active Rewarding Lives

PEARLS empowers people through behavioral techniques to actively manage depression and improve their quality of life.

- PEARLS is a community-based treatment program for older adults with depression.
- A trained PEARLS Counselor will meet with you for 8 sessions, customized to your needs.
- Sessions can be held over the phone, on a computer, or in-person.
- You will learn the skills necessary to move into action and make lasting changes.

Organizations Offering PEARLS

- **Elder Network-Rochester-507-285-5272**
Winona: 507-452-0580, Wabasha: 651-654-0354
- **Family Service Rochester- 507-287-2010**
- **WellConnect-www.wellconnectsemn.org**
- **Winona Friendship Center-507-454-5212**

Benefits

- Reduce depressive symptoms
- Improve quality of life and have a more positive outlook
- Become more engaged with family, friends, and activities you enjoy
- Improve physical and mental health



Partner organizations include : Elder Network, Family Service Rochester, NAMI, WellConnect, Winona Friendship Center, SE MN Area Agency on Aging

Community Presbyterian's Calendar

June 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>9:30am Online and In-Person Worship 10:30am Blue Sky Conversation</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">31</p> <p>Memorial Day Stephanie Vacation Office Closed</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p>Stephanie Vacation 9:00am Children's Place Summer School 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:00pm Brain Injury Support Group</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>Stephanie Vacation 6:30am Prayer Group 9:00am Children's Place Summer School 6:30pm Christian Education Committee meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>Stephanie Vacation 9:00am Children's Place Summer School</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>Stephanie Vacation 9:00am Children's Place Summer School</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">6</p> <p>9:30am Online and In-Person Worship with Communion</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">7</p> <p>8:00am Med City Driving School 9:00am Children's Place Summer School</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <p>8:00am Med City Driving School 9:00am Children's Place Summer School 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Building and Grounds Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group 8:00am Med City Driving School 9:00am Children's Place Summer School</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>8:00am Med City Driving School 9:00am Children's Place Summer School</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>8:00am Med City Driving School 9:00am Children's Place Summer School 5:00pm B & G Shrub Planting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p>5:00pm Building Rental</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p>9:30am Online and In-Person Worship</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">14</p> <p>8:00am Med City Driving School 9:00am Children's Place Summer School</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p>8:00am Med City Driving School 9:00am Children's Place Summer School 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 5:30pm Finance & Stewardship Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group 8:00am Med City Driving School 9:00am Children's Place Summer School</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p>Gage East Bike Rodeo 8:00am Med City Driving School 9:00am Children's Place Summer School</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>8:00am Med City Driving School 9:00am Children's Place Summer School</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">19</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p>9:30am Online and Outdoor, In-Person Worship (bring your lawn chair!) 12:00pm Newsletter articles due</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <p>9:00am Children's Place Summer School</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p>9:00am Children's Place Summer School 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Session Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group 9:00am Children's Place Summer School</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p>9:00am Children's Place Summer School</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>9:00am Children's Place Summer School</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>Proposed Building Rental</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p>9:30am Online and In-Person Worship</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p>12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">1</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p>

Community Presbyterian Church
3705 Fairway Place NW
Rochester, MN 55901

If you would prefer to receive a paper copy of the newsletter, you can either pick one up in the church narthex or you can have Stephanie mail you one each month. Just let Stephanie know if you want one mailed!

Newsletter



CPC worships at 9:30 each Sunday
both in-person and online
and has Sunday School at 10:45 each Sunday
(September-May).

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