

Community Press

A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROCHESTER, MN



Get to
know local
community
builders.



Ice Cream Social July 16, 2-4 pm

*Community Presbyterian Church
3705 Fairway Place NW, Rochester
www.cpcrochester.org*

**An exciting event with CPC and their
Ministry Partners: Gage East Apartments,
The Village Ag Coop, and Lifegate Services**

Public welcome and invited!

JULY 2022

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 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>Class of 2024</u>	Amanda Ross Sherrie Wilson	Personnel and Nominating Mission
<u>Officers:</u>	Mary Meyer Mark Pillers Joanne Powell	Clerk (Non-voting) Financial Secretary Treasurer

2022 Nominating Committee

Amanda Ross, Mark Neville, Bruce Felger, Dave Copeland, Mary Alice Richardson

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 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>
Kari Streff	Margie Petersen	Dave Copeland
Ron Murray	Peggy McCarty	Aaron Simms

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

Holy Envy

On the last Sunday in May, Dr. Safia Ahmed graced our worship with her gentle presence and led us through a few layers of the faith that has shaped her life of prayer and service: Islam. Clear from her words is the connection between the two. Devotion to God/Allah flows seamlessly into care for humanity through the vehicle of prayer.



I admire (and am somewhat amazed at!) the dedication of Muslims answering the call to prayer five times daily. And I appreciate the religious guidance toward charity. But do I want that way for myself? Not really. Even as I applaud her way of living her faith, I come to cherish my own more deeply. It's what some people call "holy envy," seeing the true and the beautiful in religions different from my own.



Even Christians differ radically in beliefs and practice. As a young adult with a newly renewed Christian faith, I met a young woman who radiated peace and joy. She had been swept up in the charismatic movement; her prayer practice was speaking in tongues. I was fascinated and permitted her to pray over me. Nothing happened except the very clear message: my gift lay in speaking and writing words generally familiar to English speakers. I have always been grateful for that leading, but also for the chance to explore another way.

With all that divides the world, why not listen more closely to others who may be different, but not in discord with us? Why not look for what unites people of faith, even in our diversity? Why not look for alliances rather than antagonisms? In that spirit, we listened to Dr. Ahmed. In that spirit, I hope to invite others to our worship to share their experience of God, and where that has led them.

My tentative proposal is to reserve fifth Sundays to hear from others. For July 31st, I've invited Michael Resman, a member of the Rochester Friends Meeting (Quakers), to share with us a bit of his own spiritual journey into God and the Quaker way of worship. His prayer life, which he wrote about in a book called *A Contemporary Mysticism*, also led him to gentle justice and activism in our community; he's been featured in the Post Bulletin several times for his work. His path, too, grew from deep wells of the life and love of God experienced through prayer.

I have a couple of ideas to pursue for future fifth Sundays, but I would like to hear from you, as well. Is there another religious tradition, within Christianity or outside it, that has attracted you, perplexed you, aroused that sense of "holy envy"? Maybe your own journey has been a long and difficult one, a voyage of discovery that you have kept to yourself, but now you feel God might be encouraging you to share? Let me know. We can learn so much from one another. *Soli Deo gloria!* All to the glory of God.

FUN WITH OUR MINISTRY PARTNERS!

Take a summer break. Enjoy cool food. Meet our neighbors and ministry partners.

Saturday, July 16, from 2-4, you are invited to an ice cream social with friends from Gage East Apartments, LifeGate Services, and the Village Agricultural Cooperative. Leaders of each group will be on hand to say more about these great community organizations we support with our donations as well as our volunteer efforts. What's even more important: these are our *partners* in ministry in our community, reaching people and doing God's work in ways we couldn't dream of accomplishing on our own.

Gage East provides stable housing and support for families and individuals coming out of homelessness. LifeGate Services offers immigrants and other groups hard-to-find items that "taste like home" at their food shelf, and a free clinic as well as a free annual health fair. The Village Agricultural Cooperative creates opportunities for local residents, many of them also immigrants, to grow culturally relevant food for themselves. We have hosted these growers on our property for many years.

Together, they are part of the network of love and companionship strengthening the beauty and diversity of our local scene. And we, too, have contributed to that network. All three organizations are excited about bringing groups to enjoy our gardens, savor great ice cream, and form connections with each other, and with us.

Co-sponsored by the Mission Committee and Christian Education, this is a wonderful chance to meet our partners in person, and be inspired by their work! Many hands will make the work light so your volunteer help before, during, and after the event will enable leaders to spend time in conversation.

You can also learn more about each agency here:

<http://centercityhousing.org/housing/gage-east-apartments>

<https://www.lifegateservices.org>

<https://www.rochvillage.org/>

A promotional graphic for an ice cream social. The top half features a photograph of various ice cream cones and cups, including pink and green polka-dot cups, and a pink circular callout that says "Get to know local community builders." The bottom half has a colorful background of overlapping circles in shades of yellow, orange, green, and pink. Overlaid on this background is the text: "Ice Cream Social July 16, 2-4 pm", "Community Presbyterian Church 3705 Fairway Place NW, Rochester www.cpcrochester.org", "An exciting event with CPC and their Ministry Partners: Gage East Apartments, The Village Ag Coop, and Lifegate Services", and "Public welcome and invited!".

Get to know local community builders.

Ice Cream Social

July 16, 2-4 pm

Community Presbyterian Church
3705 Fairway Place NW, Rochester
www.cpcrochester.org

An exciting event with CPC and their
Ministry Partners: Gage East Apartments,
The Village Ag Coop, and Lifegate Services

Public welcome and invited!

Come Grow With Us

Carole Kinion Copeland
June 10, 2022

There's a new tree at CPC. It's a 'Zestar!!' apple tree. It is promoted to be a great summer eating and baking apple that is crisp and juicy; more sweet than tart.

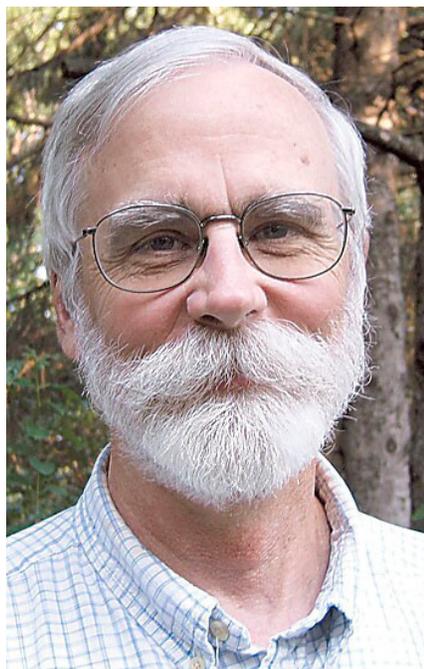
Gene Kopecky says: "This apple tree is to honor the work Pastor Jan has done for us. The best way we thought was to plant a tree that keeps on giving. Just like she does."

The new tree is planted near the white storage shed.

Welcome 'Zestar!,' come grow with us!



We have a guest speaker coming on July 31!



Mike Resman, a member of the Rochester Friends Meeting, will speak as part of worship on Sunday, July 31. Quakers are primarily but not exclusively Christian, and generally worship together in silence, which has led to a world-changing sense of mission in many of them. Early American Quakers were some of the first to understand, through their connection to the divine in prayer, that enslavement of fellow human beings was an evil that must be eradicated. During Quaker worship over twenty years ago, Mike Resman had an epiphany experience. Those ten minutes transformed him, leading him onto a spiritual path. Now retired from his career as a pediatric Occupational Therapist, he spends his time praying, writing, and serving in various volunteer capacities. The Post-Bulletin has featured him several times for his outstanding work in the community. He has also authored or edited several books on spirituality and prayer, and edits a Quaker journal on the subject.

SESSION

How do you say “Thank you” for a wonderful gift when the giver is no longer with you?

Our dear friend of so many years, Margaret Nelson, continues to bless her world, her community, and those of us who shared her faith and worship. In her trust, she left Community Presbyterian Church, among other beneficiaries, a very generous gift. The Finance Committee has placed the funds in a separate account for the time being, where it will earn a small amount of interest. Although the gift of \$450,000 is extraordinary for a congregation of our size, we remember that in upcoming years, we will not have the benefit of Margaret’s very significant annual pledge.

A gift such as this needs to be prayerfully considered so that its use will not only meet the needs and aspirations of this church but will honor and respect Margaret. Our wise and thoughtful stewardship of the gift will be, in essence, our “thank you” to Margaret, and also our “thank you” to God, who led Margaret through her life of service and who is ultimately the giver of all good gifts.

Pastor Jan invites us all to remain in prayer for future developments, as individuals, but also hoping that we may find times to gather in group prayer seeking God’s will. This may happen during worship, during committee meetings, or in small groups as people gather.

While Session is responsible for directing the funds, we invite all those who knew Margaret through their church involvement to offer ideas for how best to say thank you to Margaret and to our God. All voices will be heard before decisions are made.



Thank you

DONATION OPPORTUNITY

Ronda Marshall and Ivy Pillers are spending a volunteer week at Siedlice, Poland with Global Volunteers in mid August (August 13-20). They will be teaching English to Polish and Ukrainian children, predominantly between the ages of 8-10 but there are a few teenagers and a few 2-5 year olds as well. It is possible to bring some items to donate to the children/families that are served by the organization. The items that are suggested include toys, personal hygiene and first aid items. Specific to the Ukrainian children they are looking for laptops and tablets (used are okay if in good working conditions). They will also need adaptors for the laptops. If you are interested in contributing any items, please let Ronda or Ivy know.



SUMMER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

[Learn More](#)



<https://www.elder-network.org/>

Become a Friendly Visitor volunteer today. We need your help!

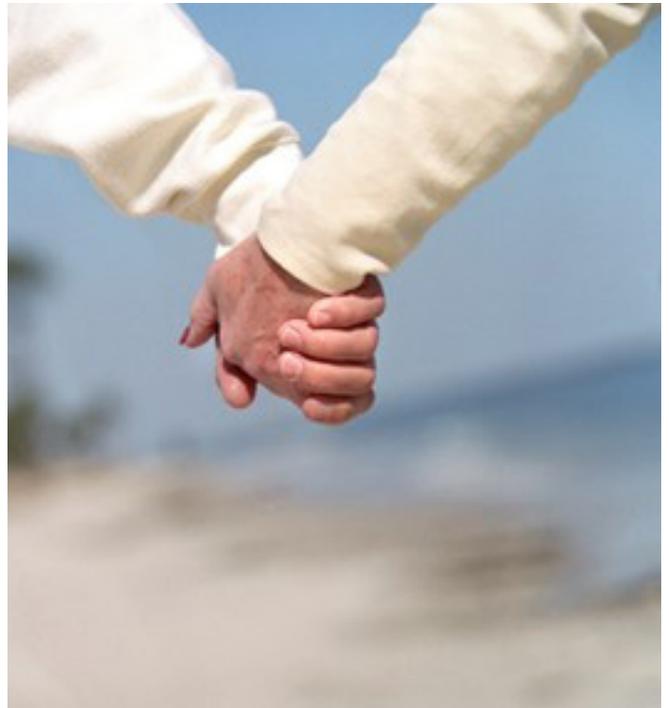
The Friendly Visiting program provides weekly socialization through having someone in home conversing with and engaging an older adult. This helps avoid loneliness, isolation and supports positive mental wellness. Elders receive weekly home visits from trained volunteers to provide a listening ear, support and encouragement for positive change. We provide this service in Olmsted, Wabasha, and Winona counties. We are looking for volunteers to provide support of this program (1-2 hours per week). Please contact Melissa with interest in Olmsted County, Bonnie with interest in Wabasha County (651-565-3237), and Barb with interest in Winona County (507-452-0580).



Become a Volunteer Driver

We can always use drivers to help seniors in Olmsted County get to and from medical appointments, as well as essential, non-medical appointments and needs.

We train our volunteers and work with your schedule to meet the needs of our community. Call and speak with Melissa today at 507-285-5272, to learn more.



Support Elder Network's Work

Learn more about how you can support Elder Network.

[**Learn More Today!**](#)

MEMBERSHIP

Night out at Berne Wood-Fired Pizza Wednesday, July 6

Join other members and friends of CPC for a fun outdoor evening of music and wood-fired pizza. The groups performing that night are:

5 pm - Hair of the Dog

6:30 pm - Nite Shift

Both are local and perform a variety of oldies (and some newer numbers as well).

Check out the details here: <https://www.bernepizza.org/concerts>

If you are interested in attending, contact Amanda Ross or Sue Chipman or sign up in the narthex. We will arrange to carpool and can even do advance pizza orders, if we wish. There is no cost for the concert.



MISSION AND BLUE SKY OUTREACH

Another hot roasted crew helped out at Gage East on June 23 for the Summer Party and Bike Rodeo. Despite the heat, a breeze and a bit of shade made for a great time. Wes Brandenburger, site program director, was pleased with the turnout of residents, and praised CPC, "Your volunteers are great. We couldn't do it without you!"

Volunteering that day: Frank and Carol Jones, Mary Alice Richardson (pictured with Mai, GE maintenance and expert hot dog and brat griller), Mark Neville, Judy Robb, Sherrie Wilson, Heather and Peter Marshall, and Pastor Jan. Also present in spirit: Judy Leal, in the form of her charming hand-crafted boxes, which twelve lucky children received as prizes.

We look forward to the next rousing event with our friends at this lively apartment complex - date tbd, volunteers always welcome.



Thank You!

BIRTHDAY WISHES

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

HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY!

Dear Jan,

Thank you so much for your congregation's amazing support for my father's "celebration of life" memorial. The service you led was so very touching. It was so special to be able to have my dad's children & grandchildren participate in both the service and the memorial, and your facility was awesome for hosting the lunch reception!

While we are all now living far from Rochester, many things still draw us there. CPC was born after

I moved away from home, but I know that we would be members of your community if we lived there now. I am proud to know that my parents played a role in the founding.

Thanks a bunch!

Sincerely,
Randall Merideth

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



Our Mission

Clearwater Chrysalis is a Christian based faith-building program of Clearwater Forest. We welcome adult women of all beliefs. Our vision is to nourish and support the body, mind and spirit in community with other women.

Fees, Registration, General Info

Fees for Chrysalis cover three nights of housing, all meals, speaker presentations, most workshops and more.

Cost: summer cabin - \$228, lodge double room - \$308, single lodge room - \$430 | A \$75 deposit is required. All fees paid, minus the \$75 deposit, are refundable if a cancellation of registration occurs at least 10 days prior to the event.

The first 5 First timers who register are eligible for a discount.



Katie Estes has been attending and leading events at Clearwater Forest for more than 30 years and can think of no better place to rest and renew. She learned about hospitality from her family and many church families, and fully expects to learn more about it with the Chrysalis family this summer! She currently serves as Pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Green Bay, WI; she previously served in South St. Paul, Bloomington and Roseville, MN. Katie loves to read, bake, hold babies, and travel—but not all at the same time.

Register Online

www.clearwaterforest.org

Or call the camp office at (218) 678-2325 to register. You will receive registration confirmation and additional information via email. **Register by August 1, 2022.**

Scholarship funds are available through the Chrysalis Steering Committee. Contact the camp office at (218) 678-2325.

Featuring

Exercise Options: Water Exercise, Yoga
Free Time Options: Tie-dye, kayaks, high ropes, nature walk, relaxing hammocks
Entertainment: Bunco!

Housing for Summer Chrysalis is available in Leaning Tree and Eagle Lodges and the Summer Cabins.

Clearwater Forest is a regional program, retreat and conference center of the Presbyterian Church (USA). This beautiful setting near Brainerd, Minnesota, covers more than 1,000 acres of forest and includes 3 ½ miles of lakefront, 10 miles of wooded trails, and majestic stone buildings.

16595 Crooked Lake Road, Deerwood, MN 56444



Save the Date!

Winter Chrysalis Feb. 24 – 26, 2023

Working for Justice and Peace

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN 2022 CALENDAR

3 Immigration Sunday; <http://oga.pcusa.org/section/mid-council-ministries/immigration>

4 Independence Day; presbyterianmission.org/ministries/workshop/independence-day

11 J&P Book Discussion Group online, 6:30–8:30 PM (Eastern) on Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption by Bryan Stevenson (OneWorld, 2015). Register at presbyterianwomen.org/justice

Honing Hospitality

Speaker – Rev. Katie Estes

In contemporary culture, the term refers to the hotel and convention industry or to catering a meal and putting on a party, but hospitality means far more as a Christian practice. Hospitality is the offer to extend the privileges of community to those who do not have the standing to expect it, especially those who are vulnerable because they are strangers. Hospitality often involves sharing meals, but hospitality is about more than eating. Hospitality is an offer to identify with outsiders and to treat them like insiders.

All human life begins with God's act of hospitality—with God's making a place for us in the world that God created, a world that we had no claim to inhabit. God knew that this offer was dangerous because we the outsiders might defile the pristine world. But God welcomed us anyway. "Having been embraced by God, we must make space for others and invite them in—even our enemies," writes Miroslav Volf in his book *Exclusion and Embrace*. Hospitality is treating outsiders like insiders, just as God treated us.

We will use this weekend to hone our hospitality skills with God and with one another as we consider how we might practice a broader hospitality in the world.

Workshops

Power of Gratitude, Book Discussion, Scene Painting,
Cultivating Habits that Serve You, Improv Games for Church, Work & Play,
Heavenly Sweets: Cookie Creations

August 18 – 21, 2022
Optional Service Day August 17th

Community Presbyterian's Calendar

July 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship	27	28 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Session Meeting	29 6:30am Prayer Group 6:30pm Mission Committee Meeting	30	1	2
3 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship with Communion	4 Office Closed	5 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:00pm Brain Injury Support Group	6 Berne Wood-fired Pizza 6:30am Prayer Group	7 7:00pm Joint Christian Education/Mission meeting (v)	8	9
10 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship	11 8:00am Med City Driving Classes	12 8:00am Med City Driving Classes 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 5:30pm Finance & Stewardship Meeting 6:30pm Building and Grounds Meeting	13 6:30am Prayer Group 8:00am Med City Driving Classes	14 8:00am Med City Driving Classes	15 8:00am Med City Driving Classes	16 2:00pm Ice Cream Social
17 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship	18 8:00am Med City Driving Classes 6:30pm Worship and Music Committee (V)	19 8:00am Med City Driving Classes 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due	20 6:30am Prayer Group 8:00am Med City Driving Classes 12:00pm Newsletter articles due	21 8:00am Med City Driving Classes	22 8:00am Med City Driving Classes	23
24 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship	25	26 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Session Meeting (V)	27 6:30am Prayer Group	28	29	30
31 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship with Guest Speaker, Mike Resman 12:00pm Pastor Jan on Retreat	1 Pastor Jan on Retreat 8:00am Med City Driving Classes	2 Pastor Jan on Retreat 8:00am Med City Driving Classes 12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:00pm Brain Injury Support Group 7:00pm Christian Education Committee meeting	3 Pastor Jan on Retreat 6:30am Prayer Group 8:00am Med City Driving Classes	4 8:00am Med City Driving Classes	5 8:00am Med City Driving Classes	6

Community Presbyterian Church
3705 Fairway Place NW
Rochester, MN 55901

**CPC worships at 9:30 each Sunday
both onsite and online!**

**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#**