

Community Press

A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROCHESTER, MN



Daring deeds in desperate times

Who are your heroes? A community sermon on August 14

The first two Sundays of August, we'll be reading from Hebrews 11, the chapter commonly known as "heroes of faith." The author reminds us that we are not the first to face perplexities and potential disaster; the long list recounts those who met grave challenges, not with weapons of war, but armed with the Spirit.

On the second Sunday, August 14, during the message portion of the service, we'll take time to hear from anyone who wishes to share: Who are the heroes of faith in your life, who met trouble with the help of God and provided an example for you to follow in hope?

Before that day, you are invited to read Hebrews 11:1 ("Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen) through 12:2. If you like, revisit the full stories of some of the heroes named. And come to church prepared to inspire and be inspired by one another.

The book discussion group will meet the last Sunday of September following worship; the book will be announced soon. If you'd like to participate, you can also make suggestions for this season's books in several ways:

- Pick up a "Book Group in a Bag Kit" list at church; highlight a few you'd be interested in reading. Find descriptions on the library website or Amazon.
- Suggest a title or an author you'd like to read.
- Share your picks with Carol Jones or Pastor Jan. We'll check for availability and then vote on choices after suggestions are received.

All are welcome to join in the fun!



Come and enjoy strings in the garden during our next outdoor worship service on August 21st at 9:30. The musicians are:

Lori Ringen-Poencet on violin 1, Kimberlee Souhrada on violin 2, Anne Buezis on viola, and Bri McDonough, cello.



AUGUST 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

Sweet hour of prayer

You are invited to join a prayer group starting soon

Whether it's the dire world situation, the texts popping up for Sunday services, or simply some undiagnosed gravitational pull in my own life, prayer seems to be the focus of the summer.

What you may have noticed is that every sermon ends with three minutes of silence in what's called "breath prayer" - inhaling and exhaling with the aid of a few words to get us started.

Beyond the surface meaning of the words, their purpose is to clear our minds of clamoring thoughts, like everything I have to do later, what I'm having for lunch, the newest disturbing news. (There's a name for these mental acrobatics: "monkey mind." We all suffer from it when we first try to pray in silence.) Silent, contemplative prayer helps us sink into the embracing love of God and open ourselves to whatever God wants to show us.

You may have been taught that prayer is talking to God. Acronyms like ACTS can be helpful: "Prayer is Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication." Well, yes, all of those, though we tend to be heavy on the Supplication—detailing each urgent need for God, as though God were not perfectly aware of them already! But each aspect (except possibly Adoration) involves words, and mostly our own words, with God as target audience. The kind of prayer I'm advocating goes beyond words.

As so often, the Franciscan teacher Richard Rohr thinks my thoughts even before I do. In a daily on-line meditation, he quotes another teacher, Catherine de Hueck Doherty (1896–1985), who wrote:

"True silence is the speech of lovers. . . . True silence is a key to the immense and flaming heart of God. . . . such silence is holy, a prayer beyond all prayers. True silence leads to the final prayer of the constant presence of God. . . . This silence, then, will break forth in a charity that overflows in the service of the neighbor without counting the cost. It will witness to Christ anywhere, always."

At their July meeting, Session approved setting aside a tithe (10%) of the gift from Margaret Nelson's trust, to be given away to causes and needs outside our walls. My strong conviction is that deep communal prayer will poise us to know best how to use this gift for good. The intention is not to decide on a simple disbursement of funds, but to make an investment of ourselves that Margaret would approve. All who value being part of this congregation are invited to participate in the prayer leading to the decisions. My hope is that it will strengthen us as a congregation and our support for one another as well.

If you feel called to be part of a hybrid prayer group (meeting bi-weekly starting in August) please let me know me or Stephanie know. We'll determine the time that works best for everyone. Everyone is welcome; everyone's prayers are needed. God be with you all!

If you wish to read the devotion in full, you can find it here: <https://cac.org/daily-meditations/standing-still-2022-07-20/>.



FUN WITH OUR MINISTRY PARTNERS!

One...two...three strikes you're out at the old...Ice Cream Social?

July 16 was a perfect day for ice cream and getting to know our neighbors, allies, and partners in the Rochester world. The sun was warm, but a few clouds and a little breeze kept us comfortable.

In addition to our Ministry Partners (Gage East, The Village Agricultural Cooperative, and LifeGate Services), a number of neighbors responded to the welcome. Altogether, we served "chocolate, vanilla, strawberry or frozen fruit bars" to about 75 people.

The ice cream was free for all, the only requirement being to "introduce yourself to someone you've never met." Amazingly, people complied! New connections were made and other relationships renewed.

We also learned from The Village people that community gardeners will be starting a weekly farmers' market at People of Hope Lutheran Church on Tuesdays, 4-7. Check it out! <https://www.rochvillage.org/events-1>

LifeGate Services turned out in the greatest numbers; a trio of women from Chosen Generation, the sponsoring congregation, regaled us with sweet praise psalms in their native Nigerian language as well as English.

The show was truly stolen, however, when a six-year-old boy took the mic to sing the quintessential American summer anthem: "Take me out to the ballgame." He started out shy but gained steam as people began clapping and singing along. By the third time through, he was probably heard in the next county.

The consensus is that this is an event worth repeating annually!

Great thanks to all who were instrumental in the success of this event::

Mark Neville, Amanda Ross, Mary Alice Richardson, Ron Murray, Sue Chipman, Judy Robb, Ivy Pillers, Margie Petersen, and all those who showed up to schmooze, graze, or snooze in the shade.

And a HUGE THANK YOU to Dave Nogosek of the Eastwood Grill, located at the Eastwood Golf Course: he donated all the ice cream!



Amanda Nigon-Crowley



Pastor Tope Dosumu



*Bel Pool
and Gage East Staffers*



Wes Brandeburger



On Wednesday, July 6, a group of Community Presbyterian Church friends enjoyed Berne Wood-fired pizzas and live music. A fun time was had by all!



AROUND CPC AND THE COMMUNITY

BIRTHDAY WISHES

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Birthdays and Anniversaries are listed in the print edition of the newsletter. Pick up a copy at church or [contact the office](#) to have one sent to you!



• **Working for Justice and Peace** •
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN 2022 CALENDAR

AUGUST

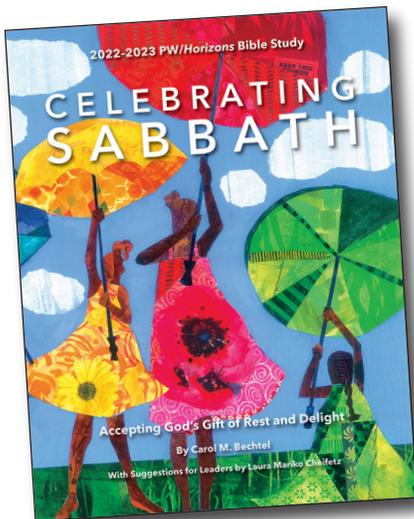
- 6 Hiroshima Day; pda.pcusa.org/pda/resource/hiroshima-day-prayer/
- 9 International Day of the World's Indigenous People; un.org/en/observances/indigenous-day
- 14 Day of Prayer for the Peaceful Reunification of the Korean Peninsula;
pcusa.org/resource/sunday-prayer-worship-for-peaceful-reunifica-78123/
- 19 World Humanitarian Day;
worldhumanitarianday.org/ and en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Humanitarian_Day
- 21 Public Education Sunday; presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/child/

Introducing the 2022-2023 PW/Horizons Bible study

Celebrating Sabbath

Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight
by Carol M. Bechtel

With Suggestions for Leaders by Laura Mariko Cheifetz



In the nine lessons of this Bible study—with passages from Genesis, Exodus, Deuteronomy, Isaiah, Matthew, Luke, and Acts—we'll consider Sabbath

- as a celebration, not a day of dreary formality
- as God's intent for all of creation and that includes busy women too
- as one day of the week, perhaps a Sunday
- as a time to surrender unhealthy striving and frantic busyness, and instead trust God will provide
- as a reminder that life is precious and working too much is against God's plans for our precious lives
- as a day devoted to community and justice and not exclusively to self-care

Ultimately, Sabbath reminds us to honor God who honors us by giving us a day each week to reset our pace, our priorities, and our lives.

Based upon the responses to times for the Bible study, PW Bible Study will begin on Tuesday, September 13 at CPC from 10:00-11:30 am. Pastor Jan will have options for what the schedule for the rest of the Bible Study at the September session. The cost of the study on "Celebrating Sabbath" will be \$10.00 for regular print and \$15.00 for large print. With shipping costs of \$2.00 per book, please pay by check or cash, the amount of \$12.00 or \$17.00. Women can either make the check payable to Mary Alice Richardson or to CPC. Please let Mary Alice know ASAP if you are planning to participate in the study. There will be a virtual option if you cannot attend in person.

Community Presbyterian's Calendar

August 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>31</p> <p>9:30am Online and Onsite Worship with Guest Speaker, Mike Resman 12:00pm Pastor Jan on Retreat</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Pastor Jan on Retreat 8:00am Med City Driving Classes</p>	<p>2</p> <p>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</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Pastor Jan on Retreat 6:30am Prayer Group 8:00am Med City Driving Classes</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:00am Med City Driving Classes</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:00am Med City Driving Classes</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7</p> <p>9:30am Online and Onsite Worship with Communion</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Office Closed 8:00am Med City Driving Classes</p>	<p>9</p> <p>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</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group 8:00am Med City Driving Classes 6:30pm Christian Education Committee meeting (virtual)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8:00am Med City Driving Classes</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:00am Med City Driving Classes</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14</p> <p>9:30am Online and Onsite Worship</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>12:00pm Newsletter articles due</p>
<p>21</p> <p>9:30am Outdoor and Online Worship with a String Quartet</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Session Meeting</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>9:30am Online and Onsite Worship</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>12:00pm Online Conference Call 12:00pm Bulletin info due</p>	<p>31</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>

Community Presbyterian Church
3705 Fairway Place NW
Rochester, MN 55901



Do you have a pop-up lawn canopy? If you're willing, CPC would love to borrow it for outdoor worship services August 21 and September 11.

**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#**

**Contact CPC: 507-280-9291
Church office: office@cpcrochester.org**