

Community Press

A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROCHESTER, MN



Join us

FAREWELL CELEBRATION FOR

REV. JAN WIERSMA
JUDY KEREAKOS AND
MEG CAIN

SUNDAY, JUNE 4TH
WORSHIP AT 9:30 AM
LUNCHEON FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Community Presbyterian Church
3705 Fairway Place NW
Rochester, MN 55901

RSVP to the office
office@cpcrochester.org or 507-280-9291

In lieu of a gift, please consider bringing a card or sharing a memory.
Pastor Jan has suggested donations to the Gage East library fund
would also be welcome.



Don't miss the farewell celebration for these three women!

Pastor Jan and Judy are retiring. Meg is moving away from the area.

We thank them for their dedication and years of service to Community Presbyterian Church!



JUNE AND JULY 2023

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 2023</u>	Ivy Pillers Kim Nickander Lyal Powell	Worship and Music Finance and Stewardship Building and Grounds
<u>Class of 2024</u>	Amanda Ross Sherrie Wilson	Personnel and Nominating Mission
<u>Class of 2025</u>	Sue Chipman	Christian Education
<u>Officers:</u>	Mary Meyer Mark Pillers Joanne Powell	Clerk (Non-voting) Financial Secretary Treasurer

2023 Nominating Committee

Mark Neville, Bruce Felger, Dave Copeland, and Mary Alice Richardson,
Margie Petersen (Deacons)

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 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>
Margie Petersen Peggy McCarty	Dave Copeland Aaron Simms	Ron Murray Louis Bouchard

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

Given this is your last communication from *this* pastor's desk, and seeing that we are reaching the culmination of our Easter season of Gratitude, I thought the best thing I could say is, "Thank you." Thank you for showing up!

Thank you for trusting me. Welcoming a new leader into an established and tightly-knit congregation requires a tremendous amount of faith. Thank you for letting me be the kind of pastor I wanted to be. I hope I have never abused your trust. You certainly have not failed my trust in you.

Thank you for your openness to creativity in worship. Meg expressed much the same thing to me: gratitude that you appreciated whatever we wanted to try, whether it worked well or not. Mostly you approved! Thank you for that, too.

Thank you for caring so deeply about the world around us. I may have brought some new practices, like the land acknowledgement at the beginning of worship, but you showed me how much you care about food insecurity and marginalized people in the Rochester area.

I am grateful for

- The energy and dedication of our Ruling Elders, and the quiet support of our Clerk
- The wisdom of the PWWs (Presbyterian Wise Women)
- The acumen of our Finance folks
- The skill and knowledge of Building & Grounds
- The mighty spirit of our musicians and their leaders
- The sincerity and depth of the prayer partners here
- The generous and discerning hearts of our Mission leaders
- The intellectual curiosity of our Christian educators, and their serious attention to modeling and teaching the faith to our young people
- The stalwart presence of our Deacons, ensuring sacramental preparation
- The faithful expertise of the IT, sound, and set-up crew
- Stephanie's superb proficiency in administration and Nancy's excellence in cleaning

Thank you for your willingness to move outside your own comfort zones. In what is likely my last pastoral post, you have taught me that the church is, indeed, alive in so many ways and prepared to pass the word to new generations of Christians, as our foremothers and forefathers did for us for centuries past.

Thank you for all the examples of mutual understanding, tolerance, and support I witnessed among you. You are truly a community of godly love.

I am reminded of the words of an early Quaker, Isaac Pennington: "Our life is love, and peace, and tenderness; and bearing one with another, and forgiving one another, and not laying accusations one against another; but praying one for another, and helping one another up with a tender hand."

Amen. So be it.



BIRTHDAY WISHES

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Birthdays and anniversaries are in the print edition of the newsletter. Pick one up at church, next time you're there!



The beehives being installed at CPC!

Come Grow With Us!

May 20, 2023

Welcome Honeybees

Community Presbyterian Church (CPC) is buzzing with news! We now have honey bees on site! We recently welcomed the queen, well, two queens, to stay on our property in NW Rochester. Beekeepers Michael and Erin Joppa's business, Sweet Local Honey, needed more space for their hives. Volunteer CPC gardener Carole Kinion Copeland saw their need and brought it to the attention of the church. After acquiring permission from the church and its tenants, Carole met with the beekeepers and their family to walk the property and select a location for the hives. As they walked the property Michael recalled playing baseball as a youth on the church grounds. Carole reminisced about her grandfather and father raising honey bees.

"We have several gardens on the church property that contain pollinator plants. We also rent space to the Village Agricultural Cooperative. There are 15 vegetable gardens near the hives. By including honey bees in our landscape the Village food production will increase due to increased pollination," Carole said. Another potential benefit is the opportunity for the children at Children's Place Nursery School to learn from the beekeepers. The Joppa's have brought a learning hive to their son's class in the past.

A member from the Labranza de Dios congregation that meets in the CPC space spoke of the importance of honey bees for apple production. He remembered bee hives at an orchard he formerly worked at. "I think we can learn from the honey bees and benefit too. Like bees, working together benefits each other."

For Sweet Local Honey the rewards will be more honey. For the Village gardeners there will be more produce. The nursery school has the opportunity to learn about honey bees. These bees have a nice new garden. It's our hope that they enjoy their new home!

For more information contact:

Community Presbyterian Church
3705 Fairway Place NW
Rochester, MN 55901
507-280-9291
www.cpcrochester.org

Labranza de Dios Church
labranzadedios@gmail.com

Children's Place Nursery School
Childrensplacenursery.com

The Village Agricultural Cooperative
Rochvillage.org

-
Sweet Local Honey Co.
Sweetlocalhoneyco.com

BUILDING AND GROUNDS, CONTINUED



Spring Fling accomplished many tasks. Labranza de Dios church joined us. There were about 20 of us working on: window washing, mulch spreading, installing the speed bumps, kitchen cleaning, and organizing the storage room. For dinner Ann and Aaron Simms cooked the most amazing low country shrimp boil!!! Thank you everyone who volunteered. "Many hands make light work."



GRADUATIONS



Alayna and Nathan Kopecky
John Marshall High School
Class of 2023

Alayna will be attending the University of Wisconsin –LaCrosse and majoring in Exercise Science and minoring in Psychology

Nathan will be attending Dakota County Technical College in Rosemount, MN. He is majoring in Sports Management and will be a member of the men’s soccer team.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

• *Working for Justice and Peace* •

JUNE

- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ+) Pride Month; archives.gov/news/topics/lgbt-pride-month
- 2 National Gun Violence Awareness Day; wearorange.org or nasponline.org/research-and-policy/policy-matters-blog/national-gun-violence-awareness-day
- 18 Father’s Day; Men of the Church Sunday; presbyterianmission.org/ministries/men
- 19 Juneteenth; presbyphl.org/what-is-juneteenth-resources-for-formation-education-and-gospel-witness
- 20 World Refugee Day; un.org/en/observances/refugee-day

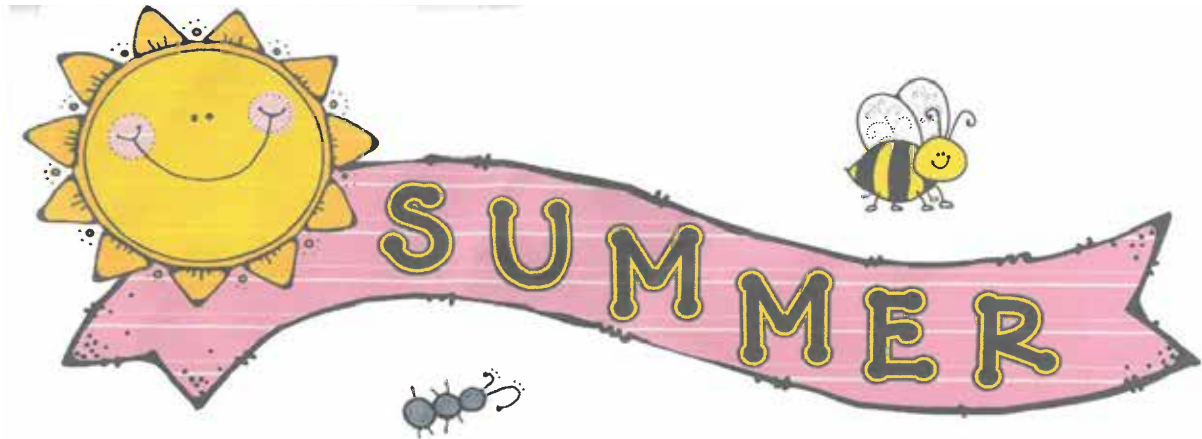
JULY

- 2 Immigration Sunday; <http://oga.pcusa.org/section/mid-council-ministries/immigration>
- 4 Independence Day; presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/independence-day
- 10 J&P Book Discussion Group online, 6:30–8:30 PM (Eastern) on Beautiful Country: A Memoir of an Undocumented Childhood by Qian Julie Wang (New York: Random House, 2021). Register at presbyterianwomen.org/justice



Gage East Summer Party - June 29th

Volunteers are invited to help with the activities!
Please speak to Mark Neville if you would like to be part of this fun event.



Come Join the Summer Fun ...

Thursday, June 29th, 2023

Front Parking Lot

11:30 am to 1:30 pm



Bounce House, Sno-Cones, Cotton Candy, Face Painting, Flapdoodles, Grilled Hotdogs, Chips, Salads, Miniature Therapy Horse, Police and Fire Departments, Public Health, Water Fun, Friends, Bubbles, and more!



FARM FEST - JUNE 17TH

FARM Fest - a Celebration of Food, Art,
Recreation and Music

June 17th, 4 - 8 pm at Covenant Church
4950 31st Ave NW, Rochester MN 55901

CPC is privileged to have a table at the
FARM Fest. Volunteers are needed to
answer questions about CPC, hand out
brochures, and invite guests to view the
community garden at CPC,
the Garden of Life and our church.

Talk to Sherrie Wilson to sign up for a shift.



A THANK YOU



From the Hall Family:

Our family would like to thank you for all of your thoughts and prayers on the death of our sweet Alex. We want to thank Judy Kereakos for her beautiful music, Pastor Jan for her beautiful words, everyone who baked cookies and bars and served them at the reception. We want to express our gratitude to Stephanie for all her efforts with emails and the beautiful bulletin she created. Our thanks to Louis for his sound and computer work and Nancy for cleaning up after the service. We are so grateful for all of you. Alex was a very special part of our family and we miss him every minute of every day. Thank you all for helping us find our way forward.

- Jennifer, Frank, Maggie, Lincoln, Abby and Sage

Community Presbyterian's Calendar

June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>28</p> <p>Pentecost - Wear Red! 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Memorial Day Office Closed</p>	<p>30</p> <p>CPNS - Summer School begins 12:00pm Bulletin info due 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network</p>	<p>31</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group at CPC 12:00pm Online Conference Call</p>	<p>1</p> <p>5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00am Building Use: Graduation Party</p>
<p>4</p> <p>Farewell Celebration for Pastor Jan, Judy and Meg 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship with Communion 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Christian Education Committee meeting 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group at CPC</p>	<p>8</p> <p>5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11</p> <p>9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving School</p>	<p>13</p> <p>8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving School 12:00pm Bulletin info due - for all bulletins through July 2 6:30pm Building and Grounds Meeting 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network</p>	<p>14</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group at CPC 8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving School</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving School 5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>16</p> <p>CPNS Summer School ends 8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving School</p>	<p>17</p> <p>The Village - Farmfest</p>
<p>18</p> <p>9:30am Outdoor and Online Worship 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Stephanie Vacation - Office Closed 8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving School</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Stephanie Vacation - Office Closed 8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving School 12:00pm Presby Pastor's Gathering 5:30pm Finance & Stewardship Meeting 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Stephanie Vacation - Office Closed 6:30am Prayer Group at CPC 8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving School</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Stephanie Vacation - Office Closed 8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving School 5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Stephanie Vacation - Office Closed 8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving School</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p> <p>9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Stephanie Vacation - Office Closed</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Stephanie Vacation - Office Closed 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Stephanie Vacation - Office Closed 6:30am Prayer Group at CPC</p>	<p>29</p> <p>11:30am Gage East Summer Party 5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>1</p> <p>9:00am Building Use: Graduation Party</p>

Community Presbyterian's Calendar

July 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>25</p> <p>9:30am Online and Onsite Worship</p> <p>2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Stephanie Vacation - Office Closed</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Stephanie Vacation - Office Closed</p> <p>7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Stephanie Vacation - Office Closed</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group at CPC</p>	<p>29</p> <p>11:30am Gage East Summer Party</p> <p>5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>1</p> <p>9:00am Building Use: Graduation Party</p>
<p>2</p> <p>9:30am Online and Onsite Worship with Communion</p> <p>2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Stephanie Vacation - Office Closed</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Independence Day - Office Closed</p> <p>12:00pm Bulletin info due</p> <p>6:30pm Christian Education Committee meeting</p> <p>7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Stephanie Vacation - Office Closed</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group at CPC</p>	<p>6</p> <p>5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>2:00pm Building Use: Graduation Party</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9:30am Online and Onsite Worship</p> <p>2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving</p> <p>12:00pm Bulletin info due</p> <p>6:30pm Building and Grounds Meeting</p> <p>7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group at CPC</p> <p>8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving</p>	<p>13</p> <p>8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving</p> <p>5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16</p> <p>9:30am Outdoor and Online Worship</p> <p>2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving</p> <p>12:00pm Bulletin info due</p> <p>7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group at CPC</p> <p>8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving</p> <p>12:00pm Newsletter articles due</p> <p>5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00am Building Use: Med City Driving</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23</p> <p>9:30am Online and Onsite Worship</p> <p>2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>12:00pm Bulletin info due</p> <p>6:30pm Session Meeting (v)</p> <p>7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group at CPC</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p> <p>9:30am Online and Onsite Worship</p> <p>2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p> <p>12:00pm Bulletin info due</p> <p>6:30pm Christian Education Committee meeting</p> <p>7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:30am Prayer Group at CPC</p>	<p>3</p> <p>5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>

Community Presbyterian Church
3705 Fairway Place NW
Rochester, MN 55901



**Per Capita
Apportionment rate for 2023
\$37.50**

as follows:

PTCA per capita - \$22.15
(an increase of \$0.13)

Synod per capita - \$5.50
(no change)

PC(USA) per capita - \$9.85
(an increase of \$0.87)

**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**

**Wednesday'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**