

Community Press

A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROCHESTER, MN



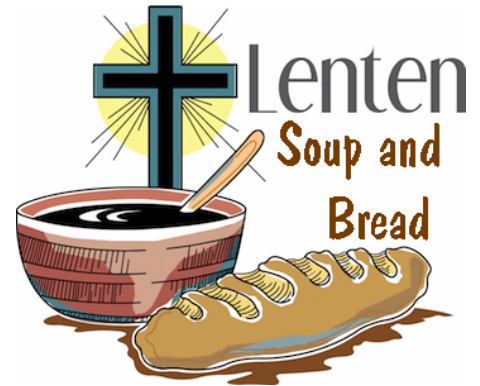
Lent continues through March

Palm Sunday - March 24, 9:30 am worship

Maundy Thursday -

March 28, 6:00 pm soup supper, 6:30 pm worship

Easter Sunday - March 31, 9:30 am worship



Watch for sign up and ways
to volunteer for the Lenten
Soup Supper on March 28th!



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

March 31



Jennifer Taylor is
joining the staff at CPC!
Read all about on it
page 4!



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MARCH 2024

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Session

The Session is the governing board of the church. It consists of six ruling elders, elected for two 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 2024</u> | Lyal Powell Amanda Ross Sherrie Wilson | Building and Grounds Personnel and Nominating Mission |
| <u>Class of 2025</u> | Sue Chipman Ivy Pillers Aaron Simms | Christian Education Worship and Music Finance and Stewardship |
| <u>Officers:</u> | Dave Copeland Mark Pillers Joanne Powell | Clerk (Non-voting) Financial Secretary Treasurer |

2024 Nominating Committee

Mary Meyer, Dave Copeland, Jane Burgstaler, Peggy McCarty (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 2024</u> | <u>Class of 2025</u> | <u>Class of 2026</u> |
| Dave Copeland Aaron Simms | Ron Murray Louis Bouchard | Peggy McCarty Margaret Petersen |

Staff

Bridge Pastor
Pianist
Music Director
Custodian
Office Manager

Rev. Carla Nelson
Glenna Muir
Jennifer Taylor
Nancy Sanford
Stephanie Pasch

Ministers to the world

Congregation Members

Good day to you – and happy Lenten season, a time to reflect on our faith, our faith journey and the call that God has placed on our lives. During this third week of Lent our devotional has an article by Dr. Terence Lester that speaks about his life and Matthew 16:13-20.

In this article Dr. Lester asks us to “reflect on our own spiritual journeys and consider the seeds of revelation in our lives.”

When has God shown up in our lives, when have we felt close to God or noticed God? Have we had mountain top experiences? Have we professed our devotion to God? What has happened in our lives since then? What have we done with those moments?

During the fourth week Dr. Lester tells the story of a devastating car crash that caused him great pain, a long recovery and “left me grappling with my faith.” The scripture lesson for week four is Matthew 16:21-23, Peter needs to learn to deal with a future no one wants to see. We all have to deal with hard truths we don’t want to face. How has your faith gotten you through tough times?

Week five brings a beautiful story of a son’s faith and a father returned to life through a son’s faithful service to others. That’s all I’m saying you’ll have to pick up the devotional book or let us know you want one and I’ll bring it to you. ☺ The scripture for the week is Matthew 18:15-22. Forgiveness, reconciliation and healing are brought about by the grace of God. Who do you need to forgive?

Palm Sunday will be here before you know it – will you be ready? Will you be ready to sing “Hosanna” or will you be so busy getting ready for Easter that you miss this week altogether? This is a very busy time week for Jesus, and a confusing week for Peter – he has a very hard time getting it right and still he is loved – just like us. God’s grace is more than our mistakes and given without strings attached. Each special day of this week has its own reading and question all are thought provoking.

Easter Sunday- What joy it can bring! Did you know that Easter is actually a six week season?? SIX WEEKS!! We get to celebrate Easter for six weeks! Can you tell that makes me happy? Man was I ripped off as a child – we only celebrated one week of Easter – our materials only give us 2 weeks of Easter, but it is really a 6 week season – because Jesus stuck around for 40 days, six weeks after his resurrection before he goes to heaven. If Jesus were here today, what would you tell him? What burning questions would you have to ask?

Easter is an attitude, a way of being in the world – a way of getting up in the morning and saying, “Today I choose Joy.” It isn’t an easy way to live sometimes, it isn’t always the way you want to live – sometimes it feels good to be mad, and mad is ok as long as you don’t live there. However, when you choose Joy as your daily attitude, when you chose Easter, the belief in the resurrected Christ, who loved You enough to die for you, life you chose to live a life of love, and that kind of life has all kinds of rewards the world can never take away.



Have you shared your answer to the Question of the Week? What is one thing at Community Presbyterian Church that is sacred to you? That one thing that you would not want changed. Please tell Pastor Carla, or email it to her, or write it down and put it in the offering plate.

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

We welcome to Community Presbyterian Church our New Music Leader - Jennifer Taylor. Jennifer is a talented musician with a varied background in choir, group ensembles, and teaching. She will lead both the Choir and Bell Choir Groups. Jennifer starts March 1st and we look forward to our musical future together. Get to know Jennifer this Spring!

It is a great time to consider joining one of the Choirs!

Jennifer Taylor is a graduate of Lawrence University in Appleton, WI. She double majored in vocal and instrumental education and has been a teacher for 40 years. Her major instrument is the oboe. Jennifer has taught in several school districts, all of which have been in Minnesota. She lived in a suburb of Seoul, South Korea for two years and taught English there while also being the Academic Supervisor. Jennifer says it was a life-changing experience. In addition to working in schools, Jennifer was the Music Associate at First Presbyterian Church working with Lee Afdahl for 14 years. She conducted children's choirs and handbells while working at First Presbyterian. Jennifer is very excited to bring her talents to Community Presbyterian Church. Jennifer is currently the principal oboist in the Rochester Pops Orchestra under the direction of Brock Besse. She is the mother of two cats, Chester and Audrey.



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



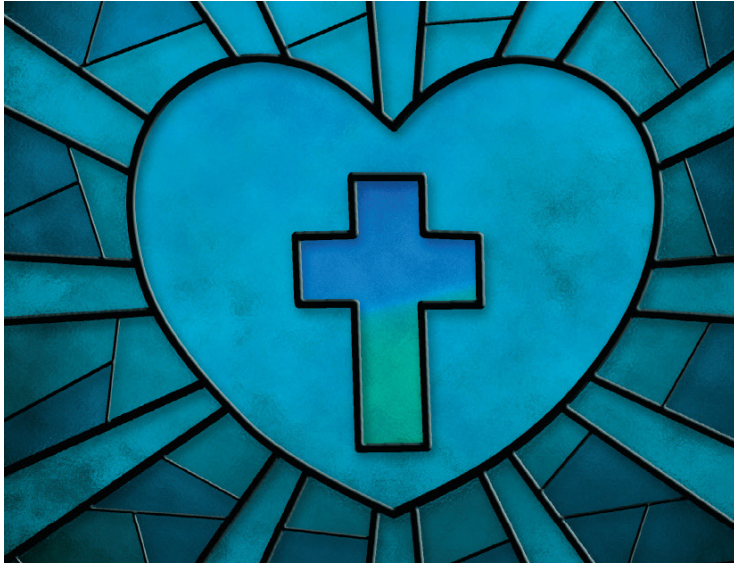
The Book Discussion Group will meet after worship on Sunday, March 17 to discuss *The Big Finish* by Brooke Fossey

from Goodreads.com:

“Meet Duffy, an old curmudgeon who lives in an assisted living home. Meet Josie, a desperate young woman who climbs through his window. Together, they’re going to learn it’s never too late—or too early—to change your ways.

In a funny, insightful, and life-affirming debut, Brooke Fossey delivers an unflinching look at growing old, living large, and loving big, as told by a wise-cracking man who didn’t see any of it coming.”

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



75
YEARS



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

FEBRUARY 14 – MARCH 31, 2024

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY —
FOR WHEN WE ALL DO A LITTLE,
IT ADDS UP TO A LOT.

In Isaiah 58, the prophet exclaims, “Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in” (Isaiah 58:12). As the people of Israel returned from the cloud of exile and struggled to rebuild their lives, Isaiah questioned their efforts: [Are you not called] “to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them?” (Isaiah 58:7).

Then in Matthew 25, we hear Jesus calling to us, “For I was hungry and you gave me food ... I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing. ... As you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me” (Matthew 25:35–40).

Isaiah and Jesus are making an important theological point: faithfulness to God causes us to find solutions that will mend broken things— broken lives, broken spirits, broken hearts, broken relationships—things that happen to all of us throughout our lives.

When we give to the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering on Easter Sunday, we are combining our efforts with those across the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to repair peoples’ lives — people who are hurting, broken, oppressed, lost or on the margins of society. The exact people about whom Isaiah and Jesus are speaking. The people we are called to connect with every day, but especially in the light of the Good News of the resurrection.

All are invited to visit the OGHS website (pcusa.org/oghs) to find all sorts of information on how donations help people all over the world and offer prayers for those who will receive monetary support through this offering. Small changes which, when added together here and around the globe, make huge differences in the lives of our siblings in need.

Make a donation to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering to benefit Presbyterian ministries to combat hunger, provide assistance after disaster strikes, and to work with sustainable community development on Sunday, March 31st.

AROUND CPC

BIRTHDAY WISHES

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

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Pastor Carla is usually in the office on
Mondays and Tuesdays, 9-12.

Stephanie is usually in the office on
Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 9:15-11:30/12:00.

Stephanie works remotely on Mondays and Thursdays.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

• *Working for Justice and Peace* •

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN J&P CALENDAR

MARCH

- Women's History Month, womenshistorymonth.gov
- 1 World Day of Prayer, wdp-usa.org or worlddayofprayer.net
- 8 International Women's Day, internationalwomensday.com
or un.org/en/observances/womens-day
- 10 Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday, pcusa.org/women
- 10 Self-Development of People Sunday, presbyterianmission.org/ministries/sdop/
- 11 J&P Book Discussion Group online, 6:30–8:30 PM (Eastern) Our Missing Hearts by Celeste Ng. Register at presbyterianwomen.org/justice
- 11–22 UN Commission on the Status of Women, unwomen.org/en/csw/csw68-2024
- 17–23 National Agriculture Week; iatp.org
- 20 Mr. Rogers Day, presbyterianmission.org/ministries/theology-formation-and-evangelism/office-of-christian-formation/mr-rogers-day-resources
- 22 World Water Day, worldwaterday.org
- 25–31 National Farmworker Awareness Week, saf-unite.org/national-farmworker-awareness-week
- 29 Good Friday; presbyterianmission.org/story/april-15-2022/
- 31 Easter; presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/christianyear/resurrection-lord-easter
- 31 National Farm Workers Day, nationaltoday.com/national-farm-workers-day



Community Presbyterian's Calendar

March 2024

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|---|---|-----------|-----------|
| 25 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios | 26 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours | 27 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Session Meeting (v) 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network | 28 9:00am Prayer Group at CPC | 29 5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios | 1 | 2 |
| 3 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship with Communion 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios | 4 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours 9:30am Mission Prayer Group | 5 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Christian Education Committee meeting 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network | 6 Stephanie out of the office 9:00am NO Prayer Group at CPC | 7 5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios | 8 | 9 |
| 10 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios | 11 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours | 12 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Building and Grounds Meeting 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network | 13 9:00am Prayer Group at CPC | 14 5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios | 15 | 16 |
| 17 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 10:30am Book Discussion Group 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios | 18 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours 9:30am Mission Prayer Group | 19 Stephanie Out of the Office 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours 12:00pm Bulletin info due 5:30pm Finance & Stewardship Meeting 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network | 20 9:00am Prayer Group at CPC 12:00pm Newsletter articles due | 21 5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios | 22 | 23 |
| 24 Palm Sunday 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios | 25 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours | 26 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Session Meeting (v) 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network | 27 9:00am Prayer Group at CPC 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours | 28 6:00pm Soup Supper 6:30pm Maundy Thursday Worship | 29 | 30 |
| 31 Easter Sunday 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios | 1 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours 9:30am Mission Prayer Group | 2 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Christian Education Committee meeting 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network | 3 9:00am Prayer Group at CPC | 4 Stephanie - Vacation 5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios | 5 | 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**

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