

Community Press

A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROCHESTER, MN



“I am coming to you.” (John 14:18b)

Pentecost is one of the most significant holidays on the church calendar. It is the day churches celebrate the birthday of the church, and it is an opportunity to recommit to the church’s mission and ministry right here in Rochester and around the globe! It’s a joyous occasion where the Holy Spirit is invited to guide the church toward God’s reign through the work together as a faith community.



The Pentecost Offering, one of our denomination’s four churchwide Special Offerings, supports ministries with children, youth and young adults in our community, across the nation and around our world. As you give to this important Offering, remember that 40% of your gift remains in our church to support ministries with younger people in our community as we choose. The remainder of your Offering is forwarded to the denomination so that young adults can form a foundation for their lives through a year of service in the Young Adult Volunteer Program; youth can be among the 5,000-plus having mountaintop experiences in worship, play and faith formation at events like the Presbyterian Youth Triennium; and children can receive educational support through the Educate a Child, Transform the World initiative.

During this Pentecost season, as we celebrate God’s many gifts to the church, all are invited to celebrate building lives of faith among children, youth and young adults. These younger members of the household of faith are not just the future of the church — they ARE the church — and they are God’s gift to us. Thank you for all the ways that you give.

Music Appreciation Sunday is May 19th!



The musicians at Community Presbyterian Church bless the congregation and the worship services with their music. Recently, we welcomed Jennifer Taylor to CPC to lead this area. CPC looks forward to more wonderful music!

Be sure to attend worship on Sunday, May 19th, when we recognize the contribution our musicians make to CPC!

Community Presbyterian Church

Our Mission is to be an open-hearted, open-minded Christian community sharing a ministry of faith, hope, and love.

MAY 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	Rev. Carla Nelson
Pianist	Glenna Muir
Music Director	Jennifer Taylor
Custodian	Nancy Sanford
Office Manager	Stephanie Pasch

Ministers to the world

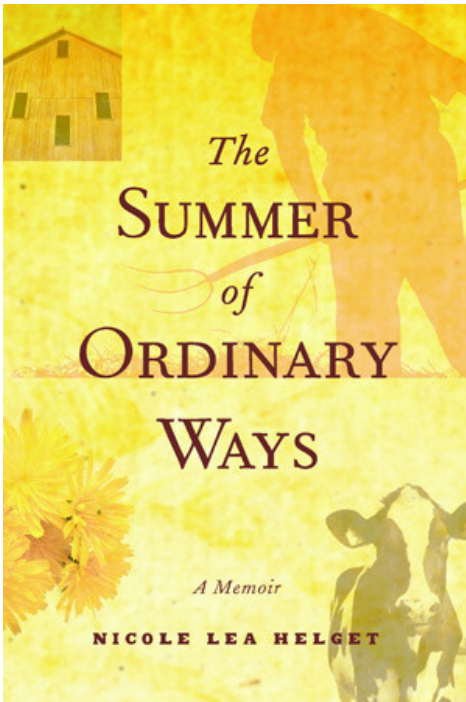
Congregation Members

Our Annual Spring Fling is set for Sunday, May 5th, noon to 4 pm.

We will be doing spring cleaning and small fix-it jobs around the church. Many hand make light work! Sign up in the narthex or by emailing the church office (office@cpcrochester.org). Labranza de Dios, our building partner, will be joining us for the spring fling and providing a meal! Don't miss this important, joint event!



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



The Book Discussion Group will meet on Sunday, May 19th, following worship. They will discuss *The Summer of Ordinary Ways: a Memoir* by Nicole Lea Helget.

From Goodreads:

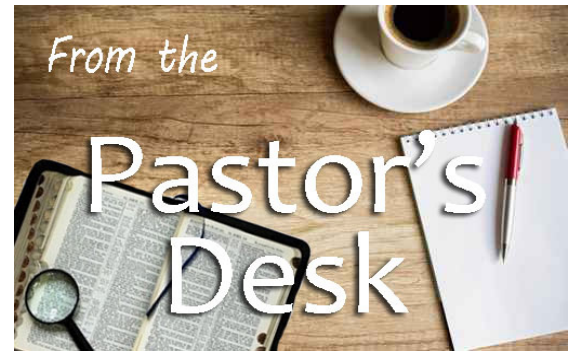
“Practicing baseball with Dad, then watching him go after a cow with a pitchfork in a fit of rage. Playing chicken on the county road with semi trucks full of hogs. Flirting with the milkman. Chasing with your sisters after Wreck and Bump, mangy mutts who prowl farmsteads killing chickens and drinking fuel oil. Dandelion wine. The ghost of a girl buried alive over a century ago. These unforgettable, sometimes hilarious images spill from a fierce and wondrous childhood into the pages of *The Summer of Ordinary Ways*.”

“Born in 1976, first-time author Helget grew up in Sleepy Eye, Minn., a deeply parochial place where her family tended 80 acres. Her father was a reluctant farmer—he played Triple-A ball for five years before the Red Sox let him go in 1977—and her mother was a reluctant parent, despite bearing six daughters. They rode an emotional roller Dad would lose himself in fierce moods, at one point pitch-forking a cow to death when it would not leave her calf, another time striking his wife with a blazing hot pan; Mom would retreat into silent glooms and lock herself away, emerging only for Sunday church services. Yet Helget also depicts her father as “a man who can be so lovely sometimes that you and your sisters collect under the wonder of him” and writes with sympathy of the genes that held her mother captive. She carries those genes herself, the author finds. “We have a way of making a man love us and suffer him for doing it,” she notes of herself and her sisters. “While we love our babies, we detest ourselves and wrestle against anything and everything to deny and prove it.” Mercifully, Helget also tells stories of a different tone that let the reader catch a One concerns Wreck and Bump, two lowly but ambitious mutts bent on fornication and chicken meat, drinking moonshine and motor oil. Most of the chapters, it must be admitted, are overcast with bleakness—what a wonder it is, then, that Helget’s storytelling feels so fresh and vital. Beautifully crafted, each chapter a balanced and snug set piece with sentences as carefully constructed as a stone wall.” —Kirkus Reviews

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Community Presbyterian Church who are we, not who do we want to be, not who do we wish we were, but who are we now at this pivotal moment in time.

I have decided that I like searching the internet with AI – it goes so much faster! As I was looking for information on Christian communities AI gathered this information for me:



1. Characteristics of Christian Community:

- A Christian community is marked by how people treat each other. The local church should strive to model Christlike attitudes.
- Believers are called to:
 - Encourage one another (Hebrews 3:13).
 - “Spur” one another to love and good works (Hebrews 10:24).
 - Serve one another (Galatians 5:13).
 - Instruct one another (Romans 15:14).
 - Honor one another (Romans 12:10).
 - Be patient with and forgive one another (Ephesians 4:32).
 - Bear one another’s burdens (Galatians 6:2).
 - Speak the truth to one another (Ephesians 4:25).

2. Living Out Love:

- Simply put, the Christian community consists of those who love Jesus and fellowship with each other.
- When the world observes the church in action, they should witness the true love of Jesus and perhaps find themselves drawn to Christ as well.

How well are we doing all of that? How are we accomplishing what do we do? What don’t we do? There are large post-it notes in the sanctuary for you to put smaller notes on with your comments.

Was it a coincidence that in an email I get every week from [The Ministry Collaborative](#) I received the poem on page 5?

Not looking at yesterday not looking at tomorrow just looking at this day we are living in who are we? Once we know who we are we can determine how we want to grow.

Rochester is having to once again look at itself and renounce hate in all its forms, as the city makes its statement, other organizations will come forward and make their own statements. The session will draft a statement for us.

Hurrying Toward the Present

by Suzanne Lummis

"No past tense permitted"

Kay Boyle from A Poem for Samuel Beckett

*Darlings, this may be the only
great escape we ever make:
start dropping your past
behind you—seeds, kernels
to be pecked up by scavengers.
You won't find your way back.*

*Or try this: package it,
mark it Was. Leave it in a locker
at the Greyhound Bus station.*

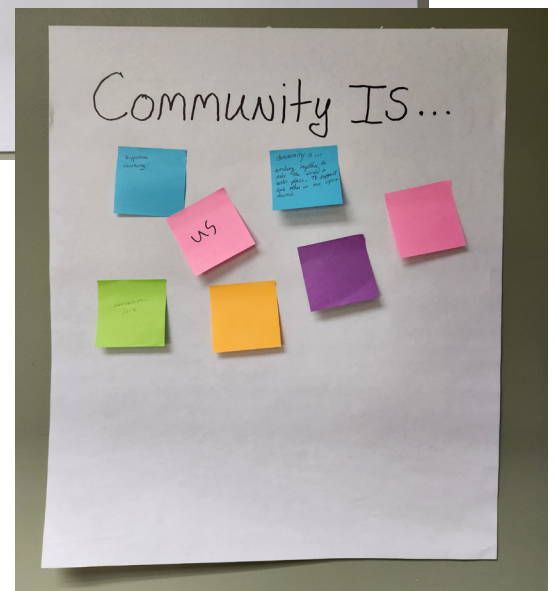
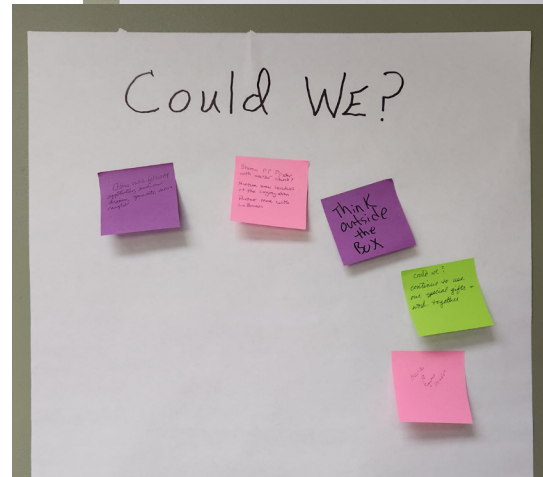
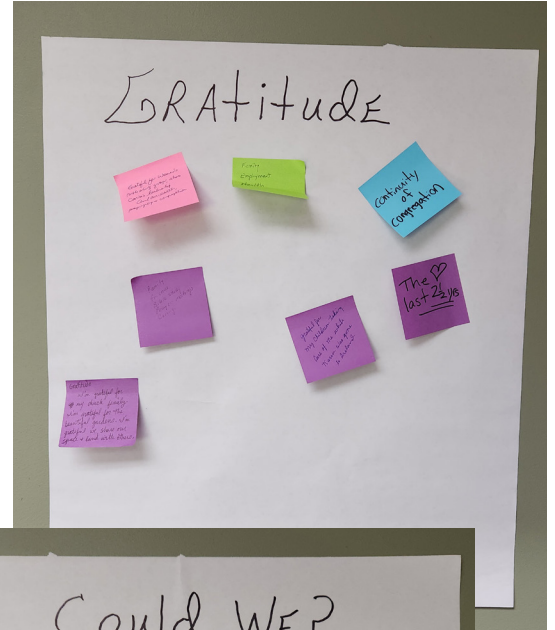
*Leave the door ajar. Let
a thief inherit it. You can bet
it'll dog him like it dogged you.*

*Step smack-flat into
the blasting present,
your heart asserting Now-Now.*

*You feel neither the pain
left behind, nor what waits
tapping its hard foot
up ahead.*

*And now, stand up the future!
Let it go on pacing and cursing
as it peers towards your whereabouts,
and the cat's eye gleam
of its watch calculates
the lateness of the hour.*

GRATITUDE WALL - what are you grateful for? Here or "out there" write it on a note and post it on the post-it note! Your contributions are important!!!



CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAY WISHES

*Birthdays are listed in the
print edition of the newsletter.
Pick one up at church!*



*Katherine Ross and Connor Meyer graduate
this spring! Look for their pictures and plans in
the June/July combined newsletter, next month!!*

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

*CPC PW Bible Study Continues
Tuesday, May 14 and 28th at 9:30 am*

• *Working for Justice and Peace* •

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN J&P CALENDAR



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

MAY

- Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month; asianpacificheritage.gov
- 2 National Day of Prayer; nationaldayofprayer.org
- 2–8 Children’s Book Week; everychildareader.net/cbw
- 6 May Holocaust Remembrance Day;
ushmm.org/remember/days-of-remembrance/resources/calendar
- 7 National Teacher Day; nea.org
- 11 World Fair Trade Day; wfto.com
- 11 Stamp Out Hunger Day; about.usps.com/corporate-social-responsibility/nalc-food-drive.htm
- 12 Mother’s Day; presbyterianmission.org/story/a-prayer-for-mothers-day
- 13 J&P Book Discussion Group online, 6:30–8:30 PM (Eastern) on Transforming: The Bible & the Lives of Transgender Christians by Austen Hartke. Register at presbyterianwomen.org/justice
- 15 Palestinian Nakba Remembrance Day; presbyterianmission.org/story/may-15-2022/
- 19 Pentecost; presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/christianyear/pentecost
- 19 Intercultural Church Sunday; pcusa.org/resource/intercultural-ministries-19226
- 22 International Day for Biological Diversity; cbd.int/idb
- 27 Memorial Day; presbyterianmission.org/story/may-30-2022

Community Presbyterian's Calendar

May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	29 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours	30 Pastor Carla out of the office 9:30am PW Bible Study 12:00pm Bulletin info due 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network	1 9:00am Prayer Group at CPC 7:30pm CPC Choir Rehearsal	2 5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	3	4
5 9:30am Mission Prayer Group 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship with Communion 12:00pm Spring Fling 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	6 9:30am Mission Prayer Group 6:00pm Building Use: Med City Tai Chi	7 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Christian Education Committee meeting 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network	8 9:00am Prayer Group at CPC 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours 7:30pm CPC Choir Rehearsal	9 5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	10	11
12 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	13 6:00pm Building Use: Med City Tai Chi	14 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours 9:30am PW Bible Study 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Building and Grounds Meeting 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network	15 9:00am Prayer Group at CPC 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours 7:30pm CPC Choir Rehearsal	16 5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	17	18 3:00pm Building Usage: Graduation Party
19 Pentecost Sunday Music Appreciation Sunday 9:30am Mission Prayer Group 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 10:30am Book Discussion Group 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	20 9:30am Mission Prayer Group 12:00pm Newsletter articles due for both June and July 6:00pm Building Use: Med City Tai Chi	21 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours 12:00pm Bulletin info due 5:30pm Finance & Stewardship Meeting 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network	22 Last Day School Children's Place 9:00am Prayer Group at CPC 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours	23 5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	24	25
26 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	27 Office Closed - Memorial Day	28 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours 9:30am PW Bible Study 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Session Meeting (v) 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network	29 9:00am Prayer Group at CPC 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours	30 5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	31	1

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**