

Community Press

A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROCHESTER, MN



Come Worship in the sun and enjoy our Garden of Life!
Sunophobe? Bring your umbrella!



**Outdoor Service
September 8th with
special guests:
Brass, Etc!**

**HELP is needed to set up and
put things away.... contact
Bruce or Ivy for how you
can help!**

The Community Presbyterian Church of Rochester and the Community Presbyterian Church of Plainview are discussing the hiring of a shared pastor position.

The sessions of the two churches have met twice, once at each church, and a third meeting is planned soon. The sessions are discussing what qualifications their congregations want in a pastor, as well as many other details. Neither church has a full-time pastor now, and each are seeking a part time pastor. It is generally felt that finding a successful applicant for a full time position is more likely than a part time pastor.

This is still very early in a process, and CPC congregation members will most certainly have an opportunity to provide input. The Rochester session members are Sue Chipman, Ivy Pillers, Lyal Powell, Aaron Simms, Amanda Ross and Sherrie Wilson. Dave Copeland is the clerk of session. Please contact them with questions or concerns. Session wants to hear from you.



SEPTEMBER 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	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

It is hard to believe that summer is almost over, but since we just collected school supplies for Gage East, I guess we must believe that it is the truth! What did you do this summer?

Did you do what you planned to do? Did you do everything you hoped to do? Or are some things still left to do? Is it too late? Can you still get them done? Do you need to get them done or is it a want to?



We have been working our way through four questions with our series from Sanctified Art, called "I've been meaning to ask..." The questions are to help us get to know each other better, to go beyond the "Minnesota nice" answers to questions like "What is your faith journey?" "What's your favorite family tradition?" and "Where does it hurt?" "What is a fear that is weighing on you right now?" "What have you learned from your grief?" "Describe a time when you felt fully seen, known, and accepted for who you are."

This week we asked, "What do you need?" by asking; "When you feel lonely, what helps you feel less alone?" "Share about a time you needed help, but did not ask for it. What do you wish you could have changed about that experience?" "Share a memory of a time someone extended care for you. What did they do and how did it make you feel?"

I wish we could have all of you together to share these questions and process how being in these groups is changing how you look at being in community with each other. I have a friend who worships with us on line – she has participated in all of the groups and has been so blessed by the conversations she has had with her small groups; she has drawn closer to the women she has talked to and really wants to continue those conversations – she doesn't think I give you enough time to talk! That is exactly what I was hoping would happen! I want you to be drawn to each other to want to fellowship more with each other. To see each other as more than someone to nod at on Sunday morning.

Our next question is much more than the last three have been and there will be a bigger break between the two parts. The introduction will happen on August 25th, but our groups will not happen until September 15th. The question? "Where do we go from here?"

"We believe courageous conversations have the power to change and transform us. We believe God bridges connections in unexpected ways. We commit to continuing the conversation."

That is the overarching question and statement from Sanctified Art, I like it because it is true – courageous conversations are what we need to be having if this congregation is going to move forward. You know that the Session is talking to another congregation about a possible joint situation that will allow you to share a pastor. This will mean you will have to really know who you are and what you want from a pastor, as well as what you do not need. You need to know who you are – that takes talking to each other in clear, honest ways.

Want and Need are two different things – what do you need to be the congregation you want to become?

AROUND THE CHURCH

BIRTHDAY WISHES

September

- 2 *Dennis Ross*
- 11 *Judy Leal*
- 20 *Sue Chipman*
- 28 *Nicole Ward*
- 29 *Ben Copeland*



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

September

- 3 *Mark and Ivy Pillers*
- 17 *Stephanie and Mark Pasch*
- 20 *Gene and Stacy Kopecky*

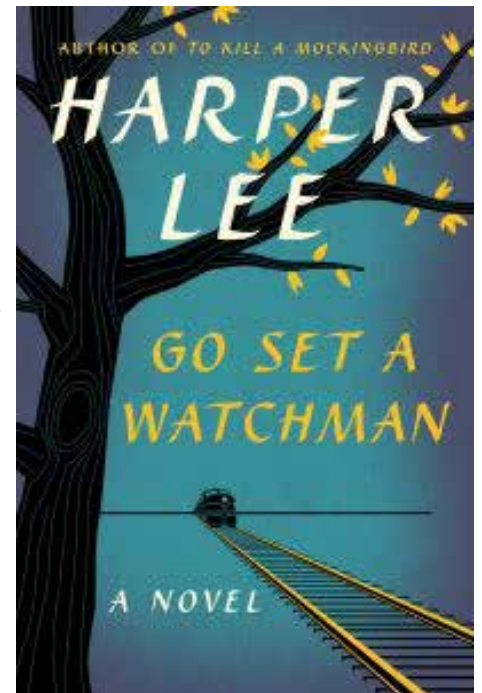
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



The book discussion group will meet on Sunday, September 15th following worship. They will discuss *Go Set a Watchman* by Harper Lee. All are welcome to join in!

From Wikipedia: *Go Set a Watchman* is a novel by Harper Lee that was published in 2015 by HarperCollins (US) and Heinemann (UK). Written before her only other published novel, the Pulitzer Prize-winning *To Kill a Mockingbird* (1960), *Go Set a Watchman* was initially promoted as a sequel by its publishers. It is now accepted that it was a first draft of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, with many passages in that book being used again.



The title comes from the Book of Isaiah in the Hebrew Bible: “For thus hath the Lord said unto me, Go, set a watchman, let him declare what he seeth” (Chapter 21, Verse 6), which is quoted in the book’s seventh chapter. It alludes to Jean Louise Finch’s view of her father, Atticus Finch, as the moral compass (“watchman”) of Maycomb, Alabama, and has a theme of disillusionment, as she discovers the extent of the bigotry in her home community. *Go Set a Watchman* tackles the racial tensions brewing in the South in the 1950s and delves into the complex relationship between father and daughter. It includes treatments of many of the characters who appear in *To Kill a Mockingbird*.



There's a place for you on Sunday mornings!

Do you enjoy reading outloud or public speaking? Liturgists are needed each and every worship service!

Do you enjoy offering hospitality in terms of a cup of coffee or tea and a treat? Each Sunday, after worship, CPC enjoys a little social time! Hosts are needed each week!

The Sunday volunteer sheet is located in the narthex - sign up there! OR [email\(office@cpcrochester.org\)](mailto:office@cpcrochester.org) or call Stephanie (507280-9291) in the office to sign up!



Join the Choir...
You'll Be Glad You Did!



MUSIC NEWS

I am very excited to begin my first full year as Music Director for Community Presbyterian Church. I can't wait to begin rehearsals for choir and handbells. I would like to meet with everyone interested in choir and handbells on Wednesday, September 11 at 7:00 pm. After deciding rehearsal days and times, I will keep the choir to rehearse and dismiss the handbells. We can always use more singers and ringers, so if you're interested, please attend the meeting.

I would also like to introduce an opportunity to the congregation. It's called "Sponsor an Anthem". The music budget is limited so I thought I would give you the opportunity to donate money for anthem. You may choose any person, event, loved one, etc... We would work together to find something appropriate for your donation. This would allow more music to be bought for both the choir and handbells while honoring special people in your lives. Contact me for more information. Thanks for your consideration.

Jennifer



PEACEMAKING AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

We live in an era of uncertainty. The uncertainty of floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes, climate change, political polarization and more. The uncertainty of aggression through war, gun violence, human trafficking and international conflict. The uncertainty of employment, inflation, illness — the list goes on.

However, humanity always has lived in an era of uncertainty in one form or another. Long ago, the Psalmist wrote: “Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me” (Psalm 23:4, NRSV). Today, as a community of faith, we claim God’s promise — you are with me.



Annually, CPC participates in *A Season of Peace* culminating with our receiving the Peace & Global Witness Offering on World Communion Sunday. This offering draws Presbyterians together and provides education and exposure to siblings in Christ who work for peace every day. Support of this offering helps encourage our church partners in Ukraine as they struggle against the trauma of war. It helps congregations begin to address the growing mental health crisis and the increase in the number of suicides in their communities. It provides resources for congregations seeking to address issues of gun violence in their communities.

This is why we give generously to the Peace & Global Witness Offering. We give because we know that every level of society needs Christ’s peace. From our congregation, where we retain 25% of this Offering to support a local organization and its important role in our community (last year we designated Southeastern Minnesota Interfaith Immigrant Legal Defense as our recipient); to the region, where 25% is retained by mid councils to support peacemaking efforts with our neighboring congregations; and to the ends of the Earth, where the remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to join the peacemaking efforts of church partners all over the globe. We join these monetary gifts with our prayers for peace and our work for justice.

All are invited to visit the Peace & Global Witness website (pcusa.org/peace-global) to learn how support of this offering helps peacemaking efforts both in the U.S. and around the world. As a community of faith, we want to deepen our commitment to peacemaking so that it becomes a visible and profound witness to our community. How might we consider an increase in our witness and our giving to the Peace & Global Witness Offering.

As Presbyterians, we claim Jesus Christ as the Prince of Peace and pattern our lives in the compassion, kindness and grace that he shows us. God is with us. May we joyfully bring that peace to all those we care for, love and serve.

The Peace and Global Witness offering will be received on Sunday, October 6th.



SOWING THE SEEDS OF PEACE.

ZECHARIAH 8:12



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

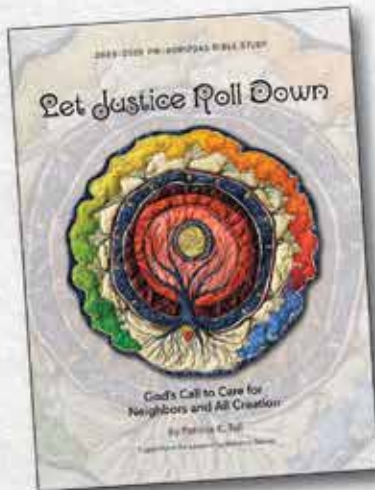
Introducing the 2024–2025 PW/*Horizons* Bible study

Let Justice Roll Down

God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation

By Patricia K. Tull

With Suggestions for Leaders by Rebecca Barnes



Patricia K. Tull, author of the 2024–2025 PW/*Horizons* Bible study *Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation*, describes her call for creation justice in this way: "When I first learned of the climate crisis, I wondered how a biblical scholar with few practical skills could help and found my purpose in learning about ecology and teaching people of faith what I could. Such is not everyone's skillset or desire, but each of us has something to do with all our hearts."

We invite you to join Presbyterian Women as we explore, with all our hearts, God's call to care for our neighbors and for creation. Readers will learn about ecological systems, the challenges we face in this time of accelerated climate change, and the possibilities available to address or counter the impact of human-made stress on our environment. Further, readers will explore theological questions that point us to act and engage, in small and large ways.

About the Authors



The Rev. Dr. Patricia K. Tull is A. B. Rhodes Professor Emerita of Hebrew Bible at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Among other publications, she is author of the 2001–2002 Presbyterian Women/*Horizons* Bible study *Esther's Feast* and of *Inhabiting Eden: Christians, the Bible, and the Ecological Crisis* (Westminster John

Knox, 2013). A Climate Reality presenter, GreenFaith Fellow, and former program director of Hoosier Interfaith Power & Light, Trisha lives on fifty acres outside of Henryville, Indiana, with her spouse, the Rev. Don Summerfield. They have six children and seven grandchildren.



The Rev. Rebecca Barnes coordinates the Presbyterian Hunger Program, addressing intersectional, underlying causes of hunger. Rebecca is a graduate of Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary where she earned Master of Divinity and Master of Art in Religion degrees in 2011. While in seminary, she authored *50 Ways to Help Save the Earth: How You and Your Church Can Help Make a Difference*, which was reprinted for distribution to the commissioners of the 2016 General Assembly of the PC(USA). She enjoys gardening with native plants and growing vegetables, hiking, yoga, reading, and time with her family that includes two young adult children and a new granddaughter.

Begins on Tuesday, September 17th at 9:30 am!
Study leaders for September are Margie and Sue!

Check out *Let Justice Roll Down: An Introduction* • PW YouTube Channel
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qieBTa9hzEw>

Links to websites used in the *Let Justice Roll Down* study

Most of this study's endnotes, as well as some of its sidebars, captions, action items, and suggestions for leaders, point to in-depth information immediately available on the web. Readers can avoid typing in the URLs themselves by finding the note on this page, <https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/bible-study/justice-live-links/>. Especially helpful for Bible study leaders and those wishing to investigate issues further.

Lesson 1: Environmental Justice

Dioxins: <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/dioxins-and-their-effects-on-human-health>

Superfund sites: https://thehill.com/homenews/nexstar_media_wire/4103533-map-shows-the-contaminated-superfund-sites-closest-to-your-home/

Endnotes

2 United States Environmental Protection Agency, "Learn about Environmental Justice," epa.gov/environmentaljustice/learn-about-environmental-justice.

4 For a timeline of the development of environmental justice from 1968 to 2016, see epa.gov/environmentaljustice/environmental-justice-timeline. The video "The Road to Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice" (youtube.com/watch?v=Sx93yKLxSyk) tells the story in the voices of many who were involved in the environmental justice movement.

6 "Toxic Wastes and Race in the United States," p. xii, available here: ucc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/ToxicWastesRace.pdf.

7 "Hazardous Waste, Race and the Environment" is available here: presbyterianmission.org/resource/hazardous-waste-race-and-environment.

8 See presbyterianmission.org/ministries/environment/earth-care-congregations.

9 See presbyearthcare.org.

10 Read here about the 2018 overture "On Responding to Environmental Racism and to Promote Environmental Justice" and its resolution, as well as subsequent actions: presbyterianmission.org/ministries/environment/environmental-issues/environmental-racism-justice.

11 Read here about the PC(USA)'s 2018 resolution supporting carbon fee and dividend: presbyterianmission.org/eco-journey/climate-change-resources/carbon-pricing.

12 Read here about several resolutions coming out of the 2022 PC(USA) General Assembly, including divestment from five fossil fuel industries. (Chevron, ExxonMobil, Marathon Petroleum, Philips 66, and Valero Energy): pres-outlook.org/2022/07/general-assembly-instructs-pcusa-to-divest-from-five-fossil-fuel-companies.

13 Read about the Church Rock spill here: "Tragedy at Church Rock: Superfunds and the Marginalization of Navajos," Intermountain Histories, <https://www.intermountainhistories.org/items/show/379>

14 Read more about the partnership of the Presbyterian Committee for the Self-Development of People with the Multicultural Alliance for a Safe Environment here: presbyterianmission.org/story/advocating-for-environmental-justice.

Online Bible concordance: <https://www.biblegateway.com/>



*A prayer for our college students...
and all experiencing transitions...*

Lord, you lead us through all of life's transitions, those we expect and those that take us by surprise, the changes we welcome and the ones we resist with all our might.

As we embark on a new semester filled with uncertainty and different ways of learning, teaching and being community, we look to you for hope and courage. Whether we gather virtually or together, we trust that you are in the midst of us, drawing us close and holding us up.

Inspire us to creativity and innovation, service and collaboration. Do new things in and through us that foster abundant life for everyone. Help us to make choices that protect the most vulnerable among us. Grant us patience with one another when stress and fear are expressed in hurtful ways. Give every member of our campuses your divine perspective that allows for grace, humility and compassion.


May our search for knowledge and purpose bear fruit in the shaping of a society that better reflects your loving kindness. In Christ's name we pray, amen.


<https://pres-outlook.org/2020/07/prayer-for-college-students-faculty-and-staff/>

FAIR TRADE MARKET

Over 20 fair and ethical trade vendors under one roof selling food, chocolate, home décor, and so much more



 **Friday, October 4, 4pm-7pm**
Saturday, October 5, 9am-4pm
Sunday, October 6, 10am-1pm

 **Our Savior's Lutheran Church**
2124 Viola Rd NE
Rochester, MN 55906



OSLCFairTrade

www.rochesterosl.org | 507-289-3021



Community Presbyterian's Calendar

September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship with Communion 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	2 Labor Day - Office Closed	3 12:00pm Bulletin info due 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network	4 9:00am Prayer Group at CPC 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours -	5 5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	6	7
8 9:30am Outdoor and Online Worship with Brass, Etc! 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	9 9:30am Mission Prayer Group	10 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Building and Grounds Meeting 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network	11 9:00am Prayer Group at CPC 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours 7:00pm Music Kickoff (both Choir and Bells meet)	12 5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	13	14
15 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 10:30am Book Discussion Group 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	16	17 9:30am PW Bible Study 12:00pm Bulletin info due 5:30pm Finance & Stewardship Meeting 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network	18 9:00am Prayer Group at CPC 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours	19 5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	20 12:00pm Newsletter articles due	21
22 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	23 9:30am Mission Prayer Group	24 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Session Meeting (v) 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network	25 9:00am Prayer Group at CPC 9:00am Pastor Carla Office Hours	26 5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	27	28
29 Pastor Carla Vacation 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 2:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	30 Pastor Carla Vacation	1 Pastor Carla Vacation 12:00pm Bulletin info due 7:00pm Building Use: Mission Aid Network	2 Pastor Carla Vacation 9:00am Prayer Group at CPC	3 Pastor Carla Vacation 5:30pm Building Use: Labranza de Dios	4 Pastor Carla Vacation	5 Pastor Carla Vacation

Community Presbyterian Church
3705 Fairway Place NW
Rochester, MN 55901



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

**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**