

# Community Press

A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ROCHESTER, MN



## everything [in] between

Meeting God in the midst of extremes

This year, we're letting the Gospel of Luke guide us through Lent. Beginning with Jesus setting his face toward Jerusalem (Luke 9:51), this worship series flows through several familiar stories—the Good Samaritan, Mary and Martha, the fruitless fig tree, the Lost Sheep, Zacchaeus, and more. Many of these stories are well-known in both sacred and secular imagination and hold significance in pop culture, church history, politics, and everything in between.

As we studied these scriptures, we were struck by how Jesus' ministry disrupted the established social, political, and religious divides of his time. Jesus intentionally pointed out cultural and political extremes to emphasize the radical, inclusive, and surprising love of God. When we study these stories in their historical and cultural context, we see how they mirror the divisions many of us experience in our families, churches, and communities today.

Our theme, "Everything In Between," invites us to navigate the polarities in our lives with more faith, intention, and openness to be transformed. You will see that each weekly sub-theme explores two supposed binaries, like "faith & works" or "rest & growth," or "grief & hope." We often consider these ideas to be opposing. However, as we explore these concepts within the scriptures, we find nuance and complexity. We find that these dichotomies are false. We might begin to see a full spectrum instead of black and white. We might find that God is present in between.

And so, this season, we invite you to look beyond black and white binaries and easy answers. We encourage you to notice the dichotomies that define our lives, but also imagine where God might be meeting us beyond the categories we create. This Lent, we're trusting that God shows up in shades of gray, rainbow hues, and everywhere in between.

***Don't miss Mr. Rogers Sunday - March 23rd. Bring your inside shoes and wear a cardigan - join in this shared worship with Plainview CPC.***



MARCH 2025

# 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 2025</u>	Sue Chipman Aaron Simms	Christian Education Finance and Stewardship Worship and Music
<u>Class of 2026</u>	Amanda Ross Sherrie Wilson Lyal Powell	Personnel and Nominating Mission Building and Grounds
<u>Officers:</u>	Dave Copeland  Joanne Powell	Clerk (Non-voting) Financial Secretary Treasurer

### 2025 Nominating Committee

Mary Meyer, Dave Copeland, Jane Burgstaler, Mary Alice Richardson  
Peggy McCarty (Deacons)

## 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 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>
Louis Bouchard Mary Meyer	Peggy McCarty Margaret Petersen	Carole Kinion-Copeland Dave Copeland

## Staff

Pastor/Head of Staff  
Pianist  
Music Director  
Custodian  
Office Manager

Jennifer Taylor  
Nancy Sanford  
Stephanie Pasch

**Ministers to the world**

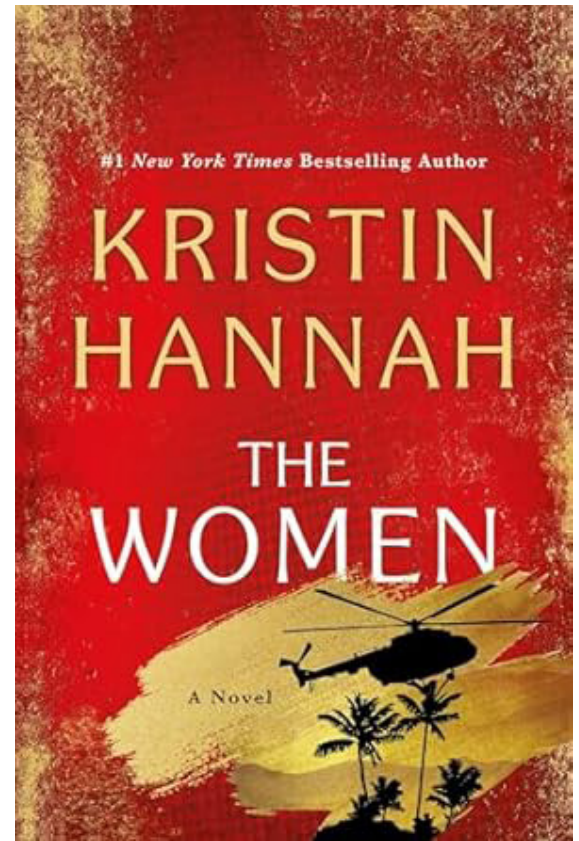
**Congregation Members**

## BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



On Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, the book discussion group will meet and discuss *The Women* by Kristen Hannah after worship. Readers need to get their own copies of the book as many have already read this 2024 book. It is not available in a library bag.

From the Rochester Public Library Website: “Women can be heroes. When twenty-year-old nursing student Frances “Frankie” McGrath hears these words, it is a revelation. Raised in the sun-drenched, idyllic world of Southern California and sheltered by her conservative parents, she has always prided herself on doing the right thing. But in 1965, the world is changing, and she suddenly dares to imagine a different future for herself. When her brother ships out to serve in Vietnam, she joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows his path. As green and inexperienced as the men sent to Vietnam to fight, Frankie is overwhelmed by the chaos and destruction of war. Each day is a gamble of life and death, hope and betrayal; friendships run deep and can be shattered in an instant. In war, she meets—and becomes one of—the lucky, the brave, the broken, and the lost. But war is just the beginning for Frankie and her veteran friends. The real battle lies in coming home to a changed and divided America, to angry protesters, and to a country that wants to forget Vietnam.” --



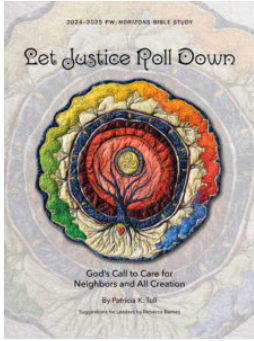
The Mission Committee would like to update the congregation on the second part of the title of Margaret B. Nelson’s gift to CPC. The \$10,000.00 donation was given to The Reading Center Dyslexic Institute of Minnesota located in Rochester near Costco in 2024. The funds will be used to provide free tutoring for students in six public schools in the Rochester and the Twin Cities area. Gage East has been involved in having some of the children receive tutoring for dyslexia from The Reading Center. Having children learn to read what something that Margaret Nelson was very involved in. Success in reading leads to success in life. On Sunday, February 23rd, Evalina Day spoke at worship about the programs CPC’s gift will support. The Reading Center is most appreciative of this gift. CPC is most appreciative of Margaret’s generosity and the opportunity to share this gift within our community.



**The Reading Center**  
DYSLEXIA INSTITUTE OF MN



# PW WOMEN, CELEBRATIONS AND PRAYERS



**CPC PW Bible Study  
will resume on  
March 11 at 9:30 am!**



**CPC has two prayer groups that meet regularly. The Monday Mission Prayer group usually meets the third Monday of the month at 9:30 am. The Wednesday morning prayer group meets weekly at 9:00 am.**



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

**HAPPY  
ANNIVERSARY**

I know that *the Lord*  
is always on  
the *side of right*.  
But it is my *constant*  
anxiety and *prayer*  
that I and  
this nation should be

*On the Lord's side.*  
—Abraham Lincoln

If my people...will humble themselves and pray...and turn from their wicked ways,  
then will I...forgive their sin and will heal their land.  
2 CHRONICLES 7:14 (NIV)

During WWII, an advisor to Churchill, organized a group of people who dropped what they were doing every night at a prescribed hour for one minute to collectively pray for the safety of England, its people and peace. This had an amazing effect, as bombing stopped.

The United States of America, and our citizens, need prayer more than ever! If you would like to participate, each evening at 8:00 p.m., stop whatever you're doing, and spend one minute praying for the safety of the United States, our troops, our citizens, peace in the world, that the Bible will remain the basis for the laws governing our land and that Christianity will grow.

**Pick up your laminated prayer card at church to use as a reminder. Thank you to Judy Robb for bringing this idea up and providing the cards.**

# Seeds of Service 2025

**Who:** People of all ages (8-100+can register)

**When:** April 11-13, 2025 (7 pm on Friday until 3 pm on Sunday)

**Where:** Clearwater Forest Camp and Retreat Center

**Cost:** \$100/camper (donations encouraged)

**Leaders:** This event will be led by a team including...

*James Eiden*, Clearwater Forest Intern/Green Camp Certification Lead  
[eidenjames11@gmail.com](mailto:eidenjames11@gmail.com) OR (651) 605-1970

*Pastor Jerad Morey*, Minnesota Council of Churches Director of Strategic  
 Relations and Forest Therapist with Wild Path Forest Therapy

*Molly Stoddard*, Pollinator Ambassador

*Kent Montgomery*, Central Lakes College Natural Resources Instructor and  
 Clearwater Forest Environmental and Outdoor Education Professional

*Madee Luhrs & Anice Lucas*, Clearwater Forest Program Coordinators

## ***What is the Seeds of Service Retreat?***

The purpose of this retreat is to provide dedicated time and energy to completing service projects at Clearwater Forest. These projects will largely focus on our goal of becoming a [Green Camp](#). In order to do this, we are working to reduce our environmental impact in meaningful and sustainable ways.

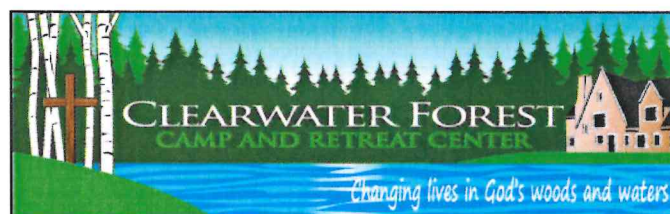
## ***Why are we doing this? It is part of the Mission of Clearwater Forest!***

Clearwater Forest is a ministry of Christ called to provide faith-building Christian programming, nurture an active Christian community, and **be a faithful steward of God's Creation**.

***So what are we actually going to do? We will be broken into teams to complete one or more of these projects:***

- Planning and planting a garden with focus on pollinators
- Implementing a composting system
- Helping with maple syruping
- Implementing waste reduction strategies
- Other tasks as determined by the Green Camps Needs Assessment and Minnesota Power energy audit

To join us, register at [https://clearwaterforest.campbrainregistration.com/!](https://clearwaterforest.campbrainregistration.com/)



“We must have the courage to join together to imagine, create, and construct, with hope and humility, systems that pursue life.”



***Embodying Solidarity  
with Indigenous People  
by Becoming Kin***

**A conversation  
with Sarah Augustine**

Executive Director,  
**The Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery**

Tewa Pueblo, author, scholar, mother, teacher, conflict mediator, international advocate for the rights and interests of Indigenous peoples.

Sponsored by Repair Communities for Makoke Ikikcupi/ Dakota Land Recovery

**Assisi Heights Spirituality Center**

**Sunday, March 30, 2-4 pm**

**Public welcomed!**

# Community Presbyterian's Calendar

March 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>23</b></p> <p>9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 2:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>6:00pm Great Room Use: Med-City Tai-Chi 6:30pm Joint Session Meeting</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Session Meeting 7:00pm Great Room Use: Mission Aid Network</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>9:00am Prayer Group at CPC 6:30pm Jubellation Handbell Rehearsal 7:30pm CPC Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>5:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>1</b></p>
<p><b>2</b></p> <p>9:30am Online and Onsite Worship with Communion 2:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>6:00pm Great Room Use: Med-City Tai-Chi</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>12:00pm Bulletin info due 7:00pm Great Room Use: Mission Aid Network</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Ash Wednesday 9:00am Prayer Group at CPC 6:00pm Lenten Soup and Bread 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Worship</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>5:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p>
<p><b>9</b></p> <p>9:30am Onsite and Online Worship 2:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>6:00pm Great Room Use: Med-City Tai-Chi</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>9:30am PW Bible Study 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Building and Grounds Meeting 7:00pm Great Room Use: Mission Aid Network</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>9:00am Prayer Group at CPC 6:30pm Jubellation Handbell Rehearsal 7:30pm CPC Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>5:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>6:30pm Great Room/ Library Use: SE MN ASD Social Group</p>	<p><b>15</b></p>
<p><b>16</b></p> <p>9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 10:40am Book Discussion Group 2:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>9:30am Mission Prayer Group 6:00pm Great Room Use: Med-City Tai-Chi</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>12:00pm Bulletin info due 5:30pm Finance &amp; Stewardship Meeting 7:00pm Great Room Use: Mission Aid Network</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>9:00am Prayer Group at CPC 6:30pm Jubellation Handbell Rehearsal 7:30pm CPC Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>12:00pm Newsletter articles due 5:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p>
<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Mr. Rogers Sunday 9:00am Quarterly Deacons Meeting 9:30am Online and Onsite Shared Worship with Plainview CPC 2:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>9:30am PW Bible Study 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Session Meeting 7:00pm Great Room Use: Mission Aid Network</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>9:00am Prayer Group at CPC 6:30pm Jubellation Handbell Rehearsal 7:30pm CPC Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>5:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>
<p><b>30</b></p> <p>9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 2:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p><b>31</b></p>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>12:00pm Bulletin info due 7:00pm Great Room Use: Mission Aid Network</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>9:00am Prayer Group at CPC 6:30pm Jubellation Handbell Rehearsal 7:30pm CPC Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>5:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios</p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p>

*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](http://www.cpcrochester.org)**

**Contact CPC: 507-280-9291  
Church office: [office@cpcrochester.org](mailto:office@cpcrochester.org)**