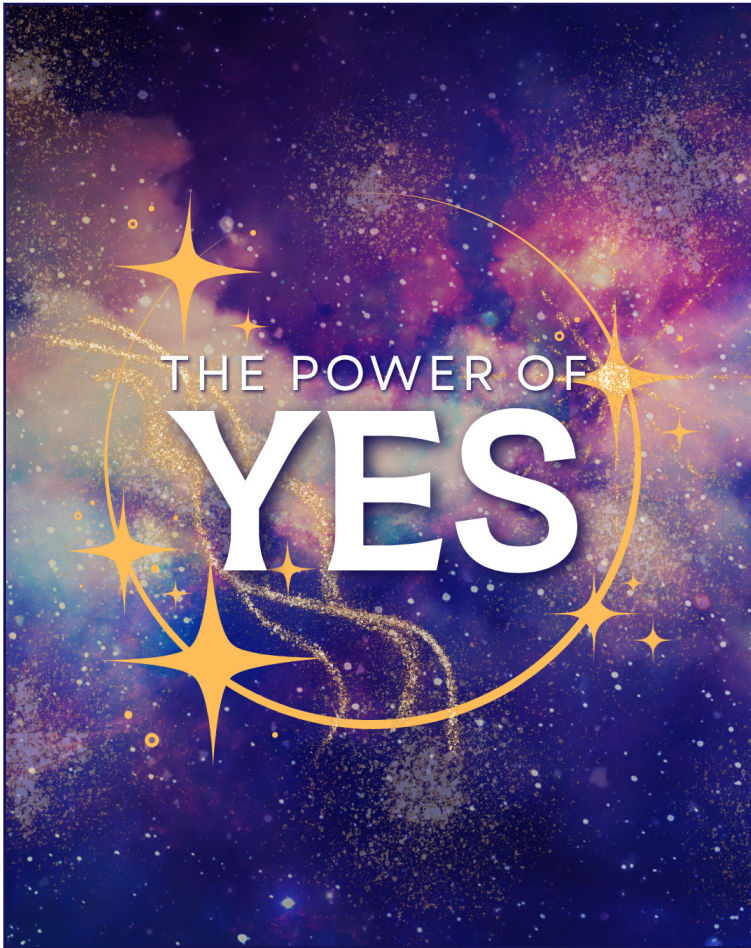


Community Press

A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROCHESTER, MN



This Advent: The Power of Yes

In this liminal time, there are so many reasons to not say yes. Even the small yeses in our daily lives feel riskier somehow. Decisions about where we put our money, our time, our energy, our confidence, and our faith feel more important than ever during these volatile times. We come from a history of people who said yes. Throughout the story of the people of God, brave and faithful, everyday people said yes to God. In Advent, these yeses are even more significant.

What does it take to get to yes? Why does it matter? Why does it matter that we believe this? This is a story that we tell, that isn't just on a page or in ancient tales, but one that lives in our bones, and calls to us to say our own yes when we are called into what God is doing now.

*The Christmas Joy Offering
will be collected December 21nd and 24th.*

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we lift up past, present, and future leaders of the church. God has blessed the church with incredible leadership in every time and place, but those leaders often need to be supported by their communities as well. This Offering provides support for Presbyterian church workers and their families in their time of need and leadership development and education for communities of color at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.



DECEMBER 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

Dr. Tianyao Xie
Jennifer Taylor
Nancy Sanford
Stephanie Pasch

Ministers to the world

Congregation Members

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Birthdays are listed in the print edition of our newsletter! Pick one up next time you are at church!



ADVENT



Pick up your devotional in the narthex!

**Christmas Eve Worship
will be at 6 pm on December 24th!**

During Advent, daily messages will be available “to expand and deepen your spiritual walk through Advent towards Christmas.” You’ll be able to pick up a devotional beginning Advent I (November 30). Another option is to receive daily messages via text. These daily texts are different from the devotional. Please see the information below about signing up for texts/notifications. There will also be different daily messages on Facebook. Check it out this Advent!

Pick a way to receive messages for Daily Texts:

- If you have a smartphone, get push notifications. On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link: rmd.at/ga2hfb Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You’ll be prompted to download the mobile app.
- If you don’t have a smartphone, get text notifications. Text the message @ga2hfb to the number 81010. If you’re having trouble with 81010, try texting @ga2hfb to (608)467-4108. Note: you’ll be asked if you are a student (s) or a parent (p). Choose either one. The application was designed for schools, but will work for our purposes.

If you received daily texts in the past, you’re likely still on the list and you don’t need to re-sign up.

* Standard text message rates apply.

EVENTS IN DECEMBER



Pancake Breakfast on Sunday,
December 7th after worship!
Sign up in the narthex if you are
interested and available to help!



There will be a **Christmas Tea on Sunday, December 14th at 2:30 pm** at Plainview Community Presbyterian Church for the women of both churches. They will be serving a lunch with cookies, social time, and music. Please sign up in the narthex. We need to RSVP by December 3rd! We will gather at 1:45 pm at CPC to carpool.



Stewardship letters and intention sheet were mailed the middle of November. If you have not received one, there are extras on the table in the narthex. Please plan to return the intention sheet (the pledge sheet) by Sunday, December 7th so that session can put together a realistic budget for 2026! Thank you!

How about an outing with your CPC church family to Mankato, Minnesota?!

“This celebration of holiday lights for the Greater Mankato area and region builds on past traditions and promotes the communities we serve, while raising non-perishable food donations for those in need. Admission is free for everyone. Non-perishable food and cash donations are accepted and appreciated.”

Check your schedules and sign up in the narthex to pick out a date! We'll also need some drivers for this fun adventure! Tentatively, we will plan to gather at 4 pm at CPC to carpool. You can either bring a sack dinner to eat in the car or plan to eat at the concession stand in Mankato. The event runs from November 28-December 31 in the evenings. More information about the event can be found here:

<https://www.kiwanisholidaylights.com/>



The Malawi Project by Peggy McCarty

Malawi is a landlocked country in SE Africa. It is a very poor country but the people are very community minded and hospitable. The children start participating in family survival at an early age. The main food is often nsima, a porridge made of water and wheat or corn or whatever grain they have access to. Many people still cook their food over an open fire. Since they are trying to keep their forests, the empty rolls we send are first stuffed with shredded paper and paraffin sent with hygiene packs, hand tools and birthing packs. Other churches provide hygiene packs as well as birthing packs. Hospitals often lack basic supplies for mothers giving birth, hence the birthing packs.

Malawi is 85% Christian of some sort. Approximately 75% of the population is under the age of 30. In 1999, after 6 years of study and investigation, The Malawi Project was created to help the people become self reliant in building schools, hospitals, churches and public buildings. They are a democracy and been able to maintain this government for many years. The first project was providing clean water. Previously, families carried water from lakes or rivers, often hours of work.

Many thanks for providing empty rolls for cooking fires!@



**Ronald
McDonald
House**

Gan Preschool (the preschool that meets at CPC) is hosting a food drive for the Ronald McDonald House. The collection bin is in the back hallway. They will collect food through the first week of December and then deliver it. CPC members and friends are invited to participate.

Pantry Staples

Individually Wrapped Snacks | Heat & Serve Soups, Pastas & Meals
Macaroni & Cheese | Hamburger Helper | Cereal | Pop-Tarts
Applesauce | Fruit Cups | Fruit Snacks | Granola Bars | Popcorn | Sports
Drinks | Coffee Creamer | K-Cup Coffee Pods | Baking Essentials
Baking Mixes | Vegetable Oil | Jelly

AROUND THE COMMUNITY



Light in the Storm Agenda Launch & Anti-Authoritarianism Strategy Training Saturday, December 13, 2025 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM CT Minneapolis Convention Center, 1301 2nd Ave S., Minneapolis, MN 55403

Thousands of ISAIHAH and Faith in Minnesota leaders from across the state will come together to launch our agenda through 2027 and plan a path in this moment to protect our state, neighbors, and families in the face of rising authoritarianism. Together we are going to make Minnesota a place where families across race, place, and religion can thrive. There will be buses to take the participants from Rochester. Talk to Mary Alice if you have questions.

More information and Registration can be found at:
<https://secure.ngpvan.com/ynRIqYiqZkO8JmuFnKMjaw2>

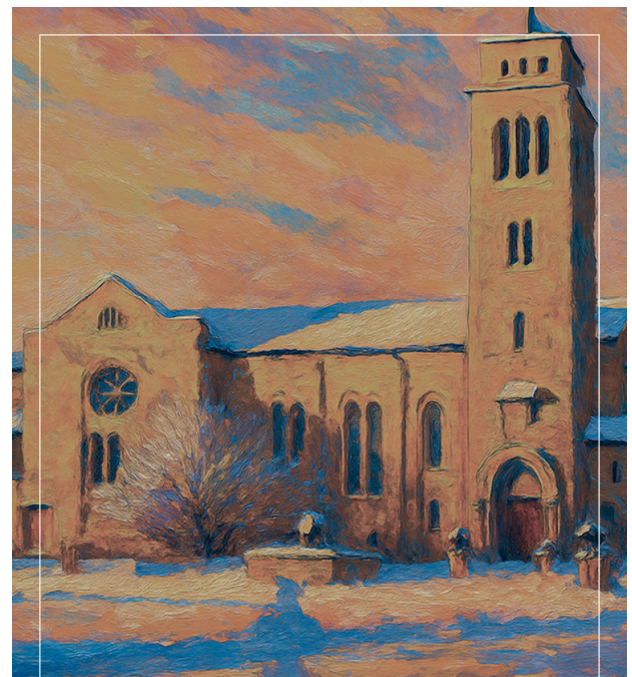


🎵 Tis' the season... for TUBAS! 🎵

Join The Landing for a free holiday concert filled with festive cheer as tuba players from across Minnesota come together to play your favorite Christmas carols and holiday tunes. Sing along and enjoy some truly “tuba-tastic” times!

Saturday, December 20th, 12:00 PM
Christ United Methodist Church
400 5th Ave SW, Rochester, MN 55902
This event is free and open to the public!

Come be part of the tradition that began in 1974 at Rockefeller Plaza — Tuba Christmas! Click here for details and join the celebration: <https://www.facebook.com/events/2157780571396049>



Christmas at Assisi: *O Radiant Dawn*

featuring Choral Arts Treble and Ensemble Singers

December 12-14, 2025
Lourdes Chapel, Assisi Heights

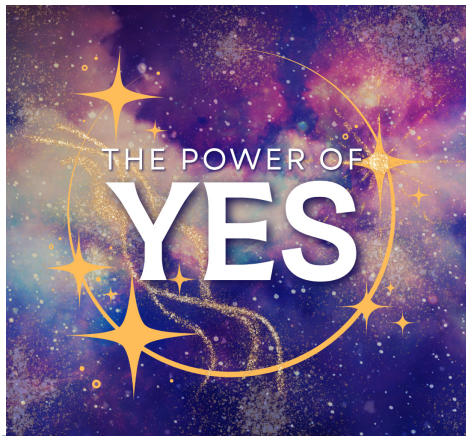
choralartsensemble.org



December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 Advent 1 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 10:30am Greening of the Church 2:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios	1	2 12:00pm Bulletin info due 7:00pm Great Room Use: Mission Aid Network	3 8:00am Prayer Group 6:30pm CPC Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Jubellation Handbell Rehearsal -	4 5:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios	5	6
7 Advent 2 Stewardship Sunday 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship with Communion 10:30am Pancake Breakfast 2:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios	8 9:30am Mission Prayer Group	9 12:00pm Bulletin info due 6:30pm Building and Grounds Meeting 7:00pm Great Room Use: Mission Aid Network	10 8:00am Prayer Group 6:30pm CPC Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Jubellation Handbell Rehearsal	11 5:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios	12 6:30pm Great Room/ Library Use: SE MN ASD Social Group	13
14 Advent 3 9:30am Onsite and Online Worship 1:45pm Christmas Tea (2:30 in Plainview) 2:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios	15	16 12:00pm Bulletin info due 5:30pm Finance & Stewardship Meeting 7:00pm Great Room Use: Mission Aid Network	17 8:00am Prayer Group 6:30pm CPC Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Jubellation Handbell Rehearsal	18 5:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios	19	20 12:00pm Newsletter articles due
21 Advent 4 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 2:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios	22 9:30am Mission Prayer Group	23 12:00pm Bulletin info due 7:00pm Great Room Use: Mission Aid Network 7:30pm Session Meeting	24 Office Closed 8:00am Prayer Group 6:00pm Christmas Eve Worship	25 Office Closed Merry Christmas! 5:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios	26	27
28 9:00am Quarterly Deacons Meeting 9:30am Online and Onsite Worship 2:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios	29 Office Closed	30 Office Open 12:00pm Bulletin info due 7:00pm Great Room Use: Mission Aid Network	31 Office Closed 8:00am Prayer Group	1 Office Closed Happy New Year! 5:30pm Great Room Use: Labranza de Dios	2	3

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 the church office: 507-280-9291
or email office@cpcrochester.org**