

FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

The light was dim. Welcoming the contemplative mood of the Ash Wednesday service, I bowed my head in prayer. However I confess that my prayer was detracted by my tattered purple clerical stole. The edges of its purple fabric were completely frayed. The white embroidery threads were unraveling. It wasn't surprising that this beloved stole looked a bit worn. After all, it has visually declared Advent and Lent for twenty-three years. I just hadn't noticed it. In those meditative worship moments, I thought about how my favorite purple stole reflected the Lenten journey to the cross. For as people of faith, we know we often stand before God a bit rag tagged, with frayed edges, threadbare souls, and tattered behavior. We also know that God always receives us, forgives us, and restores us despite our shabbiness. We experience resurrection over and over again. It truly is God's gift of abundant grace. As Easter people, in a faith community, we are called to emulate God's grace – to be, so to speak, grace-generous people.

During my years at GPC, I have experienced that grace from you. I have been late to meetings completely missed a few meetings. I have called when I shouldn't have and didn't call when I should have. I have stumbled over words – even stumbled over my own two feet. I have warmly greeted you at the door calling you by the wrong name. And remember the Sunday when I served the juice before the bread!?!?! I could go on and on. Indeed, through the years we have accepted each other as human beings, created by God, and forgiven by God. It has been a blessing to be in a community that lives the resurrection.

On Easter morning, we will stand together, rejoicing in the wonder of the empty tomb and the new life that it shouts to people of all times and places. For the discovery of the risen Lord is not simply a onetime event – but is an on-going, each and every day process. In the words of the familiar Easter hymn, “Christ the Lord has risen again, Christ has broken every chain, Alleluia.” Indeed, in the fray of our lives, we discover the grace of God restoring us to new life.

Carol Anne

SPRING CLEAN UP

It may not feel like it or look like it but Spring is coming!



- Do you take pride in your church home?
- Do you like free coffee, donuts and treats?
- Are you looking for a way to help, but don't have a lot of time to commit?
- Do you love fresh air and (maybe) sunshine?
- Do your kids or grand-kids enjoy running and playing with their friends at church?
- Do you enjoy spending time with your GPC friends?
- Are you looking for something the whole family can do together?
- Do you like to feel a sense of accomplishment, knowing you are helping out a good cause?
- Is God calling you to get more involved in your community?

If **YES!** Then join us on **SATURDAY MAY 3rd 8:30am to ?** – come for an hour or all day, whatever you can do to help for our SPRING CLEANUP. If not you, then who? Questions, contact Dan Charcholla, Brandon Falkner, or any member of GPC Board of Trustees. If this day does not work for you and you still want to help, let us know! There are tasks that can be undertaken right now at your convenience, we do not need the snow to disappear, or May 3rd to arrive.

Unique Opportunity

Each month, the Deacons send “thinking of you” cards to our shut-ins. It is a nice connection and we would like to share it with the congregation. Once a month, typically the third or fourth Sunday of the month, cards will be in the Fellowship Hall after church for the congregation to sign. You may sign one or all, one time, or every month. It is just a way for different people to connect with our members who have a difficult time getting to church on Sunday. An announcement will be made in church on the Sundays that the cards will be in the Fellowship Hall.



If you would like to send your own greeting, please email Barb Walence wwalence@rochester.rr.com, or the church office@gatespres.org and we will provide an address for you. Thank you all for continuing to minister to all!



FUS!ON SUNDAY: Kirkin' O' the Tartan

Celebrating our Scottish Heritage and the ways in which God weaves us together in a unique way here at GPC. Dust off the kilt and wear your plaid to represent our diverse yet inclusive heritage.

DEACONS' PAGE

Please keep in thought and prayer:

Arleen Tandy recovering from surgery

Irene and Peter Derry's grandson having health issues

Mike Winn recovering from surgery.

Fran Paro's daughter **Dianna** facing school and family pressures



Joys:

Dorrett and Fitzroy Crosdale announce that their son, **Brandon** is engaged to be married.

Congratulations to Chad and Mary (Harder) Kaufman on the birth of their daughter **Sophie Rose** on February 28th. Proud grandparents are **Kay and John Harder**.

REMINDER TO DEACONS:

The next Deacons' meeting is Monday, April 21st at 7:00 p.m. in the Adult Lounge.

REBECCA CIRCLE meets on Monday, April 8th at 11:30 at the church to carpool. We will be lunching at the Apple Tree Inn.

TABITHA CIRCLE'S next meeting is Tuesday, April 8th at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Frona Rossman.

THE PRAYER SHAWL GROUP meets next on Tuesday, April 1st in Room 16 at 2:00 p.m.

Parents of 2014 High School, College, or Graduate School Students:

Please call the church office at 247-5292 or email us at office@gatespres.org to let us know of your son's or daughter's graduation!

SNOWBIRDS: Don't forget to let the church office know when you have returned to Rochester so that we can make sure your newsletter goes to the correct address.

MEN 2 MEN

Men 2 Men will have breakfast Sunday April 27th at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. We will study the life of Noah (a man that walked to a different drum beat) during our fellowship. Suggested donation for the breakfast is \$5.00. Sign up sheet is on the kiosk.

From YCC

It's a busy time for the Young Children Committee! Fortunately, the energy that our children bring to our programs is contagious! Please make note of these upcoming events:

- Palm Sunday, April 13th: Preschool through 6th Graders have been asked to hand out palms prior to worship. Parents please note that children should arrive by 9:30am to participate in this opportunity.
- Children's Sunday, June 8th
- Summer Family Fun Event: Sunday afternoon, July 20th at Springdale Farm! More information will be provided in upcoming Harbingers.

Please note that the success of our Young Children programs is dependent upon the grace and generosity of volunteers! Please prayerfully consider volunteering to teach Sunday School, work in the Nursery & Toddler Rooms, or join the Young Children's Committee. We and our children will thank you!

Yard Sale

The Great GPC Yard Sale will be held on June 21st this year. Yes, it's later than usual, but we hope to make it the BEST EVER, and with your help, we will! So, in keeping with our Lenten theme of "The Abundance of Enough", set aside those items that you don't need or use, and donate them to the Yard Sale! There will be a planning meeting on Tuesday, April 22nd at 6:30pm in Room 3. Please join us!

ALSO.....

Looking for the flowers in your garden? We hope so because we need lots of flowers for the yard sale on June 21st. Under Cam Mossgraber's leadership (235-1647) and Sue Mancini's (235-8099) help with the plants, we will have another great sale!!

Some of the items we need are lids from copier paper boxes and 3 sets of carpenter horses for the display area.

A colorful mosaic of a white dove with its wings spread, holding an olive branch. The background is a vibrant mix of blue, red, yellow, and green tiles.	<p>GPC ADULT RETREAT "Peace Be With You" Saturday, April 12th 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Notre Dame Retreat House, Canandaigua, NY \$20.00 Sign up now!</p>	A photograph of a sandy beach with the word "PEACE" written in large, dark letters in the sand. The ocean waves are visible in the background.
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Looking for a Way to Grow in Faith?

Every Wednesday evening 6:30-7:30pm in the Jr. High Lounge, a community gathers to nurture one another through spiritual formation, prayer, and Biblical exploration. Whether you have been reading the Bible your whole life or this is your first time, you are welcome!

You don't have to but if you would like to read ahead for that week, here is a look at what the scripture text will be. A great website to find the scripture texts in different versions:

www.biblegateway.com

During April we will reflect on the following texts:

Wednesday, April 2nd	John 11:1-45
Wednesday, April 9th	Matthew 21:1-11
Wednesday, April 16th	John 18 & 19
Wednesday, April 23rd	1 Peter 1:3-9
Wednesday, April 30th	Luke 24:13-35

Who are the GPC Elders for 2014?

The Elders of GPC recently attended a Session retreat and one of the action items to come out of that retreat was to be sure that the members and friends of GPC know who the current Elders are that make up the Session of Gates Presbyterian Church.

The GPC Elders:

Linda Beattie	Carrie Dykes	Kris Ohman
Bob Binko	Cheryl Fehnel	Alex Thornton
Gordon Chapman	Sheri MacFarlane	Eric Vail
Gladstone Crosdale	Jim Meddaugh	Lucia VerSteege
Peter Derry	Tami Pignone	Kathy Coons, Clerk of Session

We remind you that there is an Elder standing in front of the communion table after worship each Sunday to receive your comments. You are encouraged to call the church office 247-5292 should you wish to contact a specific Elder. Please know that your thoughts or concerns are important to the mission and ministry of GPC.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP FROM LIFETIME CARE

We invite courageous souls who know the devastation of loss to this welcoming place of support and healing as we travel our shared journey together. Our goal isn't to forget our loved ones or the life and memories we shared with them – it is to let it become part of who we are so that we no longer wear our hearts on our sleeves – but tuck it in our heart and live our lives more fully.

Open Group meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the Month from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. at Gates Presbyterian Church in the Adult Lounge. No charge to attend. For more information about this group or to pre-register, please call Rayann Ranzenbach at (585) 301-8535 or email:

rayann.norm@yahoo.com or Barbara Maggio at (585) 733-2550 or email:

barbm1@frontier.com

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING CALLED:

A Congregational Meeting has been called for Sunday, April 27th (last Sunday in April). The purpose of the meeting is to dissolve the pastoral relationship of our Associate Pastor, review separation ethics between the congregation and departing pastor, report on the transitional pastoral leadership, and elect a congregation nominating committee.

Introducing the GPC Pastoral Advisory Ministry Team (PAMT)

In November 2013, the idea of forming a Pastoral Advisory Ministry Team was discussed and approved by Session. The PAMT's mission is to support and maintain an open and healthy relationship between the pastors and members of the congregation.

Our responsibilities include: 1) openly discussing with and counseling the pastors on matters concerning their effectiveness; 2) discussing their relationships with members of the congregation, and 3) and being mindful of the health and well being of our pastors and their families.

Ultimately the goal of the PAMT is to enhance the effectiveness of the mission and ministry of GPC.

The members of the PAMT are:

Dotty Meddaugh	dottym@rochester.rr.com	293-3745
Dick Stewart,	cdstewart72@frontiernet.net	247-4868
Eric Vail	evail@vail-insurance.com	889-5491
Irene Ward	iward@landsman.com	889-5932

You are encouraged to discuss your thoughts and ideas with us because your contributions will become topics for future discussions for us.

Please pray for us as we move forward in the Holy Spirit.

MEMBERSHIP AND HOSPITALITY

The Membership and Hospitality Committee would like to extend a big thank you to all the volunteers that helped out with the parking lot valet service this past winter and early spring. Winter seemed like it would never end this year and we sure had our share of snow and wind and so many cold days. Once again, it was very pleasing to hear so many thankful comments about this service. Coming to Church early on a cold, windy and snowy Sunday is not something everyone looks forward to, but the volunteers braved the elements and never hesitated when asked to help out. This extra effort offered on Sundays, some of which were very, very cold, shows just how willing people of GPC are to step right in and lend a helping hand. This is truly a caring Church family and we should all be very proud of the willingness these volunteers have shown to help others out. Thank You To All Of You!



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Thursday, April 17:

Maunday Thursday Service at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, April 18:

Good Friday Service at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 20

Easter Services: Sunrise Service at 6:00 a.m.

Easter Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.

PUBLIC WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR APRIL

Date	Lay Reader	Front Door Greeter	Usher Team	Deacon Team
April 6	Eric Vail	Tami Pignone	4	3
April 13	Gordon Chapman	Bob Binko	3	4
April 17	Jim Mossgraber	Lucia VerSteeg (Maunday Thursday service)		
April 18	Jim Mossgraber	Eric Vail (Good Friday service)		
April 20	Carrie Dykes	Cheryl Fehnel	1	5
April 27	Malina Endulovski	Sheri MacFarlane	2	6

Communion Team C:

Communion by Intinction. All Team C report to pastor's office on Sunday, April 6.

GPC Lockup for April: Buz Bauman

YOUTH GROUP IN APRIL

Junior Highs

Seneca Park Zoo Overnight- April 4/April 5

5:00 pm – 9:30 am

Meet at and return to GPC

SENIOR HIGHS

Lazer Quest – April 6 – 12:15-3:15 – Bring a sack lunch – Meet at GPC.

YOUTH CALENDAR

- April 1 - 7:00 - Congregational Conversation
- April 4 - 5:00 - April 5, 9:30 - Junior High Youth Group Zoo overnight
- April 6 - 9:00 - Youth Choir
- 10:00 - Worship
- 11:30 - Junior and Senior High Church School
- 12:15-3:15 - Senior High Youth Group - Lazer Quest
- April 13 - 9:00 - Youth Choir
- 10:00 - Worship
- 11:15 - Junior High Church School
- April 20 - 9:00 - Youth Choir
- 10:00 - Worship/Easter
- April 27 - 9:00 - Youth Choir
- 10:00 - Worship
- 11:15-1:30 - Confirmation Class
- No Church School/Fusion Sunday

CONFIRMATION CLASS in April

April 27 – 11:15- 1:30

Pizza, Congregational Meeting and class – an afternoon of unique, interesting and highly intriguing events!

Summer Youth Work Projects!!!!!!

Junior High – July 21-25

Senior High – August 3-9



Junior High Retreat

Where: Watson Homestead, Painted Post, NY

When: 9:am, May 17 through May 18, 6:30; leave from and return to GPC.

Cost: \$50.00

Registration: Put permission slip and check in the box in CA's office by May 11th.

If you would like to donate to the Jamaican Projects in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill out the form below and send it with a check to the church office (1049 Wegman Road, Rochester, NY 14624) as soon as possible. Make checks payable to Gates Presbyterian Church. We are hoping to purchase a desk and chair for the principal of the Green Island Basic School plus other items for the school.

NAME OF DONOR (S) _____

ADDRESS _____

IN HONOR OF or IN MEMORY OF (please circle appropriate phrase)

Please check appropriate donation:

Jamaican Projects _____

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development. Recognizing that the hope we have in Christ is lived out in our hope for one another, we respond with gifts that help our sisters and brothers around the world find the hope for a brighter future. We at GPC have a long history of participating in this offering. It is collected on Palm Sunday, April 13th. An envelope was included in your Harbinger.