

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

I happened to open a piece of junk mail the other day from a popular school book publishing company. The mailing included tips for parents to help their children transition back into school. Reading over the article, I thought some of the suggestions were pretty helpful for us all to think about how to approach transitions at home and church!

Send a Signal! ...Provide gentle reminders when it is time to complete an activity before starting a new one.

...Summer schedule ends on September 7th. Sunday school, Spiritual Journeys and Youth Group all Kick-Off on the 14th!

Move Along With Song... Have fun with theme-related transitions — waddle like ducks or gallop like horses!

... Well that may not appeal to everyone! But anyone in first grade and older are welcome to join and learn more about the ways we praise God and grow in faith through music. Consider being a part of Junior, Youth, Adult or Bell Choir.

Plan Ahead! ...Make sure physical spaces are ready and clean.

... In case you haven't noticed, the offices have changed places! Committee Mailboxes are now located in the copy room. The associate pastor and administrator offices have switched places and spruced up with fresh coats of paint.

Keep Moving. Try setting a timer to keep turns moving on favorite items and activities.

...Anticipating the transitions here at GPC the session recognized the "timer" had gone off with our current mission statement and it was time for us to clarify our mission/vision for the next chapter of our congregational life. In June, session introduced our new mission statement:

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we worship God, follow Jesus and love our neighbors. We will have more opportunities this fall to keep moving forward and live into God's call for us.

Wake Up Gently ...Not everyone wakes up at the same time. Provide flexibility— giving warm hugs, offering sips of juice, tying shoes, and engaging in quiet conversations and activities.

... Not everyone transitions at the same speed and it can be difficult to "wake up" to new changes. Please know that the staff and session of GPC are available and willing to hear your concerns and questions.

Be Enthusiastic! Make transitions exciting...

...We are very excited to welcome our Associate Supply Pastor, Katie Jasa, to GPC this month!

Notice the transition taking place around you in your daily lives and here at church. My hope and prayer is that we will feel empowered by the Holy Spirit to name the changes around us. We will worship and give thanks to God for the emerging opportunities to be Christ's witness in the world with and for our neighbors who we are called to love.

Peace, *Melissa*

SPIRITUAL FORMATION JOURNEYS

We are very excited to let you all know about the excellent programming from the Spiritual Formation Committee. This fall our journey will be titled "Daily Bread." Not only will we explore the many ways the food we eat goes from its source to your table, but we will talk about our Spiritual Daily Bread and where it comes from (God) to you. Starting September 14th through November 23rd we will offer many opportunities for you to eat in community. We will learn from going to a farm to learn and understand the migrant worker and how important they are to hearing from people in our Presbytery about the snap program which helps give people food security in their lives. If you have any questions, please contact one of the Spiritual Formation Committee members.

Sunday, September 14 – Second Hour: 11:15 a.m. - Rev. DeRosia – Bible discussion'

Sunday, September 28 – (After the potluck lunch) Meet the Bread Man – approx. 12:45pm in the Fellowship Hall:

"Chet Fery's Bread Time Stories and More" Chet will demonstrate the art of bread making and how the random act of giving it away (10,000 loaves in his case), can change our lives and create a world community that is caring, supportive, and secure. Make one loaf and give another away. He will bring enough for 35 loaves, so sign up early to reserve a spot.

Looking ahead in October: A Visit to Hurd's Orchard (October 11th or 12th); Free Educational class through Rural Migrant Ministries, Thursday, October 30th. An optional fundraiser dinner for \$50 per person follows. Location: Temple Beth Kodesh, 2131 Elmwood Avenue.

ANNUAL WOMEN'S CANDLELIGHT DINNER HOLD THE DATE!!! – Tuesday, December 9th

By popular demand, we are returning to Brook-Lea Country Club for our annual Women's Candlelight dinner beginning at 6pm. Also, back by popular demand is Mitzie Collins and her group of Dulcimer musical instruments! If you were unable to attend last year, you are in for a treat! We will be collecting personal items for ABW again this year. Tickets will be sold in early November. Any questions??? Call Barb Snaith at 247-9066.



ATTENTION ALL GPC WOMEN!!

Planning is beginning for a one day women's retreat at the Notre Dame Retreat House overlooking Canandaigua Lake on Saturday, November 1st. The cost is \$20.00 per person and includes a continental breakfast and a full lunch. We are looking for women to help plan the retreat. Please contact Barb Snaith (247-9066 or email: basnaith@frontiernet.net) by September 21st if you are interested in helping to plan this wonderful retreat!





Meet Katie Jasa! Our New Associate Supply Pastor

You might be wondering: Who is Katie?

Katie Jasa is from Lincoln, Nebraska and studied at the University of Chicago, majoring in English and Religious studies. After college, Katie spent another year in Chicago doing service work through the PC(USA) as a Young Adult Volunteer.

She graduated from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary in 2014. While in seminary she enjoyed planning worship on campus and being part of the campus theater troupe. Katie has worked as a seminary intern with two congregations, one in Baltimore and the other

in Louisville. She was a student chaplain at the University of Louisville Hospital. Katie has felt called to pastoral ministry since starting college, and is currently a Candidate with Homestead Presbytery. She is married to Phillip, who is finishing up his doctorate in English literature. They enjoy baking together, and playing board games with friends. She also loves reading science fiction books and quilting.

What is an “Associate Supply Pastor” and what will she be doing?

An “Associate Supply Pastor” means the position is a contract for one year. As GPC discerns what God wants us to do and be in the next phase of its ministry, this temporary pastoral relationship will help provide pastoral coverage for the congregation. Katie will work alongside all the staff, supervised by Melissa and session. She will attend staff and “mega meetings.” She will help plan, participate and lead worship, preaching at least once a month. She will attend and even lead a few session meetings. Katie will provide pastoral care support to the congregation. Most of Katie’s job will be to work with the Young Children and Youth Committees, youth advisors, youth groups, and confirmation class.

In addition to her church duties we will also be helping to nurture her pastoral identity. We hope to help her foster a healthy church/life balance; make sure she seeks time for relationship with God in her own life including a healthy use of Sabbath time. This is a great opportunity for us all to learn and grow!

Is Katie ordained?

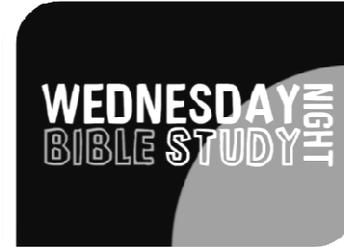
Technically, Katie is a “Candidate for Ministry” under care of the Homestead Presbytery. The Committee on Ministry in our presbytery will work with the Committee on Preparation for Ministry in Homestead to examine Katie for ordination. Hopefully, Katie will be examined at the September 23rd presbyter meeting at Webster Presbyterian Church. Watch your bulletin for more info!

Well that was quick... we thought it took forever for Presbyterians to find a pastor?

The Presbytery of Genesee Valley, through the Committee on Ministry (COM), is an active participant with a congregation as it seeks a new pastor. COM recognizes that during a time of transition a congregation needs time to discover its call, especially true after a long term pastor leaves or retires. While we need the time to determine what God wants for us next, the responsibilities of the pastoral duties remain. The Presbytery recognizes these needs and is flexible while we figure out “next steps.” We were able to hire Katie relatively quick because this is a 1 year contract position and not permanent.

So, what are the “next steps?”

The first step is to welcome Katie! She will worship with us on September 7th. If we can get her relocated from Chicago in time, we may even have a chance to say hello at the September “Mega- Meeting.” Then session and Melissa, with the support of our Presbytery Leader (Rev. Amy Fowler) and other resources, will faithfully lead us in looking at a staffing/ leadership model that best reflects who God is calling us to be in the future.



Every Wednesday evening 6:30-7:30pm in the Junior High Lounge (16), 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 September we will reflect on the following texts:

Wednesday, September 10th

Romans 14:1-12

Wednesday, September 17th

Matthew 20:1-16

Wednesday, September 24th

Philippians 2:1-13

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY: PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING!!!

In order for the annual Ham Dinner (Saturday, October 25th) to survive, we are in earnest need of help!! Let’s don’t let this traditional event fall by the wayside. Volunteer now to be a co-leader (training provided) and/or kitchen helper. Urgent need is for someone to help and then eventually succeed Al Waugh. Kitchen helpers are needed prior to the event and for a significant time during the event. Respond to the office, Al Waugh, or Jim Meddaugh. Thank you!!

GPC All Committee Night a.k.a. "Mega Meeting!"

Have you felt God calling you to use your gifts and skills in a new way? Are you asked over and over again to volunteer in some way because of your professional career, but secretly always wanted to try something different? Have you read newsletter blurbs like this before and glanced over them because you doubt your continuations would matter? If you answered "YES" to even one of these questions you are welcome to join the community of faith in action that gathers the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm for the GPC All Committee Night. We begin in the sanctuary for a time of prayer, committee announcements and calendar check-in before the committees break out into rooms around the church for separate meetings. If you currently serve on or are interested in learning more about the following committees, join us!

Spiritual Journey's	Budget/ Stewardship
Membership/Hospitality	Youth
Mission/ Peacemaking	Public Worship
Young Children	



Hospital Calls

The Pastors and members of the Board of Deacons make hospital visits when notified of a hospitalization. Please contact the church office (247-5292) if you know of such a need. Note that because of privacy concerns, hospitals do not contact pastors nor share information with the church, so you must call to request a visit.



Home Communion

Teaching and Ruling Elders, Deacons, and other caregivers participate in the celebration of home Communion. During these visits to homebound GPC members, those serving the Sacrament of Communion take time to visit with the care-receiver, especially inquiring about their needs and how the caregiver may pray for them and their loved ones. To request home Communion, please contact the office by phone (247-5292) or

email office@gatespres.org

September 28th 2014 Congregational Potluck

Following Worship

Bring your own table service (should include a bowl) and a dish to pass. Water and Coffee will be provided
Come celebrate the mission and ministry of GPC!



DEACONS' PAGE

Please keep in thoughts and prayers:

Don Bernhart recovering from surgery.

Pat Carnahan at the cottages at Unity.

Hannah Walker dealing with health issues.

Rich Isaman recovering from a broken leg.

Heartfelt prayers for **Jennifer and Ben Olsen** on the birth of their twin boys **Everett Andrew** and **Parker Hayes** born July 18. Sadly, Parker was with them only a short while and died July 19. Everett has made good progress, but still has several weeks before he can come home. Jennifer is the daughter of **Dennis and Debbie White**, and the granddaughter of **Dean and Sonia Davis**.

Sympathy to:

Bill Horne and family on the death of his wife, **Mary**.

Velta Rouchon and family on the recent death of her father, **Milton Walker**, in Florida.

Nancy Smythe and family on the death of her husband, **Lynn** on July 8th.

The **Family of Arlene Tandy** who passed away on July 6th.

The Family and Friends of **Fred Boeff** who recently passed away.

Congratulations to:

Ben Walence and Lauren Quinn on their marriage on August 16th in Naperville, IL They make their home in Portsmouth, VA. Proud parents are **Bill and Barb Walence**.

Dear GPC Friends,

What is the PERFECT retirement party? It is gathered friends: old and young, far and near cherished memories quilted into a stunning work of art absolutely fabulous Jamaican food a calypso band, trumpet, guitar, marimba, and choir love infused in scrapbooks and videos a complete set of luggage, a Green Acre Gardening Center gift card, a hydrangea bush, a suitcase full of goodies, cards heart felt speeches that made me cry prayers that reminded me of the ultimate source of all God's Spirit reflected in people I love and the most EXCELLENT "Happy" flash mob ever and on and on and on. THANK YOU GPC for the PERFECT retirement party!!!!!! Without a doubt, your amazing generosity and energy made June 29, 2014 a life-long source of joy for me. I felt so much love from you and continue to savor the day and all the ones that came before it doing God's work with you!

Much, much love,

Carol Anne

Our family would like to thank our church family for all their cards, prayers, visits, support, and love during our difficult time.

Bill, Debbie, Dick, Doug Horne and our families

REMINDER TO DEACONS:

The next Deacons' meeting is Monday, September 15th at 7:00 p.m. in the Adult Lounge.

THE PRAYER SHAWL GROUP will meet on September 2, at 2:00pm in Room 16.

TABITHA CIRCLE will meet at the home of Frona Rossman on Tuesday, September 9 at 7:00 p.m.

REBECCA CIRCLE meets on Monday, September 8th at the church starting at 10:30 a.m. Bring a lunch. Drinks and dessert will be provided.

THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE meets each month on the third Thursday at 7:00 p.m. September's date is Thursday, September 18th. Help with our library is always welcome!

PARENTS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS:

Please be sure to let the church office know your college student's address. We like to send them the Harbinger each month!

OCTOBER HARBINGER articles are due in the office by noon on Wednesday, September 17th

SAVE THE DATE: NOVEMBER 22ND
THE 37TH ANNUAL CHURCH MOUSE BAZAAR

YOUNG CHILDREN

We hope everyone had a very relaxing and enjoyable summer.

Fall brings us our Kickoff for Sunday School on Sunday, September 14th! We are looking forward to another year of learning and growing in God's grace!

MEN 2 MEN

Men 2 Men will have breakfast Sunday, September 28th at 8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will begin a study of Fruit of the Spirit from Galatians 5:22. Suggested donation for the breakfast is \$5.00. Sign up is on the Kiosk.



THANK YOU to all the talented musicians who graced us with their music this summer!

JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH CHURCH SCHOOL

BEGINS SEPTEMBER 14TH!!

Junior Highs

7th and 8th graders: Bring your faith questions and opinions AND explore together with the infamous Todd Pimm. This amazing experience will happen in the Junior High Lounge after worship every Sunday (11:15) except Fusion Sundays.

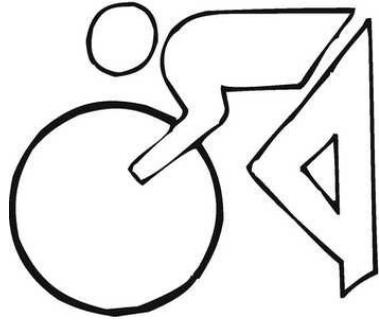
Senior Highs

9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders: Our 2014-15 Second Hour curriculum continues with a journey through the New Testament. Come learn how Jesus reset expectations on what it means to truly follow God. We'll also learn how the early church was formed and even have a class about that crazy book of Revelations. Best part – there's not homework! The curriculum is part of a four-year program called the "Compass" where we explore World Religions, Old Testament, New Testament and Current Issues Through a Faith Lens. With Mary Hadley. This all happens after church (11:15) every Sunday (except Fusion Sundays) in the Senior High Lounge.

YOUTH CALENDAR

Sept. 2	- 7:00 – Youth Committee Meeting
Sept. 7	- 10:00 – Worship
SEPTEMBER 14 – KICK-OFF EVERYTHING SUNDAY	
	- 9:00 – Youth Choir (first rehearsal)
	- 10:00 – Worship
	- 11:15 – Jr. and Sr. High Church School
	- 6:00 – Youth Group Kick off
Sept. 21	- 9:00 – Youth Choir
	- 10:00 – Worship
	- 11:15 – Jr. High and Sr. High Church School
Sept. 28	- 9:00 – Youth Choir
	- 11:15 – Pot Luck Lunch

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!!!! Wheel -A- Thon 2014!



**OCT 5 - 12:30 – 7:00
IT'S FUN
AND
IT'S FOR MISSION!!!!**

YOUTH! Ask folks to pledge you (minimum pledge amount to ride is \$10.00). Tell them you are biking 20 miles in order to support youth mission work projects. Pull out your bike - find your helmet. Meet at Henpeck Park on October 5 – 12:30. Ride for 20 miles on the Erie Canal. Supper at Perinton Park and return to GPC at 7:00. Great day, great work, great friends, great food and lots of stops along the way!

**YOUTH GROUP
KICK-OFF PARTY
September 14th**

6:00 – 8:00 – GPC

**7th-12th graders
Watch snail mail for
more info**

SINGING OUR FAITH: INVITATION TO JOIN CHURCH CHOIRS

ADULT CHOIR

Dear fellow GPCer,

We would like to invite you to join us at the first Adult Choir rehearsal of the new program year which will occur on Wednesday, September 10th at 7:30 p.m. in the Adult Lounge. The Adult Choir is led by Roy Smith.

Our first Sunday service back will be September 14th. If any new friends are interested in joining us for the fall, they will be showered with compliments and affirmation! Our times together are filled with fellowship, fun, some challenges and lots of joy. We have found singing to be a great form of faith expression and worship, and invite you to join us.

YOUTH CHOIR

All current Youth Choir members and anyone interested in joining should meet in the Adult Lounge at 9 AM on September 14th for an informational meeting and breakfast. The Youth Choir rehearses on Sunday mornings from 9-9:30 AM.

JR. CHOIR TO START SOON 🎵 🎵 🎵

Join with other 1st- 6th graders in building a group that
C omes together to have fun and learn more about God's love
O ffers a chance to get to know one another even better
M akes friends, even with those a little younger or a little older
M akes an effort to listen to and encourage each other
U ses music to praise God, and as a form of prayer
N otices ways to be helpful in working together
I nvests time, energy and enthusiasm in preparing for worship
T rys to treat each other kindly, making a place just for
Y ou

Yes, we would love to have YOU as a part of our group! We meet most Sundays from 11:15 – 12:15, and once a month make a wonderful, heartfelt contribution to morning worship at Gates Presbyterian. Keep in mind the following Sundays:

Sunday, September 7th - a sneak preview for new members or those considering joining our choir. Come to Room 4 for a few minutes after morning worship to meet Mrs. White, try on a robe, and have a snack. (Yes, the snacks are for returning members, too- drop by and say hi!).

Sunday, September 14th- first rehearsal. We will meet in Room 4 from 11:15 – 12:15.

Come join the fun!

BELL CHOIR

This is an invitation for the congregation to come and join bell choir in the fall. We meet Wednesdays from 6:15-7 in Room 2 and we play in worship about once a month. Minimal music reading skills and rhythm required. Our first meeting will be September 10. Hope to see all the familiar faces and maybe some new ones!

**AN UPDATE
FROM GPC PASTORAL ADVISORY MINISTRY TEAM (PAMT)**

The Pastoral Advisory Ministry Team has been active this year meeting with our pastors and with Session members. As a result of the conversations we have had with them, the PAMT's mission has changed to concentrate solely in the support of the pastors. The care of the members of the congregation has always been one of the responsibilities of the Session of GPC.

Our responsibilities include: 1) provide an opportunity for the pastors to reflect in confidence about personal concerns, hopes, ambitions, and frustrations; 2) encourage the pastors to plan time for continuing education, recreation, exercise, relaxation, family time, and solitude; and 3) be mindful of the health and well being of our pastors and their families.

The goal of the PAMT is to enhance the effectiveness of the ministry of our pastors.

You are encouraged to discuss your thoughts and ideas about the mission and ministry of GPC with any Elder currently serving on Session.

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

Dotty Meddaugh
Dick Stewart
Eric Vail
Irene Ward

WHO ARE GPC ELDERS FOR 2014?

The Session of Gates Presbyterian Church is a body of elected Elders empowered by the Holy Spirit to guide the mission and ministry of GPC.

The GPC Elders for 2014 are:

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



Are you seeking deeper ties to a community of faith? Have you been worshipping at GPC and wonder what membership might mean for you? If you are interested in becoming a member and have questions, you are invited to an "Exploring Membership" gathering on **Sunday, September 21st at 11:15 (following worship) in the Adult Lounge.**



GPC MEMORIAL GARDEN

The Memorial Garden was created as a hallowed place for the interment of ashes of our faithful departed. This garden has been dedicated in the spirit of closing the ministry from birth to death.

The Memorial Garden increases our choices by providing a sacred space, not a cemetery, on our church grounds to remember those who have passed away. The Garden is also used as a special gathering place for prayer and meditation.

The Memorial Garden has been financially self-sustaining and continues to be maintained through the use of Memorial Garden donations, fees paid for the interment of cremains and the sale of engraved bricks that will be placed in the memorial walkway.

Sales of the engraved bricks continues to be available and forms can be found in the information rack outside the church office and on the GPC website www.gatespres.org under the Links tab – Forms & Documents. The cost for an engraved brick is \$100. Donations to the Memorial Garden are always welcome.

If you would like more information regarding the Memorial Garden, please contact a member of the Memorial Garden Committee: Ed Coons, Rev. Melissa DeRosia, Carmella Judd, Mary Hughes, Babe Meyer, Barb Snaith, or Eric Vail.

PUBLIC WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lay Reader</u>	<u>Front Door Greeter</u>	<u>Usher Team</u>	<u>Deacon Team</u>
Sept. 7	Tom Ward	Lucia VerSteeg	3	4
Sept. 14	Todd Pimm	Gordon Chapman	4	3
Sept. 21	JoAnn Vander	Sheri MacFarlane	5	5
Sept. 28	Laura Keiling	Eric Vail	6	7

Communion Team B: Communion by Intinction. Team B please contact your captain, Tami Pignone for instructions.

LOCK UP SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

September – Todd Pimm
October – Tracy Burkovich

MISSION NEWS:

Gates Presbyterian Folks: Help youth, support mission, enjoy fall, and have fun while doing it! The Wheel-a-thon is for EVERYONE!!

The youth would love to have you join them on the very manageable 20 mile bike ride on the beautiful Erie Canal path. All ages are invited though children under 12 must have an adult ride with them. Many stops along the way and snacks! Minimum pledge requirement is \$10.00 BUT...you can help other ways by making a pledge (youth will be collecting pledges starting mid September), staffing a rest stop and/or supplying drink and/or snack for the rest stops. This fundraiser supports youth summer mission projects. It helps to keep the cost per person manageable for families.

THANK YOU for all your support in providing new underwear for Cameron Street and all the food you brought in for SWEM. You are AWESOME!!!!

NEWS FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE:

As promised, the Budget and Stewardship Committee has redesigned the GPC Time and Talent form. Several changes need to be pointed out:

- Every person needs to complete their own form (no more 2-person forms)
- The form is one-sided and has far fewer items
- Data collection is not tied to the annual financial campaign

You should find a form in this Harbinger. Feel free to make copies or ask the office for extras. Bring the completed forms to the office, drop in the collection plate, or mail them to the church office.

Thanks for your patience and for your faithful providing of this information so vital to the church!

DO YOU HAVE ROOM IN YOUR HEART?

The Children, Youth, and Family Department at Catholic Family Center specializes in foster care services for young people from around the world whose lives have been torn apart by war, tragedy, and oppression. These children come from countries such as Nepal, Congo, Honduras, Guatemala, and Eritrea. CFC's unique Foster Care program provides for the safety and life needs of refugee youth in the present and prepares them for a successful future as independent adults. The program is in need of dedicated families to provide a home for the youth and assist them with their growth and path to independence.

For more information on how to become a foster parent please contact:

Gina Montanarella 546-7220 x4830 or gmontanarella@cfcrochester.org OR

Jennifer Berenson 546-7220 x4850 or jberenson@cfcrochester.org