

## FALL CLEAN UP

Whether we like it or not summer has come to an end and **FALL** is upon us!



- 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 November 8th starting at 8:30am – come for an hour or all day, whatever you can do to help for our FALL CLEANUP. If you have any 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.



### Hold the Date!

#### Annual GPC Women's Candlelight Holiday Dinner

Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at Brook-Lea Country Club beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Buffet Dinner - Cost: \$20.00 per person

Every Sunday in November beginning on Sunday, November 2nd, money will be collected in the Fellowship Hall. We will be collecting donations again this year for ABW and will need a volunteer to take to ABW the next day or so after our dinner. Any questions, please contact Barb Snaith at 247-9066.

## MEN 2 MEN

Men 2 Men will have breakfast Sunday, November 23rd at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. We are studying the Fruit of the Spirit from Galatians 5:22 and the theme for November is peace. Suggested donation for the breakfast is \$5.00. Sign up sheet is on the Kiosk.

## FROM THE PASTOR:

Dear Friends,

As late fall comes to the United States, we are overwhelmed with images of tables weighed down with golden turkeys and platters overflowing with sumptuous foods. Laughing people, who seem to have their every food desire filled on the Thanksgiving holiday, surround the tables. Yet the reality is that throughout the United States and the world many people go hungry. Data released in September 2013, by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) reveals that in 2012, 14.5 percent of Americans, which included more than one in five children, lived in households that had trouble putting food on the table.

In 2013 the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s denominational leaders engaged in a nationwide effort to draw attention to the gross injustice of poverty and hunger in the U.S. and to open new opportunities for education, understanding, compassion, and solidarity. The SNAP/ Food Stamp Challenge is not only a call to hunger and poverty awareness, but also a call to action. We are called by God to be in the world and to seek to make it a better place. Changing hearts and minds are the starting point of building a movement and improving policy.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly the Food Stamp Program) currently serves more than 47 million participants in about 23 million low-income households. Enrollment in the program has almost doubled over the past five years as more people struggle to make ends meet. The Challenge simply means choosing for one week to live on the average amount of food stamp support. That means spending only a designated dollar amount per day, per person, on everything that you eat, including breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks, and drinks.

In worship on **November 9<sup>th</sup>** Susan Orr, Presbyter of Mission & Advocacy for Genesee Valley, will lead worship and a discussion following about her experience engaging in this challenge last year and how we can participate **November 16<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>**. We will have a follow up conversation on **Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>** after worship to talk about our experiences. Here is how it works:

### SNAP/ Food Stamp Challenge Guidelines

1. Each person should spend a set amount for food and beverages during the Challenge week November 16<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> (starting with breakfast on Sunday morning). In the state of New York it works out roughly \$6 per day/ per person.
2. All food purchased and eaten during the Challenge week, including fast food and dining out, must be included in the total spending. We suggest planning and buying all of your food for the week at once, maybe on the Saturday before the challenge

3. During the Challenge, only eat food that you purchase for the project. Do not eat food that you already own (this does not include spices and condiments).
4. Avoid accepting free food from friends, family, or at work, including at receptions, briefings, or other events where food is served.
5. Keep track of receipts on food spending and take note of your experiences throughout the week.
6. Pray and use the SNAP/Food Stamp Challenge Devotional. Can be found at: <http://www.pcusa.org/resource/snapfood-stamp-challenge-daily-devotions/>
7. If you are unable to keep this fast, take heart and keep trying.
8. Consider donating your food cost savings to hunger related programs such as: Food Link, SWEM, Cameron Community Ministry, or St. Joseph's House of Hospitality. You can make your check payable to GPC and in "Memo Line" write "Hunger" the funds will go to one or more of the organizations listed above.

While living on a food stamp budget for just a week cannot come close to the struggles encountered by low-income families week after week and month after month, it does offer those who take the Challenge a new perspective and greater understanding. I recognizing for many in our community and our congregation this challenge is not a choice. My hope and prayer is that our faith community will take this opportunity to stress the importance of our biblical mandate as Christians to ensure that hungry people of the world, including those in our own nation, are foremost in our thoughts, our prayers, our ministry, and our advocacy. Will you join me in taking on the challenge as part of your personal preparation for the Thanksgiving season?

- Melissa



### Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014

All Saints Day will be recognized in worship on November 2<sup>nd</sup> to remember the "saints" who have died in the past year. We recognize our members in prayer and give you an opportunity to recognize your own loved ones who have passed away this year. Join us for this meaningful service.

## DEACONS' PAGE

Please keep in thought and prayer

**Ralph O'Keefe** in rehab at the Episcopal Home

**Marge Westfall's granddaughter** suffering with medical issues

**Doris Falke** recovering from health issues

**Hannah Walker** dealing with medical issues

**Pat Carnahan** now in long term care at the Cottages at Unity Hospital

**Dorace Belknap** – recovering from a broken arm after a fall

**Ed Coon's** brother recovering from surgery

**Clarene Cress** recovering from an injury

Joys:

**Wendell Burtner** celebrating his 89<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

Sympathy:

To the family of **Dorothea Rickner** who died on October 14<sup>th</sup>.

## REMINDER TO DEACONS:

The next Deacons' meeting will be Monday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY GROUP

meets next on Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in Room 16.

## REBECCA CIRCLE

meets on Monday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. at GPC in the Adult Lounge. Bring your lunch. Drink and dessert provided.

## TABITHA CIRCLE

meets on Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at GPC in the Adult Lounge.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

On the first Monday of every month (10:00am to 1:00pm) a group of volunteers from GPC partner with Salem United Church of Christ Soup Kitchen to prepare and serve a meal to those in the city of Rochester who are hungry. No experience is needed! Please contact Melissa DeRosia ([Melissa@gatespres.org](mailto:Melissa@gatespres.org) or 247-5292) if you are interested in a one time opportunity or ongoing commitment.



## From the Young Children's' Committee:

**Sunday School** is well underway. Please take time to thank our volunteer teachers for sharing their time and talents with our children. Please note: Many thanks to those who have completed and returned Registration Forms for their child(ren). For those still outstanding, please complete and return to your child's Sunday School teacher as soon as possible. Sunday School teachers will have blank forms if you need them.

**Family Advent Festival:** We will again celebrate the start of the Advent season with our Family Advent Festival on Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. Additional details will be published in the December Harbinger and worship bulletins in the coming weeks. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the kiosk by mid-November.

**Fusion Room:** We are working to revive Fusion Room activities in the coming months. As a reminder, Fusion Room activities are opportunities for members and friends of GPC to spend time with a group of our children.

- **What happens in the *Fusion Room*?**

The Fusion Room is a place in which generations are "fused" together to share the creative gifts that God has given to us all! Members of the congregation share their gifts on a one time basis with a Sunday School class or classes of their choice. While Fusion Sundays offer opportunities for interactive worship, Fusion Room activities are intended to provide a more intimate interaction between an adult, or group of adults, with a small group of children in Preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. "Through the Fusion Room, children understand more about how we live out our faith in everyday life."

- **I don't understand. Please give me an example.**

Jane Presbyterian loves to read stories to children. She contacts the Young Children's Committee and requests to lead the Fusion Room on October 6<sup>th</sup>. She wants to read a story to 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. The Young Children's Committee asks the classroom teacher if this will fit into his/her schedule. On November 9<sup>h</sup>, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher takes his/her class to The Fusion Room. Jane Presbyterian greets the children in the room and reads a story to them. The students and teacher return to their room when the story is over.

- **Who can lead a *Fusion Room* activity?**

Anyone!!! If you would like to lead a craft, read a story, or if you play an unusual musical instrument, or have a talent that you'd like to tell the children about, please contact a member of the Young Children's Committee or Katie. We hope to hear from you!

## WE NEED YOUR IDEAS!

Do you have ideas for a fundraising event for GPC? The Stewardship and Budget Committee would like to know about them! As God calls us to open our horizons, we will be discussing new fundraising ideas at our January 2015 meeting. Your ideas can be big or small. Describe your organized plan to us in as much detail as you can. Some of the things that you should include are:

- the time of year the event would take place
- is it a GPC event or GPC/community event
- the location or space needed
- designate how a portion of the profits should be used, if you want
- who will chair the event (This must be a specific person – you or someone who has agreed to do this.)
- what types of skills are needed to run the event

You can send your ideas to Linda Beattie at [Linda.btt@gmail.com](mailto:Linda.btt@gmail.com) or 3 Loyalist Ave., Rochester 14624.

**Family Advent Festival**  
**Friday, December 5**  
**6:00-7:30**

**“Our Hearts Cry Out!”**

Save the date. More information to follow.

## ADVENT & CHRISTMAS DECORATING

The Public Worship Committee will be hosting an Advent & Christmas decorating gathering on Saturday, November 29, 2014 at 9:00 am.

We need many volunteers to help bring in and set up the Christmas tree as well as decorate the sanctuary in preparation for the season of Advent and Christmas.

Many of you have expressed a desire to help out in the past and for that we thank you. Please come and have some fun with us as it is a special opportunity for fellowship and bringing in the spirit of the holiday season.



**Confirmation Class:** Don't forget about class on November 23rd! We'll be talking about everything you ever wanted to know about God but didn't want to ask, so get ready to share.

**Senior High Hike:** Meet up after Sunday School on November 2nd for a fun-filled hike! We will be hiking in Corbits Glen, so dress warmly - unless it pours, we'll be out having fun! We'll eat lunch together before we leave church.

**Junior High YMCA Swim:** Get your suit and get ready to swim! We'll be at the YMCA on Sunday, November 2nd and yes, there will be a water slide!

### YOUTH NEWS

Sunday, November 2	9:00 Youth Choir 10:00 Worship 11:15 Jr. and Sr. High Sunday School 12:15-3:00 Sr. High Hike 3:30-5:30 Jr. High YMCA Swim
Tuesday, November 4	7:00 Youth Committee Meeting
Sunday, November 9	9:00 Youth Choir 10:00 Worship 11:15 Jr and Sr High Sunday School
Sunday, November 16	9:00 Youth Choir 10:00 Worship 11:15 Jr. and Sr. High Sunday School 6:00-8:30 Sr. High Bunko Night, Jr. High Game-a-palooza
Saturday, November 22	11:00-4:00 Jr. Highs sell sundaes & drinks at Bazaar
Sunday, November 23	9:00 Youth Choir 10:00 Worship 11:15 Confirmation Class & Jr. and Sr. High Sunday School
Sunday, November 30	9:00 Youth Choir 10:00 Worship/Fusion Sunday - no Sunday school

**Church Mouse Bazaar help:** Jr Highs will be selling our usual sundaes and drinks at the Bazaar on November 22nd, so be on the lookout for sign-up sheets.

### SUPPORT THE JAMAICA MISSION TRIP!

We have a brand new way to donate bottles and cans to support this senior high mission trip! You can take your recyclables right to Flower City Redemption Center at 2374 Chili Avenue (phone number 730-7786). Just tell them you're from GPC, and they'll credit our account for all your donations. The redemption center gives us more money per item than we're currently getting, so try it out with your next batch of bottles and cans! We're also still accepting bottles and cans here at church. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to give the church office a call at 247-5292.

### JAMAICA MISSION TRIP TRAVELERS .....

3 "to do's" for you in November:

1. Apply for your passport
2. Catch up on your payments
3. Give thanks for the opportunity to serve God in the global community.

### DAY LIGHT SAVING'S TIME REMINDER

Daylight Saving's Time ends Sunday, November 2. Don't forget to turn your clocks back.

### THANK YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Thank you so much to all the teams of "lawn cutters" who take care of the grounds on their own time and with their own money for gas for the mowers from mid-April through late October. The effort is around two hours per team on the day they cut and at least 3-4 times per season. So we would like to publicly thank each of you for the effort you put forth to keep the grounds looking great all season long!!!!!!!!!!!!!!





## PUBLIC WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER

Date	Front Door Greeter	Lay Reader	Usher
November 2	Jim Meddaugh	Barbara Snaith	5
November 9	Kris Ohman	Linda Allen	6
November 16	Gordon Chapman	Peter Derry	1
November 23	Cheryl Fehnel	Kathy Wakeman	2
November 30	Kris Ohman	Colton Crane	3

Communion: - November 2 – Team D

Left:	1. Gordon Chapman	Right:	1. Tammy Tackling
	2. Lucia VerSteege		2. Barbara Chapman
	3. Osmond Simm		3. Ann Marie Simm
	4. Michelle Bartell		4. Mary Beth MacKenzie

## TRUSTEE LOCK UP SCHEDULE:

November: Ed Vander

December: Dan Charcholla

## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS and/or RURAL & MIGRANT MINISTRIES

If you would like to order a plant for display in the Sanctuary for Christmas in honor or memory of a loved one or donate to Rural & Migrant Ministries in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill out the form below and leave it with the money (or check) in the offering plate or in the church office **NO LATER** than December 8<sup>th</sup>. Make checks payable to Gates Presbyterian Church. Mail the order to the church if it is more convenient. This year poinsettias will be available for \$10.00 a piece.



NAME OF DONOR (S)

ADDRESS

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

POINSETTIAS \_\_\_\_\_

RURAL & MIGRANT MINISTRIES \_\_\_\_\_

## LOOKING FOR A WAY TO GROW IN FAITH?

Every Wednesday evening 6:30-7:30pm in the Junior 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](http://www.biblegateway.com)

During November we will reflect on the following texts:

<b>Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup></b>	Matthew 25:31-46
<b>Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup></b>	Matthew 25:14-30
<b>Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup></b>	To be determined
<b>Wednesday, November 26<sup>th</sup></b>	NO BIBLE STUDY Happy Thanksgiving Eve!

## MISSION NEWS:

We collected 550 lbs. of food during our summer "Swemming for Food". Thank you to all who brought in food during the summer months!!

Save the date: The Alternative Advent Market – Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> after worship!  
Wonderful place to shop for loved ones for Christmas!

Christmas SWEM Basket will be collected on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. A list of food items will be in your December newsletter and in Sunday bulletins starting on November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Also, look for the "Giving Tree" and the "Mitten Tree" in December as well.

## HOST NEEDED

GPC is in need of people willing to warmly greet guests as they arrive to make them welcome. The host would answer questions, share information, escort guest(s) to worship, introduce them to another worshiper, and escort to fellowship following worship. To learn more, attend a training session following worship on November 16 in the Adult Lounge. Please do not hesitate to contact Glad Crosdale or Gordon Chapman for more details.



## **Spiritual Journeys Article**

The current journey, "Our Daily Bread" continues with the following legs.

### **1. Wednesday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

3:30pm – 5:30pm, Educational Symposium (Harvesting Justice: Labor and the Locavore)

5:30pm Rural and Migrant Ministry Fundraiser Dinner (See Rev. DeRosia re tickets)

Location: Temple Beth Kodesh, 2131 Elmwood Ave., Rochester

NY 14618

### **2. Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

10:00am, Kick Off for first part of S.N.A.P. Challenge

(See Rev. DeRosia's article in this Harbinger for further details and significant dates)

## **CHURCH MOUSE BAZAAR – SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22**

**Happy Birthday to us!!**

**We are thirty-seven years old and still going strong!!!!**



What is the Church Mouse Bazaar? GPC started the Church Mouse Bazaar 37 years ago as a fund raiser to supplement our annual budget. In the beginning, church groups made items to sell. Now we have 70 participants in this event, making this the longest running church bazaar in the area.

- All top-quality crafters with hand-crafted items, plus three church groups will be participating in this, our 37<sup>th</sup>, successful year at GPC.
- Want to join the fun and excitement and have a good time when our church is packed with vendors selling and customers buying? Then sign up to help one or more of our capable chair people who need **YOUR** help! It takes well over 100 people to pull off this bazaar. Sign up sheets will be in the Sunday bulletins starting October 26.
- Each year we get bigger and bigger. This year we are FULL to the brim with vendors, some familiar faces from years past, and many new and exciting people.
- Can we count on YOU to jump on the bandwagon and be a set of willing hands (or feet) for our special day?
- 

Jot the date down, **NOVEMBER 22, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** Sign up and join the fun!

## **STEWARDSHIP CORNER**

- By now you should have received your letter and pledge card for the 2015 pledge campaign. Our church has many opportunities to carry out God's work in the coming year and we need your faithful financial support to make them happen. We ask that you prayerfully seek God's guidance in your decision and then don't forget to bring your pledge card to church on Stewardship Sunday, November 16.
- As we approach the end of the year, this would also be a good time to catch up on your pledge or arrange for that end-of-the-year gift.

## **AN INVITATION**

The congregation and friends are invited to an informal lunch and talk by Grahame Russell of Rights Action on Thursday, Nov.13th at 12:00 in the Fellowship Hall at GPC.

Grahame is a human rights advocate, non - practicing lawyer, and journalist who lives in Toronto, Canada. He has done extensive work in Guatemala and Honduras. GPC's initial trips to Guatemala were organized by Grahame and his staff at Rights Action and he has been a long time friend of GPC sojourners.

With the new grant that the Guatemala Partners has received in collaboration with First Presbyterian Church of Batavia and the Garden's Edge, the committee would like to sponsor more talks like these and offer them to the community so that you can learn more about Guatemala and feel free to ask any questions you would like.

If you are interested in learning more and you are free to attend, please let Tom Ward know by calling 889-5932 and leave a message. This event is free and open to the public. A catered lunch will be provided, so please make a reservation.

If you can't make the luncheon meeting at GPC, Grahame will also be talking at Nazareth College at the Casa Hispana House at 6 PM that night. Grahame will be discussing the hotly debated issue of immigrants leaving Honduras and Guatemala and what can be done. That event is being co-sponsored with ROCLA and is open to the public. For more information on either of these events, please feel free to call Tom or e-mail him at: [tomw@rochesterymca.org](mailto:tomw@rochesterymca.org)