

## FROM THE MISSION AND PEACEMAKING COMMITTEE:

In the New Year we are seeking to find ways to become even more involved with hands-on mission work. In January, the first opportunity arose when Downtown United Presbyterian Church announced that it would provide shelter for up to 15 homeless people at their church. We responded immediately with financial assistance and a call to help out with transporting the residents to breakfast, overnight stays or meal preparations. A couple of people came forward to volunteer right away!

There will be many other ways to serve in mission in the year ahead, but we feel up to the task. If you know of mission or peacemaking opportunities, please share them with myself or a member of the committee. You are also welcome to join us at our monthly meeting at 7 PM on the first Tuesday of each month (known as the Mega Meeting). We would welcome you with open arms and put you right to work!

Tom Ward, chair  
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[tomw@rochesterymca.org](mailto:tomw@rochesterymca.org)

## BRING A DOLLAR AND/OR CAN OF SOUP ON SUPER BOWL SUNDAY FOR THE "SOUPER" BOWL OF CARING – FEBRUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>

Our Junior Highs will be "TACKLING HUNGER" at the door of the sanctuary on February 1<sup>st</sup>. They ask you to bring a can of soup and/or a dollar for local mission sites through which hunger issues in our community are addressed. The soup will go to Cameron Community Ministries and the money will go to St. Joseph's House of Hospitality.



## PLEASE KEEP THE JAMAICA MISSION TRIP 2015 TEAM IN YOUR PRAYERS

On February 14<sup>th</sup>, six GPC'ers will leave for Jamaica. This mission team will participate in the ongoing relationship between Green Island United Church of Jamaica and Gates Presbyterian Church. While in Jamaica this year, they will work at the Green Island Basic School teaching the children about dental hygiene, at the Santoy Church, as well as other community mission sites. Members of the team are: Brandon Falkner, Laura Keiling, Rachel Molina, Melissa DeRosia, Mary Hadley, and Beth Molina. Please keep this team in your prayers. They return to Rochester on February 21<sup>st</sup>.

## MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO SUPPORTED THE BLUE MOUNTAIN COFFEE HOUSE:

Customers, servers, performers, donors, chefs, movers, designers, accompanist, sound engineers, etc. All monies from this event are used on the Jamaica Mission Trip 2015.

## FROM OUR STATED SUPPLY ASSOCIATE PASTOR . . .

Heaped in a corner of my office is a tangle of string and colorful slips of paper: our miles from the Blue Mountain Coffee House. These little pieces of paper were sold, one by one, to help pay for the seniors who are heading to serve in Jamaica this month. At the coffee house, the miles started being hung right next to the front door, and eventually inched their way all the way to a map of Jamaica onstage. When they're hung up, they help show exactly how much the Jamaica team depends on the rest of the congregation's support. Right now, the miles are piled up in my office, and they keep catching my eye.

Each mile is tiny, but connected they stretched halfway across our fellowship hall. There are many parts of the coffee house that don't last – the beautiful performances are over, and the baked goods have been eaten. I like having the miles in my office as a tangible reminder of how much GPC supports each other, for big things and little ones. I was bowled over by how many people jumped in to help raise money for the Jamaica team; donating food, money, and some seriously amazing performances! Soon we'll write prayer cards for the team, and send dental care supplies with them. It's exciting to see this new part of our relationship with the Basic School begin.

Throughout GPC, we keep putting together little things – miles, toothbrushes, cookies – until they add up into a complete part of the church. The coffee house is just one way that our congregation comes together to support different ministries. We take turns bringing in food for St. Joseph's, cooking, and serving and these contributions add up into a meal for dozens of hungry people. Each committee and ministry group has written up part of our new website, which will soon be ready as a complete picture of what GPC is like and invite people to get involved. We have all kinds of different places in the church where our efforts add up; mile by mile, helping us reach out to others and support our community.

I invite you to take a look at where your miles are going in the church this month, and see how your actions help build our church. There are many exciting places to get involved – we're beginning a new Spiritual Journey series on end of life issues, where people can come together and learn more about death, and the afterlife. We have speakers from our own congregation and the community, there to help people break down the many parts of end of life planning into smaller, sharable pieces. This month Polly and Mike Moore will also be leading a Fusion Room event, teaching the Sunday School classes about their work training guide dogs. We'll have a Young Adult volunteer day at Cameron, bringing people together to serve lunch. Our individual actions add up, stretching across our congregation and binding us together. This month, see where your miles lead you in your faith journey.

- *Katie*

## DEACON'S PAGE

Please keep in thought and prayer

**Sheila Roache** injured in a fall, her parents are **Dick and Christy Stewart**  
**Janice Bilohlavek's** granddaughter, **Tiffany**, also injured in a fall  
**Don Bernhart** now at St. Ann's in rehab after surgery  
**Jeannie Bauman and Mary DiGennaro**, all recovering from surgery  
**Clarene Cress** recovering from surgery  
**Bonnie Beckett's** sister having medical issues  
**Ron Steinmiller's** mother facing medical problems  
**Ed Coon's** sister recovering from surgery  
**Paulette Morgan** sister-in-law **Chris** recovering from medical problems  
**Jim Meddaugh's** daughter has finished her chemotherapy



Prayers of Joy

**Jay and Katie Szczepanski** - on the birth of their twins **Sophia Marie and Charles James** on December 15

Condolences

**Sue Maccallini** on the death of her brother-in-law, **Richard Verzillo**  
**Marie Wilson** on the death on her cousin's husband  
**Dick Kern, Donna and Greg Schott, Sheryl and Frank Battaglia** on the passing of **Joyce Kern**  
**Marge Hubbard** on the death of her sister  
**Rick Howe** on the passing of his mother  
The family of **Antoinette Saxe** who passed away on January 14

**THE NEXT DEACONS' MEETING** is Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm in the Adult Lounge.

**PRAYER SHAWL GROUP** meets next on Tuesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in Room 16.

**TABITHA CIRCLE** meets on Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. in the Adult Lounge.  
Please bring a lunch.

## REBECCA CIRCLE

Rebecca Circle meets next on Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. in the Adult Lounge.

## 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](http://www.biblegateway.com)

During February we will reflect on the following texts:

**Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>**                      **Mark 1:29-39**  
**Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>**                **Mark 9:2-9**  
**Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>**               **Mark 1:9-15**  
**Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>**               **Exodus 20:1-20**



## PUBLIC WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 2015

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lay Reader</u>	<u>Front Door Greeter</u>	<u>Usher Team</u>	<u>Deacon Team</u>
February 1	Eric Vail	Tom Ward	5	3
February 8	Kay Harder	Carrie Dykes	6	4
February 15	Jeff Tuttle	Kathy Wakeman	1	5
Ash Wednesday:				
February 18	Jim Meddaugh	Peter Derry	2	1
February 22	Abigail Unson	Sally Christensen	3	2

Communion Sunday, February 1 – Team A

Left:    1. Sally Christensen                      Right: 1. Sheri MacFarlane  
          2. Nancy Hossenlopp                      2. Jennifer Hossenlopp  
          3. Keith Morgan                              3. Carol Howell  
          4. Kay Harder                                 4. Beverly Lamphron

## STEWARDS OF CHILDREN TRAINING

GPC will be offering a free child abuse prevention training on Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am until noon and will cost \$7.00. All Sunday School teachers and youth group leaders are expected to attend (attendance fee will be waived), and everybody else is encouraged to come! The training is specially made for faith communities, and helps us discuss how to identify abuse and protect against it. To RSVP, please contact Katie.

## GPC AMERKS NIGHT

**SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 22 – 5:05pm**

Cost: \$10.00 per ticket

Deadline: February 15

Tickets will be handed out on Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>

For tickets and/or information, please contact Todd Pimm or Gary Dykes



ROCHESTER AREA PRE - SCHOOL

**ROCHESTER AREA PRESCHOOL** registration for the 2015-2016 school year is now open. Please call the RAP registrar, Divina Meyer, at 861-9788, to reserve a spot in one of the classes. Please pass the word onto relatives, friends, and neighbors.

## SPIRITUAL JOURNEYS COMMITTEE

The next Spiritual Journey will be called, “**End of Life Issues**” and will be comprised of the following three separate, but inter-connected topics or Legs, beginning in March. Ticket sales and registration will be announced in Sunday bulletins.

### Leg One:

Sunday, March 8 from 1:00-2:30pm in the GPC Adult Lounge

#### **Panel discussion of Helpful & Practical Tips regarding; Funerals, Memorial Services, and Finances**

Three different professionals will address one of the above topics for approximately 20 minutes, each followed with 10 minutes for Q & A.

### Leg Two:

Sunday, March 15, 11:30am -1:00pm, GPC Adult Lounge, Light lunch provided

#### **Workshop on Death & Grieving: Grief, Palliative Care, and Hospice**

- 1) Learn from professionals, “*What is Grief, and how Grief is unique, yet often predictable in the kinds of reactions one may go through, as they experience a loss or death.*” Gain an understanding of why these reactions are beneficial to know.
- 2) Professional expertise on: *Palliative Care and Hospice – What are they, how are they similar yet different, and when might they be necessary for some people in pain or in the end of life stage.*

This will be an educational, interactive discussion and other resources will be mentioned within GPC and our community.

### Leg Three:

Sunday, April 12, Rev. Melissa DeRosia, Room 2, Second Hour 11:15am

#### **Promise of Life After Death**

Faith, Heaven, After-Life. Practicing Christians vary in opinions, but a common core is we are all going to die, but heaven is for real!

## PER CAPITA - Being a part of the Presbyterian World

Just as a train cannot move without an engine, our Presbyterian governing bodies (the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly) require a “power source” to enable them to provide services which support our mutual mission as the Body of Christ. One aspect of this power source is called “Per Capita.”

Per Capita is a set amount of money (apportionment) per member that our congregation pays to the larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) as a religious and moral commitment. It establishes a minimum level of financial participation in the vital work of our church. With this year’s commitment of **\$29.38 per member**, we work together with other Presbyterian churches in our presbytery and across the country to further the mission of Jesus Christ around the world. We benefit from the gifts, skills, vision, and ministry of each other when we come together. Your Per Capita pays for the programs, training, and resources that help us work together to benefit all.

Thank you to all members who have already paid their share of this commitment. By contributing your portion of Per Capita, you have freed up dollars in our regular GPC budget for the work our congregation values.

If you haven’t yet contributed **\$29.38 per member**, please consider doing so. You can use your Per Capita pledge envelope or put your check in a plain envelope marked “Per Capita” and place in the offering basket or send it to the office.

## FROM THE STEWARDSHIP AND BUDGET COMMITTEE

THANK YOU to everyone that has made a financial pledge to GPC for 2015. If you haven’t returned your pledge card yet, please do. You can make a difference in the vibrancy of our church. Pledge cards are on the small table in the vestibule. They can be put in the offering plate or dropped off/sent to the office.

## TAX INFORMATION

If you would like a receipt for your 2014 donations to GPC, please send an e-mail to Jim Meddaugh at [jmeddau1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:jmeddau1@rochester.rr.com) or notify the church office. If the letter with the receipt could be e-mailed to you, please let us know so we can get it to you faster and save the postage.

## NEW IDEAS . . .

We asked for – and you provided – new fundraising ideas!! Thanks to you we have some new, exciting events coming this year and the HAM DINNER is back! Stay tuned for details about the Community Flea Market and a take-out Pig Roast Dinner. If you have additional ideas and can chair the committee to put on the event, send an e-mail to Linda Beattie at [Linda.btt@gmail.com](mailto:Linda.btt@gmail.com)

## ATTENTION YOUNG ADULTS!!!!

**Young Adult Activities:** We'll be serving lunch on Monday, February 2nd at Salem UCC. Meet up with us at 9:30 at GPC, or 10:00 at Salem. We'll prepare and serve lunch, and wrap things up around 1:30. Call the church office if you need a ride!

**Young adults are also invited** to make and serve lunch at Cameron Community Ministries on February 21st from 9:30 to 2:00. Check out our Facebook group for more info: Young Adults at GPC!

## JUNIOR HIGHS . . . .

### Junior High Souper Bowl/Overnight: The Souper Bowl is coming!

To celebrate, we'll have an Extreme Bowling overnight on Saturday, Jan. 31st into Sunday, Feb. 1st. Meet at the church at 7:30pm, bring \$10, and get ready to have fun! The next day at worship, we'll collect food donations and money for the Souper Bowl!

**Junior Highs serve at St. Joseph's:** Join us as we serve lunch at St. Joseph's soup kitchen on February 21st! Meet up at GPC at 10:00; we'll have fun helping out and then be back by 3:00.

## SENIOR HIGHS . . . .

**Senior High Glow Golf: Get ready to golf!** We'll meet at GPC at 12:30 on February 1st, head out to glow golf at Greece Ridge Mall and be back by 2:00. Bring \$8 and wear your zaniest outfit for the black lights.

**Senior High Bowling:** Our annual bowling night is back! Bring \$8 for bowling and shoes, and get ready to have fun on February 22nd, from 6-8.



**Confirmation class:** Our next Water Stop is on February 22nd from 11:15-12:30, and we'll be discussing Presbyterian polity. Remember that by this water stop you should have 75 points done!

**Confirmation Sky Zone Trip:** Our confirmation class will be headed to Sky Zone from 5:00-7:00 on Sunday, February 8th! Bring \$15 and meet at the church for fun and snacks (no points). RSVP to Katie by February 1st.

## JAMAICA MISSION TRIP PARTICIPANTS ... UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES!

TODAY – All paperwork and money due!  
February 8th – 12:15 – 2:00 – Jamaica Orientation **with PARENTS** – We will provide lunch.  
February 14<sup>th</sup> – Meet at Airport at 4:30am (Flight leaves at 5:55am)  
February 21<sup>st</sup> – Return to Rochester – 10:30pm – US Airways 755 (from Chicago)  
March 1<sup>st</sup> – Lead worship and Second Hour

## Youth Calendar

Sunday, Feb. 1	- 9:30 Youth Choir - 10:00 Worship "Souper Bowl of Caring" - 11:15 Junior and Senior High Sunday School - 12:30-3:30 Senior High Glow Golf
Tuesday, Feb. 3 Sunday, Feb. 8	- 7:00 Youth committee meeting - 9:30 Youth Choir - 10:00 Worship - 11:15 Junior and Senior High Sunday School - 5:00 Confirmation Sky Zone
Sunday, Feb. 15	- 9:30 Youth Choir - 10:00 Worship - 11:15 Junior Sunday School
Saturday, Feb. 21 Sunday, Feb. 22	- 10:00 Junior Highs Serve at St. Joseph's - 9:30 Youth Choir - 10:00 Worship - Fusion Sunday - 11:15 Confirmation - 6:00 Senior High Bowling
Saturday, Feb. 28	- 10:00 Stewards of Children Training at GPC

## Summer Work Project Dates: Mark your calendars now!

Junior High: July 20-24th  
Senior High: August 2-8<sup>th</sup>



