

Exciting News from Session!

Session is ready to share with the congregation the new governance structure of GPC. God's Path Seekers (GPS) established this structure and it was further refined by Session at their fall retreat on September 20th. A governance structure is simply the way Session organizes itself. Currently our structure is organized into 8 committees. But starting in January 2016, Session will be organized into four Core Value Ministries: Worship, Mission, Hospitality and Spiritual Growth. These four ministries were chosen because they represent GPC's four core values and therefore align the work we do with what is most important to us. Each ministry will be facilitated by two Elders. In addition to these ministries there will be six Coordinating Ministries each organized by one Elder: Good News, Finance, Building/Trustee, Personnel, Spiritual Gifts and Youth & Young Children. The Boards of Trustees and Deacons will continue their important work as well.

The foundation of this new structure is the congregation! But it is not just the structure that will change. The roles of Elders will also be changing to a role that better supports what you think GPC should be and do. We will be facilitators of your ideas and inspirations. Therefore, we need your participation. This is just the beginning of GPC's journey into a new season. There will be many opportunities to learn more and get involved, but now is vital. Below is a list of times when we will share how this new governance structure will operate, what the coordinating ministry Elders do and how you can become part of this exciting change.

Tuesday, November 3rd at 7 pm in the Sanctuary (in place of Mega Meeting)
December, 13, 2015
January, 31 2016 (Congregational Meeting)

We hope to see you at all of these events. We are very excited about these changes and cannot wait to continue God's work with you!

MEN 2 MEN

Men 2 Men will have French Toast Sticks on Sunday, November 22nd at 8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Joseph the Dreamer will be part of the fellowship and Bible study time. Suggested donation for the breakfast is \$5.00. A sign-up sheet is on the Kiosk.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – PARKING LOT VALETS

The Membership and Hospitality Committee is asking for volunteers to help out with the parking lot valet services this coming winter. Generally volunteers are only asked to help out 2 or 3 Sundays through the winter months. This is a valuable service provided for our Church family. Please make a note in the hospitality register or contact Eric Vail 889-5491 (email: vailagency@yahoo.com) or contact the Church office if you can help. Thank you.

FROM THE PASTOR:

Dear Friends,

As Biblical scholar Walter Brueggemann points out, the Bible starts out with a liturgy of abundance – a song of praise for God's generosity. It keeps saying, "It is good, it is good, it is good, it is very good." Filled with God's generosity, Jesus went around to people suffering from scarcity – of health, of acceptance, of power, of understanding – and replaced it with a gift of abundance. Jesus is well-schooled in the transformative generosity of God and in the conviction that if you share your bread with the neighbor, the world will be made new. He knows that generosity isn't something you just think about, it's something you do.

During the month of November we will be giving that to God for many of the ways we celebrate the gifts of being God's stewards of abundant life. On **November 1st** we give thanks for the lives of saints. We will honor the Rev. Bob Kaiser and the Rev. Carol Anne Strawbridge as Pastor Emeritus and Emerita here at GPC. Indeed we are blessed with the abundance of people who help us grow in our faith.

November 8th will be Stewardship Sunday. Everyone will have an opportunity to provide a financial pledge to GPC and invest in the hands-on, visible expression of God's abundant life at work in our faith community, our neighborhood and our world.

The celebration of "Life Abundant" at GPC will continue with the pastor of our partners in mission from Jamaica, the Rev. Kimberly Hines, leading worship on **November 15th**. Don't miss an incredible opportunity to hear her preach!

To top it all off on **November 22nd** we will praise God for the abundance of music in our congregation. Enjoy the sounds of all our amazing choirs and musicians on "Music Sunday." Whew! With this much going on at GPC this month you won't want to miss the chance to celebrate the blessing and abundance in our lives and share it with others.

- Melissa



Sunday, November 1st 2015

All Saints Day will be recognized in worship on November 1st 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.

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

During November we will reflect on the following texts:

Wednesday, November 4th	Mark 12:38-44
Wednesday, November 11th	Mark 13:1-8
Wednesday, November 18th	**To Be Determined**
Wednesday, November 25th	NO BIBLE STUDY Happy Thanksgiving Eve!



Welcome Rev. Kimberly Hines!
Jamaican Dinner
Sunday, November 15th 3:00pm

We are delighted to welcome the pastor of our partner churches in Jamaica, the Rev. Kimberly Hines, to Rochester. To celebrate her arrival, a dinner will be offered at church. RSVP's are required to guarantee enough food and seating. Please contact the church office NO LATER than **Thursday, November 5th**. Suggested donation \$10 per person.

NEED HELP????

While you are planning your GPC events, don't forget to call people that responded to the Time and Talent survey indicating that they are willing to help. The main subjects presented in the survey were Boards and Committees, Hospitality, Mission and Outreach, Music and Worship, Fellowship and Events, Spiritual Growth, Facility, Grounds, and Operations. To obtain a copy of the spreadsheet, contact Linda Beattie, Linda.Btt@gmail.com or 247-6742.

What GPC Means to Me

GPC is our home away from home. Our refuge to collect our thoughts and prayers and see and hear about friends – those we can visit or help in some way.

Bob and Fran Paro

CELEBRATION

As GPC moves forward into new mission and ministry together, we also celebrate the faithful leadership of the past. During worship on November 1st, we will joyfully grant the status of "Pastor Emeritus" to the Rev. Bob Kaiser and "Pastor Emerita" to the Rev. Carol Anne Strawbridge. Please plan on joining us in worship that Sunday as well as in the Fellowship Hall following worship for a reception in their honor.

DEACONS' PAGE

Thoughts and prayers to:

Dick Henderson recovering from a fall.



Our sympathy to:

Dianne Kenney on the death of her niece.

Nancee Maggioli and family on the death of her father.

PLEASE NOTE: IN CASE OF HOSPITALIZATION

Please have someone (friend or family member) call the church office if you or a loved one happens to be in the hospital. The area hospitals are no longer able to let us know a name when we have a parishioner in their facilities. So, we won't know you or your loved one is there unless you tell us. Thanks!

REMINDER TO DEACONS

There will be no Deacons' meeting in November.

THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY GROUP will meet on Tuesday, November 3 at 2:00 p.m. in Room 16.

TABITHA CIRCLE will meet on Wednesday, November 11th at 1:00 p.m. in the Adult Lounge. Bring a lunch.

REBECCA CIRCLE will meet on Tuesday, November 10th at 10:30 a.m. Bring a lunch. Dessert and drinks will be provided.

HARBINGER articles are due in the office by noon on Wednesday, November 18th.

CHURCH MOUSE BAZAAR – SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21



Happy Birthday to us! Thirty-eight years old and still going strong!!!!

What is the Church Mouse Bazaar? GPC started the Church Mouse Bazaar 38 years ago as a fundraiser to supplement our annual budget. In the beginning church groups made items to sell. Now we have 70 wonderful craftspeople in this event selling their unique hand-crafted items.

Want to join the fun and excitement and have a good time when our church is packed with crafters selling and customers buying?? Then sign up to help one or more of our capable chair people who need YOUR help!

Jot the date down, **NOVEMBER 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** and join the fun!

Questions ??? Call Linda Beattie (247-6742), Tess McKeel (766-7151) or Kathy Wakeman (247-3296).

Mouse Fact:

What should you give mice with bad breath?

Mousewash

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS DECORATING

The Public Worship committee will be hosting an Advent & Christmas decorating gathering on Saturday, November 28, 2015 at 10:00 am. The committee is also asking for your help prior to the Tuesday December 1, 2015 Mega meeting, please come around 6:00pm if you can help finish up the decorating.

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.



PUBLIC WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER

Date	Front Door Greeter	Lay Reader	Ushers	Deacons
November 1	Kathy Wakeman	Peter Derry	5	6
November 8	Kris Ohman	Linda Allen	6	1
November 15	Sheri MacFarlane	Barb Snaith	1	2
November 22	Cheryl Fehnel	Kathy Wakeman	2	3
November 29	Sally Christensen	Tommy Kelly	3	4

Communion - November 1 – Team D

Left: 1. Bridget Wohlers Right: 1. Bruce Taylor
 2. Gordon Chapman 2. Barb Chapman
 3. Osmond Simm 3. Ann Marie Simm
 4. Lucia VerSteeg 4. James Poole

LOCK UP SCHEDULE

November - Ed Vander
 December - Dan Charcholla

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 or 247-5292) if you are interested in a one-time opportunity or ongoing commitment. Our next time to serve at Salem is Monday, November 2nd. If you would like to carpool, please meet at GPC around 9:30.



ANNUAL WOMEN'S CANDLELIGHT DINNER

HOLD THE DATE!!! – Tuesday, December 8th

This year we are going back to the Whittier Party House for our annual Women's Candlelight dinner beginning at 6pm. There will be new special musical entertainment. We will be collecting personal items for ABW again this year. Tickets will be sold starting November 1st at a cost of \$20.00. Any questions??? Call Barb Snaith at 247-9066.



FAMILY ADVENT FESTIVAL
Friday evening, December 4
6:00 – 7:30
“Sounds of Silence”
 Save the date.
 More information to follow.

STEWARDSHIP AND BUDGET QUARTERLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

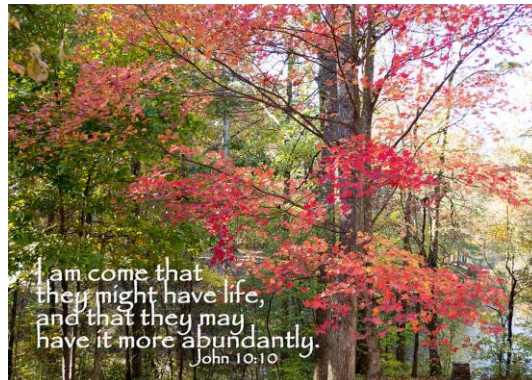
The Stewardship & Budget Committee wants to provide an update of our financial position as of the end of September. Thanks to your help during our Second Appeal campaign, we are in a positive cash position which should carry us through the remainder of 2015 and help cover potential snowplowing and higher utility costs. Thank you to those of you that paid your portion (\$29.38 for 2015) of GPC's Per Capita. We appreciate all of you keeping current on your pledges as well, especially as we get closer to the end of the year. If you have any questions about the information below, please talk with the Elders on the Budget & Stewardship Committee (Linda Beattie and Carrie Dykes) or member of Session.

	9/30/2015 Actual	9/30/2014 Actual
Total Income	\$270,356	\$248,632
Expense Summary:		
Staff Support	\$171,379	\$171,236
Maintenance/ Operating	\$46,668	\$43,563
Programming	\$16,342	\$15,421
Mission Programs	\$17,924	\$19,702
Total Expenses:	\$252,313	\$249,922
Total Income Less Expenses	\$18,044	(\$1,290)

LIFE ABUNDANT

This is the theme for the Stewardship Season at GPC. How will you respond to our selected scripture from John 10:10, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."?

Every year, our church has an abundance of ways we decide to carry out God's work. Your faithful support financially helps us offer back to God and the ministries of this church, the gifts that have been given to us. We ask that you prayerfully consider the abundance in our lives and fill out a pledge card and bring it to church on **Stewardship Sunday, November 8th**. If you did not receive a letter and pledge card in the mail, they are in the rack outside the south sanctuary door.



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS and/or REACH (Rochester Emergency Action Committee for the Homeless)



If you would like to order a plant for display in the Sanctuary for Christmas and/or make a donation toward REACH 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 7th**. 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)

Please check appropriate donation:

Poinsettias _____

REACH _____

MISSION NEWS:

Thank you to all who brought in food during the summer months!! So much food was donated and SWEM thanks you!

Save the date: **The Alternative Advent Market – Sunday, December 6th** after worship!
Wonderful place to shop for loved ones for Christmas!

Christmas SWEM Baskets will be collected on **Sunday, December 13th**. A list of food items will be in your December newsletter and in Sunday bulletins starting on November 15th. And, don't forget the \$10.00 cash that goes along with your box of food.

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



AN OPPORTUNITY TO HELP OUR JAMAICA MISSION TEAM!

In the month of November a bulletin board will be outside the sanctuary. There will be envelopes attached to the bulletin board with various financial costs of our trip. If you would like to help us out in this way, take an envelope and drop it in the offering plate or in the church office. Thank you so much for all your help supporting our mission trip to Jamaica.

THE AMAZING FAITH JOURNEY CONTINUES!

Confirmation “Water Stop”

November 22nd 4:00-5:30pm with delicious dinner!

“God in Our Questions”

We’ll be talking about everything you ever wanted to know about God but didn’t want to ask, so get ready to share!

See you there!!

CHURCH MOUSE BAZAAR HELP:

Junior Highs and the Confirmation Class will be selling snacks at the Church Mouse Bazaar on Saturday, November 21st. Be on the lookout for sign-up sheets at youth group. We need YOU!!

A NOTE FROM KATIE:

I’ll be in worship on November 8th for Stewardship Sunday! I’m also in the office on Tuesdays and Fridays, so feel free to drop by!

YOUTH GROUPS

NOVEMBER 1ST YOUTH GROUPS

SENIOR HIGHS: Meet up after Sunday School on **November 1st** for a fun-filled hike! We’ll eat pizza together and then go hiking. We’ll be back by 2:30.

JUNIOR HIGHS: Get your suit and get ready to swim! We’ll be at the YMCA on Sunday, **November 1st** from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Meet at GPC.

NOVEMBER 15^H YOUTH GROUPS

SENIOR HIGHS it’s time for Bunko Night! Snacks and games from 6-8pm at GPC.

JUNIOR HIGHS it’s Game Night! 6-8pm at GPC. We’ll get messy and have fun playing games!

TRIENNIAL 2016

Save the date for Triennial on July 18-23rd! This national Presbyterian conference is open to all senior high youth. Come to a meeting at GPC at 4pm on November 11th to learn more about this amazing week-long opportunity.



YOUTH CALENDAR

Sunday, November 1 -	9:30 a.m. – Youth Choir rehearsal in Adult Lounge 10:00 a.m. – Worship 11:15 a.m. – Junior and Senior High Sunday School 12:15 p.m. – Senior High Youth Group Hike 3:00-5:00 p.m. – Junior High Swim at YMCA
Sunday, November 8 -	9:30 a.m. – Youth Choir rehearsal in Adult Lounge 10:00 a.m. – Worship 11:15 a.m. – Junior and Senior High Sunday School
Sunday, November 15 -	9:30 a.m. – Youth Choir rehearsal in Adult Lounge 10:00 a.m. – Worship 11:15 a.m. – Junior and Senior High Sunday School 6:00-8:00 p.m. – Sr. High Bunko Night; Jr. High Game-a-palooza
Saturday, November 21 -	9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. – Junior Highs sells snacks at Church Mouse Bazaar
Sunday, November 22 -	9:30 a.m. – Youth Choir rehearsal in Adult Lounge 10:00 a.m. – Worship 11:15 a.m. – Junior and Senior High Sunday School 4:00-5:30 p.m. – Confirmation Class
Sunday, November 29	9:30 a.m. – Youth Choir rehearsal in Adult Lounge 10:00 a.m. – Worship – Fusion Sunday – No Sunday School