

## DEACONS' PAGE

Please keep in thought and prayer

**Mike Fritsch, and Hannah Walker** – both recovering

**Dick Henderson** – undergoing tests at Highland Hospital

**Dick and Christy Stewart's daughter, Sarah**, as she recovers from surgery



### Prayers of Joy

Congratulations to **Jennifer and Ben Olsen**- on the birth of their daughter, **Freya Elizabeth** on January 8. Proud grandparents are **Dennis and Debbie White**. Proud great-grandparents are **Dean and Sonia Davis**.

### In Sympathy

**Dorace Belknap and family** - on the recent death of her husband, **Murray**

**Ann Marie and Osmond Simm and family** – on the recent death of Ann Marie's mother, **Barbara Chung**.

**REMINDER TO DEACONS:** The next Deacons' meeting will be Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in Adult Lounge.

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

**TABITHA CIRCLE** meets on Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 in the Adult Lounge.

**REBECCA CIRCLE** meets next on Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. in the Adult Lounge.



**SNOW CANCELLATIONS:** Reminder that during the week if the Gates/Chili Schools have cancelled school or evening activities for that day, then all meetings and church related events at GPC are also cancelled.

**BOUNDARIES TRAINING:** The Presbytery will be offering child abuse prevention training on **February 27<sup>th</sup>**. Participants are invited to come to general policy education 9:30-1:30 with lunch, cyber safety and Stewards of Children training 1:30-3:30, or the whole day! Sunday School teachers and youth group leaders are especially encouraged to attend. For more information, check out the flyer on the Kiosk.

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Last summer the *Presbyterian Outlook* ran a wonderful article on "Doing short-term mission well: Prepare, learn and share." Ellen Sherby shared this story:

A group of women from Presbyterian churches in the U.S. and women from a rural coffee-farming community gather spontaneously to talk about being girls and women in two very different cultures and realities. While they talk, the North American women wash the feet and paint the toenails of their Central American sisters. The Nicaraguan women have worked all week as primary cooks in the communal kitchen to support this mission trip group that visits yearly as part of a long-term partnership. Around the circle of women, laughter, deep conversations and tears flow naturally. The nature of the relationship is one of deep camaraderie and fellowship instead of, "Let me do something for you, a poor Nicaraguan." (July 22, 2015)

The story reminded me of GPC's recent trip to Guatemala where a few of us joined the women in the kitchen on an isolated mountainside home. The women patted the tortilla dough in their hands and attempted to show us the way to make a beautifully symmetrical and flat tortilla. Laughter and joy erupted from our group and we shared stories about the work and role of women in each culture.

GPC is uniquely blessed with the opportunity to be engaged in two long term international mission partnerships and half a dozen local mission relationships. In a couple weeks, a group of five youth and three adults will travel to Jamaica to meet with our mission partners to share in worship, work, and reflect on how together we can bring about God's kingdom in the world. This last fall, Rev. Kimberly Hines, pastor of the Negril charge of churches in Jamaica, came to visit with us. During one of the many conversations we had, Rev. Hines said that in her coming to GPC she saw in new ways how this was about more than "mission" this was about relationships. Our relationship with one another and with God.

When our mission team leaves home on February 13<sup>th</sup>, we take a part of the congregation with us. Each night we will reflect together on the Lenten theme: "Welcome Home". What it means to leave home and return. How we experience home in places far away. And how God welcomes us back no matter what. We hope you will join us on Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am as we share our reflections in worship and following the service.

Peace,  
Melissa

## 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 Tracy Burkovich (527-0761) if you are interested in a one-time opportunity or ongoing commitment. Our next time to serve at Salem is Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. If you would like to carpool, please meet at GPC around 9:30.



## PUBLIC WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 2016

Date	Front Door Greeter	Lay Reader	Usher
February 7	Gladstone Crosdale	Bridget Wohlers	5
February 10	Carrie Dykes	Kay Harder	6
February 14	Peter Derry	Sherry Nau	1
February 21	Heather Pimm	Jim Meddaugh	2
February 28	Laura Nolan	Jamaica Mission Team	3

Communion: - Team C

Left: 1. Kris Ohman  
2. Irene Ward  
3. Irene Derry  
4. Donna Schott

Right: 1. Linda Beattie  
2. Tom Ward  
3. Peter Derry  
4. Mary Beth MacKenzie



## TRUSTEE LOCK UP SCHEDULE:

February: Al Waugh

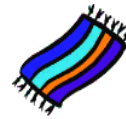
**FELLOWSHIP** -- Each Sunday the Deacons provide coffee and punch during our fellowship time following the service. We do this with several teams of three people. This year there will be some days that we will be short a person and could use your help to fill that void. Posted on the Kiosk is a list of those days that we will need someone to fill in to complete the team of three. All it takes is for you to sign up for one or more of those Sundays, then come and enjoy the fellowship with our church family. If you need information as to what will be needed of you on those days please contact Bruce Taylor at 594-2753.

## 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 will be used on the Jamaica Mission Trip 2016.

## NEWS FROM SESSION

Session would like to thank the congregation for their generosity this year. Due to reduced spending and your generosity during the Second Mile Budget Campaign the 2015 budget ended with a surplus. Based on recommendations from the Trustees, Session decided to use this surplus to purchase new carpet for the narthex outside the sanctuary. The old carpet was starting to become a safety concern. So look for new carpet coming soon and thank you again for giving so generously!



The Session approved mailing a letter of support to the Islamic community. This letter was mailed to the Iman at the Islamic Center of Rochester, Sheikh Ismet Husny Ahmad Akcin. The congregation had the opportunity before the holidays to read and sign the letter showing their support. Thank you to everyone who signed the letter.

In last month's Harbinger article, Session shared the new governance model.

Over the next few months we will share information about the new Elder positions that were created as part of this model. The Good News Elder will empower GPC to share the "good news" of how the gospel is being lived out at GPC and the world. This Elder will serve as a resource for the Core Value Ministries and will help them utilize as many communication tools as possible, such as email, face-to-face interactions, bulletins, the Harbinger, bulletin boards, news media, Facebook, the GPC website, etc). This Elder will work in collaboration with the staff, Elders, Trustees and Deacons to determine what should be communicated. Some new opportunities will be created to share the good news including quarterly conversations with the congregation and a GPC blog. The Good News Elder for 2016 will be Carrie Dykes.



The Spiritual Gifts Coordinating Elder, Kathy Wakeman, is asking for anyone interested in working with her, mostly via email, to update the time and talent sheet. Computer skills and experience with Excel are especially welcomed! Call Kathy at 247-3296, or email at kbwsings@yahoo.com if interested. This is a limit time commitment. Her goal is to get this done quickly so that we can get an updated time and talent sheet out to everyone in February. You will learn more about the Spiritual Gifts Elder in next month's Harbinger.



## PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS!



Jan and Tom Brewer

Claudia and David Weber



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 **\$29.80** 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. When we come together, we benefit from each other’s gifts, skills, visions, and ministries. 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 have not yet contributed \$29.80 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 it in the offering basket or send it to the office.

## Looking for a Way to Grow in Faith?

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

During February we will reflect on the following texts:

Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>

Luke 9:28-36, (37-43)

Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>

NO BIBLE STUDY Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32



**Please join us at the Ash Wednesday service  
Wednesday, February 10 at 7:00 p.m.**

**BRING A DOLLAR AND/OR CAN OF SOUP ON SUPER BOWL  
SUNDAY FOR THE “SOUPER” BOWL OF CARING  
FEBRUARY 7<sup>TH</sup>**



Our Junior Highs will be “TACKLING HUNGER” at the door of the sanctuary on February 7<sup>TH</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.

**ROCHESTER AREA PRESCHOOL** registration for the 2016-2017 school year has begun for GPC members and returning students. Please call the school’s registrar, Lisa Marino at 943-0838 or email her at [register4raptoday@gmail.com](mailto:register4raptoday@gmail.com), to reserve a spot in one of the classes.

Registration for the general public opens on Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Please pass the word on to relatives, friends, and neighbors.



ROCHESTER AREA PRE-SCHOOL

## Lenten Photo a Day Spiritual Practice

Lent, the season of the Christian Year that is typically observed as a time of simple living, prayer and fasting leading up to Easter, begins on Ash Wednesday [February 10, 2016]. Some of us will choose to give something up. Some will be more reflective and take on a new spiritual practice. Some will go about their lives as if it were ordinary time. However you choose to grow in your faith during this season, will you join your community of faith in this photo a day challenge? There is a word assigned for each day of Lent that fits with our theme at GPC "Welcome Home." Snap a photo on your phone or camera that reflects how you perceive the word in an image. No need to explain, simply share to our "GPC Members" Facebook page or post to your own Facebook page and tag us with #GPCwelcomehome P.S. Warning... shameless confession. We are in need of some fresh photos for our church website. Any photos you can take in a horizontal position would be great ☺

#GPCwelcomehome

### February

10 Heart	17 Warmth	24 Rest
11 Shelter	18 Water	25 Repair
12 Chaos	19 Debt	26 Rural
13 Give	20 Found	27 Security
14 Foundation	21 Walls	28 Door
15 Healthy	22 Give	29 Identity
16 Empty	23 Refuge	

### March

1 Urban	14 Love	27 Home
2 Family	15 Dwell	
3 Acceptance	16 Place	
4 Affordable	17 Alone	
5 Neighbor	18 Flee	
6 Window	19 Rebuild	
7 Bless	20 Welcome	
8 Temporary	21 Permanent	
9 Global	22 Comfort	
10 Together	23 Life	
11 Stability	24 Table	
12 Alone	25 Broken	
13 Roof	26 Quiet	



## PLEASE KEEP THE JAMAICA MISSION TRIP 2016 TEAM IN YOUR PRAYERS

On February 13<sup>th</sup>, eight GPC'ers will leave for Jamaica. This mission team will participate in the on-going 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, as well as other community mission sites. Members of the team are: Nadia Endulovski, Jennifer Hossenlopp, Katie Ohman, Jocie Pimm, Allison Tuttle, Melissa DeRosia, Tammy Endulovski, and Beth Molina. Please keep this team in your prayers. They return to Rochester on February 20<sup>th</sup>.

## SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

Bring food donations on Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup> to support the community! Junior High Youth will be collecting food and monetary donations after worship. The food will go to Cameron Community Ministries, and the money will be sent to St. Joseph's House of Hospitality.



## JUNIOR HIGH SOUPER BOWL/OVERNIGHT: FEBRUARY 6<sup>TH</sup>

The Souper Bowl is coming! To celebrate, we'll have an Extreme Bowling overnight on Saturday, Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> into Sunday, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>. Meet at the church at 9:00pm, bring \$10, and get ready to have fun! The next day at worship, we'll collect food donations and money for the Souper Bowl!



## SENIOR HIGHS SERVE: FEBRUARY 7<sup>TH</sup>

We'll be preparing a special Super Bowl meal on **February 7<sup>th</sup>** for the families at Ronald McDonald House. Bring a hat (or prepare to wear a hairnet), and meet up at 12:30 - we should be back by 2:30.

## JUNIOR HIGHS SERVE AT ST. JOSEPH'S – February 20<sup>th</sup>

Join us as we serve lunch at St. Joseph's soup kitchen on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>! Meet up at GPC at 10:00; we'll have fun helping out, grab lunch, and then be back by 3:00.

## SENIOR HIGH LASER QUEST

**February 21<sup>st</sup>:** Meet at GPC after Sunday School - we'll eat pizza and then head out to Laser Quest. Bring \$12 and expect to be back around 3:00.



**CONFIRMATION CLASS:** Our next meeting is on **February 21<sup>st</sup> from 3:00 (NOTE TIME CHANGE) to 4:45**, and we'll be discussing Presbyterian polity. Remember that by this water stop you should have half your points done!



## SUMMER WORK PROJECT DATES: Mark your calendars now!

Junior High: July 11-15th

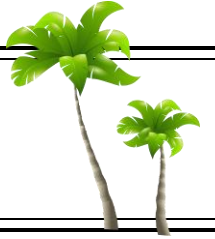
Senior High: July 31-August 6th



### Youth Calendar

- Tuesday, February 3 - 7:00pm Youth Ministry Team meeting
- Saturday, February 6 - 9:00pm Junior High Overnight Begins
- Sunday, February 7 - 9:30am Youth Choir rehearsal  
10:00am Worship "Souper Bowl of Caring"  
11:15am Jr. and Sr. High Sunday School  
12:30-2:30pm Senior Highs Serve at Ronald McDonald House
- Sunday, February 14 - 9:30am Youth Choir rehearsal  
10:00am Worship  
11:15am Jr. and Sr. High Sunday School
- Saturday, February 20 - 10:00am Jr. High Serve at St. Joseph's
- Sunday, February 21 - 9:30am Youth Choir rehearsal  
10:00am Worship  
11:15am Jr. and Sr. High Sunday School  
12:30pm S.r High Laser Quest  
3:00pm Confirmation - Polity
- Saturday February 27 - 9:30am Presbytery Boundaries Training
- Sunday February 28 - 9:30am Youth Choir rehearsal  
10:00am Worship - Fusion Sunday  
11:15am Jr. and Sr. High Sunday School

**THE JAMAICA MISSION TEAM** will share their experiences from their work project working with the Green Island Basic School and their other work sites on Sunday, February 28 after worship at 11:15 in the Adult Lounge. Hope to see you there!

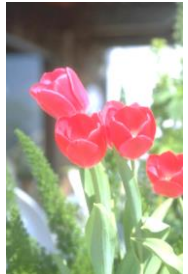


### MEN 2 MEN

Men 2 Men will meet February 28 at 8:00 a.m. for fellowship and breakfast in the Fellowship Hall. We will look at the history and meaning of Lent. Suggested donation for the breakfast is \$5.00. Please sign up on the sheet on the Kiosk.

### EASTER TULIPS

**If you would like to order a plant for display in the Sanctuary for Easter and/or donate to the Green Island Basic School in Jamaica in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill out the form below and send it with a check to the church office at (1049 Wegman Road, Rochester, NY 14624). Orders due March 6<sup>th</sup>. Make checks payable to Gates Presbyterian Church. This year tulips will be available for \$10.00.**



NAME OF DONOR (S)

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ADDRESS

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

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Please check appropriate donation:

Tulips \_\_\_\_\_ Green Island Basic School \_\_\_\_\_