



Exploring the Questions of Jesus

Wednesdays in April and May
6:30-7:30pm in the Jr. High Lounge

Guided by the questions Jesus asked in the Bible and we will reflect on the essays found in “What Did Jesus Ask? Christian Leaders Reflect on His Questions of Faith” edited by Elizabeth Dias (2010). All ages are welcome to join for the discussion. You can purchase a copy of the book on Amazon.com or Barnes and Noble.

May 4th “What is your name?”
Mark 5: 1- 13
Essay by Yolanda Pierce p. 89

May 11th “Why does this generation ask for a sign?”
Mark 8:1-13
Essay by Carrie Newcomer p. 105

May 18th “What do you want me to do for you?”
Mark 10: 46-52
Essay by Gene Robinson p. 135

May 25th “Why all this commotion and wailing?”
Mark 5:21-43
Essay by Mihee Kim-Kort p.96

SPIRITUAL JOURNEYS

Our next Journey, Good News/Hope is a counterpoint to the preponderance of negative news we experience daily through the various media. We plan to tell success stories and show how we can help ourselves when things seem dark and gloomy. As usual, we finish our journey with how our faith brings good news and hope to us every day of our lives.

All the legs of the journey are not yet scheduled, but we have three dates and venues arranged:

- Monday, May 9, 7:00pm at Gates Public Library
 - Environmental Successes
- Tuesday, May 24, 6:00pm at GPC, Room 2
 - Self Defense class
- Thursday June 2, at 7:00 at Elmgrove YMCA
 - Sylvia Sorensen (UR)
 - Hope research

The 4th leg is still under development and the final leg, back to our faith will be in June. We hope you will plan to experience some or all of the legs of this journey, it will be different. Tickets will be available in May.

FROM OUR STATED SUPPLY ASSOCIATE PASTOR:

Dear Friends,

Spring has sprung, and with it the world has burst into bloom. Flowers are finally free of snow (although an overnight frost is certainly still possible)! Here at GPC, we’ve been busy studying the questions of Jesus . . . and asking a few strange questions ourselves.

“How many breakfast pizzas do we need for confirmation Sunday?”

“Do we have any extra wheelbarrows?”

And my personal favorite . . .

“How much do kazoos cost? Do you think we could buy a few dozen for worship?”

There was a long few weeks when Melissa and I seriously considered going full party for Pentecost – kazoos, streamers, confetti, and party hats. I opened a Pentecost 2014 folder from Carol Anne and confetti fell out, so I know this wouldn’t have been the first time we’ve pulled out all the stops for a Pentecost party.

There’s something wonderful about church celebrations on Pentecost – after all, it is the church’s birthday! This year during Pentecost worship, we’ll celebrate the beginning of the church in scripture from Acts 2. But we’ll also celebrate that eight wonderful youth are being confirmed and joining our church! This year’s confirmation class has worked hard to learn about God and scripture. They’ve shared how they live out their faith in the world, volunteered at GPC mission events, and prepared to become full members of our community. It’s wonderful to celebrate their amazing faith journeys, especially on the same day we celebrate the start of the church.

In the end, this year we decided not to spring for kazoos for Pentecost (although it was tempting) – our confirmation class wanted to lead a slightly more formal worship service. Instead, our whole spring is full of celebrations! We’ve already had a beautiful Easter cantata, celebrating Christ’s resurrection with music, song, and poetry. Our children’s Sunday worship in June will be a joyous celebration of the gifts our children bring to worship, and a way to honor our seniors and sixth graders. And we’re getting ready to break ground for a GPC community garden, where neighbors and friends can come together to plant vegetables to share. I can’t think of a better way to celebrate spring than working outside together – although kazoos would be a close second!

This spring at GPC, we have many exciting opportunities:

to get to know our youth and honor our confirmation class,
to work in the garden and plant food for our community,
and to share our gifts in worship as a church.

We hope you join us for this spring of celebrations!

Peace,
Rev. Katie.

DEACONS' PAGE

Please keep in thoughts and prayers

Scott Blystone – recovering from surgery
Marge Westfall – recovering from surgery
Bill Walence -- continuing health concerns
Doris Falke now in Westwood Commons



In Sympathy

Dorrett and Fitzroy Crosdale and family – on the recent death of Dorrett's mother.
Louise Bernhart and family - on the recent death her husband, **Don**.
Pene Ritz and family – on the recent death of her husband, **William**.
Linda Badger Becker – on the recent death of her mother.

Prayers of Joy

Adriea Crosdale Laurore and husband, Joshua - on the birth of their son, **Josiah Camaron** on April 10. Proud **grandparents are Dorrett and Fitzroy Crosdale**, proud **great-grandparents are Ionie and Gladstone Crosdale**
Happy 50th Anniversary to Whit and Bonnie Beckett!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES:

Alison MacKenzie will be graduating from New York University May 19th with a Master's in Museum Studies. She would love to hear from you! Her address is:

Alison MacKenzie, 23-06 29th Avenue, Apr. 1R, Astoria, NY 11102

Please let the office know of others who are graduating from college or graduate school!

REMINDER TO DEACONS: The next Deacons' meeting is Monday, May 23rd at 7:00pm.

REBECCA CIRCLE will meet in the Adult Lounge at GPC on Tuesday, May 10th from 10:30am to approximately 2pm. Bring your lunch. Drinks and dessert are provided.

TABITHA CIRCLE meets on Wednesday, May 11th at 1:00 p.m. Bring your lunch. Read Chapter 6.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY meets next on Tuesday, May 3rd at 2:00 p.m. in Room 16.

SNOWBIRDS: Don't forget to let the church office know when you have returned to Rochester so that we can make sure your newsletter goes to the correct address.



The 2016 Giant Community Flea Market

scheduled for Saturday, June 4th is well under way!! As of this printing we have 28 space reservations booked - 8 inside and 20 outside. We still have plenty of space for

YOU! If you participated last year and want the same ... or a different space, let us know right away as the best spaces are going fast! If you did not participate last year, you missed a wonderful time to see your church friends, neighbors, and sell your "stuff." Get your Flyers and Reservation Forms from the table in the narthex. Also, talk with your friends and relatives about being a vendor!

You can also help this year as a volunteer. We have lots of ways you can help during the day. There will be signup sheets posted on the bulletin board soon. Sign up for an hour or several hours. Bill Dassero and the senior high youth will have donuts and coffee in the morning, as well as cooking and serving delicious lunch food from 11:30 until closing at 3:00. There will also be a baked food sale. Lots of ways to enjoy a beautiful day! Hope you will join us one way or another. Don't forget to encourage others to come and shop!!

- Thanks, Ginny and Beth

HELP NEEDED

On June 4th, the GPC youth group food booth will again be operational at the Flea Market, and needs help. We need people power to help set up, break down, and serve. As in the past, I need help from the youth to be serving in one of 2 blocks of time. From 8:15 - 11:45 and 11:30 - 2:45. The overlap is for training, and insuring there is staff to serve. If you want more information, or sign up, or if you want to donate for specific items, please contact Bill Dassero (328-6084).

MISSION NEWS

Backpacks for Haiti



A few weeks ago there was an article in our local newspaper about Borgne in Haiti that its sister city Honeoye Falls was helping. Many children there do not attend school due to a lack of finances. Honeoye Falls is helping out with money and sending backpacks to those children in school. We would like to help with this project. If you have gently used backpacks or would like to purchase a new backpack please bring them to GPC during the month of June. We will deliver them to the appropriate folk in Honeoye Falls. How many can we collect for them???

GOOD NEWS FROM SESSION

Quarterly Financial Update

Session wants to provide an update of our financial position as of the end of March. Thanks to your annual pledging & up-to-date pledge payments, we are holding a positive cash position after the first quarter in 2016. We also benefitted from a mild winter resulting in much lower snow plowing and RG&E costs during the first quarter. Thanks also to those of you that have paid your portion (\$29.80 for 2016) of GPC's Per Capita. If you have any questions about the information below, please talk with the members of Session.

	3/31/2016 Actual	3/31/2015 Actual
Total Income	\$82,953	\$80,707
Expense Summary:		
Staff Support	\$50,000	\$62,679
Maintenance/ Operating	\$18,154	\$24,770
Programming	\$ 5,639	\$ 5,598
Mission Programs	\$ 8,700	\$ 5,658
Total Expenses:	\$82,493	\$98,705
Total Income Less Expenses	\$ 460	(\$17,998)

SPRING CLEAN-UP – May 14th starting at 8:30 a.m.

The Trustees will be performing our annual spring clean-up on Saturday, May 14th this year. Come for an hour or all day. If you can't, then ask a trustee how you can help. Refreshments will be served! Bring the entire family!!

Since the scrap metal drive was so successful last year we are going to do it again. This year we would like to extend an extra service by coming to a member's home and picking up any Scrap Metal between May 7th and May 13th. Please, SCRAP METAL items only!! If you would like to schedule a scrap metal pick up please contact Buzz Bauman at (585) 637-0005 or Jason Taylor at (585) 764-6333.



MINISTRY TEAM FAIR

On Sunday, May 1st after worship, Session will host a Ministry Team Fair. The purpose is to connect congregational members with ministry opportunities. Gather in the Fellowship Hall after worship to learn about all the amazing work we do at GPC and how YOU can get involved!



ADOPT-A-GARDEN

Some garden areas around the church are available for YOU to plant. A sign-up sheet and map of the gardens are on the Kiosk. Signing up for a garden means you are willing to weed, water, and groom that area for this year. Let's keep our GPC gardens beautiful. Any questions, call the church office at 247-5292.

MEN 2 MEN

Men 2 Men will have breakfast May 22nd at 8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Suggested donation for the breakfast is \$5.00. Please sign up on the Kiosk.

CRAFTERS

Applications for GPC's annual craft show, the Church Mouse Bazaar, will be available for church members starting May 22nd in the publications rack in the narthex. We make them available to you two weeks before the general public! Send your applications in quickly, though. Our 39th Bazaar is Saturday, November 19th, so start working on those handcrafted items! If you have any questions, please contact Tess McKeel at 766-7151 or tessmckeel@hotmail.com



WOMEN'S SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

May 16 Gates Presbyterian vs. Open Door II on the Open Door field
May 23 Gates Presbyterian vs. Orchard Community Church at Orchard C.C.

PUBLIC WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR MAY

Date	Front Door Greeter	Lay Reader	Usher	Deacon
May 1	Gladstone Crosdale	Bridget Wohlers	2	2
May 8	Carrie Dykes	Helen Priestley	3	3
May 15	Peter Derry	Confirmation Class	4	4
May 22		Carol Brown	5	5
May 29	Laura Nolan	Rachel Kelly	6	6

Communion Team A:

Left: 1. Sally Christensen
2. Nancy Hossenlopp
3. Keith Morgan
4. Kay Harder

Right: 1. Mary Hadley
2. Keith Hadley
3. Carol Howell
4. Beverly Lamphron



Lock Up Schedule: May –Gary Dykes

NEWS FROM THE YOUNG CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE:

Children's Sunday this year will be on June 12th! Our Sunday School classes will plan and lead worship together. The theme this year will be "Wonder-ful World: It's Good to Be Curious!" Come and see what our children share with us. More information to come for parents.

YOUTH NEWS:

Junior High Moonlight Creamery Tour: Sunday, May 1st, 6-8

We'll meet up at GPC and head to Moonlight Creamery for a tour and ice cream tasting! Bring \$5 for delicious treats.

Junior High Retreat: Saturday, May 21st

It's time for our weekend retreat! We'll leave at 9am on Saturday, May 21st to go have fun at the Watson Homestead in Painted Post, NY. After a trip to Watkins Glen State Park and worship together, we'll be back home Sunday afternoon. Look in the mail for more information.

Senior High Birthday Bonfire at the Binkos': Sunday, May 15th

It's birthday time!!! We'll have a massive all-birthday celebration around a bonfire at Kecia's on Sunday, May 15th from 6-8. Carpooling to and from GPC (expect to leave at 6 sharp, and get back around 8:15), or meet us at Kecia's house. Bring a wrapped gift costing \$5 or less, and make it as weird as you'd like.

Confirmation Class:

You're getting confirmed this month!!! You'll be leading worship as a group on Sunday, May 15th, when you'll officially join the church. If you haven't RSVP'd for confirmation breakfast on the 15th at 8:30am, call the office and let us know how many people from your family are coming.

Calling All Awesome Adults:

Ever thought about coming on a youth work project? Adult sponsors help lead small group reflections, work hard with the youth, and HAVE FUN. Start thinking about whether you'd like to be part of this great experience with us.

Summer Work Project Dates: Mark your calendars now!

Junior High: July 11-15th

Senior High: July 31-August 6th in Detroit!

Be on the lookout for an info-filled letter coming your way soon.



Calling all Jamaica-bound seniors! There is a Q&A meeting for seniors and parents on **Sunday, May 1st at 12:15 in the Adult Lounge.** Your first payment and registration form are due Sunday, May 8th. Contact Katie if you have any questions.

Youth Calendar



Sunday, May 1	-- 9:30 Youth Choir rehearsal -- 10:00 Worship -- 11:15 Jr. High Sunday school -- 6:00 Jr. High Moonlight Creamery Tour
Sunday, May 8	Mother's Day -- 9:30 Youth Choir rehearsal -- 10:00 Worship
Sunday, May 15	Confirmation Sunday and Pentecost -- 9:30 Youth Choir rehearsal -- 10:00 Worship led by Confirmation Class -- 6:00 Sr. High Birthday Bonfire at the Binkos'
Saturday, May 21	-- 9:00am to Sun, May 22: Jr High Retreat
Sunday May 22	-- 9:30 Youth Choir rehearsal -- 10:00 Worship
Sunday, May 29	Fusion Sunday -- 9:30 Youth Choir rehearsal -- 10:00 Worship

CALLING ALL YOUNG ADULTS:

GPC's community garden is swinging into action, and we need your help! We're having a groundbreaking on Sunday, May 15, at 2pm. Join us and get ready to get dirty as we build raised-bed gardens and put up a fence. If you have tools like drills, shovels, or wheelbarrows, bring them - if not, we have plenty to share. See you there!

PENTECOST OFFERING

On May 15th we will receive the Pentecost Offering. This is a denominational second mile giving opportunity. It provides a direct way to meet the needs of children at risk, youth and young adults. We, at GPC, will keep forty percent of what is received to support our ministries benefiting these age groups. The General Assembly's portion (remaining 60 percent) provides leadership development opportunities for Presbyterian youth and young adults. It also supports children-at-risk programs at the national level. At GPC we have used our portion of the offering in various ways through the years. Some of those are: work project scholarships, Basic School project, school supplies for children in Jamaica.

