

FROM THE PASTOR

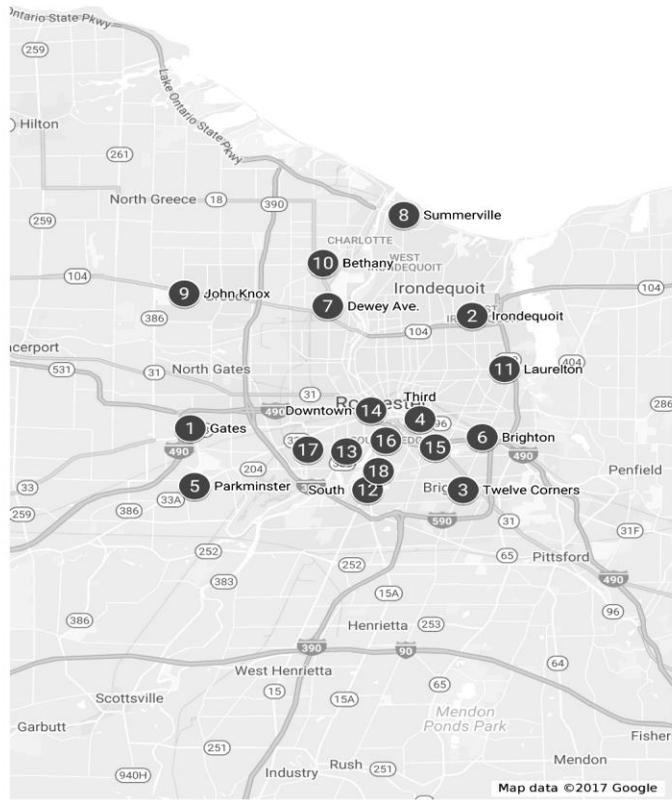
Dear GPC,

Not that long ago the Presbytery organized the congregations in our region into “neighborhoods” to encourage shared mission, mutual support and learning together what it means to be church in today’s changing world. GPC is part of “Riverside Neighbors” because the Genesee River runs through the middle of our neighborhood. Often the river is spoken about as what divides our region. We have chosen it as the symbol of what brings us together!

Riverside Neighbors Map

Churches

- 1 Gates
- 2 Irondequoit
- 3 Twelve Corners
- 4 Third
- 5 Parkminster
- 6 Brighton
- 7 Dewey Ave.
- 8 Summerville
- 9 John Knox
- 10 Bethany
- 11 Laurelton
- 12 South
- 13 Trinity Emmanuel
- 14 Downtown
- 15 New Life
- 16 Calvary St Andrew's
- 17 Rochester Presb. Home
- 18 Companions on the Way



Our neighborhood has recently received a \$50,000 grant from the Duke Divinity School to strengthen and enhance our capacity to serve its members and the broader community. This twelve month grant will help us determine our mission going forward and vision of the future. Melissa DeRosia, Katie Styrt, Carrie Dykes, Tom Brewer and Keith Hadley represent GPC in this grant project.

In the meantime, we are learning more about our neighbors. During Lent there was an All-Neighborhood discussion of the book “Waking Up White.” Coming in May each church will be sending out a few people church to visit other congregations in the neighborhood. If you might be interested in serving on one of the “Neighborhood Delegations” let Melissa know! We hope that by getting to know our neighbors better we can better support one another as we participate in God’s mission. We are also open to new ideas for how to get to know our neighbors better and serve God together.

Melissa

BIBLE STUDY

Every Wednesday evening from 6:30-7:30 p.m. 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 May we will reflect on the book of Acts:

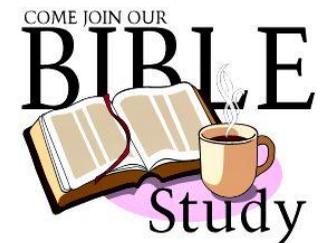
Wednesday, May 3rd Acts 4-5

Wednesday, May 10th Acts 6

Wednesday, May 17th Acts 10

Wednesday, May 24th Acts 16

Wednesday, May 31st Acts 20



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DEACONS' PAGE

Please keep in thought and prayer:

Lauren Henderberg recovering after a short hospital stay

JoAnn Vander now home from rehab

David Keiling now home recovering from burns

Tom Ward's mother in hospital

Jan Brewer's sister and sister-in-law in hospital

Mike Frisch back at Monroe Community Hospital recovering after surgery



Congratulations to:

Scott and Jennifer Christensen on the birth of their son, **Zachary Richard**, born April 5. Proud grandparents are Sally and Steve Christensen and, of course, proud big brother, Joshua!

REMINDER TO DEACONS:

The next Deacons' meeting is Monday, May 22nd at 7:00 p.m. in the Adult Lounge.



REBECCA CIRCLE will meet on Monday, May 8th at 11:00 a.m. in the Adult Lounge. Bring a lunch. Drinks and dessert will be provided.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY will meet on Tuesday, May 2nd at 2:00 p.m. in Room 16.

LUNCH BUNCH meets at 11:30 a.m. every Tuesday in the Fellowship Hall.

REMINDER: If you have a son or daughter graduating high school or graduate school this year, let the office know so that we may add our congratulations!

THE PRESBYTERY OF GENESEE VALLY INVITES YOU TO THE ORDINATION OF *Omar Anthony Rouchon*

to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament

Sunday, May 28, 2017
at 2 o'clock in the afternoon
Gates Presbyterian Church
1049 Wegman Road
Rochester, New York

MEN 2 MEN

Men 2 Men will have breakfast May 21st at 8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Suggested donation for the breakfast is \$5.00. Please sign up on the Kiosk.

GPC CRAFTERS

Come and sell your handcrafted items at our annual fall craft show, the Church Mouse Bazaar. Applications will be available for church members starting in late May. Check your Sunday bulletins for the exact date. We make them available to you two weeks before the general public! Send your application in quickly, though, because the outside crafters love this show! Our 40th bazaar is Saturday, November 18th, so start working! If you have any questions, please contact Tess McKeel at 766-7151 or tessmckeel@hotmail.com



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.

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL SCHEDULE:

May 15 – Gates Presbyterian vs. Open Door II at the Gates Presbyterian Church field

May 22 – Gates Presbyterian vs. Orchard Community Church at Orchard Community Church field

Games start at 6:15 p.m.



PUBLIC WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR MAY

Date	Front Door Greeter	Lay Reader	Usher	Deacon
May 7	J. C. Rouchon	Confirmands	1	4
May 14	Tommy Kelly	Tami Pignone	2	5
May 21	Kathy Wakeman	Barbara Snaith	3	1
May 28	Tess McKeel	Paula Sousa	4	2

Communion Team D:

Left: 1. Ann Marie Simm
2. Gordon Chapman
3. Osmond Simm
4. Dan Charcholla

Right: 1. Bruce Taylor
2. Barb Chapman
3. Maya Charcholla
4. James Poole



MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Gates Presbyterian will be working with Third Presbyterian Church in a Summer Sizzle Program.

Here is an opportunity for you to help grow in ministry to youth in Rochester this summer and/or during the school year. Many local youth are financially disadvantaged and/or labelled “at risk.” Let’s take back the term “at risk” to mean at risk of success, not failure. We can make success happen by increasing their cultural and academic capital, decreasing summer learning loss and pooling our resources.

Melanie Jones from Third Presbyterian is the Director of this seven-week camp like program. In partnership with Cameron Community Ministries, the Gandhi Center and with potential to expand, the **program will benefit up to 25 children ages 9-12. Beginning July 10. Summer Sizzle will meet Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30pm - 8:30pm (or 9:00 on-trip nights).** They are launching this year’s program based upon successful outcomes from their pilot program in 2015. Summer Sizzle provides a safe haven and will fill an additional need for children who attend summer school, giving them access to enrichment activities to balance their academics. Children will have hands on exploration of community activities, nature, music workshops and culturally focused dance classes. Additionally, they will use play and engage their peers to learn about non-violent communication and problem solving. Field trips will serve to let learning and curiosity unfold in new surroundings.

Here are some ways to be a part of this exciting opportunity:

There is a need for 6-12 volunteer staff members to serve as on-site chaperones/counselors. To ensure a stable community for the children, they are asking for a minimum commitment of four out of the six weeks. Also, people are needed who can provide one-time (or more) hands-on workshops about hobbies, academic subjects and work that they are passionate about. Prayerfully consider your involvement in this initiative for tomorrow’s success stories.

If you would like to be a chaperone or willing to share your talent, please contact Ann Marie Simm – 585-594-2142 or email to annmariesimm55@gmail.com.

Note that there will also be a fall/ spring afterschool program that will be announced at a later date. There will be options to present longer term workshops and have increased participation.

- Mission Team

MISSION NEWS:

Foodlink Mobile Pantry Program coming to GPC in June!

Like a market on wheels, Foodlink’s Mobile Pantry delivers perishable food directly to the people who need it. Perishable food from Foodlink’s warehouse is loaded into a 22-foot refrigerated truck and delivered to a distribution site. Foodlink staff and volunteers unload, set-up and distribute the food directly to clients. The goal is to provide food for up to 200 households at every distribution.

Mission Team members are making arrangements with Foodlink to use the GPC parking lot as a distribution site for the Mobile Pantry. Foodlink will handle “getting the word out”, and the Mission Team will recruit volunteers and coordinate the event. The time commitment for volunteers will be about 4 hours, from set-up through clean-up. Stay tuned for more information – date and time (yet to be determined, but likely in June) and opportunities to volunteer.

THE HOUSE OF MERCY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS:

The House of Mercy needs your help! Volunteer assignments include: front desk reception, overnight supervision, security, guest assistance, clothing distribution and laundry, stocking and inventory, drivers for pickup and delivery, food service, office and administration, cleaning and custodial, maintenance and handyman, buildings and grounds upkeep, social work and individual assistance and job and housing searches. These are 4-hour shifts.

Please contact Bill at 585-348-9725 or email wjstrusz@gmail.com or come to 285 Ormond Street, Monday-Friday from 1-4pm.

LIBRARY NEWS

....Reminder! GPC has a great library of books on a multitude of topics. The children’s library is in the same room and has a lot of books also. Please stop in and look around. Sign out anything of interest to you.

...Something New! Books addressing grief and loss are on the wooden display stand.

WORSHIP TEAM: Please note that the Team will meet on Tuesday, May 2, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Adult Lounge.

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. If you have any questions or want to learn more, let us know! We’re always looking for more dedicated adults to work with our wonderful youth.

Children's Sunday this year will be on June 11th! Our Sunday School classes will plan and lead worship together. The theme this year will be God's World is Very Good! Come and see what our children share with us. More information to come for parents.



The 2017 Giant Community Flea Market, scheduled for Saturday, June 3rd, is well under way!! Here at mid-April we already have 17 vendors: 15 indoor spaces and 13 outdoor. Many are coming back for the 3rd year and requesting more spaces, so this has become a popular event in the community! We plan to add additional indoor vendors this year along the classroom hallway as the demand for spaces continues to increase. But we still have plenty of space for YOU!! If you participated last year and want the same space, let us know soon as the prime spaces are going quickly. Get your Reservation Forms from the table in the narthex, and take extras to share with your friends and relatives to be a vendor or just come to shop!

A big THANK YOU to those who have already donated BOOKS! We can use as many as you can bring, so keep them coming! There are lots of ways you can VOLUNTEER! Signup sheets will be on the kiosk soon, so please help in whatever way you can. You will have more fun than work! Sign up for an hour, or as much time as you like. The Senior High Youth will have donuts and coffee in the morning, as well as their delicious lunch food from 11:30 to 3:00 so plan to be here for lunch!

Do you have perennials in your yard? It's time to divide them! Remember our PLANT SALE. We'll be happy as clams to take your potted donations. Let us know if you need pots!! And ... Don't forget about the BAKED FOOD SALE! Please donate as much as you can as this is a huge part of our fund raising. These "goodies" sell out early, so the more the better! And, this year the Lunch Bunch will join us again, this time outside with their typical items. We are so happy to have these ladies back with us!!

There are lots of ways you can enjoy this beautiful day and support your church! Hope you will join us and bring others with you! Thanks, and we'll see you there!

HELP NEEDED

On June 3rd, the GPC youth group food booth will be open again at the 2017 GPC Flea Market. We need people power to help set up, break down, and serve. Sign-up sheets will be on the Kiosk soon. 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. Please see Katie to sign up to serve. All proceeds go to the youth and we cleared over \$632.00 last year. If you want more information, or sign up, or if you want to donate for specific items, please contact Bill Dassero via Facebook, e-mail or phone (328-6084). Thanks!

MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS:

Julie Lewis

Julie is currently a Software Quality Assurance Engineer @ Kodak Alaris. Her hobbies are photography and genealogy. She also loves nature and gardening! Julie grew up in Gates. Walt Priestly was their paper boy when she was young and her family lived in Gates and years later her boss at Kodak.

Simon Njumbwa

Simon is a Professor at Roberts Wesleyan College. He enjoys traveling, bicycling, reading, writing, gardening, volunteering, and amateur photography. His interests also include outreach events and activities and international development issues. Simon was born in Cameroon, West Africa and the USA is his current home country. Simon makes his home in Irondequoit. He is fluent in English and French.

Kate Stanford

Kate is a Primary Therapist/Mental Health Counselor at Genesee Mental Health Center specializing in trauma work. Prior to working as a counselor, she spent 20 years in the Information Technology and Telecommunications field. She's also a Reiki Master. Katie enjoys gardening, cooking, wine tasting, photography, writing, labyrinth walking, hiking, swimming, day trips, swing dancing, reading, and many more. She's hoping she can remember how to ride a bike so that she can start biking again this summer!

AND OUR CONFIRMANDS:

Aleigha Binko is a kind-hearted, diligent young lady that strives for success. Aleigha goes to Spencerport Cosgrove Middle School and is currently in the 8th grade. Aleigha plays trombone and guitar in school. She has been in volleyball and track this year and hopes to keep running in high school. Aleigha would like to go to college when she graduates from high school for architecture and to study abroad in South Korea.

Ryan Davis is 15 years old and in the 9th grade at Spencerport High School. In his spare time he plays the trumpet and enjoys playing tennis. Ryan's favorite subject in school is geometry. He is also a member of the National Junior Honors Society.

Zachary Henchen is a freshman at Gates Chili High School. He plays trombone for the marching band and runs cross country. Zach has also been training in martial arts for 6+ years. He is excited to finally become a member of the church.

Rachel Kelly is a very random 9th grader who loves to participate in musicals, draw, and babysit. She was in “Oklahoma” and “The Wizard of OZ.” Rachel wants to work in the biology field when she is older. She is so excited to join this amazing church community.

Jordan McEntee is 14 years old and goes to Spencerport High School. Family and friends play an important role in his life and are always there for him. Academics are also important to Jordan. He participates in school soccer and golf. Jordan has always wanted a dog!

Carson Wohlers is an 8th grader at Churchville-Chili Middle School. He enjoys running and acting. In the future, Carson would like to go to Cornell for theatre and archeology. His other interests include baseball, scouting, and finding random things in old storage rooms.

YOUTH:

Senior High Hike - May 21st, from 12:30 - 3:00 p.m.

We've decided that it's going to be perfect hiking weather! Meet at GPC; we'll eat pizza and then head out for a fun hike. Dress casually!

Junior High Mega-Hike – May 21st – 12:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Since there's no Jr High Retreat this year, we're going to have a jam-packed afternoon of fun instead! Meet at GPC at 12:30 on May 21st and bring a sack lunch. We'll drive out of town for a picnic and wilderness hike, then get dinner out, and be back to church at 7:00pm. Bring \$5 for dinner and your sack lunch.

Jamaica Orientation:

2018 seniors, it's time to start thinking about your JAMAICA MISSION TRIP! You should have received a letter in the mail telling you more information about this amazing opportunity. Please contact Katie if you have any questions, and we hope to see you on May 7th after Sunday School for our first meeting! If you are not 100% ready to commit by May 7th, your non-refundable \$100 deposit and registration form are due on May 14th.

Confirmation class:

You're getting confirmed this month!!! You'll also be leading worship as a group on Sunday, May 7th, when we get to celebrate your amazing faith journeys. If you haven't RSVP'd for confirmation breakfast at 8:30am on the 7th, call the office and let us know who's coming.

The confirmation class will join the church on Sunday, May 7th. Everyone is invited to come celebrate this special occasion! These six youth will be leading worship and sharing a special video they made about their faith journeys.

WORK PROJECT BOUND

Are weeds taking over your garden? Do you need a babysitter? How about someone to spread mulch? Youth Team has a solution for you: Work Project Bound!

Work Project Bound is a program created to help defray the personal expenses of youth going on mission work projects.

Here is how it works:

1. The Youth Committee creates a list of young people who are interested in being part of Work Project Bound.
2. You contact the church office 247-5292 or email katie@gatespres.org to ask for helpers.
3. We give you the name of a youth. We tell them that you will be contacting them. You connect with the youth and make arrangements.
4. You pay \$9.00 an hour for the work done. Rather than paying the youth, you put the money in the box in the office marked “Work Project Bound” with the youth’s name attached.
5. The youth is then given credit toward their Work Project fee. A win/win to be sure! Thanks!

YOUTH CALENDAR



Sunday, May 7 - Confirmation Sunday!

9:30 a.m. -- Youth Choir

10:00 a.m. -- Worship

11:15 a.m. -- Junior and Senior High Sunday School

Sunday, May 14 - Mother's Day

9:30 a.m. -- Youth Choir

10:00 a.m. -- Worship

Sunday, May 21

9:30 a.m. -- Youth Choir

10:00 a.m. -- Worship

11:15 a.m. -- Junior and Senior High Sunday School

12:30 a.m. -- Senior High Hike and Junior High Mega-Hike

Sunday, May 28

9:30 a.m. -- Youth Choir

10:00 a.m. -- Fusion Sunday Worship

Summer Work Project Dates: Mark your calendars now!

Junior High: July 17-12th

Senior High: August 6-11th at Camp Whitman! Although this location is closer than last year's work project, youth must be fully committed to this week of service and may not leave early or arrive late.

