

## FROM THE DEACONS

Please keep in thought and prayer:

**Patricia Sawyer** recovering from pneumonia

**Marge Westfall** recovering from surgery for a broken ankle

**Hannah Walker** recovering from an eye infection

**Steve Christensen** recovering from knee surgery



Our sympathy to:

**JoAnn Vander, Tracy Vander, and Mark Vander** on the recent death of husband and father,  
**Ed Vander**

**ARTICLES FOR THE MAY HARBINGER ARE DUE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE BY  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2017.**

**REMINDER TO DEACONS:** There is no Deacons' meeting in April.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY GROUP:** The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at  
2:00 p.m. in Room 16.

**REBECCA CIRCLE** will meet on Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 at GPC. Bring a lunch. Drinks and  
dessert will be provided as well as fun and fellowship.

## THANK YOU

I want to thank each and every one who sent me cards and notes, called and sent such warm  
wishes my way after I was hospitalized with pneumonia in January, then had a pace maker  
installed, spent most of January in hospital/rehab.

You also sent prayers my way and I am grateful beyond words.

Fran Henderson

## A note from Rev. Katie:

Thanks for all the lovely cards, notes, and hugs I've received in my final weeks at GPC! I am  
touched by your support, and am grateful for our time together.

## FROM THE PASTOR . . . . .

Dear GPC,

Planning what to wear at the Easter Sunrise service usually consists of determining if I will need  
my heaving winter jacket and gloves, or if a lighter fleece will suffice. This year, I am afraid,  
snow boots will need to be added to the list! I am always amazed though, that the weather  
never deters a faithful group from rising early from their warm beds and huddling together  
outside around the table to watch the sun peak over the horizon and hear God's story of hope  
for this world once more. The service never lasts long, but by the end those gathered depart  
with a feeling that this is what it means to be the church and witnesses to the resurrection. That  
we even show up when the conditions aren't ideal, but are confident that the light of God's love  
will warm even the coldest parts of our heart and world. Because, the resurrection promise is  
that not even the coldness of death has the final word.

Even if you don't make it up that early, I hope you will make to church throughout Holy Week  
and the Easter season. If you have never experienced our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday  
services with creative interpretations of the story, it is always worth the time to hear the story  
once again. This year you are also invited to experience the Stations of the Cross at the newly  
established ROC SALT Mission Center, at 95 Averill Ave. in the city. Come experience the beauty  
of the stained-glass windows in this sacred space as well as to pray your way through Jesus' final  
journey.

The Easter Celebrations continue beyond April 1<sup>st</sup> (when you can also join us for worship at  
10am if you don't make it to the Sunrise service at 6:30am). On April 8<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate the  
ministry of Rev. Katie Styrt and her final Sunday with us. April 15<sup>th</sup> will be our chance to dust off  
our kilts and pipes in a celebration of our Scottish heritage with the Kirkin' O the Tartan. And  
FUS!ON Sunday in April will offer everyone a chance to celebrate God's creation and "Activate  
our Faith." Maybe by then we can pack away the winter boots... though it is Rochester after all!  
In the meantime, we can join our hopes for spring together in prayer, using the words of the  
Chinook Psalter:

*O Lord,*

*May we today be touched by grace, fascinated and moved by this  
your creation, energized by the power of new growth at work  
in your world.*

*May we move beyond viewing this life only through a frame, but  
touch it and be touched by it,  
know it and be known by it,  
love it and be loved by it.*

*May our bodies, our minds, our spirits, learn a new rhythm paced  
By the rhythmic pulse of the whole created order.*

*May spring come to us, be in us and recreate life in us. Amen*

Peace, Melissa

## BIBLE STUDY

Every Wednesday evening from 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 April we will reflect on the following texts:

<b>Wednesday, April 4</b>	<b>John 20:19-36</b>
<b>Wednesday, April 11</b>	<b>1 John 1:1-4</b>
<b>Wednesday, April 18</b>	<b>1 John 1:5 – 2:2</b>
<b>Wednesday, April 25</b>	<b>1 John 4:1-6</b>

## PUBLIC WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR APRIL

Date	Lay Reader	Greeter	Usher Team	Deacon Team
April 1	Carrie Dykes	Tess McKeel	1	1
April 8	Todd Pimm	Kathy Wakeman	2	2
April 15	Aleigha Binko	Bridget Wohlers	3	3
April 22	Rachel Kelly	Keith Hadley	4	4
April 29	Janice Beutner	Whit Beckett	5	5

Communion – Sunday, April 1, Team D

Left:	1. Ann Marie Simm	Right:	1. Bruce Taylor
	2. Gordon Chapman		2. Barb Chapman
	3. Osmond Simm		3. Dana Hart
	4. Dan Charcholla		4. James Poole

## PARENTS OF 2018 HIGH SCHOOL, COLLEGE, OR GRADUATE SCHOOL

**STUDENTS:** Please call the church office (247-5292) or email us at [office@gatespres.org](mailto:office@gatespres.org) to let us know of your son's or daughter's graduation!

## LUNCH BUNCH

Dust off your needles and thread, your knitting needles or crochet hooks and supplies of yarn. On April 17<sup>th</sup>, we will resume our Tuesday meetings from 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a lunch and help us complete some of the projects we have been working on at home. We have lost some of our faithful workers, so we welcome newcomers to help out!

## MISSION NEWS

### LENTEN WALL OF FOOD – Lenten Food Drive for SWEM (Southwest Ecumenical Ministries)

Thank you to all who donated food to our Lenten Wall of Food during Lent!



### 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 at 247-5292 if you are interested in going. Our next time to serve at Salem is **Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**. If you would like to carpool, please meet at GPC around 9:30 a.m.

## ST. JOSEPH'S HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY

On Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, GPC will be serving lunch at St. Joseph's House of Hospitality. We need food donations, cooks and servers.



**Food donations:** See sign-up on the Kiosk.

Please put donations in the GPC kitchen by noon on Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Cooks:** The meal will be prepared on Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m. in the GPC kitchen  
Sign-up on the Kiosk.

**Servers:** Meet at St. Joseph's at 10:30 a.m. Prepare to stay until 1:30 p.m. Sign-up on the Kiosk. St. Joseph's is located at 402 South Avenue.



### Kirkin' O the Tartan: April 15<sup>th</sup> 10:00am

Lovers of Bagpipes and Kilts!! There will be a Kirkin' at GPC on Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> during the regular church service. Wear your Tartan, bring a friend! Come and enjoy the sights and sounds of calling the clans and pipes procession.

**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.

**MEN 2 MEN** will meet Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall. There will be a signup on the Kiosk. Suggested donation for breakfast is \$5.00.



Our fourth GPC Community Flea Market is fast approaching and we're excited for a successful event on Saturday, June 2nd. Some things you need to know: again this year, we will ONLY be accepting donations of:

- Books: novels, biographies, etc. (NO textbooks, encyclopedias, journals, magazines or tapes please!)
- Potted Plants
- Baked Foods ... Any time on Friday or the morning of the market.
- Please do not donate other items as we will have no space to sell them. Thank You!!

Donations can be left along the back (east) wall of the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings when you come to church beginning on May 13th thru May 27th. After that we will have people in the office to receive your donations on Thursday and Friday, May 31st and June 1<sup>st</sup> during regular office hours from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Normally the building is locked up tight to protect the pre-school children, so please ring the doorbell for drop-offs during those hours. If you unable to deliver during these hours, please call Larry at 247-3296 and we will make other arrangements to accommodate your schedule.

On Sunday, April 29th, look for sign-up forms on the kiosk where you can volunteer for short periods of time to help us with set up of indoor spaces and marking of outdoor spaces, help in church-benefit booths, act as hosts and hostesses, parking and traffic control and cleanup. Also, we would appreciate your time if you would like to work with the youth setting up and selling food. Thank you for all your encouragement and assistance ... whatever you can do. Also, **CONSIDER BEING A VENDOR!** You'll have a great time!!

## SPRING CLEAN UP – Saturday, May 19th – 8:30 a.m.

- Do you take pride in your church home?
- Are you looking for a way to help but don't have a lot of time to commit?
- Do you love fresh air and (maybe, please!) sunshine?
- Do your kids or grand-kids enjoy running and playing with their friends at church?
- Do you enjoy spending time with your GPC friends?
- Are you looking for something the whole family can do together?
- Do you like to feel a sense of accomplishment, knowing you are helping out a good cause?
- Is God calling you to get more involved in your community?

If YES! Then join us on SATURDAY May 19th 8:30 a.m. – come for an hour or all day, whatever you can do to help for our SPRING CLEANUP. Refreshments and snacks (donuts!) will be provided. If you have any questions, contact Marty Ohman, Roger Best, Abby Jarvis, or any member of GPC Board of Trustees. If this day does not work for you and you still want to help, let us know! There are tasks that can be undertaken beforehand at your convenience.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The green, green grass of Gates Presbyterian Church! Hopefully that will be the case in the near future. If and when it is, we will need volunteers to help mow that grass. If it is any incentive there will be a brand new zero turn mower to use this year. Training will be provided for all our mowers.



If you would like to help keep the grass looking good, please contact me, Wayne Smith at [wesmith2@hotmail.com](mailto:wesmith2@hotmail.com) or 585 519 6348.

For those who VOLUNTEERED in 2017 and DO NOT want to continue, please contact me.

Thank you!

## TODDLERS AND TINIES GROUP

Join us from 2:30-4:30 on the Third Thursday of the month (April 19th) for snacks, playtime and friends! All little ones and parents/grandparents are welcome. Contact Vicki Gutheil 330-1839 with any questions.

## **From the Renewal Ministry Team**

The Renewal Ministry Team continues to gather and develop creative plans for worship during our time of renewal this coming summer.

There will be three main events this summer.

1. July 27-30 we have at least 20 people going to Stony Point Center (stoneypointcenter.org).

We have two learning experiences that everyone can be a part of here in Rochester. The two learning opportunities will revolve around Judaism and Islam and will consist of 4 events each. People can go to any or all of the events and we will invite our Riverside Neighbors to join us.

2. We will have a second hour where we will learn about Judaism, we will attend a Jewish service at a Temple, a Jewish Rabbi will lead worship with us on a Sunday morning and we will have a traditional Jewish meal.

3. We will do the same for Islam. We will learn about Islam, attend a Muslim service at the Islamic Center, have a group of young Muslim women lead Sunday worship and we will have a traditional Middle Eastern meal.

We will be sending out a letter with specifics including dates and locations. You are encouraged to reach out to the members of the Renewal Team to ask questions and express your desire to become involved in the planning. Members of the Renewal Team are, Michelle Bartell, Carrie Dykes, Velta Rouchon, Kate Stanford, Eric Vail, John Kubiniec and Rev. Dr. Melissa DeRosia.

### **Renewal Pastor:**

As the Time for Renewal for GPC and Melissa fast approaches, we are excited to share with you the news that we will welcome Rev. David Kilgore to serve as the Renewal Pastor. David will serve in this role in a part-time capacity. Here is a bit about him:

Rev. David Kilgore, with wife Mary, moved to Avon NY about five years ago, following his retirement as pastor of the United Presbyterian Church of Hornell, NY. He had served there for 25 years. He was recently the Moderator of the Presbytery of Geneva, being part of the team that led that presbytery through a leadership crisis. He is a past secretary of the Avon Rotary Club; he is on the Board of Directors of Teresa House, a comfort care home in Geneseo; and he is the treasurer of the Rochester Dahlia Society. David and Mary have two adult children and five grandchildren, two of whom are in Hornell; the other three are in Jacksonville FL. When he is not doing church related activities, David shares gardening with Mary and building Lego projects with the grandchildren.

David will be preaching and leading worship on May 13<sup>th</sup> when Melissa is on vacation.

## **CRCDS Graduation Ceremony**

**Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup> 10:00am**

**Mt. Olivet Baptist Church**

**141 Adams St. Rochester, NY**

YOU are invited to celebrate the graduation of the Rev. Dr. Melissa DeRosia from Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School!

## **Welcome GPC's NEW Office Manager**

Starting April 17<sup>th</sup> GPC will welcome a new Administrative Assistant. Karen Kozlowski lives in Chili with her husband Tim of 16 years. They have 2 children Tyler, age 12 and Emily, age 11. They have 2 cats Midnight and Skittles and are planning on adopting a dog soon. She enjoys reading, crafts, going to the movies, and spending time with family. During the summer they enjoy picnics at local parks, hiking, and camping. They also enjoy watching their son play baseball and going to Red Wings games. Karen served as vice president of the parent/teacher association at her daughter's school and is a member of the school improvement team there as well. Karen describes herself as a friendly, kind, and compassionate person. "I am looking forward to my role here at Gates Presbyterian Church!"

Plans for celebrating Kay and Vicki's retirement will be happening in May. Stay tuned! In the meantime, Vicki plans to remain in her role as Financial Administrator, part of the Youth Team and softball co-captain. And Kay stays active at GPC on Mustard Seed, Youth Team, Young Children's Team, as a Deacon, in the church choir, and a member of Rebecca Circle.

## **GPC Office Hours**

Starting the week of April 16<sup>th</sup> GPC will have a change in office hours. Please note, the office will now be closed on Mondays. Our new hours (and will remain consistent over the summer):

**Tuesday- Friday 9:00am- 2:00pm**



## **Katie's Last Sunday Celebration – April 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Please join us in worship on Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup> as we celebrate and bless Rev. Katie Styrts' ministry with us during worship. Then, after the service, you are invited to the Fellowship Hall for cake and an opportunity to say goodbye.**



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

**Junior High: July 16-20**

Sites around Rochester.

**Senior High: August 5-11** in New York City.



## FUS!ON Sunday April 29<sup>th</sup>

This Fall we are excited to reveal a model of Sunday School to “Spark” new faith in our church community! Worship with us on FUS!ON Sunday to explore how all ages can engage in the Bible story through different styles of learning and activities.

## 2019 Jamaica Mission Trip

Q & A Orientation for Parents and Youth

April 15<sup>th</sup> Senior High Lounge

12:15pm-12:45

Letters have gone out to 2019 graduating seniors who qualify to participate on the Mission Trip to Jamaica. This orientation is to invite you and your questions about the trip!

## BOTTLES AND CANS

The Youth Team has set up an account with Flower City Redemption Center, 2374 Chili Avenue for bottles and cans. All you have to do is drop your bottles and cans off at the redemption center and tell them they are for Gates Presbyterian Church. They send us a check every month for what is collected. We will still take your bottles and cans here at the church if you prefer. Any questions???? Call the church office at 247-5292. These monies go to the Jamaica mission trips.

## Church Safety Training and Emergency Response

April 15<sup>th</sup> 2018 11:15am- 12:15pm

Adult Lounge

Gates Police Department will host a training opportunity for leaders (elders, trustees, deacons) worship leaders (ushers) and all those interested in learning more about how we can understand the best ways to respond to safety and security concerns.

## Presbytery Intergenerational Mission Day @ ROC SALT

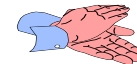
**April 28, 2018 - 9:30am-1:00pm**

**ROC Salt Mission Center – 68 Ashland Street**

Neighborhood Mission Day: All ages are welcome to join the Riverside Neighborhood of the Presbytery (churches in our geographic “neighborhood”) in this intergenerational service day working together at ROC SALT Mission Center. We will be cleaning garden beds, planting, cleaning inside and painting. We will then share lunch and be done by 1:00pm. Cost is \$5.00. Please RSVP by Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at the website below. Youth (Junior and Senior Highs), contact your Youth Advisors with questions (see article in youth information area).

**Everyone else, please register: [pbygenval.org/upcoming-events/](http://pbygenval.org/upcoming-events/) or contact Keith Hadley ([keith.a.hadley@gmail.com](mailto:keith.a.hadley@gmail.com)) with questions.**

There are also several other service activities in other neighborhoods on this day, too! If you’d like something more nature-focused, register via the same link to serve at Camp Whitman, Geneseo’s community garden, or Lagom Landing instead.



## THANK YOU

The Hospitality Ministry would like to extend a big thank you to all the volunteers that helped out with the parking lot valet service this past winter and early spring. Winter seemed especially long, cold and snowy this year even though we had some record setting high temperatures in February. So many Sundays were cold, slippery & snowy. Once again, it was very pleasing to hear so many thankful comments about this service. Coming to Church early on a cold, windy and snowy Sunday to shovel snow and put down ice melting product is not something everyone looks forward to but the volunteers braved the elements and never hesitated when asked to help out. This extra effort offered on Sundays, some of which were pretty cold, shows just how willing people of GPC are to step right in and lend a helping hand. This is truly a caring Church family and we should all be very proud of the willingness these volunteers have shown to help others out. Thank You To All Of You.

## YOUNG ADULT SECOND SUNDAY

Katie's last day at GPC is April 8th, so we'll play this one by ear. You're invited to Katie's last Sunday in worship and cake afterwards. If folks are around at 12:30, we'll head to Jeremiah's and have lunch together - please RSVP so we can plan ahead.





## YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### **JUNIOR HIGHS SERVE AT THE PRESBYTERIAN HOME**

Sunday, April 8th, 12:30-3:30. Join us after Sunday School for pizza before we head to the Presbyterian Home for an afternoon of service and an ice cream social with the residents! Drop-off and pick-up at GPC.

### **PRESBYTERY INTERGENERATIONAL MISSION DAY AT ROC Salt:**

**Saturday, April 28, 2018 - 9:30am-1:00pm**

**ROC Salt Mission Center – 68 Ashland Street**

This presbytery-wide event is also for Junior and Senior Highs. Youth will meet at GPC, head out to help get the ROC Salt building ready for summer, and share lunch and reflection. Bring \$5 for food and supplies, and dress for painting! To make sure we have enough lunches, please RSVP to Tracy or Beth (or reply to Remind) by April 23nd.

## YOUTH CALENDAR

- Sunday, April 1 Happy Easter!  
10:00 Worship
- Sunday, April 8
  - 9:30 Youth Choir
  - 10:00 Worship
  - 11:15 Junior and Senior High Sunday School
  - 12:30 Junior Highs Serve at Presbyterian Home
- Sunday, April 15
  - 10:00 Worship
- Sunday, April 22
  - 9:30 Youth Choir
  - 10:00 Worship
  - 11:15 Last Day of Junior and Senior High Sunday School
- Saturday, April 28
  - 9:00-1:30: Junior and Senior High Neighborhood Mission Day
- Sunday, April 29 Fusion Sunday
  - 9:30 Youth Choir
  - 10:00 Worship

### **FYI: there are a few changes in Senior High events for the spring.**

Here's the schedule for the rest of Senior High Youth Group this year:

- March 24th: March for Our Lives
- April 28th: Neighborhood Mission Day
- May 6th: Bob Ross Paint-Along Night
- May 20th: Hiking Day
- June 3rd: Year-End Picnic

**GUATEMALA PARTNERS MISSION COMMITTEE**

**MOTHER'S DAY HANGING BASKET SALE**



Proceeds will support the on-going work in Rabinal, Beja Verapaz region of Guatemala. There is a successful Cattle and Pig Project that has provided a means of income for families there. We have also supporting high school students with scholarships. A recent grant from the Presbytery of Genesee Valley is helping with a program to prevent malnutrition, create jobs and expand the scholarship program. Everyone is welcome to join us in this interesting and rewarding mission work. For more information, e-mail Tom Ward at [tomw@rochesterymca.org](mailto:tomw@rochesterymca.org).

**For more information call the church office at Gates Presbyterian at (585) 247-5292 or Tom Ward at (585) 261-2175.**

Order Form (**Orders must be received by April 30<sup>th</sup>**) Quantity (We cannot guarantee what colors will be available)

- CALIBRACHOA**                    @ \$20.00 each
- IVY GERANIUMS**                @ \$20.00 each
- ROSEBUD IMPATIENS**        @ \$20.00 each
- NEW GUINEA IMPATIENS**     @ \$20.00 each

Flower and vegetable flats available upon request.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include your check or money order made out to Gates Presbyterian Church with the memo "Flowers".

**Order Form and check should be mailed to:** **Gates**  
**Presbyterian Church** **1049 Wegman Road**  
**Rochester, New York 14624**

**Place orders by: April 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Pick up date: May 8<sup>th</sup> at Gates Presbyterian Church between 10:30am-7:00pm**