



**YOU ARE INVITED!**  
**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!

### 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](http://www.biblegateway.com)



During May we will reflect on the following texts:

- Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>** 1 John 4:7-21
- Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>** 1 John 5
- Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>** Acts 2:1-21
- Wednesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>** Romans 8:12-17
- Wednesday May 30<sup>th</sup>** 1 Samuel 3:1-14

### 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 only starting Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. 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 41<sup>st</sup> bazaar is Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, so start working! If you have any questions, please contact Tess McKeel at 766-7151 or [tessmckeel@hotmail.com](mailto:tessmckeel@hotmail.com)



### FROM THE PASTOR . . .

Dear GPC,

This has been a very long season. I am talking about the unrelenting winter that doesn't seem to want to loosen its grip on Rochester. And I am referring to the long season of transition here at GPC. In the span of less than two weeks we said goodbye to our Associate Pastor, Katie Styrt and transitioned our office staff to welcome Karen Kozlowski. We will celebrate Kay and Vicki's dedication as Office Administrators with us on **May 6<sup>th</sup> 2018** after worship. The season of these transitions began prior to their departure and continues as we live into these new roles and relationships.

As the reality begins to really set in, I can't help but think this is the worst and best time for Renewal to be happening in June. This is a challenging season because we are still forming new relationships and rhythms within the church office. And there are still new relationships to be explored as we identify who will serve as our Director of Youth, Children and Young Adult Ministries. I have thought many times that maybe I should wait and take this time of Renewal after ministry gets a bit more "settled." Then I thought back on our nearly eight years of ministry, and I am not sure when we have ever been "settled!" GPC is a healthy church, constantly looking toward the future and caring about the world beyond what happens on a Sunday morning. This means there is always some amount of transition and flux as the Holy Spirit moves in our midst.

I am looking forward to a season where hopefully the weather is warmer, and when I can regain balance among the family, spiritual, vocational, and community aspects of my life. This Time of Renewal will offer an opportunity for my family and me to disengage from the realities of the demanding nature of pastoral ministry in a way that invites us to be guests to a different rhythm of life. My hope and prayer for GPC as I step away, is that you also have the opportunity to revive your sense of cultivating the openness of heart to what God has in store.

As the Renewal Time gets closer there are plenty of questions people have. The Renewal Team, Personnel, GPC Staff and Session on working on putting together resources to support the Renewal Pastor and others working on the day to day operations of the church. The time will go by quickly and there will be the gift of new energy and excitement of what will come for our next season in ministry. In the Harbinger next month, I will share with you the details of my time away and travels. In the meantime, don't hesitate to email, give me a call or stop in with any questions you might have!

Blessings,  
 Melissa

## DEACONS' PAGE

Please keep in thought and prayer:

**Peter Derry** back in Monroe Community Hospital after a fall.

**Rev. Carol Anne Strawbridge** recovering from a broken wrist.

**Sonia Davis** dealing with health issues.

**Wendell Burtner** recovering from surgery.



Our sympathy to:

**Sonia Davis, Debbie and Dennis White, Kelly and Matt Cox, Jennifer and Ben Olsen, and Andrew White and family** on the death of Dean Davis, husband, father, grandfather, and a great-grandfather on April 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Walt and Helen Priestley and family** on the recent death of Walt's sister.

**Bonnie and Rich Balmer and family** (former longtime members) on the recent death of Bonnie's mother, **Janet Bapst** (former longtime member).

## 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.**

## REMINDER TO DEACONS:

The next Deacons' meeting is Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Adult Lounge.

**REBECCA CIRCLE** will meet on Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:45 a.m. at the Valicias.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY** will meet on Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> 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!

## MEN 2 MEN

Men 2 Men will have breakfast May 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Suggested donation for the breakfast is \$5.00. Please sign up on the Kiosk.

## COME CELEBRATE!

Come say thank you to Kay and Vicki for their many years of hard work and dedication as Office Administrators on Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> during worship. Reception after service in fellowship hall.

*Thank You*

## 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.



## SPRING CLEAN-UP – May 19<sup>TH</sup> starting at 8:30 a.m.

The Trustees will be performing our annual spring clean-up on Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> 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!!



## WOMEN'S SOFTBALL SCHEDULE:

It's that time of year!! Games in May for the GPC Women's Softball team will be:

May 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m. - GPC vs Orchard Community on the GPC field.

May 21<sup>st</sup>, 6:30 p.m. – GPC vs Open Door III at Open Door, 350 Scottsville Chili Road.

We are looking forward to a successful, fun-filled season and we always appreciate our fan support!!



## PUBLIC WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR MAY

| Date   | Front Door Greeter | Lay Reader    | Usher | Deacon |
|--------|--------------------|---------------|-------|--------|
| May 6  | Bill Dassero       | Kathy Wakeman | 6     | 1      |
| May 13 | Dick Stewart       | Tom Ward      | 1     | 2      |
| May 20 | Peter Derry        | Carol Brown   | 2     | 3      |
| May 27 | Colton Crane       | Lily DeRosia  | 3     | 4      |

Communion Team E:

Left: 1. Bridget Wohlers  
2. Julie Seide  
3. Bob Fehnel  
4. Eric Vail

Right: 1. Christine Arcara  
2. Randy Mosher  
3. Cheryl Fehnel  
4. Barb Snaith



## LIBRARY NEWS

The May display on the Church Library Display Table will consist of books by Christian writer Philip Yancey, including an updated version of his very popular Where Is God When It Hurts? Writer Yancey is an editor-at-large for Christianity Today magazine. Where is God When It Hurts? is written for people who are suffering, and who want to love God, but have difficulty doing so because of the pain they are in. The Yancey display also includes the popular What's So Amazing About Grace? and In His Image which Mr. Yancey wrote with Dr. Paul Brand. Philip Yancey has won awards for his books.



Feel free to sign out these books and others on display. See you in the Library!

## From the Renewal Ministry Team – Save the Date Sunday June 10, 2018

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

We are in the process of planning our Kickoff/Sendoff that will take place on Sunday June 10th. We will officially welcome Rev. David Kilgore as our Time of Renewal Pastor and wish our Rev. Dr. Melissa DeRosia a temporary good bye as she begins her Time of Renewal. Stay tuned for more details but in typical GPC style there will be some type of food item to enjoy after worship that Sunday! We will welcome the return of Melissa on Sunday October 7th, world communion Sunday, with a big celebration of our GPC family.

There will be 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.

1. 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.
2. 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 Kubinieć and Rev. Dr. Melissa DeRosia.



## GIANT COMMUNITY FLEA MARKET

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.

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!!

## PENTECOST OFFERING

**On May 20<sup>th</sup>** 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.





**Children's Sunday** this year will be on June 3<sup>rd</sup>! Our Sunday School classes will plan and lead worship together. The theme this year will be "Listen for God"! Come and see what our children share with us. More information to come for parents.

**HELP NEEDED . . . .**

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, the GPC youth group food booth will be open again at the 2018 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 work projects. If you want more information, or sign up, or if you want to donate for specific items, please contact Tammy Endulovski via Facebook, e-mail or phone 429-6912. Thanks!

**YOUTH:**

**Senior High Youth Group:**

**Painting Party** – May 6<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00m at GPC

**Hike** - May 20<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 - 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!

**Year End Picnic – June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6:00-8:00pm – SAVE THE DATE!!**

**Junior High Youth Group:**

**Lockport Caves and Underground Boat Trip** – May 20<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Cost is \$18.00 per person, includes tour and dinner.

Please wear comfortable clothes and closed toe shoes.

More information and the signup sheet are in the Junior High lounge on bulletin board. Any questions, call Carol or Dave Balsley at 235-2226. We will have lots of fun! Hope you will come.



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

Junior High:

July 16 through 20 – Mission sites in Rochester

Senior High:

August 5 through 11 – New York City



**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.
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 6 <sup>th</sup>    | 9:30am Youth Choir rehearsal<br>10:00 Worship<br>6:00pm Painting Party  |
| Friday, May 11 <sup>th</sup>   | Movie Night – Summerville Presbyterian  |
| Sunday, May 13 <sup>th</sup>   | 9:30am Youth Choir rehearsal<br>10:00 Worship   |
| Saturday, May 19 <sup>th</sup> | 8:30am Church cleanup day   |
| Sunday, May 20 <sup>th</sup>   | 9:30am Youth Choir rehearsal<br>10:00 Worship – Pentecost Sunday<br>11:30am Senior High Youth Group hike<br>11:30am Junior High Youth Group Lockport trip |
| Sunday, May 27 <sup>th</sup>   | 9:30am Youth Choir rehearsal<br>10:00am Worship – Fusion Sunday   |

