



COMMUNITY  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH



THE CHIMES

VOLUME 45, NUMBER 4

APRIL 2018

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*Dear CPC Friends,*

For those of you who have not reviewed the Annual Report of CPC that was received by the Congregation last month, I encourage you to do so. It won’t take long, and you will be rewarded with a wonderful story about a remarkable group of people. The best part of this exercise is that you don’t have to be a “numbers” kind of person to see the story.

The report starts with a statement of our Values as a Congregation. The five core values of Spirituality, Participation, Relationship, Respect and Celebration are clearly and simply defined. I vaguely remember the process we endured to identify those values many years ago. I am amazed at how accurately they still reflect the character of our church today. They create a solid foundation for our church, which puts us in a great position to be a source of strength for our members and our entire community.

Then comes the Pastor’s Report for 2017. Kim does a great job in describing the character of our congregation. It doesn’t take much effort to see the five core values are present throughout her report. It’s almost as though she had our Statement of Values at her side as she composed that report, but I’m guessing she didn’t. She did not need to refer to that statement because of the simple fact that our congregation has a special way of living to our word.

When you get to the numbers, two of them jump off the page for me. Our 534 active members raised over \$400,000 last year to support the ministry of our church. Those dollars do not reflect the countless hours of so many members who pitched in to help whenever it was needed. This is an amazing display of support, which is an inspirational message to all who see us working together.

So, thank you to each and every one of you for all you do to make our church a very special place for me, my family and my community. I am excited and proud to be a member of an organization that truly lives to its mission, to be “...a living, evolving, dynamic Christian Congregation, striving towards mutual respect as we experience a very real God inviting very real people to live in the joy of the Spirit.”

~Keith Anderson, *Elder*

P.S. If you threw your copy of the Annual Report away or did not receive one, you can find it on our website under the “News” tab (and while you’re there, take time to explore that website, it confirms the great story told by the Annual Report).



*With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. —Acts 4:33*

The Easter preparation rush has come and gone, and many of us breathe a deep sigh of relief. The food was good, the egg hunt was successful, everyone was dressed and made it to church on time, the services went off without a hitch, and family and friends have all returned safely to their homes. Phew, another holiday come and gone.

The thing with Easter though, it is not something we can pack away. What we need to understand is that Easter is the climax of the story of Jesus, which is far from the conclusion. What we do now is how future generations will hear and interpret the story for themselves.

I shared a story on Easter Sunday, about staying in a hotel in March. My little guy was thrilled with the ottoman that had wheels and could be moved to all corners of the room. At one point I was rushing towards the door and stubbed my toe on the edge of the ottoman...ouch, that really hurts. I may have practiced my theater skills, falling on the bed and moaning and groaning as I held my aching foot. What I saw from Simon was remarkable. He immediately came to me and said with great concern, "Oh no! Okay, mom?" He then proceeded to wave his finger and scold the furniture that caused the rukus. It dawned on me, this little boy is compassionate and empathetic, something of which I am deeply grateful. This, of course, has been modeled for him, but now, he owns it. I marvel daily as he gently pats a crying baby at daycare, says with the sweetest voice, "Oh, no," everytime he hears sirens, and quickly rushes for help when he sees his Grandpa fall down, and then lends a hand to those of us helping him up (there was an incident Easter weekend but all is fine). Simon has experienced compassion, and he, therefore, acts with compassion.

The same is necessary from those of us who follow Jesus. His resurrection is a way of life; we heard about it when Jesus welcomed Gentiles, ate with sinners, and healed the sick. It's our turn now, to make these actions our own. The decorations may be coming down, but Easter is here to stay...as we give it room.

~Pastor Kim

On March 15, Session met with two members of the Presbytery Committee on Ministry, Rev. Dorothy Duquette and Rev. Robyn Weaver. This was the first time in many years that representatives of the Presbytery have met with our church elders. It was a good meeting that helped to rebuild our relationships with the Presbytery. The representatives sent several questions they wanted us to answer and, in turn, we sent them a couple questions. For example, the Presbytery asked:

**What are the BEST things going on at your church?**

- Pastor Kim was spoken of highly as a good leader, positive attitude, proud of the church, good at getting congregational involvement, supportive of families and their spiritual, physical and mental health needs, good at showing congregation how scripture applies to our everyday lives.
- Strong congregation—open to all viewpoints, honest, transparent, willing to help others
- Kitchen remodel—the ladies of the church have held High Tea and other fundraisers and have raised almost \$20,000 towards the kitchen remodel. They hope to be able to receive additional funding from the Endowment Fund so that the remodel will not cost any money from the general operating budget.
- Holy Smoke BBQ—this year is the third year we plan to host the event. The BBQ and silent auction, quilt raffle and country store have raised \$10,000 each of the past two years.
- Stewardship Committee has been transformed into a year-long committee that has held volunteer recognition events, and increased giving in the past year by \$50,000.
- Increased social media presence.

**What are some of your church's biggest challenges?**

- Need to have consistent leadership in our youth program.
- Demographics have diminished youth numbers, but without younger members our church will not sustain itself.
- Do we want a youth leader or an ordained associate minister with youth programs as their duty?
- How much can we expect our congregation to contribute when we are still paying off the church mortgage?

### Some of the other questions discussed were:

- How does your Session communicate its work to the congregation?
- Describe a typical service of worship in your church
- How do you teach the work of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly?
- Do you have a stewardship program? Is it effective? How do you feel about it?
- Does your church have a written sexual misconduct policy?
- What does the per capita our congregation pays annually get used for by the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly?
- Where does the mission contribution from individual churches get spent by the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly?

We learned that the Presbytery no longer requires triennial visits to churches, but that if CPC needs help from them all we need do is ask. We also learned that the Presbytery opted several years ago due to financial reasons to not fill the Executive Presbyter position instead this role is being filled by the Committee on Ministry. In all it was an educational meeting with the Presbytery!

~Barb Meyer, Elder

### NEWS OF THE FAMILY

Please let us know if you have News to Share by calling the Church Office at 326-8515 or e-mailing us at [office@communitypresbyterianchurch.com](mailto:office@communitypresbyterianchurch.com)

### Special Prayers

- Those effected by the death of family & friends
- Those with health challenges: Emily, Kevin, Doris, Deloris, Ray, Biz
- Families faced with mental illness, depression, addiction, and sorrow
- For victims and volunteers of our natural disasters
- For peace in our world
- For our Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly
- For our military personnel and their families
- For those navigating the aging process with their parents and loved ones
- For Cathy and Juan, our Mission Coworkers in the Philippines

### Nursing Homes/Assisted Living

**Brookstone Manor:** Lois Krook and Joan McLaughlin

**Brookstone Manor Memory Care:** Marianne Wilson

**Grand Village/Lodge:** Virginia Saxhaug, Elinor Johnson, Dorothy Zobel and Doris Buxengard

**Pleasant Seasons:** Dorine Seamans and Bev Stanley

**River Grand:** Susie Hickman, Elaine Martin and Joyce Spawn

**Diamond Willow:** Warren Kirsch, Betty Felosi and Tudy Motschenbacher

**Majestic Pines:** Betty Akre, Bev Baker, Gayle Chesness, George & Vi Korol, and Joyce Micheletti.

**Oak Hill Assisted Living:** Carole Erickson and Jan Shock

**Keystone Bluffs (Duluth):** Verla Stabe



Mark your calendar for **Friday, July 20**, to attend this year's CPC Holy Smoke BBQ! Volunteers will be needed for set-up, clean-up, food, tickets, serving and more. Donations will be needed for the country store and the silent auction. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Barb Meyer 327-3290.



### Thanks!

Dear Friends,

A word of thanks can hardly say what your donation (\$400) means to our agency and the adult victims of domestic violence and child abuse victims we help. It is much appreciated.

~Mandie Aalto, Executive Director

Advocates for Family Peace

... \_\_\_\_\_ ...

To All of Our Friends at Community Presbyterian Church,  
On behalf of everyone here at New Beginnings Pregnancy Care Center, we want to say Thank You for the donations of money and baby items that we received. We are so very grateful for your kindness! Your gifts enable us to serve more women, men, teens and families in our area. Thank you so much!  
~Kathy Metzger & all of the New Beginnings Pregnancy Care Center Staff

... \_\_\_\_\_ ...

**Dear Partners in God's Mission,**  
Thank you for the support of Presbyterian Mission! Your faithful and generous giving allows all of us who work together in God's mission to bring the gospel of Christ to all corners of the world....

The generosity of your congregation has provided \$430 of support for Christmas Joy Offering.  
~Rev. Rhonda K. Kruse,  
Mission Engagement Advisor, Midwest

... \_\_\_\_\_ ...

Dear Friends,  
Throughout south Texas, Puerto Rico and parts of Florida, children's back-to-school rituals were abruptly halted by the winds and floods of back-to-back catastrophic hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria. Some schools won't reopen this year at all, and many children, their houses ruined, and family livelihood impacted, will try to find a place to learn hundreds of miles from home.

Your gift of \$1,070 for Disaster Relief and PDA Support is perfect, a blessing from God above in a moment where it is most needed...

~Rev. Dr. Laurie A. Kraus, Director  
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

... \_\_\_\_\_ ...

Dear Community Presbyterian Church,  
Thank you so much for helping put food on the table for hungry men, women, and children in our community. Your gift of \$1,000 for the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign will allow us to leverage additional dollars to help restock the food Shelf at Second Harvest.

~Sue Estee, Executive Director

... \_\_\_\_\_ ...

On behalf of the board and staff of Support Within Reach, we'd like to express our sincere gratitude for the recent \$400 donation we received from Community Presbyterian Church...this contribution helps Support Within Reach achieve its mission of reducing the impact and harm of sexual violence in the communities we serve.... It also helps cover some of the expenses of our annual Mexican Fiesta fundraiser (coming up on April 30!)

~Sherry Shadley, District 2 Supervisor

... \_\_\_\_\_ ...

Dear Friends,  
Thank you for building community with us! Your generosity literally helps to provide Itasca County families with a home that brings stability to their lives. Your gift of \$400 will help pay for upcoming projects and builds. Our local affiliate has three programs that are building wealth right here in Itasca County.

Thank you for the continued support!  
~Amanda Lamppa, Executive Director  
Itasca County Habitat for Humanity

... \_\_\_\_\_ ...

Dear Fellowship and Kitchen Remodel Committees,  
Lowell would be so pleased that this remodel is underway. It was one of his biggest regrets in our big remodel that this couldn't be done then. (LOL you know how he loved to eat!)

I so appreciate all you do, to foster our church families' fellowship time together. You are amazing.

I think I have told many of you how impressed our guests were at Lowell's funeral reception—"Real china and silver service set!" Thank you.

~Judy Pittack

... \_\_\_\_\_ ...

*Dear Community Presbyterian Church,*

*Thank you so much for helping put food on the table for hungry men, women and children in our community. Your gifts (of \$3,200 and 145 lbs. of food) to Second Harvest for the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign will allow us to leverage additional dollars to help restock the Food Shelf at Second Harvest....*

*On behalf of the many individuals, families, children and seniors that will not go hungry because of your support, Thank You!*

*Thank you for this very generous gift!*

*~Sue Estee, Executive Director*

... \_\_\_\_\_ ...



## **Care Package Responses!**

Hello! I wanted to send a thank you for the package I received with all the tasty little snacks, so thank you! I am now on spring break and just recently got a job as a caregiver at a foster care home, which is nearby. I think it's going to be a challenge but will be very rewarding to work with the kids and help out as much as I can. This summer I will be returning to work as the CIT counselor at Camp Mishawaka and then will resume the job at the foster home when I return to Duluth after the summer.

I hope things at the church are going well and wish good health for everyone getting through the remainder of the winter!

~Nathan Craven

CPC Family,

Thank you so much for the care package! I will be using everything I got! I miss you all and hope everyone is doing well! Thanks again!

~Makenzie Shaffer

## **WORSHIP AND MUSIC**

### **What's Happening in Worship?**

**April 8:** Acts 4:32-35 – Praise Band

**April 15:** Luke 24:36b-48 – Chancel Choir & Bells of the Lakes

**April 22:** Acts 4:5-12 – Bell Choirs

**April 29:** Acts 8:26-40 – Chancel Choir

### **Bells of the Lakes on Tour!**

Bells of the Lakes, a Twin Cities community handbell ensemble, will be including Grand Rapids in its upcoming concert tour on **Sunday, April 15**. The choir will play for morning worship at CPC and present a concert at 2 PM in the sanctuary.

This handbell choir, under the direction of conductor and arranger, William Mathis, is nationally-renowned, using a wide variety of handbells and handchimes.

In addition to playing by themselves during worship, Bells of the Lakes will combine with the Chancel Choir for the anthem. The 2 PM concert is open to the public so please spread the word. CDs of the choir will be available for purchase that day. A freewill offering will be taken.

Plan on coming April 15 to hear this outstanding handbell ensemble!

# You're Invited

Jonathon Shields will be performing his Level III recital on **Friday, May 4, at 7PM** in Brady Educational Center (W. Goodrich Ave., St. Paul). This recital will act as an accumulation of the repertoire he has played throughout his time at the University of St. Thomas. This will include: Brazilian, classical, jazz and originals. He will be backed up by his trio the "Jon Shields Trio," consisting of Elisha Philip on piano, Tom Wrobel on bass and Jonathon Shields on guitar.

## High School Youth Group



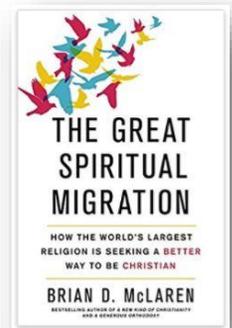
Let's meet for brunch on this **Sunday, April 8**. We'll have a chance to discuss faith with the Confirmation class! Meet at the Coffee Bar if you need a ride, otherwise, meet at TimberLake Lodge for their new breakfast buffet.

### ADULT EDUCATION NEWS

## Sunday Adult Book Study

Adult Book Study meets on **Sundays at 9 A.M. in the Parlor**. Our new book is titled, *The Great Spiritual Migration* by Brian D. McLaren.

*The Christian story, from Genesis until now, is fundamentally about people on the move—outgrowing old, broken religious systems and embracing new, more redemptive ways of life. It's time to move again. With his trademark brilliance and compassion, McLaren invites readers to seize the moment and set out on the most significant spiritual pilgrimage of our time: to help Christianity become more Christian.*



**Worship with us at Community Presbyterian SUNDAY AT 10 A.M.**  
*Can't make it to church?*  
Watch the service on Tuesday evenings at 5 P.M. Or Wednesday morning at 9A.M. on ICTV. Or anytime on our website  
[www.communitypresbyterianchurch.com](http://www.communitypresbyterianchurch.com)

### EDUCATION NEWS

## Sunday School

Sunday School rotation takes place every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Chat with Children. Art, music, and theater stations will be rotated as the children learn about parables! Sunday School is for all children ages 3 through 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

## Middle School Youth Group

Wednesdays at 3 P.M. in Room 104. We meet every Wednesday in April!



MS Youth visiting Star of the North Humane Society

## Bible Study

Bible Study meets every **Tuesday at 9:15 A.M.** in the Parlor. We study the text for the upcoming Sunday, so come join us!

### Upcoming scriptures include:

- April 10:** Luke 24:36b-48
- April 17:** Acts 4:5-12
- April 24:** Acts 8:26-40
- May 1:** Acts 10:44-48



## All about Children!

The Peace & Social Justice Committee has been offering several activities under the theme of “All About the Children.” Please join us for the next event on **April 8 after worship in the Fellowship Hall.**

**ACES: Adverse Childhood Experiences: How childhood trauma affects health across a lifetime.** Come and learn about the effect of childhood trauma on health, even throughout adulthood. We will watch a 16-minute TED Talk video by Dr. Nadine Burke Harris and a short discussion will follow. Jaci David will present information about SPARK/Pathway for Student Success. We can all play a role in increasing the likelihood of success for the children in our lives and in the community.

## Signing of Letters

**WHAT:** Bread for The World Letter Signing

**WHERE:** Fellowship Hall

**WHEN:** Sunday, April 22—After Worship

The Peace & Social Justice Committee will have letters to Congress members for you to sign asking them to protect the funding for key programs that provide hope and opportunity for people living with hunger. Pre-addressed envelopes and stamps will be provided. Please bring your address labels and donation money for stamps. **THANK YOU!**



**breadfortheworld**  
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

## We Can! We Can! We Can!



**FOOD DRIVE**

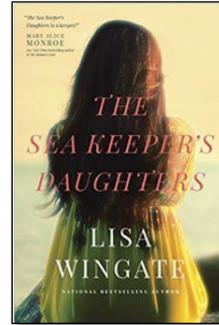
Join the Peace & Social Justice Committee during the **month of April** and bring in any canned item—veggies, fruit, meat, tuna, soups, sauces, etc. With your help, we can fight hunger in the northland one can at a time!



## The Book Circle

The Book Circle will meet **Monday, April 9 at 1:30 P.M.** by the fireplace. The book for this month is *The Sea Keeper's Daughters* by Lisa Wingate.

*From modern-day Roanoke Island to the sweeping backdrop of North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains and Roosevelt's WPA folklore writers, past and present intertwine to create an unexpected destiny.*



*Restaurant owner Whitney Monroe is desperate to save her business from a hostile takeover. The inheritance of a decaying Gilded Age hotel on North Carolina's Outer Banks may provide just the ray of hope she needs. But things at the Excelsior are more complicated than they seem.*

*Whitney's estranged stepfather is entrenched on the third floor, and the downstairs tenants are determined to save the historic building. Searching through years of stored family heirlooms may be Whitney's only hope of quick cash, but will the discovery of an old necklace and a Depression-era love story change everything?*

## Cut & Sew Project Group

*“Give us this day our daily thread.”*



Our group will meet on **Wednesdays, April 4 and 18, at 9 A.M.** All are welcome...join us!

The Sewing Group #2 will be stuffing animal pads on April 4 and 18 (no sewing involved!) The pads will be donated to the Star of the North Humane Society and for sale during the Holy Smoke BBQ! Join us!

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Please let us know if we have missed your special day or if there is a mistake. We wish each of you a very *Happy Birthday!*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Apr 1</b> Gary Hawkinson<br/> <b>Apr 2</b> Scott Cook<br/> <b>Apr 3</b> Janice Burch<br/>               Kevin Jones<br/> <b>Apr 4</b> Dan Loeffler<br/>               Tyler Nessel<br/> <b>Apr 5</b> Grayci Kangas-Olson<br/> <b>Apr 6</b> Mary Jo Jess<br/> <b>Apr 7</b> Dan Connelly<br/>               Peter Nord<br/> <b>Apr 9</b> Kathleen Chesness<br/>               Anna Procopio<br/> <b>Apr 11</b> Emily Johnson<br/>               Art Thurston<br/> <b>Apr 13</b> Kris Ferraro<br/>               William E. Johnson</p> | <p><b>Apr 15</b> Gayle Chesness<br/>               Knox Connelly<br/>               Jaci David<br/>               Russ Hemphill<br/> <b>Apr 16</b> Amber Silvis<br/> <b>Apr 17</b> Chris Peterson<br/>               Emilie Zasada<br/> <b>Apr 19</b> Bill Rutherford<br/> <b>Apr 20</b> Del Matteson<br/>               Nina Whirley<br/> <b>Apr 22</b> Rhonda Axtell<br/>               Sarah Kjorlien<br/>               Gayle Randall<br/> <b>Apr 25</b> Christina Hoskins<br/>               Leo Miltich<br/> <b>Apr 27</b> Patty Christensen<br/> <b>Apr 30</b> James R. Marshall</p> |
|--|---|

## CONNECTIONS

If you live in the ISD 318 school district, please plan to vote regarding the referendum questions. April 10, 2018, is Election Day. You can also vote early at the courthouse at the Auditor/Treasurer office. You can also request an absentee ballot.

For more information about the reasons for the referendum, visit the school website at [www.isd318.org](http://www.isd318.org). The school is hosting multiple community conversations. Sessions have been recorded and can be viewed on the ISD318 Facebook page.

There are two questions. The first question asks voters to approve two new neighborhood elementary schools in Grand Rapids, and renovations and expansion of the Cohasset school. The City of Cohasset is collaborating with the school district to offer increased benefits to the Cohasset community. The second question asks voters to allow major improvements to activity and athletic facilities in Bigfork and Grand Rapids. The second question cannot happen unless the first question passes.



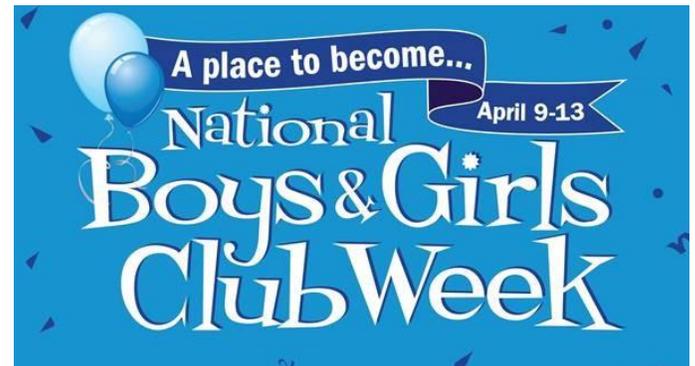
Homeowners with property valued at \$150,000 will see an increase of \$7.72 per month if the first question is approved. The passage of the second question will result in an additional increase of \$0.58 per month, for a total of \$8.30.

Due to overcrowding and lack of space for all the sections of students, the 5<sup>th</sup> graders would be moved back to the elementary schools. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade wing of the middle school would then be used for the additional space needs for the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

Southwest School would become a central location for all of the early childhood programs rather than being spread out in various leased locations and will be able to accommodate more children.

The new elementary schools were designed with safety in mind. There are secure entrances. The busses will pick up and drop off students in a different location from where the parents will pick up and drop off.

The IRRRB has committed an amount to reduce the cost to citizens. The 2018 proposal costs less than the proposal did in 2015 and includes more. Search out answers to your questions from reliable sources. Encourage others to vote. Be involved.



The Boys & Girls Clubs of Grand Rapids and Greenway will be hosting a public open house and ice cream social on **Friday, April 13, 4–6 PM** at the Grand Rapids Middle School site (1000 NE 8th Ave., Grand Rapids) and Greenway High School site (308 Roosevelt St., Coleraine) Come discover more about the Boys & Girls Clubs and enjoy a little ice cream!

