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**Annual Meeting—March 11**

Join us on Sunday, March 11 after worship in the Fellowship Hall for the Annual Congregational Meeting and fresh sweet rolls provided by the Fellowship Committee!

Dear CPC Friends,

At one point or another we have probably all seen the letters WWJD, an acronym for What Would Jesus Do. I am reminded of it because of a wallet-sized card that one of my kids received a number of years ago here at CPC. That card is with me all the time.

In challenging times or when I am about to react in a knee-jerk sort of way I try to remember this question. It is a real help to me and hopefully results in a more thoughtful and Christian attitude response.

With the recent tragedy in Florida I have found myself thinking about this question very frequently. Here are my thoughts about what I believe Jesus would do and would have us do: Love, support and pray for the families who have lost loved ones, not just today but always

Love, support and pray for the family of the shooter as well as the troubled individual who made this nightmare a reality

But beyond prayer and offerings of support, I truly believe that Jesus would jump into action. He would challenge our elected officials to find ways to prevent this from ever happening again. Jesus would challenge all people to live their lives with grace and compassion. He would speak out against violence, intolerance, revenge and prejudice.

As Christians we should do no less. If we want to see change, if we never want to see headlines about another mass shooting again, we must of course pray, but we must take action as well.

Be persistent in your insistence that things must change for the sake of our children and our families because that is What Jesus Would Do.

~Jeff Lightfoot, *Elder*



## PASTOR TO PEW

Read the words by St. Francis that create the beautiful hymn, *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*.

*Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring your love. Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord, and where's there's doubt, true faith in you.*

*Make me a channel of your peace. Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope. Where there is darkness, only light, and where there's sadness, ever joy.*

*O, Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love with all my soul.*

*Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, in giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.*

These are absolutely beautiful words in which to reflect this Lenten season. And I don't mean just read the words and acknowledge their depiction of a Christ-like life, but to really etch the words in our minds and in our hearts...in such a way that they become our words and our actions. I think we can all admit that we need a little more care and compassion, and a lot less vindictive animosity. What a better time to start—as we walk through the human greed and selfishness that nails Jesus to the cross. May we experience a holy lent as we transform our faith as followers of Christ.

~Pastor Kim



## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Session met in February and reviewed the 2018 CPC budget put forth by the Trustees. We had an interesting discussion on the philosophy of church budgets. The church's budget is seen as a tool to help communicate issues with the congregation. Budgeting is a way to choose what direction we want the church to go. A church budget is different from a family budget in some respects. For example, when developing a family budget, you have a pretty good idea of what your income will be, whereas in a church budget, determining our income is more fluid because of membership changes and unfulfilled pledges. Similarities exist between expenditures within a family budget and those in a church budget. You have a pretty good idea of what your expenses will be, but you can have unforeseen expenses that come up. We approved the 2018 CPC budget and will present the budget to the congregation at the Annual Meeting on March 11. Copies of the Annual Report will be available to the congregation starting the week before the Annual meeting. The Fellowship Committee will be providing sweet rolls, fruit, milk, juice and coffee for the Annual meeting. Please join us for the meeting!

In addition to the budget, the Session approved a baptism request for Avery Christopher Johnson the child of Kaija and Eric Johnson on April 8. We also discussed a nonmember wedding request and our recommended procedures for handling such requests.

The Kitchen Design Team (George Shields, Dick Schneider, Roger Bertram, Vangie Mattfield and JoAnn Bakken) is making good progress. They have solicited input from kitchen users and have asked an architect to draw up a plan for proposed changes.

A new Stewardship Committee has been formed for 2018. Sam Evans has agreed to chair this committee with Lee Jess, Susie Loeffler, Bob Pittack, Lenora Evans and Lori Bertram also serving on the committee. They have some exciting ideas for this year!

The last thing the Session discussed at our February meeting was for our March meeting, the Presbytery is planning to send two representatives to visit. These visits are supposed to happen triennially; however, it has been a while since we have had one. It will be good to get an opportunity to visit with our Presbytery representatives and build relationships. That is the news from your Session of Ruling Elders!

~Barb Meyer, Elder

## **Special Prayers**

- Those effected by the death of family & friends
- Those with health challenges: Emily, Kevin, Doris, Deloris, Ray, Mary
- 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

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

## **Nursing Homes/Assisted Living**

- Brookstone Manor:** Lois Krook and Joan McLaughlin
- Brookstone Manor Memory Care:** Marianne Wilson
- Grand Village/Lodge:** Virginia Saxhaug, Elinor Johnson and Dorothy Zobel
- Pleasant Seasons:** Doris Buxengard, 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
- Sugar Brook Villa:** Shirley Marshall
- Keystone Bluffs (Duluth):** Verla Stabe

## **Care Package Responses!**

A picture of an opened box came with this message:

“Kim, this is great! Thank You!!! ♥♥”

~Ian Shields

THANK YOU FOR THE CARE PACKAGE!

~Jonathon Shields

Hey Kim! I just got the care package! Thank you and the church so much!

~Hans Viren

Thanks so much for the care packages, we received them today and it was a splendid surprise!

~Sam & Brett Rodenberg

Thanks for the care package! It truly made my day!!

~Wil Kangas-Olson

Greetings from New Mexico! I'd like to thank you for the update letters and the most recent care package! I've been doing some missions recently that are having big impacts to our war fighters. My most recent (and still on-going) is a partnership with the Army in which we are working to increase GPS reliability in degraded environments. This could potentially save many lives while in a deployed location. Thanks again, and God bless you all!

~Lt. Grant Graupmann

## **Thanks!**

*Feeding Hope...Helping Neighbors in Need!*

*Community Presbyterian Church,*

*Thank you for your donation to 2<sup>nd</sup> Harvest Food Bank. For every dollar raised, up to 5 meals can be provided to kids, seniors, and families that are in need.*

*Thank you again,*

*~Mike Stefan, Board Member*

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

Thank you for the use of CPC during our Federation Festival. It is an ideal location and beautiful facility.

Thank you for sharing!

~The Itasca Music Club

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

Dear Friends,

For many of us, the fall season is shaped by the ordinary joys of children returning to school, church programs starting up after summer respite, and on the horizon, the anticipated joys of holiday planning and Thanksgiving. Amidst these reliable markers of the season, I write simply to say thank you for making Presbyterian Disaster Assistance a priority out of many opportunities to give and serve....

Your gift of \$3,213.40 for Disaster Relief and PDA is perfect, a blessing from God above at a moment where it is most needed....

In Christ's Peace,

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

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

*Dear Community Presbyterian friends,*

*Thank you so much for your many thoughts, prayers and kind words during the past months as my mother, Deloris, has been dealing with a number of health concerns. After six weeks in rehab, she has returned to her apartment at a senior housing campus in Sartell. She has improved a great deal, for which we are very grateful. All of you hold a special place in my heart.*

*~Darcy Reich*

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

## WORSHIP AND MUSIC

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

- March 4:** Exodus 20:1-17, Chancel Choir
- March 11:** John 3:14-21, Chancel Choir, Annual Meeting
- March 18:** Jeremiah 31:31-34, Praise Band
- March 25:** Mark 11:1-11, Bells —Palm Sunday
- March 29:** Maundy Thursday at 6:30PM
- March 30:** Good Friday at 6:30PM
- April 1:** Easter Sunday at 10AM



## **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)

## **Flower Fund**

It's time to make plans to decorate the sanctuary for Easter Sunday. The Worship Taskforce will be ordering flowers soon and would welcome your donations to the church's Flower Fund for their purchase. Any dollar amount would be greatly appreciated. Your donation can be made in memory of, or to honor a loved one. Please complete the form at the back of the *Chimes* and place it in the offering plate or bring it to the church office along with your donation.



## 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 March!

### **High School Youth Group**



Let's meet for brunch on this **Sunday, March 4**. 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.*

**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:**

- March 6:** John 3:14-21
- March 13:** Jeremiah 31:31-34
- March 20:** Mark 11:1-11
- March 27:** Acts 10:34-43

**Interested in Membership at CPC?**

Kim will be available on Sunday, **March 11 at 9AM** to meet with anyone interested in CPC membership. You will then meet with the Session on Thursday, March 15 at 7PM for formal reception. Please let Kim know if you are interested!

**PEACE & SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**All about Children!**

On **Sunday, March 18**, please join the Peace & Social Justice Committee after worship for a pancake brunch! We are raising funds for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Grand Rapids and Greenway.



Executive Director, Lori Kangas-Olson, will give us an update on our local clubs and ways we can help! It’s a wonderful opportunity to learn about a valuable organization and have a tasty meal all at the same time!

**March is MN FoodShare Month!**

Join the Peace & Social Justice Committee for the **month of March** to help end hunger in Minnesota. The March Campaign contributions are match based on the pounds of food and monetary donations we collect during the month. Each week we ask you to bring one item:



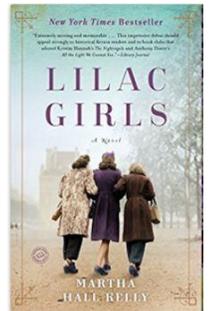
- Week 1:** Peanut butter or jelly
- Week 2:** Canned meat—tuna, chicken, ham, etc.
- Week 3:** \$1
- Week 4:** Canned fruit or cereal

If we each bring in one item each week, it will add up quickly and will be matched. Let’s do our part to help a difference for hungry people in our community.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS**

**The Book Circle**

The Book Circle will meet **Monday, March 12 at 1:30 P.M.** by the fireplace. The book for this month is *Lilac Girls: A novel* by Martha Hall Kelly.



*New York socialite Caroline Ferriday has her hands full with her post at the French consulate and a new love on the horizon. But Caroline’s world is forever changed when Hitler’s army invades Poland in September 1939—and then sets its sights on France.*

*An ocean away from Caroline, Kasia Kuzmerick, a Polish teenager, senses her carefree youth disappearing as she is drawn deeper into her role as courier for the underground resistance movement. In a tense atmosphere of watchful eyes and suspecting neighbors, one false move can have dire consequences.*

*For the ambitious young German doctor, Herta Oberheuser, an ad for a government medical position seems her ticket out of a desolate life. Once hired, though, she finds herself trapped in a male-dominated realm of Nazi secrets and power.*

*The lives of these three women are set on a collision course when the unthinkable happens and Kasia is sent to Ravensbrück, the notorious Nazi concentration camp for women. Their stories cross continents—from New York to Paris, Germany, and Poland—as Caroline and Kasia strive to bring justice to those whom history has forgotten.*

# BUNCO

Our BUNCO group will gather at **9:30 A.M. on Wednesday, March 14**, in the Fellowship Hall. Bring \$2 for the kitchen remodel fund and be ready for lots of fun! *No experience necessary!*

## Cut & Sew Project Group

*“Soft fabric, warm fabric, Buy it by the yard. Happy fabric, pretty fabric, Here's my credit card.”*



Our group will meet on **Wednesdays, March 7 and 21, at 9 A.M.** All are welcome...join us!

## MARCH 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!*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Mar 1</b> David Jess<br>Solveig Viren  | <b>Mar 15</b> Colleen Becker   |
| <b>Mar 2</b> Benjamin Peterson  | <b>Mar 16</b> Bill Hare<br>Cathy Cleary  |
| <b>Mar 4</b> Jeanette Jetland<br>Barbara Oyster<br>Jim Zeumer<br>Glenna Alstad<br>Brett Rodenberg | <b>Mar 18</b> Otto Francisco<br><b>Mar 19</b> Luci Kangas-Olson<br><b>Mar 20</b> Betty Akre<br>Carol Anderson<br>Anne Campbell |
| <b>Mar 5</b> Sharyll Spandau<br>Steven Taylor   | <b>Mar 21</b> Mary Donnellan   |
| <b>Mar 6</b> Mike Hagley  | <b>Mar 23</b> Will Stauffer  |
| <b>Mar 7</b> Barb Heinzen<br>Richard Chesness   | <b>Mar 24</b> Olivia Downey<br><b>Mar 25</b> Lenny Brown<br><b>Mar 26</b> Scott Gerling<br>Don Evans                           |
| <b>Mar 9</b> Jennifer Procopio  | <b>Mar 27</b> Norma Eppinga<br>Steven Chesness   |
| <b>Mar 10</b> Jim Rudnick   | <b>Mar 30</b> Keith Anderson   |
| <b>Mar 11</b> Katie Benes   | <b>Mar 31</b> Jessica Stauffer   |
| <b>Mar 13</b> Derek Hawkinson<br>Jane Sparen<br>Nora Skaudis                                      |  |

## REVIVE: Moveable Feast!

The Stewardship 2018 Team is bringing back a fellowship opportunity...with a twist, of course!

# Moveable Feast



Everyone who signs up to participate will be split into teams of 6-8 people (couples will remain together). Each team will meet for dinner once a month (or once every two months, however it works for the team). Every month, a new host will be selected from each team, and they get to plan where the dinner will take place. It can be at the home of the host, at a restaurant, or even at the church (feel free to be creative)! The host takes charge of the communications and the main course, and they then assign other parts of the meal to various team members. For example: Brad is host for his team in March. He decides to have everyone to his house. He plans/cooks the main dish and assigns each of his team members to bring either an appetizer, salad or dessert. Everyone meets at Brad's house on the given day and shares in a meal and fellowship. It's a great opportunity to meet other members of the congregation! The host also decides if children are invited, and whether to invite Pastor Kim, although, she may only be able to meet with one team each month, so please don't expect her to be at every team dinner.

So, what's the twist!? We challenge you to invite one other person/couple to your team dinner each month (Pastor Kim doesn't count). This may be a family member, a neighbor or co-worker; someone you'd like to introduce to members of your church family.

If you'd like to participate, please get a note to the Church Office **by March 15**. Teams will be established shortly after that date by the Stewardship 2018 Team.

*Happy Easter!*



## EASTER FLOWERS

Please complete this form and place it in the offering plate or bring it to the church office.

In Memory (Please circle one) In Honor

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Given by (please print): \_\_\_\_\_