

## SUMMER PLEDGE PAYMENTS and

## ELECTRONIC PAYMENT OF PLEDGES

As we prepare for the anticipated warmth and leisure time associated with summer please remember that the Ministry and Mission of GPC does not take a break over the summer. There are still many programs that continue through the summer months at GPC. While worship attendance tends to decrease over the summer please remember that the financial obligations GPC has to pay do not take a break. We encourage you to mail in your pledges over the summer months so that the revenue stream continues and we can meet our financial obligations. One thought would be to pay ahead on your pledge by mailing in your contributions to GPC that you might not be able to bring in person on any given Sunday over the summer. Another way to keep your financial commitment up to date would be to set up Electronic or Pay Online services that are available through most banks these days. Many of the banks offer these services free of charge to their banking customers. If you have this service available to you why not consider setting up a regular automatic payment of your pledge to GPC. Just be sure to make a note in the comment line to identify if the electronic payment is to be for a pledge or some other type of payment such as per capita for example. Checks will be mailed directly to GPC (1049 Wegman Road Rochester NY 14624) by the bank and generally received within 4 or 5 days from the requested processing date with the bank. If you have any questions about this payment service please contact a member of your Stewardship/Budget Committee or the Church office.

### “SUMMER COMMUNION”

Communion will be served on July 12 & August 2. The Public Worship committee wants church members to be aware that Communion will be served by Intinction at these services. The reason that the committee chose to change the manner of communion is that during the summer the congregation is smaller and by having communion by Intinction would be a less formal, giving a more intimate feeling to communion. The Committee would like feed back on the change, so that we can decide if we want to revisit Communion by Intinction next summer.”



### AN UPDATE FROM THE PNC....

We have been meeting regularly since April to bring a new pastor, using the step process recommended by the Committee on Ministry. Our first order of business is to complete the Church Information Form, also known as the CIF. This is essentially our church resume- the information we want prospective pastors to know about our congregation and our community. It will take some time to make this form most accurately depict our church- where and who we are and who we want to attract to lead us in the future. We ask for continued prayers as we move forward, and please look for regular updates from our team:

Kecia Binko, Gladstone Crosdale, Bill Dassero, Peter Derry, Ann Haag, Rob Ohman, Helen Priestley, Jeff Tuttle, Bridget Wohlers

## ♪ GPC MUSIC PROGRAM ♪

‘Make a joyful noise unto the Lord...Come into his presence with singing’ Psalm 100

Music is an integral part of our worship experience. It touches us in ways that word alone cannot. Whether performing or listening, music involved us all. GPC is blessed with an active, vibrant music program of talented, dedicated people.

### 2009 Music Budget:

Director of Music	\$9,430
Organist	7,500
Organist Sub	360
Youth Choir Director	1,898
Junior Choir Director	2,947
Bell Choir Director	1,216
Organ Tuning	400
Piano Tuning	525
New Music	0
Totals	<u>\$24,276</u>

Our congregation is blessed with the talents of our superb organist, Ryan Enright. Our Music Director, Dean Ekberg, has been a faithful servant of GPC for many, many years, leading both the Adult and Youth choirs. Where would we be without the help of Debbie White who works wonders with the Children’s choir? It is always a joy when they sing for us - just ask all the proud parents and grandparents in the congregation! The Bell choir under the direction of Christine Cook is a unique music experience - quiet and melodious one moment, loud and joyous the next. Certainly we cannot overlook the dedicated service of our substitute pianist/organist, Chris Ohman, who serves willingly whenever called upon, as witnessed by her interim service last summer and fall. All these people put in countless hours for rehearsal and preparation. They also serve as music librarians and leaders within their music groups.

So many dedicated adults, youth, and children lend their time and talents to our music program! We are truly blessed!

### JOYFUL NOYZ “Reunion”

Some of the members of Joyful Noyz who were actively involved in the group from 2006-2008 will be getting back together to do some of our “old music” for the Summer Worship Service on Sunday July 26<sup>th</sup>. Rehearsals will take place on Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup> and Sunday July 19<sup>th</sup> at 7PM in the Adult Lounge. **You MUST be at one of these rehearsals in order to sing with us on the 26<sup>th</sup>.**

If you were not actively involved in Joyful Noyz but feel that you might want to sing with us on the 26<sup>th</sup> and that you know the songs in our repertoire well, please contact Nancy Bodhorn (594-9263) to go over the song selections ahead of time. You will need to plan to be at **BOTH** scheduled rehearsals.



## Here come the Bears . . . . .

The Teddy Bear Project collaboration between the folks at Gates Presbyterian Church and St. John's Meadows has been a big success the last few years. We have dressed and passed out over 120 bears each year to kindergarten children in two Rochester City School District schools. Each child also received a book and a hat. The Teddy Bear Picnic at St. John's Meadows, where the bears are "bagged" and "tagged," and the parties at the schools where the bears are given away are always fun and rewarding!



It's time to get the 2009 Teddy Bear Project started. There will be a sign-up sheet on the Kiosk to reserve your bear(s). The bears will be ready for pick up in the fall. The cost is the same as in past years (\$5.50). This covers the cost of the bear, gift bag, tissue paper, hats, and books as well. If you have any questions, please call Sally Christensen at 247-6095. Also, thank you to those who donated yarn for the ladies at the Meadows who make the hats. Thanks for your participation!

## HELP US HELP OTHERS....♥♥♥

**Fishing for Food.** Bring in cans of tuna and put it in the "fish pond" **all of July and August.** (Of course we won't "throw back" any other non perishable food donations that happen to end up in the pond!)

**Men's Clothing:** We are collecting men's "gently used" clothing for the **entire month of July** to be given to St. Joseph's House of Hospitality and to Grace House (a transitional home for recently released inmates)

**Undie Sundays:** Bring in packages of new socks and underwear for **CHILDREN** at Cameron Community Ministries as they get ready for the start of a new school year. **August 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.**

### Summer Youth Calendar

#### Junior High

- June 28 – deadline for registration for Jr High Work Project
- July 26 - Junior High Work Project Participants commissioned in worship
- July 27-30 – Jr. High work project

#### Senior High

- July 5 – Second Payment due for Senior High Work Project
- August 2 – Third Payment due  
Sr. Hi Work Project Participants commissioned in worship
- August 9 – 8:30 – leave for Sr. High Work Project
- August 15 – Return to Rochester
- August 16 – Work Project participants lead worship

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS – SEPTEMBER 20 – YOUTH KICK-OFF PARTY –**  
6-8pm - For 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders. More info in the September Harbinger.

## Musings:

One day, as I was walking along the rim of Grand Canyon I noticed what is known as a "thermal inversion." That is the clouds were below the rim rather than above it. Now it was an extraordinarily beautiful day, with the sun shining brightly and a pleasant breeze blowing in off Kaibab Forest.

As I watched, I noticed a family – Mom and Dad, Jr. and Sissy – marching purposefully down the side walk. Dad was in front leading the charge, carrying Sissy because she was very little and could not keep up. Mom followed at a pace or so and Jr. was about ten or fifteen feet back. He saw the clouds and said, "Hey Dad, look at the clouds!"

His father never missed a step, half turning, he called over his shoulder, "yeah, they're pretty aren't they?" Jr. was left to catch up – never mind looking at the clouds – they were there to *see* the Canyon! My almost overwhelming desire was to yell at him, "Hey, stop and look at the clouds with your kid. That is why you came here." (I didn't do it.) I wonder how many other opportunities are missed because people are somewhere with an agenda to fill and a schedule to meet. In the process, we miss the very thing that we came to see or do.

Years ago, Tonia and I took a trip around this country and as we drove she said, "I wonder where God started and where God finished. Did he start in the east and work west or did he start in the west and work east?" We never really resolved that question. We did, however, really enjoy the beauty of all we saw. The world is so full of wonders that it would take several lifetimes to see them all, just in this country, let alone around the world.

As I listen, I hear folks talking about trips they plan to take and my fondest wish is that as they take them, especially with little people along, is for them to take time to really look at what is there.

Remember, there are no time clocks to keep. There is no schedule – save the one you make and that is always subject to YOUR revision. If you really are going to see it all, you may have to plan on taking a second trip later. Show your children that it is okay to slow down and take in all that is there. Teach them to appreciate and respect the beauty and the wonder of what they see.

Have a safe and restful summer – remembering to give thanks along the way.

See you at worship

## Lectionary Readings for July and August

### JULY

- Date:** 05      **Season:** 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
2 Samuel 5.1-10 – David is made King of Israel  
Psalm 48 – a Psalm of praise  
2 Corinthians 12.2-10 – Paul’s ‘thorn in the side’  
Mark 6.1-13 – Jesus is ineffective in his own home town
- 12                      **15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
2 Samuel 6.1-5, 12-19 – David brings the ark to Jerusalem  
Psalm 24 – who may ascend the hill of God?  
Ephesians 1.3-14 – We are chosen by God  
Mark 6.14-29 – John the baptizer is beheaded
- 19                      **16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
2 Samuel 7.1-14a – David wants to build a house for God  
Psalm 89.20-37 – a psalm of David  
Ephesians 2.11-22 – no longer strangers, but fellow citizens  
Mark 6.30-34, 53-56 – 5,000 fed
- 26                      **17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
2 Samuel 11.1-15 – David and Bathsheba  
Psalm 14 – The fool says in his heart, ‘there is no god ... ‘  
Ephesians 3.14-21 – Paul prays for the Ephesians  
John 6.16-21 – Jesus walks on the water

### AUGUST

- Date:** 02      **Season:** 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
2 Samuel 11.26-12.13 – Nathan’s parable of the lamb  
Psalm 51 – Have mercy on me, O Lord  
Ephesians 4.1-16 – the unity of the body  
John 6.24-35 – the bread of life
- 09                      **19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
2 Samuel 18.5-9, 15, 31-33 – Absalom’s revolt and resulting death  
Psalm 130 – Out of the depth’s I cry to you O Lord  
Ephesians 4.25-5.2 -- in your anger, do not sin  
John 6.35, 41-45 – hard sayings, and the people grumble

### AUGUST – (continued)

- Date:** 16      **Season:** 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
1 Kings 2.10-12, 3.3-14 – David dies, Solomon prays for wisdom  
Ephesians 5.15-20 – be careful how you live  
Psalm 111 – Great are the works of the Lord  
John 6.51-58 – Jesus is the bread of heaven
- 23                      **21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
1 Kings 8.1, 6, 10-11, 22-30 – Solomon’s prayer to dedicate the temple  
Psalm 84 – How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD?  
Ephesians 6.10-20 – put on the armor of God  
John 6.56-69 – no one comes to the Father except by me
- 30                      **22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
Song of Solomon – loves invitation to come along  
Psalm 45.1-2, 6-9 – my heart is stirred by a noble theme  
James 1.17-27 – listens to the word ... and then do it  
Mark 7.1-8, 14-15, 21-23 – clean and unclean

### Mid-Week Vespers:

During the summer there will be four mid-week Vesper services here at the church. These short outdoor (weather permitting) worship services will begin at 6:30 on **July 1<sup>st</sup> ... July 15<sup>th</sup> ... August 5<sup>th</sup> and August 19<sup>th</sup>**. Hopefully we will be able to hold them in the Rose Garden.

*Dennis and Debbie White*

*Invite you to attend the wedding ceremony of their daughter*



*Kelly Elizabeth White  
to  
Matthew Benjamin Cox*



*On Saturday, the Fifth of September  
Two Thousand and Nine  
at  
Two o'clock in the afternoon  
Gates Presbyterian Church*

## DEACONS PAGE

Please keep in thought and prayer

**Lois Gudonis**, at Wesley Gardens for rehabilitation  
**Hannah Walker's sister**, recently hospitalized  
**John Walker**, dealing with some medical issues  
**Ron Steinmiller's brother**, recovering from prostate surgery  
**Ron Steinmiller's mother**, battling health issues  
**Ginny Smith's brother-in-law**, battling health issues  
**Dotty Meddaugh's mother**, recovering from a fall  
**Richard Miller**, at Wesley Gardens  
**Babe Meyer**, recently hospitalized at Unity Hospital  
**Chris Arcara**, recovering from surgery  
**Sandy Houseknecht**, undergoing tests at Strong Hospital  
Continued prayers for **Linda McKibben** and **Jim Bartell**



Our sympathy to

**Jean Korn and Family** on the recent death of her daughter-in-law

Congratulations to

**Don and Sharon Robertson** on the recent birth of a baby boy, **Donald George** on May 6.

## REMINDER TO DEACONS

Our next regular Deacons' meeting will be Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in Room 2.

## NEW ADDRESS

Jan Beutner would like you to know that she has moved and her new address is:  
8 Cottage Grove Circle, North Chili, NY 14514.

**TABITHA CIRCLE** will meet at the home of Pearl Plummer, Mandota Circle on September 15 at 7:00 p.m.

**PRAAYER SHAWL** group will meet on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in Room 16.

**REMINDER** – Office hours for July and August are 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The office will be closed Friday, July 3.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR COLLEGE GRADUATES

Please know that we are very proud of all of you and all that you have accomplished! Job well done!



## Presbyterian 101 – Historic Principles = G.-1.0300

### Part 3 in a series

There are eight principles that have been reaffirmed by Synods and General Assemblies from the very beginning of American Presbyterianism. Here is a much shortened version and a comment on each. You can read the longer version at: <http://www.pcusa.org/oga/publications/boo07-09.pdf>

(1) ... **“God alone is Lord of the conscience ...the rights of private judgment, in all matters that respect religion, are universal and unalienable ...”** Ultimately, we are answerable to God for our choices and for our actions – how we decide cannot and should not be forced on us by anyone.

(2) **“... every Christian Church ... is entitled to declare the terms of admission into its communion, and the qualifications of its ministers and members, as well as the whole system of its internal government ... they may, notwithstanding, err, in making the terms of communion either too lax or too narrow ...”** Every congregation has the right to determine who may or may not be members of it and who may or may not serve as its pastor or officers. Each church has the right to choose to make it easy or hard to be a member or an officer

(3) [Christ] ... **hath appointed officers ... to preach the gospel and administer the Sacraments, but also to exercise discipline ... to censure or cast out the erroneous and scandalous ...** Church leaders are responsible for watching over the way the church's members live from day to day and may, if the circumstances seem to warrant it, require a member to give account for how they are acting and perhaps to even exclude them from the church community for a time.

(4) **That truth is in order to goodness ...** What we truly believe will be demonstrated by how we live our lives before God and one another. In other words, faith and action are opposite sides of the same coin.

(5) **“... We also believe that there are truths and forms with respect to which men of good characters and principles may differ. And in all these we think it the duty both of private Christians and societies to exercise mutual forbearance toward each other ...”** Even when we disagree, we are committed to do so without being disagreeable.

(6) **That though the character, qualifications, and authority of Church officers are laid down in the Holy Scriptures, ... yet the election of the persons to the exercise of this authority, in any particular society, is in that society....** Each congregation is responsible for deciding who its leaders shall be and whether or not they reflect the standards that are established by the scriptures.

(7) **That all Church power ... is only ministerial and declarative;** Even in those instances where people break faith, the only recourse is to encourage them to get back on track. We no longer burn people at the stake – or even use dunking stools.

(8) **“... Since ecclesiastical discipline must be purely moral or spiritual in its object ... it can derive no force whatever but from its own justice,”** The most compelling argument in any situation is our own actions.

## ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Adult Education Program at GPC provides wonderful opportunities for Christian growth and fellowship. The budget for this program is: Adult Ministries Coordinator, \$3672 and Christian Education for Adults Committee \$1210. Total: \$4882.

The Adult Ministries Coordinator plans, organizes, and facilitates the annual Women's Retreat (attended by over 35 women annually); facilitates the new members classes twice a year; orders Lenten and Advent devotional materials; helps plan and organize the annual Women's Candlelight dinner (attended by over 100 women each year); and works closely with the Adult Education Committee.

The Adult Ed. Committee is always busy contacting speakers and researching programs to present at Second Hour from Sept. through May. Over the past several years diverse programs have been offered in Personal Growth; Life in Society; the Church in the World; and Biblical topics.

Many programs have been presented including Water for Sudan; Rochester Interfaith Hospitality Network; Ghandi and Non Violence; the Greater Rochester Community of Churches; PCUSA Peacemaking in the Middle East; RHINO; wise women of the Bible; and the Teddy Bear project.

Second Hour has explored going green at GPC; the global warming controversy, AIDS research. Travelogues and book reviews have also been presented. A yearly high point is our seniors' program on their annual mission trip to Jamaica.

The Adult Education Program also provides oversight to the Library Committee and women's groups including Lunch Bunch; Tabitha Circle; and Circle of Grace and Men's Groups.

The Adult Education Program is an integral part of GPC and adds a dimension of interest and vitality to our ministry and mission.

## Adult Education Programs

### Retreat for Women of All Ages

Learn and enjoy at the Women's Retreat, scheduled for Friday, November 13 through Sunday, November 15 at Camp Asbury. The payment schedule is listed on the Kiosk and the **first payment is due by September 1**. Friday's dinner cost includes the tax and tip. A separate vegetarian dish is available by ordering by October 1. Please see Lynn Schramel or Barb Snaith if a scholarship would allow you to attend.



### PROSPECTIVE MEMBERSHIP CLASS

GPC fall membership classes are being scheduled. Please contact one of the pastors, Dick Saxe, or Lynn Schramel if you are interested in more information.

### Invitation to Prayer Ministry

*Consider joining the GPC prayer chain to help our members, friends, and families in times of need and celebration. This is an important ministry, open to all. Contact*

*Ginny Smith at 247-5563 to join.*

*Prayer requests are kept confidential.*

*If seeking a prayer, you may remain unnamed if you wish.*

Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.

Ephesians 6:18

### GPC Men's Invitation

Join the Men in fellowship at Breakfast at 6:30 a.m. at the Town and Country Restaurant on Chili Avenue (on the second Thursday), July 9<sup>th</sup>. Dine with the Men on July 21<sup>st</sup> (the third Tuesday evening), also at the Town and Country Restaurant. The August breakfast is scheduled for the 13<sup>th</sup> and dinner for the 18<sup>th</sup>.



to church this summer. Share lessons about Christ's love, strength, compassion, and forgiveness with others.

### SUMMER READING

Consider reading these books that will be discussed in the new program year. *Dewey: the Small Town Library Cat Who Touched the World* by Vicki Myron with Brett Witter & Marley & Me: *Life and Love with the World's Worst Dog* by John Grogan. Another book, *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by [Garth Stein](#), explores life from the perspective of a dog.

### Candlelight Dinner Invitation to Women

Save Monday December 7<sup>th</sup> to enjoy friendship and dinner with other GPC women and guests.

**SEPTEMBER HARBINGER** – Please have articles for the September Harbinger in by Monday, August 10. We know this is a week early, but we need to work around staff vacation days. Thanks for your understanding!

**JAMAICA MISSION TEAM’S BOTTLE AND CAN DRIVE**

As you host summer gatherings, celebrate graduations, etc. please remember to support next year’s Jamaica Mission Team by donating your empty cans and bottles. Please place them in the designated bins just outside of the Fellowship Hall entrance behind the wooden gate area.

“Blessed are those who rinse and sort!” Amen.

**THANKS SO MUCH FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!**

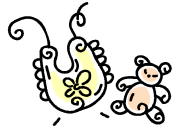
**GPC YARD SALE**

**The 2009 GPC Yard Sale was a great success with total proceeds estimated at \$4,850!!**

There were so many people who contributed extraordinary amounts of their time and talents. My sincere thanks to everyone who worked incredibly hard to help the whole process run so smoothly – I am humbled and inspired by your generosity and grace. - Sheri MacFarlane

**NURSERY SCHEDULE – July/August**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| July 5 - Diane and Laura Keiling              | Aug. 2 - Sharon Call/Andrea Unson           |
| July 12 - Cathy Goodykoontz/Jenna Steinmiller | Aug. 9 - Tammy & Mike Endulovski            |
| July 19 - Sue and Alyssa Birkbeck             | Aug. 16- Tami Pignone/<br>Alison MacKenzie  |
| July 26 - Chris Davis/Laura Hossenlopp        | Aug. 23- Carol Henchen/<br>Carolyn Thornton |
|   | Aug. 30- Diane and Laura Keiling            |



**PUBLIC WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR JULY/AUGUST**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lay Reader</u>	<u>Communion</u>	<u>Usher Team</u>	<u>Front Door</u>
July 5	Scott Blystone	* See schedule below	#3	Irene Ward
July 12	Helen Priestley		#4	Dick Saxe
July 19	Sue Birkbeck		#5	Sherry Nau
July 26	Tami Pignone		#6	Polly Moore
Aug. 2	Kathy Wakeman		#1	Carol Henchen
Aug. 9	Carol Brown		#2	Chris Arcara
Aug. 16	Ron Steinmiller		#3	Cam Mossgraber
Aug. 23	Andrea Unson		#4	Jenna Steinmiller
Aug. 30	Barb Snaith		#5	Whit Beckett

**July 12<sup>th</sup> Communion by Intinction**  
Servers: Eric Vail and Frona Rossman

**August 2<sup>nd</sup> Communion by Intinction**  
Servers: Kathy Coons and Carol Howell

**From the Associate Pastor .....**

The weed was posing as a cute yellow flower. I was diligently weeding my garden when this botanical intruder invited me to journey back to my childhood. For a brief moment, I indulged in the journey to summer days in North Carolina. I remembered the same yellow flowers randomly growing in the lawn of my home. Legend had it (at least in the under eight year old crowd) that if you held the yellow flower under your chin and it reflected yellow upon your chin, it meant you loved butter. WHY – who knows???? However, along with lighting bugs and four leaf clovers, those tattle tell flowers were a mystical wonder of my summers. How in the world did such a strange legend come into being?

Returning from memory lane and procrastinating pulling the flower, I pondered what kind of plant one might hold under one’s chin to see if one loved Jesus. Maybe it would be a crocus reminding us of the promised hope of the prophet Isaiah (the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus) – or aloe recalling the story of Nicodemus who cared for Jesus’ body after his death with a mixture of “myrrh and aloe” – or stalks of wheat reminding us of the renewal of the sacrament of Communion. Perhaps, however, botany is insignificant and what really matters is the reflection. For indeed, when we bring hope, care, and renewal to people who are hurting and discouraged, we reflect our love for Christ.

Our GPC mission involvement is a reflection of our love for Christ. Currently, we are told by the folks on the front lines of our local mission sites that lunch rooms are increasingly filled with hungry clients as needs multiply in these troubling economic times. At the same time, however, both “in kind” and financial donations have decreased. Mission sites are well gifted during Christmas, but often overlooked during the summer. This summer, the GPC Mission/Peacemaking Committee is inviting us to participate in several out-reach opportunities: an ongoing collection of food that will be distributed to a variety of sites that serve the hungry, a collection of men’s clothes that will be donated to Grace House and St. Joseph’s House of Hospitality, new children’s underwear that will be given to Cameron Community Ministries Clothing Cupboard. In addition, mission sites are in need of summer volunteers as staff and regular volunteers go on vacation. Let us reflect our love for Christ by caring year round for those whose needs are year round!

