

MYSTERY NIGHT

Would you like to try something fun, exciting and a bit different this **St. Patrick's Day, Saturday, March 17th**? Mystery Night, "**Chicago Capers**", is being presented at Gates Presbyterian Church, 1049 Wegman Rd., Rochester, N.Y. 14624. **Visit the Roaring '20's with gangsters and flappers and wild times!!**

Guests arrive at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall, for yummy hors d'oeuvres, cookies, and a chance to mingle with friends. No one suspects that something sinister is about to happen!!

At **7:00 pm** let members of the Guatemalan Partners take you on an adventurous mystery night you aren't likely to forget! Let us entertain you, while you'll also be scratching your heads trying to figure out, "**who done it?**" **Prizes** will be awarded for those who guess the culprit right on the mark, and for other zany reasons.

The best part is - **your bargain \$10 ticket will be also be helping support the Guatemalan people through educational opportunities, micro lending for small businesses, a cattle and pig project and various other ways that help combat poverty and social injustices.**

Yes, we'd love to have you and your **friends or relatives**, who might want to share in the fun, but **act fast, as seating is limited.** To order tickets, just send a check for \$10 per ticket to Gates Presbyterian Church, 1049 Wegman Road, Rochester, New York, 14624 and mark it for "Mystery Night" in the memo line. Be sure to include your name, phone number and address and we will mail the tickets to you. You can also call Tom Ward at 889-5932 to reserve your tickets now! See YOU there!



GPC - Rochester Americans Discount night at Blue Cross Arena!

Sunday February 5th and Sunday February 12th are the last two Sundays to get in on a \$12.00 Discount Ticket Offer. The Hockey game will begin at 5:05pm on Sunday, February 19. The Rochester Americans will be facing off against the Hamilton Bulldogs. We will be taking reservations and collecting money for tickets ending on Sunday February 12. You will be able to pick up your tickets on Sunday February 19 in Fellowship Hall. For more information or to place your order, see Todd Pimm or Gary Dykes in Fellowship Hall after worship.

GPC Men's Invitation

Join the men this month for breakfast on **Thursday, February 2nd at 8:00 a.m.** (the first Thursday of each month). At **Mr. Beenz Diner, 1941 Buffalo Rd.** (by Wendy's).

Also join the men at **6 p.m.** for dinner on **Thursday, February 16th** (the third Thursday of each month). This month we will be gathering at the "**Elm Grove Family Restaurant**" 730 Elmgrove road.

DEACONS' PAGE

Thoughts and Prayers To:

Carrie Dykes father recovering from surgery
Fred Boeff recovering from hospital stay at home
Sue Maccallini recovering from foot surgery
Winifred Sweetman recovering from a broken arm
Neale Sweetman recovering from some health issues
Mary Edwards in Unity Hospital
Bill Wallace recovering from surgery at John Hopkins
Carol Balsley recovering from knee surgery



Congratulations To:

Robert and Christine Fitzgerald on the Baptism of **Jameson John Fitzgerald**, born March 6, 2011.
Kyle and Amanda Adams on the birth of **Bayleigh Smith Adams** born December 22, 2011.

Sympathy To:

Carmella Judd and Family on the death of **Dick**, January 4, 2012.

REMINDER TO DEACONS:

The next Deacons' meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 27th at 7:00 p.m. in Room 2.

THE PRAYER SHAWL GROUP meet on February 7, 2012 in Room 16 at 2 PM, at GPC.

TABITHA CIRCLE will meet at the home of Bonnie Beckett, 55 Mariposa Drive; at 7 PM on February 14, 2012. Please read Chapter 9.

REBECCA CIRCLE will meet at the church on Monday, February 13th at 10:30 a.m.

ROCHESTER AREA PRESCHOOL

Registration for the general public for the 2012-2013 school year opens Saturday, February 4th at 9:00 a.m. We have a wonderful preschool in our building with an outstanding reputation community-wide! Please call the registrar, Karen Hale, at 402-2618 to register. Please pass the word on to family and friends!

Let the FUS!ON Begin!!

The Fusion Room is up and ready to host our adult GPC guests! These wonderful people volunteered to share a part of themselves with our Sunday School children. We have scrapbooking, signing (ASL), singing, and dancing as some of the activities that will be shared. The concept behind this is to "fuse together" our children and the adults, so that we grow together in our faith...learning from each other, enjoying fellowship with each other, and growing together as the family of God.

In January, the 5th and 6th graders gathered in the Fusion Room to make pizzas with Dave Fish. Not only did the children have fun making and eating the pizza, but they also got to meet Dave as an active, fun-loving guy in their church family! And Dave enjoyed the enthusiasm and individuality of our children! To pull everything together, an analogy was made. Just as all the ingredients are needed to make a tasty pizza, so, all the different people, with their unique God-given talents are needed to make up God's church!

Stay tuned for more Fusion Room news!

Sunday School

Our 2nd Semester of Sunday School starts February 5th. Many thanks to all our Sunday School teachers who have taught our children. We say goodbye to Mary Beth MacKenzie and Sonia Davis and appreciate their dedication to our young disciples this 1st semester. We welcome Carrie Dykes and Elaine Owlett as Sunday School teachers the 2nd semester. Check out our teacher biographies on the Kiosk! Below is a list of Sunday School teachers for the 2nd semester.

Grade	Room	Teacher
3,4,5 yr. olds	RAP	Carolyn Thornton, Beth Ohman Heather Pimm
1 st and 2 nd	3 New wing	Carrie Dykes
3 rd and 4 th	2 E New wing	Carol Henchen and Chris Davis
5 th	2 W New wing	Elaine Owlett and Tami Pignone
6 th	Jr. High Room 16	Patti Fields and Jan Phillips

Stewardship Corner

Fund Balances as of January 16, 2012:

Endowment = \$149,234.83

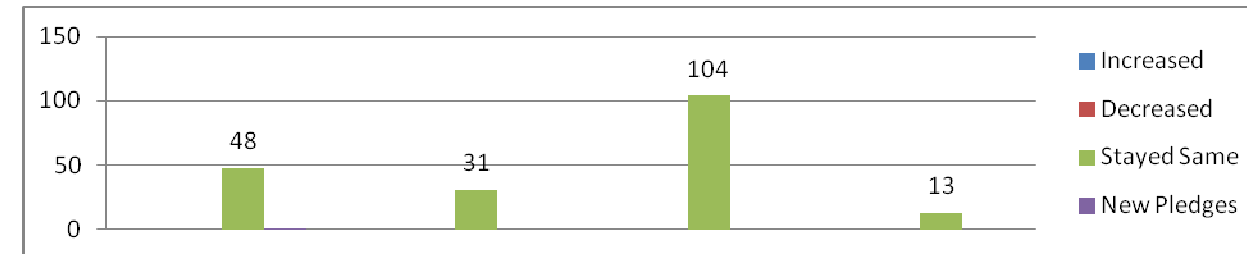
Mustard Seed = \$78,300.32

Memorial = \$40,621.47

Attendance at Sunday Services:

Dec 25	Jan 1	Jan 8	Jan 15
57	114	192	199

The Stewardship Campaign for 2012 is slowly reaching its goal of \$304,110. This goal is over \$13,000 LESS than last year's goal! We are doing our best to work within our means. As of this date we have 196 pledges totaling \$293,997 which is \$10,113 short of goal. There are still members from whom we have not heard, so we hope this number will rise in time. Below is a chart of how those pledges fall out. You will see that we are blessed to have 48 people who increased pledges, 31 that had to decrease, 104 that have left their pledge at the same level as last year. The blessing is that we have 13 new pledges for which we are certainly grateful.



It was our hope to see more of the pledges that remained the same increase, but there is still time to consider where we are toward our goal. Last year we started the year \$17,275 short of goal, and as a result we needed to reduce our staff by two positions. We don't have that flexibility this year. We will have to pray that anticipated new pledges come in or that somehow our expenses are lower. One way you can truly help is to prayerfully **consider making your Per Capita commitment**. That alone could make up the difference and save us from strain. Thank You!!

ADULT EDUCATION IN FEBRUARY

February 5: Sermon talk back with Rev. Melissa DeRosia

February 12: Valentines for the Rochester Presbyterian Home

Cam Mossgraber will lead us in making beautiful valentines for the residents of the Presbyterian Home.

February 19: Big Brothers, Big Sisters Program

Come for an informal session to learn more about this program working with children.

February 26: Fusion Sunday – no program planned.

Per Capita

It's that time of year when we begin talking about the faithful support of our congregation's commitment to the Presbytery of the Genesee Valley, Synod of the Northeast and General Assembly. These organizations are the "backbone" of our Presbyterian family of churches, and the costs associated with their organization and administrative leadership are the responsibility of this family of churches.

This year, based on GPC's 2010 total membership, our total obligation is \$27.43 per member, or \$16,374.71 that our church is committed to pay. We ask that each member please prayerfully consider our response to this "religious and moral commitment." Yes, we start this appeal at the beginning of the year, but your support contributions can be made at any time during the year. Your payments for individual family church members can also be made one at a time to make it more affordable if you so choose. If you would like to learn more about Per Capita, you can go to the website: <https://www.pbygenva.org/committees/budget/percapita-primer.shtml>. We thank you for your generous church pledges. In this spirit of commitment to GPC made throughout the year, please also respond according to your faith for this one-time-a-year Per Capita support. Thank You!

Rochester Committee on Latin America (ROCLA) to honor Bob & Marilyn Kaiser! **YOU ARE INVITED!!!**

ROCLA will honor the work of the Rev. Bob and Marilyn Kaiser at their annual Rice & Beans dinner on March 2, 2012 by presenting them with the local White Dove Award. The award is given in recognition of long time commitment to Peace and Justice issues, primarily in South and Central America region. Bob has served ROCLA as the convener for many years and Marilyn as the Membership chair.

As we, at GPC know, Bob & Marilyn have led and organized work projects in Mexico and Guatemala and have made several journeys to the region traveling and living with the poor and oppressed in the region. Bob built up the mission programs at GPC during his tenure as Sr. Pastor.

The keynote speaker that night will be Brian Concannon, Director of the Institute for Democracy and Justice in Haiti. He will be receiving the International White Dove Award.

There will also be a silent auction for some very nice items that you won't want to miss!

Tickets are: \$40.00 patron
\$20.00 Sponsor
\$15.00 Guest

No one will be turned away from the evening.

If you have a business and would like to purchase an ad for the program that evening, see or call Tom Ward for more information (889-5932).

It will be held at the Downtown United Presbyterian Church, 121 North Fitzhugh Street, Rochester, NY.

For reservations: call Tom Ward at 889-5932 or email: tomw@RochesterYMCA.org

For more information, you can go to: www.rocla.us webpage.

MISSION NEWS

LUNCH AT ST. JOSEPH'S HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY - February 18th

The Junior High Youth Group will be serving lunch at St. Joe's on February 18th. Thanks Junior Highs! Butwe still need donations and cooks. The meal will be cooked at GPC on Friday evening February 17th - 6:30. The sign-up for food donations and cooks is on the Kiosk. If you would like to know more about St. Joseph's, their website address is www.saintjoeshouse.org

WALL OF FOOD - Lenten Food Drive for Southwest Ecumenical Ministries

Folks in Monroe County continue to be challenged by the economy. We can help! Please bring a can of food each time you come to GPC during Lent. The collection will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd and will continue through Easter Sunday, April 8th. Food donations will be given to SWEM, Southwest Ecumenical Ministries. SWEM provides people living in the southwest quadrant of Rochester with emergency food supplies.

Suggestions: canned fruit, vegetables and/or meat, oatmeal and/or cereal, powdered milk, cans of soup

AURORA HOUSE

For the month of February, GPC will be collecting "WISH LIST" items for Aurora House.

Aurora House of Western Monroe County is a home for the dying and their loved ones which provides compassionate, palliative care in a loving home like setting in Ogden, NY. Please bring your items in Feb 5, 12, 19, or 26th and place in the marked bins/boxes outside the sanctuary.

Aurora House Wish List Items:

Laundry Detergent (HE preferred)

Fabric Softener

bleach

Keurig K Cups

zip lock bags (all sizes)

toilet paper

candles in jars

ginger ale/cola

gift cards (Tops, Wal-mart, Office Max, Home Depot, Lowes, Wegmans)

Postage stamps

Monetary donations to Aurora House

cookie and quick bread mixes

garbage bags (tall kitchen)

paper towels

facial tissues

room fresheners

twin size sheets X-Long

Jamaica Mission Team

Paperwork in, money caught up, flip flops dug out, suntan lotion boughtthen you are almost ready to board the plane! Just three more "**required**" items on the list:

- February 12 - You will be **commissioned** in worship.
- February 5 - Our final **orientation** - for parents as well as youth and advisors - 4-5:30 (You will be home in time for kick-off - I promise!) If you have any questions before then, don't hesitate to call or email Carol Anne at strawheels@aol.com
- February 18 - **meet at the airport at 6:30am!!!!!!!**

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Sunday, February 5th

One prayer – at one church in 1990 – has grown to 15,000 churches which generated over \$8 million in 2011 to help those in need in local communities across the United States. Join the Souper Bowl of Caring and experience God’s love in action.

This year our Junior High Youth, along with youth throughout our nation, will again be collecting cans of soup and your dollars in support of Souper Bowl of Caring. The soup will be going to the food cupboard at Cameron Community Ministries and the funds raised will go to St. Joseph’s House of Hospitality. Let us be mindful of the Souper Bowl of Caring Founding Prayer: “Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat.”



Jamaica Mission Trip Participants ask for your prayers. Please sign their prayer cards located in the foyer.

This year seven high school students and five advisors will leave Rochester on February 18th to fly to Jamaica as part of the 12th GPC Jamaica mission team. The team will connect with our partner church in Jamaica, the United Church of Jamaica, Negril Charge which is composed of Santoy United, Green Island United, and Negril United Church of Jamaica. Mission team participants are Kecia Binko, Ben Cheal, Mary Hadley, Matt Hossenlopp, Adam Lamphron, Shawn Lewis, Kayla Millar, Beth Ohman, Carol Anne Strawbridge, Adam Switzer, Tiffany Switzer, and Carolyn Thornton. The team will be commissioned in worship on February 12th, leave on the 18th, return on the 26th and lead worship on March 4th. Please keep them in your prayers. Please let them know you are keeping them in your prayers by signing their prayer cards (located in the foyer).

Bible Study for February

This opportunity for Bible Study, fellowship and prayer is open to everyone. Even if you have never been to a Bible Study gathering before, come join us!

We meet in the Jr. High Lounge every Wednesday 6:30-7:30. It is not required but if you would like to read ahead, here are the scripture texts we will be studying:

February 1st	Mark 1:29-39
February 8th	Mark 1:40-45
February 15th	Mark 9:2-9
February 22nd	NO BIBLE STUDY - Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00pm
February 29th	Discussion about the meaning of Lent



“OPEN ME TO THE GATES: LENT 2012”

Based on the Lenten Study by the Rev. Grade Parsons, Stated Clerk of the Presbyterian Church (USA) explore with us the vivid image of city gates that are in key biblical passages. These passages will lead us along the path of discipleships in Lent through worship and study. The path of Lent is one that leads us first to God, then through and with God, and finally to our neighbor and world.



Please join us at the Ash Wednesday service
Wednesday, February 22 at 7:00 p.m.

JR. CHOIR NEWS ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪

On February 12th we will be singing an introit that calls us to

“awaken to the presence of God”

(“Here in this Ordinary Place” by Bret Hesla). You might guess that in singing this song so soon after Christmas some of us were thinking of *presents* rather than *presence*, but this group was not fooled by word play! They are very used to the idea that God is always with us.

Our church teaches us that God is present in our joys and in our times of concern. God is there to celebrate with us, and God’s presence can also give us the hope and strength we need to do things that at first seem impossible!

Many times it is through others that we feel the presence of God. Whether it comes to you in a moment of solitude or through the connection and care of another, this love has an amazing power to fill us with what we need :

inspiration peace determination comfort
understanding patience energy

Sounds like the presence of God really *is* a present- not just at Christmas time, but as an everyday reminder that we are all loved, we are all cared for, we are all “gifted”.

Junior High Youth Group reaching out to the world in February!

February 4 – 7:00 p.m. until 11:00 a.m. - February 5

The squeaks, the crannies, and even the church mouse are waiting for you Junior Highs! Come sleep over at GPC. Collect donations from the congregation for the Souper Bowl on Sunday morning.

February 18 – The AMAZING Jr Highs are serving lunch at St. Joseph’s Soup Kitchen – meet at 10:00 at GPC – return at 3:00.

Senior High Youth Group in February – all about winter!

February 5 – 12:15 – eat lunch at GPC and then hit Glacier Ridge for snow tubing! Cost: \$12.00 - have your parents pick you up at GPC at 3:30. You will be home hours before the Super Bowl begins.

February 19 – Sr. Highs will be joining their GPC family at the GPC Rochester Americans Discount Night at Blue Cross Arena. These discount tickets will be sold on Sunday mornings until Feb. 12 in the Fellowship Hall. Bring friends! Call CA if you need a ride, but call before Feb 17 (leaving for Jamaica early on the 18th). Game starts at 5:05 and the Rochester Americans will be playing the Hamilton Bulldogs.

Youth Calendar

February 4	7:00	Junior High overnight
February 5	9:00	Youth Choir
	10:00	Worship/Souper Bowl
	11:15	Junior and Senior High Church School
	11:15	Confirmation Class
	12:15 - 3:30	Senior Highs sledding and lunch
	4:00 - 5:30	Jamaica orientation with parents
February 7	7:00	Youth Committee
February 12	9:00	Youth Choir
	10:00	Worship/Jamaica participants commissioned
	11:15	Junior and Senior High Church School
February 17	Jamaica	Mission Participants pick up extra bag at GPC
February 18	6:30	Jamaica Mission participants meet at airport
	10:00	Junior Highs meet at GPC to serve at St. Joseph's
	3:00	Junior Highs return to GPC
February 19	9:00	Youth Choir
	10:00	Worship
	11:15	Jr High Church School - no Sr High Church School
	5:05	Sr. High supports GPC Rochester Americans Discount night
		No Jr High Youth Group
February 26	9:00	Youth Choir
	10:00	Worship
	11:15	no Jr and Sr Church School - Fusion Sunday
	9:45	Jamaica Mission Team returns to airport

YOUTH – mark your calendars now

JUNIOR HIGH RETREAT

May 19/20

JUNIOR HIGH MISSION WORK PROJECT

Who: Upcoming fall seventh and eighth graders

When: July 23-26

SENIOR HIGH MISSION WORK PROJECT

Who: Upcoming fall ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth graders

When: August 5-11

From the Associate Pastor.....

Parting the thick jungle brush with the sun beating on my back, I quietly observed the zebras.....ok, not really.....this only happened in my imagination.....and zebras are not my sabbatical studyBUT my sabbatical explorations are sure to be just as exciting as zebras and jungles. I want to share them with you! Although the goals below do not include a geographic jungle, I will be “parting the thick jungle brush” as I seek to part with what is familiar in order to learn from what is unfamiliar. I wonder what the “zebras” will look like?

I leave GPC on March 12th for this adventure. I will be bubbling over with stories to tell and ideas to share when I return on June 4. In designing a plan for my sabbatical leave, I created goals that support the foci of my job description. In order to fulfill these goals, I look forward to visiting innovative church programs and progressive mission sites, while also carving space for personal spiritual development and supportive reading. My sabbatical goals are the following:

Goal 1: Explore ways in which social business can address global poverty.

Goal 2: Explore ways in which GPC can effectively address the spiritual needs of children in the twenty-first century.

Goal 3. Explore a possible international mission site for the next young adult mission trip.

Goal 4. Explore my relationship with God.

Perhaps the most adventuresome part of my plans is a trip to Dhaka, Bangladesh. Muhammad Yunus, who lives and works in Dhaka, was the original creator of the global microcredit movement. In 2006, he won a Nobel Peace Prize for his work. In 2009, Yunus was presented the US Presidential Medal of Freedom. Many of us remember the severe 1974 Bangladesh famine. It was out of this crisis that Yunus developed the microcredit movement. When he received the Nobel Peace Award, the committee stated “Lasting peace can not be achieved unless large population groups find ways in which to break out of poverty. Microcredit is one such means.” I am hopeful to see, first hand, Yunus’ work which is happening through Grameen Bank and the Yunas Centre in Dhaka.....and, coincidentally (not exactly) my daughter, Robin, and her husband, Daniel, teach in Dhaka. Part of my plan is to mooch off of their hospitality and connections. (Don’t worry parents, Bangladesh is NOT where I am exploring sites for a young adult mission trip.)

There will be time before I go for more conversation, planning, thanks, good-byes, etc. I wanted, however, to give you a brief description now of what I will be doing because I would love feedback, travel suggestions, reading recommendations, prayers, and any other helpful ideas.

PUBLIC WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY

Day	Event	Front Door Greeter	Lay Reader	Usher Team	Communion Team
5	Communion	Andrea Unson	Eric Vail	5	A
12		Ginny Barley	Sally Christensen	6	
19		Keith Hadley	Jeff Tuttle	1	
22	Ash Wednesday	Sharon Call	Ann Haag	2	
26	Fusion Sunday	Jim Meddaugh	Nadia Enduloviski	3	

A TEAM	
Left	Right
Bob Binko (Captain) 352-6540	Linda Sidore
Nancy Hossenlopp	Matt Hossenlopp
Sherry Nau	Amy Merica
Kay Harder	Peggy Militello