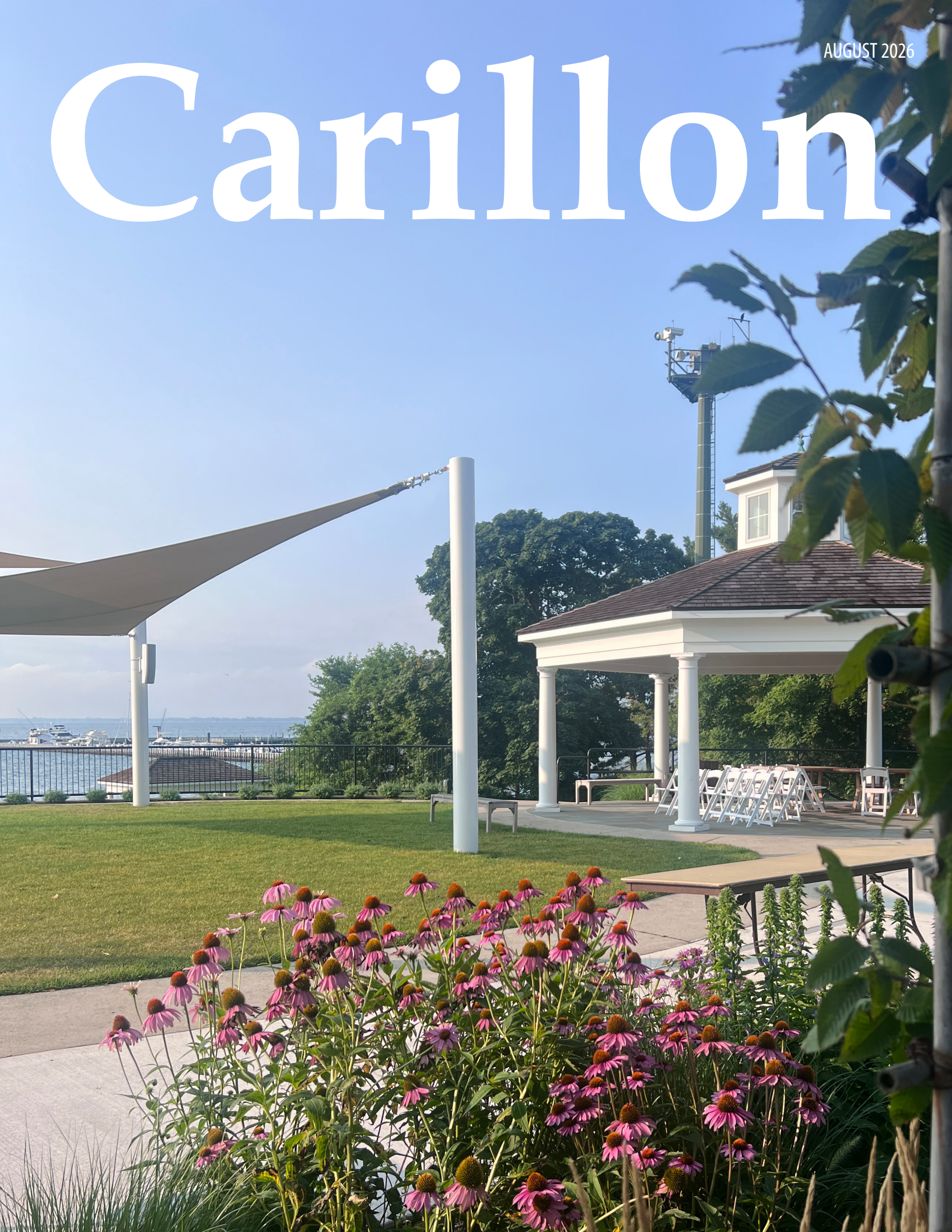


AUGUST 2026

Carillon



STAFF CORNER

Dear GPMC Family,

This June I celebrated two years of being part of the GPMC family. What a wonderful wild ride! As I head into my third Vacation Bible School, I can't help but think about the joys and wonders of working in Children's Ministry. There is something uniquely special about how young people think about God. We have so much fun tackling big questions (Did Jesus wear underwear?), discovering new Bible stories (Job... He had it good, then he didn't, then he did again!) and learning about people in the Bible (Paul started as Saul!). Every week brings something new!

Fall programming is right around the corner and we have more faith-filled adventures headed our way. We will use the rotation model again this year to help us dig into new Bible stories. This fall we will learn about Abraham and Sarah, Joseph and his brothers, and tackle Psalm 23. Sunday School will continue to be held during the 9 am worship service. One added bonus: Preschoolers will get their very own classroom in room 302.

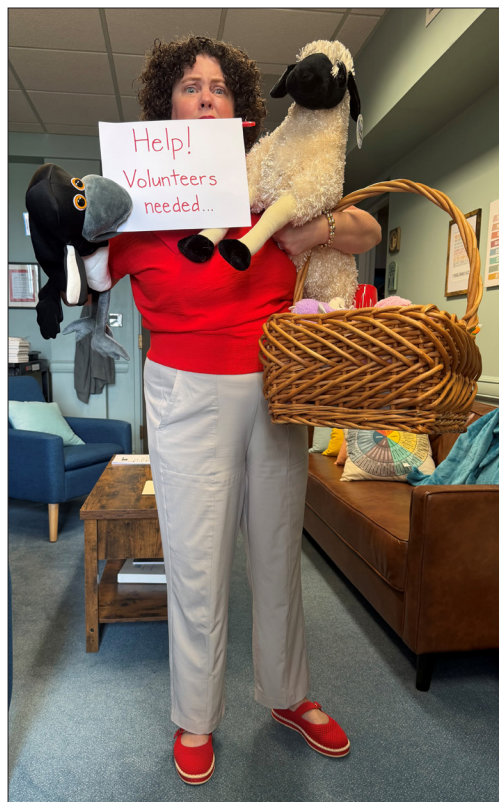
First Sundays will again be a time for our children to actively participate in worship by lighting the candle, carrying the cross, and being readers. Coming in October, we will offer Worship Circle on the first Sunday of each month, during Middle Hour. Worship Circle will be an engaging experience for babies, toddlers, and their parents, and will give our youngest worshippers something of their very own. Look for more information soon.

VBS is just a few short weeks away. Our theme this year is *Tell Me a Story: The Parables of Jesus*, and we still need volunteers to bring this experience to life. If you have some extra time, please consider volunteering. You don't need to be available all day, or even all week. We can use extra hands at any point during the week. VBS will be held August 17-21 from 9 am until noon. Please consider if God is calling you to join us!!

If you are interested in making a slightly larger commitment, we need folks to help teach Sunday School. Lessons are designed for you and materials will be provided. All you have to do is show up and have a good time. The relationships built with children are priceless and you can enjoy knowing that you are helping to shape the future of the church. Please email me at aprentice@gpmchurch.org or call me at the church if you would like to help with VBS, Sunday School, or anything else related to Children's Ministry. I promise you a wild and wonderful time!

With love in Christ,

Annie Joines Prentice
Director of Children's Ministry



WHO WE ARE



Grosse Pointe Memorial Church (GPMC) is a 1,100 member congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Started in 1865 as the Grosse Pointe Evangelical Protestant Association, the oldest Protestant congregation in the Grosse Pointes, our 161-year history is a rich one. The greatest treasure we have is our members. As a Presbyterian church, we are a congregation where every member is a minister. GPMC is a Stephen Ministry congregation.

Our Mission and Vision Statement:

Sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked as Christ's own forever, we are called and committed to living out our love for God. Through worship, study, and service, we strive to continue God's transforming work by worshiping God joyfully, welcoming others graciously, supporting one another lovingly, and faithfully responding to our community and world with compassion.

Inclusion Statement:

As a member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A), GPMC is an inclusive community of faith, welcoming people of all races, gender identities, and sexual orientation, believing that God gifts and calls everyone into beloved service and community with God and others.

WHO'S WHO AT GPMC

The Reverend Dr. Jeff Lincicome

Pastor and Head of Staff

The Reverend Heather Thum-Gerber

Associate Pastor

George Abdullah

Evening Desk Attendant

Dave Buckler

GPMC Treasurer

Marie Calcaterra

Director of Mornings at Memorial

Lindsay Cameron

Director of Communications

Peyton Fleming

Handbell Choir Director

Susan C. Griffin

Director of Accounting

Dr. Logan J. Hamilton

Minister of Music and Organist

Donna Hartzell

Executive Assistant and Volunteer Coordinator

Tena Harwick

Assistant Accounting Manager

Julie Huellmantel

Director of Outreach Ministries

Carol Beltz Marks

Director of Pastoral Ministries

The Reverend Susan d'Olive Mozena

Parish Associate

Annie Joines Prentice

Director of Children's Ministries

Teresa Rodriguez

Head Sexton

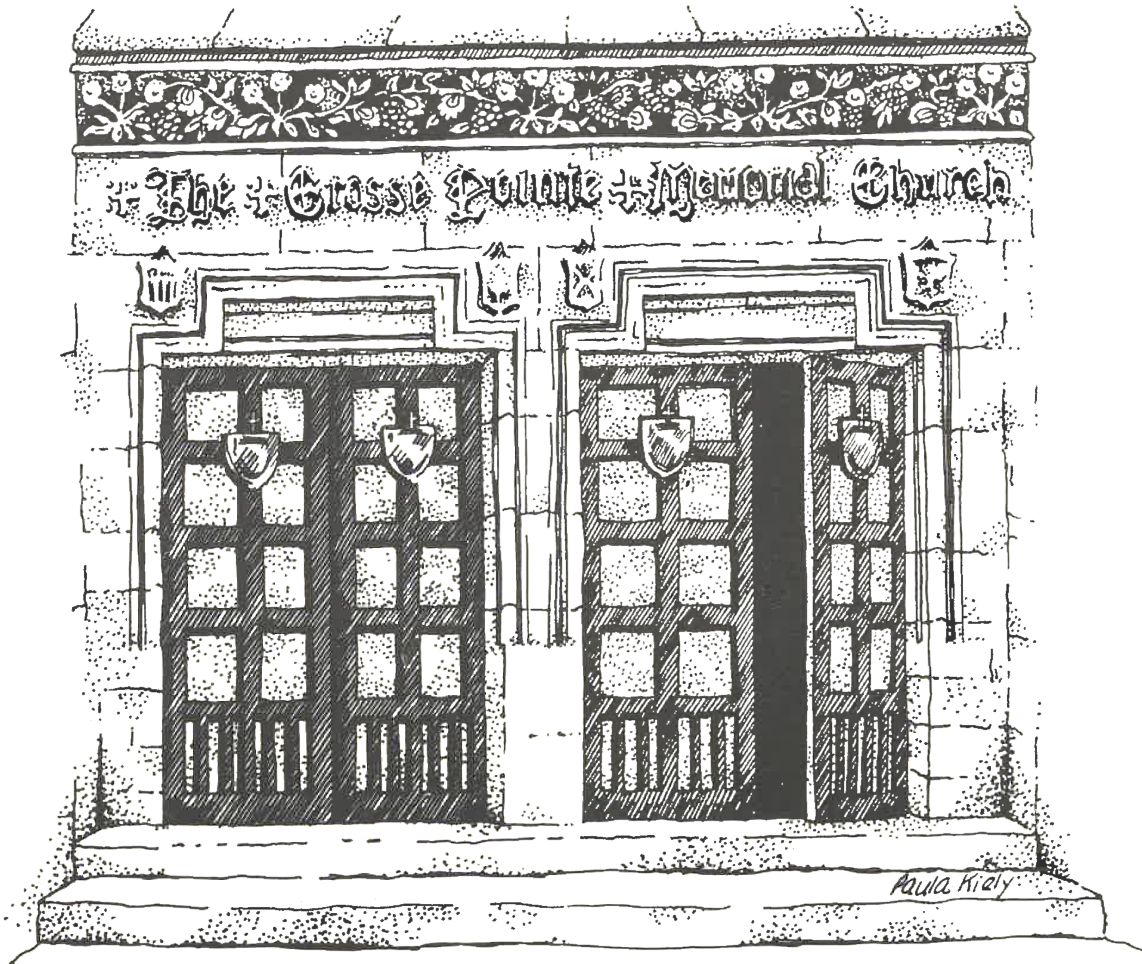
Dan Ryan

Building Engineer

Eric Whitmer

Resident Carillonist

WORSHIP AT GPMC



After God's Own Heart: The Story of David

June 7 – August 30

“I have found David son of Jesse a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do” (Acts 13:22). God says this about David—the beloved king of Israel and an ancestor of Jesus. At first, David can seem untouchable, far beyond what any of us could hope to be. But a closer look shows that David was deeply human: humble beginnings, great successes, serious failures, moments of faithfulness and moments of pride. Yet through it all, he remained close to God’s heart—and that became his greatest legacy. This summer at GPMC, we’ll explore the life of King David, a man after God’s own heart. By learning from both his victories and his failures, we hope to see ourselves in his story and grow into women and men after God’s heart as well.

SUNDAYS IN AUGUST

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2

Worship Time(s):

8:30 am on Trinity Terrace

10:30 am in the Sanctuary

5 pm Evening Prayer on Trinity Terrace

Leading Worship:

Rev. Dr. Jeff Lincicome

Preaching Text:

II Samuel 11:22–27

What's Happening?

- Communion will be offered during worship
- Childcare available during morning worship (Open to birth – three years old)
- Children's church during 10:30 am service (Open to ages three – second grade)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

Worship Time(s):

8:30 am on Trinity Terrace

10:30 am in the Sanctuary

5 pm Evening Prayer on Trinity Terrace

Leading Worship:

Rev. Dr. Jeff Lincicome

Preaching Text:

II Samuel 12:1–7

What's Happening?

- Childcare available during morning worship (Open to birth – three years old)
- Children's church during 10:30 am service (Open to ages three – second grade)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

Worship Time(s):

8:30 am on Trinity Terrace

10:30 am in the Sanctuary

5 pm Evening Prayer on Trinity Terrace

Leading Worship:

Rev. Dr. Jeff Lincicome

Preaching Text:

II Samuel 14:25–33

What's Happening?

- Childcare available during morning worship (Open to birth – three years old)
- Children's church during 10:30 am service (Open to ages three – second grade)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

Worship Time(s):

8:30 am on Trinity Terrace

10:30 am in the Sanctuary

5 pm Evening Prayer & Blessing of the Animals on Trinity Terrace

Leading Worship:

Rev. Dr. Jeff Lincicome

Preaching Text:

Psalms 103

What's Happening?

- Childcare available during morning worship (Open to birth – three years old)
- Children's church during 10:30 am service (Open to ages three – second grade)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

Worship Time(s):

8:30 am on Trinity Terrace

10:30 am in the Sanctuary

5 pm Evening Prayer on Trinity Terrace

Leading Worship:

Rev. Heather Thum–Gerber

Preaching Text:

Acts 13:17–25, 36–39

What's Happening?

- Childcare available during morning worship (Open to birth – three years old)
- Children's church during 10:30 am service (Open to ages three – second grade)
- Blessing of the Backpacks during the 10:30 am service

SUMMER CARILLON CONCERTS

Grosse Pointe Memorial Church is pleased to present its annual Summer Carillon Recital Series on four Tuesday evenings in August. Each concert begins at 6:15 pm. The concerts are free and open to the public!

Concert-goers are invited to come and listen from anywhere on or near the church campus. The best seating is on the north side of the church to the left of the sanctuary doors by the columbarium. Seating is provided, but feel free to bring your own lawn chairs and picnic baskets to further enjoy the evening's music.

The 45-minute concerts are family-friendly and are presented rain or shine. These recitals are played on the church's carillon, a set of 48 tower bells. A closed-circuit TV screen is provided so that listeners can watch the performer's hands and feet on the carillon keyboards. Any curious members of the audience that would like to climb up to the bell tower at the conclusion of the concerts may do so.

The performers for the 2026 series are:

- August 4, Dr. Pamela Ruiter-Feenstra
- August 11, Dr. Eva Albalghiti
- August 18, Dr. Christine El-Hage Walters
- August 25, GPMC's own Eric Whitmer

During these concerts, the Memorial Youth will be running an ice cream fundraiser, so be sure to come and support our younger members while enjoying a music-filled evening out!

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sunday, August 23 • 5 pm

Everything under the sun shines the glory of God—including our furry, feathered, and scaled friends! We will have a special worship service on Trinity Terrace in which we will welcome creatures big and small to join us for a Blessing of the Animals service. Worship will include scripture, hymns, a short homily, and a time to have your pet blessed as we give thanks to God for creation. You are welcome, and encouraged, to bring your pet but if that is not possible, feel free to bring something that represents your pet to be blessed (picture, leash, collar, etc.). Please reach out to Rev. Heather with any questions.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Sunday, August 30 • During 10:30 am service

Join us during the 10:30 am service on Sunday, August 30 for Blessing of the Backpacks. Students, teachers, and school staff will be invited forward as we pray for a new year of learning, growth, and God's guidance.

FALL KICKOFF BRUNCH

Sunday, September 13 • 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Join us to kick off the fall at GPMC!

On Sunday, September 13, we are inviting everyone to one worship service at 10:30 am, and then head to Trinity Terrace from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm for an afternoon of fellowship and fun including a bounce house.

Wear your picnic casual clothes for brunch by the lake! No reservation required.

Children & Youth

Programming for Birth – 12th Grade

Children's Church

Children ages 3 through 2nd grade are welcome to attend Children's Church. We leave the main service directly after the children's sermon during 10:30 am service and head to room 301 on the third floor.

Vacation Bible School, August 17 – 21

Join us for a week of arts & crafts, Bible stories through dramatic presentations, singing, games & fun. It's open to age 3 through 4th grade running from 9 am – 12 pm. Cost: \$45 per child, \$100 family maximum. To register, visit the church website!

Youth Group Meals Sign-Up

Each week our youth group share a meal together in the same way that Jesus broke bread with the disciples. Mealtimes nourish our bodies, but also our souls. Our youth program relies on volunteers providing the meal. We usually have around 30–35 people in attendance. If you would like to support the youth ministry in this way, please sign up using the provided link (mealtrain.com/rymwvd). If you have any questions, please reach out to Rev. Heather.

Youth Lock-In: Stars and Promises, September 11–12

This year we are kicking off the youth ministry program year with an overnight lock-in at the church inspired by God's promises made to Abraham under the night sky. Our night will include games, camping under the stars on Trinity Terrace (weather permitting), dinner, connecting with friends, and reflecting on who God is in our lives. Whether you're returning or joining us for the first time, this is a great opportunity to get connected. Open to those in 5th – 12th grade! Cost: \$60. Register by September 4 through the church website. If staying overnight is something your child is not ready for, please reach out to Rev. Heather for a late-night check out plan.

A look back on the graduation celebration!

On June 7th we had the privilege of celebrating four of our recent graduates and gave thanks to God for this important milestone in their lives. Each graduate received a mini canister that they filled with font water as a reminder that the waters of baptism go with them wherever life may take them. As they step into new opportunities, challenges, and adventures, they do so as beloved children of God, marked by God's grace and surrounded by the prayers and support of their church family.



Following the service, members and guests enjoyed a celebratory lunch featuring grilled hot dogs and ice cream. Parish Life provided the meal, and they did a fantastic job of hosting this community opportunity for fellowship. We give thanks for these young adults as they make their path in the world!

Questions about programming or interested in volunteering?

Contact Annie Joines Prentice (Children's Director) at 313.882.5330 ext. 135, or aprentice@gpmchurch.org, or Rev. Heather Thum-Gerber (Associate Pastor) at hthumgerber@gpmchurch.org, or 313.882.5330 ext. 131.

ADULT EDUCATION

New Text Message–based Small Group Bible Study starting in September!

We're launching a text-based Bible study designed to help us stay connected to Scripture and to each other throughout the week. Text groups will be roughly five people. This Bible study is a simple way to read God's Word, have the opportunity to reach out to others doing the same readings, and find encouragement to hold a pattern of daily devotions–through the convenience of your cell phone! Each day there will be an assigned Bible chapter and opportunity to check-in that accommodates busy schedules. No pressure. No perfect answers needed. Just a community learning and growing together in God's Word.

Whether you're new to reading the Bible or have studied for years, this group is for you. Let's inspire one another to stay rooted in the Word daily.

If you would like to be placed in one of the small groups, please sign-up using the Google form on the church website by August 21. Groups will begin September 1. If you have any questions, please reach out to Rev. Heather.

Parent Connection Group

Parent Connection returns at the close of VBS on Friday, August 21 for a cookout on Trinity Terrace from 6 – 8 pm. All families from VBS, GPMC, Mornings at Memorial, and the community are welcome to come and enjoy this end of summer celebration! Grilled hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided, potluck sides are encouraged. No RSVP required!

Preacher's Workshop meets Mondays from 10 – 11 am on Trinity Terrace (weather permitting).

Chair Yoga meets Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 am in Room 322 or on Trinity Terrace.

Each class is \$10. Chairs are provided. Bring your own water bottle.

Yoga meets Tuesdays at 6 pm in Fellowship Hall or on Trinity Terrace.

Each class is \$15. Bring your own mat and water bottle.

Al-Anon meets Tuesdays at 6:30 pm in the Church Library.

The Women's Bible Study led by Rev. Mozena meets on Wednesdays from 7 – 8 am in Room 215. Zoom also available. Please note the group will not meet on August 12.

AA meets Tuesdays at 7 pm, Wednesdays at 8:30 am, and Fridays at 7 pm.

Men's Bible Study meets Wednesdays from 7 – 8 am on Trinity Terrace (weather permitting).

Questions? Contact Steve Voorhees at captainadgadget@comcast.net.

Adult Bible Study meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the library with Rev. Mozena.

Saturday Men's Bible Study meets at 8 am at Panera in the Village.

For more information, contact David Asker at davidasker@hotmail.com.

Questions about programming?

Contact Rev. Heather Thum–Gerber (Associate Pastor) at hthumgerber@gpmchurch.org, or 313.882.5330 ext. 131.

AUGUST HUNGER OFFERING

Available every day in August

This month's recipient is the Community Dinner Program at Calvin East Presbyterian Church, located at Cadieux and I-94.

During the school year, Calvin East prepares Wednesday evening dinners for tutoring families and anyone who comes to the church seeking a meal. They also deliver meals to community members who are sick or homebound.

Every dollar donated toward this month's offering when you use the blue pew envelopes, the give now tab on the church website, or by sending a check with "Calvin East" or "Hunger Offering" on the memo line will be matched up to \$2,000 by the Outreach Council.

The Outreach Council chooses the recipients, but our level of support is determined by your contributions. Here's a look at the donation recipients to date:

- *January:* The Second Mile Center = \$8,153 (Congregation: \$6,153, Outreach: \$2,000)
- *February:* Kids Coalition Against Hunger = \$4,610 (Congregation: \$2,610, Outreach: \$2,000)
- *March:* The Helm's Meals on Wheels = \$5,886 (Congregation: \$3,886, Outreach: \$2,000)
- *April:* Make Food Not Waste = \$4,561 (Congregation: \$2,561, Outreach: \$2,000)
- *May:* COTS= \$4,594 (Congregation: \$2,594, Outreach: \$2,000)
- *June:* Crossroads = \$3,552.68 (Congregation: \$1,776.34, Outreach: \$1,776.34)

SCHOOL UNIFORM AND SUPPLIES DRIVE

July 1 – August 9, 2026

Once again, we will be collecting school supplies and funds for school uniforms to help Detroit area youth start the year supported and prepared. Financially strapped families often struggle with how they will be able to purchase all the necessary supplies in time for the start of school. Children of financially struggling families have many hurdles to overcome. Working hard and staying in school offers them hope for a better future. The GPMC school supply drive can help ensure that all kids have the same opportunities to start the school year ready. "You can help a child succeed this year!"

There are 2 ways to help this year:

- Donate basic school supplies (duotang folders, pencils, pencil boxes, crayons, markers, colored pencils, glue sticks, dry erase markers, tissues, hand sanitizer)
- Donate \$35 dollars toward the purchase of a school uniform (1 pair of pants and 2 polo shirts).

You can bring the school supplies to church and place them in the coat room or the outdoor school supplies basket between July 1 and August 9. If you would prefer to donate money toward the purchase of a uniform, please clearly mark the envelope or check memo with "for school uniforms". The Outreach council will do a mass purchase of various uniform sizes and we will bless everything collected toward the end of August and get them in the hands of children for the first day of school.

UNPACK THE TRUCK

Friday, August 21 • 8:30 – 10:30 am

St. John Presbyterian Church continues to help the hungry in their neighborhood by serving the waiting line of hungry families, on foot or in cars. Visit bit.ly/UnpackTheTruck2026 for details on how you can help!

HAPPY CHEEKS

Available every day

This is a youth-driven program that has already collected and distributed 30,000+ pairs of socks and underwear for the needy and non-profits! Donations can be left in the GPMC coatroom off the lobby or purchased directly through happycheeks.org.

FREE FOOD FRIDAYS

Available throughout the week

Each week volunteers gather to prepare, organize, and pass out food to our hungry neighbors at Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church. To learn more about the program which has expanded beyond Fridays and to register for an upcoming shift, visit makefoodnotwaste.org/volunteer-opportunities.

PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY SANDWICHES

Available every day

Seven days a week, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches find their way from helping hands to the hungry in Detroit. Since the ministry began, they've made and distributed 225,000+ sandwiches. To learn more on how you can help, visit bit.ly/PBJSandwiches23.

More information on upcoming Outreach events can be found on the gpmchurch.org homepage.

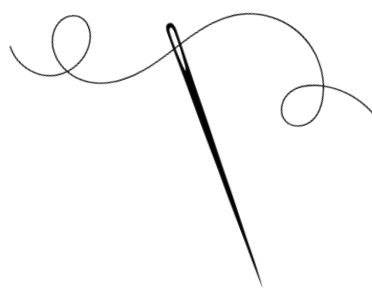
Questions about programming or interested in volunteering with Outreach?

Contact Julie Huellmantel (Director of Outreach Ministries) at jhuellmantel@gpmchurch.org, or 313.882.5330.

GPMC Financial Update - Year to Date				
6/30/2026				
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Fav (Unfav)</u>	
Pledge Offerings	\$ 623,869	\$ 578,419	\$ 45,450	
Non-pledge Offerings	100,517	79,061	21,456	
Other Income	167,698	166,250	1,448	
Endowments	366,000	366,000	-	
Transfer from Sp. Purp.	-	-	-	
Total Receipts	\$ 1,258,084	\$ 1,189,730	\$ 68,354	
Total Expenses	\$ 1,107,341	\$ 1,113,011	\$ 5,670	
Net Income (Deficit)	\$ 150,743	\$ 76,719	\$ 74,024	

Please see the Financial Update box for a snapshot of our receipts and expenses through June 2026.

Questions? Contact the finance team at 313.882.5330, or email Dave Buckler, Susan Griffin or Tena Harwick (First initial followed by last name@gpmchurch.org).



NEEDLE NEWS

FROM MAKERS AT MEMORIAL

Outreach opportunities often change with the seasons – it makes sense that certain programs require certain conditions. Growing tomatoes for food banks demand good gardening weather. School supply donations make sense in August. Makers @ Memorial is the exception to that rule. It's always a great day to make something with your hands! This summer we are doing a bit of everything – honoring our commitments to different charities in the area as well as taking fun “field trips” and hosting workshops. We are working on collaborative quilt tops and magic wands, microwave bowls cozies and other sewn sundries – getting ready for our October sale. It's a great time to check us out.

What do we do? Here are some preliminary numbers for 2026:

- Our ministry with St. John's has kept us busy so far this year. We have donated over 175 comfort throws, 350 You Are Loved crocheted hearts, 60 fidget quilts for dementia/Alzheimer's patients and roughly 55 crossbody pockets for post surgery rehabilitation
- Celebrated Meals on Wheels month with a donation of 120 bookmarks for their clients in our area.
- As a new initiative with Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church, we provide sturdy fabric totes for distribution as part of their Free Food Fridays food bank. We have donated over 120 totes since January.
- Provided 200+ crocheted hearts for our congregation
- Provided 85+ key fobs to give out at the Memorial table at the Pride Parade
- Recognized newly baptized members with a quilt and every retiring staff member gets one as well.

Believe it or not, this list and these numbers aren't all inclusive – please consider lending a hand–your hands–with this important ministry. Check us out on Thursdays in Room 220.

NEW IN THE LIBRARY

Here are the newest additions to the library cart:

- *John & John* by Douglas Stuart
- *Whistler* by Ann Patchett
- *Heart of a Stranger* by Angela Buchdahl

Also, come browse the new “All are welcome here” shelves which have books for both adults and children that help us acknowledge, accept and rejoice in our differences. These include:

- *First Nations Version: An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament*
- *I Have Something to Tell You: A Memoir* by Chasten Buttigieg
- *A Church for All* by Gayle E. Pitman & Laure Fournier

Happy reading!

COMMUNITY PARTNER EVENT: FESTIVAL OF TABLES

Tuesday, December 1 • 6:15 pm

Save the date for Second Mile Center's 3rd Advent Christmas Tea Festival of Tables on Tuesday, December 1 at 6:15 pm. It'll be an evening filled with community, celebration, and spirit of giving to raise vital funds. Every donation helps support youth development by providing strong programs to nurture faith, instill hope, and spread love in one of the most challenged areas of Detroit.

We are inviting members of the community to volunteer as host and decorate a table for the evening. Contact Patty McCracken at 313.515.9798 to learn more about hosting a table!



GROSSE POINTE MEMORIAL CHURCH
16 Lake Shore Drive
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

PASTORAL NEWS

Praying for one another is an important and loving gift. The staff of GPMC meets every Tuesday morning and offers prayers for members of the congregation. Using our directory, the staff prays for the parishioners on one page each Tuesday as well as other prayer requests from the congregation.

If you have a prayer request, please contact Carol Marks at cmarks@gpmchurch.org or 313.882.5330. May God continue to surround you with love and care.

BIRTHS

Tessa Leigh DeBoer
June 24, 2026

Allison Jane Pangori
June 30, 2026

DEATHS

Ethel Hunter Odgen Burwell
September 13, 1936 – July 17, 2026