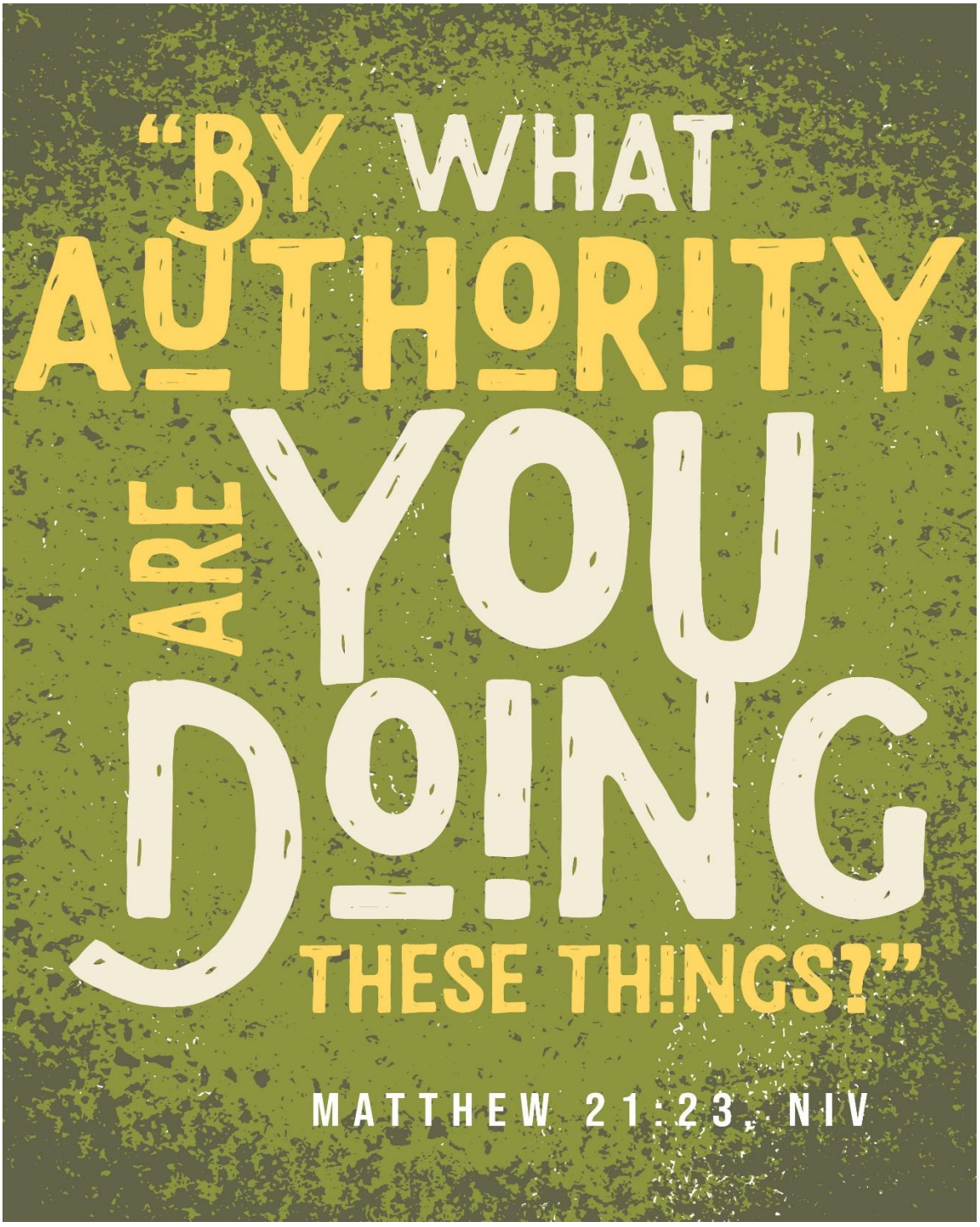
Community Christian CHURCH

CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

2647 CHILI AVENUE ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14624 585.247.2494

COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ and United Church of Christ)

September 27, 2026 **10:30 AM**

The Reverend Steven Price	Pastor
Mr. Veniamin Blokh	Church Musician
Mr. Ron Strong	Senior & Bell Choir Director
Mr. Ryan Hubbell	Technical Support

Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!

WELCOME!

We extend a warm welcome to you as we gather to celebrate God's life-giving presence. During communion, as we partake of the bread and cup, please know that ***all*** who desire Christ's boundless and embracing love are welcomed to participate.

Prayer is an important part of our life together as a community of faith. If you have a prayer concern or joy you would like raised later on in the service, text your request to Beth Fulkerson at 585.755.6310.

GATHERING

Please take this time to center yourself as we listen to this morning's prelude.

Prelude ***A Jubilant Psalm*** Thomas Simpson
CCC Bell Choir

† Call to Worship – Responsive

One: In new beginnings, plans and timetables,
in a fresh start in a new season,
Many: We celebrate the gifts of autumn.

One: In crisp apples and soft plums
and the harvests of nuts and grain,
Many: We celebrate the gifts of autumn.

One: In ripening and falling
and the turning of the seasons,
Many: We celebrate the gifts of autumn.

One: In the balance of day and night,
of light and dark,
Many: We celebrate the gifts of autumn.

(continued)

One: In the balance of growth and letting go,
in the fading and in the fruitfulness,
Many: We celebrate and say THANK YOU GOD
For the gifts of autumn. Amen

† Song of Gathering ***Many and Great, O God*** Chalice Hymnal, No. 58

Let us sing this simple and beautiful hymn to our Creator God. I've updated a few lyrics from our hymnal to more closely align with the writer's intent.
Original Lakota lyrics are found in verse 3.

Many and great, O God, are thy things,
Maker of earth and sky.
Thy hands have set the heavens with stars;
thy fingers spread the mountains and plains.
Lo, at thy word the waters were formed;
deep seas obey thy voice.

Grant unto us communion with thee,
thou star abiding One.
Come unto us and dwell with us;
with thee are found the gifts of life.
Bless us with life that has no end,
eternal life with thee.

Wakantaka ta-ku ni-ta-wa
tan-ka-ya qa o-ta;
ma-hpi-ya kin e-ya-hna-ke ca,
ma-ka kin he du-o-wan-ca;
mni-o-wan-ca sbe-ya wan-ke cin,
he-na o-ya-ki-hi.

Children's Time

Anthem *"Let Hope Spring Forth"* Mark Hayes

Lyrics on pg 10.

Children are invited to age-appropriate Faith Formation activities following this portion of the service.

ENGAGING

Scripture Reading Matthew 21:23-32 NT pg. 23-24
Lector: John Giffen

Sermon Steven Price

Music for Reflection Venya Blokh

RESPONDING

Offertory Sentence and Prayer

Your offering can happen in a variety of ways: the collection plate in the narthex, giving through your bank, using the tithely app, and giving on our cccopentoall.org webpage. We are grateful.

Offertory Prayer

† Song of Praise ***Doxology*** Chalice Hymnal, No. 46

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, (God) all creatures here below;
Praise him (God) above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen
(or Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.)

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Communion Distribution

This table is open to all who are seekers of another way made known to us in Jesus.

*Please come down the center aisle **double file** to receive a piece of gluten-free bread from the pastor and a cup of grape juice from one of the elders, returning to your seats by the outer aisle.*
***NOTE:** Should you feel unable to come forward, then please ask a neighbor to bring you back a cup and cube of bread, both will be blessed, as will your neighbor who is able to share this sacred meal with you.*

Our Community at Prayer

Community Prayer – Responsive

One: We confess that many who have come before us
-misrepresented Holy Scripture to dispossess indigenous inhabitants of their homes and sovereignty
-claimed divine authority to take these lands
-used treaties as tools of imperial exploitation.
They forgot, but we must remember:

All: **The earth is the Creator's and everything in it – this world and all who live in it.**

One: We confess that as present-day residents of our precious Mother Earth,

(continued)

we have not been faithful stewards of her care
nor of the circle of life and all our relations, human and non-human.
All Creation calls us to remember:

All: **The earth is the Creator's**
and everything in it –
this world and all who live in it.

Let us Pray Together:

On this day we come, seeking divine forgiveness
and holding ourselves accountable
to live in faithfulness and reconciliation
for the sake of the earth. Amen

Hear now our community prayers and those of the world…

After request…

Leader says: God in your goodness or grace or mercy,
People respond: **Hear our Prayer.**

Let us now say together the prayer Jesus taught those he loved . . .

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father (or Creator) which art in heaven hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil
for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

GOING FORTH

† Concluding Hymn ***Tree of Life***

To the tune of For All the Saints Chalice Hymnal, No. 637
Let's sing this wonderful old song to new words – just right for autumn!

Through all the trees in forest, grove and wood,
Through autumn leaves and spring held in the bud,
We see your beauty, know that it is good:
Alleluia, Alleluia.

As autumn trees are tossed and branches torn,
They echo times we rage, are crushed and worn,
But roots of faith are stronger than the storm:
Alleluia, Alleluia.

Leaves in the fall float, shimmer, dance and sway.
Breathe through our lives, on us your Spirit lay.
Freed by the truth, Love shall become our Way:
Alleluia, Alleluia!

† Benediction Ruth Burgess edits/smp

For all that we hold on to,
for all that we cling to; our stories, our prayers, our convictions…
Give us the courage to let go.
Give us the courage to open ourselves to this season of falling leaves.

Help us to open our hands,
our minds and our hearts
trusting that in letting go,
new beginnings are nurtured
and the ground beneath us whispers
'Thank you.'
God bless your days and nights. **Amen**

Participating in the Life of the Church (Announcements) (See pages 6-9)

Postlude *(Please remain seated.)* Venya Blokh

† All who are able, please stand.

News You Can Use at Community Christian Church

Today's ZOOM service was recorded. To access the recording, visit our website: Cccopentoall.org. It will be posted early this week.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Elders ..... Bill Kelly and Dee Staley
ZOOM Host ..... Barbara Coe
ZOOM Room Elder ..... Pam Bakst
Deacons ..... Brian Ayers
Patrick Staley
Greeter ..... Patrick Staley

Land Acknowledgment: Our physical space stands on unceded land originally stewarded by the Seneca people. Today let us acknowledge and honor the Seneca nation by walking paths that lead to equality for all and care for creation.

Coffee Fellowship is provided in the Fellowship Hall following worship. Enrich your life and strengthen our fellowship by introducing yourself to someone you don't know. Refreshments are needed on an on-going basis. See Wende McNaney if you'd like to offer to help.

HOPES and PRAYERS – Tuesdays at 10:00 AM.
Join Pastor Steven via ZOOM for a time of sharing those things heavy on your heart as well as lifting up the ways God has already blessed your life or answered your prayers. A ZOOM invitation will be sent Monday evening.

National Suicide Prevention Month

September is National Suicide Prevention Month, a time to raise awareness, share hope, and remind our communities that suicide can be prevented.
While raising awareness is essential, meaningful change also requires action.
Suicide Prevention Month is an opportunity to lend your voice to efforts that strengthen prevention, expand access to care, and build a future where suicide is preventable.
Take a look at websites like these to learn more:

AFSP.org is a very good national organization.
IASP.info is an international agency.
SPRC.org has user-friendly resources.

While the date is just behind us, September 8 has significance in suicide prevention efforts.
988 Day is dedicated to promoting the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline and connecting more people to lifesaving crisis support. Remember that number - it can save a life - just dial 988 on your phone.

Bible Study

Anyone interested in a Bible Study this fall?
I've been looking at Rachel Held Evans' book, "Inspired" and thought it might be a good way to engage with scripture, stories, faith, history, etc. We can also get her book used for a good number of us, which will keep costs lower.
Depending on who is interested, that would shape when and how to meet. Right now, I have most Monday evenings open AND would welcome shared leadership.
Let me know via text or email by today Sept. 27.
Thank you, Steven (585) 733-7121

MOJO News

Coldwater Women & Children's Home - Linens collection

The Coldwater Women & Children's Home is part of the Open Door Mission. This home, nearby on Coldwater Road, is a transitional housing program for women and their children. Let's help these folks in a vulnerable situation by welcoming them with fluffy towels and pillows, as well as crisp sheets and comforters.

The items needed are washcloths, bath towels, hand towels, twin size sheets, twin size comforters, and bed pillows. Items must be new. Color and pattern are up to you! The collection will run for six(6) Sundays: September 13 – October 18.

Questions? Please contact our Ministry of Justice and Outreach committee at deirdrestaley2@gmail.com.

Creation Prayer Service - October 4, 2026, 2pm

Join other Christians from Rochester in celebrating the enduring legacy of St. Francis of Assisi.
This will be our fourth collaboration with St. Monica R C church, & the U of R Protestant Chaplain's office. The amazing beauty of the Genesee River will be part of our prayer service for Creation.
There will be a Haudenasaune thanksgiving prayer, songs, and fellowship with our neighbors.
A map & car-pooling will be available. See Dee Staley or call her at 729-7608 for more info.

Stewardship and Finance

2027 Stewardship Campaign

The 2027 Stewardship Campaign theme is 'Openness' — inspired by CCC's new tagline, "Open minds. Open hearts. Open table." In a world marked by division, fear, and scarcity, we welcome everyone to belong and be nourished, body and soul. As we look toward 2027, we invite you to open your hands in generous support of our ministries and consider increasing your financial gift to serve the increasing needs in our community.

Please submit your Intent to Give online at https://communitychristianchurch.breezechms.com/form/itg27 or using the QR code or returning your Intent to Give card to the plate in the narthex no later than Sunday, October 25. If you get your pledge in early, you will be entered in a drawing for a $50 gift card!

If you have questions about giving, please direct them to our Financial Secretary, Sara Kuehl, at finsecty.ccc@gmail.com. She will handle your questions confidentially.

Blessings,
Your Stewardship & Finance Team

Oktoberfest coming soon

Join us for Oktoberfest immediately after church on Sunday, October 25th! This is a major fundraiser for CCC, last year raising over $4,000, including donations. Most of that is from the Silent Auction that happens during the event. We get donations from local businesses, restaurants, grocery stores, you name it, but the majority of items available for bid come from us. Thank you to everyone who has donated or committed to an event, thus far. We need more! 😊 It can be anything from a special dinner at your home, game nights, craft items, to food items. Everyone can participate.
We will have grilled bratwurst and sausage, sauerkraut, mixed green salad, apple crisp, and more!
Tickets will be on sale starting Sunday, October 11th, for $5 adults, $2 children, with a maximum of $15 per family.
If you have questions, contact Bill Kelly at his CCC e-mail: bill.kelly@cccopentoall.org and/or you may call or text him at 585-217-1757.

Bingo Night – October, 10th 6pm

Ministry of Congregational Care (MCC) will host a Dr. Suess Family BINGO night on Saturday, October 10th at 6 PM. There will be pizza, popcorn, prizes and guaranteed FUN! If you plan to attend, please sign up in the Fellowship Hall so that we have enough pizza. Pizza is $1 a slice and a set of BINGO cards is $2. Both are purchased at the door. Feel free to invite friends too (sign them up with a pizza count). We hope to see you there.

Best Wishes to Those Celebrating This Week

Birthdays			Anniversaries
Sept	28	Barbara Coe	
		Kathleen Plum	
Sept	29	Cera Flagg	Tony & Diane Giuseppetti
Sept	30		Keith & Julie Benjamin
Oct	1	Patti Ayers	
Oct	2	Joey Puccia	Steven Price & Norman Geil
		Natalie Strong	
Oct	3	Grace Kays	
		Sophie Wanck-Kann	

◆ THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE ◆

Sunday, September 27th	10:00 AM	Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 AM	Hybrid Worship – Masks optional
	11:40 AM	Fellowship Time
Monday, September 28th	10:00 AM	Fiber Friends – Church office
Tuesday, September 29th	10:00 AM	Hopes and Prayers (ZOOM)
	4:00 PM	Kirby Farms CSA Pick Up
	10:00 PM	Deadline for Bulletin Announcements
Wednesday, Sept 30th	9:00 AM	The Quilting Gals til 4:30pm
	6:00 PM	MCC Meeting
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, October 3rd	9:00 AM	The Caring Music Group – FH til noon
	9:15 AM	SWEM Food Shelf
Sunday. October 4th	10:00 AM	Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 AM	Hybrid Worship – Masks optional
	11:40 AM	Fellowship Time

◆ OUR CHURCH AT WORK ◆

READY TO SERVE: ***The Reverend Steven Price, Pastor***

Pastor Steven can be reached at 733-7121 or RevStevenCCC@gmail.com.

Ryan Hubbell, Office Administrator

Ryan can be reached at penzfann@aol.com or if you need immediate assistance, call him at 617-4009 and leave a message.

COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

2647 Chili Avenue † Rochester, NY 14624 † (585) 247-2494

e-mail address: cccopentoall@aol.com web page: www.cccopentoall.org

The Reverend Steven Price, Pastor (585) 733-7121

Let Hope Spring Forth

Let hope spring forth like a mighty fountain, Let faith shine clearly through the night,
Let truth prevail where there is ignorance, Let courage serve to work for right.

Let love be bold where there is hatred, Let mercy move us to respond,
Let grace abound within God's family, till everyone truly does belong.

May ev'ry woman, ev'ry man, ev'ry child in the land know their value in the family of God.

Who gives us hope when we are discouraged? Who walks beside when we feel alone?
Who understands the depth of suff'ring, and the oppression we have known?

Our faith is anchored in Christ Jesus, And we are pris'ners of this hope,
God will redeem our tribulation, God will restore and make us fully whole.

Our hope is founded in the cross,
and no matter what the cost,
we will stand upon the promises of God.

No more will we live in brokenness,
No more will we live in fear.

We have been called out of the shadows, The light of God's truth is clear.

We will celebrate life that's lived in God's grace,
We will risk the unknown and build up the faith,
We will answer the call for this time and place in Jesus' name, in Jesus' name!

In Jesus' name we shall find deliv'rance,
In Jesus' name we are all set free,
In Jesus' name we share the message of hope and life and liberty.

We are a people for this hour, We stand united in our goal,
We will not cease to tell our story til all have heard of Christ, our only hope.

Our hope is founded in the cross,
and no matter what the cost,
we will stand upon the promises of God.

We will stand, we will stand on the promises, the promises of God!