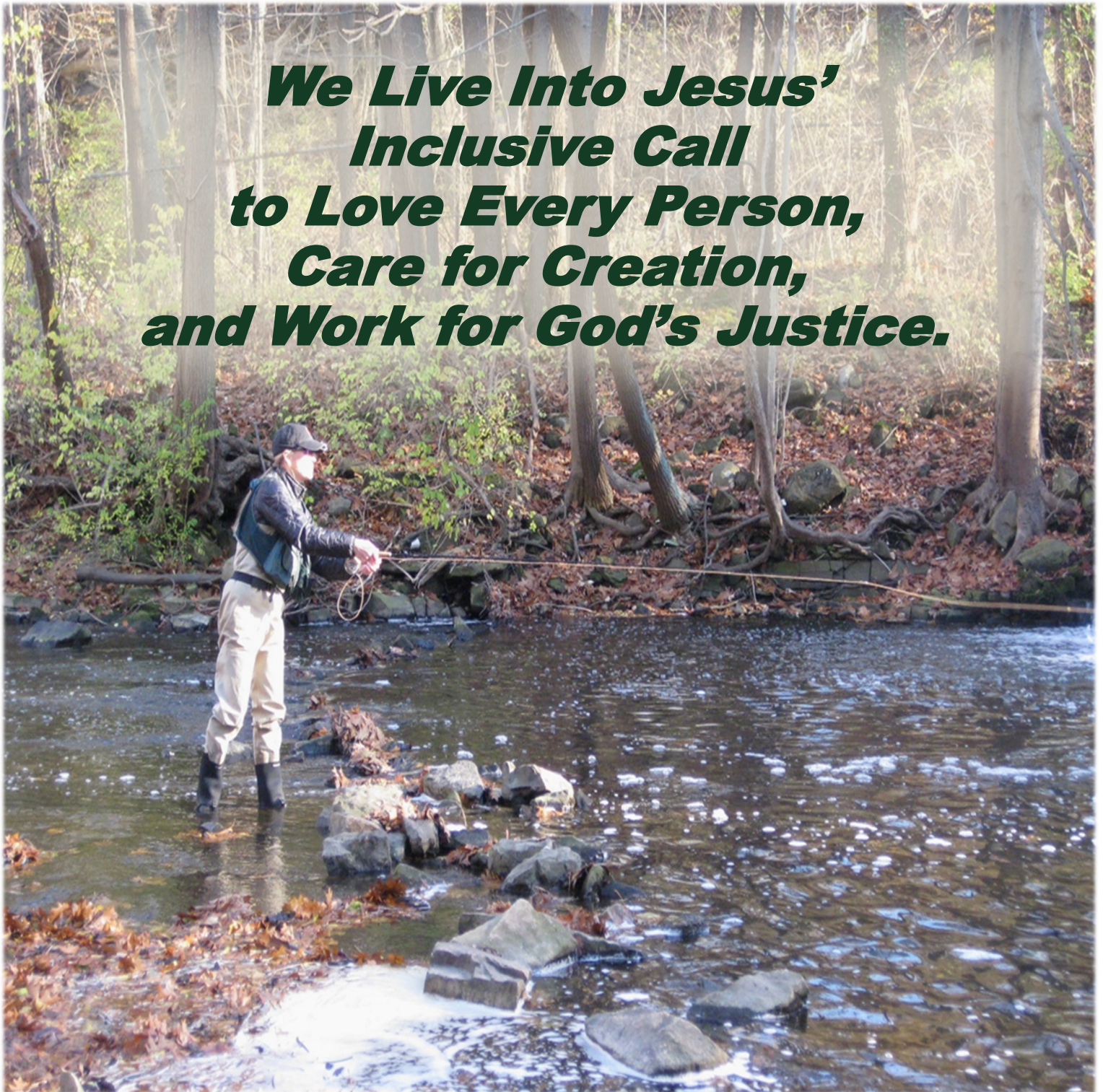




DOWNTOWN

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

***We Live Into Jesus'
Inclusive Call
to Love Every Person,
Care for Creation,
and Work for God's Justice.***



Celebration of Worship

January 25th, 2026 11:00 AM
Third Sunday after the Epiphany

[Click Here to Watch](#)

*If you have a joy or concern you would like to have lifted in prayer today, please complete a **Prayer Request Card**, including the name of the person (and pronunciation) or event, and additional information you'd like to share.*

Prayer Requests will be collected during the hymn following the sermon to share with the pastor and/or Deacons.

Prelude

Meditation on God of the Sparrow

Words of Welcome

Kim McConnell

Announcements

Chime

Introit

Into a Time

Adolphus Hailstork

"Into a time of turmoil, we bring our sense of peace;

Into a time of doubt, we bring our gift of faith;

Into a time of fear, we bring our light of hope;

Into a time of loss, we bring our treasured memories;

Into a time of silence, we bring our uplifted voices;

Singing a song of wonder, awe, mystery, courage; Singing life itself.

Into this time, we come singing life itself. "

Text: The Rev. Randolph W.B. Becker

*Call to Worship

One: Amid the chaos, we pray for the new heaven and new earth,
O God, while we give thanks for this earth, our partner in your service.
Move us to hear your voice in the song of the sparrow, to see your face
reflected in the river.

ALL: Awaken us to your greatness through the winds of the storm,
Empower us to feel your prophets' voices in the breath of the winter wind.

One: In your great mercy you call us to care for your creation, to uphold one another, and to pray for your world.

ALL: Hear our prayers for the healing of the earth. Hear our prayers for clean water so that all may drink.

One: Hear our prayer for the careful tending of the land and the seas so all maybe in balance. Hear our prayer for people and places damaged by war, fascism, and colonialism so that all may know peace.

ALL: Be with us as we participate in the healing of your creation and as we work toward your coming peace on earth. Amen.

*Hymn

God of the Sparrow
(Music may be found on page 10.)

ROEDER

Time with Young Disciples

Robin Sheikh

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

The Holy Spirit is a life that gives life,
Moving all things.

It is the root in every creature

And purifies all things,

Wiping away errors,

Anointing wounds.

It is radiant life, worthy of praise,

Awakening and enlivening all things.

We pray to be filled and moved by the Spirit.

First Reading

Psalm 8

Nan C. Merrill

Music for Reflection

Arise, My Beloved

Adolphus Hailstork

*"Arise, my beloved, my fair one, and come away;
For lo the winter is past, flowers appear on the earth,
The time of singing is here.*

The voice of the dove is heard in our land."

Text: Song of Songs 2:10-12, alt.

Second Reading
Sermon

Matthew 4:18-23
Catch and Release

Nancy Brown

*Hymn

God, You Have Come to the Lakeshore PESCADOR DE HOMBRES
(Verses 1, 2 and 3—Music may be found on pg 6.)

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for Healing and Justice

† Prayer of Jesus

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Spirit 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 Spirit,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music

I Ain't Got Weary Yet

American Negro Spiritual

"I ain't got weary yet.

Arr. Courtney Carey

I've been in the wilderness a mighty long time, an' I ain't got weary yet.

Oh, I've been prayin' like Silas, I've been prayin' like Paul.

I've been servin' my Lord a mighty long time, an' I ain't got weary yet.

Oh, I've been talkin' with my Savior, I've been talkin' with the Lord.

I've been in the wilderness a mighty long time, an' I ain't got weary yet."

Jorell Williams, soloist

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Let songs rise up from earth below;

Let stars and galaxies enthrone;

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One! Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

ALL: Creator of all, take these gifts —coins, commitments, time, imagination
and weave them into the work of justice, mercy, and renewal. Let what we
offer be a light in someone's night, a blessing to the creation. Use our gifts
and our voices as instruments of compassion and joy.

*Hymn

All Creatures of Our God

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

(Verses 1, 3 and 4—Music may be found on pg 8.)

Benediction (Unison, Song)

Joy to the world

All the boys and girls now

Joy to the fishes in the deep blue sea

Joy to you and me.

Postlude

Praeludium in F-Sharp Minor

Dietrich Buxtehude

Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us extend the Peace of Christ to one another.



Thank you to...

Guest Worship Leader: Nancy Brown

Liturgist: Kim McConnell

Chancel Choir Members

Soprano: Cecelia Allchin*, Isa Apodaca, Nicole Knickerbocker*,
Lindsey Puc, Joan Sussman

Alto: Alyssa Koh, Leah Rosenman

Tenor: Olivia Anderson, Jason Cloen, Mark Darling

Bass: Rob Brown, John DeHority, Elijah Gebers,

Alan Jones, Stephen Lloyd, Sumner Tessier*

*on temporary leave

Live Stream Team: Don Fairman, David McDowell, Jim Parks, Sally Allison

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721 Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

Tú has venido a la orilla



1 Lord, you have come to the lake - shore look - ing
 2 You know so well my pos - ses - sions; my boat
 3 You need my hands, full of car - ing, through my
 4 You, who have fished oth - er o - ceans, ev - er



nei - ther for wealth - y nor wise ones; you on - ly
 car - ries no gold and no weap - ons; 7 you will
 la - bors to give oth - ers rest and con - stant
 longed for by souls who are wait - ing, my lov - ing



asked me to fol - low hum - bly.
 find there my nets and la - bor.
 love that keeps on lov - ing.
 friend, as thus you call me:

Refrain / Estribillo



O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me, and while
Se - ñor, me has mi - ra - do a los o - jos, son - ri -



smil - ing have spo - ken my name; now my
en - do has di - cho mi nom - bre, en la a -

This is one of the most popular songs to emerge from the 1970s revival of religious song in Spain. It asks singers to become like the fishermen who left boats and nets to follow Jesus, first as disciples learning his way of love, then as apostles carrying that love to others.

TEXT: Cesáreo Gabaráin, 1979; English trans. Gertrude Suppe, George Lockwood, and Raquel Gutiérrez-Achón, 1988, alt.

MUSIC: Cesáreo Gabaráin, 1979; harm. Skinner Chávez-Melo, 1987

Text, English Trans., and Music © 1979, 1987, 1989 Cesáreo Gabaráin (Published by OCP)
 Music Harm. © 1987 OCP

PESCADOR DE HOMBRES
 8.10.10 with refrain

boat's left on the shore-line be - hind me. By your
 re - na he de - ja - do mi bar - ca, jun - to a

side I will seek oth - er seas.
 ti bus - ca - ré o - tro mar.

SPANISH

- 1 Tú has venido a la orilla,
 no has buscado ni a sabios, ni a ricos,
 tan sólo quieres que yo te siga. Estribillo
- 2 Tú sabes bien lo que tengo:
 en mi barca no hay oro ni espadas,
 tan solo redes y mi trabajo. Estribillo
- 3 Tú necesitas mis manos,
 mi cansancio que a otros descanse,
 amor que quiera seguir amando. Estribillo
- 4 Tú, pescador de otros lagos,
 ansia eterna de almas que esperan,
 amigo bueno, que así me llamas. Estribillo

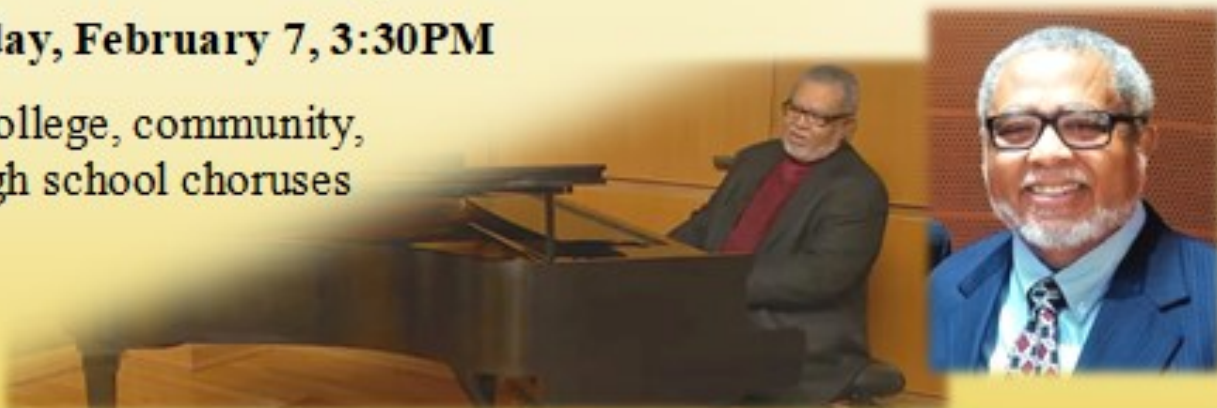
Arts Link

at Downtown United Presbyterian Church

Celebration of Adolphus Hailstork Concert

Saturday, February 7, 3:30PM

With college, community,
 and high school choruses



455 All Creatures of Our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN LM with alleluias

Francis of Assisi, 1225

Trans. and para. William Henry Draper, c. 1910; alt.

Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623; alt.

Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Unison

1. All crea-tures of our God and King, Lift up your voice
 2. Thou rush-ing wind that art so strong, Ye clouds that sail
 3. Thou flow-ing wa - ter, pure and clear, Make mu - sic for
 4. Thou fer - tile earth, that day by day Un - fold - est bless -

Harmony

and with us sing, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 in heaven a - long, O sing ye! Al - le - lu - ia!
 thy Lord to hear, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 ings on your way, O sing ye! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison

Thou burn - ing sun with gold - en beam, Thou sil - ver moon with
 Thou ris - ing morn, in praise re - joice, Ye lights of eve - ning,
 Thou fire so mas - ter - ful and bright, That giv - est us both
 The flowers and fruits that in thee grow, Let them God's glo - ry

Harmony

soft - er gleam,
 find a voice! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 warmth and light,
 al - so show!

Text: Copyright © 1926 (Renewed) J. Curwen & Sons Ltd. International copyright secured. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of G. Schirmer, Inc.

Music: From the *English Hymnal*, 1906. Used by permission of Oxford University Press.



5. And everyone of tender heart,
Forgiving others, take your part.
O sing ye! Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God and cast on God your care!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6. All creatures, your Creator bless,
And worship God in humbleness.
O sing ye! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

First Inversion

Presents

2025-2026 Season
We Are...
Connecting Community with Creativity and Care

HOLDING ON THROUGH SONG VII: THE LIVING LEGACY AND INSPIRATION OF THE AMERICAN NEGRO SPIRITUAL

Featuring special guest artist, **Jorell Williams**, baritone, pianist, composer
with the choir of **First Inversion**, **Lee Wright**, conductor

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 7:30PM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 4:00PM

Downtown United Presbyterian Church, 121 N. Fitzhugh Street, Rochester, 14614

The appearance of Mr. Williams is funded by a grant from the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Arts and Cultural Initiative through Rochester Area Community Foundation.
First Inversion is proud to announce that we are Artists In Residence with Arts Link at Downtown Presbyterian Church, partnering in ministry to build Beloved Community.
firstinversion.org or call 585.520.2003, \$25/adult, \$5/student suggested admission, cash/check/credit accepted at the door

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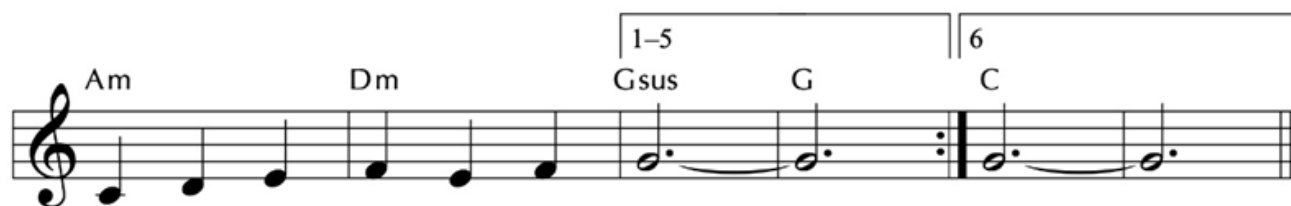
God of the Sparrow



1 God of the spar - row God of the whale God of the
 2 God of the earth - quake God of the storm God of the
 3 God of the rain - bow God of the cross God of the
 4 God of the hun - gry God of the sick God of the
 5 God of the neigh - bor God of the foe God of the
 6 God of the a - ges God near at hand God of the



swirl - ing stars How does the crea - ture say Awe
 trum - pet blast How does the crea - ture cry Woe
 emp - ty grave How does the crea - ture say Grace
 prod - i - gal How does the crea - ture say Care
 prun - ing hook How does the crea - ture say Love
 lov - ing heart How do your chil - dren say Joy



How does the crea - ture say Praise
 How does the crea - ture cry Save
 How does the crea - ture say Thanks
 How does the crea - ture say Life
 How does the crea - ture say Peace
 How do your chil - dren say Home

Though a lack of punctuation makes this text appear freeform and the flowing tune enhances a sense of movement, each stanza here is firmly anchored by a final weighty word (praise, save, thanks, life, peace, home), a sign of God's eternal presence in an ever-changing world.

Welcome Visitors!

**We live into Jesus' inclusive call to love all people,
care for creation, and work for God's Justice.**

Nursery Care is available for young children beginning in the library and moving to C-23 on the second floor. Parents are welcome to come up with their children if they would like.

Sunday School - Children not in nursery care will be invited forward during the "Time with Our Youth" and then will follow their teacher to the Sunday School room.

You may place your offering in the offering plates as they are passed. If you would like to donate online, you can use the QR code to the right to make your contribution to the church.



This is a Hearing Loop equipped sanctuary – please switch your hearing aid to the "T" (telephone) position.

† **We seek** to use diverse images and liberating language about divine presence in our services of worship. Please feel free to adapt the words in hymns and prayers as needed so that they express your faith.

* **An asterisk indicates** "please rise in body or spirit."

We hope you will join us after worship for conversations and refreshments! Cookies and drinks are available in the front of the sanctuary.

Joys and Concerns – If you have a joy or concern that you would like to lift in prayer today, please complete a Prayer Request card (available by the worship bulletins) naming the person (s), situation or event, and any other information that you would like to be shared. The requests will be collected during the hymn following the sermon and provided to the Deacons.

If you would like to honor someone or a special event with flowers you can purchase a bouquet (\$35) for a future worship service by contacting Deacon Helen Ganotis at <helenganotis@gmail.com>.



We give special thanks for the flowers . . .
Given in memory of Jane Coons by Helen Ganotis.



Coming up at Downtown United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, January 25

9:45AM Sunday Forum, Hybrid
10:00AM Choir Warm-up
10:45AM Nursery
11:00AM Worship - Nancy Brown
11:15AM Sunday School
12:00PM Refreshments, Sanctuary
4:00PM Arts Link: First Inversion
Holding On Through Song

Tuesday, January 27

10:30AM Psalms+ Bible Study

Wednesday, January 28

7:00PM Choir Practice

Thursday, January 29

7:00PM Session Meeting, Hybrid

Friday, January 30

3:00PM Space Use Mtg, Zoom

Sunday, February 1

9:45AM Sunday Forum, Hybrid
10:00AM Choir Warm-up
10:45AM Nursery
11:00AM Worship - Rev. Deb Swift
11:15AM Sunday School
12:00PM Refreshments, Sanctuary

Sunday Forums—February 2026

Jesus' Inclusive Call - Spiritual Journeys



Susan Richane

Susan's spiritual journey has been one of "thin places," where the boundary between earth and another realm feels permeable. In the words of Father Gregory Boyle, "The Beloved is found everywhere and anywhere. The Beloved in whom we "live and move and have our being" dwells in all that gets thrown at us every day. This journey will be shared as windows to the Holy, through story, poetry and reflection.

**Feb.
1**

**Feb.
8**

Grania grew up in the Episcopal Church, but has lived in many locations and has belonged to Episcopal, Catholic, UCC, and Presbyterian churches. She has often sought answers in theological writings and prayer, and as a member of DUPC's Psalms Plus group, continues to seek understanding and learn from her Psalm Psisters. Her faith in the love of God has led her to amplifying that love through justice work.

Grania Marcus



Rev. Val Fowler

Currently serving as the Moderator for the DUPC Session, Val has been a life long Presbyterian, growing up in several congregations—each a great church to be a kid. That nourished a life-long appreciation for faith communities, going to seminary, and a life as a pastor. The blessings and challenges of his life shaped his love of God as revealed in the person and work of Jesus. And ... his dedication to children.

**Feb.
15**

**Feb.
22**

Born in a small town in Pakistan, Kehar's Spiritual journey began with a quiet but courageous yes to Christ at the age of 16. That choice carried him through valleys of danger, loss, and rejection, and across lands and churches—from Baptist and Brethren fellowships to a Presbyterian church in Bangkok, and finally to DUPC in 2024. His life has known many turns, but through every storm and silence, one light never dimmed: an unshakable faith in God.

Kehar Kahn



Sundays, 9:45AM—The Shaw Room



SAVE THE DATE!!



Presbytery of Genesee Valley's **CONGREGATIONAL LEARNING DAY**

For New and Experienced Church Leaders and Church Members

Saturday, March 7, 2026

8:30 am - 1:00 pm

Online via Zoom. FREE

Session 1:

1. **A workshop for Elders/Elder training -**
Led by Rev. Colin Pritchard
2. **A workshop for Deacons -**
Led by a Rev. Erin Jacobson
3. **A workshop on Grants –**
Led by a panel of speakers
4. **Anti-racism training -**
Led by Janette Henderson

Worship: Led by Rev. Twyla Boyer

Session 2:

5. **Anti-racism training -**
Led by Janette Henderson
6. **Stated Clerk training-**
Led by Bethany Benz-Whittington
7. **Caring for our Immigrant Neighbors -**
Led by a panel of speakers
8. **Can We Talk?**
Led by Rev. Kirk

Registration will be open soon. Stay tuned!

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Simpson (simpsfam37@gmail.com)



The Downtown Church Staff

Cheryl Bittle, Weekend Receptionist	Robin Sheikh, Office Administrator & Sunday School Teacher
Jason Cloen, Associate Musician	
Eileen Dietsch, Director of Operations	Ebony Smalls, Evening Receptionist
Alan Jones, Associate Musician	Michael Stagles, Maintenance Lead
David Mear, Business Manager	Joseph Taylor, Maintenance Supervisor
Baker Mohammed, Bookkeeper	Ed Verna, Maintenance
Moses Nhial, Maintenance	Lee S. Wright, D.M.A., Director of Music Ministry
Penelope Paredes, Nursery Coordinator	

Parish Leaders

Mary Rees and Pat Tweet - Clerks of Session
Jacque Hancock and Carol Samuel - co-Moderators of Deacons

Session

The Rev. Val Fowler, Moderator	Jason Cloen	Jim Vesper
Nancy Brown	John DeHority	Pat Tweet
	Sally Allison	Mary Rees

Deacons

Andrea Folan	Stephen Lloyd	Becky Parks
Helen Ganotis	Grania Marcus	Carol Samuel
Jacque Hancock	Sandy Morales	Kelley Sheils
Elizabeth Katz	Gie Oey	Marilyn Terpening

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