

## Read Through the Bible Open Forum



Please consider joining this open forum on **Saturday March 21 from 10 to 11 AM**. We will meet in the council room or virtually via Google Meet. Our purpose is to share insights gained from our reading and to encourage one another to persevere as we draw closer to God through saturation in his word. You are welcome to attend wherever you are in the reading program, even if you have not yet started!

You may join at any point in the meeting and may stay for as long as you are able. Join online through the church web calendar or through [this link](#). Questions? Call or text Dave Dill or Jeff Harp.

## Good Friday Service

Our Good Friday service will be patterned after worship in the ecumenical community of **Taizé**. Their sung and silent participatory prayer services are designed for contemplation through music, song and silence.

The brothers of Taizé explain, "Short chants, repeated again and again, give it a meditative character. Using just a few words, they express a basic reality of faith, quickly grasped by the mind. As the words are sung over many times, this reality gradually penetrates the whole being." Scripture is read slowly, low light and candles enhance contemplative worship.

The different tempo of the Taizé service encourages us to break away from the hurried sense of our lives and breathe in the presence of Christ and community.

**Ron Frelief** passed away Wednesday, March 18. Calling hours will be on Tuesday, March 24 at Falvo Funeral home, 1295 Fairport Nine Mile Point Rd, Webster, NY from 4-7 PM, and a celebration of his life at a later date to be determined. Thank you to all those who visited and helped out during his stay at the Maplewood Nursing Home. Please pray for his family.



## Serving this Sunday

### Nursery

Jennifer Leakey  
Ivy Prote-Knox

*thank you*

### Children and Worship

Chrissy Null

### Ushers

Tony LaPolla & David Dill

### Coffee Service & Cleanup

Tony and Mary Ann La Polla  
James and Christina Thompson

## Prayer Calendar for Lara

Pick up a prayer calendar on the Welcome Center for Lara Larsson's trip to Taiwan, March 25-April 3.

## Youth Group Fundraiser Update



The Annual Lasagna Dinner and Dessert Auction on March 13 was great fun and raised **\$5703** to help sponsor youth service projects and events, and to help our youth attend Flower City Work Camp and the Sr. High retreat to the Adirondacks this coming August. A great big THANK YOU to all who came for the dinner, and/or donated desserts and funds. The youth really appreciate it and were touched by the support of so many people who gave generously. Special thanks also to our Master chef and auctioneer, Jeff Kuryla, and to our scribe for the auction, Jan Huussen.

## Rochester Christian School invites you to its production of **Annie Jr!**

**THIS WEEKEND - March 20th at 6:00 PM; Saturday, March 21st at 2:00 PM.**

**Browncroft Community Church**

*Rochester CRC members in the talented cast and stage crew:*

**Cast:** Ava Van Harken, Mari Van Harken, Ivy Porte-Knox, Tommy Singleton, Noel Chambery, Minka Chambery, and Rook Chambery; **Stage Crew:** Lucy Thompson and Lucas Van Harken; PLUS, many of our Gems and Cadets are also participating.

Support our church family in the audience! You can secure your tickets [[HERE](#)].

We hope to see you there for a wonderful show!

## Pulpit Schedule

March 22: Nick Monsma (from Palmyra)  
March 29 (Palm Sunday) Bethany Miller  
April 3 (Good Friday) to be determined  
April 5 (Easter) Bethany Miller



## CLASSIS Report

The meeting of Classis Atlantic Northeast (CANE) was held at the Avery Street CRC (South Windsor, CT) on March 4-5. Six hours in the car might sound arduous, but it was a great time of fellowship for the 3 delegates from RCRC (Jeff Harp, Mary Ann LaPolla, David Dill).

The jam-packed meeting included exams for six pastoral candidates. Example sermons were provided for each - so part of the car trip was spent reading aloud and discussing. We arrived at about 4 PM, checked in at Holiday Inn Express and proceeded to the nearby church for opening ceremonies, followed by a wonderful dinner.

Four of the examinations were held on Wednesday evening (2 licenses to exhort, 2 commissioned pastors.) Two of these pastors were from a Hispanic church in Goshen, NY. On Thursday, 2 further exams were completed (1 commissioned pastor and one Minister of the Word - an Army chaplain.)

Exams consist of a period of questions testing biblical knowledge and pastoral abilities, as well as reports by teams that critique the candidates' preaching.

The pastor of Resurrection CRC in East Boston, told a story concerning one of the candidates from that church. This gentleman, of Mexican origin, was picked up by ICE this Spring. While in detention he preached continuously and ministered to other detainees. Once he was released, he was recognized as a pastor and was now able to continue ministry to people inside the facility, as well as their families. One could not help seeing these extraordinary circumstances as the Lord's work and connecting it to stories of Paul and Silas in the book of Acts.

The rest of the meeting was mostly routine business, with the addition of an overture from East Palmyra CRC for Synod 2026 regarding the issue of virtual church (i.e., not streaming, but a "church" where members might never meet in person.) This had been discussed at Synod 2025 but had been left unresolved. The overture suggested that the CRC not move in this direction until the legitimacy of the concept is proved.

Delegates for Synod 2026 were also elected - locals Will Barham (Webster CRC), Jeff Harp and David Dill are scheduled to represent CANE at the June 12-18 meetings in Grand Rapids, MI. Classis concluded at about 3PM, followed by a drive through pouring rain, and arrival back in Rochester at around 9PM. Thanks be to God!