

## Calling Pastor Fantuzzo

Council voted on April 16 to call Pastor Chris Fantuzzo to serve as the full time pastor of our church. The vote came after an extensive discussion of the feedback we received through letters, emails, conversations, and the recent congregational vote. We are enthusiastic about the gifts he offers as a pastor. If he decides to accept our call, the council is committed to working closely with him as his ministry begins.

Please join us in praying for him and his family as they consider this call and seek to follow God's leading.

Your Council

Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being praise his holy name. *Psalms 103:1*

## PHOTO BOOTH FOR A NEW DIRECTORY!

We will have a photo booth set up  
in the Narthex on

**May 10 (Mother's Day) and May 17.**

Come take a new photo for the updated directory. Or email a recent photo to the office.



**AGAPE**

*"Without agape you are nothing!"*  
1 Corinthians 13:2

Agape is the Greek word for the special love God calls us to love people with. (Greek is the language the New Testament was originally written in.) Agape is pronounced ah-gah'pay.

**Definition:**  
Agape could be defined as, "the power to love and do good to someone even if we do not like him, and he may not like us." Agape loves people even when we do not like them. No matter how much they have wronged us, hurt us, or grieved us, we will not allow bitterness to invade our hearts, but will regard them with that unchangeable benevolence which seeks nothing but his highest good. (William Barclay) We will do the right and good thing for someone even if we do not feel like it. It is not a feeling of the heart which cannot be controlled, but a determination of the mind. It takes strength to love like this. It takes divine power. It is not natural. At the same time, this does not mean we just let people do as they like, just as a parent who really loves her child will not let the child simply do as she likes.

**THERE ARE FOUR GREEK WORDS FOR LOVE:**

<b>AGAPE</b>	<b>EROS</b>	<b>PHILIA</b>	<b>STORGE</b>
Divine	Natural	Natural	Natural
Gives	Takes		
Speaks	Feels/loves	Friendship	Family love
Other directed	Seeks to possess	Brothers like David and Jonathan	Parents to children, children to parents
Rises above feelings of dislike	Desire		
Self denying	"I want"		Brothers and sisters

**Basic Bible Passages:**  
 1. 1 Corinthians 13:1-8  
 2. Matthew 5:43-48  
 3. John 13:34, 35  
 4. Matthew 22:36-40

--Agape's importance, and a description is given.  
 --Jesus demands agape of his followers.  
 --Other's will know we are Christians by our agape.  
 --Agape can be commanded. One cannot command feelings.

**THINK!** Can you love someone without feeling love for that person? (Yes, you can.)

**THE MIRACLE OF AGAPE:**  
Do not waste your time, wondering whether you "love" your neighbor: act as if you did. As soon as we do this we find one of the great secrets. When you are behaving as if you loved someone, you will presently come to love him. The worldly man treats certain people kindly because he likes them. The Christian, trying to treat everyone kindly, finds himself liking more and more people as he goes on--including people he could not even have imagined himself liking at the beginning. (Advice from C.S. Lewis)

**EXAMPLE:**  
A pastor was counseling a woman who wanted a divorce because she didn't feel "in love" anymore. Keith explained that love is not a feeling, but an act of the will, and that a marriage is built on commitment, not a feeling of love. The results came later. She had never understood before that love was not a feeling or an opinion, but a commitment. No longer a slave to her "non-loving feelings", she found that the feelings came after the obedience. When she began doing the loving thing, she began feeling love again for her husband.

## SERMON NOTES

Pastor Jack would like everyone to use or reference his notes during the sermon. You can get one from an usher or at the Welcome Center

## GREETERS WANTED

We are looking for interested people who would enjoy being a greeter in our church. Your commitment can be flexible. It would involve being present before and after the service to offer greetings to members and visitors, with some follow-up on information requests from visitors as needed. A short orientation will be provided.

If you might be interested in this ministry,  
please sign up in the Narthex, or see Beth Tschorke.

... that we may have everlasting life

These members of the Rochester CRC family recently went to be with the Lord.

**Janice (Jan) DeJager - April 5**

Jan and her husband, John, were longtime members of Rochester CRC. A memorial service will be held on Monday, April 20 at Asbury Methodist Church.

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/obituaries/pnys1454504>

**Ron Frelier - March 18**

Ron lived a life rooted in faith, service, and devotion to family. His celebration of life will be on April 25, 10:00 am at Rochester CRC.

<https://falvofuneralhome.com/tribute/details/5777/Ronald-Frelier/obituary.html>

**Jim Wassenaar - April 13**

James (Jim) Wassenaar fought a courageous battle with Pancreatic Cancer but as we know the cancer wins. God was so good to give Jim and JoAnne 13 years together and we are so thankful for that. To God Be The Glory! A memorial service will be held on May 2, 11:00 at Rochester CRC. <https://jenningsnultonmattlefh.com/tribute/details/4145/James-Wassenaar>

**Serving this Sunday**

**Nursery**

Reba Veenje  
Clara Miller

**Children and Worship**

Chrissy Null

**Ushers**

Kathy Quinn and Dale Chambery

**Coffee Service & Cleanup**

Danny and Reba Veenje  
Doug and Diane DeJong

*thank you*



**NEW ADDRESSES**

**Walt Bruinsma** - Maplewood Nursing Home  
100 Daniel Drive Room 240 Webster, NY 14580

**Shari Harrison**

new email: [knittinggram26@gmail.com](mailto:knittinggram26@gmail.com)



**School 33 Candy and Mugs!**

**Come help make 180 candy bags for teachers - May 5, 10:00 AM**

There is still time to put candy in the School 33 Bin in the coatroom and then come help us make bags for the teachers and staff..

**Coffee mugs for Mother's Day Plants**

Students use them to pot plants for Mother's day. Please put any surplus mugs (and who doesn't have any of those) to the School 33 bins.



# Flower City WORK CAMP

est. 1985



# Thank you to all that came and helped unpack and set up the new furniture.

Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. *Ecclesiastes 4:9-10*

