



Cherokee Park United Church

*Welcoming people of all ages, sexual orientations,
races, and ethnic origins*

A Progressive Congregation
Theological Elbow Room
Global Music
Community Connected
Kid Friendly

Newsletter April 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
26 -Adult Forum -Connect! families 9:15-10 pm	27	28	29 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	30	31	1 <i>April</i> ASDIC
2 -Adult Forum -Connect! Families -Food Collection	3	4	5 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	6	7 Women's Group 7 pm	8 ASDIC (last)
9 -Adult Forum -Sunday School <i>Palm Sunday</i>	10	11 Outrch mtg 7 pm	12 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	13 Maundy Thursday Set-up 3pm Service 7 pm	14	15 noon-4 p.m. Girl Scout Science Fair
16 <i>Easter Sunday</i> (no Sunday School) Brunch 8:30 Worship 10:15	17	18	19 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	20 Council 7 pm	21 -Antiracism mtg 2:30 pm -Men's Group 6:30 pm	22 Earth Day
23 -Adult Forum -Connect! families -vegetarian potluck	24	25	26 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	27	28 St. Paul Art Crawl 6-10 pm	29 St. Paul Art Crawl Noon-8 pm
30 -Adult Forum -Connect! Families	1 <i>May</i>	2	3 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	4 <i>Loaves & Fishes*</i>	5 Women's Group 7 pm	6 <i>Cinco de Mayo</i> parade 10 am
7 -Food Collection <i>-Cinco de Mayo</i> at Fellowship	8	9	10 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	11	12	13 Spring Clean- up day
14	15	16 Wrshp mtg 7 pm	17 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	18	19 Men's Group 6:30 pm	20

Future dates: Habitat Garden Saturday, June 10

Worship in the Park Sunday, July 23

**Loaves and Fishes* serves those in need of a meal first Thursdays of odd-numbered months.



March 26

Worship on the Sunday closest to March 24, is focused, as is our tradition, on the inspiring life of Archbishop Oscar Romero. March 24 was the day of his martyrdom in 1984. This year the bilingual service again draws from the music of the Salvadoran People's Mass, led by El Espiritu del Milagro musicians, members of CCE (Communities Construendo Esperanza) and special guest Marta Portillo and her family from St. James MN.

Women's Affinity Group

...welcoming all women and those who identify as women or along a feminine spectrum

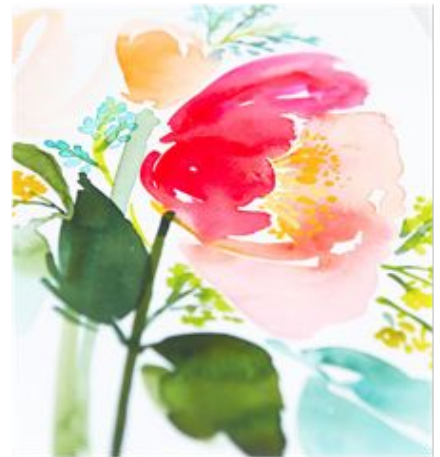
Friday, April 7, 7:00 p.m.

We will meet at the home of Maria McNamara. Light refreshments will be served and a lively discussion shared.

Outreach Ministry

Website update: The team is planning to update our website in major ways in the next few months. We hope our spruced-up site attracts more folks who will come see what we're all about at CPUC. We also want it to be of use to members and friends. When ministry teams or church leaders are asked to help in this matter, we greatly appreciate your input and time.

Meeting: Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 11, at 7:00 p.m. at Jill Jackson's home.



May Preview: We start with several celebrations in the spirit of our community's diverse population. On Wednesday, May 3, come to Cherokee Heights Elementary (694 S. Charlton) and be a part of the *West Siders for Strong Schools* celebration of the many cultures that make up the neighborhood. The event is from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. and a free meal will be served.

Cinco de Mayo: On Saturday, May 6, you are invited to join in our annual tradition and march with CPUC in the *Cinco de Mayo Parade* that starts at 10:00 a.m. More details will be available in the May newsletter.

Fellowship Hour in honor of Cinco de Mayo: Following worship on May 7, the Outreach Ministry team will host a celebration with Mexican pastries and a piñata for the children. Please plan to join us!

Maundy Thursday - Good Friday

We will again enter the drama of the Last Supper by sharing in Holy Communion around tables in Fellowship Hall, (service starts at 7:00 p.m.), followed by a service of Tenebrae (Latin for shadows) in the sanctuary, as we hear again the story of Jesus' journey to the cross and reflect on its meaning for our day and time. The services may be somewhat different from in the past - see if you find the differences, some obvious, and some just subtle! We continue many traditions such as having a parent and child to extinguish the eleven candles during Tenebrae.

On Good Friday the church will be open by request only; please call before coming.

Easter Memorial Garden - April 15, 10:00 a.m. to noon

You are invited to bring flowers to create a "memorial garden" in the sanctuary for Easter Sunday. Plants/flowers may be brought on Saturday morning. Please include a note or card with your name and the name(s) of the person(s) you would like remembered on an insert in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Some simply say "In Memory of Loved Ones." Please remember to take your flowers or plant home after the service on Easter.



Easter Sunday

On Sunday, an Easter Brunch will be held from 8:30-9:15 a.m., and an Easter egg hunt for the children after the brunch. Easter services begin at 10:15 a.m. as usual.

The brunch is a potluck so you are invited to bring either an egg bake, fruit, or breads. Help is also needed with set-up on Saturday from 4:30-6:00 p.m.; creative table decorators are also welcome. Please email Mary Bren if you can help. Help is also needed for clean-up, headed by Russ Spangler.

Smart Cookie Science Fair

Girl Scout Troop 52387 (which meets at the church the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month) is presenting a science fair as one of the troop member's silver award. Please stop in on Saturday, April 15 from noon to 4:00 p.m. All are welcome.



We are still looking for young participants as well (middle school through high school) to submit projects (they can be already completed projects). Sign up is online: <https://sites.google.com/site/sciencefair4321/> Deadline is April 13th.

Connect!

Join Anna Jennerjohn, Tom Murphy, and Josh Welter this Sunday March 26 in Fellowship Hall for another “Storytime for Solidarity” How do we find the courage to do the right thing? For inspiration we will look to Oscar Romero, Jesus, and others we admire; and we will look within ourselves. Come explore courage through story, discussion, and song!

Thoughts from Pastor Jay...On the Resurrection

I have no idea what happened except, as I say, what really matters is not so much what happened there as what happens now — what happens in your life and my life, what happens in the world, what happens the next five days, five years of human history. Is God making God known in some powerful and saving way among people, even those who don't give a hoot about God? Is this still a reality that is part of the madness and self-destructiveness and darkness of the world? That's what really matters... The essential message is that nothing, no horror can happen that can permanently, irrevocably quench the presence of holiness that is always there “underneath the everlasting arms.” No matter what dreadful things take place, that remains the heart of reality. There is that wonderful thought from the British saint, Julian of Norwich: “All shall be well, and all manner of things will be well.” That somehow remains true no matter what. That is, I think, the message of Easter. Yes, this hideous death of a good man abandoned, as it would seem, by God. Yet the best has come out of it, which is this nourishing current of hope and new life that still flows in spite of everything. There must be a God. How else could it happen? Why else would it happen?



Martin Luther once said, “If I were God, I'd kick the world to pieces.” But Martin Luther wasn't God. God is God, and God has never kicked the world to pieces. God keeps reentering the world, keeps offering to the world — by grace— keeps somehow blessing the world, making possible a kind of life that we all, in our deepest being, hunger for.

To prepare for this “Day of Resurrection”, make plans to join our faith family in these significant gatherings. We need each one another to travel such an adventurous journey. See you soon.

Men's Group

Friday, April 21, 6:30 p.m.

We will meet at the home of Mike Bates.

Vegetarian Potluck



Earth Day is Saturday, April 22. Pick up your fork and do your part to help fight global warming! All are invited to bring a vegetarian dish to share at fellowship hour on Sunday, April 23. (No animals, fish, or other watery creatures or any parts of them or their byproducts like gelatin or animal fats lard.) Consider a veggie tray and dip, fresh fruit, nuts, pasta salad without the pepperoni, cheese platter with crackers, potato salad, chips and guacamole, hummus and pita chips, soups and stews made with vegetable broth, and, of course, any number of dessert options, store-bought or homemade. Recipe ideas: Vegweb.com, VegCooking.com, VegRecipes.org, Vegancheff.com, GoVeg.com, VegSource.com, Vegancheff.com, GoVeg.com

April 22 - March for Science

The March for Science in Washington DC and around the country including St. Paul demonstrates our passion for science and sounds a call to support and safeguard the scientific community. www.mnsciencemarch.com www.marchforscience.com/

Climate Change Impacts in Central America

Saturday, April 22, 2017, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. CDT (FREE)

Worldwide, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Guatemala were among the countries most affected by extreme weather events over the past two decades. Project Minnesota/León (PML) is hosting a panel of experts in the fields of agriculture, water policy, and tropical ecology, along with our PML director, who will be visiting from León. First Universalist Church 3400 Dupont Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55408 www.facebook.com/minnesota.leon

West St Paul Environmental Fair & Arbor Day Celebration

We'll celebrate on Friday, April 28 with a tree planting ceremony at the park and tree or plant raffles. The event also features environmental workshops, local vendors, family activities and refreshments. 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. at Garlough Environmental Magnet School School and Garlough Park

People's Climate Movement - April 29, Washington, D.C and Twin Cities

Join hundreds of Minnesotans at one of the largest and most important climate change gatherings in history! We'll gather in Washington, DC as people from all walks of life come together to organize, to build power, to confront the fossil fuel industry, and to shift to a just, safe, peaceful world. Buses will leave from Minneapolis, Apple Valley, Northfield, and St. Peter. (continued on next page)

<https://mn350.yapsody.com/event/index/63186/bus-mn-to-peoples-climate-march-in-dc>

Local People's Climate Solidarity Event- MN | Minneapolis, Minnesota
Event details tbd www.mn350.org www.mnipl.org

Cherokee Park United Hosts Spring Art Fest 2017

Bring your friends and family! Sign up to greet!

Cherokee Park United Church will sponsor a Spring Art Fest April 28 through June 4. The exhibit, entitled *Healing Spirit; Hidden Wounds*, features the mixed media works of Alice Savitski and photos by Ellie Leonardsmith from her project *What We Hide*. Both exhibits focus on human struggles and healing connections through art.



The Art Fest is part of the St. Paul Art Crawl on Friday, April 28, 6:00-10:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 29, 12 noon to 8:00 pm. Both artists will talk about their works starting at 7:00 p.m. that Friday. The exhibit will be open on Sundays and by appointment through June 4. Please spread the word in your networks and come to see this amazing art. Fliers are available at church for you to give away or post. Your help is needed to be a greeter for the Art Crawl on April 28 and 29. Please sign up at church for a two-hour shift on either of those days. Helping visitors and serving light refreshments will be the main duties of this volunteer position. You extend the welcome of our church to our community through this event. If you have questions or want your name added to the greeter list, contact Jill Jackson. Thank You!

Weekend Updates

On most weeks, a Thursday or Friday reminder email of upcoming events is sent out to members and friends of CPUC. If you are not receiving yours and would like to be added, please contact newsletter editor Susan Strebog. Most items will refer to activities happening in the next two weeks, or items that were too late to include in the monthly newsletter.

Deadline for articles is the 20th of the month; please submit articles, ideas or feedback to editor Susan Strebog at kellystrebog@comcast.net or 651-457-1404.

The newsletter team also consists of: pre-publishing fact editors Phyllis Clark and Mary Murphy; collate/mail teams Phyllis & Cal Clark, Stefan Sylvander & Kathy Bergthold.

Habitat for Humanity Save the Date - June 10

Justice & Witness Ministry is organizing this Saturday, Habitat for Humanity gardening event, from about 9:00 a.m. to 3/4:00 p.m. at a St. Paul location. Older children are welcome to help, bring your own lunch....more info later.

March, and then, First Sundays

As we are fed at communion on first Sundays, we are reminded to also feed others. Our food collection is most emphasized on these Sundays although the shopping cart for collections is always available in the narthex. Donated food always go to the local food shelf at Neighborhood House. March is usually the month that foodshelf super-drives occur, but hunger (because of poverty) exists every month. Here is a multicultural wish list of most helpful items needed at Neighborhood House.

- Universal Staples: coffee, cooking oil, Crisco, flour, maseca (corn flour), olive oil, salt and pepper, sugar, tea, tortillas and taco shells
- Fruits: applesauce, canned juices, dates, dried fruit, jack fruit, mandarin oranges, mangos, oranges, peaches, pears, pineapples, raisins
- Grains: angel hair pasta, basmati rice, bean thread, cereal (not and cold), jasmine rice, kokuho rice, long-grained rice, mac & cheese, pancake mi, rice sticks, spaghetti, sweet rice
- Dairy: milk, yogurt
- Vegetables: baby corn (canned), green beans, green chilies (canned), jalepenos, peas, straw mushrooms, tomatoes (canned)
- Protein: beans (dry)-black, black-eyes, mung, pinto, red, & soy, beef (canned), beef stew, cashews, chicken (canned), chili, cow peas (dry), lentils - green, brown, or red, peanut butter, peanuts, tuna (canned)
- Spices/Sauces: cardamom, cinnamon, clove, curry powder, curry paste (red, yellow, or hot), fish sauce, ginger, garlic (minced or chopped), green salsa (tomatillo), mole, oyster sauce, red pepper, salsa, soy sauce, spaghetti sauce
- Non-food items: bath soap, diapers, dish soap, laundry detergent, toilet paper, feminine hygiene items, shampoo & conditioner, pet food

Don't like/care to shop. GOOD NEWS! You need not shop - as a matter of fact, your money donation value, used by Neighborhood House, can double or triple with their bulk purchasing power. Make checks out to Neighborhood House.





Traveling Members

Renee Pfenning and Wayne Bjorlie will be sharing their travel stories with us after returning from South America. You can read of their experiences at rpfenningblog.wordpress.com or wait for a synopsis in a future newsletter. Renee's extensive blog from their 2015 South American trip to Brazil, Chile, Argentina, Bolivia, and Peru is also still online - a wonderful way to experience their travels and discoveries and to have the advantage of Renee's discernment and Wayne's experience living in Brazil. This year's trip covers areas of Northeast Brazil, Paraguay and Ecuador, including the Galapagos Islands.

Council March Meeting Report



- Pastor Joy held an Inquirer's Class in February for people wanting to learn about membership at Cherokee Park United. We plan to welcome Meliza Thurstin, Dean Mudgett, Chuck Paulson, and Philip Rickey as new members at a service in April.
- The Council considered some documents urging Congressional action on Climate Change. More discussion will take place at the April meeting.
- The Outreach Ministry Team plans to make changes to the church website in the coming months. The goal is to make it up-to-date and even more visually appealing and useful to potential visitors and members alike. Please cooperate with team members if you are asked for input or information.
- The Council encourages members to support the Spring Art Crawl (April 28 & 29) and Art Fest (April 28 thru June 4) at CPUC.
- Because of Maundy Thursday services, the Council will next meet on April 20.

Council leadership remains grateful for the prayers and participation of the people of CPUC during this transitional period. Please connect with Council members or Pastor Joy with ideas or feedback you want to share as we strive to live out God's will together.

Loaves and Fishes



Thursday, May 4, 3:30-6:45 p.m.

Join us at St. Matthew's Church for our semi-monthly commitment to provide a tasty, hot meal for those in need. Help for an hour or more to prepare (3:45 - 5:00 p.m.), serve, and clean up (4:40-6:30 p.m.). Young people are welcome to volunteer. Contact Michele

Where is This Stuff Coming From?

(sorry, English teachers)

Occasionally we will find bags of clothes or craft items deposited in our spaces. Please write your name on them so we know who to ask if we have question, or at least write the word “free” on them so we know that is your intent. Generally, free items could go on the table to the right of the entrance door into Fellowship Hall.

Two Dollars Saved is Two Dollars Earned

A penny saved WAS a penny earned, in 1732 when Ben Franklin wrote this, but after inflation we’re guessing it’s more like two dollars. This is a reminder (and plea) that each time you remember to turn off a light or turn down a thermostat, you are helping us balance our church budget. A free building study by EnerChange, organized by the Property Management Ministry this past fall, showed us various areas of wasted energy (and they also congratulated us on many conservation steps already taken.)

Areas they think we need improvement on are: replace windows that cannot be repaired, **engage the congregation to reduce the consumption of energy on a continuing basis**, convert the steam heating system to hot water and install high efficiency boilers or repair, or replace failed steam traps, replace equipment with high efficiency Energy Star models; reinstall vestibule doors to keep unoccupied areas near exterior doors at a lower temperature, use sanctuary ceiling fans only when heating/cooling systems are off, insulate exposed pipes, install programmable thermostats, add insulation when replacing the roof. More on this next month.

Westminster Town Hall Forum

All are invited at noon or 7 p.m., eight to ten times a year, at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nicollet Mall and 12th Street in downtown Minneapolis. Enjoy Minnesota’s best musicians a half hour before the presentation, and stay afterward for food and conversation. No ticket or RSVP required. Speakers are:

- “Building the Beloved Community” - Otis Moss III - **Tuesday, April 11, Noon**
Senior pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago. Acclaimed preacher and social activist, supporting community advancement, civil rights, environmental justice, and economic equality.
- “Shaping a New Foreign Policy” - Richard Haass - **Thursday, May 4, Noon**
President of the Council on Foreign Relations. Former advisor to Colin Powell and special assistant to George H. W. Bush. Author of the book, *A World in Disarray*.



Cherokee Park United Church

Presents, as part of the St. Paul Art Crawl,

Healing Spirit; Hidden Wounds

Alice Savitski



In the Sanctuary

April 28
to
June 4, 2017

Ellie Leonardsmith



In the Parents Room

Sharing our struggles & healing connections through art

Art Crawl - Friday, April 28, 6 to 10 pm. "Gallery Talk" by the artists at 7 pm.

Saturday, April 29, noon to 8 pm. Light refreshments will be served.

Exhibit open on Sundays after worship and by appointment.



371 Baker St. W., Saint Paul

(651) 227-4275

Website cherokeeparkunited.org

Cherokee Park United Church

United Church of Christ/Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Open & Affirming, Multicultural, Antiracist

651-227-4275

cpuc@usfamily.net

cherokeeparkunited.org

371 W. Baker Street

St. Paul, MN 55107

Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.

Rev. Joy Smith - Transitional Pastor

Abe Hunter - Director of Music Ministry

*Imagine there's no countries,
It isn't hard to do.
Nothing to kill or die for,
And no religion too.
Imagine all the people, living life in peace.
You may say I'm a dreamer,
But I'm not the only one.
I hope some day you'll join us,
And the world will be as one.*

John Lennon