



Wintry Night Prayers

Cherokee Park United Church

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

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

Newsletter May 2013

SUNDAY	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1 <i>May</i> Rally at Capitol 4pm Choir 6:45 pm	2 Loaves & Fishes 3:30-6:30 pm	3 Colonialism dinner and panel 6 pm	4 Cinco de Mayo parade 9:30 staging
5 <i>Families Exploring Spirituality: Spirit 9-10 am</i> Food Shelf Collect Faith Action Vigil 2:30 pm	6	7 Boycott Blues rehearsal 6:30 pm	8 Choir 6:45 pm Stained Glass Taskforce 7 pm	9 Council 7:00 pm Building Blocks Awards Dinner	10 Women's Group 7 pm	11
12 <i>Sunday School</i>	13	14	15 Choir 6:45 pm	16	17 Boycott Blues rehearsal 6:30 pm	18 Cherokee West ArtFest Cabaret 7 – 9 p.m.
19 Pentecost <i>Sunday School</i>	20	21 Faith Life 7 pm	22 Choir 6:45 pm Stained Glass Taskforce 7 pm	23 Justice & Witness 7 pm	24 Men's Group 6:30 pm	25
26 <i>Children's Music 9:15-9:45 am</i>	27	28	29 Choir 6:45 pm	30	31	1 <i>June</i> Put in new landscaping
2 Anniversary Dinner after worship	3	4	5 Choir 6:45 pm	6	7	8
9 <i>June</i> ***						

****June* 9 Summer Worship Hour, starts at **9:30 am**

See inside back cover for meeting locations.

Interfaith Coalition on Immigration Rally

Wednesday, May 1, March starts 3 p.m., Rally at 4 p.m.

Contact: Joanne Sylvander

Promoting Drivers' Licenses for all, for "Dreamers" legislation, & Immigration Reform, this March starts at Central Presbyterian Church, 500 Cedar St., St Paul, and ends at the Capitol for the rally. Please join us if you can!

Loaves and Fishes

Thursday, May 2, 3:45-6:45 p.m.

Contact: Michele Rehm Johnson, 651-222-5433

timmj@comcast.net

Join us at Loaves and Fishes at St. Matthew's Church to help prepare the meal from 3:45 - 5:00 p.m., serve from 4:45 - 6:15 p.m., and/or clean up to 6:45 p.m. Young people are welcome to volunteer also.



Colonialism in Context

Friday, May 3, 6:00 p.m. dinner, 6:45 p.m. discussion

Sunday, May 5, colonialism sermon at worship

Sponsor: CPUC Antiracism Team

For many thinkers, teachers and creators around the world, colonialism and post-colonialism have been useful lenses to better understand history and to enact lasting justice. Come learn more about this. Start with a dinner created by chefs Okogyeamon Perkins and Maria McNamara (free will donation). A moderated discussion follows at 6:45 p.m. Panel members Roxanne Gould, Jim Bear Jacobs, Leon Rodrigues, and Chris Smith will share their understanding of the legacy of colonialism on indigenous communities around the globe.

Whether you are new to the concerns of colonialism or an advanced thinker, join us and bring your questions about the impact of colonialism for our panel members to address.

There will be a guest speaker on this topic on Sunday.

Please join us for our weekly fellowship following the service.



Remembering and Honoring our Dakota Grandmothers

Saturday, May 4, 12:30 p.m.

Ft. Snelling State Park concentration site

Sponsors: Oceti Sakowin Omniciye & Mendota Mdewakanton Community 320-981-0206

A ceremony, program, and simple meal will be held in remembrance of the women, children and elders who were forcibly removed on cattle boat steamers in 1863, to Ft. Thompson (Crow Creek) South Dakota. Originally 1700 Dakota were imprisoned on November 13th, 1862. In less than six months, 400 had died – another action in Alexander Ramsey's plan to "exterminate and remove" (ethnic cleansing, or genocide) the Dakota people from their homeland, Mini Sota Makoce (land where the waters reflect the skies). Focus on the *Year of the Dakota* continues at a conference at Hamline University the following Sunday and Monday.

Everyone, and in particular descendents of the grandmothers, is invited to participate. No photography during the ceremony. Speakers include Dr. Chris Mato Nunpa - Chair, Oceti Sakowin Omniciye, Larry Long - Troubadour, Jim Anderson - Chair of Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Community, Dr. Waziyatawin - Upper Sioux community.

Soup is needed for the meal. If you can provide, please contact Mary Faimon at 507-530-1985, Marybeth.faimon@gmail.com. Bring your own chairs. Park entrance fee is waived with this announcement in your car window.



Annual Cinco de Mayo Parade

*Saturday May 4, staging 9:30 a.m.,
parade 10:00 a.m.*

Join us as we march in the parade to express our support for the West Side neighborhood. Gather by 9:30 a.m. at the Gross Givens Manufacturing parking lot at 75 West Plato Boulevard. We will be utilizing our Building Blocks float. Bring hand puppets (will also be available) and if possible, wear a Cherokee Park United Church T-shirt (available in Fellowship Hall Market.)

Building Blocks Tutorial's Award Dinner

Thursday, May 9, 5:00-6:45 p.m.

Contacts: Jill Jackson, buildingblocks@usfamily.net, 651-228-1378 or 651-224-9209

Lynne Bates, Ministry chair, 651-457-5156

A few helpers are still needed to prepare and serve food, do clean-up, and drive families to and from the events. There is lots of learning and friendship to celebrate at the end of this 25th year of ministry.



A conversation between a tutor and a student recently shared with us might tell the story best:

Student: Do you have any kids?

Tutor: Yes, and they are all grownups now.

Student: Well, do you have any grandchildren? Because if you do, you should tell them about Building Blocks because they should really come here!

This conversation was particularly poignant, as the student was one who is struggling in school, and upon arriving here, does not seem enthusiastic to keep trying.

Thank you all for your continued support in helping raise the world village's children.

Women's Group - Change of Date

Friday, May 10 (second, instead of first Friday) 7 p.m.

Lynne Bates 651-457-5616

All women are invited to join us at Lynn's home at 7256 Bancroft Way, Inver Grove Heights. This will be the last group meeting until we reconvene again in September.

Men's Group - Change of Date

Friday, May 24 (fourth, instead of third Friday) 6:30 p.m.

Mike Bates 651-457-5616

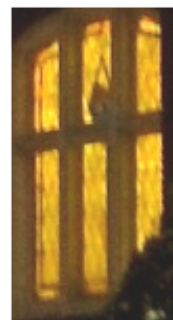
All men are invited to join us at 7256 Bancroft Way, Inver Grove Heights.

Thank You

We would like to thank our church family for your love, support and prayers following the death of our son-in-law Timothy Hammick. It warms our hearts to know we have such a caring church family.

Joy Sorensen Navarre and Lon Navarre

Editor's note: the picture on the cover was taken when family and friends gathered there in Timothy's memory.



MISSION 4/1 EARTH

Cherokee Park United Church is participating in the UCC-sponsored 4/1 Earth, 50 Days from Easter to Pentecost of care for the earth through education, advocacy and local action. Although the "end point" is Pentecost Sunday, this mission is really a jump-start and hopefully our efforts will go on and on.



How are we doing so far?

Our tally from the first week is **174 earth-care hours** and **22 letters or emails of advocacy**. A great start!

Three R's Book Exchange

Our Justice and Witness Ministry invites you to keep the momentum going by participating in a Three R's Book Exchange for young and old. **Reduce** - sort through your personal books and see how you can reduce your own library. **Reuse** - bring your books to CPUC beginning May 19; take back at least 1 less book than you brought (unless it is just one) **Recycle** - All books remaining on June 16 will be donated. And give yourself 4/1 Earth points for your sorting/reducing efforts.

March Foodshelf Donation

Our donation totaled 133 pounds plus \$100 in cash. We continue to collect food on the first Sunday of each month, recalling Jesus' mandate to "**Feed my lambs**," as we care for each other in body and in spirit. Food is donated to the Neighborhood House Food Shelf located in the Wellstone Center at 179 Robie St. East in St. Paul.

The Neighborhood House was founded in 1897 by the women of Mount Zion Temple, to assist Russian Jewish immigrants fleeing their homeland as a result of mounting bigotry and discrimination. Over 110 years later, Neighborhood House is a vibrant, thriving organization serving immigrants, refugees and low-income populations in need of a helping hand. In a comprehensive effort to break the cycle of poverty, Neighborhood House operates diverse programs that work together to stabilize lives.



Any person who meets one of three requirements is eligible for the foodshelf: 1. Lives in zip code 55107. 2. Lives in Ramsey Co. having Refugee Status. 3. Is a participant of another program in Neighborhood House.

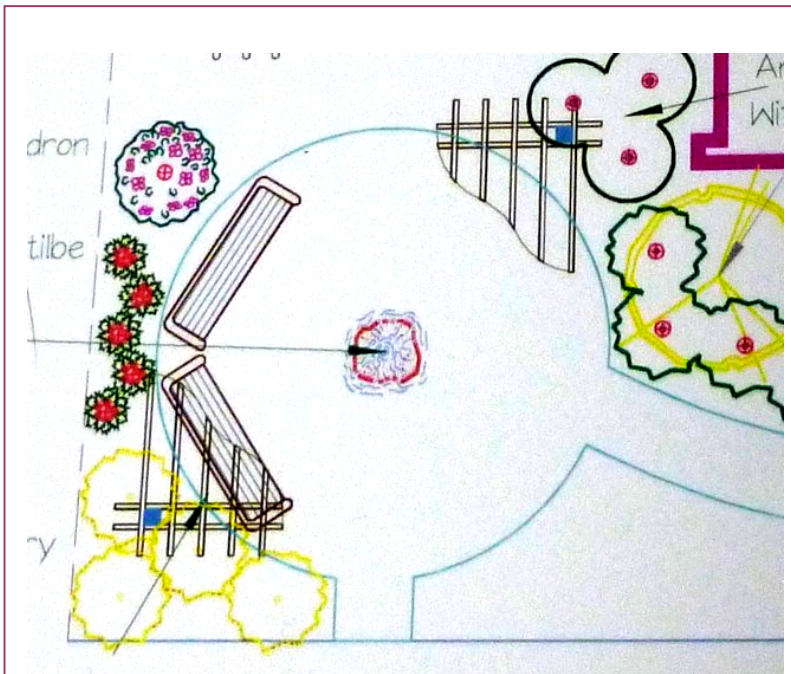
Pantry service hours: Mon - Fri: 9-12pm, 1-4pm 651-789-2500

Heeding Wendell Berry

by Joanne Sylvander

I hope.
I plant sequoias.
I hope I plant sequoias.
I'll never really know for sure,
But still, I'll try to plant sequoias.
You see, I didn't just pop out of nowhere;
I didn't pull myself up.
Someone planted apples and squash
and acorns and sequoias.
They built avenues and schools,
aqua-ducts and sanctuaries,
Not knowing that I would really appreciate that;
But I do.
And I hope someone will – a long time from now –
Appreciate that I had enough hope to
Plant sequoias.

From Wendell Berry's "...So, friends, every day do something.....Invest in the millennium.
Plant sequoias." Taken from Earth Prayers, from around the world.
Edited by Elizabeth Roberts and Elias Amidon co. 1991



Landscaping Plans

Picture yourself and a few friends resting on the benches at the southwest corner of the building. Hear the birds, smell the flowers and greens, feel the gentle breeze.

(Thank you Andy!)

Be a part of the landscaping crew on Saturday, June 1 (if it is not snowing).
Sign up on sheet at church.



Youth Farm:

Growing Food to Develop Youth

Each November we are treated to a tasty and nutritious brunch, prepared by the West Side Youth Farm (formerly known as Youth Farm & Market Project) staff, as a thank-you for using our kitchen during the summer. Three times a week, for eight weeks, the kitchen is used to prepare the noon meal for participants, and then for a focus group in the afternoon, in which children might be taught about canning, preparing nutritious snacks, etc.

To better appreciate this program's efforts, Alice Martin, daughter of Maria McNamara, was interviewed. Alice has been involved with this program since age 9, moving from being a Youth Farmer, to an All-Star, to a Project LEAD, and now on staff as a Farm Steward. Her winter duties involve leading class groups of fifteen 1st

- 5th graders in Extended Day Learning, showing them how to start seedlings in the greenhouse at Cherokee Heights Elementary School, doing plant experiments as a part of their science classes, and learning the wonders of growing their own food. The seedlings will be later transplanted and cultivated in one of the five farm sites in St. Paul and Minneapolis, as a major part of the summer youth programming.

The West Side summer program typically involves 60 people, including children and youth ages 9-13, plus staff. They meet three days a week from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to garden, cook meals, play games, forge friendships, and build community. They are involved in creating public art pieces such as the Mosaic Mural at REDA and the Paint the Pavement project in 2011. Last year the majority of their produce went into the lunches that fuel the summer program. They also sold their produce at the West Side farmer's market near George and Stryker Av. and to some local restaurants, and donated a few hundred pounds to the Neighborhood House food shelf.

The West Side program is a part of the Youth Farm's five different Twin City sites. Their goals are to: build young leaders, promote healthy bodies and minds, contribute to the positive identity of children and youth, create neighborhood connectedness and opportunities for contribution, and develop & nurture healthy relationships.

More information is available from the West Side Program Director Tyler Berres, tyler@youthfarm.net, 651-600-6099. Great pictures of youth involvement can be found at <http://www.youthfarm.net/west-side-neighborhood/>

Calling Cherokee Park members & friends! Be a puppeteer in our May 17, 2013, reprise of **BOYCOTT BLUES**



It was December 1, 1955, when the blues came to call—the same day Jim Crow flew in waving his bony wings. . . .

Save the dates

REHEARSAL 1

Tuesday, May 7 from 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Attendance required for cast members with speaking roles. Light snacks will be served.

REHEARSAL 2 (final)

Friday, May 17 from 6:30- about 8:30 p.m.

Attendance required for all cast members (unless discussed beforehand with Bundy or Maria) Light snacks will be served.

PERFORMANCE

Saturday, May 18 at 7:00 p.m. (Arrival time for the cast to be announced.)

Please return the form below to Bundy Trinz OR email the same information to her (with PUPPETS in the subject line). Due by May 1, 2013. If you have questions, contact Bundy at uts2006@msn.com or 651-636-2002.

Detach here

Sign up here to be part of our puppet show cast. Return to Bundy in person or email her at uts2006@msn.com with the same information (with PUPPETS in the subject line) by May 1, 2013.

Cast member name _____ Age _____

Parent/responsible adult (if you are under 16) _____

Cast email _____ Parent email _____ Parent phone _____

I would like to be considered for a speaking role:

☐ Rosa Parks ☐ Bus driver ☐ Judge

NOTE: To have a speaking role, you must attend both rehearsals!

CPUC celebrates Anna Larson's Graduation from UTS

Anna Larson will graduate from United Theological Seminary in May. Her In-Care Committee will host a fellowship hour in her honor on Sunday, May 12th after worship. Please join us that day as we congratulate Anna on her hard work and inspired achievement!



SOUNDS OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD CABARET

Saturday May 18, 7-9 pm

First check out the art exhibit, showcasing both traditional and non-traditional entries such as decorated skateboards and found-art light sculptures. Artists range from juried professionals, to some of the children growing up in our church community.

Then enjoy drama and musical expressions from the neighborhood and our members. Savor imaginative refreshments.

To add your talent to the cabaret, please contact Mike Bates
mjbates@skypoint.com 651-457-5156



Dave Brubeck's Gates of Justice

Benefit Concert Sunday, May 19, 7:30 p.m.

This concert is a fund raiser for the Dignity Center which offers support, opportunity, and resources to persons in need on their path to self-sufficiency, as they transition from poverty to stability. This spectacular concert of tolerance and compassions was composed in 1969 after Martin Luther King's death; it is a social oratorio about social justice and community responsibility. Tickets are \$35 each or 10 for \$300, including free parking at 511 Groveland Av. Mpls. TheDignityCenter.org, 612-871-5303



Climate Science Training

Sunday, May 5, 2-5 p.m., Colonial Church of Edina

Contacts: Paul@coolplanetmn.org, Tom.Evan@Abstractions.com

Learn the latest about climate science and how to have conversations that will engage you and your community to take action for a healthy climate. 6200 Colonial Way. Hwy 62, Tracy Av (north) Suggested donation \$25 – scholarships available. Register online at www.coolplanetmn.org



A Future Not Our Own

by Archbishop Oscar Romero

It helps, now and then, to step back and take the long view.
The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is beyond our vision.
We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of
the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.
Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying
that the kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said.

No prayer fully expresses our faith.

No confession brings perfection. No pastoral visit brings
wholeness.

No program accomplishes the church's mission.

No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about: We plant seeds that one day will grow.

We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.

We lay foundations that will need further development.

We provide yeast that produces effects beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.

This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.

It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way,
an opportunity for God's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results.

But that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.

We are workers, not master builders, ministers not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own.



Ministry Locations

May 5, Sunday, Faith Action Vigil

2:30 p.m. at Ramsey County Detention Center

May 10, Friday

Women's Group

7 p.m. at home of Lynn Bates, 7526 Bancroft Way IGH, 457-5156

May 8 & 24 Tuesdays

Stained Glass Taskforce

7 p.m. at home of Pastor Johnson

May 21, Tuesday

Faith Life

7 p.m. at home of Susan Strebig, 261 Wentworth Av E WSP

May 23, Thursday

Justice & Witness

7 p.m. at home of Pastor Johnson

May 24, Friday

Men's Group

6:30 p.m. at home of Mike Bates, 7526 Bancroft Way IGH, 457-5156

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.

Dr. Timothy M. Johnson - Pastor

Ione Boettcher Butler - Organist/Choral Director

Jill Jackson - Building Blocks Tutorial Director

Rebecca Knott - Nursery Supervisor

Andrew Gbaa - Custodian



Help. Thanks. Wow.

The Three Essential Prayers

Book title, Anne LaMott