



## ***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 2014***

SUN	MO N	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
30 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	31	1 April	2 Choir 6:45 --Lenten Justice Supper 5:30 pm	3	4 Women's MOPR (prom) pm	5
6 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent -Foodshelf Offering -Families Exploring Spirituality 9am -Pancake brunch - Faith Action Vigil 2:30 pm	7	8 Faith Life 7 pm	9 Choir 6:45 --Lenten Justice Supper 5:30 pm	10	11	12
13 Palm Sunday -Sunday School -One Great Hour of Sharing Offering -Youth to Grand Slam 1:30	14	15 Outreach Ministry	16 Choir 6:45	17 Maunday Thursday  -Worship 7:00 pm	18	19
20 EASTER -Breakfast 8:30 a.m.	21	22 Respectful Conversation Training	23 Choir 6:45	24 Justice & Witness	25 -Men's group -Art exhibit opens & Art Crawl	26 Art exhibit 12-8 & Art Crawl
27 -Children's Music 9:15 am -Earth Day worship & vegetarian brunch	28	29 -Doctrine of Discovery -Building Blocks 7 pm	30 -Choir 6:45 -Stained Glass Task Force	1 May Loaves & Fishes *	2	3 Cinco de Mayo parade
4 -Children's Music 9:15 am -Piñata & pastries fellowship	5	6	7 Choir 6:45	8 Building Blocks Dinner	9	10 Church Spring Clean-up
						17 Cabaret

\* the first Thursday of odd numbered months

**MORP**  
(PROM backwards)  
**Friday, April 4**  
**7-10 p.m.**  
**Cherokee Park United Church**

Attention all women



There are just a few days left to get ready for the upcoming MORP. Bring friends, your mother, daughter, or other family member or perhaps someone you just met. You may come solo, of course.

Dress code: elegant, extravagant, outrageous, or just plain backwards

Other ways you can participate:

- ~ bring a "treasure" to donate to a raffle
- ~ bring a treat to share
- ~ bring some \$1 or \$5 bills for raffles tickets and for special music requests or dedications

This exceptional event is sponsored by the CPUC Women's Gathering.

MORP team:  
Joanne Sylvander  
Bundy Trinz  
Kathy Bergthold

**Families Exploring  
Spirituality** (first Sundays)  
**Sunday April 6, 9-10 a.m.**

Families are invited to bring their children grades K-7 to talk about Jesus' life, from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday. Instead of just reading it, we will re-think it through symbols on a felt story board, through relating some of these situations to those we have experienced ourselves, and of course doing a craft project involving eggs, which children can take home and use to re-tell these stories to others.

We meet in Fellowship Hall, with Susan Strebig as our leader.

*Can you guess what these  
symbols mean?*





## *Easter Breakfast: It's on You! Thanks!*

**Set-up Saturday, April 19, 10:00 a.m.**

**Bring food**

**Breakfast Easter Sunday, 8:30 - 9:15 a.m.**

**Clean-up 9:15 - 10:00 a.m.**

It's on many of us, actually; many of us doing just one piece to make it all come together. Please consider helping with set-up, bringing a dish to share, or clean-up. Sign-up sheets can be found in Fellowship Hall or at the Baker Street entrance. You can also call Barb and Glen Herrington-Hall.



For preparation on Saturday, Barb and Glen would like some adults and a few children to help them set and decorate the tables. This is a great way for families to participate; we'll be done by noon.

Foods needed on Easter Sunday are fresh fruit or fruit salad, juice, muffins or other baked goods (inc. gluten-free), and 9x12 pans of egg bake (inc. veggie/vegan and gluten-free.) Help with clean-up after breakfast and before church is needed as well.

## *Faith Action Vigil*

**Sunday, April 6, 2:30 p.m.**

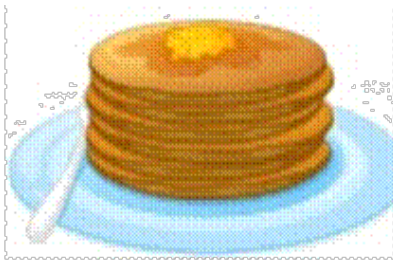
Our congregation supports the human rights of immigrants by attending this first Sunday of the month vigil held in the parking lot at the Ramsey County Detention Center. Joanne Sylvander invites folks to join in providing musical support for this month's vigil planned by the MN Conference UCC Immigration Team.



## *Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers 5:30 p.m.*

Try a new spiritual discipline for Lent this year. A handwritten letter to elected officials is still one of the most powerful ways to act for justice. The Justice and Witness Ministry hosts a simple meal, a brief time of worship and a chance for you to write letters about justice issues

that are on your heart. Join us in Fellowship Hall for the nourishment of food, fellowship and the opportunity for mutual support in advocating for justice. (through April 9)



### *Pancake Brunch*

The Antiracism Team will hold a fundraiser brunch on Sunday, April 6, following worship. Proceeds help fund the work of the Antiracism Team, including sponsorship of *The Glory of Minnesota?* with Jim Bear Jacobs and a two part Adult Forum on the arts. Please join us for a time of fellowship and support for this important work.

### *Youth Activity*

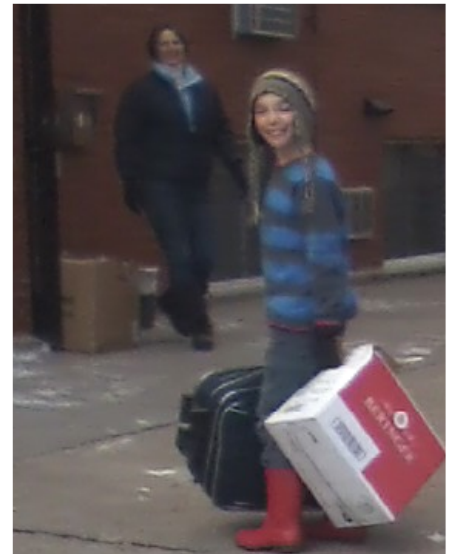
**April 13**



Meet at church at 1:30 p.m. and be back at 5:30 p.m. Three hours at Grand Slam, including pizza and pop. Scholarships are offered for all or part—don't hesitate to ask Pastor Tim. Selections are from \$14-19 with add-ons including Extreme Trampoline (parents must sign a waiver - see website) and/or Laser Tag. Parents, please contact the organizing parent Fred Dempsey-Hess. [dempseyhess@comcast.net](mailto:dempseyhess@comcast.net)  
<http://www.grandslammn.com/birthday-parties.html>

### *Not Just All Fun and Games*

Our youth are right in there with adults serving the needs of the community. On March 15, a group ranging in age from 11 to 75 moved a West Side family to Minneapolis. Eli added his muscle and enthusiasm to our group of moving angels. Youth also participate in Loaves and Fishes, organize fellowship hour, usher at Steppingstone Theatre, work at Feed My Starving Children, and frequently help in ministries along with their parents.



### *Maundy Thursday - April 17 - 7 p.m.*

We will again enter the drama of the Last Supper by sharing in Holy Communion around tables in fellowship hall, 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.

### *Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL)*

CCL works for the political will for a livable world and hosts a national conference call the first Saturday of the month usually starting at 11:45 a.m., and a get-started conference call every Wednesday. Minnesota has chapter meetings in the Twin Cities and outstate. [www.citizensclimatelobby-mn.org](http://www.citizensclimatelobby-mn.org)  
Contact Tom Evans, [Tom.Evans@Abstractions.com](mailto:Tom.Evans@Abstractions.com)

### *Easter Memorial Garden*

At Easter we invite families to bring flowers to help create a "memorial garden" in our sanctuary for Easter Sunday. They may be brought to the church on Saturday, April 19, between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Please leave a note or card with your name and the name(s) of the person(s) you would like remembered on the insert that will be included in the Sunday bulletin. Some simply say "In Memory of Loved Ones." Others identify specific people. You are free to bring whatever type of plant or flowers you wish, and you may take them with you at the close of the service.



### *One Great Hour of Sharing offering - Palm Sunday*

For more than 50 years, members of the United Church of Christ and Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) have joined with Christians throughout the nation with this offering to share Christ's love for all with the refugee, the stranger, and those stunned by the aftermath of natural disasters and war. The hundreds of millions of dollars given have enabled a powerful witness to the love of the One who came that all might have life more abundantly. Offering envelopes are included in the newsletter and also available at church.

### *Building Blocks Ministry Team*

We will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 29, at the church. Please use the Manomin St. entrance.

## **BUILDING BLOCKS TUTORIAL**

### *Awards Dinner - May 8, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.*

It has been quite a year for Building Blocks being part of the Out of School Time Hub at Riverview School. With the dedication and generous spirit of volunteers and children, we fulfilled our mission to provide free, one-to-one tutoring to primary grade students on the West Side. We will end the program's 26<sup>th</sup> year with an Awards Dinner at Cherokee Park United for students, families, and volunteers. It has been another fine year of learning and friendship at Building Blocks in our new setting. Thank you for your continued support of this life-enhancing ministry.

Your help is needed to make this special event successful! Please consider preparing and serving food, cleaning up, or driving families (5:15 and 7:00 p.m.) to and from the event. Contacts: Program Director Jill Jackson, 651-228-1378 (office), or [buildingblocks@usfamily.net](mailto:buildingblocks@usfamily.net). or Building Blocks Ministry Team Chair, Joanne Sylvander.



## *Respectful Conversations on the Stained Glass Jesus*

**Saturday, April 26, 9:00 to 11:30 a.m.**

**Organized by the  
Stained Glass Jesus Taskforce**

Everyone is invited and encouraged to share in this conversation facilitated by the Minnesota Council of Churches using a model called "Respectful Conversations." We will begin with a full breakfast, child-care will be provided, and children and youth will have an opportunity to have their own time of discussion about the stained glass window and what it means to them. Conversations will occur around the tables in Fellowship Hall, with facilitators trained by the primary Minnesota Council facilitator, so that everyone has the opportunity to both speak and be heard. Please RSVP by signing up at church or contact Phyllis Andrews.

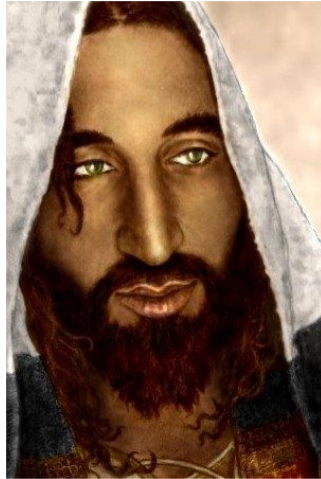
"Respectful Conversations" is a thoughtful model for community conversation developed by the Minnesota Council of Churches, with the support of a Bush Foundation Grant. This model was initially developed to help facilitate healthy conversations leading up to the vote on the state marriage amendment. It is not the intention of this model to influence a

particular outcome, but rather to create safe spaces for people to talk with those with differing viewpoints in order to create empathy and understanding while maintaining and even enhancing relationships. The model is very valuable in situations where people potentially have strongly-held views that differ. People who have participated in the process have reported better listening skills, more interest in other people's opinions, and better relationships as lasting results of the conversation.

The Stained Glass Jesus Taskforce has been given the charge of addressing our Jesus window by looking at art as a medium for explicit and implicit values, how the white racial frame functions in art, how class functions in art, whether this stained glass window reflects the present values, theology, mission and vision of Cherokee Park United Church. The taskforce has been given the twin responsibility of facilitating discussion that builds community while growing in our understanding and commitment to antiracism.

### *Men's Group*

The April gathering will be held on Friday the 25<sup>th</sup> at the home of Jim Shatek.



## *In Solidarity*

Our sisters and brothers, families of survivors of the 1980 Massacre in El Carrizal, El Salvador, are supported through our Communities Construyendo Esperanza /Communities Building Hope (CCE) ministry. Some of the fund-raising meals and food sales have resulted in the constructing of a community corn mill (molino). These photos show residents who brought their corn to the molino and later, picked it up as masa, wrapped in a moist towel in blue bowls, read to take home to turn into tamales or tortillas.

Our local tie to this community is West Side resident, Pastor Porfirio Martinez, who served as their priest until he was forced to leave El Salvador due to death threats. The U.S. government provided millions of dollars in support of the perpetrators of the killings. Deep poverty is the result. Currently, the lack of opportunity in El Carrizal forces young people to attempt to migrate north to the U.S. Many are hurt, kidnapped or killed along the route.

In 2009 Porfirio learned the community's dreams for economic sustainability. Community members created a shared ownership co-op. However, without capital, the dreams could not become reality. CPUC and friends from El Salvador, acting on the words of Monsignor Oscar Romero, began to raise small amounts of money in response to project requests including chickens, calves, shoe repair, constructing a molino, and last year, a cement block retaining wall for the molino building, which is threatened by heavy rains in the rainy season.



## *Cinco de Mayo Parade*

**Saturday May 4**

**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 Blvd. 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).





## *Doctrine of Discovery* *Documentary Showing*

**Tuesday, April 29, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Hamline University, Sundin Hall,**  
**1531 Hewitt Ave**  
**Free, open to the public**

Please join us for this showing, a part of Minnesota's inaugural Genocide Awareness Month, Healing Minnesota Stories. A post-film discussion will be led by filmmaker, Sheldon Wolfchild, a member of the Lower Sioux Indian Community, Howard Vogel, professor emeritus at Hamline Law School, and Steven Newcomb, Founder of the Indigenous Law Institute.

Last year, at the urging of the group World Without Genocide, Minnesota passed a law declaring April "Genocide Awareness Month." Co-sponsors for the event include the Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning at St. Thomas University, Cherokee Park United Church, World Without Genocide and The Wesley Center for Spirituality, Service and Social Justice at Hamline University. Wolfchild's film focuses on the little-discussed Doctrine of Christian Discovery, the religious justification early explorers used to claim lands from indigenous nations. Based on papal bulls (edicts), the Doctrine allowed explorers to claim dominion over lands that were not already occupied by Christians. It saw native people as less than human and created the justification for killing them.

This is an important issue for Christians and others to understand, acknowledge and discuss with Native Americans.

Several religious denominations have taken formal action to repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery. Importantly, the Doctrine remains a standing legal principal in U.S. case law.

Wolfchild has extensively researched the history of Dakota people in Minnesota and he also has appeared as an actor in a number of films and television shows. Vogel is trained both in law and theology, and has written on the Doctrine of Discovery.



Healing Minnesota Stories is an initiative of the Saint Paul Interfaith Network (SPIN). Watch the [SPIN website](http://www.spinterfaith.org) ([www.spinterfaith.org](http://www.spinterfaith.org)) for more details and other upcoming events.

## *Loaves and Fishes*

**Thursday, May 1**  
**St. Matthew's Church**

Feed the hungry. Join us for meal prep from 3:30 - 5 p.m., serve from 4:45 - 6:15 p.m., and/or clean up until 7 p.m. (at the latest). Young people are welcome to help. Please contact Michele Rehm Johnson.

## *Art Crawl ~ April 25-26*

This year the Cherokee West Art Fest is included in the St. Paul Art Crawl so we are expecting greater numbers of visitors. Volunteers are needed to greet people Friday from 6-10 p.m. and Saturday from 12-8 p.m. We can schedule you for one or more two-hour shifts and two adults are needed for each shift; parents and youth are welcome to do this as a family. Please contact Sandy Settevig or Andy George.



## *Gathering Meals*

Following Jesus' example of building relationships through sharing of meals, we find strength in our social times together, as foundation for the other services in which we involve ourselves. The Caring Ministry team continues its practice of scheduling meals shared in our homes. You are invited to consider being either a host (simple meals are the norm) or a guest. Our next group of Gathering Meals will be anytime during the month of May. Sign-up sheets are available between Sunday, March 30 and Sunday, April 13.



This is one way to welcome newer members, and get to know all on a deeper level, in an unhurried, casual setting. Contact: Mike Bates

## *Caring for God's Creation*



Worship on Sunday, April 27, will link the rhythms of faith with the celebration of Earth Day, followed by a vegetarian potluck. Pick up your fork and do your part to help fight global warming! All are invited to bring a vegetarian dish to share. (No animals, fish, or other watery creatures or any parts of them or their by-products 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](http://Vegweb.com), [VegCooking.com](http://VegCooking.com), [VegRecipes.org](http://VegRecipes.org), [Veganchef.com](http://Veganchef.com), [GoVeg.com](http://GoVeg.com), and [VegSource.com](http://VegSource.com).

**CHEROKEE WEST**

# ART FEST

**Cherokee Park United Church**

Presents its 8th Annual

## **Spring Art Show**

Celebrating West Side and  
Surrounding Neighborhood Artists

**Friday April 25 6-10 PM**

**Saturday April 26 12-8 PM**

Now part of the St. Paul Art Crawl

## **Closing Cabaret**

**Saturday May 17 7-9 PM**

**Sounds of the Neighborhood**



**Cherokee Park  
United Church**

United Church of Christ/Presbyterian Church (USA)  
Open & Affirming, Multicultural, Anti-Racist

371 W. Baker Street, St. Paul, MN 55107. Check [www.cherokeeparkunited.org](http://www.cherokeeparkunited.org) for map.

Exhibit also open on Sunday mornings following worship or by appointment.



## **Cherokee Park United Church**

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

Open & Affirming, Multicultural, Antiracist

651-227-4275

[cpuc@usfamily.net](mailto:cpuc@usfamily.net)

[cherokeeparkunited.org](http://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

*Death is not the enemy.*

*Death is part of life.*

*The enemy, if one were to think in those terms,  
is whatever leads to our failing to live life.*

Rev. Sandy Dodson