



CPUC in June —
flowers in bloom.



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 June 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						30 Rain garden plant & Spring clean-up 9:30 am - 2:30 pm
31 Building Blocks Big Block Party 11:30 am	1 <i>June</i>	2	3 Choir 7 pm	4	5	6 Anniversary Dinner set-up
7 -Food Shelf -Anniversary Dinner -Faith Action Vigil 2:30-3 pm	8	9	10	11 Council 7 pm	12	13
14 Worship start time changes to 9:30 a.m.	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Pride Parade 11 am	29	30	1 <i>July</i>	2 Loaves & Fishes*	3	4
5 -Faith Action Vigil 2:30-3 pm	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 PMM 7 pm	17	18

*first Thursday of the odd numbered months

Save the date: Sunday, August 2, Worship & potluck at Cherokee Park

Rain Garden Planting and Spring Clean-Up

BYOT (Bring Your Own Trowel)

Saturday, May 30, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Join us in our latest effort to help our environment stay healthy by planting grasses and flowering perennials in our rain garden. This installation will direct rain-water from our roof to the earth and prevent it from flowing across lawns, sidewalks and streets to enter the waste water system. Instead, it will flow into a low, vegetated area and enter nature's natural filtration system, and then on to refill the natural water table. This is so beneficial to the whole community and geographic location that 75% of the cost is being rebated by the Ramsey Conservation District.



We will also be doing a Spring sprucing-up of the church building and grounds. Whether you prefer working indoors or out, there will be a task for you, plus a fun time to get to know others, and breakfast sweets and a pizza lunch.

Sunday, June 7, Anniversary Worship and Dinner



This year we celebrate the 47th anniversary of the merger of St. John's UCC and Cherokee Presbyterian Church. Maria McNamara will be receiving her 25-year anniversary membership pin and we continue our celebration after worship with a great meal, organized by the Property Management Ministry. Your help is needed to divide up the duties into manageable amounts to make this event enjoyable by all. Please consider how you might contribute an hour or two and sign up or call Susan (651-457-1404) if you can help.

Saturday: Set tables, create flower centerpieces (have peonies or lilacs to share?) **Sunday:** An hour of kitchen help before, during, or after worship to boil some big pots of water, prepare fruit trays, mix up the coleslaw ingredients, mash the 'taters, cut/serve cake & ice cream (Confirmation group particularly requested), run dishwasher, clean-up.

Roast beef and mashed potatoes is the main event, along with all the fixings and a special dessert surprise at the end. We realized that we have been suggesting the same donation for the past ten or more years, and not meeting expenses, so our suggestion this year is \$10/adult & \$5/child. (But you are just as welcome without donating or donating less.)

(The following Sunday, **June 14**, worship begins at **9:30 a.m.**, summer hours.)

Building Blocks Big Block Party

Sunday May 31, 11:30 a.m.

Our Building Blocks Ministry Team will host a "FAREWELL to Building Blocks Tutorial" party, celebrating 27 years of learning and friendship. All are invited to join us for a wonderful catered lunch, entertainment and recognitions of those who have made this Ministry such a success. (below: awards dinner for students, families, and tutors.)



Director of Music

The Music Ministry Taskforce is delighted to announce they have hired Erik Peregrine as the new Director of Music Ministry. His first Sunday with us will be June 28. Erik is finishing up the current concert season in Vancouver BC as Artistic Director for the Vancouver Peace Choir, whose mission is to use choral music as an avenue to raise awareness of social justice issues and promote peace and understanding through song.

Erik received his Master of Music degree in choral conducting this May from the University of British Columbia and his Bachelor of Arts in Music from Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon, where he studied bassoon and voice, education, musicology, and eventually discovered that conducting fused together all the elements about which he is passionate. Erik believes that choral singing is a living metaphor for human harmony, connection, and healing and is thrilled to have found musical vocation in a congregation that shares his commitment to social justice, activism, and making our world a better place.

An Oregon native, Erik loves to be outdoors hiking, gardening, and spending time with his fiancé Sarah and their cat Perry. The three of them will be moving to the Twin Cities in mid-June after their wedding, where she will be starting her Master's in social work at UMN.

Members of the Music Ministry Taskforce included Joanne Sylvander, Andy Barnett, Glen Herrington-Hall, Karen Hyers, Jim Shatek, Jerome Graf and Pastor Tim. Join us in extending a warm and generous welcome to Erik and Sarah.



Calling All Musicians



Consider how your musical gifts can enrich our worship throughout the summer. Instrumentalists, duets, small ensembles, songwriters, of all ages, styles and abilities are welcome. Please contact Andy Barnett with your preference of dates and for help selecting music if needed.

Gay Pride Parade Sunday, June 28

Are you interested in representing Cherokee Park United Church as part of the UCC delegation in this year's Pride Parade? The UCC theme is, "We are Family", highlighting the many expressions of families around the Open and Affirming (ONA) ministries in Minnesota. If you and your family wish to join the UCC delegation come wearing RED. Lineup begins at 10:00 a.m. and the parade begins at 11:00 a.m.

The organizers hope for a large presence at the parade to show the diversity that we have inside the UCC ONA communities. They will fill our 50 marching positions very carefully, desiring mainly families, with six or seven clergy members and the rest being community members and UCC families. Spots will be filled on a first come first serve basis.



Your presence is still needed around the marching groups even if not in the parade. Please meet in one of the following 3 locations.

- Outside the Orpheum; for directions use: 910 Hennepin Ave. Mpls 55402
 - Outside the Gay 90's; for directions use: 408 Hennepin Ave, Mpls, MN 55401
 - Outside of Subway (closest to the festival); 1258 Hennepin Ave, Mpls, MN 55403
- We suggest you arrive around 10 a.m., giving you enough time to find our group.

They are also looking for additional community members and clergy for both days of the festival working in three-hour slots, and to help design and sign creation aids.

If you are interested in participating in the Pride Parade as a representative of Cherokee Park United Church or helping with a UCC presence in the festival, please contact Pastor Tim, ASAP.

A Just Peace in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

The Adult Forum on **Sunday, May 31**, at 9:00 a.m. will be lead by Rev. Glen Herrington-Hall, presenting a resolution that will come before this year's Minnesota Conference UCC Annual Meeting, June 12 - 14. This begins a two-year initiative to respond with new energy and commitment to the pleas of the Christian churches of the Holy Land, expressed in their document "Kairos Palestine," and to be in solidarity with them in their struggle for justice, dignity and liberation.

Our delegates to this year's UCC Conference are Karen Shatek and Karolyn Kleingartner. <http://uccmn.org/events/am2015/>

CPUC Women's Group Plans from Renee

In the last few months some of the regular members spoke with many of you about the Women's Group. We invited you to share why you do or do not participate in the women's group and what programs or events might meet your interests or needs. We heard that some of you would like events that include children, events that are focused on service, programs that will help us learn together, and programs with more biblical or spiritual content. We also found that Friday nights do not work for everyone, and that there is interest in continuing to meet in the summer. We also heard that many of you are looking for ways to develop closer relationships with other women in the church.

We listened, and we have planned three events for this summer. Dates are not firm yet, so watch the newsletters, weekend updates, and bulletins.

- Sharing and spiritual—a discussion on finding solace through poetry, books, and talking with friends
- Social—a week-night picnic for women and children
- Service—a Saturday morning service project for women and children—we have several ideas and are looking at options

Curriculum Writers Group

This past Advent/Christmas and Epiphany resources developed by a writing team from Cherokee Park United were

made available to a worldwide audience through the Australian publication company known as Seasons of the Spirit. The writing was met with such enthusiasm that CPUC was asked to write another series of resources, this time for September – November 2016. The team met for intensive Bible study at the home of Pastor Tim, May 15 – 18 and then members took various writing assignments. The editor, Susan Burt, and her husband Ken, joined us in worship on May 17. CPUC's



writing team includes Sandy Dodson, Okogeamon, Nancy Swanson, Glen Herrington-Hall, Kathryn Price, and Pastor Tim plus Rev. Beth Donaldson and Rev. Kay Welsch from New Brighton UCC. It is an honor for the talents and commitments of Cherokee Park United Church to be recognized in this way.

Farewell Meal

On May 17 we were joined in worship by Rev. Leah Benemerito who has finished a year of study at United Theological Seminary. Glen and Barb Herrington-Hall hosted a farewell meal and have done much to help our Philippine partners feel welcome when in Minnesota. We are grateful to have shared this time with Rev. Leah; she states she now considers Cherokee Park United Church to be her second home. We wish her God's blessings as she returns to a ministry of love and justice in the Philippines.



Helping Others BRIDGE to a Better Life



Bridging, with centers in Bloomington and Roseville, provides household essentials for those in need. This organization started in 1987, with the donation of one baby crib to an Eden Prairie church, which inspired the maintenance man to continue to be a bridge between those who have more than they need, and those who are in need.

Now it serves 5,000 families a year, sharing 10 semi-trailer loads a week of household goods.

We are invited to support this effort by donating items, helping at the center (ages 14+), shopping at their vintage item *Estate Store*, or assembling ready-to-assemble dressers purchased by Bridging. More details at Bridging.org.

Deadline for newsletter articles is the 22nd of the prior month. Please contact editor Susan Strebig at kellystrebig@comcast.net or 651-457-1404.

The newsletter team also consists of: pre-publishing fact editor Phyllis Clark, copyeditor Sara Strebig Pedersen, collate/mail team Phyllis and Cal Clark; winter team Kathy Berghold & Stefan Svlvander.

Mission Trip Fundraiser

Thank you to all who attended and supported the carnival held by the Confirmation youth group. Proceeds will fund their trip to Atlanta to visit former members, the Biehn family, and experience working at a foodshelf supported by their church, at a center serving the needs of the homeless, plus visiting the historic Martin Luther King Jr. sites and the new Civil Rights Museum.



Faith Life Ministry Thanks

Thank you to those who have devoted time to lead our children, including Sandy Dodson who led the K-3rd graders, Andy George who lead the 4th-7th graders and Jen Folkers and Andy Barnett for their monthly children's music experiences. Thank you also to Rebecca Knott who provided faith lessons along with child-care for the very young children and to Eric Jacobsen who led our Adult Forum. And thank you to all who offered to lead a family Families Exploring Spirituality Sunday group; pictured are some who attended the last offering created by Kay Myhrman-Toso and Winnie Williams. We are so blessed with a congregation that welcomes and encourages all to cooperate as one "team" and where so many are willing to take on a leadership role.



Gun Violence Awareness

Nate and Cleo Pendleton's daughter, Hadiya, shined brightly as she performed with her marching band at President Obama's inauguration in 2013. One week later, she was murdered with a gun — shot at a park near her school in Chicago. Her high school classmates will be graduating next month, all wearing orange (the hunters' safety color) in her honor — and to inspire action to stop the gun violence that takes too many lives in this country. Nate and Cleo are asking others to pledge to wear orange on June 2 to show you believe we must do more to end gun violence in our country and to declare June 2, National Gun Violence Awareness Day. <http://act.everytown.org/sign/wear-orange>



Editor's Preference (archives tidbits continued from last month)

1956 ~ After 20 years of the two congregations cooperating and sharing various projects, the executive bodies of the churches met to discuss merging; due to "misunderstanding and disagreement on some basic problems," the merger did not happen until 1968.

1957 ~ The Women's Guild of St. John's held a Smorgasbord fundraiser in October, charging \$1.25 per adult, and .65 for children. (In current dollars \$10.50 and \$ 5.46.) The church's annual budget totaled \$17,405 (\$146,250 today). By 1959, the budget totaled \$25,600 (\$207,700 today).

1968 ~ The church newsletter of St. John's E & R was called the "Messenger," and that of Cherokee Heights Presbyterian Church was called the "Chimes". After their merger it was renamed the Cherokee Chimes and Messenger. (The current title is just "Newsletter", but it still messages and hopefully, chimes.)

1971 ~ The Rev. Harvey Senecal challenged the legality of granting permission for Henry Troje to transfer his liquor license from Orv's Bar on Rice Street to a location at 651 S. Smith, as its door was less than 300 feet from the church property line. (There was discussion whether this meant by the crow flies, or using the street.) The license was granted by the City Council when Troje moved his main door off Smith Avenue to the parking lot side. Dissenting votes were cast by Vic Tedesco and Rosalie Butler.

Next month: a bit of bulletin humor from 1973



Photo Identities revealed at anniversary dinner.



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 - **summer- 9:30 a.m.**

(Sept - May 10:15 a.m.)

Dr. Timothy M. Johnson - Pastor

Erik Peregrine - Director of Music

Andy Barnett - Choral Director

Jill Jackson - Director of Building Blocks Tutorial

Rebecca Knott - Nursery Supervisor

Andrew Gbaa - Custodian

*Diversity may be the hardest thing to live with
and the most dangerous thing to live without.*

William Sloane Coffin Jr., *Credo*