



Cherokee Park United Church

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

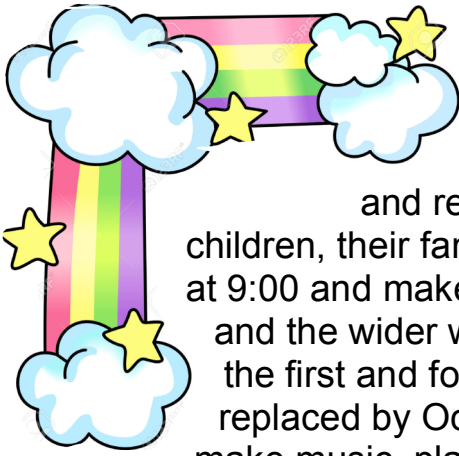
A Progressive Congregation
Theological Elbow Room
Global Music
Community Connected
Kid Friendly

Newsletter October 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
25 -Connect ! for families 9 am -Adult Forum -Congregational mtg after worship						1 <i>October</i> ASDIC
2 -Connect ! for Families 9 am -Adult Forum -Food Drive -Immigration Vigil 2:30-3 pm - *TG 3-5 pm	3	4	5 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm * TG 7-9 pm	6	7 Women's Retreat	8 -ASDIC -Women's Retreat
9 -Adult Forum & Sunday School 9 am -Crop Walk -* TG 7-9 pm	10	11 *TG 7-9 pm	12 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	13 Council 7 pm	14 -Art Crawl & Art Exhibit Opening 6 pm	15 -ASDIC -Art Crawl
16 -Adult Forum -Sunday School	17	18 *TG 9-11 am -Outreach Ministry 7 pm	19 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	20	21 Men's Group 6:30 pm	22 -ASDIC -Fall Clean- up Day
23 -Adult Forum (no SS or Connect)	24	25 *TG 7-9 pm	26 *TG 2-4 pm Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm	27	28	29 no ASDIC- Overcoming Racism Conference
30 -Connect ! for families 9 am *TG noon-2 pm	31	1 <i>November</i>	2 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	3 Loaves & Fishes **	4 Women's Group 7 pm	5
6 --Connect ! for Families 9 am -Adult Forum -Immigration Vigil 2:30-3 pm	7	8 Election Day VOTE	9 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	10	11 Overcoming Racism Conference	12 Overcoming Racism Conference

* TG - Transitional Gatherings

** ℒ & ℑ first Thursday of odd numbered months



Connect!

Our Faith Life programs formerly known as Families Exploring Spirituality and Music Sundays are now retitled, repurposed, and re-energized! Twice each month, Faith Life Ministry invites children, their families, and all in our CPUC family to gather in Fellowship Hall at 9:00 and make connections--connections between church and our homes and the wider world, and connections across generations. (This is generally the first and fourth Sunday, with some exceptions such as October 23 being replaced by October 30.) Throughout the year, we plan to create art and make music, play and pray, wonder and question. We will learn about others' traditions as well as our own, and we will consider how we can use our powers for good. We might put on puppet shows, participate in reader's theater, learn global music, or paint our prayers. We will definitely use our imaginations! If you have any questions about *Connect !* Sundays, please contact a member of the Faith Life Ministry - Josh Welter, Sandy Dodson, and Kay Myhrman-Toso.

Connect ! September 25 - *A Place at the Table* led by Kay Myhrman-Toso

Who do we invite to our tables? Who does Jesus invite? Come explore the way the world eats! Share in a special, "unfolding" story. Create art. Look at the world a new way - maybe even upside-down! Perhaps even use your math skills - but only if you wish to do so! Think about how all of this connects to our faith, to how and who we welcome to church, and to Jesus' invitation to communion.

Connect ! October 2 - World Communion

Sandy Dodson invites all to continue preparing our table for World Communion Sunday. Mmmmm... there's nothing like the smell of fresh baked bread! World communion Sunday provides a wonderful opportunity to explore scripture's stories of manna, grains of wheat and the power of yeast. Our labors will culminate in the morning's communion bread. No snacking until after worship!



Connect ! -October 30--Dia de los Muertos

Join Anna Jennerjohn and Josh Welter to explore remembrance in the context of Day of the Dead. This Mexican holiday is a time when families gather to celebrate loved ones who have passed. Together we'll be armchair travelers as we experience how they celebrate in Mexico (hint: it involves dancing and a picnic in the cemetery). We will make our own *ofrendas* to honor a loved one, pet, or community member who has passed. If you have somebody special you would like to honor, please bring a photograph.

Transitional Gatherings

During the month of October eight gatherings are offered at various homes and the church and at various times of the day and evening so that all members might find a time possible to come and join in. We invite all to share their ideas and hopes for the future of our church. See calendar inside cover for dates. Sign-up sheets are located in Fellowship Hall stage area.

Outreach Ministry

This team will meet on Tuesday, October 18 at 7 p.m. at the home of Jill Jackson. If you are unable to attend, please contact Jill.

CROP Walk - Sunday, October 16 - In search of a coordinator

Many of us usually participate in this annual fundraiser walk but our church is in need of a coordinator - fast! CROP Walk can be organized probably up until the week of.

The materials have already been picked up, so it would be a matter of passing out packets to people who want to do the walk, and then collecting all the pledges at the end of the walk, tallying them up, and then turning what has been collected over to the administrators of CROP, who are there at the site. If youth are involved and want to go together, it might mean driving them there, or coordinating a ride or two. Please call Kathryn Price.



Men's Group

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

CPUC men are invited to join us at the home of Stefan Sylvander. All are welcome.

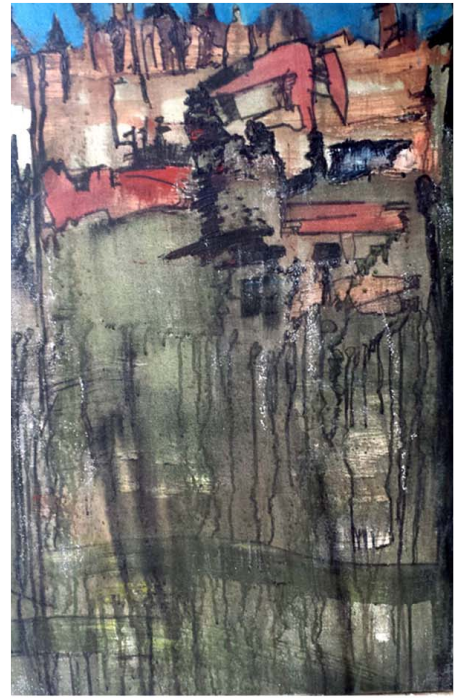
Nursery Invitation

All children three months old through kindergarten are invited to play and learn together in our downstairs nursery every Sunday morning during the church service. Nursery Supervisor Rebecca Knott, along with a congregational helper, focuses on weekly Bible stories and themes using developmentally appropriate songs, books, crafts, and games. The nursery is also available during the 9:00 a.m. Sunday school hour by making prior arrangements with Rebecca.

Abstract Expressionist Landscapes

Our newest art exhibit, paintings (paint and mixed media) by A K Dayton, will open Friday, October 14, and continue through November 13. The opening is a part of the two-day St. Paul Art Crawl, and the artist will give a gallery talk at 7:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

Your help is needed to extend the welcome of our church to our community and the Art Crawl show-goes on Friday and Saturday, October 14 and 15. 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. It is also hoped to also provide an art experience for children for two hours on Saturday; if you are interested in helping with any of the above, please contact Jill Jackson.



Council Corner

At September's meeting, Pastor Joy led the Council in a guided Bible reading and discussion with a focus on themes of transition. It was a time for thoughtful sharing and listening to each other. Knowing the importance of these transition talks, the Council encourages all to participate in the upcoming conversations around our church's future. We are grateful to Pastor Joy's Transition Team for sponsoring the small group gatherings in October.

The Council acknowledged the good work of the Lay Ministry Team this year in organizing the various groups and roles that keep CPUC a vital faith community. Lay Ministry Chair Karolyn Kleingartner mentioned that a few teams (like Justice and Witness and Faith Life) still desires additional members for the 2016-2017 program year. Please let Karolyn or one of the other Lay Ministry Team members know if you are interested.

We heartily congratulate Helma Rogers on her baptism in late August. Helma recently discovered she never was baptized as an infant in North Dakota. Pastor Joy baptized Helma with her family gathered at Helma's residence.

Children's Message

Pastor Joy has been including the children in worship in a special way by inviting them up for their own "message." The first opportunity was a sharing of promises before the reading about of God's rainbow of promise; the second was an invitation to do a headstand and view the world upside down, as the beatitudes seem to turn things upside down, or to view the world through glasses given them to see things differently.



CLEAN-UP-FIX-UP DAY

Saturday, October 22, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Come share in an hour or more or more of organizing or cleaning at our annual fall clean-up day. Work inside or outside, or at whatever you have noticed needs sprucing up. (And please let us know if there is something you see that needs to be added to our to-do list.) Treats and light lunch will be provided. Sign-up sheet is available after worship or phone/email Susan.



Overcoming Racism Conference

Cherokee Park United Church is among the sponsors of this year's conference, entitled "Overcoming Racism: Disrupt Racism As Usual", to be held at Metropolitan State University, October 28 – 29. (Disruption is not synonymous with physical violence)

If you are interested, please speak with Okogyeamon. **Because of the congregation's sponsorship we are entitled to five free admissions.** Registration is now open and does fill up. More details are found at www.overcomingracism.org

The conference is organized by a volunteer group, FREC (Facilitating Racial Equity Collaborative). Now in its 6th year, the conference and FREC were outgrowths of a 2008 gathering hosted by the Antiracism Team of Cherokee Park United Church and ASDIC Metamorphosis.

Email Message from Pastor Porfirio in El Salvador

Translation.

September 1, 2016: We already had a first meeting with the Farming Collective: With great joy we prayed, laughed and on a makeshift table enjoyed a tasty drink steeped in much meaning because it is made of "tender, young" corn (not ripe). This coming Sunday we will try to meet once more with a worship service in solidarity with the immigrants. A warm embrace to you all. Porfirio.

Ya tuvimos un primer encuentro con el colectivo de produccion agricola: Con mucho gozo oramos, reimos y en una mesa improvisada disfrutamos tambien de una bebida sabrosa y de mucho significado, pues esta hecha de mais "tierno". (no maduro). Este domingo proximo trataremos de reunirnos una vez mas para unirnos a la plegaria solidaria por los inmigrantes . Abrazos. Porfirio.



Literacy Night at Riverview Elementary School

October 26, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Cherokee Park United is partnering with *West Siders for Strong Schools* to promote special events at West Side schools this year. Support our West Side Schools by attending this first event (160 E. Isabel St., site of Building Blocks the past two years.) See what the students are learning this year; view literacy activities and community partner displays, and enjoy a free supper. Whether you live, work or worship on the West Side, come along. Would you like to help out at the CPUC booth? Contact Jill Jackson or Joanne Sylvander.

How the Faith Community is responding to yet another act of violence against a Black man. This must stop. Submitted by Pastor Joy

I was getting ready for bed on Tuesday when I heard the news that Keith Lamont Scott was killed by Charlotte police. I was watching friend's ... live feeds of the protests happening. All I could think was, "I am sitting in my paralyzing fear, my boiling anger, my questioning faith, my pacifying privilege." Through all those thoughts, a tune sprang forth "We who believe in freedom cannot rest until it comes. Until the killing of Black men, Black mothers' sons is as important as the killing of White men, White mothers' sons." (Ella's Song)

I realized that I could no longer let my fear, anger, or privilege keep me from living out my faith's truth: that life is precious, valuable, sacred. Later that evening, I headed to Charlotte for a vigil that was held in Uptown. As the vigil was ending, I got the news that a protester had been shot. For me, it was clear, my prayers need feet. I joined with fellow organizers, colleagues, and pastors. We marched through the streets of Charlotte as a peaceful witness to the fundamental teaching of our faith - love your neighbor. Police showed up in riot gear. It was clear who was there for peace. I joined in chanting "#BlackLivesMatter," "No justice! No Peace!," and "Hands Up, Don't Shoot!." Police divided our organized witness, used force and tear gas to push us away from one another. Black person after black person was cuffed. White folks stood between protesters and police, realizing they were at less risk.

More Light is committed to being in conversation and action against racism. We acknowledge that the LGBTQ community is not immune from the sins of white supremacy and want to resource our congregations, chapters, and members to be aware of white privilege and how to show up as a white ally for racial justice. There has been a call to action from several groups in Charlotte (see below). We join together on September 24 for this public witness. More Light Presbyterians #BlackLivesMatter, Joey Lopez Organizing/Program Manager



Covenanting Sunday



The sermon at our annual celebration of commitment and shared leadership was given by members Andy George and Nancy Wall. We are thankful for their wonderful testimony, sharing portions of their spiritual journeys, seeking and finding the touch of God and a place where they "belong".

Adult Forum: Sundays, 9:00-10:00 a.m.

This Fall's Adult Forum continues with a Bible study on Acts. A free study guide is available at the Baker Street church entrance. Please join us for this small group discussion in the Parent Room.



Tomie pointed out a *Monarch Butterfly* enjoying our hydrangeas at the Manomin entrance during Sunday worship



Women's Affinity Discussion Group

Friday, November 4, 7:00 p.m.

We will meet at the home of Lynne Bates. (The October gathering is the women's retreat.) Please join us, and also possibly consider hosting a meeting in the future.

Loaves and Fishes

Thursday, November 3, 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. There is not a lot of actual cooking to do as the main item is donated already cooked by a local restaurant. Help for an hour or more to prepare, serve, and/or clean up. Young people are welcome to volunteer. Contact Michele.



Genocide and Resilience of Native People of Minnesota

Bearing Witness Retreat

Thursday-Friday-Saturday, November 17-19

...to bear witness to the continuing genocide and historical trauma suffered by the Native Peoples of Minnesota; at *Mni Sni* (Cold Springs), Fort Snelling State Park, and *Oheyawahi* (Pilot Knob) and Cherokee Park United Church.

Cherokee Park United Church is co-sponsoring as well as hosting this event, a collaborative effort with Clouds in Water Zen Center, Healing Minnesota Stories, and other organizations and the bearing witness practice. We have six discounted tickets for this event; we will also need volunteers to serve as greeters and kitchen support throughout the retreat (who may also be full retreat participants).



<http://cloudsinwater.org/2016/05/12/bearing-witness-retreat/>

Contact Joanne Sylvander, on behalf of Outreach Ministries and the Bearing Witness Planning Team. Brochures with a full schedule are available at the church; a detailed sign-up for volunteering will be available soon.



In Memoriam

Margery Otto, who co-founded the Anti-Racism Study Dialogue Circles (ASDIC) with Okogyemon, passed away on September 17 at age 64 after her prolonged and fearless fight against cancer. Margery received an undergraduate degree from Harvard and a doctorate from Columbia Law School; she was an associate at the law firm of Dorsey & Whitney and later a partner of Kaplan, Strangis, and Kaplan P.A. until 1998 when she left the practice of law to pursue her passion for social and racial justice. Her efforts have positively impacted the lives and hearts of many people, including those who attended the ASDIC circles at our church.

Getting Settled (excerpted)

from Tom Liddle, September, 2016

Tom, our 2013-2014 pastoral intern at CPUC, and his wife Monica serve with the Protestant Church of East Timor, funded by Disciples Mission Fund, Our Church's Wider Mission, One Great Hour of Sharing and pledging churches including CPUC.



It's been a busy two months in Timor! We go back and forth between feeling totally at home, like we never left Lospalos, and wondering where on earth we are. It's a confusing but natural part of making the transition to living in a culture so different from our own.

A few months ago I read a devotional that spoke of the spiritual journey as "liminal space"... that experience of being on a threshold or a boundary between two places. It's a "space" in which certainties crumble and ambiguities abound...For us, East Timor is just such a space.

We arrived in Dili on June 22 and were warmly welcomed by our good friends and Global Ministries partners in the Protestant Church in East Timor ... These initial weeks in Lospalos we've been busy fixing up our residence in the back of Immanuel Clinic, reconnecting with old friends, and collaborating with the staff of Clinic Immanuel to develop a project proposal for a community health promotion program.

Hannah and Simon are doing well but have had their moments of homesickness. Yet, Hannah especially has enjoyed reconnecting with her old buddies and is pretty much fluent in Tetun again. Unfortunately Simon has yet to find some friends his age, but thankfully intergenerational play is much more common in Timor than in the U.S., so Simon has been included by a lot of Hannah's friends.

Monica has been busy in the clinic, seeing patients and Tom has begun doing pastoral work. On the downside, both of us have been sick. Tom got it first: a nasty bout of bronchitis and body aches right after we got to Lospalos. Shortly after it hit Monica.

We are enjoying a lot of quality family time, cooking together, playing games and, starting a couple weeks ago, home schooling the kids in the afternoon. There's no doubt that challenges abound. In our ministry, and in balancing home with work, as well as finding creative ways to help the kids thrive, we have room to grow and your prayers are welcome. And yet we are thankful to God – and you, our supporters -- for the opportunity to be here on your behalf.

http://www.globalministries.org/getting_settled

Cherokee Park United Church

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

Open & Affirming, Multicultural, Antiracist

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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

Rebecca Knott - Nursery Supervisor

Andrew Gbaa - Custodian

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

The newsletter team also consists of: pre-
publishing fact editor Phyllis Clark; collate/mail
teams Phyllis & Cal Clark, Stefan Sylvander &
Kathy Bergthold. Thanks to Tom Murphy for
his many photo contributions.

*We all do better
when we all do better.*

Paul Wellstone