



Cherokee Park United Church ~ September 2016

Mission Statement

Cherokee Park United Church is called to a life of compassionate justice
and to embody the boundless love of Jesus.

We confess that communities of faith have not always celebrated
the dignity and joyful diversity of all God's creation.

Therefore, we declare Cherokee Park United Church to be
an inclusive, multicultural, anti-racist, justice-seeking,
environmentally-responsible community of faith.

We seek a new humanity
where sexual orientation, age, gender, culture or differing abilities
are no longer a barrier to our living in just relationship.

To fulfill our mission we will turn to the Holy Spirit.
and to each other with our questions and for our answers.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1 <i>Sept</i> Loaves & Fishes	2 Women's Group 7 pm	3
4 -Food Drive -Acolytes reignited -Faith Action Vigil 2:30 pm	5 (Labor Day)	6 -Outreach Mtg -Food drying class	7 First Choir practice 6:45 pm	8 Council	9 Wacipi	10 -ASDIC -Wacipi & food prep am
11 -Covenanting Sunday -Worship start time returns to 10:15 am -Wacipi	12 -Wacipi cleanup -Worship & Music joint mtg	13	14 -Choir -Faith Life 7 pm	15 Transitions Info mtg	16 Men's Group 6:30 pm	17 ASDIC
18 -First week of Sunday School and -Adult Forum	19	20	21 Choir	22	23	24 ASDIC
25 -(first) Children's Music & More 9 am -Adult Forum -Congregational Mtg after worship	26	27	28 Choir	29	30	1 <i>October</i> ASDIC
2 - Adult Forum -Food Drive -Faith Action Vigil 2:30 pm	3	4	5 Choir	6	7 Women's Retreat	8 -ASDIC -Women's Retreat
9 -Adult Forum -Sunday School	10	11	12 Choir	13	14 Art Crawl	15 ASDIC Art Crawl
16 -Adult Forum -Sunday School	17	18	19 Choir	20 CCE fete Porfirio	21	22 ASDIC Fall Clean-up Day
23 -Adult Forum -Music with Children (hopefully)	24	25	26 Choir	27	28	29 no ASDIC- Overcoming Racism Conference

Loaves and Fishes

Thursday, September 1

Join us at St. Matthew's Church to provide a hot meal for those in need. Help is needed to prepare (3:30 - 5:00 p.m.), serve (4:45 - 6:15 p.m.), and/or clean up until 7 p.m. (at the latest). Young people are welcome to help. If you plan to help or have questions, please contact Michelle Rehm Johnson.



Women's Group

The group begins another program year on Friday, September 2 at the home of Karen Shatek at 1890 Stryker Ave. in West St. Paul. We will gather at 7:00 p.m. to share light refreshments followed by a discussion of a selected topic.



We will now be known as the **Women's Affinity Group** as we are open to those who identify as women and those who identify along a feminine spectrum.

Participants are encouraged to consider hosting an upcoming meeting, typically the first Friday of the month. A signup sheet will be available at the meeting or contact Jill Jackson to volunteer for a specific date (open dates are December 2, 2016 and January 6, April 7, and May 5, 2017.)

The Women's Retreat will take the place of the October meeting. Please join us!

Men's Group

The men's group will meet Friday September 16 at the home of Jim Shatek, with a light supper starting at 6:30 p.m.

Outreach Ministry

This team will meet on Tuesday, September 13 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Jill Jackson. If you are unable to attend please contact Jill.

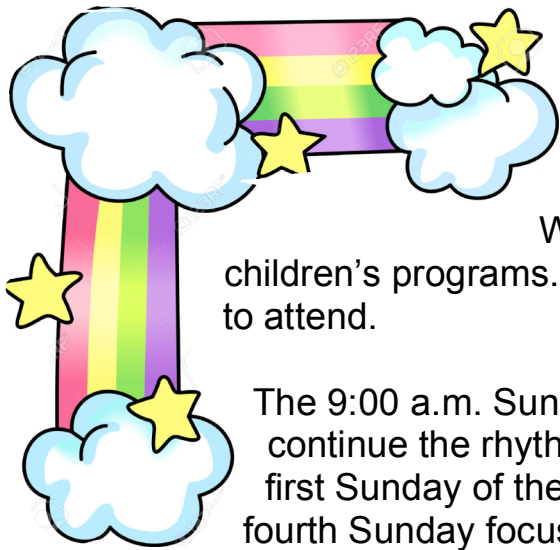
To All CPUC Friends and Newcomers

Are you considering becoming a member at Cherokee Park United? An Inquirer's Class will be held this fall if there are people wanting to participate. Please contact Jill Jackson (above) by September 25 with your interest or questions. Class sessions will be held in late October or early November.

Covenanting Sunday - September 11

On this special Sunday we lift up and celebrate the many ministries of the whole church. We will recognize all who have committed to joining in the work of CPUC. And as is our custom, the sermon is provided by members of the congregation who are invited to share their faith story; this year Andy George and Renee Pfenning will speak. The service will be followed by a brunch hosted by our Lay Ministry Team.

It is not too late to join any specific ministry for the coming year. If you are interested in any area or have a talent or energy to share, please contact Karolyn Kleingartner or Pastor Joy.



Sunday School for Children

Parents have been sent an email with this year's schedule and plans. If you have not previously been involved, please contact the ministry chair, Josh Welter, to be added to all future communications about children's programs. You do not need to be a registered member of CPUC to attend.

The 9:00 a.m. Sunday school hour will begin on **September 18**. We will continue the rhythm of last year with an all-family Sunday event on the first Sunday of the month, two consecutive Sundays in class, and a fourth Sunday focused on music and youth participation in worship.

Second and Third Sundays:

Classes for K-3 led by Sandy Dodson and Sophie LeMeur will creatively explore familiar and not-so-familiar stories in the Bible.

Classes for grades 4+ led by Andy George will examine scripture, paying particular attention to central claims of our faith and their relationship to today's social justice issues. We thank these generous teachers for their time and devotion!

Fourth Sunday:

We are hoping to continue this experience to help the children be more actively involved in worship through music, drama, art, and movement/movement. We have two creative people in place for 2/3 of the hour, but still need one or more person(s) who would like to teach/lead music for 20 minutes once a month (about seven times total).

Faith Life Ministry

Planning for this ministry will be done at this meeting held at the church on Wednesday, September 14, starting at 7:00 p.m.

Dear Friends of Cherokee Park United Church,

Last week I sent your mission statement to some of my more progressive friends. In the subject line I said, “Finally, a church where I can worship – and be myself.” It was my subtle way of inviting them to your church. My sense is many of you are here for the same reason.



CPUC is a unique congregation and has a most important purpose. As I mentioned on Sunday, social justice is in your DNA. Your history is about equality. Your voices sing out its passion. And I treasure this opportunity to share your vision for a more gentle world. God knows how much we need churches like you.

Enough bragging – we do have some transitional work to do before you call a settled pastor. So I have an agenda. As I see it, we have at least five developmental tasks during this transitional period: come to terms with CPUC history; explore and discover a new identity; allow and empower leadership; commit to new leadership and a future.

We will take as much time as we need to wonder, imagine, and do the necessary transitional work. No reason to hurry. For future newsletters, I plan to give you an update, about how we (and I) are doing as we write about this new chapter. I will also elaborate on the meaning and purpose of the developmental tasks.

Our first task is to come to terms with CPUC’s history: Joshua 4:6-7 in the Old Testament said: “When your children ask in time to come, what these stones mean to you? Then you tell them, ‘So these stones shall be to the Israelites, a memorial forever.’ ” Memory shapes us, influences how we see ourselves and the world, and informs our future. If we use it well, memory enables people, communities, and churches to become more whole, mature, and better able to make wise use of the learned experiences. The broader and deeper the memory becomes, the better able you can do ministry. There will be different memories and different perspectives on the same memories. Some of you might recall only the “good old days” while others will think of just “the bad times”. I do believe we will be much better off if we deal honestly and openly with our history. And so we will take intentional time to come to terms with CPUC’s history, review it, and acknowledge it with both its beauty and blemishes. We will not belabor the history or we can over do it. And we have other tasks to work on as well.

How do we start? The transition/ interim team will soon invite you to join a small conversation group at one of their homes. Topics will include memory, expectations and disappointments, and reasons to celebrate! I encourage you to participate in one of the gatherings. Every voice needs to be heard as we travel this adventure.

Peace for the journey,

Pastor Jay

"Listen to your life. See it for the fathomless mystery it is. In the boredom and pain of it, no less than in the excitement and gladness: touch, taste, smell your way to the holy and hidden heart of it, because in the last analysis all moments are key moments, and life itself is grace." Frederick Buechner

Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota 17th Annual Wacipi

Friday-Sunday, September 9-11

The time is here for gathering volunteers to help with our annual support of our Mdewakanton Dakota friends. Our primary commitment is the provision of food for 250 people at the closing feast on Sunday evening. This is a major undertaking and many hands are needed to prep and cook and socialize!

We will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 10 in our kitchen, and finish in early afternoon. Volunteers of all ages are welcome.



We also will need people to schlep food over to the site on Sunday, people to serve, and folks to bring things back to the church afterwards.

Clean up help is needed Monday morning in the kitchen. Maria McNamara and Karen Shatek will have sign up sheets with times and dates and are happy to answer any questions about the wacipi or ways to be involved. Please call or see us after church!

Attend the Wacipi

If you have never experienced this local tradition, maybe this year is to be your first. There is plenty of parking in the St. Peter's Church parking lots at Sibley Memorial Hwy just south of the Mendota Bridge. Buy a \$5 entry button to support the community (but this is not required) and then enjoy the 1:00 p.m. Grand Entries on Saturday or Sunday followed by dancing and drumming, sample native dishes and visit the booths selling handmade items. Please be respectful of the native custom of wearing modest clothing and leave your pets at home. This is a sacred time as well as a celebration of culture.

Sabbath for Women: In the Spirit of Sophia

Women's Retreat - Friday-Saturday, October 7-8

Where is hope in a time such as this?

Why is it so difficult to find spiritual space in my busy life?

How can I take care of myself without the guilt?

Are there others to share the journey?



You are invited to ponder these questions and experience some sacred space at the ARC (**A**ction, **R**eflection, **C**elebration) Retreat Center in a beautiful setting. This is a time for you to relax, renew your spirits, converse and re-create. Delicious food is prepared and served - no washing dishes! This is also an opportunity to get to know our retreat leader, Pastor Joy.

Sign-up forms need to be returned by September 11. Call Karen Shatek with any questions.

Transitions – West Side Group Information Session

Transition Twin Cities helps local groups organize around issues pertaining to life quality and protection of our planet and its resources. This is a grassroots, volunteer-led effort. Organizing interests include:

- Reducing energy use and making the switch to more renewable energy sources
- Supporting a healthy, local food system
- Consuming differently and producing less waste
- Building a stronger local economy
- Increasing their transit choices
- Preparing for more extreme weather and a changing climate
- Helping people prepare for change while building a stronger, more cohesive community



There is interest in starting a West Side Transitions group. An information session will be held on **Thursday, September 15 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Cherokee Park United Social Hall**. Please share this news with your neighbors and plan to attend. If you have questions, please contact Leslie MacKenzie, at 612-810-3216 (cell) <http://transitiontwincities.org/>



Okogyeamon was ordained into ministry and installed on August 31 at Cherokee Park United Church as Minister in Antiracism Social Justice Education and Advocacy. The service was a celebration of his ministry, including both United Church of Christ and Presbyterian Church (USA) leadership, as well as Native American and traditional African elements. It was a rich, captivating service, as much about our shared calling of inclusion as it was about the life work that has brought Okogyeamon to claim his call to ministry and the wider church to affirm it with this ordination.

In addition to the beautiful and unique stole presented to him by his family, the CPUC Church Council presented him with the stole pictured here. It was created by Rev. Dawn Carlson-Conn, Minister of Liturgical Arts at Robbinsdale UCC. Dawn creates and teaches through *Called to Create*, a ministry about which she is very passionate; it was with Dawn that members of CPUC created the 'communion quilt' we use as an altar cloth when we celebrate the Lord's Supper. The fabrics chosen for Okogyeamon's stole speak to his African heritage as well as being liturgical colors.

Neoteric Chamber Winds Concert at Cherokee Park United

On August 9 the Neoteric Chamber Winds entertained a crowd of almost 50 people in our sanctuary. Though the evening was warm, the music was varied, lively, and flowing. The ensemble played rare musical works from recent centuries combining woodwind, brass, piano and voice. We are grateful to member, Kristyn Aasen, for connecting us with this talented, friendly group of artists. Thanks to all who helped with and attended the show.



Lost and Found

Please check this box inside the main entrance door of Fellowship Hall for any of your missing items. Items not claimed by the end of September will be donated to Goodwill or otherwise repurposed. For the future, the box is usually located on the shelf above the coat rack next to Parent's Room.

Free Stuff

As we continue to clean off shelves and cupboards, we find non-used items that may be of interest to you and will place them in Fellowship Hall for a few weeks before disposing of them. Currently we have found many music CD's, so check them out! We also have extra copies of great or helpful books that have been used in the recent past for inquiry classes or Adult Forum. The books will be found in the bookcase shared with the marketplace Free Trade coffee and tea.

Growing Westside

Food preservation classes are being held this summer and fall in our kitchen or at Casa Guadalupana. The eight classes are offered to teach how to continue the blessing of the harvest throughout the year. Remaining classes at CPUC are on Tuesdays, August 30, 6:00-8:00 p.m. (salsa/ canning tomatoes), and September 6, 6:00-8:00 p.m. (food-drying)



West Side Farmers' Market -Saturdays through mid-October, Icy Cup parking lot, 63 George St. W., 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

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.

Thank you to our monthly collate/mail team Phyllis & Cal Clark.

Antiracism Study Dialogue Circles

- dedicated to the vision of a *racially just society*



Join us for a ten-week Saturday morning study circle, September 10 through November 19, (but not October 29) to come together across racial and ethnic lines and build community while also developing the knowledge and skills to effectively address racism. (Flexible workshops are also offered for those who cannot make this time commitment.) Sessions are from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Cherokee Park United Church.

ASDIC was started in 2004 by Herb Perkins (a Ph.D., a former monk, and now an ordained UCC minister) and Margery Otto, a lawyer. Their work is strongly influenced by Joe Feagin, whose writings include "The White Racial Frame." (Please obtain a copy of this book from Amazon.com before the Circle begins.) Perkins now goes by the name Okogyeamon, a name given to him in Ghana. (It means "He who awakens a village in danger.") While Otto has retired, she and Okogyeamon together have trained a number of skilled facilitators to help continue and expand this important work. Sue Hammersmith, PhD now co-leads.

ASDIC has facilitated more than 150 workshops and dialogue groups with more than 2,200 community participants, including teachers, students, nonprofit and government staff, and members of religious organizations. Okogyeamon and Otto helped create the annual Overcoming Racism Conference in St. Paul, now held at Metropolitan State University.

Workshop themes include: identity and socialization; the history and power of racialized ideas; seeing racial ideas in thoughts, actions, and systems; facilitating communication and understanding; challenging racialized ideas and redirecting conversations; strategies for individual and organizational practice; applications to healing, care-giving, mentoring, and leadership.

ASDIC programs help participants explore their own formation as "raced" persons within the system of U.S. racism. They promote a non-judging environment and use a carefully designed curriculum that builds relationships of mutual understanding and empathy – forming deep and lasting connections. Facilitators can help members of an organization into healthier and more productive relationships.

Please direct questions to: Okogyeamon at hperkins01@gmail.com or 612-558-0452. To register, please fill out the form below, and mail with check (payable to "Cherokee Park United Church, Fiscal Agent for ASDIC") to ASDIC Antiracism Study-Dialogue Circles, 371 Baker Street West, St. Paul MN 55107.

Fall ASDIC Circle Registration, September 10 - November 19, 2016

Name_____Phone_____

Email_____Mailing address_____

Organization or affiliation_____

Any special accommodations/dietary needed_____

CIRCLE whichever applies to you.

- Two free registrations are available for members of CPUC
- (cost of text and manual also could be covered by our AR ministry)
- \$365 Individual participant -may be paid in three payments of \$122
- Need-based scholarship - up to 30% discount or payment option may be possible if you contact Okogyeamon, 612-558-0452 or hperkins01@gmail.com
- \$ 935 Non-profit or governmental agency staff development
- \$1400 Staff development participant
- \$45 ASDIC manual: please order me a hard copy **(required)** OR
- \$25 ASDIC manual electronic version
- \$50 non-refundable deposit required unless other arrangements are made
- I am enclosing an additional amount for the tax-deductible scholarship fund.
- I plan to attend all ten sessions. CEU certificates available at no charge.

(Please obtain a copy of the White Racial Frame, Joe R. Feagin, available at Amazon, before the Circle begins.)

Fees contribute to the cost of food, program materials (videos and handouts), and stipends to facilitators. There is NO PROFIT gained through the hosting of community dialogue circles. DONATIONS in support of the program are welcome (www.asdicircle.org). This ASDIC Circle is sponsored with the support of Cherokee Park United Church. [**www.cherokeeparkunited.org**](http://www.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

Summer Sunday Worship - 9:30 a.m.

(Starting September 11, 10:15 a.m.)

Rev. Joy Smith - Interim Pastor

Abe Hunter, Director of Music Ministries

Rebecca Knott - Nursery Supervisor

Andrew Gbaa - Custodian

*The right defeated
is stranger than
the wrong triumphant.*

Martin Luther King, Jr.