



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 November 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
29	30	31	1 NOV Finance 1 pm	2 Loaves & Fishes	3 -Women's Group 7 pm -Overcoming Racism Conf	4 (cont) ORC
5 -Daylight Saving Time "Fall back" -Adult & Childrens' Hour 9 am Reformation 500.1	6	7 -Remember to Vote! -Sacred Spaces 4:30 pm -Transition 7 pm	8	9 Council 7 pm	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Worship Min 7 pm	17 Sacred Justice Ministry 5 pm	18
19 Pledge Sunday	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1 DEC	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Future dates:

* **Loaves & Fishes** first Thursday of the odd numbered months

Just for fun - another aerial view of CPUC

In this promotional Youtube done by Sundial Solar Energy company, you'll see our building included, around seconds 43 through 48.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V_slkT1Ff78&feature=youtu.be

Loaves & Fishes



November 2, Thursday, 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. Help for an hour or more to prepare, serve (3:45 - 5:00 p.m.), and clean up (4:40-6:30 p.m.). Contact Michele at michelerj@comcast.net.

Women's Affinity Group

November 3, Friday, 7:00 p.m.

The Women's Affinity Group will meet at the home of Sandy Settevig. Light refreshments will be served and a lively discussion shared. We look forward to a time of building relationships and sharing our lives with each other.

If you are interested in hosting a monthly meeting in the coming year, (usually the first Friday at 7:00 p.m.), please contact Jill Jackson.



Please note page 11 for your opinion on future women's retreats.

Participate in the Reformation?

November 5, Sunday, 9:00-10:00 a.m. (Adult Forum & Sunday School combined)

All ages are invited to our intergenerational event, *Reformation 500.1* ~ we're not Lutheran, but we are Reformed! Join Kay Myhrman-Toso in Fellowship Hall and bring a friend.

What was the church like, back in the Middle Ages? What made Martin Luther so mad? How did "protest" songs help him share his message? What in the world did a Diet of Worms have to do with the church? We'll travel back in time and around our church building, discovering the sights and sounds of the Reformation. Keep your eyes and ears open for some special guests along the way! Come spend some time in our scriptorium, try your hand at re-formed art, write or draw your own church-door messages, or check out some of the deeper issues of being reformed, then and now.



Worship Ministry Meeting

November 16, Thursday, 7:00 p.m.

We will meet at the church. Please let Sasha know if you are unable to come.

The Many Dimensions of Sacred Justice Ministry

(temporary new name for Anti-Racism and Justice & Witness)

November 17, Friday, 5:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the home of Maria McNamara.

Stewardship in Times of Transition

At this time of transition, I have been thinking about stewardship. You and I both know that growing in giving, relies upon a clear sense of vision and mission. Jesus encouraged the disciples with a clear task at the Great Commission basically to “do justice, show mercy and walk humbly”.

The concept of stewardship helps us remember that our financial and time commitments are about nurturing and protecting that which is entrusted to our care, and to do so for God, and for the good of the kingdom. We are co-creators of God’s dream that calls us to make the world a little better.

In the heart of stewardship lies in the idea that none of us, is individually “the mission”. We are merely tools God uses to save the world - and one important task during this transition time, is to know how to hand off the mission to the next leader. In times of transition, your steady giving and stewardship are more important than ever.

God will use many people and many tactics to complete the mission of this church: that is to save lives and set people free because we follow the ways of Jesus. Many leaders will be a part of that mission. We all rely on those who come before and after. Remember, especially in change and transition, God’s incredible promise is a future with hope and so many possibilities. I guarantee you, CPUC has a unique mission.

You will be receiving pledge materials in the next few weeks; Pledge Sunday is November 19 and during the service, you will be invited to give your pledges. If you are not in worship, please mail it to the church.

And thank you, for all you do around this wonderful place - the giving of your money and talents and time. Thanks for teaching me about Stewardship.

Pastor Jay



Transition Team Update from Andy George & the Transition Team

We're launching the Church Planning Inventory on Sunday, November 5. This survey will help us gather information about how members and attendees feel about the activities of the church, what we do best or worst, worship, education, theology, and more. It is a vital tool for the transition process and the pastor search.

- We'll provide both online and paper options for completing the survey. Surveys will be entered anonymously.
- We ask that all surveys be completed by Sunday, November 19.
- Transition team members will be here to help. If you'd like assistance filling out the paper copies, we'll be available after worship on Sunday, November 11, during Fellowship.
- You do not need to be an official member to complete a survey. The thoughts and feelings of everyone who's a part of our community are valuable.
- Transition team members will reach out to folks on the periphery of the congregation, who for whatever reason, aren't in regular attendance. It's just as important to get opinions from the people who aren't showing up Sunday mornings as it is to hear from our regulars. If you have friends who fit into this category, please encourage them to complete the survey.
- If you have children who've gone through the confirmation program, whether or not they actually got confirmed, or even attend, we want them to fill out the survey too. The opinions of teens and young adults are just as necessary as our 25 and 50-year members.
- Once we have results from the Inventory, we'll share that with the congregation.

The inventory was created by the Hartford Institute for Religious Research. It's a tool that hundreds of churches have used to assist with planning and pastoral searches. This winter we'll also complete a Mission Study where we look at the needs of the West Side and match that to our talents and gifts as we update the church's mission statement. Keep your eyes peeled for more information on that.

Adult Forum Update

2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays 9:00-10:00 a.m.

In December, the Adult Forum will start reading and discussing the book ***Waking Up White*** by Debby Irving. This book shares Irving's mid-life realization of her white privilege. She goes on to explain her own transformation and efforts to undo the unfair racial, cultural and systemic ramifications of privilege.

All who wish to participate are welcome. Please find a copy of the book to use. If you have trouble with that, please let Jill Jackson know. Discussion schedule will be found in future bulletins and newsletters and an outline of the chapters to read for each session is available at church. Please join us!

Council Corner – October Meeting Notes

- The Council encourages all members to attend the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, October 29 after worship. The purpose is to elect the Council Class of 2020 and to vote on a Heating System Campaign. The campaign is a fund-raising drive to replace the church's boiler and hot water heater. Information about the campaign was shared with the congregation in early October.
- The Council updated and approved the church's Sexual Harassment and Exploitation Policy.
- The Council began discussion about the implementation of a Personnel Ministry Team for Cherokee Park United.

Council leadership remains grateful for the prayers and participation of the people of CPUC during this transitional period. Please connect with Council members or Pastor Joy with ideas or feedback you wish to share as we work together to discern our church's future.



Congregational Meeting Results

The meeting, held after worship on Sunday, October 29, resulted in affirmative votes on both issues brought forth.



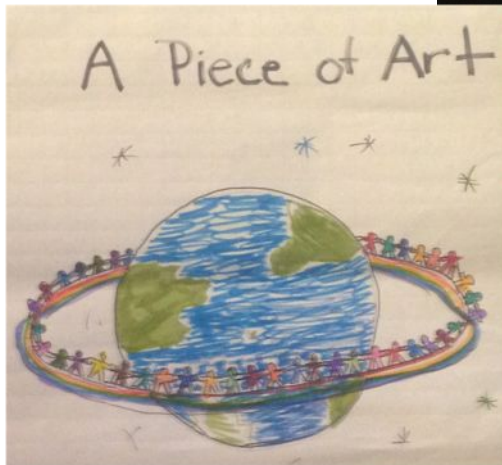
A decision was made to proceed with the capital campaign to fund a new heating system and the completion of roofing; this campaign will run concurrently with the annual stewardship drive, scheduled for November 1-18.

In addition, council members for the Class of 2020 were elected, and they are (first term) Tomie Evans and Susan Strebig, and (second term) Karen Hyers, and Jerome Graf.

West Siders for Strong Schools is once again partnering with West Side schools to celebrate what's happening in neighborhood schools. The first community event in the 2017-18 year is *The Works Family Science Night* on Thursday, November 30 at Riverview School, 160 Isabel St. E. from 5 to 7 p.m. These evenings are free and dinner is provided. Cherokee Park United and other community agencies will be there supporting public schools and sharing about our church with those in attendance. All are welcome. Please join us!

Women's Retreat

The congregation received the benefit of our women who gathered for retreat last month. Ranging in age from 14 to 80+, they shared their stories, played and worked together—sometimes work is play—and apparently, ate cake! They gifted us one Sunday morning with their insights expressed through prayer, art, music, and movement.



When the Hokey Pokey becomes a spiritual exercise...



You put love in, you take hate out, you put love in and you shake it all about.
You go to C - P - U - C and you turn yourself around, that's what it's all about.
You put trust in, you take fear out, you put trust in....
You put forgiveness in, you take judgment out...

Waiting for Snow

Joe and Kelly are mapping out a strategy for dealing with this winter's snow. Joe started doing our snow shoveling last year and proved to be a very dependable young man. He has played football and is now into wrestling too, so he'll use his muscle in many ways. We are happy to have him back for a second year.

Deadline for newsletter 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 editors Phyllis Clark and Mary Murphy, collate/mail teams Phyllis & Cal Clark, Stefan Sylvander & Kathy Bergthold.



Fall Clean Up



Thanks to the fourteen members who spent a good part of their Saturday to spiff up and clean up inside and out of our building. Sandy, Russ, and Diane were willing to get down and dirty and sawed, clipped, and packed 450 gallons of wild vines and saplings growing along the north fence line. (There is still much more to go, but the truck was full!) Other areas you may have noticed - all the pews and sanctuary woodwork were oiled and buffed, lower cobwebs Spiffer-chased, tops of fan

blades dusted, hymnals erased of pencil marks (although Jan & Jaime found a great pencil sketch of Tim and maybe did not erase that?), kitchen cleaned and organized, freezer defrosted, some fellowship hall chairs cleaned, pastor's a.c. unit taken down for winter storage, children's worship bags rebooked, tablecloth cabinet organized and inventoried, and there was still time to eat pizza together.

The Wacipi Feast Serving Line-Up



Westminster Town Hall Forums

Tuesday, November 28, Noon

Crime and Punishment in Black America: Speaker James Forman, Jr., author of the book *Locking Up Our Own*, founder of the Maya Angelou Public Charter School serving incarcerated and at-risk youth, professor of law at Yale Law School.

Forums are free and open to All and held at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nicollet Mall and 12th Street in downtown Minneapolis and are one hour in length. Q & A follows each presentation. Music precedes each forum 30 minutes in advance, and a public reception follows. 612-332-3421 westminsterforum.org

Daylight Saving Time change November 5



Greetings from Timor-Leste!

Dear Cherokee Park Friends,

10-25-17

We are writing to personally thank you for your generous contributions to our mission appointment through Global Ministries. We are grateful to be here on behalf of the church as an expression of its commitment to the wider world.

Our work from day-to-day is both gratifying and challenging. Tom has been working on continuing education for pastors in the Protestant Church of Timor Leste (IPTL) while also serving as a local church pastor. Also, you may be aware that Global Ministries has been supporting a rural school in partnership with IPTL. Tom is also working on a research project together with church leaders to assess the impact the school is having in that rural community. If you want to learn more about the school you can visit Global Ministries web page:

www.globalministries.org/support_of_the_lisa_dila.

Monica's daily work in Clinic Immanuel is ever evolving. The clinic continues to see between 30 and 80 patients a day, 5 days a week. Over the past year, in partnership with its main funder, Uniting World of Australia, Clinic Immanuel has been moving more in the direction of health education and promotion. A lot of this work takes place within the context of regular consultation, but the clinic has also been working with a remote village to try a more grassroots approach. This project has involved monthly mobile clinics and health seminars and helping them reduce open defecation. This past year we built 4 toilets in the community which motivated others to build their own toilets, doubling the number of families that have access to a toilet. Our goal for the upcoming year is to help the community to reduce open defecation completely. Everyone has a right to a toilet!

Our son Simon (7) is about to finish his first grade year in a public school and our daughter Hannah (13) recently returned from spending the summer in the U.S. and is back to her homeschooling. We're glad to have her back!

Once again, thanks so much for your continued interest and support. We value very much the connection with you. You are welcome to be in touch with us directly if you ever have questions or if there's anything we can help you understand better about global mission or Timor Leste. In case you're not aware, we have a blog: www.timorsite.wordpress.com. One of us tries to write on it monthly.



God's Peace, *Monica and Tom Liddle*

(Editor's note: Tom was our pastoral intern in 2013-14, working with Faith Life, the Stained Glass Taskforce, teaching Sunday School, and leading worship.)

Cherokee Park United Women's Retreat Survey 2017

In recent years, our practice has been to hold a CPUC Women's Retreat one weekend in the fall. For those who have participated, these have been meaningful and enjoyable experiences. If these retreats are to continue, we need your feedback.



These forms have been shared electronically and at church. If you have questions, please contact Karen Shatek or Jill Jackson. Please complete the form below and return this to Jill or Karen by November 5th.

If you have an idea that would make the retreat more possible or appealing to you, please suggest it below.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration and time in helping us figure out the way forward.



Name _____

I plan to attend future Women's Retreats. Yes ____ No ____

If Yes, choose one below

____ I'd like to continue going to the ARC Retreat Center even though costs will increase.

____ I'd like us to consider other sites for future retreats

Comments? Suggestions? Please share!

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.

Rev. Joy Smith - Interim Pastor

Abe Hunter - Director of Music Ministry

You can safely assume that you've
created God in your own image
when it turns out that God
hates all the same people you do.

Anne Lamott