



## **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 May 2017***

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
23-Adult Forum -family <i>Connect!</i> <b>Butterflies!</b> Vegetarian potluck	24	25	26 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	27	28 St. Paul Art Crawl 6-10 pm	29 St. Paul Art Crawl Noon-8 pm
30 -Adult Forum - <i>Connect!</i> Families -Food Collection	1 <i>May</i>	2	3 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	4 <i>*Loaves &amp; Fishes</i>	5 Women's Group 7 pm	6 <b>Cinco de Mayo</b> parade 10 am
7 -Adult Forum - <i>Connect!</i> Families -Food Collection	8	9	10 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	11 Council 7 pm	12	13 <del>Spring Clean- Up 9:30-2:30</del>
14 (Mother's Day) Vegetarian Potluck	15	16 Wrshp mtg 7 pm	17 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	18 All ministry chairs 6 pm	19 Men's Group 6:30 pm	20 NAMI workshop 9-3
21 (last) Adult Forum (last) Sunday School	22	23	24 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	25	26	27
28 -Adult Forum	29 (Memorial Day)	30	31 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	1 <i>June</i>	2 Women's Group 7 pm	3
4 -Adult Forum -Food Collection	5 Outreach 7 pm	6	7 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	8 Council 7 pm	9	10 Habitat Rain Garden Build 9 am - 4 pm
11	12	13	14 Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm	15	16 Men's?	17

Other future dates: Worship in the Park July 23, 2017

*\*Loaves and Fishes* serves those in need of a meal on first Thursdays of odd-numbered months.

## *Faith Life Ministry*

**Sunday Connect !, April 30, 9:00-10:00 a.m.**

All are invited to sharing in our Earth Day intergenerational event, *Caring for Creation: Monarchs*. There will be seeds to plant, art to create, stories to read, and a game to play. Discover how to raise monarchs from our resident expert, Kathy Farnell, Winnie Williams and Kay Myhrman-Toso. Spend time digging deeper, to learn how we can protect monarchs & their habitat. Enjoy the quiet of our reflection station. We hope you will join us.



**Sunday, May 7, 9:00-10:00 a.m.** Join Josh and Anna to learn about the history and culture of Cinco de Mayo, piñata making, and involvement in the children's message at worship.

**Sunday, May 21:** recognition of Faith Life volunteers during worship

## *Celebrating Our Multicultural World at West Side Wednesdays*

**Wed., May 3, 5:30-7:30 pm., Cherokee Heights Elementary School**

(694 S. Charlton St. -note the time change from other WSW events)



Join us at Cherokee Heights Elementary School for a delicious dinner, family-friendly activities, and the opportunity to learn more about our local schools and community organizations. Cherokee Park United Church will be there with our puppet friends, encouraging all to look for us in the upcoming Cinco de Mayo Parade. Bring your friends, neighbors and family to enjoy a delicious dinner,

activities for all ages, and the opportunity to learn more about our local schools and community organizations. In case of rain, we will not bring the float, but take our puppets inside the school and join in the festivities there.

info@westsidestrongschools.com 651-500-1059

## *Loaves and Fishes*

**Thursday, May 4, 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 (3:45 - 5:00 p.m.), serve, and clean up (4:40-6:30 p.m.). Young people are welcome to volunteer. Contact Michele.





## Women's Affinity Group

...welcoming all women and those who identify as women or along a feminine spectrum

**Friday, May 5, 7:00 p.m.**

We will meet at the home of Nancy Wall; Light refreshments will be served and a lively discussion shared.

## Cinco de Mayo!

Cherokee Park United will once again march in the WestSide Cinco de Mayo Parade on Saturday, **May 6**. Come march with us and bring your favorite puppet (we have some if you need one). The parade steps off at 10:00 a.m., marching south on Wabasha and Cesar Chavez Street in a colorful, spirit-filled procession. Parade units will gather at 75 W Plato Blvd. (the former Gross Givens building.) Our float's Parade Unit Number will be shared at church on April 30. Access to and spaces along Plato Blvd. are limited that day. Parking adjacent to the parade route on surface streets and walking to Plato Blvd. is encouraged. Please arrive at the float location by 9:45 am. The parade begins at 10:00. The parade is usually over around noon. Plan to stay for the food, festivities and fun after the parade.



We will also celebrate this special day at Fellowship Hour on Sunday, May 7 (Siete de Mayo). Mexican pastries and a piñata will be part of the festivities. For more information call Jill Jackson or Joanne Sylvander.

## Vegetarian/Vegan Potluck



Our annual meal to honor the earth was *rescheduled* to **Sunday, May 14**. We will pick up our forks and do our part to help fight global warming! All are invited to bring a vegetarian or vegan (no animals, fish, or other watery creatures or any parts of them or their byproducts like gelatin or animal fats lard) dish to share at fellowship hour. Consider a veggie tray and dip, fresh fruit, nuts, pasta salad without the pepperoni, 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. [Vegweb.com](http://Vegweb.com), [VegCooking.com](http://VegCooking.com), [VegRecipes.org](http://VegRecipes.org), [Vegancheff.com](http://Vegancheff.com), [GoVeg.com](http://GoVeg.com), [VegSource.com](http://VegSource.com), [Vegancheff.com](http://Vegancheff.com), [GoVeg.com](http://GoVeg.com)

*Worship Ministry Team* meets **Tuesday, May 16** at 7:00 p.m. at church.

*Men's Group* meets **Friday, May 19**, 6:30 p.m. at the home of Jim Shatek.

*Outreach Ministry Team* meets on **Tuesday, June 5** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Jill Jackson.

## *Holy Sacrament of Communion With Creation*

from the Justice and Witness Ministry

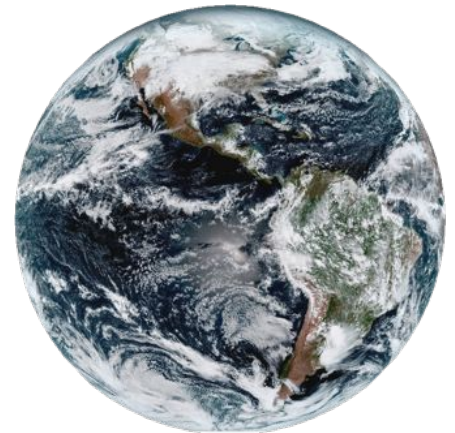
If you are invited to board a flight and they say it's time to get **on** the plane, we suggest you instead get **in** the plane - it's windy out there! In just the same way, we are not living "on the earth" - we are invited to live **in** God's Creation...inside, and involved, and an integral part.

Our breath is the Wind - the Breath of the Living Earth.

Our tears are the Water of the Earth that is Life.

Our bodies are made of the Food of the Living Creation of God.

Earth Day (regardless of when exactly we celebrate it :- ) - is a day where we are invited to focus on experiencing the holy sacrament of communion with Creation, and acting and praying intentionally for the Care of Creation. Every day on Earth, from before our first breath, to at least our last, is a celebration of the sacred - the communion with Creation.



Please join us on **May 14** for a celebration of the holy sacrament of Creation and share in our prayers and acts of Care for Creation.

## *Composting (kitchen foods) at CPUC*

Thanks to Sasha Aslanian for starting this experiment. She has furnished us with a tall, thin, compost bin with compostable plastic bag liners. Volunteers are needed to take the bag to a compost site each Sunday or after a day or event of use. All vegetable and meat scraps as well as paper napkins can be added for recycling.

## *Save Water. Save the Earth*

Did you know that over 1,000 gallons of water is used to grow the cotton to make one pair of jeans? Buy used jeans at a thrift store. (If you buy new jeans you are also paying the manufacturer to "wear" them out for you, holes and all!)

## *New Member Profile - Meliza Thurstin*

I was born, raised and have lived in St. Paul all of my life. I work at the Department of Natural Resources Enforcement Division working with all of the Conservation Officer's in the state. I like listening to music, watching TV, reading, and helping others when I can. I look forward to being involved at church, and have already helped with Loaves and Fishes and reorganizing the Fellowship Hall library. I have also volunteered my services in anything to do with organizing areas or keeping track of finances.

I am in a tap and jazz dance class for myself and in a class with my handicapped brother with ten others in wheelchairs dancing around. They all love it. I really like taking care of my brother; you can't help to smile or laugh with him when he does. I will be getting married next year to Dean Mudgett and can't wait to spend the rest of my life with him.

[Editor's note: As people join us they are invited to submit a few sentences about themselves as an introduction to our church family. If you have joined in the past few years but have not received the invitation, consider this such; I may have missed a few. As a helpful hint, Meliza rhymes with Melissa. ]



## *Ushers/Offering Receivers*

The Worship Ministry is looking for people who are willing to take up the offerings on Sundays. The official title has been "ushers" but ushering is rarely needed; the main task is to pass the offering basket. Young people are also welcome to do this. Please contact Jill Jackson if you are interested.

## *Hope for Recovery*

**Saturday, May 20, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m**

Cherokee Park United will be the site for this workshop for people who have a family member or friend living with mental illness. The workshop is presented by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Minnesota. There is no charge for attendance but registration is required. Information and registration:

<https://hope-stpaul-5-20.eventbrite.com/>

## *Habitat Gardening Day*

**Saturday, June 10, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Justice & Witness Ministry is organizing this event, which will take place at a St. Paul location. Older children are welcome to help, bring your own lunch. It is customary for Habitat to ask the volunteer organization to also support this effort with collect donations; any donations can be given to Michele Johnson, checks made out to Habitat for Humanity, at any time between now and June 10.



## *Council Corner Highlights – Meeting of April 20, 2017*

- A Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 7, 2017 after worship to vote on the nomination of Jerry Williams to fill the vacancy on Council. The position is open from Glen Herrington-Hall's recent resignation and lasts through 2018.
- There will be a meeting of the Ministry Team Chair people on May 18 at church. A potluck meal will be shared at 6 pm and the meeting will be at 7 pm. All Ministry Chairs (or a representative) are encouraged to attend. Please bring calendars and plans for upcoming months.
- A special collection to support Tom and Monica Liddle and their ministry in East Timor will be taken in May. We pledged \$1,500 for several years and are eager to fulfill that promise. A Sunday will be designated, but you can submit your contribution, with proper notation on your check's memo line, anytime in May.
- After hearing from Tomie Evans about the Citizen's Climate Lobby Carbon Fee and Dividend proposal, the Council voted for CPUC to endorse this plan to Congress. He will share more information about this in the church newsletter and on our website soon.
- The Transition Team presented a detailed To-Do List for our process of moving towards creating a Church Profile and calling a new minister. The Council affirmed the plan. The Transition Team will be sharing this information with the congregation soon.
- The financial reports show a decrease in giving in the last month. We are about \$3,000 behind our first quarter projections. If you need to reduce your pledge or are deferring giving until later this year, please let folks on the Finance Team know. Thank you for your faithful stewardship towards CPUC.



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'd like to share as we strive to live out God's will together.

## Google Calendar Guru

If you have not yet had a lesson in using the church calendar posted on Google, our own calendar guru, Josh Welter, is happy to assist you. The goal is to give access to all so you can see what spaces are available for your future meetings or events and if you desire this option, to put them on the calendar to hold your spot. This will prevent double bookings and prevent many last minute changes in plans. We may have a "small" church, but we have lots going on, and our mission also is to make our spaces available to the community and others who are trying to create a better world.

1. a: If you already have a Google account or are on GMail, contact Josh so he can add you to the list of people able to access this calendar.
1. b: If you want to just use a different email, first establish a Google account at <https://accounts.google.com/signup> and click on "I prefer to use my own e-mail address" then contact Josh so he can add you to the CPUC calendar list.
2. Once Josh registers you, you will receive an email verifying that you want to be connected; click on that link that says "add calendar".
3. To access the calendar from an internet browser (not on a tablet or phone app), log on to your Google account, look for the nine dots in the upper right corner, click on that, click on Calendar, and then on the left border, click on CPUC. The > at the top will cycle you through to future weeks. To reserve a space, click on the day and time you want, and type in the box the name of your event. Click on "create" and if you want to add/change any information click on "edit" to do so.

If you want to bring your laptop (or your phone which is a different process), Josh is happy to set up a time to help you during fellowship hour after worship. If you are a visual learner, this same information is given on Youtube created by Josh. Click on this link or copy/paste this in your browser.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EOgUkMZkubM&feature=youtu.be>

You can reach Josh at [josh.m.welter@gmail.com](mailto:josh.m.welter@gmail.com) or 612-810-6599.

*Spring Clean-up-Fix-up Day --cancelled --*

~~Saturday, May 13, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.~~

A good example of the need for calendaring ahead -- the day was scheduled but another group using the church did not have its spaces specified, and later it was found that two groups intended on using the same spaces. A lesson learned.





## *CPUC Members' Energy Consumption Reduction*

Last month's newsletter gave a synopsis of an energy consumption report from Enerchange, a company which gave us a free analysis after spending many hours inside and outside our building and then doing their engineering computations. They listed all the places we might save energy as well as the potential savings per year and the amount of time it would take to accumulate any payback of expenditure. One item, requiring no upfront expense, is to "*engage the congregation to reduce the consumption of energy on a continuing basis*".

We may think we can relax now that our solar panels are producing our own electricity. However, we still want to maintain as small a carbon footprint as possible for the good of all earth and its peoples, AND, a wonderful plus is that when we produce more than we use (or use less than we produce), we can sell the excess back to Xcel and add to our income column. Lynne and the Finance Committee always manage to come up with a balanced budget but cannot perform miracles!

Some of these items may seem SO obvious, yet, we are not doing them, and so, wasting energy. Probably our "Minnesota Nice" tells us it's not nice to turn off lights if someone else might want to come into a room, but that is counterproductive. Here is a simple **request** from the Property Management Ministry. When leaving a room that is empty, **turn off all the lights**. Don't worry if you think someone else might come in - they can turn them back on. This includes the

- downstairs Rainbow room classroom
- stage (switch is hidden behind blue screen on left - you can stick your hand in behind the curtain from the main floor)
- Fellowship Hall (The middle column of lights in Fellowship Hall is also turned off by the switch at the top of the Baker Street steps if you are on your way out at night.)
- kitchen
- nursery
- Parent Room
- upstairs big meeting/classroom
- worship space (light switches are near the piano), the lights above the altar (switch is behind liturgist's chair - go on, climb the stairs - you can do it!!)
- church office
- music office (office next to the church office)
- upper and lower halls



On occasion at 1:00 p.m. on Sundays we will find no one in any of these rooms but one, but *all* the lights are still on.

More on this in future newsletters.

## *Prayers, Palms, Brunch*

Our church family started the last week of Lent with special prayers and palm procession, and then started the Easter season by gathering for brunch and worship.



## Foodshelf First Sundays



Your food contributions are donated to the local free food store at Neighborhood House. Monetary donations are also most welcome and actually provide more food as they can use their bulk purchasing to double or triple your dollar; just \$22 can feed a family of four for an entire week! Make checks out

to Neighborhood House with “food store” noted at bottom.

During the summer harvest months, your *fresh garden produce* is also welcome, although you cannot leave that at church but need to take it to the Neighborhood House headquarters in the Paul and Sheila Wellstone Community Center at 179 Robie St. E (one block north of Cesar Chavez St.)

*New artworks* have been hung in the sanctuary and Parents’ Room as part of the annual St. Paul Art Crawl; join us for the artists’ gallery talks at 7:00 p.m. this Friday.

**Artists Alice Savitski and Ellie Leonardsmith will keep their works up through June 4..**

*Westminster  
Town Hall Forum*  
Thursday, May 4, Noon



All are invited to these forums held eight to ten times a year at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nicollet Mall and 12th Street in downtown Minneapolis. Enjoy Minnesota’s best musicians a half hour before the presentation, and stay afterward for food and conversation. No ticket or RSVP required. The next presentation is “*Shaping a New Foreign Policy*” - by Richard Haass, President of the Council on Foreign Relations, former advisor to Colin Powell, special assistant to George H. W. Bush, and author of the book, *A World in Disarray*.

## **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.

Rev. Joy Smith - Interim Pastor

Abe Hunter - Director of Music Ministry

My religion is simple;  
my religion is kindness.

The Dalai Lama