



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 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
28 -10 am CCE -Children's Music -Congregational meeting after worship -Confirmation 5-7pm	29	30	1 Oct Choir 6:45pm	2 Music Min 7 pm	3	4 (no ASDIC)
5 -Families Explore Spirituality 9-10 am - Foodshelf - Faith Action Vigil 2:30-3:00 pm	6	7	8 Choir 6:45pm	9	10 Art Ex opening 6 pm	11 ASDIC Fall Clean-up 9:30 am - 2:30 pm
12 Sunday School Crop Walk	13 Doctrine of Discovery 7 pm	14 Antiracism Team 6:30 pm	15 Choir 6:45pm	16 Council 7 pm	17	18 ASDIC
19 Sunday School	20	21 Directory Picture-taking	22 Choir 6:45pm Picture-taking	23 Justice Witness 7 pm	24 Women's Retreat-	25 ASDIC
26 -Children's music 9:15 am -Confirmation 5-7pm	27	28 Dialogue on Doctrine of Discovery 7 pm	29 Choir 6:45pm	30 Faith Life 7 pm	31	1 Nov ASDIC
2 - Foodshelf -Families Explore Spirituality 9-10 am Contemplative Prayer - Faith Action Vigil 2:30-3:00 pm	3	4	5 Choir 6:45pm	6 Loaves & Fishes *	7	8
9 -Confirmation youth pancake breakfast mission trip fund-raiser						

* on first Thursdays of odd numbered months

CLEAN-UP-FIX-UP DAY

Our annual Fall church building care day will be **Saturday, October 11, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** Come share in an hour or two or more of organizing or cleaning, inside or outside, or 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.) Breakfast treats and pizza lunch will be provided. Sign-up sheet is available after worship or phone/email .



Property Management

This ministry welcomes Kelly Strebeg as co-chair with Jim Shatek. Outgoing co-chair, Tom Murphy, has now joined the Outreach Ministry and his leadership on PMM will be missed. But he will be consulted often! Tom had co-chaired since 2010 and continued in the tradition of strong leaders that made possible such things as a remodeled kitchen, lift, boiler operation and maintenance (Jim Shatek), new organ installation, lower level space development and art exhibit rails (Curt Fleming), retro-fitting all light fixtures (Jim & Tom), property landscaping (Andy Hovland), solar contracts (Attys. Deborah Morse and Ingrid Fleming) and many, many others. Tom's energies were greatly focused and appreciated on contracting and overseeing the installation of our roof solar panels, helping us fulfill our mission of care for the environment.

New Edition of Church Directory

Have your portrait or family picture taken to be included in our new pictorial directory. This is a great way for us to help put names and faces together, uniting our congregation.

Appointments are available Tuesday and Wednesday, October 21 and 22, from 2:20 to 9:00 p.m. All participants will be given a free

8 ½ x 11 portrait and a free church directory from *Lifetouch*. You may also bring a pet, a prop important to you, or your family for a generational picture. If you donate a food item to the food shelf on the day you sign up, you will receive \$5 off any portrait purchase (but no pressure to purchase). Your photos of church activities are also welcome to use in the activity pages.



Sign up at church or online at www.cherokeeparkunited.org and click on the Lifetouch directory panel. If you are unavailable on those dates, speak with Pastor Tim or Andy George about other possible locations where your picture may be taken. You need not be a member to be included; if you are here, you are part of our church family.

*Disavowing the Doctrine of Discovery:
Acknowledgment, Dialogue and Opportunities for Action*

Join us for this two-part series to take a serious look at difficult historical and theological truths about the tragic treatment of Dakota, Ojibwe and other indigenous people by our state, nation, and religious institutions. In cooperation with the St. Paul Interfaith network (SPIN) we are seeking to come to terms with the significant role churches and faith communities played in genocide, crushing native languages, cultures, and religious practice.

Monday, October 13 - Indigenous People's Day
We will host a public screening of the documentary film *Doctrine of Discovery* from 7:00-9:15 p.m., presented by filmmaker Sheldon Wolfchild of the Lower Sioux Indian Community. Small-group dialogue opportunity will follow. This film is appropriate for junior high school youth and older.



**Father Hennepin "discovers"
Saint Anthony Falls**

Tuesday, October 28 -7:00-9:15 p.m.

The evening's goal is a deeper exploration of issues of history, theology, and trauma raised by the film shown previously. The starting point of the dialogue is the Doctrine of Discovery—the catchall phrase for 15th century papal edicts that gave explorers the legal and religious justifications to seize lands occupied by non-baptized "heathen." It set the course for slavery, and forced conversions and the genocide of indigenous people. Discovery was the forerunner to the concept of "Manifest Destiny," the belief that European settlers were divinely ordained to take possession of this land. The impact of these beliefs is not ancient history. By many measures—such as poverty, income and health—the historical trauma suffered by Native American peoples under the guise of these philosophies is still very present today. This history calls for a greater understanding and response.

Pídamaya do

Friends, it was really great and heartwarming to see all of you from my church family attending the Wacipi and working and serving at the Wacipi feast. As a Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Community tribal council member and CPUC member I feel blessed and thankful for all of you.
—Lon



Families Exploring Spirituality *Sunday October 5, 9-10 a.m.*

Each time we share in communion, we are connected to other Christians as we "re - member" our common faith. On World Communion Sunday churches around the globe observe give special attention to what we share, in spite of our differences.



Children, youth and adults are invited to join together in deepening an understanding of communion and how it connects us to the world-wide church. You are invited to bring an object or wear a piece of clothing/jewelry representative of a another culture, either one that is a part of your heritage or one that holds meaning for you. Our time together led by Kay Myhrman-Toso will be interactive, with opportunities for story, music, video, art, books, prayer, and yes, a snack!

Courage To Think Differently *Adult Forum -Sundays 9 a.m.*

Eric Jacobsen will facilitate conversations on the short essays from this engaging book by George S. Johnson. On Sunday, October 5, we will discuss "Charity Can Be A Dangerous Thing" by Shane Claiborne. One review states "Pastor Johnson's new book, *Courage to Think Differently*, is for people of faith who want to open up their thinking and explore new directions. We virtually "meet" more than 30 well-known thinkers and read their insights on the earth's survival and our own. The compilation is so creative and spiritually compelling that it practically glows in my hands. The contributors are widely known for being prophetic in their fields. The presentations are brief. The book helps us get beyond vague wishing, to wrestle with what it means today to "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God" (Micah 6:8).

Future October Sunday essays are: "Taking Oppression Seriously, "Getting a Grip", and "The Peril of Worshiping Jesus". November's book is "Dare We Speak of Hope" by Allan A. Boesak, a South African anti-apartheid leader.

Peacemaking Offering

This annual offering of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the United Church of Christ will be received on Sunday, October 5, on World Communion Sunday. Offering envelopes will be available at church.



Creating Holy Space

Women and female-identifying people will gather at the ARC Retreat Center near Cambridge on October 24-25. They will be sharing their stories of special objects, words, and music that carry spiritual meaning for them. The retreat will be facilitated by Revs. Sandy Dodson and Joanne Svlvander. both members of CPUC.

Confirmation Youth

Five youth from Cherokee Park United Church have begun a year-long process of confirmation preparation with Pastor Tim. Sophie & Audrey LeMeur, Kaia Larsen and Nathan & Duncan Fleming had their first meeting with Pastor Tim on September 7. The focus was learning



about Pow Wows and how our Christian faith leads us to engagement with our Dakota brothers and sisters in Mendota. The following weekend they assisted in preparing and serving a meal for the closing feast of the Pow-Wow.

In November and following months they will join youth from Macalester-Plymouth in an exploration of faith. The group has already begun to dream and plan a mission trip for June of 2015, including fundraising to help pay for it. The first fundraiser will be a pancake brunch on Sunday, November 9. Please keep our youth in your prayers during this important year of reflection and discernment about what faith and being part of the church means to them.



Wacipi Support

The Antiracism Team of Cherokee Park United Church drew upon the participation of many CPUC members in order to host another closing feast for the Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Community at their annual three day Wacipi (Pow Wow) in Mendota. Over 200 people were served a delicious meal, most of which was prepared at Cherokee Park United Church by our members, including confirmation youth. A big thank-you to Maria McNamara who led the effort and to Mai Richardson, a former Youth Farm cook who offered her guidance and expertise.



CPUC Members Ministering Beyond Our Community Disaster Recovery Coordinator

The Minnesota Conference UCC newsletter announced that Renee Pfenning has agreed to serve as the Conference's Volunteer Disaster Recovery Coordinator. We are blessed to have Renee leading in many ways at both at our local and statewide levels.



People's Climate March



Tom Evans joined several hundred Minnesotans bussed to New York City to mobilize support for bold political action to address the climate crisis. Their goal is to bring about a future with an economy that works for people and the planet, a world safe from the ravages of climate change. This demonstration represents people who are standing up in our communities to organize, build power, and to shift power to a just, safe, and



peaceful world. Other events were simultaneously held at local venues, including Como Park. See www.350.org.

The climate march is not just an act – it's also a prayer, a response to, and an engagement with, the self-disclosure of God's presence. — Sr. Arlene Flaherty OP

UCC Economic Justice Leadership Event

Andy Barnett was appointed by Rev. Shari Prestemon, the Conference Minister, to represent the Minnesota Conference at this gathering. We live in a world of abundance, yet tens of millions of people in the U.S. and billions around the world fail to live in the fullness of life that is God's desire for each of us. Andy is one of just 30 people invited to this conference, to address the questions of how people of faith can effectively and faithfully take action.

Andy is a housing and neighborhood development consultant with twenty years' experience in affordable housing, mostly working in urban neighborhoods. He has a B.S. in housing studies with a concentration in policy and community development from the University of Minnesota. Drawing on this background, Andy believes that comprehensive community development can advance economic equity and dismantle racism. He currently coordinates the collaborative work of the Frogtown Rondo Home Fund partners.

Men's Group

CPUC men are invited to join us on Friday, October 24, at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Fred and Doug Dempsey-Hess in Woodbury. All are welcome. We begin with a light meal; discussion led by the host starts around 7:30 p.m.

Fresh Bread Here

Robert Dubac, former owner of BC2 bakery, will be baking sourdough bread in our kitchen ovens at 4:00 a.m. Saturday mornings. The bread will be sold at the West Side Farmers' Market and can also be reserved for purchase (\$5.00) and picked up at church on Sundays. He will also bake and donate bread for our first-time visitors and for communion on first Sundays. For those of us interested in a more hands-on approach, he is planning to host an event in November for friends and members of CPUC who would like to make a homemade German bread for the holidays.



Little Free Library



Members of the St. Paul Mennonite Fellowship, which also worships at CPUC on Sundays, invited us to join together to plan and install a *Little Free Library*. It is now ready for use!

It is located near the octagonal picnic bench area where all are welcome to rest and read. You may have seen others at several nearby homes and at Moreland School. This provides a fun and creative way for children and adults to pick out and take home books, and sometimes donate others in their place. There is a collection box in the hall by the Parent Room for any books you might want to donate, especially children's books.

Deadline: 22nd of the prior month - articles to editor Susan Strebog at kellystrebog@comcast.net

CPUC Church Building 100 Years Old

Every first Sunday in June we celebrate the anniversary of Cherokee Heights Presbyterian Church and St. John's United Church of Christ uniting to become Cherokee Park United. (This June we celebrated 46 years.) However, the congregation has other "beginnings" as well, and one of those was in 1914 when Cherokee Heights Presbyterian Church first built the north side of our current building, which includes parents' room, class room, kitchen and nursery. This is the year the fledgling congregation went from worshipping in homes to a committed ministry on St. Paul's West Side with their own building on the corner of Manomin and Baker.

On Sunday, November 23, we will celebrate this anniversary. The Rev. Denise Dunbar-Perkins will be the guest preacher, and a special meal is being planned by our Fellowship Ministry Team. We hope to have a packed house for this very special Sunday of celebration.

Loaves and Fishes and Toothpaste

Just a reminder, that for our next serving at Loaves and Fishes on November 6, we welcome any donations of hygiene products. (Find collection box in Fellowship Hall.)

CPCU Nominated for St. Paul Blooming Saint Paul Award

We noticed a small sign added to our landscape near the front door that states the church landscaping has been nominated for an award. We don't know who nominated us, but it is gratifying to realize that the public appreciates our efforts to beautify and

conserve our natural resources.



There are seven award areas including business/institutional, residential, clean water, edible landscaping, volunteer group or steward, and advocate.

(left) Part of our landscape crew at work



2014 OVERCOMING RACISM CONFERENCE

Presented by the Facilitating Racial Equity Collaborative (FREC)

CULTIVATING TRANSFORMATION

Metropolitan State University, St. Paul
November 14-15, 2014



Keynote Speakers:



MayKao Y. Heng serves as the President and CEO of the Wicker Foundation and has extensive experience in the public and the nonprofit sectors serving low income and disadvantaged populations. She is committed to achieving an equitable society where everyone can prosper having overcome adversity in her own childhood and young adult life. MayKao believes in the power of changing one life at a time and strengthening the social and civic infrastructure of our communities to transform the world.



Sam Grant is a life-long organizer working on the intersections of cultural, economic, and environmental justice. He co-founded the following organizations: AfroEco, Full Circle Community Institute, Organizing Apprenticeship Project, the Wendell Phillips Community Development Federal Credit Union, the Green Institute Eco-Industrial Park, and the Greenbelt Public Policy Institute, among others. He has been on faculty at Metropolitan State University since 1990, and has trained thousands of social justice facilitators around the world.

Each day will include a full slate of workshops, with opportunities to **reflect, connect, & commit!**

Registration opens September 15th.

For more information, visit:

WWW.OVERCOMINGRACISM.ORG

#overcomingracism2014

Cherokee Park United Church

Presents Paintings by

Carol Strait



October 10 - November 23, 2014
Opening reception on Friday, October 10 from
6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Gallery talk at 6:45 p.m.
371 W. Baker St. St. Paul, MN 55107

<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

Sunday Worship - 10:15 a.m.

Dr. Timothy M. Johnson - Pastor

Ione Boettcher Butler - Organist/Choral Director

Jill Jackson - Building Blocks Tutorial Director

Rebecca Knott - Nursery Supervisor

Andrew Gbaa - Custodian

*There is no passion to be found playing small -
in settling for a life that is less than
the one you are capable of living.*

Nelson Mandela