



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 February 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
27	28	29	30	31 Seeds of R 6 pm	1 <i>FEB</i> Women's Group 7 pm	2
3 Food collection for Neighbors	4	5 Outreach Ministry 7 pm	6	7	8	9 ASDIC 9 am-1 pm
10 Annual meeting after worship. Recognition of Pastor Joy's service	11	12	13 Worship Ministry 7 pm	14 Council 6:30 pm	15 Men's Group? 6:30 pm	16 ASDIC 9 am-1 pm
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 ASDIC 9 am-1 pm
24	25	26	27	28	1 <i>MAR</i> Women's Group 7 pm	2 ASDIC 9 am-1 pm
3	4	15	6 <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	7 Loaves & Fishes *	8	9 ASDIC 9 am-1 pm
10 Clocks ahead DST	11	12	13	14 Council 6:30 pm	15 Men's Group 6:30 pm	16 ASDIC 9 am-1 pm

(Loaves & Fishes occurs the first Thursday of odd numbered months.)



Message on behalf of the parish council

from Jan Howe and Joy Sorensen Navarre

We Made It!

Congratulations! Towards the end of last year, it seemed we wouldn't be ending up the year too well financially.

Due to all of you who made generous contributions during December, and all year long, we were able to meet all of our financial obligations for 2018. Thank you for being faithful to Cherokee Park United Church, as God is faithful to us. THANK YOU!!

Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)

The Pastoral Nominating Committee is actively moving forward in our search for a settled pastor. We have identified 4 finalists from a pool of over thirty applicants. The candidates represent both coasts and the Midwest. There are UCC and Presbyterian traditions. These finalists will be interviewed via skype, a wonderful benefit of electronics given the geography.

Those conversations will hopefully lead us to two finalists. Those persons, two different weekends, will travel to St. Paul for in person interviews and an opportunity to check out what we have to offer. These are confidential interactions. Only the PNC will be involved.

From final interview we move to discerning as a committee who we feel best meets the needs of CPUC for our next chapters of fierce justice, radical love and abundant grace filled ministry.

The PNC contacts that person with an invitation to be called as our settled pastor. Their YES! puts in motion an exciting announcement and serious plan making.

The congregation calls the pastor, not the PNC. You have entrusted us with the charge to prayerfully search and find a new pastor candidate. The final phase of this journey culminates in the excited congregation welcoming the excited candidate for a weekend of celebration. Sunday morning's worship includes the "Candidating Sermon." Our candidate is our preacher.

Following worship, the candidate and their family leave the sanctuary while we call a Special Congregational Meeting. We as a full congregation discuss and vote whether to call this person as our settled pastor.

Hopefully we will feel the Spirit's leading forward. Cherokee Park United Church begins and continues the work we have envisioned in these important transitional years.

Women's Affinity Group

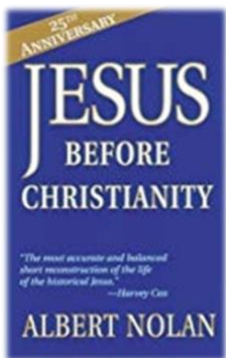
February 1, Friday, 7 p.m.

The Women's Affinity Group will meet at church to share some light refreshments and play some board and group games. Join us as we build relationships and have fun together. If you have questions, please contact Jill Jackson at 612 308-6746.



Annual meeting and recognition of Pastor Joy's service

February 10, Sunday - This Sunday's worship service and fellowship will include recognition in thanksgiving of Pastor Joy's service to us as our transitional pastor. She has accepted a new position in Alma, Michigan, and her last day with us will be February 15. Following worship moderator Joy Sorensen Navarre will convene our annual meeting to approve the reports from 2018 and the budget for 2019.



Adult Forum

We continue to read and discuss the book **Jesus Before Christianity** by Albert Nolan. Originally published in 1976, this was a highly acclaimed book that focused on the life of the historical Jesus. The printing of several more editions in recent years speaks to the relevance and continued resonance of Nolan's work.

All who wish to participate are welcome. Please find your own copy of the book or try to arrange to share a book. The forum meets in the Parent's Room at 9 a.m. each Sunday morning except on holiday weekends.

Council Members 2019

Class of 2019: (2-denotes second consecutive 3-year term)

Mike Bates
Maria McNamara
Mary Murphy (2)
Karen Shatek (2)

Class of 2020

Tomie Evans
Jerome Graf (2) vice-moderator
Susan Strebig
Jan Howe

Class of 2021:

Diane Spicer (2)
Jackie Rico
Joy Sorensen Navarre: moderator
Curt Fleming

January Council Meeting Notes

- The council approved and recommended the 2019 budget to be presented to the congregation at the annual meeting Sunday, February 10 after worship.
- The church financial report reflects a balanced budget for 2018; our income was less than anticipated, somewhat due to some pledges not being fulfilled; however enough areas did not require all that was allotted in their budgets, resulting in our operating within our means. Historically a number of people give large donations late in the month of December, so it is hard to predict our outcomes. A number of individuals also gave more than pledged to cover this possible shortfall. Jan and Joy S.N. offered to co-write a thank-you to the congregation for their generous giving; Jerome will give a short statement of thank you this coming Sunday at worship.
- Mike Bates will assemble the report for the annual meeting; all ministry reports should be sent to him by January 20.
- New members of the Council were welcomed - Joy Sorenson-Navarre, Jan Howe, Curt Fleming and Jackie Rico; and Diane Spicer returns for a second, three-year term. A phone/e-mail list will be available on the wall clip board at the back of church for anyone who wishes to contact a council member.
- At the beginning of each council year these following positions are filled/approved, including some that may be filled by non-council members: church treasurer, financial secretary, accountant, money counters, auditor, presbytery commissioners (three, who attend quarterly presbytery meetings,) Minnesota Conference UCC Annual meeting delegates (three, attend one weekend in June), delegates to Interfaith Action of Greater St Paul (two, one meeting), Lay Ministry chair & co -chair plus three non-council members), council moderator and vice-moderator, clerk of council, minutes taker.
- A motion was passed to re-visit the by-laws that provide for whether or not a settled pastor is automatically the council moderator.
- Pastor Joy read her letter of resignation to the Council; she will share this via email with the rest of the congregation. She has accepted a position in Alma, Michigan and her last day with us will be February 15. She has generously found preachers and pastoral care providers to serve us for many of the following weeks, before the Pastoral Nominating Committee finds a settled pastor.



The Council asks for the prayers and participation of the people of CPUC as we near the end of our transitional period. Council normally meets on the 2nd Thursday of every month. Please connect with Council members with ideas or feedback you want to share as we seek to embody the vision, mission, and values we proclaim.



Antiracism Study Dialogue Circles (ASDIC)

Antiracism Study Dialogue Circles are designed to provide you with an in-depth experience to better understand the ways race and racism operate in all of our lives. They will give you greater clarity of thinking, strength of relationship, and effectiveness of action in addressing systemic racism. New groups are being formed and you can find details and registration information at the following websites.

[Antiracism Study Dialogue Circle, Saturdays February 9-April 13 \(St Paul\)](#)
[Antiracism Study Dialogue Circle, Mondays February 11-April 15 \(Mpls\)](#)

Calling cards

We now have church "calling" cards on the welcome desk in case anyone would like to put one or two in their wallet to have available to give to an interested person. They show a photo of our Baker street side and address and worship times on one side, and our new banner plus room to jot a note on the other. (These were obtained at no cost to us. Yea! Although there is a small boo-boo we'll hand correct.)



Outreach Ministry

The team will meet on Tuesday, February 5 at 7 p.m. at the home of Jill Jackson.



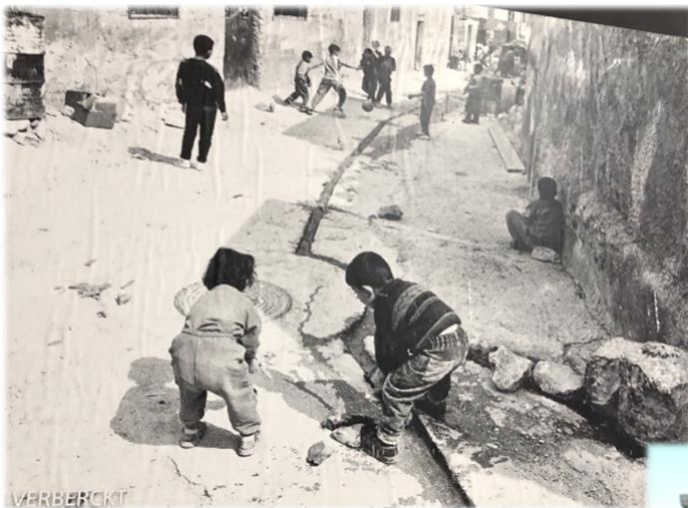
Do you have any greeter or ambassador DNA?

The role of greeter before worship service is key to the growth and grounding of our church community. *Greeters* extend the hand of welcome to members, children, friends, and newcomers. *Ambassadors* watch for new faces at worship services; they welcome visitors during worship and then join them at Fellowship time. Serving in these important capacities is a good way to meet, assist, and connect with people at church. Adults, youth, and families are welcome to serve. Contact: Jill Jackson, 651-224-9209, jilljacksonmn@comcast.net

Notes from Pastor Joy in the Holyland

We have received several texts and photos from Pastor Joy on her Holy Land Discovery Tour.

The standard camel ride (this is Kojak) happened along with the more serious sights of children in a Palestinian refugee camp. The Israeli government has control of their water, electricity, and sewage. They are sometimes without water or lights because the government turns it off.



Graffiti depicts children who were killed by Israeli police for as little as throwing rocks.

One can peer through the hole in the floor to the birthplace of Jesus, not a stable but a cave.



Another place in the world that walls are not welcome



Window at the Church of the Multiplication

Communion on the Sea of Galilee - no winter carnival here!

Special music

On January 13 we were treated to a special worship service of organ music on the occasion of Bob Lockwood's birthday. It has been a long time since we've had a music director who could play our organ! Ione Butler, a former long-time director of music at CPUC, returned to share her expertise, experience, and warmth. A sampling of a recital piece she offered can be heard on YouTube at: https://youtu.be/Jbw_HsYRUF0



2019 Leaders' retreat invitation

Would you like to explore a topic among friends that challenges and nourishes our minds and souls? We're looking for one or more people to bring that energy to the 2019 Leaders' Retreat. The Council would like this next retreat to be "spirit focused" with discussion and activities that will hopefully help fill the wells of our souls.

Due to cost and scheduling changes, we will not be using the ARC Retreat Center (near Cambridge) in 2019. This is an opportunity to explore other possible venues such as the Benedictine Center right here in St. Paul or our own building. If you are interested or have ideas, please contact Joy Sorensen Navarre.

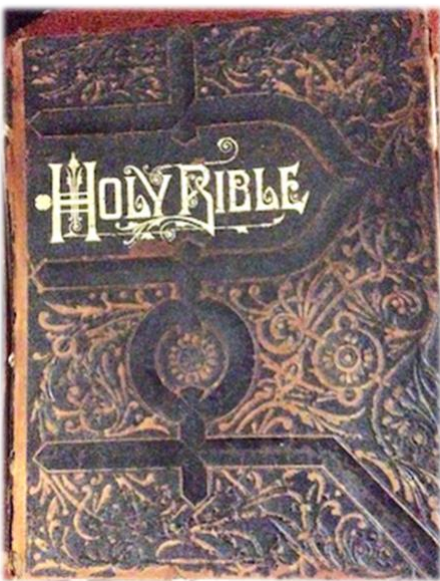


Birthday frosting

In December our fellowship hour treats were provided by twins Sophie and Audrey on the occasion of their birthday. Audrey cut all the slices but said she most looked forward to completing her task and then licking all the frosting off her fingers. It was, truly, a gloriously delicious chocolate cake!

And more birthday cake

Jerome enjoyed Bob's birthday cake and Curt enjoyed watching Jerome eat it!



TLC needed

We recently discovered a 127-year-old bible in our sanctuary. Possibly we should not admit this as it points to our less than stellar cleaning routine, but it was found under the pew behind the pulpit. We'd like to keep it in a more honored place, but it truly needs some care as the binding is coming undone and edges are fraying. A bit of professional glue work might do the trick. Does anyone here have any library experience and wish to take a look? it is now on the back corner shelf. Contact: Susan, 651-457-1404, kellystrebig@comcast.net

"Waking Up White" with Debby Irving

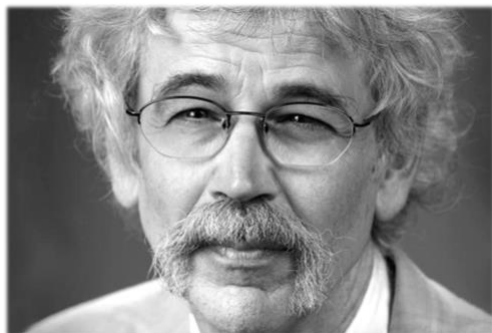
Sunday, February 17, 3 - 6 p.m. Gustavus Adolphus, St. Paul

Debby Irving, author of *Waking Up White* will be speaking and leading us in an interactive workshop. We will focus our time on, *Leveling the Playing Field: Interrupting Patterns of Power and Privilege*; this is an interactive workshop involving mapping power, patterns, and interventions. Suggested cost of the event is \$10 per person, to be collected at the door. All are welcome. A study guide for the book is [available here](#) (PDF). Registration opens January 15. Contact Pastor Jen Collins, anti-racism work group co-lead, at jcollins@hosannaforestlake.net



Westminster Town Hall Forum

Forums are one hour in length with a speaker presentation and Q&A. Music precedes each forum a half hour in advance, and a public reception follows. Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nicollet Mall and 12th St., Minneapolis. Convenient parking at Loring Garage on Nicollet Mall and Grant Street, the Marquette Ramp on 12th St. and Marquette Ave., and the Convention Center Garage on 12th St. and 2nd Av.



Art Cullen: Change and Resilience in the Heartland

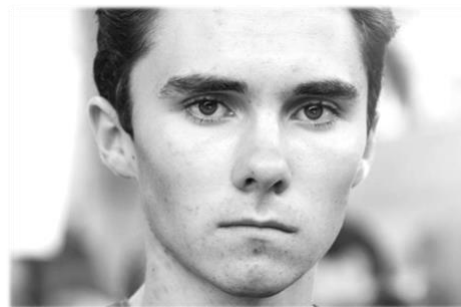
Tuesday February 12 Noon

Journalist and co-owner of *The Storm Lake Times*. Winner of the 2017 Pulitzer Prize for Editorial Writing. His book, *Storm Lake*, explores immigration, agribusiness, the environment, and change in rural America.

David Hogg: Putting the USA over the NRA

Tuesday March 19 Noon

Survivor of the school shooting in Parkland, Florida, and co-founder of March for Our Lives. Advocate for ending gun violence in America and increasing voter participation and civic engagement.



Jonathan Capehart: A Bold Look at Today's Headlines

Tuesday April 9 Noon

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and editorial writer for *The Washington Post*, focusing on politics, social issues, and cultural change. Host of the Cape Up podcast and contributing commentator on MSNBC.



Barbara Brown Taylor: Finding God in the Faith of Others

Tuesday April 30 Noon

Episcopal priest, teacher, and bestselling author of fourteen books on religion and spirituality. Named one of the top twelve preachers in America. Her latest book is *Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others*



Cherokee Park United Church

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

Open & Affirming, Multicultural, Antiracist

371 W. Baker Street

St. Paul, MN 55107

Sunday Worship: 10:15 a.m.

Rev. Joy Smith - Interim Pastor

651-227-4275

cpuc@usfamily.net

cherokeeparkunited.org

*Something there is
that doesn't love a wall.*

Robert Frost