



## **Cherokee Park United Church**

Fierce Justice ✨ Radical Love ✨ Abundant Grace

A Progressive Congregation  
*Welcoming people of all ages, sexual orientations,  
races, and ethnic origins*  
Theological Elbow Room  
Global Music  
Community Connected  
Kid Friendly

***Newsletter September 2019***

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 <b>SEPT</b>	2	3	4 Choir practice 6:30-8 pm	5 Loaves & Fishes	6 Women's Group 7 pm	7 
8 <b>Worship start time changes back to 10:15 a.m.</b> Covenanting Sunday	9	10	11 Choir practice 6:30-8 pm	12 Council 7 pm	13 - Wacipi - MN Transgender Alliance 6 - 7:30 pm 	14 Wacipi & kitchen prep 
15 Wacipi	16	17	18 Choir practice 6:30-8 pm	19	20	21 
22	23	24	25 Choir practice 6:30-8 pm	26	27 	28 
29	30	1 <b>OCT</b>	2 Choir practice 6:30-8 pm	3	4	5 
6	7	8	9 Choir practice 6:30-8 pm	10 Council 7 pm	11 	12 Women's retreat

**Future dates:**

Indigenous People's Day Monday October 14

FREC conference Nov 15-16

Installation of Rev. Matthias as Pastor October 20, afternoon



MN Transgender Alliance meets every other Friday 6-7:30 pm

West Side Farmer's Market  
Stryker & George 

Saturdays 8:30-12:30  
June through Oct 5

**Wishing Happy September Birthdays to**

2 - Lynne Bates

6 - Phyllis Clark

25 - Cal Clark

26 - Ellen Guerue

28 - Mike Bates

29 - Susan Strebog

30 - Joanne Sylvander

**& Happy Anniversary to**

10 - Kelly & Susan Strebog

Newsletter article deadline is the 20th of the month; please submit articles or ideas to editor

Susan at [kellystrebog@comcast.net](mailto:kellystrebog@comcast.net)

-proofreaders Phyllis Clark, Mary Murphy

-collate/mail team Phyllis & Cal Clark,

winters - Kathy Bergthold

## August council meeting notes

- ◆ Approved the establishment of an Endowment Committee starting with willing members of the Finance Ministry
- ◆ Approved the addition of Joy Sorensen Navarre to the Endowment Committee
- ◆ Approved inviting other members of the congregation to be considered for the Endowment Committee if they express interest
- ◆ Pastor Matthias has met all the ministry requirements of both the Presbytery and the UCC and plans for his installation to take place Sunday, October 20, at 3 p.m.
- ◆ Pastor Matthias is in contract negotiation with a possible music director.
- ◆ Did not approve a request from Lo Mejor del Trigo congregation to rent our spaces as we do not have the volunteer power to cover all that would be needed for a congregation so large to be in the building so many days and hours each week.
- ◆ Approved a request from the MN Transgender Alliance to meet at our church every other Friday from 6-7:30 p.m. starting September 13. They offered a small fee but council wishes for them to be here free of charge to show that this is truly a welcoming place for them.
- ◆ The FREC conference gives eight complimentary registrations (due by August 25) to CPUC in gratitude for its support, so up to eight members may attend free of charge



### Loaves & Fishes

**September 5, Thursday, 3:45-6:30 p.m.**

Join us at St. Matthew's Church for our semi-monthly commitment to provide a tasty meal for those in need of nourishment. Help for an hour or more to prepare, serve (3:45 p.m.), and/or clean up (4:45-6:30 p.m.) Please contact Stefan

if you can help this month.

### Covenanting Sunday - September 8

The Lay Ministries team will again be organizing this Sunday celebration when we affirm our commitments to ministry teams and activities within the church for the coming year. The team will also be hosting the fellowship hour that day.



## *From Pastor Matthias*

As we come up on the end of summer the seasonal changes that come about each year around this time are in the air. Trees are not turning colors just yet, but the daylight hours are getting shorter. Children (and teachers) are heading back to school. The last of vacations are wrapped up. The State Fair signals the finale and Labor Day weekend caps off the last hurrah as most of us move into a more steady schedule of work and home with the arrival of Fall.

So too at Cherokee Park United Church, there are some exciting new things as we move into this season of our life together.

- Worship moves back to a 10:15 a.m. start time on Sunday, September 8. Adult forum begins anew that day with fresh ideas for our time together. And we celebrate Covenanting Sunday—a renewal of leadership and our shared covenant and commitment to what God is doing through CPUC.
- We welcome Sandy Waterman as our new Music Director! She brings a breadth of musical experience and is a multi-instrumentalist (piano, world drums, and harp!). She is also well-practiced in working with church choirs and lay musicians. Her enthusiasm for music and working with the choir represent a great gift to the CPUC family.
- Starting in mid-September, CPUC is proud to host the first St. Paul meeting of the Minnesota Transgender Alliance (MNTA). The group was looking to expand, adding a meeting in St. Paul and reached out to CPUC seeking a safe, welcoming space to meet. MNTA does great work in supporting the Transgender community and providing education on a wide array of topics.

Of course, even as change is exciting and brings fresh perspectives and new ideas, too much change can be stressful or worse. Church has a role to play in that balance, being both a source of challenge and renewal, fostering our growth as people and as Christians, but also a source of stability for moments when our lives feel chaotic and out of control. To that latter end, much remains steady at CPUC moving into the Fall: we continue to worship God with joy and thanksgiving, bringing our whole selves to worship; we continue to support one another through hard times and celebrate together those joyous moments and milestones; we hold fast in the struggle for justice for all people and all creation. I look forward to the new movements of the Spirit with us, and the steadfastness of God's love with the CPUC community as we move into the Fall. Thank you for being part of the journey.

Peace, Pastor Matthias



## *Volunteers needed for MMDTC 20<sup>th</sup> annual Wacipi (Pow Wow)*



This September, CPUC is again doing our part to preserve Dakota culture and tradition by organizing the closing feast for the Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Tribal Community's annual wacipi, taking place **September 13 – 15** on the grounds of St. Peter's church in Mendota.

Prepping and cooking for the feast will happen in the kitchen of CPUC on Saturday, September 14 beginning at 9 a.m. and continuing into the early afternoon. Final preparations will continue on Sunday after coffee hour. Then, around 4:30, we will pack up all of the food and supplies and bring it to the pow wow grounds where we will serve a meal to an extraordinary number of our friends and neighbors.

Maria McNamara and Karen Shatek will be signing people up for volunteer shifts over the coming weeks. Catch us at coffee hour or give one of us a call. In addition, Maria and Joy Sorenson Navarre are coordinating volunteer sign-ups for ALL of the various tasks involved in producing a pow wow. If you would be interested in taking a 3-hour shift in the food booth, the give-away area, button booth, or set-up/take-down, please connect with Maria or Joy.

Our church's work on this is so much appreciated by MMDTC. This will be a big (and bittersweet) year at the wacipi with many honorings of those who have walked on and those who remain to carry on the work. Thank you so much for being a part of this.

### *Welcome Sandy Waterman*



You may not recognize her name but will probably recognize her face and bubbly personality as one of our frequent guest pianists. We have great news! She has agreed to sign on as our music and choir director starting in September. Choir rehearsals will resume on Wednesdays, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. We'll include more on her background in a future newsletter, but could not wait to tell you!

### *Faith Life Ministry*

Have ideas about what we should do for our school-aged kids? We are seeking input and help! Two ways to get connected or put in your two cents worth: call or email Jane Peterson and/or answer a two-question survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T8JZYR>

## Women's Affinity Group resumes

**Friday, September 6, 7 p.m.**

We will meet at the home of Jill Jackson and share light refreshments and a discussion of, "Living in the moment." All are who identify as female are welcome.

Group participants are encouraged to consider hosting or co-hosting an upcoming meeting, typically the first Friday of the month. *Or you might offer to plan the topic with someone else being the home hostess.* A signup sheet will be available at the meeting or you can contact Jill. The Women's Retreat will take the place of the October meeting. Other meeting dates needing hosts for the coming year are December 6, January 3, February 7, March 6, April 3, May 1.



## Adult Forum resumes September 8

The Adult Forum/ Education Hour will start meeting again at 9 a.m. and all who are high school age or older are welcome to attend. People gather in the Parent's Room close to the Manomin Avenue entry. Come on the 8th and you can help decide our focus for the sessions this fall. Last year we discussed the 8 Points of Progressive Christianity, read the book *Jesus before Christianity*, and viewed the acclaimed documentary *13th*. Please join us and bring your ideas! If you will not be present on the 8th, please relay your ideas to some who will attend or to Jill Jackson. [jilljacksonmn@comcast.net](mailto:jilljacksonmn@comcast.net)



## Women's retreat

**Saturday, October 12**

The annual Women's Affinity Group Retreat will be held at church, facilitated by the Rev. Denise Dunbar-Perkins. See the registration form on the last page to sign up for this enjoyable time together!

## National Night Out with our neighbors at Douglas Park

There was plenty of wildlife in the park the evening of August 6; all friendlies!



The weather was perfect and the ambience lovely for National Night Out. This year, we partnered with the Smith-Morton-Ohio-Baker (SMOB) neighbors and Bank Cherokee to celebrate National Night Out. The event was a joyful example of coming together with over 80 neighbors for food, connection, and fun in a way that brought CPUC out into the wider community. Thanks to Jill Jackson for her tremendous organizing effort and many CPUC volunteers who helped with set up, clean up, and being hospitable and warm neighbors. As the Psalmist says: "How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!"



## *Welcome new and returning greeters!*

Excitement is boiling over because the 2019-2020 schedule for greeters will be created in September. If you're currently a greeter and you are willing to serve again there is no need to do anything! If you prefer to take some time off or have limitations on your availability, please let Jill Jackson know by September 13. If you'd like to become a greeter, contact her by that date, also. There are some resources to share with you as you start this important role in our church.



## *Five Sundays Collection*

This month we will take up an extra collection for Tom and Monica Liddle's mission work in East Timor. We had previously made a congregational commitment for a number of years which now has been fulfilled. If any individuals would like to support them in their last year they are welcome to do so. Tom was the last pastoral intern here at CPUC; he touched many lives in his work with our youth and adults. Read about their lives on their blog at <http://timorsite.wordpress.com>

## *A sermon note from Jill and the Outreach Ministry*

Did you miss worship last Sunday? Or do you ever wish you could re-visit ideas or images from Pastor Matthias's sermons? You can! They are posted on the church website at [cherokeeparkunited.org](http://cherokeeparkunited.org) under the "Worship" section of the menu at the top of the site. (The menu icon is three horizontal lines - it looks like a hamburger!) You can read the sermons and share them with friends from the site as well. Many thanks to Pastor Matthias and our tech team- Tom Murphy and Sarah Ellefson - for making this possible.

## *Happy Birthday (add your name here)*

A few weeks ago, before worship, we passed around a clipboard and invited members and friends to list their days of celebrations, birthdays, anniversaries, etc. We do often remember people's birthdays but realize we also miss many. The list is currently on the worship space back table. Please add yours.

**Free exercise equipment:** heavy duty Reebok treadmill and A Total Gym, gently used and in great shape. Contact Karolyn.

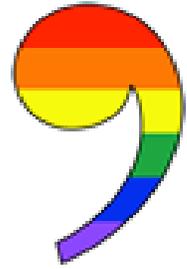
## Cloudy with a (big) chance of love

This is the first year we can remember having rain on our annual Worship in the Park, but we were not rained out, we just had water on our altar and a few puddles to negotiate (or not). We numbered about 35 two-leggeds and one four-legged. We carried on in spite of the rain, recognizing in it a reminder of God's provision for creation, limits on our human abilities to predict or control things, and the Holy sense of humor and adaptability gave us the opportunity to exercise. Tom and Jim carried the music leadership, and the Fellowship and Caring Team coordinated the set-up and potluck. Thanks to all who came out! It is a blessing to be part of a community of faith that can find the blessings in surprises.



## *Cherokee Park United Council /Session 2019*

(Copies of this list along with contact information can be obtained from the wall clipboard in back of church)



### **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: vice-moderator  
Susan Strebig  
Jan Howe

### **Class of 2021:**

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

The Council asks for the prayers and participation of the people of CPUC as it deliberates and make plans for the future, seeking to embody the vision, mission, and values we proclaim.

Council normally meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month from 7 - 9 p.m. Please connect with Council members with ideas or feedback you wish to share. Meetings are always open to members except for periods of time when it goes into executive session to discuss personal matters. Copies of council minutes are available upon request.

*Seeking a Quiet Center  
in a Noisy World*

Come learn ways to detach from life's loudness and invest in our relationships with ourselves, each other, and God.



The Rev. Denise Dunbar-Perkins  
Retreat Facilitator

**Women's Retreat 2019**

**One Day Only - Saturday, October 12 - 8:30 am to 5:00 pm**  
**New Location – At Cherokee Park United Church**

**The cost of the retreat is \$ 35**, due with your registration by Sunday, Sept. 22. Registration fees cover the cost of our facilitator, cold breakfast, catered lunch, snacks and materials. If you need scholarship help, please talk to Karen Shatek. If you have other questions, please contact Jill Jackson.



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**Women's Retreat Registration Form, October 12, 2019**

I will be attending this year's retreat (fee \$ 35 - Check made out to CPUC preferred)

I need a ride to and from church on October 12.

My choice of sandwich for box lunch (please check one)

Turkey, ham, cheeses, tomato, lettuce, and onion on caraway rye bread with mayo

Sliced chicken breast, bacon, cheese, and veggies on Vienna white bread with ranch

Veggies, cheeses, sprouts on whole wheat bread with herb mayo

Any special needs (dietary, time limits, etc.), please identify - \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

***Please return this form along with your payment to Karen Shatek or Jill Jackson  
by Sunday, September 22.***

## **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

Sept 1 Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sept 8 Worship 10:15 a.m.

Pastor: Rev. Matthias Peterson-Brandt

651-227-4275

[cpuc@usfamily.net](mailto:cpuc@usfamily.net)

[cherokeeparkunited.org](http://cherokeeparkunited.org)



*Love or the lack of it is the root of everything.*

*Please won't you be my neighbor?*

Fred McFeely Rogers, 1928-2003  
(Presbyterian minister, creator and host of the  
Mrs. Rogers' Neighborhood TV series 1968-2001)