



Happy pollinator



## **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 August 2021***

# grace humor patience

As a core team has conversations about the shift in our congregational life, three virtues were lifted up as essential to moving through this new way of worship. We know there will be mistakes and glitches as we live into this next phase in our pandemic journey as a congregation. We are blessed to be together on this unexpected journey.

## *Lay Ministry Team...* seeking new ways of living out our mission at CPUC

As we evolve in ministry, the Lay Ministry Team is looking for new frameworks to help us continue and grow as a faith community. The pandemic gave us new opportunities and insights into new points of focus going forward. Our individual and collective enthusiasms and energy levels are part of this assessment time, too. Please pray for us in this effort. Please contact any member of the team with insights or ideas.

In seeking to be responsive, the Team is asking all ministry team chairs, members, and those in special roles to stay in place through the end of 2021. If that is not possible, please contact someone on Lay Ministries. We appreciate your patience and continued service as we seek God's will and ways to live out our mission.

In gratitude,

Mike, Chair

Karolyn, Jaime, Jill, Gina, and Pastor Matthias



## *Make Important Connections – Greet!*

The Outreach Ministry Team is looking for volunteers to serve as greeters at our hybrid worship services. We need two "in-person" greeters each Sunday. ***When you sign up to greet at CPUC, we will reserve a spot for you at worship on that date!*** You will receive instructions (and any updates) via email the week before your service. Greeting is a little different right now in order to be safe and responsive to current church policies. We also need a "virtual" greeter. That can be done from anywhere with an internet connection to CPUC's Livestream.

Sign up using the Sign-Up Genius link below. We are scheduling greeters through mid-September. If you have questions, please contact Jill, Mike, or Pastor Matthias. Thank you for being a part of this adventure in ministry at CPUC! Pastor Matthias if you need instructions to help.



### *Introvert alert*

## **WELCOME**

Be the thoughtful welcomer you are without the stress of having to be around a lot of people. Welcome people to our Sunday service online, from home if desired, and insert the congregational responses and song lyrics when needed. Contact Jill or Pastor Matthias for instructions to help.

### *The Women's Affinity Group takes a break!*

The Women's Affinity Group will not meet in August or September. Summer schedules, holiday weekends, and pow wow preparations are keeping people busy the next few months. We hope to resume on Friday, October 1. If you have ideas for topics for the year ahead, please email, call, or text Jill. Stay tuned and thank you!

### *July meeting council notes...*

There was no council meeting in July as numbers of people would be unable to attend and there was no pressing business needing action. However, council remains in touch with each other and is able to make decisions via email if needed; a decision needs to be unanimous in order to be passed via the internet. Most discussions have centered around refinements to the COVID-19 safety plans for indoor worship.



#### *Newsletter:*

-submit articles by the 22nd of preceding month  
to editor - Susan, at  
kellystrebig@comcast.net  
-proofreaders Phyllis Clark,  
Mary Murphy

*A brief editorial:* Having a bit of space left, I'd like to share a huge enlightenment I received from reading *Caste: Origins of our Discontent*. I had not been a regular participant in Adult Forum, but during the pandemic I dropped in occasionally on a Wednesday night; and then even if not "attending", I tried to do all the readings they were doing. This book, by Isabel Wilkerson, reads slowly, but is an

absolute must-read. Having grown up in an all-white small town, but with a nearby city that was rumored to prohibit black people from staying overnight, I was much sheltered from our built-in racist system. It seemingly did not impact me. I am grateful to this church community for pointing me to information that I did not have. If you start, and are tempted to put the book down, please read at least pages 89-96. My head was ripped out of the sand to realize that the Nazi regime looked to, and emulated the U.S. for a how-to on dehumanizing a part of their population, and found some aspects of our treatments of black people to be too harsh for them to consider. Susan S.



*Getting ready for our first in-person worship service in over a year!*

Just like in our homes, we needed to vacuum, dust off the cobwebs from the ceiling, and scrub the floors. And do a bit of construction.





## First worship service, July 4, 2021

back inside our church building...followed by treats outside



*Techs* in the balcony

*Communion* ~ not wine,  
but still fruit of the vine



*August Happy Birthdays  
& Celebrations*

06 - Curt  
07 - Kathy  
06 - Bob  
08 - Mary  
11 - Parker  
13 - Kathy  
14 - Karen  
15 - Ted  
16 - Kandy  
♡ 23 - Eric & Jane  
30 - Jane

*Sermon messages: (yes, we are listening!)*

Small things matter: they can grow (like the mustard seed) into big things ...keep doing



those small acts of kindness as you never know how much they can mean and grow.

A Venn diagram reminder:  
we are a very small part of the kin-dom,  
and at times, part of us even  
may not be in it!

God's Kin-dom

*Zoom Fellowship Continues*

Since numbers of us are still worshipping virtually on Sundays, the Fellowship Zoom following the service will continue. There is no host assigned. The link will be open but if no one else is there, just wait a bit to see if anyone else shows up. It might be a good idea to plan with a friend to be on together to start it out.

CPUC

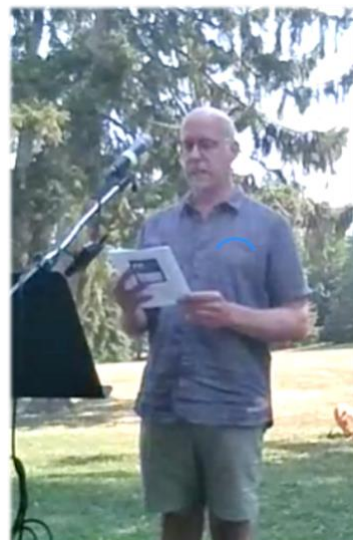


*Worship in the Park July 25* ~ Minister Pastor Matthias, bubble minister Roxanna, cantors Joanne & Jim, musicians Stefan & Jim, liturgist Jerome, tech crew Tom & Jeremy behind the scenes.

Focus~ *Creating a Sabbath for the Earth*



The Senate is working on climate legislation now, so this is a very effective time to let our senators know that we support climate action and carbon pricing. Leave an after-hours message of advocacy or chat with an intern during office hours, Sen. Amy Klobuchar (202) 224-3244, Sen. Tina Smith (202) 224-5641. US Congress switchboard if you are outside of Minnesota 202-224-3121.



United Church of Christ/Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
Open & Affirming, Multicultural, Antiracist  
371 W. Baker Street  
St. Paul, MN 55107

*Coordinates of Love*

*Latitude 44.9267*

*Longitude -93.1012*

Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.  
In-person and online  
Pastor: Rev. Matthias Peterson-Brandt  
651-227-4275  
cpuc@usfamily.net  
cherokeeparkunited.org

Help tend the community garden,  
*The Garden of Good Hearts*  
on Wednesday, August 4 from 7-8 p.m.  
Contact Pastor Matthias if you are able to join in.

