



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 October 2022



Another Next Chapter

An Invitation offered by Rev. Joanne

Weekly October 2 through 30, 90 minutes

Autumn is a good time to consider the Harvest, whether little or lots. And some of us are in - what seems to be - the Autumn of our own lives. **What do we do with this one -**

scary – wonderful life? You are invited to explore what is falling away and where there are buds of new life for us to protect and nurture. We have this treasure in earthen vessels..... Let us be good stewards of this life; let's discover how we can do so with anticipation, honesty, mutual support, and even joy.

"Autumn is a time of incredible activity in the natural world and these realities help frame important cycles and questions in our own lives. While most are aware that leaves fall away leaving trees bare through the winter season, not as many know that the buds of new growth are often already formed." (Wisdom Ways)

The four session topics will be: 1.) How do I want to spend the gift of Time? 2.) How do I spend/use my Possessions including this body? 3.) How do I use/enjoy to the fullest- my Relationships? 4.) How will I be a good steward of my Faith that will carry me through all my days?

There are many options for in-person or zoom gatherings, and in numerous locations. Each session will be offered 4 times each week. Group size: from 4 to 10 maximum. Please indicate your scheduling preference. If you miss a session, you could possibly attend a different group for that week.

Sundays, October 2, 9, 16, 23; 11 – 12:30 PM

at The Recovery Church, 253 State Street St Paul

Sundays, October 9, 16, 23, 30; 1- 2:30 PM

at Cherokee Park United Church, 371 West Baker St, St Paul

Wednesdays October 5,12,19, 26; 4 – 5:30 PM or 5:30 - 7 PM

at a home + or ZOOM

Thursdays, October 6,13, 20, 27 10:30 AM-12 noon or 1 – 2:30 PM

at a home + or ZOOM

+ *This could be at my home which is 5 minutes from either church on St Paul's West Side or someone else may offer a location for their convenience and/hospitality.*



To join or for more info please contact.

Choir Restarting this Fall



After a long two years with no choir whatsoever due to COVID, we are planning to resume some more special music and singing come the Fall. So far it seems likely that this will take the shape of smaller ensembles—trios, duets, or solos—based on what is comfortable for those who wish to resume some rehearsed singing and the number of folks we've heard from. If you have interest in singing with others or exploring some options, reach out to our Music Director Sandy W.

Sugar and Spice Stewardship Season



Keep an eye out towards the end of October for a letter and information about our annual pledge campaign. As we look ahead to 2023, your pledge helps sustain our ministries and congregational life. A pledge is a way to help us live within our means as a congregation. It is an act of faith: trusting that the Spirit is still alive and doing new things among us; it is an act of generosity: living out gratitude for the graces—great and small—that God offers to us as gift.

Our ministries always come with a dose of humor and sometimes sugar and spice too. When you send in your pledge, you can also send your name (or someone else's!) on the card enclosed with your mailing, for a drawing for a homemade pie. Get your pledges turned in, and each Sunday during our stewardship season (Nov. 6, 13, & 20), we'll draw one name. Sometimes people enter a friend's name instead of their own which makes for lots of fun. This year we are also asking that if you win the pie you've designated for someone else, that you deliver the pie to them. (Maybe they will share it?)

World Communion Sunday-- *Let us bring you Communion at home*

In Christian communities through-out the world the first Sunday of October is designated as World Communion Sunday. As we move into safe ways to gather and also stay connected with one another, sharing Holy Communion challenges us to reach out in new ways. This first Sunday, October 2nd, we are offering to bring the elements of communion to those who wish to receive them. If you would like to have communion brought to you after 11:30 or a time best for you, or If you would like to be one who brings communion (we'll give you all you need to do this!) - call/text Pastor Matthias or Joanne.

FREC Annual Conference OVERCOMING RACISM
November 11-12, (Friday-Saturday) The Power of Truth Telling

Don't miss the opportunity to do yourself and the world some good.

2012. I sat, one of many participating in a Q & A following a presentation addressing effects of racism. My body was growing agitated. My mind swirled with thoughts.

"But wait. What about. I disagree."

I said nothing; not because I didn't want to, rather, because I couldn't form a coherent sentence.

During the break I sought out our pastor at the time, Tim Johnson. He was instrumental in making this conference possible. In an animated fashion I made my case. Tim's calm response has stayed with me.

"Just listen. Try not to respond. Listen"

This counsel and conference launched this progressive lesbian Christian into a whole new level of seeing privilege, white privilege.

I have attended most every year since. The Facilitating Racial Equity Collaborative, a mouthful better known as FREC, has grown deep and wide. CPUC plays a significant role in this important work. There are some complimentary registrations available. Contact Pastor Matthias if you would like one of them.

*My faith & this church motivate me to risk walking the Jesus way.
This conference helps me to listen so that I hear.*

Sandy D.



FREC
Facilitating Racial
Equity Collaborative

From Pastor Matthias

Dear CPUC,
What is your go-to response when someone asks “How are you?”

Mine are: “Good,” “Okay,” or “Tired.” Perhaps you are one of those rarer people who offer a more nuanced response. Or perhaps, like most of us, it depends also on who is asking you and in what context.



A while back I had the realization that more often than not “How are you?” as an opening question is a bad way to begin. Whatever feelings we all may have bubbling around inside us—anxiousness, excitement, sadness, joy—none of those are likely to rise to the top when we are asked how we are doing. Scenarios where someone might ask us how we are doing are also unlikely to be circumstances where we are having some intense bout of feelings.

So our answers are more flat, and rather than open up a broader conversation, it is like trying to find your way after hitting a dead end. We all long for relationship and connection. How do we create spaces in our interactions for honesty and real knowing?

A friend I know tends to begin conversations: “How’s your week?” When I am asked that, as opposed to “How are you?” I pause to think about the events of my recent days, the ups and downs. The invitation to call these to mind prompts me to share something of note. From there, this friend has an opening to engage with whatever I’ve just shared.

I have since been thinking about other questions to open up conversations, because our faith calls us to be engaged in the lives of those around us. We are called to compassion, to interest in the struggles and joys of others, and to creating community. I’d love to hear what questions you have found help you open up conversations and strengthen relationships.

Blessed Autumn season to you all,

Pastor Matthias

at the August meeting the Council...

...received the pastor's report which included: Our custodian Jair started back to work yesterday after a 6-week medical recovery; many thanks to Jim who managed all the needed cleaning, making it possible for us to continue to pay the custodian in his absence. Pastor spent time helping get first seasonal team launched. The FREC Overcoming Racism conference is November 11-12; CPUC has 6 complimentary registrations; there may be three spoken for. Pastor will be away on study leave Oct 3-9; Rev. Sandy D. will lead worship Oct 9.



now

...received a report from Lay Ministries about the Seasonal Planning Team, consisting of Jill, Diane, Karolyn, Mary M., Wayne, Sandy D., and Joanne, which met twice. Karolyn found this very exciting and fabulous, including team building and brain storming, looking at what is often done during this time period, then discerning whether all needed to be continued, whether there were things for which there was no energy, and if there were any new ideas desired to be explored. Team members were asked what they were passionate about, and in the second meeting, made up the 3-month calendar, assigning duties to each, putting together communications for the general membership. One idea considered was how to share the prayers of the people back and forth with people attending virtually from at home with those in person in the church; Tom M. is willing to figure out how to do this.

...received a motion from the Finance Team to approve the list of offering counters: Kathy B., Russ, Barb, Meliza, Dave, Jerome, Eric J., Jim, Karen.

...passed a motion to create a resource team to advise council of covid-related considerations, with huge gratitude to the original Being Church During Covid team. Thanks to Jill, Maria, and Joanne for leading us for over two years. The new team will include people outside of council, with a diversity of leanings from medically cautious, to seeing the danger in isolation. Kay is willing to be the covid medical search person and Carly will also help.

...passed a motion to change the council zoom meetings to in-person meetings at church but also with a zoom option. We are looking for more options for better technical aspects although they seem very spendy. Pastor Matthias will check whether there are still any grants available from the Presbytery.

...passed a motion for Carly to build one box fan air filter to be used at CPUC. This is a
(continued on next page)

very inexpensive but proven effective technology for Covid prevention, to add to masking and distancing. This fan can be made for \$150 or less, (Ax Man, here she comes!), compared to HEPA filters which cost \$1000 and up. Numbers of fans will be needed and up to four fans were authorized.

...received notice from Jim from Property Management that Wagner Sod Co. is coming out to winterize the sprinkler system.

...received a report from Pastor Matthias that the Personnel Team is looking at the nursery director job description, to be prepared to hire someone in this position when needed in the future.



Air filter unit here shows orange-taped top. Ours, in true Carly fashion, may be sparkle tape!

Greeters at CPUC!

There are many opportunities to greet at church whether in-person or virtual (for Facebook Livestream worshipers). If you are willing to help, please sign up using this link. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C45AFA72AA1FFC16-worship>

There may be services in the future where greeters are not present at church or online. We ask your cooperation and extra attentiveness to fellow worshippers on those occasions. Contact: Jill



Let's swap!!

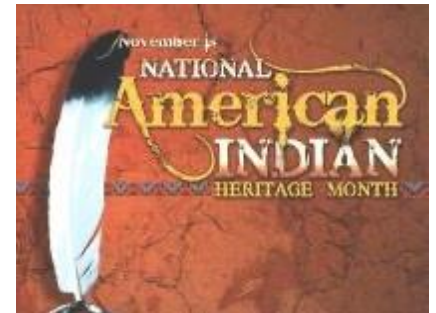


Observances of Indigenous People Heritage in the U.S.A.

1914: Red Fox James, a Blackfoot Indian, rode horseback from state to state seeking approval for a day to honor Indians. On December 14, 1915, he presented the endorsements of 24 state governments at the White House. There is no record, however, of such a national day being proclaimed. From 1915-1918 the Boy Scouts of America set aside a day for the "First Americans". The first American Indian Day in a state was declared on the second Saturday in May 1916 by the governor of New York. In 1919 Illinois legislators, as well as in a few other states, enacted the fourth Friday in September as recognition of native Americans. In 1986 the Reagan administration recognized Native American Heritage Week November 23-30 with a bill first authored by Cherokee-Osage Indian, Jerry C. Elliott-High Eagle in 1976.

AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH

1990: President George H. W. Bush approved a joint resolution designating **November** as **National American Indian Heritage Month**. Since then, **every President** who has sat at the Oval Office has **continued the tradition** of declaring November as the Native American Heritage Month.



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE DAY

By **2009**, Congress passed an act that chose the **Friday immediately following Thanksgiving Day** as **Native American Heritage Day**.



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY

1992: People of north California, particularly in Berkeley, protest Columbus Day by renaming it **Indigenous Peoples' Day**.



2021: President Joe Biden formally recognized the second Monday in October as a **national holiday, Indigenous Peoples' Day**.

1989-2021: Fifteen states plus D.C. adopt and observe Indigenous People's Day instead of **or** in addition to Columbus Day. (Ten still also observe this as Columbus Day, including Minnesota.)

Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Wacipi

Thanks to all who prepared for, worked at, and cleaned up after the annual powwow closing feast. These groceries plus many more fed hundreds of participants, thanks to the culinary skills of Maria who has organized the food for many past years.



Chef Jim baked chocolate chip cookies for the pow wow as usual; the toque helps them to not burn.

Observance of National Hispanic Heritage Month September to October



1968: Hispanic Heritage Week was first proclaimed by President Johnson.^[6] Presidents Nixon, Ford, Carter, and Reagan gave annual proclamations for Hispanic Heritage Week between 1969 and 1988.

1989: National Hispanic Heritage Month was first proclaimed by President George H. W. Bush on September 14.^[7] Since 1989, all Presidents have given a Presidential Proclamation to mark Hispanic Heritage Month.^[8]

September 15 was chosen as the starting point for the commemoration because it is the anniversary of the Cry of Dolores (early morning, 16 September 1810), which marked the start of the Mexican War of Independence and thus resulted (in 1821) in independence for the New Spain Colony (now Mexico and the Central American nations of Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Honduras, and Nicaragua) which became the Federal Republic of Central America.

Mexico, most Central American countries, and Chile commemorate their independence from Spain on September 15, September 16, and September 18, respectively.

Worship at CPUC - never a dull moment

Talking about superheroes



What happens when you own too much?



Guest preacher Rev. Chris gets down
with the children's sermon



Children's sermon is over.
Need a soft place to take a nap!

Jim and Mike managing the controls of
Spaceship CPUC - photo by Commander Tom



Sebastian promotes free toy exchange



Worship anecdote from Pastor Matthias

On Sunday, September 11 we were blessed with four liturgists at the ready. Having realized he could not make it that Sunday he was supposed to be liturgist, Eric J. reached out to let Pastor Matthias know. Matthias called Russ who agreed to be the substitute. Come Sunday morning, Kathy, Maria, and Jerome each showed up in turn also offering to be liturgist, having been contacted by Eric. What a humorous blessing to have an abundance of folks willing to help cover an unexpected gap in our worship life.

October Birthdays & Celebrations

06 -Ethan
♥ 13 Brad & Kay
♥ 15 - Jackie & Dave
16 - Adrien
16 - Jill
17 - Kelly
18 - Joy
25 - Kay
25 - Stefan

Newsletter

-submit articles by the 22nd of
preceding month
to editor - Susan, at
kellystrebig@comcast.net
-proofreaders Phyllis C., Mary M.
-collator Kathy B.

Loaves & Fishes



Note from Wayne:

September 3 at Loaves and Fishes we served over 270 meals, a new record for us. Why did we show up to do it again? What called us to give up the time we could otherwise devote to our mundane tasks or for rest or our own pleasure, and, instead, expend it on serving strangers who came in need?

If you join us, you may find out. The next chance will be on Thursday, November 3.

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., in person and online
<https://www.facebook.com/cherokeeparkchurch/live>
Pastor: Rev. Matthias Peterson-Brandt
651-227-4275
cpuc@usfamily.net
cherokeeparkunited.org

*When will our consciences grow so tender
that we will act to prevent human misery
rather than avenge it?*

*Eleanor Roosevelt, First Lady of the United States from 1933-1945.
Author, speaker, and champion of the dispossessed.*

Quote from her newspaper column written in Berlin, Germany after her visit to a Jewish displaced persons camp. Under her tenure as Chair of the UN Commission on Human Rights, she created the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.