

SANCTUARY
IN THE
CITY

An Open and Affirming Ministry

COMPTON
HEIGHTS
CHRISTIAN
CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)



March 2013

Volume 61, Number 3

www.comptonheights.com

The Rev. Dr. Jacquelyn L. Foster, Pastor

Ms. Joylynn Graham, Student Assoc. Pastor



**Lent, Holy Week
and
Easter**

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You're amazing, God,

The way you paint the sky with endless combinations of colours,
The way you fill the world with countless creatures,
all so different, all so unique.

You're amazing, God,

The way you hide in the faces of people,
How, if we look long enough and carefully enough,
we see you in the plump smile of the newborn,
and the loose skin of the elderly,
the shocking challenge of those who seem so strange to us,
and the comforting familiarity of those who seem so normal.

You're amazing, God,

The way you never stop finding ways to remind us of you,
How, if we will only let you,
you take our hand and lead us into life,
vibrant and rich and overflowing.

Isn't strange how we so easily choose to listen
to voices other than yours?
to follow guides that lead us away from you?

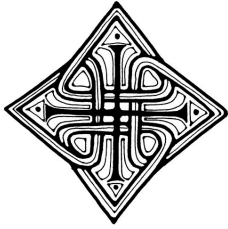
Isn't it strange how often we search for life apart from you,
and then wonder why we never find it?

Forgive us our foolishness,
and please don't ever stop whispering to us of your love.

In Jesus' Name. Amen

- John Van de Laer

CROSSPATHS



Here we are moving toward Easter as people who have heard and told the story so many times before! And that is as it should be, because Easter is the story we are made to tell again and again and again. Though we have heard and spoken the words before, they are different every time. That is because *we are never the same, and the promise of new life takes on new and deeper meaning at every turn in our living!*

Our “Belonging” group is reading the book, *The Boundary-Breaking God: An Unfolding Story of Hope and Promise* by Danielle Shroyer, pastor of one of the first independent emerging communities of faith. Shroyer describes that

“there has been one central event in God’s story when God gave us a sneak peak at the future, and that was the resurrection of Jesus At the empty tomb, the boundaries of present and future fused as old creation and new creation clashed together like cymbals; old creation was pronounced finished and new creation was inaugurated at the very same time. We have already seen a true glimpse of God’s future. It is not the end of the world. It is Easter.”

In these days of Lent as we dare to walk with Jesus right in the challenges and tensions of our world and our lives, let’s dare to expect that God is living with us into God’s future every single day. And that future is a redeemed creation. God is doing a new thing! Come live into God’s future!

Let’s create it, discover it, and explore it together with God! Jacque

Holy Week and Easter at Compton Heights CC!

Palm Sunday, March 24 - Worship with Palms as we enter Jerusalem with Jesus

Maundy Thursday, Mar 28 – 7:00 pm Worship at Oak Hill Presbyterian Church

Good Friday, Mar 29 – Noon til 2 pm, Way of the Cross Walk thru neighborhood
Beginning and ending at Compton Heights CC

Holy Saturday, Mar 30 – 11:30 am to 1:00 pm Community Meal served in our
Fellowship hall!



EASTER Sunday, March 31

9:00 am - Easter Breakfast

10:00 am – Easter Egg Hunt

11:00 am – Worship Celebration of the Resurrection

Celebrations and Concerns

In Our Prayers

Lew Mead has been in hospital with pneumonia and tests

Betty and Red Graham

Janice Tayoan for healing and gaining of strength.

Royce Sykes

Ruth Kreuger – is very excited that at almost 101 she has flown to Florida to spend time with daughter Linda and son-in-law Henk.

Abundant Joy Overflowing Generosity/ Abundant Generosity Overflowing Joy

February 3 was Stewardship Commitment Sunday. As of Feb. 17, we have 17 commitments for a total of \$81,388. In comparison, at this point in 2012 we had 20 commitments for \$73,097. (Our total income for 2012 was about \$100,100). We are excited about our growth in ministry as we continue to explore what it means for us to “Become the Community of Jesus.” If you have not yet made your Stewardship Commitment, you may make it at any time! All of our gifts together make our ministry possible!

As we celebrate the many gifts of ministry given through Compton Heights Christian Church in the past and dream about ways our congregation can continue ministry in the future, we realize that our own dedicated service and contributions of our time, talents and treasure are how we respond to all that God has given to us. Our joy that we are able to give transforms us into a people of overflowing generosity. And when we honor God with gifts of abundant generosity, we experience overflowing joy!

In 2 Corinthians 8:1-7. the Apostle Paul holds up for the Corinthians an example of abundant living and giving by the Macedonian Christians who were living on the edge and didn't have the material wealth that is usually associated with abundant offerings. But they gave anyway with gladness and generosity. Even if we think of our community being in somewhat of the same social and economic status as the Macedonians (afflicted socially and economically) *can we do less than say YES! to God's call to give of ourselves as readily as they did?*

My Estimated Financial Giving to Compton Heights Christian Church 2013

(To the attention of the Financial Secretary)

In celebration of God's abundant generosity to me, and out of the overflowing joy I feel from God's blessings in my life through this congregation, I commit to this estimated offering, with God's help:

I/We plan, with God's help, to give \$ _____ per week or \$ _____ per month in 2013.

Name (s) _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ Phone _____

I/We would like a set of offering envelopes _____ I/We use a service that mails our contribution _____

Happy Birthday!



In our February list we missed that Hugh Richardson turned 1 yr old on February 20!

MARCH

- 4th Dennis Landon
- 15th Mary Schumacher
- 19th Bob Miner
- 20th Lillian Kaley
- 21st David French

APRIL

- 10th Cory Sykes
- 17th Red Graham
- 19th Guang Wu
- 20th Leslie Latham
- 25th DebE Miner Martin

If we do not have your Birthday in our information, please let us know so that we can celebrate with you!

“ BECOMING THE COMMUNITY OF JESUS”

A Winter/Spring 2013 focus to help our congregation listen for God’s leading forward in ministry.



PART 1 “SAVING JESUS Redux”

Sunday Morning Study experience (began Sunday, Jan. 27) and will extend through the spring. This is a DVD-based study exploring what Jesus looks like for the third millennium. Contributors include Brian McLaren, Diana Butler Bass, Robin Meyers, Marcus Borg, Walter Brueggemann, John Dominic Crossan, Matthew Fox, Amy-Jill Levine, and a host of other theologians, scholars, and pastors.

A deeply engaging study, to help us personally and as a community explore who Jesus is and therefore what it means for us to live as the Community of Jesus in the world.

We encourage as many in our congregation as possible to take part in this Sunday morning study. It begins on time at 10:05 and extends until 10:50. There is room for all!

PART 2 “BELONGING”

“A small-group process, a structured opportunity to practice living deeply and loving broadly in which we look to JESUS as our model of integrity and pattern our lives around prayer-full discipleship practices, in order to be set loose as agents of love and healing in this broken world!”



**Tuesday Evenings 6:30 – 8:30, Feb. 19 and 26, March 5, 12 and 19
Saturday, March 23 – Day-long Immersion “Going to the Margins”
Tuesday Evenings April 2 and 9th**

Latter parts of our process will include Home Gatherings, Compassionate Listening, and a late Spring Retreat!

NEW COMPTON HEIGHTS CC WEBSITE LAUNCHED!

We thank **Madeline Haraway, Amelia Tegerdine, and Reed Glasener** for their work and support in getting the new CHCC website up and going. We hope you will follow and consult the website for regular updates and new information. Click on *Events* for a Google calendar, click on *Resources/Media* for links to our Newsletters, Sermons, and more. See *What’s New?* for upcoming event information. The site will always be changing. We hope YOU will give suggestions to Madeline and Jacque and provide information to be posted! Our web address is the same: www.comptonheights.com.

Please send your thoughts, suggestions, and information to be posted to comptonheightscc@gmail.com

Scripture Readings for the Sundays of Lent and Easter Day

Third Sunday in Lent

March 3, 2013

Exodus 3:1-15
1 Corinthians 10:1-13Psalm 63:1-8
Luke 13:1-9

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 10, 2013

Joshua 5:9-12
2 Corinthians 5:16-21Psalm 32
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2013

Isaiah 43:16-21
Philippians 3:4b-14Psalm 126
John 12:1-8

Palm Sunday

March 24, 2013

Isaiah 50: 4-9a
Philippians 2:5-11Psalm 31:9-16
Luke 22:14 - 23:56

Easter Sunday

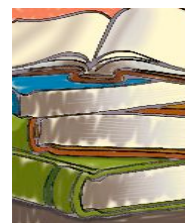
March 31, 2013

Acts 10:34-43
1 Corinthians 15:19-26Psalm 118:1-2,14-24
Luke 24:1-12, John 20:1-18

Compton Rising Reading Circle

The Reading Circle meets on 3rd Saturdays from 10 a.m. until noon at a coffeehouse chosen by the group. The book for **March 16 – *Bossypants a memoir by Tina Fey*** and the group will meet at Plaza Grill on Morganford.

We are registered as a book club with Left Bank Books and reading group purchases receive a discount there. Books should also be available through your public library, and often on Kindle or Nook. If you enjoy reading and discussing books—classics, fiction, non-fiction—come join us!



reStore Our Steeple



On February 29, 2012, two windows of our steeple were damaged in a windstorm. We received an insurance settlement for \$10,270 to repair them, but the best bid we received to replace all four and the siding was \$22,600. We have completed a lengthy process with the city Cultural Planning Commission and our plan has now been approved! A special thanks to Darrell Hughes and Kathy Mead for their good work.

Financial Goal: **\$15,000** is the amount we need for the repair described above. The difference between the insurance check and the repair estimate was \$12,330. We added 15% contingency to this and also the additional cost of architectural drawings (\$300) and permit fee (\$250), and rounded it up just for good measure.

You are invited to participate in the **reStore Our Steeple (SOS)** Campaign! We need your prayers, and we need resources. Please complete the following form, detach it from this sheet, and return it with any offering, or directly to Jan Kreuger, treasurer. You may also pick up a “Steeple Coin Box” at church!!

I want to help to **reStore Our Steeple** by doing the following:

Making a financial gift of \$_____ monthly \$_____ quarterly \$_____ annually (I need envelopes_____)

Making a one-time financial gift of \$_____ (in tribute/memory of _____)

Contributing aluminum cans_____ Using eScrip at Schnucks _____ Using GoodSearch/GoodShop_____

Saving coins _____ (Special Steeple coin banks available in sanctuary windows) Prayers _____

Helping with a bazaar or other fundraiser during the year by _____

Other ways _____ Name _____

New Equal Exchange Coffee and Chocolate



Two new coffees have arrived and are in our display in the hallway. Organic Expedition whole-bean coffee is from Peru, grown by small farmers in a buffer zone next to the Bahua-Senene National Park. You will find this medium, full city roast coffee in tall 14-oz cans. We also have a new ground coffee for those who don't grind coffee beans. Bright Day Brew is a lighter roast and comes in 12-oz bags.

We also have received an infusion of Chocolate. All of the 3.5-oz bars are certified Kosher as well as organic, and come from cocoa beans grown in small farmer cooperatives in Peru or the Dominican Republic. Try Orange Dark Chocolate (65% cacao), Mint Chocolate (67% cacao) or the ever-popular Chocolate Caramel Crunch with Sea Salt (55% cacao.) We also have new Milk chocolate Crisp Candy Bars with puffed rice and quinoa, produced in Peru, to go along with the other candy bars--dark chocolate fruit & nut and peanut butter--already in our display. The candy bars are 1.34 oz.

Soon we will need to order Tea. There are some slips of paper and a list of available teas in the Equal Exchange display where you can indicate your preference for our next tea order. Please fill one out and drop it in the can in the display. Also, if you want to purchase anything from the display and cannot find a person to take your money, you can place a check or the correct amount in the can, or you can leave your name and an IOU for the amount of your purchase.

We also serve Equal Exchange coffee at church meal events and for coffee fellowship after church. Currently we are serving Organic Breakfast Blend in both regular and decaf. The small retail markup on your individual purchases of coffee, tea and chocolate bars helps to subsidize the cost of this service.

We make Equal Exchange products available as an extension of our outreach ministry. Equal Exchange is composed of 12 communions including Disciples, UCC, Presbyterians, Mennonites, Lutherans, Catholic World Relief and other ecumenical partners. Equal Exchange's mission is to build long-term trade partnerships that are economically just and environmentally sound, to foster mutually beneficial relations between farmers and consumers and to demonstrate, through our success, the viability of worker cooperatives and Fair Trade. All of the coffee, tea and chocolate bar products are certified organic. And a percentage of all coffee purchases benefits Week of Compassion, the relief and development ministry of the Disciples of Christ.

If you are interested in ordering a case (6 boxes or bags) of your favorite coffee, tea or (a dozen bars) of chocolate for personal use through the church account at cost, *please see Judi Linville for information.*



Prayer Shawl Ministry

This group creates knitted and crocheted prayer shawls and lap robes to comfort anyone facing a serious illness, bereavement or other stressful situations. Shawls have also been given as gifts of blessing and thanks for the work of our partners in ministry in India. Here Marsha presented a Prayer Shawl at the Institute for Leprosy at Kirigiri, India. (This shawl was made by Nancy Obermiller.)

The group meets the first Thursday of each month. The March 7 gathering will be at the Hughes' home at 7:00 p.m.

EASTER SPECIAL DAY OFFERING **March 24 and 31st**



I came that they may have life

and have it abundantly. John 10:10b

Bolenge Hospital is a place of healing and care built in 1928 by the Community of Disciples of Christ in the Congo (CDCC), a partner church with Global Ministries for over 100 years. Bolenge Hospital treats over 16,000 patients annually; many for HIV/AIDS related illnesses. The hospital also provides early childhood and prenatal care.

In 2006, the Bolenge Hospital experienced an electrical fire, which destroyed the main building and equipment. Three years later, a pediatric ward was completed and outfitted with beds and medical equipment. In August 2012, the maternity wing was completed and the surgery wing started. With dedication and faith, the people in Bolenge serve God and care for their neighbors. As the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), we are privileged to journey with them and call them partners and friends.

The Easter Offering of the Disciples Mission Fund (DMF) supports the general ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) – the Church in the world! Your financial gifts help sustain the missional outreach of ministries like Bolenge Hospital that faithfully serve individuals and communities around the world. Your gifts make a difference, so please generously support this year's Easter Offering as we seek to walk with others in God's abundance.

New Book by former CHCC pastor David Shirey - Note and Review by Walt Tarde

I recently received a telephone call from David Shirey, who as many of you know, was a past minister of Compton Heights during the latter part of the 1980's. He is currently serving as the minister of Coolwater Christian Church in Scottsdale Az. Our daughter Susan had lived there for a number of years and was a charter member of that new church. We've kept in touch with David thru the years.

He called to tell me that he had written a book and it has now been published. The title of the book is *It Don't Get Any Better Than This: Stories From A Small Town Church*. He thought there may be some folks at Compton Heights and in St Louis, that might like to have a copy. I asked him to send one to me so I could read it and generally be able to tell the folks here a little about the book. I've read it and it is an amazing book. In his book he shares the funny, heartfelt and amusing stories of his time (2 1/2 years) as pastor of this Small Town Church in Carthage Tennessee, while he was still in seminary 60 miles away in Nashville, TN. It's filled with anecdotes of genteel Southern ladies, wise gentlemen, comfort food and families and the stories are told with charm and wit, bringing alive the characters of a small town church. It ends with his current challenge of the planting of a new church in the Phoenix Arizona area. It is a wonderful book to read.

The book is recommended by Rev Dr Fred Craddock, Bandy Distinguished Professor of Preaching and New Testament, Emeritus, in the Candler School of Theology at Emory University. He wrote, "David Shirey has remembered clearly and written beautifully. Perhaps he writes of a simpler time, but all the ingredients of ministry and of church are here. David's stories are as **good as they get**."

If you would like to get a copy of his book, (cost of \$10) let me know. I'll place the entire order around March 18.

Thanks, Walt Tarde

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(All events at Compton Heights CC unless otherwise noted)

Sunday, March 3—Third Sunday in Lent

Choir Practice—9 a.m. Christian Education —10:05 -10:50 a.m.
 Worship—11:00 a.m.—Sanctuary
 Coffee and refreshments—12:00 p.m. —Library Choir practice—12:30 p.m.
 Tuesday, March 5 – BELONGING 6:00 pm (supper) 6:30 – 8:30 Session
 Wednesday, March 6 – Board of Ministry—7 p.m.—Library
 Thursday, March 7 – Prayer Shawl Knitting/Crocheting Group – 7:00 pm Hughes' home
 Friday—March 8—Happy Friday—6:45-8:00 a.m.
 Saturday – March 9 – Church Yard Day – 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

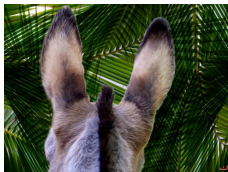
Sunday, March 10—Fourth Sunday in Lent

Choir Practice—9 a.m. Christian Education —10:05-10:50 a.m.
 Worship—11:00 a.m.—Sanctuary
 Coffee and refreshments – 12:00 p.m. Choir Practice 12:30 pm
 Tuesday, March 12 – BELONGING 6:00 pm (supper) 6:30 – 8:30 Session
 Wednesday, March 13 – Elders' Circle
 Friday, March 15—Happy Friday—6:45-8:00 a.m.
 Saturday, March 16 – Reading Circle – 10:00 – Noon -- place TBA

Sunday, March 17— Fifth Sunday in Lent

Choir practice—9 a.m. Christian Education 10:05-10:50 a.m.
 Worship—11:00 a.m.
 Coffee and refreshments – 12:00 pm Choir Practice 12:30 pm
 Friday, March 22 - Happy Friday—6:45-8:00 a.m.
 Saturday, March 23 – BELONGING Immersion Day – Time/place TBA

Sunday, March 24 – PALM SUNDAY



Choir practice—9 a.m. Christian Education 10:05-10:50 a.m.
 Worship—11:00 a.m.
 Coffee & refreshments—12:00 p.m. Choir Practice – 12:30 p.m.
 MAUNDY THURSDAY, March 28 7:00 pm Ecumenical Worship
 GOOD FRIDAY, March 29 – Happy Friday -- 6:45-8:00 a.m.
 Way of the Cross Walk – Begins at Noon at CHCC
 HOLY SATURDAY COMMUNITY MEAL – 11:30 am – 1:00 pm
A meal for the community!

Sunday, March 31 – EASTER SUNDAY

Easter Breakfast in Fellowship Hall - 9:00 am
 Easter Egg Hunt – 10:00 am
 Worship Celebrating the Resurrection - 11:00 am
 Coffee and Refreshments - 12:15 pm
 Tuesday, April 2 – “BELONGING” Engaging Spirituality Group
 6:00 pm supper, 6:30 Session
 Wednesday, April 3– Ministry Groups 7:00 PM
 Thursday, April 4 – Prayer Shawl Knitting/Crocheting – 7:00 p.m.
 Friday, April 5 – Happy Friday – 6:45 – 8:00 a.m.



Serving Schedule – March 2013

Please get a substitute if you are unable to serve on your designated date, and inform Leslie Latham for the bulletin early in the week before. Thank you!

Liturgist

Mar 3 Dave Boger
 Mar 10 Bryan Richardson
 Mar 17 Ty Woodard
 Mar 24 Kim Miner
 Mar 31 Madeline Haraway

Communion Elders

Mar 3 Bob Lewis
 Mar 10 Dennis Landon
 Mar 17 Sarah Richardson
 Mar 24 Marsha McGuire
 Mar 31 Debe Martin

Stewardship Elders

Mar 3 Debe Martin
 Mar 10 Leslie Latham
 Mar 17 Kathy Mead
 Mar 24 Madeline Haraway
 Mar 31 Lisa Bast

Deacons (All will serve; the first two will prepare/clean up unless they ask others.)

Mar 3 Bud Obermiller, Nancy Obermiller, Larry Kreuger, Jan Kreuger
 Mar 10 Jan Kreuger, Thelonius Lee, Marty Hughes, Kim Miner
 Mar 17 Thelonius Lee, Darrell Hughes, Bud Obermiller, Nancy Obermiller,
 Mar 24 Stanley Williams, Marty Hughes, Darrell Hughes, Arlene Arbogast
 Mar 31 Thelonius Lee, Kim Miner, Stanley Williams, Jan Kreuger

Provide Communion Bread:

In-Home Communion -- Elder: (A) Madeline Haraway (B) Lisa Bast **Deacon:**
Greeter March: Nancy Obermiller

Nursery Care

Mar 3 Cindy Diggs
 Mar 10 Dave Boger
 Mar 17 Marty Hughes
 Mar 24 Brenda Booth
 Mar 31 Ty Woodard

Coffee Hosts

Mar 3 Marsha McGuire and Leslie Latham
 Mar 10 Joylynn Graham
 Mar 17 Darrell and Marty Hughes
 Mar 24 Debe Miner-Martin and Kim Miner
 Mar 31 Charlsi and Thelonius Lee

Children Worship & Wonder

Mar 3 Storyteller	Susan Petri	Mar 3 Greeter	Kathy Mead
Mar 10 Storyteller	Susan Petri	Mar 10 Greeter	??
Mar 17 Storyteller	Charlsi Lee	Mar 17 Greeter	Judi Linville
Mar 24 Storyteller	Charlsi Lee	Mar 24 Greeter	Judi Linville
Mar 31 Storyteller	Charlsi Lee (<i>in sanctuary</i>)	Mar 31 Greeter	Dave Boger plus 2 – you?

FINANCIAL REPORT

Income for February through 2/24: \$8,611.08

YTD income through 2/24: \$15,797.58

YTD income includes the following: Tithes, offerings and gifts: \$14,151.22

Tuition for India Sponsorships 83.15

Coffee/Equal Exchange 55.00

CCF interest remains \$412.10

Reported eScrip thru 2/15 is \$51.69 (per the 2/24 bulletin)

FYI the rent and miscellaneous offset income in the YTD above is \$1091.11.

reStore Our Steeple (SOS) deposit of \$625.00 bringing the total received to \$4688.96.

We are nearly 1/3 of the way to the goal of \$15,000.00

Ministry Leaders

Pastor: Jacquelyn L. Foster
Moderator: Leslie Latham
Vice Moderator: Marsha McGuire
Secretary: Audrey Tarde
Treasurer: Jan Kreuger
Financial Secretary: Judi Linville
Co-Chairs of Elders: Kathy Mead
 Madeline Haraway
Chair of Deacons: Bud Obermiller

Ministry Groups:

Communications Ministry
Community Life
Faith Sharing and Teaching Ministry
Stewardship and Outreach Ministry

VISIT US ON-LINE:

www.comptonheights.com

www.i58ministries.org

Email Church: comptonheightscc@gmail.com Pastor: jleigh55@att.net

Deacons, Elders, and Trustees - 2012

Diaconate: Thelonius Lee, Marty Hughes,
 Darrell Hughes, Kim Miner, Larry Kreuger
 Arlene Arbogast, Jan Kreuger, Bud Obermiller,
 Nancy Obermiller, Liz Vollmar, Dave Martin,
 Talya Perry, Stanley Williams

Elders: Lisa Bast, Bob Lewis, DebE Martin, Sarah
 Richardson, Marsha McGuire, Madeline Haraway,
 Leslie Latham, Kathy Mead
 Royce Sykes (serving at Woodland Manor)
Ordained Elders: Rev. Brenda Booth, Rev. Dennis
 Landon, Rev. Charlsi Lewis Lee, Rev. Norm
 Linville, Rev. Karen Pitt, Rev. Millie Slack

Trustees: Liz Vollmar, Madeline Haraway, Susan Petri