SANCTUARY IN THE CITY

An Open and Affirming Ministry A Global Mission Congregation



November 2013 Volume 61, Number 9 <u>www.comptonheights.com</u>
The Rev. Dr. Jacquelyn L. Foster, Pastor Mr. Josh Privitt, Student Assoc. Pastor



O Season Full of Remembering ...

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O Antiphons for Autumn

O Season Full of Remembering,
Come! Come with your golden shawl.
Come scattering the beauty of well-aged leaves.
Strengthen us for changing our old patterns.
Give us memories that sustain our dreams.
O Come!

O Cooling Breath of Autumn,
Come! Come with your natural paradox.
Show us our fullness and emptiness.
Breathe into us a spirit of gracious acceptance.
Tame our desire to have summer stay forever.
O Come!

O Harvester of Wisdom, Come! Come fill us with the waters of wisdom. Show us the beauty of aging with grace. Prepare us for the long, dark nights. Gather from our lives all that has potential. O Come!

O Gleaner of Gardens and Fields, Come! Come gather what is most precious in us. Urge us to embrace our cornucopia of goodness. Stir up gratitude and a sense of wonder. Move us to give freely of our abundant harvest. O Come!

O Rustling Leaves Falling from the Trees, Come! Come live inside our aching goodbyes. Teach us the truth of life's impermanence. Empty us of all that does not bless others. Draw us into the waiting soil of wintertime. O Come!

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CROSSPATHS



God has filled us with the gifts, the joy, the faith, and the vision to continue growing in the ministry of Jesus Christ in this community. Christ's Spirit is alive and moving in this congregation in ways that delight and challenge us. I thank God for the gift of being a part of your lives and your ever-deepening since of call to this ministry.

The month of October has been a month of blessing in our life together. In early October, we met in five small groups on different days and in different homes. The conversations and the dreaming that took place in these groups were truly wonderful.

Our first question was: What experiences of life and ministry in this congregation continue to move us to deeper faith and engagement with God? Responses were:

A deep sense that CHCC 'walks the walk"

We are here because of the warm welcome and deep care we have received.

Genuine community

We are collectively ministers of the Church.

A congregation that nurtures relationship with God, each other, and God's people everywhere The joy and energy of new people coming into the life of the congregation & bringing new ideas Sincere welcome of everyone and true acceptance in a diverse community

The power of living as an "Open and Affirming Congregation" – welcoming the gifts of gay and lesbian people, people of differing races, abilities, and life experiences

A congregation that is continually transforming and not afraid of change

Care of the community for each person – you are not alone in the world

The practice of open and heartfelt prayer in worship each Sunday

Inspired and encouraged by each other's deepening faith – walking with each other on our spiritual journeys

A congregation committed to ministry in this community and across the world - ex: India

A strong congregational belief that God makes a way!

A challenging, growing community – not just an institution

The kind of church in which we explore scripture and life's questions intelligently

A congregation using small resources in great and faithful ways

The life of the children in the congregation

A spirit of joy that does not feel forced, but does feel deliberate

Yes we face challenges, and God is clearly at work in this congregation

A community of people who are always giving, regardless of the needs (steeple, accessibility, different missions, special projects

The intimacy of a small congregation

A sense of connection and call to service with the neighborhood, wider community, and world The courage of the congregation in confronting preconceived notions about race,

sexuality, disability, economic status - so that we may embody God's presence in all.

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Recognizing that we are growing, we then asked: Who are we growing to become?

Becoming better people in God's love A bright and shining light for God's people (both figuratively and literally – with new light coming in the steeple!) ... An open and welcoming place of worship and caring for all ... Adapt to changes to fit the time and circumstances ... A voice for all of God's people ... Increase ways to be a voice in the community and present our public face ... Sanctuary for all ... Practicing Listening so that we are able to care and be a community of reconciliation ... A community teaching ourselves our own faith story, and learning our story as Disciples of Christ so that we can share it ... Finding new ways to live, love and serve ... to grow spiritually and to share our faith ... to use our time and money according to our real values and not society's expectations ... Become a bolder, louder voice for the kind of faith, love and care that we do not hear associated with Christianity as taught by the harsher voices in our world today ... A community that Prays & Listens to the Spirit ... Be the example!

Out of these experiences of God and Church, values, and sense of who we are -- emerged prayerful thoughts about what God may be moving us to do.

At our Celebration of Ministry Now and Future Dinner on Sunday, October 27, we gathered these ideas from all the groups. Each person at the dinner had the opportunity to share his or her passions and interests as we ranked the 26 ideas that have emerged from our community. The fellowship hall was abuzz with conversation as people shared a feast and gathered around the sheets of newsprint and marked each of our areas of interest. Now the Cabinet, Board and Ministry Groups will take the results and help us as a *whole* congregation to begin these next steps of our ministry together!

Please note! The 4 sheets of newsprint containing our dreams for moving forward have been moved from the fellowship hall to the main floor hallway. You will see that there are different colors of stars next to each item listed. These were the stars used at the dinner for us to indicate our priorities. If you were not at the dinner, you may still place YOUR stars on the ministries for which YOU feel passion and energy! See Leslie Latham, Kathy Mead, or Jacque Foster for your 5 differently colored stars and instructions.

That Sunday was so very special for me, because of the Gift of Thanks that you all gave me for Ministry Appreciation Month! I am so deeply moved and graced by your love! The choir sang my favorite hymn "Be Thou My Vision" so beautifully. Leslie Latham spoke on your behalf and named not only me but *all* the ordained ministers in our congregation who serve in different ministries or are retired.

Then as we gathered for lunch I was trying to move us to pray and let people start the buffet line, but Leslie kept telling me "No!" As it turned out she was waiting for all the choir to get down to the fellowship hall and for Talya Perry to present me with an absolutely amazing Album of your letters and remembrances! It is truly a precious gift that I treasure! Thank you, Thank you! I give thanks to God for you and the ministry we share.

Celebrations and Concerns

In Our Prayers

Nancy Obermiller's mother, Mary Ellen Baily suffered some ministrokes. She lives in Rolla and Nancy has spent time with her there.

Jim Clayton has moved from rehab to John and Jill's home.

Sharon Clayton – following broken hip and surgery, is in rehab at Barnes Extended Care in Clayton. She and Jim were there together for a while!

Betty and Red Graham Red is in hospice care at Bethesda Meadows in Ellisville. Betty is undergoing chemotherapy.

Janice Tayoan Beauvais Manor on the Park

Royce Sykes for health and strength

SYMPATHY

We hold **Lisa and Terry Bast** in prayer as they celebrate the life of Lisa's mother and grieve their loss in her death. **Edna Schiermeier** died to this life on Monday, October 28 at the age of 96. She had been declining in recent weeks and had been moved into a nursing home. The family celebrates that their mother lived a long, full, and faith-filled life. Services are to be held at Hutchens Mortuary in Florissant on Friday, Nov. 1 at 10:00 AM with visitation on Thursday, 3-8 pm. One of Edna's favorite scripture texts was from Proverbs 31: "a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised."



THANKSGIVING SUNDAY CELEBRATION and FAREWELL TO TYLER PLACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH With THANKSGIVING DINNER

Sunday, November 28 Worship - 10:30 AM (note time change!) Dinner - following

On this Sunday we will share in Thankgiving Worship for a final time with Tyler Place Presbyterian Church. We will give thanks for their long ministry in our community, for the ministry we have shared over the years, and for the last year that our two congregations have shared ministry in this building.

This will be Tyler Place's last Sunday as a congregation. On December their members will become a part of Oak Hill Presbyterian Church. We will miss them and we give thanks for the precious time they have been with us!

EVERYBODY IS INVITED TO JOIN IN REINDEER GAMES!!

AND unlike Rudolf – we even need you to Help Plan Them!)

The Community Life Ministry Group (essentially DebE Martin and Brenda Booth) are planning "Reindeer Games" once again this year. This is a wonderful time of games and snacks and fun for adults, youth, and children alike! The group needs the help and involvement of those who would like to help plan this year's event. Please let DebE know if you would like to help! *Reindeer Games are scheduled for Saturday Afternoon*, *December 14*.

BonFire with Hotdogs, Cider, & S'mores! Friday Evening, November 15, 6:30 pm On the Church Lawn



Bring your yard chairs, dress warm with a blankie!
Bring your guitar or other instrument you'd like to

play, and your campfire singing spirit or maybe a story you'd like to tell!

Talk to DebE Martin, if you have a fire-pit you can bring, or if you would like to help with the food or drinks in any way! (Our 'bonfire' will be a small collection of firepits!)

Most of all, bring yourself, invite friends and family!

CHCC Bazaar Tables at the Parents As Teachers Holiday Bazaar!

Friday, December 6, 10 am – 2 pm
Parents as Teacher National Center, 2228 Ball Dr., St. Louis, MO

This year we will have two tables and will sell both Craft/Bazaar Items and Baked Goods! It is time to be making on our sale items and getting ready for a great bazaar! Talk with Madeline Haraway, Judi Linville, DebE Martin, Marty Hughes – for that matter let's all talk among ourselves - for ideas!

Scripture Readings for the Sundays after Pentecost

Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

November 3, 2013 Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 Psalm 119:137 - 144

Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12 Luke 19:1-10

Twenty- Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 10, 2013 Haggai 1: 15b - 2:9 or Job 19:23-27a Psalm 145:1-5, 18-22

Twenty- Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

November 17, 2013 Isaiah 65: 17-25 or Malachi 4:1-2a Psalm 98

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 Luke 21:5-19

Twenty-Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

November 24, 2013 Jeremiah 23: 1-6 Luke 1: 68-79, Psalm 46

Colossians 1: 11-20 Luke 23: 33-43

Twenty-Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

December 1, 2013 Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 122

Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:36-44

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New Round of Infant Massage Class Sessions begin November 1st

The first offering of Infant Massage Education classes (this past month) was successful and such a gift for the families involved! Therefore, Gerry Rauch and Maureen McCuen, Infant Massage Educators, will teach another Infant Massage class at Compton Height CC in November. This will be a day-time class at 9:00 – 10:30 am on Friday mornings, November 1, 8, 15, and 22. We are grateful to be one of three sites in the St. Louis metro area for these wonderful classes. If you know parents who may be interested in this or future classes please share this information.

Parents are taught to massage their babies while instructors demonstrate on dolls. Infant massage offers a number of benefits including: improved sleep, relief of muscular pain, stimulating brain development, reduced stress for both infant and caregiver, helps gas, colic, and digestion issues, learning the art of being present to your baby, learning to read your baby's cues, gaining confidence in parenting skills, and meeting other parents.

Classes cost \$75 per 5 week session. Gift certificates are available.

To Register: Call 314 - 919-6176 or go to www.babytimeSTL.com

Marsha McGuire will be attending the Sigma Theta Tau International Conference November 15 - 20 and making a presentation on her nursing leadership of our Health Screenings at Family Village Farm and King's Matriculation School in Katpadi, India and her guest teaching of student nurses in Mungeli. This all took place on our 2011 Global Ministries Trip. Her presentation will be in the form of a poster presentation with text and photos on the context and purpose, interventions, lessons learned, communication, and future plans in our India outreach. The title of the poster is: Collaborating Across Borders: Nursing Vulnerable Populations in Rural India.



Letter Writing to Dhanush, Girisha, and Monisha

Each week we pass the "India Jar" and as of October 27, you have given \$474 of our \$500 for the sponsorship for Dhanush and Girisha to attend King's Matriculation School in India. Monisha is sponsored by Dave and Jacque. On Sunday, November 3, following worship, we will have an opportunity to write letters to all three children!

Compassionate Listening Practice Group – for Personal and Community Reconciliation

"The Compassionate Listening Project" teaches and nurtures skills for learning to be truly present and to listen to the story of another person. It is this process of listening with the heart that is used in conflict zones, famlies, and nations to build reconciling relationship. Our CL Practice Group focuses both on learning skills and on creating a safe listening space. Jacque began studying with the CL Project on her last sabbatical and is continuing to train as a CL Facilitator. We will meet Thursday, Nov. 21, but take a break in December. Jacque will spend some continuing ed. time at an Advanced training in Seattle, Nov. 7-11. You may visit to find out more about the CL Project at www.compassionatelistening.org.



Isaiah 58 Ministries' Meal-a-Month Menus



We are participating in Isaiah 58 Ministrie's Meal-a-Month program. Below are the suggested menus for each month. This can help us in our shopping for our food contributions! All fruit and vegetable suggestions are to be canned, and if possible, low sodium and/or in their own juice. A basket for food offerings is at the sanctuary door each Sunday!

November Chicken &Dumplings Peaches

Soup Carrots

Green Beans

Crackers

(Shampoo)

Thanksgiving Outreach

BUY-A-BIRD XX – Yes, this is our 20th year of Buy-a-Bird! 20 Years of Raising Funds for Turkeys and Chickens for Families for Thanksgiving. In recent years we have added "When Pigs Fly" to our "Buy-a-Bird" campaign to include hams for Christmas! Please note that we gather contributions to give grocery store certificates. (This is more economical.) We no longer purchase, store, and give out turkeys and hams. In November, we will have a Turkey in which you may place your contributions on Sundays. This is distributed through Isaiah 58 Ministries!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(All events at Compton Heights CC unless otherwise noted)

Saturday, Nov. 2 – Church Beautification Workday – 9:00 AM – Yard and Indoor work to be done!

Sunday, November 3 - Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost ALL SAINTS SUNDAY Letter Writing to Dhanush, Girisha, and Monisha following worship!

Choir Preparation – 9:00 am
Worship – 11:00 am
Christian Education 10:05-10:50 am
Coffee and Refreshments – 12:00 pm

Choir Practice – 12:30 – 1:30

Wednesday, November 6 –Board of Ministry – 7:00 pm

Thursday, November 7 – Prayer Shawl Ministry – 7:00 pm at Linvilles

Friday, November 8 – Happy Friday Outreach – 7:00-8:00 am

Sunday, November 10 – Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Choir Preparation – 9:00 am
Worship—11:00 am
Christian Education —10:05 -10:50 a.m.
Coffee and refreshments – 12:00 pm

Choir Practice -12:30-1:30

Wednesday, Nov. 13 – Elders' Circle – 7:00 pm

Friday, Nov 15 – Happy Friday Outreach – 7:00 – 8:00 am

- Evening Bonfire with Holdogs, Cider, S'mores and Song 6:30 pm Saturday, Nov 16 - Renewal of Marriage Vows for Karen and John Pitt

Sunday, November 17 — Twenty-Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

Choir Preparation – 9:00 am

Worship — 11:00 am

Christian Education — 10:05 -10:50 a.m.

Coffee and refreshments – 12:00 pm

Choir Practice – 12:30 – 1:30

Thursday, Nov. 21 – Compassionate Listening Practice Group – 6:30 pm

Friday, Nov. 22—Happy Friday Outreach—7:00-8:00 a.m.

Sunday, November 24—THANKSGIVING SUNDAY BRING A DISH TO SHARE!

This is also the Farewell Sunday for Tyler Place Presbyterian Church

Choir Preparation – 9:00 am

Christian Education 10:05 -10:50 am

Worship—11:00 am

Thursday, Nov. 28 – HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Friday, Nov. 29 - Happy Friday Outreach—7:00 -8:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 1 – First Sunday of Advent

Choir Preparation – 9:00 am Christian Education — 10:05 -10:50 a.m.

Worship—11:00 am Coffee and refreshments – 12:00 pm

Choir Practice -12:30-1:30

Wednesday, Dec. 4 – Ministry Groups Meet – 7:00 pm

Thursday, Dec. 5 – Prayer Shawl Group – 7:00 pm

Friday, Dec. 6 – Happy Friday Outreach – 7:00 – 8:00 pm

CHCC BAZAAR TABLE at Parents As Teachers Nat'l Offices 10 – 2:00

Serving Schedule - SEPTEMBER 2013

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

Liturgist	Communion Elders	Stewardship Elders
Nov 3 Madeline Haraway	DebE Martin	Dennis Landon
Nov 10 Ty Woodard	Leslie Latham	Sarah Richardson
Nov 17 Judi Linville	Kathy Mead	Marsha McGuire
Nov 24 (Joint Service)	Madeline Haraway	DebE Martin
Dec 1 Bob Lewis	Lisa Bast	Leslie Latham
Dec 8 Leslie Latham	Charlsi Lee	Kathy Mead

Deacons	(All will serve	; the first two will p	orepare/clean up un	less they ask others.)
Nov 3	Marty Hughes	Kim Litton	Stanley Williams	Arlene Arbogast
Nov 10	Kim Litton	Thelonius Lee	Jan Kreuger	Darrell Hughes
Nov 17	David Martin	Larry Kreuger	Bud Obermiller	Nancy Obermiller
Nov 24	Jan Kreuger	Darrell Hughes	Stanley Williams	Thelonius Lee
Dec 1	Stanley Williams	Arlene Arbogast	Dave Martin	Larry Kreuger
Dec 8	Larry Kreuger	Darrell Hughes	Stanley Williams	Thelonius Lee

Providing Communion Bread: November Jan Kreuger December Arlene Arbogast In-Home Communion November – Elder: (A) Sarah Richardson (B) Dennis Landon December - Elder: (A) Bob Lewis (B) Charlsi Lewis

Greeter November: Kim Litton December: Jan Kreuger

Greeter	1 (O CHIDEL TRIII)	Bitton Beechbert Jun Meager	
Nursery	Care	Coffee Hosts	CW&W Story / Greeter
Nov 3	Darrell Hughes	Norm and Judi Linville	Kathy Mead / Audrey Tarde
Nov 10	Dave Boger	Bryan and Sarah Richardson	Kathy Mead / Susan Petri
Nov 17	Marty Hughes	Marsha McGuire / Leslie Latham	Kathy Mead /
Nov 24	Kathy Mead	Marty and Darrell Hughes	Kathy Mead / Dave Boger
Dec 1	Darrell Hughes	DebE Martin/ Kim Litton	Susan Petri /

Dec1Darrell HughesDebE Martin/ Kim LittonSusan Petri /Dec8Ty WoodardThelonius and Charlsi LeeDave Boger /

Complete Children Worship & Wonder Schedule on door of Children's Worship Center

FINANCIAL REPORT

Income for October through Oct. 27: \$ 8,942.08 YTD income through Oct. 27: \$ 144,959.27

YTD includes the following:

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Pledges, loose & Sunday school offering and unrestricted gifts:	\$97,631.63
Outreach:	\$ 4,090.85
Tuition for Dhanush and Girisha in India:	\$ 474.00
Equal Exchange purchases:	\$ 398.60
Rent and payments of misc. expense reimbursements:	\$20,902.79
Interest in CCF investments received in 2013:	\$ 1,430.27
Withdrawal from CCF investment funds:	\$20,000.00

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 – 2012-1013

Diaconate: Thelonius Lee, Marty Hughes,

Darrell Hughes, Kim Miner, Larry Kreuger Arlene Arbogast, Jan Kreuger, Bud Obermiller, Nancy Obermiller, Liz Vollmar, Dave Martin,

Stanley Williams

Elders: Lisa Bast, Bob Lewis, DebE Martin, Sarah Richardson, Marsha McGuire, Madeline Haraway,

Leslie Latham, Kathy Mead, Royce Sykes

Ordained Elders: Rev. Brenda Booth, Rev. Katherine

Kinnamon, Rev. Dennis Landon,

Rev. Charlsi Lewis Lee, Rev. Norm Linville,

Rev. Karen Pitt, Rev. Millie Slack

Trustees: Liz Vollmar, Madeline Haraway, Susan Petri

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