

**SANCTUARY**  
**IN THE**  
**CITY**

*An Open and Affirming Ministry*

**COMPTON**  
**HEIGHTS**  
**CHRISTIAN**  
**CHURCH**  
**(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**

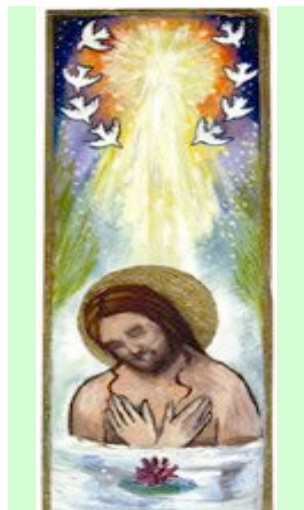


**January 2013**  
**The Rev. Dr. Jacquelyn L. Foster, Pastor**

**Volume 61, Number 1**

**[www.comptonheights.com](http://www.comptonheights.com)**

**Ms. Joylynn Graham, Student Assoc. Pastor**



**The**  
**Community**  
**Of**  
**The Beloved**

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**L**ord, with joy and for love of you  
we commit ourselves to seek and do  
your perfect will in this coming year.  
We are no longer our own but yours.

Put us to what you will;  
place us with whom you will;  
let us be put to work for you or put aside for you;  
let us be full, let us be empty;  
let us have all things, let us have nothing.

We freely and with all our heart  
give you all things for you to use.

May we walk with you through this year  
in unity with our fellow Christians  
feeding upon your Word,  
honoring all people,  
serving our neighbor,  
responsive to the leading of your Holy Spirit.

## CROSSPATHS



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!!** As we begin 2013, I am excited about our journey together as a congregation. Last fall, our Board of Ministry began praying about our need as a congregation to engage in a new level of study and exploration of our life as a community of Christ. Who are we in this neighborhood, this city, this world? Who are we as a congregation together? A number of us have expressed a desire to dive deep, to commit to each other and to God in a new way. Kathy Mead said the other night that we “have to fill our cups if we are to have life to give.”

So .... we are inviting each and every member and friend of the congregation into a 2013 focus on “**BECOMING THE COMMUNITY OF JESUS**. Our hope is that every person in the congregation will dive in to Study, Pray, Explore, Share Faith, and Engage in Mission. We are planning a series of opportunities that will build on each other from January through June (and beyond!). Each one will offer an important piece: 1. a Sunday morning study of who this Jesus is (**SAVING JESUS**), 2. an evening opportunity to explore and experience ‘living deeply and loving broadly with Jesus as our model of integrity and pattern for life’ (**BELONGING**), 3. an opportunity to gather in **SMALL GROUPS IN HOMES** to connect with each other, 4. a **COMPASSIONATE LISTENING** Practice Group, for those who want to become Compassionate Listeners in our lives and in our ministry. *Finally*, we’ll bring it all together with a late Spring **COMMUNITY OF JESUS RETREAT**. In retreat together we will seek a sense of what God is doing in each of us and within us together for the world!

I encourage and invite you to pray about your participation in any and all of this immersion in the person and community of Jesus. I am excited about growth in personal faith and in community life and ministry. You will see a more complete outline of the plan on page 4 of this newsletter. And just below is a description of our first part which will begin on Sunday, January 27!

Blessings, *Jacque*



### SAVING JESUS Redux

**Begins Sunday, January 27**

**10:05 – 10:50 AM**

Ever feel like Jesus has been kidnapped by the Christian Right and discarded by the Secular Left? Saving Jesus Redux is a DVD-based small group exploration of Jesus for the third millennium.

"We're having a culture war and Jesus happens to be one of the weapons tossed about by both sides." -- Amy-Jill Levine

#### THEMES

Intro: Jesus Through the Ages

Who was Jesus?

What Can We Know About Jesus (and How)?

The World into Which Jesus Was Born

Jesus' Birth: Incarnation

Teachings of Jesus: Wisdom Tradition

Jesus' Program: The Kingdom of God

Jesus' Ministry of Compassion

Who Killed Jesus?

The Atonement

The Resurrection of Christ

Why Jesus Is Worth Saving

## Celebrations and Concerns

### *In Our Prayers*

**Alexis Walton (and Mom and Dad and Grandma)** – Alexis was in the hospital for several days in early January with RSV. **Betty Graham** – Betty, recent surgery and treatment,

Red, for healing

**Janice Tayoan** – for healing and gaining of strength.

**Royce Sykes** – at Woodland Manor Nursing Center in Arnold.

**Ruth Kreuger**

**John Pitt** – continued healing

**Lew Mead** – at Provision Living Community, Webster Groves

. Prayers for **ALL** in the congregation and our families and communities who are sick with colds and flu – so many have been fighting the bug this season!



### SYMPATHY

We hold **Roberta Travis** in our hearts as she grieves the death of her brother in December. Roberta's family gathered in St. Louis for the wake and funeral. May God's love surround this family and bring healing love.

### Thank You to David French and the Choir!

We thank all our gifted and dedicated choir members and our Music Director David French for the music they shared with us this season. The choir helped to make Advent and Christmas worship so very special. Your willingness to practice – before and after worship on Sundays – assures that you sing your faith and our faith so beautifully. Many thanks!



We lie down this night with God,  
and God will lie down with us;  
We lie down this night with Christ,  
and Christ will lie down with us  
We lie down this night with the Spirit,  
and the Spirit will lie down with us.  
God and Christ and Spirit,  
lying down with us.

Ray Simpson  
*His Complete Celtic Prayers, 534*

### Happy Birthday!



#### January

- 1<sup>st</sup> Kim Miner
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sharon Clayton
- 9<sup>th</sup> Susan Tarde Petri
- 19<sup>th</sup> Jan Kreuger
- 21<sup>st</sup> Judi Linville
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Raymond Sutton, Sr.
- 28<sup>th</sup> Shannon Walton

#### February

- 18<sup>th</sup> Lynda Gamlin
- 21<sup>st</sup> Annabelle Martin
- 28<sup>th</sup> Nancy Obermiller

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

### PART 1

#### “SAVING JESUS Redux”

Sunday Morning Study experience beginning **Sunday, January 27**. 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. This will start on time at 10:05 and extend until 10:50. There will be room for all!!*

### PART 2

#### “BELONGING”

7 Session Evening Group Experience plus 1 Day-Long Immersion

“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**

*(We will ask you to register in advance as we need to order our books!  
Childcare will be provided. Please indicate need for childcare when you register.)*

### PART 3

#### SMALL GROUP GATHERINGS IN HOMES

*After the Belonging Series and led by pairs of co-facilitators to help us listen and respond as a whole congregation to God’s call to become the Community of Jesus.*

### PART 4

#### COMPASSIONATE LISTENING PRACTICE GROUP

Beginning in late April for those interested in becoming Compassionate Listeners in our home lives, in the ministry of the congregation, and in the various communities in which we live. One or two nights a month (to be decided) 7-9 PM

### PULLING IT ALL TOGETHER - COMMUNITY OF JESUS RETREAT

Late May (tentatively Friday Evening 24<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>) Retreat in which we have the opportunity to bring together our Saving Jesus, Belonging, Compassionate Listening, and Small Group Experiences to listen for God’s leading as a congregation!

## **Scripture Readings for the Sundays After Epiphany**

### **First Sunday After Epiphany**

January 13, 2013

Isaiah 43:1-7  
Acts 8:14-17

Psalm 29

Luke 3:15-17,21-22

### **Second Sunday After Epiphany**

January 20, 2013

Isaiah 62:1-5  
1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Psalm 36:5-10

John 2:1-11

### **Third Sunday After Epiphany**

January 27, 2013

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10  
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Psalm 19

Luke 4:14-21

### **Fourth Sunday After Epiphany**

February 3, 2013

Jeremiah 1:4-10  
1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Psalm 71:1-6

Luke 4:21-30

### **Fifth Sunday After Epiphany**

February 10, 2013

Isaiah 6:1-2, 3-8  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Psalm 138

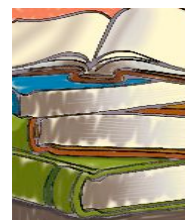
Luke 5:1-11

## **Compton Rising Reading Circle**

The Reading Circle will meet January 19 from 10 a.m. until noon at the Stone Spiral on Sutton north of Manchester in Maplewood. The book is *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak.

Norm shared this about it: “It is beautiful, horrible, compelling and filled with images which tear and comfort the heart. It is classified as teen fiction but it is also very adult.”

The official description: Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II Death relates the story of Liesel--a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors. See [www.randomhouse.com/teens](http://www.randomhouse.com/teens)



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. If you enjoy reading and discussing books—classics, fiction, non-fiction—you are welcome to meet with us!

## **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

This group creates knitted or crocheted prayer shawls and lap robes to comfort anyone facing a serious illness, bereavement or other stressful situations. Newcomers and novice knitters are welcome! The group meets the first Thursday of each month. Listen for announcement of meeting place!

## **ISAIAH 58 Ministries - Volunteer Opportunities**

As we enter a new year, and we seek to make changes in our lives for the good, consider volunteering at Isaiah 58 Ministries. We are in need of individuals or families who would be willing to spend a few hours every week in our food pantry, stocking shelves, filling bags, or helping to get us organized. We also could use individuals to help in our thrift store, sorting clothes and organizing. If you would like to help, please give Rev. Brenda Booth a call at 314-776-1410.

Our office is open Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The food pantry is open Tuesday through Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and Tuesday evenings from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Volunteers would be appreciated at any time--but are greatly needed on Mondays any time after 9:00 a.m. to help organize and stock the food pantry shelves. It helps to have someone here on Mondays because we are not busy with clients on that day, and we can focus on working in the food pantry.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(all events at Compton Heights CC unless otherwise noted)

### Sunday, January 13—First Sunday After Epiphany

Choir Practice—9 a.m.—choir room

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

Worship— 11:00 a.m.— Sanctuary

Coffee and refreshments— 12:00 pm. –Library

Choir practice— 12:30 p.m.— choir room

Wednesday, January 16—Elders' Circle— 7 p.m.—Library

Thursday, January 17 – 2013 Budget Committee – 7:00 p.m.

Friday—January 18—Happy Friday—6:45-8:00 a.m.

Saturday—January 19—Book Circle— 10 a.m.—Noon—Stone Spiral in Maplewood

### Sunday, January 20—Second Sunday After Epiphany

Choir Practice—9 a.m.—choir room

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

Worship— 11:00 a.m.— Sanctuary

*Congregational Meeting to Vote on Nominating Committee Slate*

*Celebrating Our Gifts Soup Lunch following worship!*

Friday, January 25—Happy Friday—6:45-8:00 a.m.

### Sunday, January 27— Third Sunday After Epiphany

Choir practice—9 a.m.

Worship— 11:00 a.m.

Christian Education 10:05-10:50 a.m. **SAVING JESUS REDUX Study Begins!**

Coffee & refreshments— 12:00 p.m.

Choir Practice – 12:30 p.m. choir room

Friday, February 1 - Happy Friday—6:45-8:00 a.m.

### Sunday, February 3 – Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

**2013 Stewardship Commitment Sunday!**

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS MISSION GIVING!



### CHRISTMAS DISASTER BLANKETS FOR CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

We surpassed our goal of 100 blankets (\$5 per blanket). You gave \$600 which will provide 120 Disaster Blankets! Some blankets were also given for those in need here in St. Louis. THANK YOU!

### The TREE of WARMTH

Once again this year, The “Tree of Warmth” was decorated with the warm hats, scarves, gloves, mittens, and socks. These will be distributed through Isaiah 58 Ministries to those in our community who need them. THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

**Christmas Offering for our ministries in the Mid-America Region \$660.00**



## Serving Schedule – January 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!

<b>Liturgist</b>	<b>Stewardship Elders</b>	<b>Communion Elders</b>
Jan 6	Jan 6	Jan. 6
Jan. 13 John Pitt	Jan 13 Leslie Latham	Jan 13 Kathy Mead
Jan 20 Leslie Latham	Jan 20 Judi Linville	Jan 20 Dennis Landon
Dec. 27 Dave Martin	Jan 27 Norm Linville	Jan 27 Charlsi Lewis Lee

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

Jan 6  
 Jan 13 Arlene Arbogast, Talya Perry, Roberta Travis  
 Dec. 23 Jan Kreuger, Dave Martin, Nancy and Bud Obermiller  
 Dec. 30 Jan Kreuger, Dave Martin, Nancy and Bud Obermiller

**Provide Communion Bread:** Bud Obermiller  
**In-Home Communion:** **Elder:** Madeline Haraway; **Deacon:** Walt Tarde  
**Greeter** Kim Miner

<b>Nursery Care</b>	<b>Coffee Hosts</b>
Jan 6 Cindy Diggs	Jan 6
Jan 13 Dave Boger	Jan 13 Marsha McGuire and Leslie Latham
Jan 20 Marty Hughes	Jan 20 SOUP LUNCH
Jan 27 Brenda Booth	Jan 27 DebE Miner-Martin and Kim Miner

**Children Worship & Wonder**

Jan 6 Storyteller Dave Boger	Jan 6 Greeter Leslie Latham
Jan 13 Storyteller Charlsi Lee	Jan 13 Greeter Sarah Richardson
Jan 20 Storyteller Leslie Latham	Jan 20 Greeter Susan Petri
Jan 27 Storyteller Leslie Latham	Jan 27 Greeter Darrell Hughes

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**January 1, 2013**

**2012 YTD contributions to General Fund (tithes and offerings) through November: \$90,659.72**

**2012 YTD monies to General Fund (tithes & offerings):**

YTD Gen'l Fund 12.23.12 \$98,069.62 + 12.30.12 Offering: \$2,083.46 = New Total:  
**\$100,153.08.**

**Special Offerings [recent through 12/30]:**

**Indian Children's Tuition.....\$490.24 (There is still a \$17.20 difference between my total and what Leslie would have. I did find an error on my part, but the \$17.20 discrepancy remains).**

<b>Thanksgiving Offering.....</b>	<b>\$372.00</b>
<b>Christmas Offering.....</b>	<b>\$660.00</b>
<b>World Church Svc (Blankets).....</b>	<b>\$557.00</b>
<b>Bazaar money (benefits Church School)</b>	<b>\$407.00</b>

**Ministry Leaders**

**Pastor:** Jacquelyn L. Foster  
**Moderator:** Larry Kreuger  
**Vice Moderator:** Marsha McGuire  
**Secretary:** Audrey Tarde  
**Treasurer:** Leslie Latham  
**Financial Secretary:** Steve Randolph  
**Co-Chair of Elders:** Kathy Mead  
 Madeline Haraway  
**Co-Chair of Deacons:** Jan Kreuger

**Ministry Groups:**

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

**VISIT US ON-LINE:**

[www.comptonheights.com](http://www.comptonheights.com)

[www.i58ministries.org](http://www.i58ministries.org)

**Email to Pastor and Church:**

[comptonheightscc@gmail.com](mailto:comptonheightscc@gmail.com)    [jleigh55@att.net](mailto:jleigh55@att.net)

**Deacons, Elders, and Trustees - 2012**

*(New 2013 list will begin in the next newsletter)*

**Diaconate:** Bryan Richardson, Walt Tarde,  
 Roberta Travis, Guang Wu, Janice Tayoan,  
 Arlene Arbogast, Jan Kreuger, Bud Obermiller,  
 Nancy Obermiller, Liz Vollmar, Dave Martin,  
 Talya Perry, Stanley Williams

**Youth Diaconate:** Jacob Woodard, Ty Woodard

**Elders:** Cindy Diggs, Judi Linville, Dave Boger,  
 Marsha McGuire, Madeline Haraway, Royce  
 Sykes, Leslie Latham, Kathy Mead

**Ordained Elders:** Rev. Brenda Booth, Rev. Dennis  
 Landon, Rev. Charlsi Lewis Lee, Rev. Norm  
 Linville, Rev. Karen Pitt, Rev. Millie Slack

**Trustees:** Darrell Hughes, Liz Vollmar, Madeline  
 Haraway