

SANCTUARY IN THE CITY

*An Open and Affirming Ministry
A Global Mission Congregation*

COMPTON
HEIGHTS
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CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

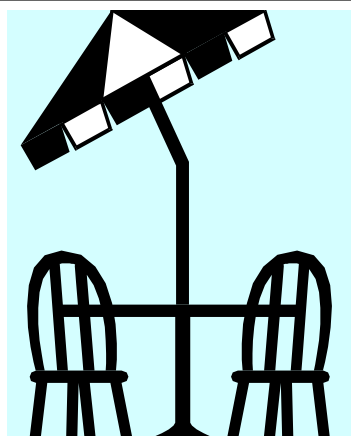


July-August 2013

Volume 61, Number 6

www.comptonheights.com

The Rev. Dr. Jacquelyn L. Foster, Pastor



I Thank God Because . . .

Inside

CrossPaths	2
Celebr & Concerns	3
Compassionate Listening	3
NEW Going Green!!	4
Nursery Helpers Needed	4
ASPERGER's The Musical	4
ReStore Our Steeple	5
Scripture Readings	5
Church Directory Photos	5
Summer Sched. Changes	6
Prayer Shawl Sharing	6
Meal-a-Month Menus	6
Six Wks of Compassion	7
Calendar of Events	8
Serving Schedule	9
Financial Report	9
Contact Information	10

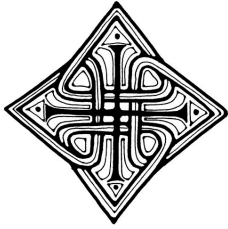
I reflect on this day . . .

*giving thanks for all the gifts I have received in it:
for those ordinary gifts of every day which I so often take for granted;
for the special gifts of today -
anything which I have seen, or heard, or done or thought about today
which has given me pleasure;
for the unlooked-for-gift-
that which has upset me or disturbed me or
stopped me in my tracks
but which I can learn from;
for those things which have made me aware of my need of God today.*

*I pause to reflect on what I ought to remember from today -
a word, an incident, a conversation, a feeling -
and ask myself,
what might God have been trying to teach me today?
Is there anything for which I need to be sorry,
and which I should bring before God's love and forgiveness?
Am I carrying any concern or anxiety that I can surrender to God's love
tonight?
With what do I need help tomorrow?
In the stillness of the evening I pray
for light to guide me into tomorrow,
and for arms to hold me through the night.*

Lynda Wright in *Growing Hope: Daily Readings*
by Neil Paynter, Wild Goose Publications
Glasgow, UK 2006

CROSSPATHS



Compton Heights Christian Church has a strong ministry that is needed and vital to this community. I am moved again and again by the stories of people who are touched by this congregation's love, openness, and compassion. New people continue to find home and hope here. The core of congregational leadership is truly faithful and always seeking to live into God's vision, to respond to God and to the needs of God's people. How many times I have been absolutely moved to tears by your commitment and your ministry. I believe with every fiber of my being that we need to be here in this place and this time bearing Christ's love.

In this week's Cabinet meeting, we began – again - the hard conversation about the challenge before us to continue in ministry. There was an irony. One person stated that on one hand we have much to celebrate – the ministry and the energy of the congregation – the new people who have come to be a part of this ministry. Still in the midst of this, we are at a time of financial crisis. This is not new; we have been challenged financially for years. We have been blessed with a couple of significant bequests that have helped us to continue in ministry. And we have worked on our faithfulness and grown in our stewardship. We have grown as a congregation in mission! So many of you have sacrificed and have increased in giving, and as a result, we have been lowering the amount of money we have needed to withdraw from the principle of bequest funds. We needed to close the gap, so that we could do our ministry, paying all our bills through our giving. We *were* closing the gap, but we have lost some givers. Therefore we have needed to continue to draw from the principle of our Christian Church Foundation funds. As of this week we have \$15,000 left. If you just gasped, felt a lump in your throat, you are in touch with reality! We cannot continue to draw funds to stay afloat.

We have been very frugal. In fact there are a number of church members who personally pay for items we need to carry out our ministry – down to the toilet paper! We decided several years ago that if we were just “surviving” we might as well not be here. We exist to do ministry: to worship with vitality; to reach out in nurture and care; to be about mission in the community and the world. In other words, we must be the community of Jesus the Christ in this place. or we have no business being here anyway. Kathy Mead is always reminding us of this deep truth.

When our Financial Secretary reports our giving, the reports are usually good. We are close to the amount we have pledged. *The thing to remember is that this is what we pledged; it is not what it costs to do ministry for the year.* We have a bare bones budget, but we run about \$577 short each week. Our giving must still increase if we are to meet the budget. For, instance, this year so far we have withdrawn \$15,000 from our principle with CCF to pay our bills and we will likely need more. (In some years it has been more by this time, *but close only counts in horseshoes.* And as I said, there is only \$15,000 *total* left in CCF funds. There are certainly still changes we can and must make, but they must not be changes that reduce us to being less than the Church of Jesus Christ.

If you value Compton Heights Christian Church, and believe that we are called to continue ministry as a witness to God's liberating, life-giving love, I ask you to pray and act. What can you do to help strengthen the continuing ministry of this congregation? Several years ago, Dave and I were looking at our giving and he suggested a number by which we could increase our giving. I said, “Can we even possibly do that?” Tears came to his eyes, and he said, “How can we not?” We have had those moments over and over through the years, when we take another step. God is always in it!

A reminder also that our giving is needed whether we are in worship on a Sunday or not!

This month's **Board Meeting has been moved to Wed., July 10th, 7:00 PM** (because July 3rd was right on top of the holiday). Our Item for Reflection will be on the challenge before us. Board meetings are always open. We hope you will come be a part of the conversation.

In prayer and stewardship with you, Jacque

Celebrations and Concerns

In Our Prayers

John and Karen Pitt - John in hospital for high blood pressure, and Karen in ER for health concern.

Valerie Wright's daughter has been diagnosed with Grave's disease.

Joan James' mother Babe Auer who has a broken wrist, and **Joan's** Aunt and Uncle, **Adeline and Erwin Branahl** who were critically injured in a auto accident.

David Nielsen and Scott Stamper for health

Betty and Red Graham Betty is undergoing chemotherapy and radiation treatments, a very difficult time and in need of deep prayer.

Janice Tayoan Beauvais Manor on the Park

Royce Sykes for health and strength

Thank You . . .

- to all who came out for the Father's Day Weekend BBQ those who cooked, set-up, enjoyed the community and the food, and who cleaned up! *A special thanks to Lee, Charlsi, Dennis, and Brenda who really made it happen!*
- to **Dennis James** for sanding the Peace Pole – the renewal process has begun!
- to all the Compton Heights folks who gave leadership and participated in the SEGA Summer Happening Camp this year: **Darrell Hughes and Jacque Foster**, Directors, **Talya Perry**, Young Children leader, **Madeline Haraway** came out to do a special arts session, and **Jacob and Ty Woodard** came as campers.
- to all who planned for the CHCC Pride-Fest Booth and who served in the booth on the last weekend in June! Thank you **Leslie Latham** for leading the planning!
- to **DebE Martin** and **Ty Woodard** who helped with the Isaiah 58 S.E.L.F. program. DebE worked with participants on effective coupon use and shopping. Ty helped with child-care.

Happy Birthday!



JULY

7th Betty Graham

15th Sarah Richardson

AUGUST

7th Joyce Cole

8th Millie Slack

18th Lana Hartman Landon

21st Bob Lewis

22nd Darrell Hughes

26th Norm Linville

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

Compassionate Listening Practice Group

Our next Compassionate Listening Practice Group sessions will be on **Thursdays, July 11 and August 15, 6:30 – 8:30 pm** in the Church Library. You are invited to join in at any time. When we get past the craziness of the summer schedule, we will try to settle onto the Third Thursday of the month.

The last time I said “I love you,” was . . .



IT IS EASY BEING GREEN!!

NEW: Compton Heights is working on going green on cleaning products for the church. We are collecting clean cloths - “rags” - for cleaning. If you have any cloths/rags please bring those and place in the bucket marked “cleaning cloths”. These will be laundered and reused.

AND REMEMBER: that the two cloth containers on the wall as you enter the main floor kitchenette are for ALUMINUM CANS (top container) and PLASTICS (bottom container). *(We have a challenge with people dropping trash and food in these! Please help us keep these clear of trash!)*

ALSO WE CONTINUE TO COLLECT – INK CARTRIDGES – OF ALL KINDS for which we receive a great return and many free products from Office Depot.

IN ADDITION THERE IS A PAPER RECYCLING receptacle in the Narthex and in the north hallway.

Do also know that any other metals are being collected by Dave Boger for recycling for the church.

Please bring aluminum cans and other metals and ink cartridges – as recycling these not only helps the earth but helps raise money for our ministry!



Asperger's: A High Functioning Musical

Congratulations to CHCC friends Adam Rosen, Dean Rosen, and Ed Reggae for wonderful reviews and Sold-Out performances of the world premiere of “Asperger's: A High Functioning Musical” at the St. Lou Fringe Festival.

There will also be a performance at PrideFest.

Plans are in process for more performances here in St. Louis. We still hope to have a performance at CHCC!

We are proud to be the rehearsal site for this great project!

Nursery Helpers Needed from 10:00 to 11:00 AM Sundays

As you know, we have a Nursery Helper scheduled for Sunday worship times. **In addition, we need volunteers to help Shannon in the Nursery during the Church School Hour (10 – 11 am)** There is a sign-up sheet on the Church library door for these helpers!

The thing that fascinates me most in God's creation is . . .

New Church Directory in Process

As our new church directory takes shape, **Brenda Booth will be taking photos of individuals and families.** The great fun is that you will then be able to have a copy of your individual or family photo! If you have not seen Brenda's photography, we can tell you that she is a wonderful photographer! Brenda will be setting times for CHCC folks to come have your picture made!

Scripture Readings for the Sundays after Pentecost

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 7, 2013	Kings 2:5:1-14	Psalm 30
	Galatians 6Ⓢ1-6), 7-16	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

July 14, 2013	Amos 7:1-7	Psalm 82
	Colossians 1:1-14	Luke 10:25-37

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

July 21, 2013	Amos 8:1-12	Psalm 52
	Colossians 1:15-28	Luke 10:38-42

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

July 28, 2013	Hosea 1:2-10	Psalm 85
	Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19)	Luke 11:1-13

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

August 4, 2013	Hosea 11:1-11	Psalm 107:1-9,43
	Colossians 3:1-11	Luke 12:13-21

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

August 11, 2013	Isaiah 1:1, 10-20	Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23
	Hebrew 11:1-3, 8-16	Luke 12:32-40

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 18, 2013	Isaiah 5:1-7	Psalm 80:1-2,8-18
	Hebrews 11:29-12:2	Luke 12:49-56

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 25, 2013	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Psalm 71:1-6
	Hebrews 12:18-29	Luke 13:10-17

When I have time to myself on a rainy day, I like to . . .

reStore Our Steeple

Financial Goal: **\$15,400** is the amount we need to cover the repair (which has been completed). The amount we have received as of June 26 is \$8,555.50. 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:

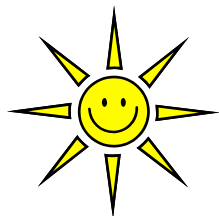
Making a financial gift of \$_____ monthly \$_____ quarterly \$_____ annually (I need envelopes_____)

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 _____

Other ways _____ Name _____



SUMMER SCHEDULE CHANGES

Our **Book Group** is taking a break in July! We will re-group and see who is interested in participating as we plan for August and the fall!

Our **Prayer Shawl Knitting and Crocheting Ministry** is taking a summer break and will meet next on September 5. (This is only a break in our monthly gatherings - we will keep knitting - as we have distributed a number of prayer shawls recently and are in need of them!

SHARING OUR PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Judi Linville is going to be doing a presentation about our Prayer Shawl Ministry to a group of interested folks at at Community Christian Church in Manchester on Tuesday, August 13 at 7 p.m. It would be great if others who are a part of our Prayer Shawl Knitting and Crocheting Ministry would like to go with Judi. She has offered to drive. Just let her know.



Isaiah 58 Ministries' Meal-a-Month Menus

Isaiah 58 has begun a 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.*

July
 Soup
 Macaroni & Cheese
 Peaches
 Green Beans
 Jello
 Cereal
 (Laundry Detergent)

August
 Tuna
 Boxed Potato Mix
 Corn
 Pineapple
 Graham Crackers or Nilla Wafers
 (Bar Soap)

September
 Peanut Butter & Jelly
 Pears
 Spaghetti-O's
 Carrots
 Pancake Mix
 (Toilet Paper)

October
 Canned Chicken
 Boxed Rice Mix
 Corn
 Fruit Cocktail
 (Toothpaste and Toothbrush)

November
 Chicken & Dumplings
 Peaches
 Soup
 Carrots
 Green Beans
 Crackers
 (Shampoo)

December
 Spaghetti and Meatballs
 Peas
 Biscuit/Baking Mix
 Syrup
 Applesauce
 (Laundry Detergent)

***Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God;
 Whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies,
 So that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ.***

1 Peter 4:11

Six Weeks of Compassion!



Each year we celebrate and give to **Week of Compassion** which is our Disciples of Christ Relief and Development ministry working in crisis situations throughout the world. Our work is extensive, deep, and ongoing in cooperation with Church World Service and with ecumenical and interfaith partners in every place. When tornadoes, hurricanes, or floods devastate communities in Joplin, MO, or Moore, OK, or Japan or Africa or Latin America, *we are there*. When war destroys communities and lives, we are there. We always say that “Week of Compassion” is more than a “week”; it is year ‘round Compassion with a week of special emphasis for

our giving. **THIS** year, we will have a Summer Mission focus called “**Six Weeks of Compassion**” to extend from **July 28 through September 1**.

In addition to the WOC Offering, we will gather items and put together needed relief and disaster kits for Church World Service (CWS) and for distribution through the Festival of Sharing in Missouri.

Our Church World Service kits will be:

Emergency Clean-up Buckets.

The high number of recent floods and other disasters has depleted the CWS supply. These kits enable people to begin the devastating job of cleaning up after a disaster here in the U. S. *Our goal – at least 5 buckets.*

(Please sign up for the items you will bring so that together we can create complete buckets.)

EMERGENCY CLEAN-UP BUCKET

\$56 value **Shipping—\$3/kit**

- 1 five-gallon bucket with re-sealable lid
- 1 pair work gloves
- 1 dry laundry detergent, 50-78 oz.
- 2 pairs latex gloves (**like Playtex®**)
- 24 - 28 count heavy-duty trash bags (**30-45 gallon**)
- 1 scrub brush
- 7 sponges, assorted sizes
- 5 scouring pads
- Clothesline, two 50 ft. or one 100 ft.
- 48 - 50 clothes pins
- 18 cleaning towels (**reusable, like Easy Wipes®**)
- 5 dust masks
- 24 - 28 oz bottle antibacterial dish soap (**like Dawn®**)
- 1 12 oz. bottle concentrated cleaner (**like Lysol®**)
- 1 6-9 oz. bottle insect repellent (**No aerosol**)

Please purchase all liquids in plastic bottles. Send only new, unopened materials. Make sure lids on bottles are tightly closed. Put all items in the plastic bucket, making sure they are packed securely to avoid damage during shipment. Seal closed with lid and packing tape.

Our Missouri kits will be:

Paper Products Packs

Imagine having a cold but no tissue to blow your nose. While a cloth handkerchief is an option, laundering is not always frequent so the more sanitary option is for disposable tissues to keep from passing on germs to other family members. Paper products cannot be purchased with SNAP benefits. These paper products are much needed in all households. The packs are distributed to food pantries and shelters across the state of Missouri.

PAPER PRODUCTS PACK

\$14 value

- 3 packages toilet paper (4 double rolls)
- 2 rolls paper towels (good quality)
- 2 facial tissue (large rectangular boxes)

Place all items in a tall –sized kitchen trash bag. Close securely and place bagged kits in a box labeled “Paper Products Pack.” Mark the quantity on each box.

A Recommended Read!

“Toxic Charity: How Churches and Charities Hurt Those They Help (And How to Reverse it)”

Author, Robert D. Lupton will lead a seminar on this topic on Saturday, October 5, 2013 – 9am – 3 pm at Manchester UMC. Cost: \$20 (w/lunch)



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(All events at Compton Heights CC unless otherwise noted)

Sunday, July 7 - Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

Christian Education — 10:05 -10:50 am

Worship— 11:00 am Coffee and refreshments— 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 10 – Board of Ministry Meeting 7:00 pm

Thursday, July 11 – Compassionate Listening Practice Group 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Friday— July 12—Happy Friday— 7:00-8:00 am

Saturday, July 13 – Church Work Day – 9:00 am – Noon

General Assembly of the Christian Church (DOC) begins, Orlando, FL

Sunday, July 14—Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

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

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

Wednesday, July 17 – Elders' Circle 7:00 pm

Friday, July 19 – “Happy Friday” – 7:00 – 8:00 am

Sunday, July 21—Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

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

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

Friday, July 26—Happy Friday—6:45-8:00 a.m.

Sunday, July 28—Tenth Sunday After Pentecost “SIX WEEKS OF COMPASSION” begins!!

Christian Education 10:05 -10:50 am

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

Friday, August 2 - Happy Friday— 6:45-8:00 a.m.

August Summer Sabbath Begins! -(No Meetings in August - only Worship, Nurture, Mission and Fun this month!)**Sunday, August 4 – Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost**

Christian Education 10:05-10:50 am

Worship— 11:00 am Coffee and Refreshments— 12:00 pm

Friday, August 9 – Happy Friday -- 6:45-8:00 am

Sunday, August 11 – Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

Christian Education 10:05 – 10:50 am

Worship – 11:00 am Coffee and Refreshments - 12:00 pm

Thursday, August 15 – Compassionate Listening – 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Friday, August 16 – Happy Friday – 7:00 – 8:00 am

Sunday, August 18 – Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Christian Education 10:05 – 10:50 am

Worship – 11:00 am Coffee and Refreshments – 12:00 pm

Friday, August 23 – Happy Friday – 7:00 – 8:00 am

Sunday, August 25 – Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Christian Education 10:05 – 10:50 am

Worship – 11:00 am Coffee and Refreshments – 12:00 pm

Friday, August 23 – Happy Friday – 7:00 – 8:00 am

Serving Schedule – JULY - AUGUST 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
July 7 Sarah Richardson	Lisa Bast	Dennis Landon
July 14 John Pitt	Charlsi Lee	Sarah Richardson
July 21 Madeline Haraway	Bob Lewis	Marsha McGuire
July 28 Steve Randolph	Dennis Landon	DebE Martin
Aug 4 Kim Miner	Sarah Richardson	Leslie Latham
Aug 11 Darrell Hughes	Marsha McGuire	Kathy Mead
Aug 18 Ty Woodard	DebE Martin	Madeline Haraway
Aug 25 Dennis James	Leslie Latham	Lisa Bast

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

July 7 Jan Kreuger	Darrell Hughes	Stanley Williams	Kim Miner
July 14 Dave Martin	Thelonius Lee	Bud Obermiller	Nancy Obermiller
July 21 Larry Kreuger	Arlene Arbogast	Marty Hughes	Kim Miner
July 28 Nancy Obermiller	Arlene Arbogast	Jan Kreuger	Darrell Hughes
Aug 4 Stanley Williams	Darrell Hughes	Dave Martin	Larry Kreuger
Aug 11 Stanley Williams	Arlene Arbogast	Dave Martin	Larry Kreuger
Aug 18 Bud Obermiller	Nancy Obermiller	Jan Kreuger	Thelonius Lee
Aug 25 Bud Obermiller	Nancy Obermiller	Stanley Williams	Thelonius Lee

Providing Communion Bread: July Bud Obermiller **August** Darrell Hughes

In-Home Communion -- July - Elder: (A) Brenda Booth (B) Karen Pitt Deacon ?

Aug - Elder: (A) Norm Linville (B) Leslie Latham Deacon?

Greeter July: Kathy Mead **August:** Darrell Hughes

Nursery Care

July 7 Ty Woodard

July 14 Madeline Haraway

July 21 Darrell Hughes

July 28 Kathy Mead

Aug 4 Marsha McGuire

Aug 11 Marty Hughes

Aug 18 Dave Boger

Aug 25 Brenda Booth

Coffee Hosts

Bryan and Sarah Richardson

Marsha McGuire and Leslie Latham

Marty and Darrell Hughes

Kim Miner and DebE Martin

Charlsi and Thelonius Lee

Walt and AudreyTarde/ Susan Petri

Madelline Haraway

Bud and Nancy Obermiller

Children Worship & Wonder - on Summer Break!

FINANCIAL REPORT

Income for June through 6/23: \$7,912.62

YTD income through 6/23: \$75,676.53

YTD income includes the following:

Pledges, loose offering, gifts: \$45,982.57

Outreach offerings: 1,754.93

Tuition for boys in India: 275.70

Remember Your Summer Giving!

The best way to eat an Oreo cookie is . . .

Rent and misc. expense: 11,538.41

Equal Exchange purchases: 263.45

Interest on CCF Investments 834.47

Withdrawal from CCF 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 – 2012-1013

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

Compton Heights Christian Church
2149 S. Grand Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63104