



Compton Heights Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

An Open and Affirming
& Global Mission Congregation

Rev . Dr. Jacquelyn Foster, Pastor
Mr. Josh Privitt , Student Associate



This Month:

- Two** Prayer Concerns
Who's moving?
Welcome!
Blessing!
Thank-you
Church Camp
- Three** Prayer / Meditation
Children's Music
- Four** Calendar of Events
- Five** PrideFest Planning
Eden Commencement
Note from Josh
- Six** WOC / Tornadoes
Happy Fri. Blog
StoryTime /WoW
- Seven** Serving Schedule
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Contact Info.
Ministry leaders



Mother's Day Celebrated May 11

Haiku ~ Happiness

Mother looking at
baby in her bosom
happiness molded

- Palas Kumar Ray
India

JOY WITHIN AND WITHOUT!

Brenda took many delightful photos on Easter Sunday and you will find a few of them in these pages. When I first saw these, I was moved by the images of Joy and Reflection. Adults and children alike in moments of intense attention to the moment and in abounding joy!

On that day, a visitor said to me that whenever she has been here she is aware of something special, a spirit – and she wonders what it is; what is going on in this place. It is something she cannot quite describe.

I've been thinking about that. It is

always good to hear the experience of others. We can get lost in the day to day work, financial concerns, serving schedules that are necessary for the ministry of the congregation to go on. What we can forget is that the way we live out the day to day is all in the Spirit and purpose of Christ in this community. The truth is that we are most often not aware of the sacredness of each act and each moment. I believe the answer to the question is simply that in the midst of it all, we are filled with God's love. It is the source of our joy – within and without! -Jacque



Celebrations and Concerns – In our Prayer

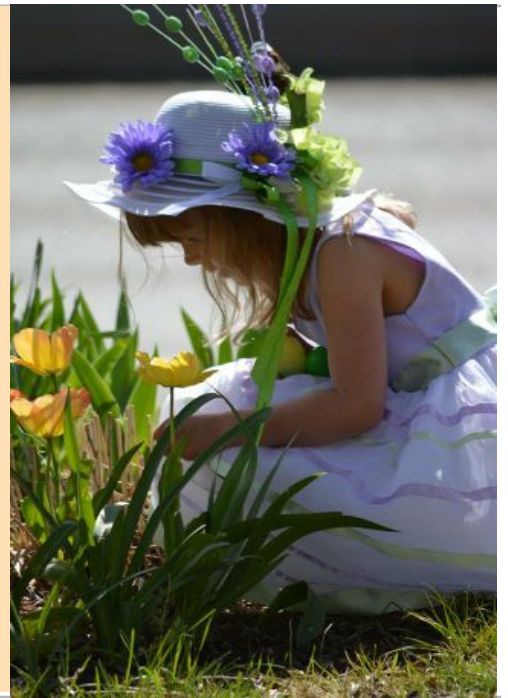
Bud Obermiller – home and much better after tests and rest
 Norm Linville – doing well in cardiac rehab
 John and Karen Pitt - John is feeling better. Angel needed to move to a new foster home.
 Jim and Sharon Clayton
 Royce Sykes
 Betty Graham – in hospice care

Happy Birthday in May

May 15 Marty Renner Hughes May 27 – Sarah Hughes
 May 16 Bryan Richardson

On the Move ...

Carolyn and Donald Harry – have moved to Ferguson
 Lisa and Terry Bast – to Edwardsville, IL in June



IT TAKES A COMMUNITY ...

Thank – YOU ...

to ALL who came together to create the wonderful ministries of Holy Week and Easter! Thelonus and Charlsi Lee, Dennis James, Brenda Booth, and SO MANY others for preparation, serving, and clean-up for the Holy Saturday Community Meal.

To Jan Kreuger, Dennis James, and all who made the church lawn and building ready for Easter!

To Brenda Booth, DeB Martin and ALL who cooked, and prepared for Easter

Breakfast and Egg Hunt! Thanks to those who gave eggs and the candy and items to fill eggs!

To Marty Hughes for ordering and arranging the beautiful lilies and spring flowers.

To the youth and adults who filled 76 helium balloons on Easter morning and helped to get the sanctuary ready for worship!

To David French and the Choir for wonderful music through Lent and Easter. Hearts were moved as you led us in song!

Church Camp -All Ages

SEGA Summer Happening, our Intergenerational Camp at MoVal will be held June 17-21. This camp is one of the many camps offered in our Region. Please see camp info, registr., and SEGA scholarship forms under the hallway bulletin board. Early Registration and Scholarship Application has been extended to May 15. In addition to SEGA scholarship, see Jacque about CHCC Scholarship provided by a generous benefactor.

WELCOMING NEW MEMBER AND CHILD and FAMILY BLESSING

We welcome **Kristie Blunt Welder** who came by Reaffirmation of Faith to formally make CHCC her church home on Sunday, March 30. **Kristie, Brent, and daughter Eleanor** have been a part of the congregation about 2 years, and we celebrate this affirmation of faith, commitment and deepening relationship.

Then on Sunday, April 6, we celebrated the Family and Child Blessing of Eleanor Elizabeth Blunt Welder and her parents Kristie and Brent. It was a joyous day as Eleanor's grandparents, and Godparents were able to be with us. (One of her Godparents by Skype.) The blessing was celebrated by Assoc. Pastor Josh Privitt.

For all good gifts we give thanks!



Prayer for Humility

Let me have too deep a sense of humor ever to be proud.

Let me know my absurdity before I act absurdly.

Let me realize that when I am humble I am most human, most truthful, and most worthy of your serious consideration.

Daniel A. Lord, SJ in *Hearts on Fire*, ed. Michael Harter, St. Louis: Inst. of Jesuit Sources, 1993.



To say that I am made in the image of God is to say that love is the reason for my existence, for God is love.

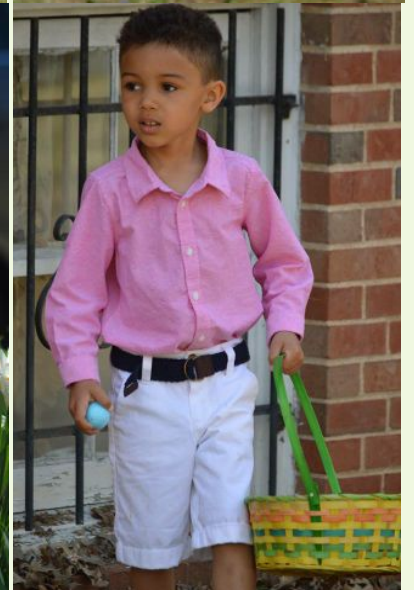
*Love is my true identity.
Selflessness is my true self.
Love is my true character.
Love is my name.*

*If, therefore, I do anything
or think anything
or say anything
or know anything
that is not purely for the love of God,
it cannot give me peace, or rest, or fulfillment,
or joy.*

To find love I must enter into the sanctuary where it is hidden, which is the mystery of God.

-Thomas Merton

in *Thomas Merton: A Book of Hours*, ed. Kathleen Deignan (Sorin Books:Notre Dame, IN) 2007, pg.143.



CHILDREN'S MUSIC ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

Talya Perry and David French have begun a new Music Time with children during the **last 15 minutes** of the Church School Hour (**10:30 – 10:45**) each Sunday! The children are preparing a song that they will sing in worship this Spring! If your child does not participate in Church School, but would like to take part, please arrive at Pre-K room to begin practice at 10:30.

My Mother could snatch a dry root from field or hedgerow, dab it into the garden, give it a shake --- and almost immediately it flowered. One felt she could grow roses from a stick or a chair-leg, so remarkable was this gift. – Laurie Lee, *Cider with Rosie* (1959)



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(All events at Compton Heights CC unless otherwise noted)

Sunday, May 4 – Third Sunday of Easter

Wednesday, May 7 – Worship & PreSchool Story Time 12 noon Board of Ministry 8 pm

Friday, May 9—Happy Friday Outreach—7:00-8:00 a.m.

Sunday, May 11 – Fourth Sunday of Easter Mother's Day & Farewell to Josh

Wednesday, May 14 – Worship & Preschool Story Time 12:00 noon Elders' Circle 7 pm

Thursday, May 15 – Compassionate Listening Group 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Friday, May 16 – Happy Friday Outreach 7 – 8 am Eden Seminary Grad. 7:30 pm.

Sunday, May 18– Fifth Sunday of Easter

Wednesday, May 21 – Worship & PreSchool Story Time 12:00 noon

Friday, May 23 – Happy Friday Outreach 7 – 8 am

Sunday, May 25 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

Monday, May 26 – Memorial Day

Wednesday, May 28 – Worship & Preschool Story Time 12:00 noon

Friday, May 30 – Happy Friday Outreach 7:00 – 8:00 am

Sunday, June 1 – Seventh Sunday of Easter Pentecost Offering Begins

Wednesday, June 4 - Worship & PreSchool Story Time 12 noon Ministry Groups. 7pm

Thursday, June 5 – Prayer Shawl Knitting/Crocheting 7:00 pm

Friday, June 6 – Happy Friday Outreach 7 – 8 am

Sunday, June 8 – Pentecost Sunday Pentecost Offering

Wednesday, June 11 – Worship & PreSchool Story Time 12 noon Elders' Circle 7 pm

Friday, June 12 – Happy Friday Outreach 7- 8 am

SUNDAY SCHEDULE: Classes for All – 10 am, Worship 11 am, Choir 12:30 pm

Choir extends through Pentecost Sunday and will then take a well-deserved summer break! We will look forward to sharing the gifts of those who will share special music through the summer. We hope you will share your vocal and instrumental gifts this summer!

Children, Worship & Wonder also extends through Pentecost Sunday and then takes a break for the summer. All children are welcome in Sanctuary Worship or parents may choose for pre-school children to be in the nursery during the worship hour for the summer.



PRIDEFEST PLANNING IN PROCESS!

Planning has begun for our Booth at PrideFest on the last weekend of June. Each year this is a very important part of our Open and Affirming Ministry as we listen to the stories of LGBTQ and Affirming people who are exploring lives of faith. There will be opportunities to help and participate in many ways as PrideFest approaches! See Leslie Latham or Kathy Mead.

Eden Theological Seminary Commencement

This year two of our Student Associate Pastors are graduating from seminary! **Josh Privitt**, who has been with us this year will graduate, as will **Joylynn Graham** who was our Associate last year!

Commencement Exercises will be held on Friday, May 16 at 7:30 pm at Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 826 Union Boulevard.



One Last Note

A million different trite phrases are going through my head at this ending of a time together. Things such as, "Compton will forever hold a dear place in my heart," or, "Goodbyes are hard, but this one is especially hard," come to mind. Every single one is true, but not one can fully encompass the feelings of love, sadness, longing, appreciation, and hope that are surrounding me as my final week as Student Associate Pastor is coming up. Compton, you all have truly been a place of support for me, but also a place in which I was able to grow as a pastor. You have always been supportive of any ministry I sought to support or begin, and have regularly offered appreciative words along with constructive critiques, both of which are needed and valued. It is apparent to me that helping student pastors develop is part of your ministry, and I cannot thank you enough for the good ministry you do with that. So though my time here is ending, I know that is not good-bye but see you later (that phrase I must say I do like). It is see you later because you all have played too important of a part in my journey for me not to come say hello occasionally. I look forward to hearing about all the amazing ministry that you will continue to do and continue to pray for you all. Do stay in touch and keep me in your prayers on this continuing journey in ministry. May the Holy Spirit forever guide, Jesus walk beside you, and God watch over you and guard you now and forevermore. Amen.

Josh



Week of Compassion

Putting Compassion in Action As Tornadoes Strike Midwest and South



Rescue and relief efforts continue across the Midwest and South in the aftermath of several days of severe weather that has left a wake of death, damage and destruction. At least 29 people have been killed. Hundreds of homes and businesses have been destroyed and entire communities devastated. Week of Compassion is contacting local pastors and regional offices to learn the full extent of the impact on our congregations but is already responding to three congregations that have been impacted. The sanctuary and fellowship hall of First Christian Church, Tupelo, Mississippi has been destroyed. First Christian Church, Baxter Springs, KS had several families with damage. First Christian Church, Washington, North Carolina not only had families affected by tornadoes but lost its historic sanctuary to fire. Your prayers and your gifts to WoC are already undergirding these congregations and will certainly be needed as we continue to respond to these and to other congregations and communities that have been impacted. Designated gifts can be made to WoC and should be earmarked for "Response Fund" or "U.S. Storms." We will also post information soon about relief supplies, volunteer efforts and other short and long-term recovery needs. Week of Compassion is grateful for the partnership and support of Disciples across North America that enables us Disciples to put our compassion in action. Thank you.

This Week's Responses:

Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance

North Carolina, Tornado Damage (8)

Kansas, Tornado Damage (3)

North Carolina, Church Fire



NEW HAPPY FRIDAY BLOG

As we begin the celebration of our 10th year of "Happy Friday", we have created a special blog:

happyfridaystl.wordpress.com

All of our regular Happy Friday participants have been made administrators to be able to post on the blog. And ALL of us can comment. Our hope is that this will be a way of engaging the community who have passed by and have been touched in some way by Happy Friday over the past 10 years.

A banner is being made to share the blog info. The blog also features a Countdown to our September 12 Afternoon Happy Friday Celebration on the Lawn. Please share your thoughts !

WORSHIP and PRESCHOOL STORYTIME at NOON on WEDNESDAYS

One of the wonderful things about this congregation is that, because we are committed, we are willing to hang in there, listen to God's leading, and try things until we get a grip on what we're doing! We started Pre School Storytime at the beginning of April, anticipating that we would provide a story experience for children who are not in PreSchool. Only one family responded to this. On the first of May we received responses from some neighborhood parents who are hoping that Storytime is continuing into the summer as their PreSchool programs end. Therefore we will feel into the summer needs of neighborhood families with young children!

Worship on Wednesday began in hope of engaging the Isaiah 58 community in worship. It has become a nurturing time of prayer, faith sharing, and communion for a few of us!



SERVING SCHEDULE Please get a substitute if unable to serve on your designated date!

	Liturgist	Communion Elders	Stewardship Elders
May 4	Nancy Obermiller	Kathy Mead	Leslie Latham
May 11	Kim Miner	Brenda Booth	Norm Linville
May 18	Jennifer Bledsoe	Judi Linville	Bob Lewis
May 25	Dave Martin	Steve Randolph	Sarah Richardson
June 01	Steve Randolph	Nancy Obermiller	Kathy Mead
June 08	Talya Perry	Bob Lewis	Leslie Latham

Deacons **(All will serve; the first two will prepare and clean up communion.)**

May 04	Darrell Hughes	Talya Perry	Arlene Arbogast	Reed Glasener
May 11	Kim Litton	Tom Litton	Marty Hughes	Stanley Williams
May 18	Dennis James	Joan James	Bud Obermiller	Carolyn Harry
May 25	Susan Petri	Thelonius Lee	Jan Kreuger	Dave Martin
June 01	Arlene Arbogast	Reed Glasener	Darrell Hughes	Talya Perry
June 08	Marty Hughes	Stanley Williams	Kim Litton	Tom Litton

Providing Communion Bread: **May** Carolyn Harry **June** Dennis James

In-Home Communion (Two Elders and one Deacon each month to take home communion)

May Elder (A) Nancy Obermiller **(B)** Norm Linville **Deacon** Darrell Hughes

June Elder (A) Brenda Booth **(B)** Sarah Richardson **Deacon** Carolyn Harry

Greeter **May** Joan James **June** Marsha McGuire

Nursery Care

May 04	Dave Boger	Tardes/ Petri
May 11	Darrell Hughes	Haraway/Bradley/Owens
May 18	Brenda Booth	Obermillers
May 25	Marty Hughes	<u>Need a volunteer</u>
June 01	Madeline Haraway	James
June 08	Marsha McGuire	Linville

Coffee Hosts

Children, Worship & Wonder

S Kathy Mead	G Judi Linville
S Susan Petri	G Madeline H.
S Kathy Mead	G Audrey Tarde
S Dave Boger	G Jan Kreuger
S Charlsi Lee	G Judi Linville
S Kathy Mead	G Darrell Hughes

FINANCIAL REPORT

Income for April through April 27	\$13,839.14
YTD income through April 27	\$49,107.73
YTD Total Expenses	\$55,134.00 (YTD deficit \$6,026.27)

YTD income includes the following:

Pledges, loose & Sunday school offering, gifts:	\$34,722.63
Outreach (\$1,267 for Easter):	1,287.00
Elders Fund & Memorials:	601.12
Tuition of Girisha and Dhanush at King's School:	179.11
Equal Exchange Coffee, Tea, Chocolate purchases:	142.64
Fundraising:	162.95
Rent and contributions toward expenses:	8,831.25
CCF investment interest:	481.03
Transfers from steeple account & insurance payment:	2,700.00

GRASS GROWS!

Will you Support Lawn Mowing?

Once again this summer we will pay someone to mow the church lawn. We pay for this through contributions of \$60 per two week period. There is a sign-up sheet on the Library door for you to choose your time for donate for lawn mowing if you choose!



SCRIPTURE READINGS for Upcoming Weeks

May 4 – Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41, Ps. 116:1-3,10-17, 1 Peter 1:17-23,
Luke 24:13-35

May 11 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47, Psalm 23, 1 Peter 2:19-25, John 10:1-10

May 18 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60, Ps. 31:1-5,15-16, 1 Peter 2:2-10, Jn 14:1-14

May 25 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22-31, Ps. 66:7-18, 1 Peter 3:13-22, John 14:15-21

June 1 – Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:6-14, Ps. 68:1-10,33-36, 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11,
John 17:1-11

June 8 – Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-21, Ps. 104:25-35,37 1 Cor. 12:3b-13 Jn. 20:19-23

“Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands an accounting of the hope that is in you . . .” 1 Peter 3

Contact Us Online:

www.comptonheights.com

www.isaiah58ministries.org

also check us out on fb

Email:

comptonheightscc@gmail.com

Pastor: jleigh55@att.net



Ministry Leaders:

Moderator: Leslie Latham

Vice M.: Larry Kreuger

Secretary: Steve Randolph

Treasurer: Jan Kreuger

Financial Sec: Judi Linville

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