

Compton Heights Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

An Open & Affirming Congregation



If you're here, it can't be all bad!

As I write, we have just heard news of the death of Mohammed Ali. Ali, the great, long time, heavyweight championship boxer and Olympic champion, is perhaps even better known for his greatness as a human being. He stood and spoke as a witness to God's care for every person, for those who were poor and saw no future. He spoke boldly and clearly for civil rights. He fought literally and figuratively not for himself but to be a voice of hope and justice in the world as a servant of God. In an interview on NPR, a black man from a poor part of LA remembers Ali coming to his neighborhood, to his gym. He said they were without hope, but when Ali came there, this young man thought

"Well if he's here, it can't be all bad."

Tragically Ali also fought a long battle with Parkinson's disease, and has unfortunately been among the many who have taught us something about the price of repeated head injury in sports. He died at age 74.

There is something about the deaths of public figures such as Ali that knocks us for a loop? It is not simply that they are known my many; it is not simply, in this case, that a famous sports figure has died. It is that this person has held a collective hope for God's people. It is about the meaning of his or her life and the world's loss at their death.

Perhaps we see ourselves in this

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Person and are reminded that our lives are created to embody hope for others.

I cannot seem to let go of the man's response to Ali's presence in his neighborhood: "If he's here, it can't be all bad." Isn't that how we are called to be present in places in need of hope? As followers of Jesus the Christ, we are called to go where God's people need to know that they are worthy; where people need to be encouraged and lifted up. Sometimes we are the ones who need to be lifted up, and it is in going to others that we find our hope. Ours is a faith of incarnation, of the embodiment of God's love for all. Make it such that where you go, people say that if YOU are there, it can't be all bad. You come as a witness to God in that place! *Jacque*

All your love, your stretching out,
your hope, your thirst,
God is creating in you so that God may fill you . . .
God is on the inside of the longing.

Maria Boulding

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Sunday, June 19 is Father's Day; a day to celebrate the Fathers and Grandfathers; the men in our lives who have given their love and served as role models for children, youth, and adults. Thanks be to God for those who teach us what a father can be!

CWW Lunch with Storytellers & Greeters – Sunday, July 10

"Children, Worship & Wonder", our Montessori-based Children's Worship is on break for the early part of the summer. We celebrate that 4 great folks have gone to CWW Storyteller training in recent months. Leslie Latham and Brenda Booth took the training near Kansas City, and Kathy Mead and Masi Swanagan did the training in Indiana. Dave Boger also went to renew his training.

On Sunday, July 10, we will have a CWW Storyteller and Greeter Lunch following worship to plan together for the coming year – which will begin mid-August! We would like to gather everyone willing to serve as a CWW Greeter as well as all Storytellers for this planning time!

Celebrations & Concerns



Linda Lewis
Audrey Tarde
Edith Petri (Susan's mother-in-law)
John Pitt
Royce Sykes
Sharon Clayton



Bud and Nancy Obermiller - as they grieve the death of Bud's brother Thomas on May 29. Services in Fremont, NE on June 1. We hold Bud and his family in prayer.



Summer is coming and our lives shift into a bit of a different flow! We enjoy creation in different ways; we share time with family and friends in different ways. And we celebrate as Church in different ways.

Beginning May 29 (Memorial Day Weekend) our Sunday Morning classes for all ages will take a summer break! Our mornings will begin with 11:00 am Worship, followed by our social time with refreshments.

Choir will take a well-deserved summer break. Therefore we invite and encourage folks to **1. Sign up for a Sunday to do special music** (solo, duet or small group, an instrumental piece, - bring your gifts!) **2. Join in the First Sunday Choir** – on the first Sunday of June, July, and Aug. those who would like to sing come at 10 am to prepare a song!

"Summer On the Lawn" Events

May and June will bring:

Sunday, June 12, 11 am Worship on the Lawn
A special outdoor worship AND **Bring Your Own Picnic Lunch!** Also bring your lawn chair or picnic blanket!

The June 12 BYO Picnic (above) is the first of three "**Summer Fun Lunches**" – The **second** will be on **Sunday, July 17, at 12:45 – at City Park Grill on Morganford.** The **third** will be on **August 21, 12:45 at Subway on S. Grand.** Summer Fun Lunches are relaxed opportunities to lunch together after worship

Church Garden Care

The church flower gardens – in both the side yard and the front planter need to be regularly watered and cared for throughout the season. We have been blessed to have Jan and Larry Kreuger doing this in the past. However they are in Florida for the summer. Would YOU be willing to help care for the church gardens? Please let Jacque know!



JUNE

- 1 - John Pitt
- 2 - Siena & Matthew Petri
- 8 - Jacque Foster
Thelonius Lee
- 10 - Willow Petri
Brent Welder
- 12 - Jennifer Phoenix
- 13 - Reed Glasener
- 14 - Dennis James
- 17 - Kathy Bradley
- 19 - Roberta Travis
- 22 - Steve Randolph
- 23 - Maserati Swanagan
- 24- Cory, Marcus, and
Jackson Petri
- 26 - Lucy Martin
- 29 - Delaney Ziesemann

Planning for Compton Heights CC Booth at PrideFEST

Several members of our congregation first met us at PrideFEST! It is an amazing connection of hearts that takes place at that little CHCC tent in the midst of all the party at Pride. Pride Booths are open Saturday, June 25, 11 am – 9:30 pm, and Sunday, June 26, 11 am – 7:30 pm. The sign-up sheet for booth attending (in two hour time slots) is on the Library door! Come on Tuesday, June 14, 7 pm to help plan for the booth; we would love to have your help, your ideas, your energy! See Leslie L. or Kathy M. to help!



Sunday Schedule
Classes on Summer Brk
11 am - Worship

WSPR - Wed. Share &
Prayer 6 pm - This
summer 1st, 3rd, and 5th
Wednesdays

Every Friday
Happy Friday Outreach
7:00 - 8:00 am

What's

1st Wednesday
WSPR 6 pm
Ministry Groups 7 pm

2nd Thursday
Prayer Shawl Grp 7 pm
at Linville's

3rd Happy Friday 7am

5th 3rd Sun. after Pent.
10 am Origami Boat Making
11 am Worship

8th Wednesday
Elders' Circle 7 pm

Happening

10th Happy Friday 7 am
LGBTQ Group (see Julie &
Jennifer for time & place)

12th 4th Sun. after Pent.
11 am Worship on Lawn
followed by Picnic on the
Lawn - Bring Your Own
Picnic! (BYOP)

14th Tuesday
PrideFest Planning 7 pm

15th Wednesday
WSPR 6 - 7 pm

17th Happy Friday 7 am

Here

19th 5th Sun. after Pent
Fathers Day
11 am Worship

24th Happy Friday 7am

25th Sat. Pridefest Booth

26th 6th Sun. after Pent
Pridefest Booth

28th Tuesday 6:30 pm
Compassionate Listening

29th Wednesday
WSPR - 6 - 7 pm
Cabinet - 7 pm

SERVING SCHEDULE - JUNE

June Communion Bread: Bud Obermiller
Sanctuary Greeter: Dave Boger

June 5 Liturgist: Kathy Mead
Elders: Nancy Obermiller (Communion)
Thelonius Lee (Stewardship)
Deacons: Jennifer Phoenix, David Nielsen
Marty Hughes, Walt Tarde
Nursery: Brenda Booth
Coffee Hosts: Marsha McG, Leslie L, Millie S.

June 12 Liturgist: Darrell Hughes
Elders: Judi Linville (Communion)
Leslie Latham (Stewardship)
Deacons: Joan James, Stanley Williams
Tom Litton, Dennis James
Nursery: Kathy Mead
Coffee Hosts: Darrell & Marty Hughes (Picnic)

June 19 Liturgist: Brenda Booth
Elders: Marsha McGuire (Communion)
Kathy Mead (Stewardship)
Deacons: Kim Litton, Bud Obermiller
Heather Stout, Tina Owens
Nursery: Marty Hughes
Coffee Hosts: DebE Martin & Kim Litton

June 26 Liturgist: Jennifer Phoenix
Elders: Norm Linville (Communion)
Steve Randolph (Stewardship)
Deacons: Susan Petri, Julie Phoenix
Kathy Bradley, Carolyn Harry
Nursery: Marsha McGuire
Coffee Hosts: Charlsi & Thelonius Lee

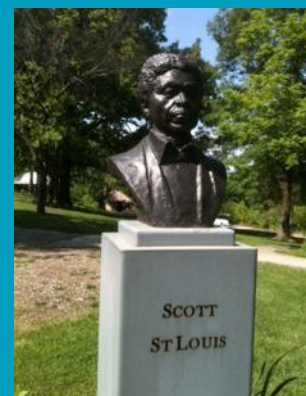
July 3 Liturgist: Ron Hutcherson

Elders: Millie Slack (Communion)
Madeline Haraway (Stewardship)

Deacons: Walt Tarde, Arlene Arbogast
Jennifer Phoenix, David Nielsen

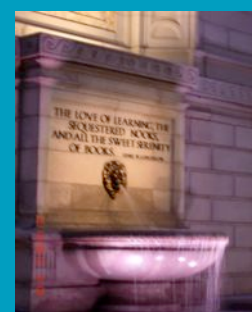
Nursery: Dave Boger

Coffee Hosts: Tarde and Petri



Where in St. Louis will you
find the above sculpture of
Dred Scott?

Last week's 'STL Find'
(below) is: the exterior of the
Central Library, Downtown





Parents' Night Out in May a Success! Kristie Blunt Welder organized a Parents' Night Out at the church on Friday evening, May 13! We had kiddos from the congregation and from the community.

The event was free of charge, with an opportunity for a donation if a parent wanted to make one. We thank Kristie and Brent for fronting the funds and making the plans. We thank all those who helped that evening! It was a great and very active evening! We look forward to offering Parents' Night Out on a regular basis. All parents need a break; yet not all parents can get a sitter. What a gift it can be to just have an evening out, while knowing that your children are in a safe place, having fun!

If you would be willing to help with a Parents' Night Out, please let Kristie know at 314-276-7232.

*God is present among us,
In our bodies breathing together,
In our hearts beating,
In our music playing,
In our fire burning,
In the water flowing,
In the stars at midnight,
In our brother's courage,
In our sister's courage,
In our lives embracing.
God is present among us.*

From Equal Rites: Lesbian & Gay Worship Ceremonies and Celebrations, Kittredge and Sherwood, eds, Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1995.

SUMMER CHURCH CAMP REGISTRATION

Our Mid-America Region camp information and registration materials are available both online and at the church.

We have a great group from Compton Heights going to the Intergenerational Camp at MOVAL (about an hour from STL, at Union, MO.) This camp will be directed this year by **Brenda Booth and Doug Cripe!** Babies thru grandparents welcome!! From 3rd grade through High School, children are in age groups and in Cabins together with counselors – just like in single age group camps. Children under 3rd grade are in cottages with their parents/grandparents. Adults who come without children are in cabin together and have an Adult discussion/activity group.

Fee per person , \$230 (after May 2)), fee per person with 3+ in family \$190. For information on **ALL Mid-America Camps** and registration materials online, go to: www.mid-america-disciples.org/summer

Summer Lawn Care Fund and Hands-on Garden Help

It is time again to sign up to make those special gifts for Summer Care of the Church Lawn. We employ someone to mow the lawn every two weeks. There is sign-up sheet for those who would like to make a \$60 contribution for lawn care. The sheet is on the small Communications Bulletin Board across from the Church Library.

We also greatly appreciate those who would be willing to water the church gardens, weed, and help maintain this beautiful summer space! Please let us know how you might like to help this summer!

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

On Sunday, May 22 people and pets gathered on the Church Lawn for the Blessing of the Animals. This was a part of our Earth Stewardship Celebration: "Care for All God's Creatures." Some brought pets, others brought collars or toys or photos of pets. We also shared beloved pets who held a special place in our lives and are no longer with us physically. We named and prayed for Wild Animals endangered or threatened with extinction. It was a wonderful afternoon of prayer, play, and blessing.



Ministry Leaders

Rev. Dr. Jacquelyn Foster Pastor	Ms. Leslie Latham Moderator of Congregation	Ms. Judi Linville Financial Secretary	Contact us: 314-771-5071 www.comptonheights.com check us out on Facebook www.isaiah58ministries.org Email: comptonheightscc@gmail.com Pastor: jleigh55@att.net
Ms. Jaime Van Nostrand Pastoral Intern	Ms. Kristie Welder Vice Moderator	Kathy Mead, Darrell Hughes, Tom Litton Treasurers	
	Ms. Marsha McGuire Clerk		

Financial Report – May Income

Regular Income for May through May 29:	\$12,116.00
YTD regular income through May 29:	\$54,077.01
YTD general fund income includes the following:	
Regular giving (pledged and estimated)	45,105.00
Loose offering	605.91
Gifts and new givers	400.00
Interest from CCF	190.92
Rent	2,950.00
Fund Raising	172.02
Special Offerings (Pentecost=\$50)	2,425.33
Memorial and Elders Fund Gifts	0.00
Tuition for Dhanush and Girisha in India	187.09
Equal Exchange/Coffee Fellowship	610.90
Offsets to Expenses (including trash)	1,429.84
Special Fund for Pastor's 20th Anniversary	1,550.00
Capital Fund Income	0.00
Total Income	\$55,627.01

Celebrating Open and Affirming Churches

Spirit of God, we thank you for all who let the light of love shine forth. We thank you for your lesbian, gay, and transgender daughters and sons. We thank you for the brave and loving witness of your church affirming ALL of our lives and gifts.

Thanks be to you, O God, for that inclusive love which makes our gospel "good news" and our communities true reflections of your reign, and our hearts full of joy and hope!

Even as we rejoice in the light that shines, we remember how much its brightness might be increased. There is so much yet to be done for us and by us:

*So much justice yet to be established,
 So much pain yet to be healed,
 So much peace yet to be realized,
 So much love yet to pour forth.*