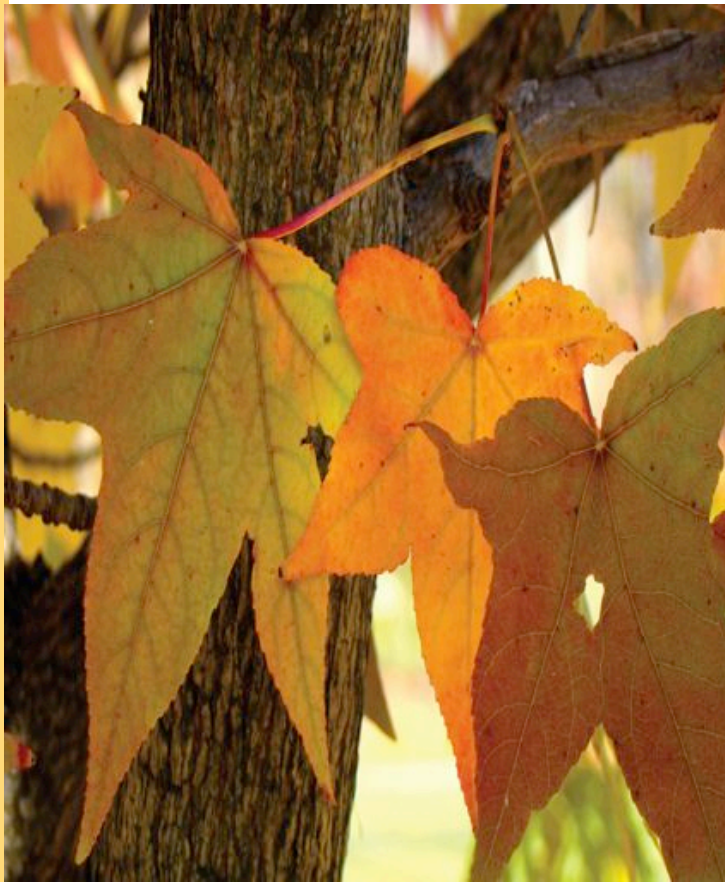


Compton Heights Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

An Open & Affirming and Global Mission Congregation



The Heart of a Congregation - Pastor Jacque

SEPTEMBER, 2016 VOL64 • NO7

Something in a congregation says to us *"This is home!"* That something is, of course, different for each person. It will certainly depend upon the kind of worship to which we are drawn, and how we understand God and humanity. I see some common threads in the stories of those who form this congregation, and in the qualities of our church life that I most often hear people name as vital.

- ◆ A genuine experience of love and care from the first contact with the congregation
- ◆ An open, non-judgmental welcome – not a 'blind' welcome but a willingness to see your full self and love you for all of who you are, just as Jesus loved all he met.
- ◆ Inclusive language for God and

- humans that expresses God's wide holiness and our wholeness in God
- ◆ A church that is active in the community & world – responding to need, and working for justice & peace
  - ◆ A church that witnesses to the abundant love, compassion, and forgiveness of God as it is revealed in Jesus the Christ.
  - ◆ A church in which it is not only okay, but good to question, differ, and discuss our experiences of life and God.
  - ◆ A community of prayer
  - ◆ A church in which ALL are welcome at Christ's Table, because for Jesus ALL Means ALL.

**The Heart of the Church is the Heart of Jesus the Christ; the love of God and God's people!**

**CHCC TRIVIA Night!**  
**Saturday, September 17**  
**Doors open at 6:15 pm**  
**Trivia begins at 7 pm**

**This is a major fund raiser for CHCC this year!**  
**Please help make this a great success!**

**Gather a table of 8**  
**\$20 per person/ \$160 per table**  
**50/50 Raffle – Silent Auction – Raffle – Dead or Alive**

**Free soft drinks and light snacks. Feel free to bring additional refreshments for your table. No alcohol please. Talk to Madeline Haraway or Kathy Mead to reserve a table or call 314-963-7999.** We are collecting donations for the Silent Auction, please talk to Kathy or Madeline if you have a contribution.

**St. Louis Disciples' Racial Justice Summit**  
**Sat., Sept. 24, 9 am – 2 pm - @ Webster Groves CC**  
 Film "Injustice Anywhere" and then a choice of two tracks: the Pro-Reconciling Awareness Training track or the Organizing for Change track. Please mark your calendar and plan to join our DOC community! Registration: [www.midamericadisciples.org/upcoming-events/2016](http://www.midamericadisciples.org/upcoming-events/2016) or 314- 918-2515. Fee - \$12, includes lunch.

**What's Inside?**

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**Sunday, September 11**

## **Six Weeks of Compassion Dedication**

This has been a summer of compassion and outreach – even before Six Wks of Compassion began it was a summer of mission.

During Six Weeks of Compassion we have:

Given to Week of Compassion and Church World Service supporting our disaster and development ministries in the U.S. and the world. It happens that in this time we are reaching out to those in the midst of flooding in the South, fires in West, earthquake in Italy, and those facing hunger across the world.

Given food & supplies to Isaiah 58 Ministries

Created Women's Prison Packs for those at the Women's Correctional Facility at Vandalia. We are receiving all these items through Sunday, Sept. 4 (see list on page 4).

**ALL WILL BE DEDICATED ON SEPTEMBER 11!**

This year a new special event: On Saturday, Oct. 8 we will deliver our Prison Kits to the Festival of Sharing **SHAREFEST**, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Immanuel UCC, Ferguson. There will be lunch and worship! PLEASE COME! The statewide Festival of Sharing will be Oct. 15 at the state fairgrounds in Sedalia, MO.

## **Rev. Dr. Ben Bohren: Celebrating 50 Years of Ministry and Leadership!**

Ben has touched the life our congregation in countless ways and is a dear friend. During his years with NBA here is St. Louis and since then he has touched this congregation with his encouragement, support, and love.

We invite you to a special evening of fellowship and celebration with Rev. Dr. H. Ben Bohren!

**Friday, September 23, 5 – 8 pm  
Union Avenue Christian Church  
733 Union Blvdl, St. Louis, MO**

From 5 – 5:30 pm, enjoy music and appetizers leading into a buffet-style dinner at 5:30 pm, followed by a program starting at 6:30 pm.

Visit [nbacares.org/events/ben-bohren](http://nbacares.org/events/ben-bohren) or call 314-991-6918 to RSVP today.

In partnership with the Christian Church Foundation, the NBA is creating the Rev. Dr. Ben Bohren NBA Leadership Fund. Visit [nbacares.org/BenBohrenFund](http://nbacares.org/BenBohrenFund)

## **Spotlight on India**

**On Sunday, Sept. 25 Drs. Anil and Teresa Henry**, our Global Mission Partners from Christian Hospital, Mungeli in India will be with us for Church School, Worship, and a pot luck lunch with their presentation! We look forward to their update about Christian Hospital and all their work in India. Several in our congregation have been to Christian Hospital, Mungeli. Others have met them! This will be a great time to reconnect or to make a new friend! **Please bring a dish to share!**

**January 4 – 19, 2017 India Trip** A group of 6 from our congregation will go to India in January of 2017 on a Global Ministries People to People Pilgrimage. This trip is led by our pastor and the Rev. Frank Everett with Greenfield Christian Church in Indiana. Compton members going on this trip (in addition to Pastor Jacque) are: Leslie Latham, Brenda Booth, Marsha McGuire, Joan James, and Monte Abbott. We will spend time at Family Village Farm and Kings Matriculation School, at Shanthigramam (Village of Peace) for those who have suffered with leprosy, visit our Global Ministries Partners in Chennai, and Tamil Nadu Seminary and partners in Madurai. This fall, the congregation will have the opportunity to help us prepare for this trip! We each pay our own way. However we take a financial gift for the Global Ministry partners we visit. We hope to take at least \$500 from CHCC for this purpose!

## **CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS**



Sharon Clayton,  
Jamal Martin, Cathy Hutcherson,  
Joyce Cole Jan Cameron,  
John Pitt Royce Sykes, Diane  
Richardson



2<sup>nd</sup> – Talya Perry  
9<sup>th</sup> - Madeline Haraway  
11<sup>th</sup> – Larry Kreuger  
18<sup>th</sup> - Walt Tarde, Jr.  
26<sup>th</sup> – Carolyn Harry



for **Mike Hubbard and Meredith Jackson** in the death of Mike's grandmother, "Grams," who died to this life at the end of August. She was Mike's last living grandparent. They gathered with family in southern Missouri for funeral services. We give thanks to God for the gift of family; for those who have gone before us and remain with us always in God's love.

### **BLESSINGS from Katherine K.**

Dear CHCC family: On 9/4 I will begin a new interim ministry pastorate with our Celebration Church congregation in St. Peters. Please keep Celebration in prayer as they enter into this interim time of prayer, discernment and eventual preparation for a new senior pastor. I will certainly miss you, my home congregation, and your spirit and faithfulness, over the next several months. I will keep all of you, and your ministry in prayer..."while we are absent, one from another." Blessings and thanks, Katherine Kinnamon



**Mission First**  
**Mission Together**  
**Mission NOW!**

"Build up, build up, prepare the way,  
remove every obstruction from my people's way."  
Isaiah 57:14

*Regional Assembly 2016*  
Springfield, Missouri  
October 7-9  
Keynote Speaker:  
Rev. Dr. Sharon Watkins



This Assembly will include a Mission First! Mission Gathering!  
Mark your calendar now and plan to join us!

## Regional Assembly of the Christian Church in Mid-America

October 7 – 9<sup>th</sup>

Central Christian Church  
Springfield, MO

- All are welcome! Adults, youth, elementary school children, preschoolers. Choose your type of registration on the [online](#) or [printable](#) form.
- **Register by September 7<sup>th</sup> for discounted rates. (Please note this extension for Assembly Registration)**
- High school and middle school youth are invited to participate in the [Youth Program](#). (In addition to their registration, they will need to supply a printed and signed [insurance/parental permission form](#).)
- Our Pro-Reconciliation/Anti-Racism group will present a [Pre-Assembly workshop](#) on Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at nearby Drury University. Don't forget to sign up for this on your [online](#) or [printable](#) registration form!

- Here is the local [lodging information](#) on one handy page. Choose from 5 hotels, all within a few miles of the church.
- Meals are optional. We are offering a clergy/spouses lunch on Friday and All-Assembly lunch and dinner on Saturday. Register for all or some of these meals, or opt out and enjoy some of [Springfield's restaurants](#).
- There will be twelve Mission Breakout Sessions available so you can learn more about the topic you choose. Please note that the Pro-Reconciliation/Anti-Racism session will be done in two parts – 1:45 and 3:30. The first will be the film "Injustice Anywhere" and the second will be the discussion of the film.
- This is a Mission First Gathering! There will be hands-on mission opportunities available so bring those work clothes!

FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION CLICK ON LINKS ABOVE OR GO TO: [www.mid-americadisciples.org/regional-assembly/](http://www.mid-americadisciples.org/regional-assembly/)  
**PLEASE NOTE the deadline for discounted registration has been extended to SEPTEMBER 7**

**New Church Library Floor!** Thank you to **ALL** those who have moved us forward in replacing the carpet with new flooring in our Library/All-Purpose Room! The library is our "everything room" with heavy traffic from classes, refreshments every Sunday morning, working meetings, meals, small groups with snacks, Is. 58 Movie days with food, Exercise Groups, soup suppers .... **Did we mention that we eat and drink in there a lot?! Well, you could tell!** We had replaced the carpet, and then we had repeatedly cleaned the carpet, and finally came to the realization that carpet was a 'no-no' for that room! So we have talked about getting it done for a long time.

It was **Kathy Bradley and Tina Owens** who kicked us into gear by suggesting that a friend who did the floor for their business come look at it and help us decide what to do. Then we had a delay, and then he had a delay, and then his truck was stolen. As fall events were creeping up on us, **Darrell Hughes** looked into flooring and decided he could put it down himself! **Kathy Mead** picked color of the flooring. So after **several of you** helped clear the room, **Darrell and Dennis James** pulled up the carpet. Then **Marty and Darrell, and Madeline Haraway** started laying flooring. **Dave Boger** brought a table saw to speed the process, and **he and Jacque** helped a bit. Then on the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> Darrell, Marty, and Madeline finished it all. Wow! A group project, indeed. But special thanks to Darrell and Marty who did most of the hard parts! This will make such a difference in our activities!

## Gender Identity Education Event – Sunday, October 2 following worship

We ALL have a gender identity! Most of us feel that the gender we were assigned at birth fits us; we're comfortable with it. We've never even considered a different identity. When we are filling out a form, and there are two little boxes – "M" and "F" - and we are asked to check one, we have no struggle. We have always comfortably checked the box that corresponds to the gender we were assigned at birth. Those of us who have this experience are called cis-gender. However, not everyone can honestly and with comfort check the box that was checked when they were born. For some it has never been completely right. This human struggle with gender identity is not new; it is age old. What is new is that people are no longer content to hide and deny their true selves. Our communities and congregations have always included people who do not feel right or comfortable with the gender identity that they were assigned as infants. There are many reasons and many ways that people have found and chosen to cope over the years. The good news is that people who are transgender no longer have to hide. We are able to recognize the identity of each person God has created and to support each person in living into and identifying as the gender that is most true and honest for them. What a gift to be able to live as our whole selves with integrity!

As true as this is, most of us are new at coming to understand the lives and the challenges of those who are transgender. We don't always understand why or how someone identifies as a different gender than we assume them to be. Even when we think we understand, we slip and use the wrong pronoun simply because we are responding out of our own emotions and subconscious ways of identifying.

The current conversation in our society in relationship to transgender persons has made it especially important that the church welcome everyone in ways that provide a place, a home that is safe for everyone to be who we are called to be.

Our Board is inviting us to engage in an education event to help us understand the issues of gender identity. This is an exciting way to deepen our welcome of God's people in every aspect of the life of the congregation. **On Sunday, October 2 we welcome everyone to gather after worship for a light lunch and a session on Understanding Gender Identity. The session will be led by Jaimie Hileman, the Co-executive Director of MTUG (Metro Trans Umbrella Group of St. Louis).**

**Please mark your calendar for October 2 following worship!**

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## An Afternoon of Art and Film Exploring the Top of Gun Violence

at Union Avenue Christian Church, STL

On behalf of the Arts Group of Union Avenue Christian Church and of Faces Not Forgotten, we invite you to an afternoon of art and film while exploring the topic of gun violence. **Faces Not Forgotten's** art exhibit opens and shares portraits of gun violence victims from St. Louis. Katie Couric's *Under the Gun* documentary film will be shown as well with a panel discussion to follow. Please join us on Sunday, September 18, 2016, for these powerful events. Here's the specific information; please announce it, print it, and share it on social media.

**Sunday, September 18, 2016**

*Faces Not Forgotten* Exhibit & Reception, noon – 3:30pm

Katie Couric's *Under the Gun* film, free screening 1:00 – 2:50pm

Panel discussion 3:00-3:30pm

**Union Avenue Christian Church**, 733 N. Union Blvd., STL 63108  
parking and enter in the back off of Enright Ave., wheelchair accessible  
[www.union-avenue.org/arts](http://www.union-avenue.org/arts), 314-339-8225  
Faces Not Forgotten Exhibition continues through October 9  
[www.facesnotforgotten.com](http://www.facesnotforgotten.com)

Thank you for spreading the word. If you need more information, please contact Carla Duncan at 314-339-8225.

## SPIRITUAL LIFE AND LEARNING

### SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES begin Sunday, September 11

After a summer break, we will begin classes for children and adults on Sunday, September 11 at 10:00 am

Classes this year are:

- \* Nursery (Birth to 2) – led by Brittini Jones and another adult each week - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor
- \* Pre-School/Kindergarten – (3- First Grade) - led by Kathy Mead and Madeline Haraway - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor
- \* Elementary (2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grades) - led by Darrell and Marty Hughes - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor
- \* Youth – (6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades) led by Jacque Foster - main floor off kitchenette
- \* Adults - rotating leadership for different areas of focus throughout the year main floor - Library

Our Preschool and Elementary classes are using a great curriculum called “Living the Good News.”

Youth and Adults will use a variety of resources according the topic and leader.

*As a progressive Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) congregation we value education and faith nurture. We value the experience of building relationship with each other as we deepen and explore our relationship with God and God’s world. It is vital that people of all ages in our congregation study, discuss, experience, and learn together. Come join us on Sunday mornings at 10 am!*

## RECONCILIATION OFFERING



The Special Offering is used to fund our Church’s mission imperative to become an pro-reconciling and anti-racist church utilizing experiential education, inclusive worship and intentional dialogue. Our efforts to promote healing, relationship and restoration in the whole family of God are enlivened by funds from this offering. Through it we are able to provide programs for leadership development, curriculum for dialogue and learning, and partnerships within the Church and our communities.

Recent events have reignited the conversation about human brokenness evidenced in the sin of racism and perpetuated in our institutional structures and systems. Your generous giving to Reconciliation Ministry is transforming lives and strengthening Christ’s witness in the world showing that we love one another, even as Christ continues to love us!

Reconciliation Offerings are used for work on the General Church level **and** Reconciliation funds are distributed to each Region for Anti-Racism, Pro-Reconciliation work in our local areas. In our Mid-America Region, Reconciliation Grants are awarded twice a year to congregations and ministries that apply. **We celebrate that a Reconciliation Grant was just awarded this month to Liberation Christian Church and Metropolitan Congregations United in St. Louis for the vital work we are doing in the St. Louis metro area.**

**Our congregation will receive our Reconciliation Offering on Sundays October 2 and October 9!**

# SEPTEMBER

## What's

## Happening

## Here

### Sunday Schedule

9:15 Choir warmup  
 10 am Classes for all  
 11 am - Worship  
 12:30 pm - Choir Prep  
 WSPR - Wed. Share &  
 Prayer 6 pm - 7 pm  
 Compassionate  
 Listening -4th Tues.  
 (this month only)  
 Every Friday  
 Happy Friday Outreach  
 7:00 - 8:00 am

1<sup>st</sup> - Thursday, Prayer Shawl  
 Knitting/Crocheting at  
 the Church 7pm  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Happy Friday 7-8  
 4<sup>th</sup> Labor Sunday  
 5<sup>th</sup> Labor Day  
 7<sup>th</sup> Wednesday WSPR 6pm  
 Board 7 pm  
 9<sup>th</sup> Happy Friday 7-8 am  
 10<sup>th</sup> Saturday – India Team  
 Meeting – All Day CHCC  
 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday – Ded. Six WOC  
 14<sup>th</sup> WSPR 6 p Elders 7 p

16th Happy Friday 7-8 am

17<sup>th</sup> Sat. Trivia Night  
 6:15 open, 7 pm begin  
 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
 21st Wed. WSPR 6pm  
 23rd Happy Friday 7-8 am

25th Sunday  
 India Mission - Drs. Anil  
 and Teresa Henry

27<sup>th</sup> Tues Compassionate  
 Listening 6:30 pm  
 28<sup>th</sup> Wed. WSPR 6:00 pm

30<sup>th</sup> Happy Friday 7 am

Oct. 2 Sunday - World  
 Communion &  
 Reconciliation Offering  
 Lunch & Gender Identity  
 Education - 12:30 - 2:30

Oct 5<sup>th</sup> Wed. - WSPR 6  
 Min. Groups 7  
 Oct 6 - Thurs. Prayer  
 Shawl Knitting Group 7 pm  
 Oct 7 - 9 Regional Assembly  
 Oct 9 - Sunday

## SERVING SCHEDULE - SEPTEMBER

**Sept. Communion Bread:** Tom Litton  
**Sanctuary Greeter:** Brenda Booth

**Sept 11 Liturgist:** Cathy Hutcherson  
**Elders:** Norm Linville (Communion)  
 Steve Randolph (Stewardship)  
**Deacons:** Heather Stout, Tina Owens  
 Kim Litton, Bud Obermiller  
**Nursery:** Marsha McGuire  
**Coffee Hosts:** Charlsi and Thelonius Lee

**Sept 18 Liturgist:** Matthew Creed  
**Elders:** Millie Slack (Communion)  
 Madeline Haraway (Stewardship)  
**Deacons:** Kathy Bradley, Carolyn Harry  
 Susan Petri, Julie Phoenix  
**Nursery:** Ty Woodard  
**Coffee Hosts:** Walt & Audrey Tarde, Susan Petri

**Sept 25 Liturgist:** Bryan Richardson  
**Elders:** Thelonius Lee (Communion)  
 Charlsi Lee (Stewardship)  
**Deacons:** Jennifer Phoenix, David Nielsen  
 Carolyn Harry, Walt Tarde  
**Nursery:** Madeline Haraway  
**Coffee Hosts:** M.Haraway, K.Bradley, T.Owens

**Oct 2 Liturgist:** Masi Swanagan  
**Elders:** Kathy Mead (Communion)  
 Nancy Obermiller (Stewardship)  
**Deacons:** Joan James, Stanley Williams  
 Tom Litton, Dennis James  
**Nursery:** Brenda Booth  
**Coffee Hosts:** Bud and Nancy Obermiller

**Oct 9 Liturgist:** Nancy Obermiller  
**Elders:** Leslie Latham (Communion)  
 Judi Linville (Stewardship)  
**Deacons:** Kim Litton, Bud Obermiller  
 Heather Stout, Tina Owens  
**Nursery:** Marty Hughes  
**Coffee Hosts:** Joan & Dennis James



Where in the St. Louis metro area  
 is the above statue of Shakespeare  
 with Lady Macbeth panel?  
 Last month's 'STL Find' (below) is:  
 bridge at Japanese Garden at  
 Missouri Botanical Garden



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

**Ministry Leaders**

Rev. Dr. Jacquelyn Foster  
 Pastor

Ms. Leslie Latham  
 Moderator of Congregation

Ms. Kristie Welder  
 Vice Moderator

Ms. Marsha McGuire  
 Clerk

Ms. Judi Linville  
 Financial Secretary

Kathy Mead,  
 Darrell Hughes,  
 Tom Litton  
 Treasurers

Contact us: 314-771-5071  
[www.comptonheights.wordpress.com](http://www.comptonheights.wordpress.com)  
 check us out on Facebook  
[www.isaiah58ministries.org](http://www.isaiah58ministries.org)  
 Email: [comptonheightscc@gmail.com](mailto:comptonheightscc@gmail.com)  
 Pastor: [jleigh55@att.net](mailto:jleigh55@att.net)

**Financial Report – August Income and Expenses**

*By Financial Secretary, Judi Linville and Co-Treasurer, Darrell Hughes*

Income report 8/28/16

Expense report 8/28/16

August income \$9,539.88  
 YTD total income \$97,172.76  
 YTD Budget \$103,563.24

August expenses \$10,306  
 YTD expenses \$93,822  
 Projected deficit \$3790

**Not an easy peace,  
 Not an insignificant peace,  
 Not a half-hearted peace,  
 But the peace  
 of the Lord Jesus Christ  
 is with us now.  
 Let us share it  
 with each other.**

Iona Community