



The Courier

Dear Friends,

Both the ends of the Gospels of Matthew and Mark contain some form of the Great Commission: "Go into the world and make disciples..." Our tradition, and more specifically our denomination, has a long and proud history of going into the world and making disciples. We first began in the 1600s, as we ministered among the Native Americans on this continent. We have really well-known ministry efforts in China, India, the Middle East and eastern Africa. We used to have missionaries in the southern Mexican state of Chiapas. Through several decades, the effort there was so successful that they didn't need missionaries anymore. Through the Holy Spirit, the Christians of that area became so numerous and fervent that they were able to take on the business of making disciples by themselves.



You know the part of the world where missionaries are needed today? The northeast part of the United States. And the Pacific northwest. And, by coincidence, here we are, located in one of the very parts of the world that most needs the Gospel. What a stroke of luck! Or providence.

Over the last few years, our church has spent a lot of time trying to figure out how a mainline, not-really-evangelical church like ours, located in a place that really values its privacy, could assist the Holy Spirit in making disciples. We've come up with the idea that we should bring people to worship. Notice the word is "bring." It's tempting to substitute the word "invite." But "invite" sort of conveys, "You can come... or not. Whatever." Bringing means, "Come. I care enough to pick you up. I care enough to sit with you. I care enough to make some introductions. I care enough to explain parts of the service you don't quite get."

It's kind of strange – or maybe it's not - but merely attending worship sometimes has a powerful effect on somebody. The Holy Spirit – and it's always up to the Holy Spirit! - seems to be able to use that simple act to bring about some longing in a person's heart, some openness to Jesus.

I hope you will be part of a missionary movement in a part of the world that really needs it. I'm sure you know people that really need Jesus. Pray for them. Pray that the Spirit will start to do something in them. And then talk to them about coming to worship and figure out a time you can bring them. It's a privilege to serve Him with you.

Grace and peace,

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Community Church in Harrington Park

The Courier
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The Rev. Charles P. Johnson,
Pastor Emeritus
The Rev. George V. Kaden,
Pastor Emeritus

Would You Think About Doing Something in Honor of Our Anniversary?

Our church celebrates 125 years of ministry this year. A lot of people have sacrificed a great deal down through the years in order to make that happen. You know that we're now in a time (which won't last forever... probably) in which churches are under extreme stress. Many are moving to part-time pastors; some are closing.

We want to make sure we are not simply around, but thriving for another 125 years. The difficulty is, as churches get smaller, they come under financial pressure. Going into the future, the thing that will distinguish the churches that have a chance of thriving is whether they have a significant endowment or not.

We have a somewhat helpful endowment called the Foundation: currently it's about \$1.3 million. It is managed for both growth and income. It's worth noting that the Foundation can't be used to prop up the church budget right now. It's for special projects, scholarships, etc. That's a good policy at the present time. Members of churches that use their endowment income to support their budget give less, and, in their giving less, their spiritual life suffers because they do not train themselves to trust God. We don't want to use endowment income to support our budget right now.

Over the last year we've had about \$30,000 in income in the Foundation. We also have a budget of about \$325,000. So, you can see that, even if we used endowment income to support the budget - and right now we shouldn't - our Foundation income would only go so far. As we look at the future though, and see what's happening to churches all around us, it's not hard to imagine a future in which we may have to rely on the Foundation for some income in order to offer a thriving church program. In order to do so at a meaningful level, the Foundation would probably need three or so million dollars

As we celebrate our 125th anniversary, and anticipate the next 125 years, please consider including the Foundation in your will. There will be churches that are thriving 20 or 30 years from now. It's more than likely that the preponderance of those churches will have a significant endowment that gives them a bit of insurance against difficult times. With the head start we already have through the Foundation, we can and should be one of those churches!



We will celebrate 125 years of Christian growth at the November 19th anniversary worship service followed by a buffet brunch in Founders' Hall with a program of memories. Our Pastors Emeritus, Charles Johnson and George Kaden, will be with us. Chuck and Donna and George and Janet will be in the Chapel from 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM for a "Meet and Greet" time. Come say hello before entering the sanctuary for worship. We need help with set-up in Founders' Hall at 9:00 AM on Saturday, November 18. Please come if you are able.

On Tuesday, November 21 at 7:30 PM, we are hosting the Harrington Park Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service. Please join us for worship with folks from the other Harrington Park churches, St. Andrew's and Our Lady of Victories

December 3 is the first Sunday in Advent with Communion being served. Also, we need people to light the Advent wreath each week in December. It could be an individual, a couple, a family or a group. Please sign up in the narthex or speak to Sanae or Chris.

May you have a blessed Thanksgiving and come worship together on Tuesday, Nov. 21 and Sunday, Nov. 26.

Sanae Tomita, Chris Novak

What's Happening with our Chancel Choir?

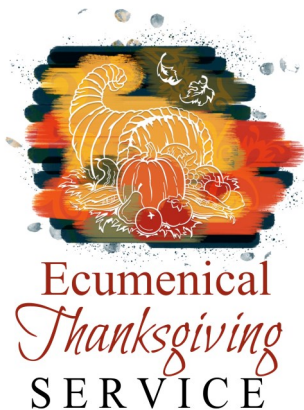
The members of the Chancel Choir, under the direction of Amy Duran, are busy preparing for the 125th Anniversary Service and looking forward to singing, once again, with some former members who have moved away.

They are also getting ready for our Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service, when they will be joined by members of the other choirs from St. Andrew's and Our Lady of Victories.

Of course, there's work to be done for Advent and Christmas with the Musicale to be held on the morning of December 17th and a plan to sing at Brookside Village late that afternoon.

We are so grateful to God for being blessed with our many talented individuals willing to give of their time and energy to worship Him with music.

If you'd like to join us, we rehearse on Thursday evenings beginning at 7:30 PM and again on Sunday mornings at 9 AM. Come and give it a try!



The Annual Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service

Will be held at CCHP on

Tuesday, November 21 at 7:30 PM.

We will be joined by our friends from St. Andrew's
and Our Lady of Victories.



THE LIVE NATIVITY

Sunday, December 17th from 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Mark your calendars for the Live Nativity program on Sunday, December 17, 2023, following our Musicale worship service. There will be a light lunch and then we need "all hands on deck" to help with set-up for the program which begins at 1:00 PM on the Dean Street side lawn.

Please invite your friends and family to this very special Christmas afternoon celebrating the birth of Jesus. The Christmas Story narration begins at 1:00 PM. All children are invited to participate as an angel or shepherd and should arrive by 12:30 PM for costuming. The whole family will have fun at the petting zoo - including a cow, sheep, goat, donkey and even a camel. Join in singing carols and enjoy a cup of hot cocoa and cookies while sharing meaningful moments together at our Live Nativity.

Guild for Christian Service



Thank you for your super support of the Guild's Autumn Bazaar on Saturday, November 4. We appreciate the donations of items and baked goods, help with set-up and clean-up and presence on Saturday shopping, eating, and working.

We have a preliminary accounting of \$4,200 in gross receipts and after expenses, we anticipate donating over \$3,900 to local and world organizations and missions. Please see that list on the Guild bulletin board.

We invite all women of the church to the Guild's November meetings. Deborah Circle, led by Wendy Gumberg, meets Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 7:30 PM in the Chapel and Rachel Circle, led by Sharon Brahs, meets Wednesday, November, 15 at 1:30 PM in the conference room. Please join us for fellowship and a time of Christian study and discussion.

Tracy Ciavaglia & Chris Novak



Our next Women's Breakfast Ministry event will be on Saturday, December 2nd, in Founders' Hall. The time is 9:30. We will begin with a delicious breakfast, followed by a speaker who will share her journey of faith with us. We hope you can join us! And we invite you to bring your friends, co-workers, and neighbors with you! As you know, we have women from several different churches who attend these breakfasts and, what means so much to all of us, is coming together as sisters in Christ.



As you are all aware the Search Committee has been putting together the necessary items for our search. Thus far we have done the Church Profile, job description, in addition to the questions to ask once we start the interview process. The call has been put out and we have received several resumes. As this is early in the process, we anticipate receiving additional resumes. Should you have any questions, please feel free to speak with a member of the Search Committee.

Jeff Pond, Bob Carr, Co-Chairmen
Jill Cox, Joan Hoerauf, Justin Johnson, Jane Marshall, Chris Novak



The puppeteers are busy putting together a skit for December 10. We will also be lighting the advent wreath that day. Come join us and be a part of our "club". We write our own skits and perform them in front of the congregation several times a year. We meet each Sunday morning in Founders Hall at 10:00 AM for the 1st half of Sunday School. Then down to the Sunday School room for the balance of time. Come be a part of the Puppets. We're celebrating 24 years!!!! Any questions, please call Miss Joan (201) 768-0733

Directory Update!

Please email cchp@verizon.net if any of your contact information has changed. We will be printing new directories in the next week or so, and we'd love to have all listings current.

Marge Louis is in a rehab facility, getting stronger in preparation for going home. If you'd like to send her a card, please send it in care of her son at the following address:

Jeff Louis
4310 East Silverwood Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85048



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Anonymous; Lynn Baker; DeAnna and Roger Carman; Ernie Hepperle; Janet Kosack; Nancy Lanzalotto; Marge Louis; Ed Serrano; Craig Terjanian.



Congratulations to
Alison Campbell
on the birth of her
granddaughter,
Sophie Elizabeth,
to parents
Stuart and Amber Campbell
on October 14, 2023.

Our sympathies are extended to
Johann Apkarian on the passing
of his wife, Sandi, on
October 15, 2023.
Johann's address:
140 Harbourside Circle
Jupiter, FL 33477

The Community Church

November/December, 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>Nov. 15</i> 9:00 Courier Assembly 1:30 Rachel Circle 7:00 Property Committee 7:30 Ramsey Wind Symphony, FH	<i>16</i> 5-7:00 HPBOE in Founders' Hall 7:30 Chancel Choir	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i> Anniversary Set-Up in Founders' Hall
<i>19</i> 9:00 Choir 10:00 Anniversary Worship, Puppets & SS 11:15 Brunch	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i> 7:30 Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> 	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i> Girls Scouts in Founders' Hall
<i>26</i> 9:00 Choir 10:00 Worship, Puppets & SS 11:15 Alleluia Choir	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i> 7:30 Ramsey Wind Symphony, FH	<i>30</i> 7:30 Chancel Choir	<i>Dec. 1</i>	<i>2</i> 9:30 Women's Breakfast Ministry 12:30-5:30 Girl Scouts in FH
<i>3</i> 9:00 Choir 10:00 Worship, Puppets & SS 11:15 Alleluia Choir	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i> 7:30 Consistory	<i>6</i> 10:00 Publicity Mtg. 1:30 Rachel Circle 7:30 Ramsey Wind Symphony, FH	<i>7</i> 5-7:00 HPBOE in FH 7:30 Chancel Choir	<i>8</i> Courier Deadline	<i>9</i> 8:30 Men's Group
<i>10</i> 9:00 Choir 10:00 Worship, Puppets & SS 11:15 Alleluia Choir 11:15 Cong. Care Meeting	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i> 7:00 Outreach 7:30 Deborah Circle	<i>13</i> 9:00 Courier Assembly 7:30 Ramsey Wind Symphony, FH	<i>14</i> 7:30 Chancel Choir	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>

SS=Sunday School; FH=Founders' Hall; HPBOE=Harrington Park Board of Education



www.cchpchurch.org