

The Courier



FCC busy with summer mission projects

July and August were busy and productive months for mission at First Christian. The 25 people on the Destination Paraguay mission trip sanded, scraped, painted and planted at the Jack Norment Camp in Caacupé, Paraguay.



Planting trees on the newly-named Renee Carter Street in Caacupé

Here in Minneapolis, volunteer workers pitched in for a total of five days doing a variety of service projects for local and national organizations.

The tally for the second week of Mission at Our Doorstep is in:

- 4 people did deep cleaning at Avenues for Youth
- 15 people helped make 242 sandwiches, prepare 14 backpacks for Harriet Tubman and decorate 50 Meals on Wheels bags
- 8 people made 25 bags of grace and 10 CWS school kits
- 4 people made 5 CWS hygiene kits and 75 bags of grace
- 3 people helped sort music for Hopewell Music's library

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UPCOMING Events

Choir and Bell rehearsals start, Wednesday, September 9

Irreverent Movie Night, Friday, September 11

Joint Worship for Sunday School beginning and Paraguay sharing, Sunday, September 13

Sanctuary Switch, Mon, Sept. 14, 10 am



Pat Dunlop packs Church World Service hygiene kits, and Bryan Feille, Dan Adolphson, Ali Hesano, Shannon Grady and Karen Kandik prepare school kits.



In Our Prayers

Prayers of Joy

*For the 52nd Anniversary of
Karen and Warren
Westphal*

*For the spirit of fun and
fellowship among
SpringHouse members at
Worship in the Park*

*For the many gifts that
Brooke Apple brought to
SpringHouse youth (and
us) during her two years of
ministry*

Prayers for Health

*For Gary Maanum's friend
Roger who had surgery
For Barb Creighton's
mother Jean Smith who
was recently hospitalized*

Prayers of Concern

*For all our homebound
members, including
Dorothy Wilkins and Ruth
White*

Prayers for World

*For all people fleeing their
homes because of war and
violence, and for the
countries struggling to
care for refugees*



A message from PASTOR LAURIE



My office at church looks like a tornado hit it! After three weeks of intensive Doctor of Ministry Classes; two days in July of Mission at Our Doorstep; one week at General Assembly; two weeks on the Paraguay Mission Trip and three more days of Mission at Our Doorstep my office looks like it has been a storage room this summer. I have pieces of every event on my desk, bookshelves, shelf, chairs and floor. People who have trouble with clutter would have run away screaming by now but not me. My heart is filled with joy with everything that is cluttering my office.

I am joyful because in all of the clutter I see:

- The incredible trust the congregation has in me working on my Doctor of Ministry Degree.
- The caring hearts of our members who put together backpacks for Youth Links, Harriet Tubman and school kits for Church World Service.
- The giving nature of our members who put together Cleaning Kits and Health Kits for Church World Service, Bags of Grace, sandwiches for the Dignity Center, and sandwiches and filled lunch bags for Simpson Shelter.
- Our “get out of our comfort zone” members who worked at Avenues for Homeless Youth and Hopewell Music Program.
- Our “we are game for anything” members who decorated bags for Meals on Wheels recipients.
- Our “let’s spread some joy in our neighborhood” members who sat in front of SpringHouse Ministry Center and handed out water, lemonade and dog treats.
- Our wonderful connection to Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ) around the world and the incredible diversity that gathers at the Table at General Assembly.
- The humbling gift of support (both prayers and financial) that allowed 25 people to have a life-changing two- week Mission Trip to Paraguay and re-establish a long held connection between Jack Norment Camp, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) churches in Paraguay and First Christian Church.

In the midst of all of the above there is evidence on my desk that sermons were preached, worships planned, meetings attended and a Staff Retreat was held. I don’t remember being this exhausted by summer’s end in a long time and I would not change a single moment!

I asked Deb the other day “when is the slow time around here????” We both laughed and then offered thanks to God that First Christian shares the love and grace of God all year long. Thank you for being a loving, caring, giving, Gospel living, think outside of the box, trusting, compassionate, fun, remarkable, humbling, welcoming and grace-filled community of faith. Now on to the Fall! Much love and peace, Laurie

Women's Fall Retreat theme on Shalom

Stories of Shalom Gifts of Belonging, Wholeness and Peace is the theme of the annual Women's Retreat for the Christian Church of the



Upper Midwest. The retreat will feature our own Laurie Feille as the keynote speaker. Dates for this year's retreat are Friday evening through Sunday afternoon, September 25-27 at Lake Koronis, in Paynesville, Minnesota.

You can register (and pay!) online or print out a form at

<http://www.uppermidwestcc.org/#!/registration/c7xw>

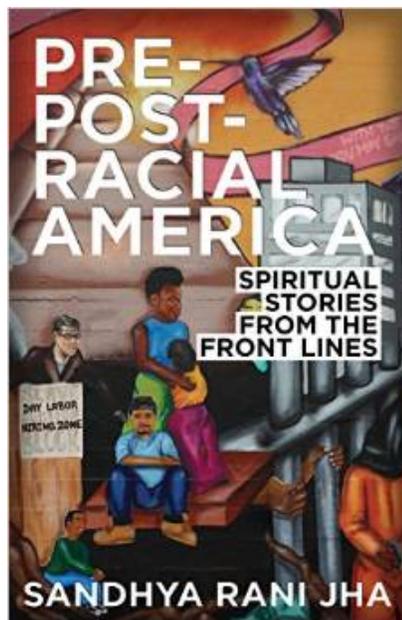
Printed forms are also available from the office or from the back table in the North Sanctuary.

The registration deadline is September 11. Add a \$25 late fee if registering after that date. Registrations post- marked by September 1 will be entered in a drawing for a special gift. Scholarships are available. See the registration form for information.

New Sunday morning book study begins September 13

A new book study will start on September 13 and continue through November 22. The book that has been chosen is *Pre-Post-Racial America: Spiritual Stories from the Front Lines* by Sandhya Rani Jha. The author recasts the difficult conversation around race and faith in a way that is grounded in real people's stories.

The Sunday morning sessions will be at 9:15 am. For those who cannot come on Sunday morning, there will be a monthly gathering to discuss the book. Those details to follow. Purchasing information will come soon. Talk with Pastor Dan if you have any questions.



Health at First



A few folks have indicated that having a workshop on health care directives (living wills) would be helpful. All of Springhouse is invited to a two-session workshop to learn about and complete your own health care directive.

Both sessions will meet at 12:00 noon in the gathering space after worship. The first session is October 4 with a 30-minute talk about the purpose of the directive followed by 30 to 45 minutes for questions. The second session will be October 18 going over each part of the directive and how to fill it out. A blank directive will be given to each attendee at the first session so that you can take it home, think about it, pray, discuss with your family or doctor before bringing it back to the second session to complete.

The volunteer speaker is from Honoring Choices Minnesota and will bring handouts along with the directives. Please let myself or the church office know of your interest in coming so that we have enough materials.

The directive serves as a written document informing others of your health care decisions if you are unable to speak for yourself. A person does not have to have a directive but having one helps to ensure that your wishes are followed.

If you have any questions or want to reserve a spot, let me know. See you at church!

Julie Andrix, RN



September 2015 First Christian Church				Sunday Morning Schedule 9:00/9:15 Spiritual Formation Classes 10:30 Worship 11:45 Fellowship Time in Gathering Space		
		1	2	3 9 am Ecumenical women's ministry	4	5 9 am Men's Bible Study 6 pm First Saturday Family Partnership
6 North Sanctuary	7 Labor Day Church Office Closed	8 5:30 pm Mtg w/Church Extension 7 pm SHMC finance mtg	9 10:30 am Staff Mtg 2 pm Mission and Outreach Comm. Mtg 5:30 pm Finance committee 6:30 Handbells 7:45 Chancel Choir	10 9 am Ecumenical women's ministry 6:30 pm Pastor Dan PRC 7 pm Pastor Laurie PRC	11 7 pm Irreverent Movie Night	12 9 am Men's Bible Study <i>(Carpet Cleaning)</i>
13 Joint Worship South Sanctuary Noon – SH Green Team Noon -Dennis Warner Concert	14 10 am Sanctuary Switch	15 6 pm Worship Committee 7 pm Board Meeting	16 6:30 Handbells 7:45 Chancel Choir	17 9 am Ecumenical women's ministry	18 2 pm 1 st Saturday partner planning mtg.	19 9 am Men's Bible Study
20 Garden Sanctuary 11:45 am SHMC Activistas Noon: Blood Pressure Checks 5 pm Elders at Hillestead's	21 6:45 pm SHMC Building Cmte 7 pm Carter Circle @ Ardie Armstrong's	22	23 6:30 Handbells 7:45 Chancel Choir	24 9 am Ecumenical women's ministry	25	26 9 am Men's Bible Study
27 Garden Sanctuary	28	29	30 6:30 Handbells 7:45 Chancel Choir			

	Elders	Worship Leader	Children's Moment	Diaconate	Bus Drivers
September 6	Jay Hillestad Arlene Hillestad	Ann Wolverton	Dan Adolphson	C. Allen N. Curry	Garry Hesser 612-721-4905
September 13	Barb Creighton Dean Creighton	Joint Worship	Joint Worship	B. Flanagan G. Madsen	Mike Hesano 651-645-6758
September 20	Kirsten Cackoski Tom Curry	Val Dunham	Laurie Feille	A. Rennert R. Rennert	Mike Morgan 612.926-9834
September 27	Garry Hesser Mike hesano	Jay Hillestad	Steve Rusinak	M. Rennert	Garry Hesser 612-721-4905

Note: Please call drivers by Saturday for Sunday bus ride

Jonathan Zielske new interim pastor at Salem



Pastor Jonathan Zielske is Salem's new interim pastor. He began ministry at Salem in August and will serve for 6-12 months while Salem searches for the next permanent pastor. Pastor Jonathan says, "I have been serving as the solo pastor of Hope Lutheran Church on Saint Paul's East Side for the past thirteen years and had served two previous congregations in the Twin Cities prior to that. I married my high school sweetheart Anne back in 1991 and we have three daughters; twins Rachael and Micah who are 16, and LeighAnna, who just turned 14. Anne is a high school teacher so we enjoy summer camping trips as a family. We recently returned from seeing seven amazing National Parks in Utah, Arizona, and Colorado. I look forward to meeting all of you and exploring with you what God has in store for us in this coming year."

A sampling of SpringHouse Activities for one month

SpringHouse is a busy place. Each month, building manager Deb Murphy reports on both internal and external groups that use the SpringHouse building. In her July report, Deb listed the following non-SpringHouse groups who met here at least once during the month:

- Mikaharu Kai, a Japanese Dance Group
- Ovation Choir
- Wednesday morning poetry class
- Regal De Oro art show
- Iglesia "Dios Aqui" church
- Interplay (a yoga and movement group)
- Five Narcotic Anonymous groups
- One Alcoholic Anonymous group
- Nikkei (Japanese-Americans interned during WWII)
- Downtown Congregations Grief Support Groups
- Three theater groups
- Groveland Food Shelf Board
- Two youth groups from out of town for overnight stays

Add this list to all the internal committees, service and social groups, study sessions and worship services of our three congregations, and you can see that SpringHouse is full of life and activity!

Worship in the Park on August 23 at Bryant Park



95 people from the three SpringHouse congregations gathered for worship and a picnic in Bryant Park last Sunday. Worshipers had a hymn sing, as well as sharing communion. Bubble blowing was even a part of the service, and not just for the children. Afterwards, Mike Hesano and Dean Creighton cooked up hot dogs and hamburgers, and the table was spread with salads, desserts and side dishes galore.

SpringHouse Child Ministries



Rally Sunday is just around the corner!

Another exciting Sunday School year will kick off on Sunday, September 13. We will have classes for kids ages 3 through high school, and nursery care is available for the littlest ones. Join us at 9:15 to meet your teachers, listen to stories, sing songs, and participate in a variety of activities.

Rae Buzzell and Emma Jorstad are taking over as joint leaders of our Child Ministry team. Please keep them, our teachers, and all who work with our children in your prayers as our new year starts. Volunteer opportunities abound - contact Rae or Emma if interested! Thanks, Rae and Emma!

Sundays at First Christian Church

Worship at 10:30

Before Worship:

Spiritual Formation Classes:

9:00 Hearthstone Class,

9:15 Art of the Covenant; Adult Ed Book Study

After Worship

11:45 Fellowship Time

Scripture Reading for Sunday, August 30

John 21: 9-14



From website Provincia
Francescana de San Antonio

Reflections on the Word

*John 21: 12a: Jesus said to them,
“Come and have breakfast.”*

This is one of those made-for-a movie scenes from the Gospel: Jesus is standing on the shore, next to a charcoal fire where fish are grilling and bread is ready. He invites the disciples to come in from the lake with their load of fish and join him for breakfast. What could be more inviting? Except, wait: there's something strange: Just days ago, Jesus died on the cross.

*Loving Savior, Let us be ready to
see your living presence no matter
how unexpected the circumstance.
Amen.*

*First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis,
is a partner church at SpringHouse Ministry Center*

*A Welcoming Community of Faith in the
Heart of the City*

Ministry Team

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Serena Chial, Nursery Attendant

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Leah Siltberg Froehlich, Music Director
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Next Courier: September 19

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