

# The Courier

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis



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## UPCOMING Events

World Communion Sunday,  
October 1

Stewardship Campaign  
begins, October 8

Carter Circle @ Hurlocker's,  
Thursday, October 5, 7 pm

pringHouse Huddle, Saturday  
October 14, 9 am

## A Word about Puerto Rico and Mexico

*God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. (Selah). – Psalm 46:1-3*

As our brothers and sisters across the Caribbean and Mexico have experienced devastation of their homelands through recent hurricanes and earthquakes, we join as Christians together to commit our support for immediate relief and long-term recovery. Many Disciples in the United States and Canada have family and friends in the areas affected by Hurricane Maria and the earthquake in Mexico. We have been praying fervently for those whose lives have been disrupted, for those who have lost loved ones in the storm or earthquake, and for those who now face great uncertainty in the aftermath of these disastrous events. Although the loss of electrical power and cell phone service has made communication difficult, we want to affirm our commitment to stand with those in Puerto Rico, Mexico, Cuba and the Caribbean with support, resources and prayers.

Given our close relationship with the Iglesia Cristiana (Discipulos de Cristo) in Puerto Rico, several ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada are collaborating to come alongside communities in Puerto Rico who have endured the ravages of Hurricanes Irma and Maria. Our [Week of Compassion](#) is in touch with our ecumenical partners and coordinating between [Division of Overseas Ministries \(DOM\)/Global Ministries](#), the [Pension Fund](#) of the Christian Church, as well as the [Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries](#). Throughout the Caribbean and Mexico, Week of Compassion and the Division of Overseas Ministries/Global Ministries are working with both international and ecumenical partners who are responding to the needs of affected communities. It is still too early to know the full extent of the damage caused by the hurricane and earthquake, but once our partners are able to assess the damage, we will work with them to provide assistance—both for immediate relief, and, most importantly, for long-term recovery to help rebuild communities.

With so many facing uncertainty amidst horrific loss of loved ones, homes and the daily necessities of life, we offer prayers of comfort and peace. We are reminded that nothing can separate us from the love of God, including hardship or distress. (Romans 8:35-39). In the midst of our distress, we take comfort in the steadfast love of God: “But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, [God’s] mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ‘The Lord is my portion,’ says my soul, ‘therefore I will hope in [God].’” (Lamentations 3:21-24).

*From GMP Terri Hord Owens, Julia Brown Karimu, Lori Tapia, Vy Nguyen, and Angel Rivera-Agosto, posted September 22, 2017, on Disciples News Service*



## *In Our Prayers*

### *Prayers for Joy*

*For Phil Kinney returning to worship*

*For Dean & Barb Creighton celebrating 34 years of marriage*

### *Prayers of Sympathy*

*For Zach Hesano on the death of his friend*

*For Jen Kregel's friend whose son died recently*

### *Prayers for Concern*

*For Marsha, niece of Skip and Ann Wolverton*

*For all our homebound members, including Phyllis and John Takakawa, and Phyllis Dunlap*

### *Prayers for the World*

*For communities suffering from the effects of hurricanes, floods and earthquakes*

*For St. Louis and other cities and communities seeking justice for all citizens*



## A message from Pastor Laurie Pound-Feille



### ***Stewardship: What's it all about?***

Our annual Stewardship Campaign begins on Sunday, October 8. This is the time when we prayerfully consider our gifts for 2018. How much money will we give? How much of our time will we offer? What other ways can we offer gifts and talents to the church to further the ministry of sharing the love of God to our community and beyond? It is always an exciting time and we set aside one Sunday as the day we bring our pledges to worship. Our Stewardship Sunday will be November, 5.

The theme for our Stewardship Campaign is:

Stewardship  
It's all about gratitude.  
It's all about giving back.  
It's all about God.

This year we are trying our hardest to be better at educating the congregation on what we need to continue the ministries we already have, what we need to increase our ministries and why it is important that we respond to God with our money, time and talents. During worship services during the campaign we will “creatively” share information of the importance of giving and different ways that we can offer our gifts of money, time and talent.

Our dream is that everyone will make a pledge. I know that seems like a big dream but there is no pledge that is too small or too large. When we pledge it helps us plan our budget for the year. Without pledges we have no idea if certain ministries can continue or how much money we can tell organizations that receive our outreach money that they will receive so they can plan their budgets. There is a lot of grace offered with our pledges: If for any reason during the year circumstances change and you are able to increase or need to lower your pledge that is honored with no questions asked and an abundance of grace.

We are also grateful for pledges of time and talent. There are so many ways that your time and your talents are needed as we reach out into the community or in our worship services, the various committees of SpringHouse, and the multitude of activities that fill our calendar. Again, there is no pledge of time or talent that is too small or too large. The abundance of grace applies to pledges of time and talent too!

First Christian is a wonderful church filled with incredible people. I am beyond blessed to have the opportunity to serve alongside the members, friends and staff. We believe so strongly in the ministries that God has called us to do and will call us to do that Bryan and I make a pledge every year. I hope that you will consider making a pledge for 2018! Much love and peace, Laurie

## Retreat closes with a special moment

*Note: Elaine Tucker, co-director of this year's Women's Retreat" gave us permission to reprint the Facebook post she wrote on Sunday, September 24.*

I am honored and proud and in awe of the happenings of this past weekend, and the most amazing bit was the unplanned part that happened AFTER my carefully-coordinated Retreat was "over"! This photo is from the end of our final lunch together, my 70 other Christian women and I, and of the 20-some young Muslim women



*Photo by Norma J. Dowell*

who had also been on retreat in the same Camp as us. Our group members saw each other in passing, mostly using different parts of the facility all weekend, but finally we gathered, spur-of-the-moment, for joyous hugs and smiles of recognition. There we were, all of us women of God celebrating and learning on our respective Retreats and learning about our respective responsibilities in our faiths. Finally we took some time together to be a larger Community, connecting and asking questions about each other's learning and faith practices and sharing jokes and wisdom. Their retreat's guest speaker shared a laughter-filled story of her humbling experience making assumptions about the Other. My dear Pastor was called upon to explain the idea of "denominations" ... the Protestant Reformation and Resulting History in 3 minutes or less ... go! My lunch was forgotten. My heart is full. Three years ago I was called to co-coordinate the Fall Retreat for the Disciples women of the Upper Midwest. That also went well. Very well. I can reflect more on that later. But I wanted to start where we ended... it was awesome.

## FCC acquires bell collection from Iowa church

The First Christian Church in Ottumwa, Iowa, closed recently, and our church board voted to purchase their set of handbells. These are Schulmerich handbells, and the set contains 61 bells plus cases, tools, gloves and other equipment. Pastors Laurie Feille and Dan Adolphson recently drove to Iowa to pick up the bells. Belinda Flanagan has done extensive research on these bells and is also exploring how we can best have needed repairs done. Music Director Adam Conrad has put out an invitation for more bell ringers to join the bell choir, since this new bell set has more bells than our previous set.



## FCC Board Notes

Fifteen people attended the September 19 meeting of the FCC General Board.

Highlight from the meeting include the following:

- The Stewardship Campaign will be held from October 8 through November 5.
- Kirsten Cackoski, Becki Whitaker and Karen Kandik have volunteered to serve on this year's Nominating Committee.
- We will again fill clean-up buckets and hygiene kits on Stewardship Sunday (November 5).
- The board voted to buy cases for the bells in the newly-acquired set that came without any. Money for the purchase will be from Memorials Fund.
- Several people have been interviewed for the Youth Minister position; the SH Personnel Committee hopes to hire someone by mid-October. Justin Carlson and Elizabeth Larson have been working with the youth until a youth minister is hired.
- Treasurer Pat Dunlop reported that August pledge receipts were \$15,342.



<h1>October 2017</h1> <h2>First Christian Church</h2>					<h3>Sunday Morning Schedule</h3> <p>9:00 Spiritual Formation Classes            10:30 Worship            11:45 Fellowship Time in Gathering Space</p>	
<b>1</b> <b>North Sanctuary</b> <b>World Communion Sunday</b> 1 pm Apple Picking at Deardorff Orchard	<b>2</b> 7 pm Preaching Response Group	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 8 am Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Residence 6:30 Bells 7:45 Choir	<b>5</b> 9 am Ecumenical women's 6 pm Yoga 7 pm Carter Circle @Mary Hurlocker's	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 9 am Men's Group
<b>8</b> <b>North Sanctuary</b> Noon – Child Ministry Team Meeting Noon SH Green Team	<b>9</b> 7 pm Preaching Response Group	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 8 am Lectionary Bible Study 2 pm Mission & Outreach 5:30 FCC Finance 6:30 Bells 7:45 Choir	<b>12</b> 9 am Ecumenical women's ministry 6 pm Yoga 7 pm Laurie's PRC	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9 am Men's Group 9 am SH Huddle
<b>15</b> <b>North Sanctuary</b> 11:45 SH Activistas	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 6 pm Worship Committee 7 pm FCC Board	<b>18</b> 8 m Lectionary Bible Study 6:30 Bells 6:45 SH Building Committee 7:45 Choir	<b>19</b> 9 am Ecumenical women's ministry 6 pm Yoga	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9 am Men's Group
<b>22</b> <b>North Sanctuary</b> <i>Celebration of Life for Nick Rusinak in South Sanctuary following lunch</i>	<b>23</b> 6 pm Brews & Views 7 pm Covenant Task Force	<b>24</b> 7 pm SH Finance	<b>25</b> 8 am Lectionary Bible Study 5:30 FCC Staff 6:30 Bells 7:45 Choir	<b>26</b> 9 am Ecumenical women's ministry 6 pm Yoga	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9 am Men's Group
<b>29</b> <b>North Sanctuary</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

	Elders	Worship Leader	Children's Moment	Diaconate	Bus Drivers
October 1	Kirsten Cackoski Val Dunham	Lu Griffin	Dan Adolphson	A. Bliss M. Carlson	Mike Morgan 612.926-9834
October 8	Lu Griffin Ann Wolverton	Sandy Morgan	Deb Murphy	A Creighton W. Manuel	Garry Hesser 612.721.4905
October 15	Dean Creighton Mike Hesano	Dean Creighton	Deb Murphy	B. Flanagan S. Grady B. Hall	Mike Hesano 651-645-6758
October 22	Jay Hillestad Martha Harris	Wendy Manuel	Deb Murphy		Mike Morgan 612.926-9834
October 29	Ton Curry Steve Rusinak	Jay Hillestad	Deb Murphy		Garry Hesser 612.721.4905

**Note:** Please call drivers by Saturday for Sunday bus ride



## In The Squiggle Space

**Godly Play.** Our SpringHouse Sunday School is underway. We have chosen the Godly Play series by Jerome Berryman. On Saturday, September 16, Kathy Hayden and Nancy Curry attended a 3-hour workshop at House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul. We came away with a better knowledge of the program. The curriculum is designed not only to teach stories of the Bible but to help our young children begin to build their spiritual ministry. We have started our journey and hope to continue leading the children through out the year. We would invite you to drop by the Squiggle Space some Sunday morning and watch our children learn more about our living God. We are excited to also report that Deb Murphy will be having more extensive training later this month. She will be our "Expert in Residence" for the Godly Play curriculum. We look forward to seeing you and your children as we continue our journey.

**October Curriculum.** We will be exploring the stories of Noah and the Ark and Joseph Helps His Family and how they tie into our sanctuary theme.

**Day of the Dead Intergenerational Event.** Adult Ed and Sunday School will celebrate Day of the Dead together on November 5 from 9:15 to 10:15 in the gathering space. Different activities will be offered.

**Apple Picking.** On Sunday October 1, everyone—old and young—is invited to meet at Deardorff Orchards for apple picking at 1 pm. Enjoy the camaraderie amongst Springhouse folk while picking apples (13 varieties!), riding a hay wagon, drinking cider or wine, listening to live music, picnicking, and petting farm animals. For more information, please contact Michael Vanderford at (612) 296-9647 or michaeljvanderford@gmail.com.



**Questions and Concerns.** Please contact either April Conlee or Nancy Curry, co-chairs of the Children's Ministry: April Conlee [april.conlee@gmail.com](mailto:april.conlee@gmail.com); Nancy Curry [ncurry9107@comcast.net](mailto:ncurry9107@comcast.net)

## A Shower Invitation



**Rev. Ashley and Angela are having a baby! Help us bless and celebrate their family!**

Sunday, November 5th at 12 noon at SpringHouse

Our time together is designed to be a space of prayers, blessings and celebration. Everyone will have the opportunity to write a blessing or prayer for them.

There is no expectation of gifts but if you would like to share with them, they are registered at a few places and there are opportunities to make a donation in their family's honor here:

<https://www.myregistry.com/public/harness-jimenez>



World Communion Sunday  
October 1, 2017

## Sundays at First Christian Church

Worship at 10:30

### Before Worship:

Spiritual Formation Classes:

9:15 Children's Sunday School

9:30 SH Joint Adult Class

### After Worship

11:45 Fellowship Time

### Scripture text for Sunday, October 1

**Exodus 16:1-18**  
**"Bread From Heaven"**



*The Best Supper* © by Jan Richardson [janrichardson.com](http://janrichardson.com)

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

### Reflections on the Word

*Exodus 3:13 But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you'; and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?"*

I find especially moving those songs, prayers, and poems that use the image of a solid rock as a name for God. That name invokes the eternal loving presence, the absolute steadfastness and the unshakable attendance of God's love. "On Christ the solid rock I stand/All other ground is sinking sand."

*God our Solid Rock, By the power of your name, set us free.  
 Amen*

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

#### **Ministry Team**

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**Rick Bowman**, SHMC Building Manager

**Adam Conrad**, Music Director & Composer-in-Residence

**Pamela Cook**, SHMC Youth Minister,  
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