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Author to keynote at "Mental Health & the Faith Community's Response" Conference First Christian Church, November 11-12

MINNEAPOLIS, MN, September 12, 2016 — First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Minneapolis will host the Rev. Dr. Sarah Griffith Lund, author of *Blessed are the Crazy: Breaking the Silence about Mental Illness, Family and Church* Friday, November 11 & Saturday, November 12 as the second installment of its conference series "VOICES: Addressing Issues That Affect the Church and Wider Community." Information about the conference can be found at fccminneapolis.org/voices.

1 in 5 Americans live with a mental health condition. Many times they are stigmatized, feared and shunned. Others suffer silently, afraid to share their stories or unable to access the resources they need. As communities of faith, how do we address these issues and minister to those who need help? How can we turn our faith communities into safe havens where those struggling with mental health issues feel welcomed, loved and cared for?

Join us for "Mental Health and the Faith Community's Response" to explore these questions and more. Keynote speaker and UCC pastor Rev. Dr. Sarah Griffith Lund, who has a depth of experience with mental health issues, will dispel the major myths and teach us how to build communities of faith that are welcoming, inclusive, supportive, and engaged. Mental health experts and community partners will give us the knowledge, tools, and resources needed to provide this important ministry in our diverse contexts. Together we will explore the vital role for communities of faith in mental health.

Thanks to the generous underwriting of The Wholeness Fund of FCC Minneapolis, we are able to offer the entire conference for only \$25 (or \$15 day rate). Be sure to check the registration link for further details. The event will run 7:00-8:30 p.m. on Friday, November 11; and 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 12.

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About First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Minneapolis:

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Minneapolis is a welcoming community of faith in the heart of the Twin Cities.