

The COURIER

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis



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UPCOMING Events:

Youth Sunday at FCC,
April 3

Carter Circle, Monday,
April 4, 7 pm

Irreverent Movie Night,
Friday, April 8, 7 pm

Enid Griffin Memorial,
Saturday, April 9, 1 pm in
North Sanctuary

Scenes from Easter 2016



FCC celebrated Easter with three worship services, special music from the choir, bells and musicians Ben Bussey and Jon McDuffie, Pastor Laurie's sermon on the empty tomb, and a pancake breakfast served by the SpringHouse youth. Alleluias all around!

Islamophobia talk and discussion this Sunday at Basilica

The Basilica of St. Mary's is partnering with Masjid An-Nur to offer a safe, informed interfaith discussion that can raise awareness of Islamophobia in our community. A talk will be given on Sunday, April 3, from 1-2:30 pm in the lower level of the Basilica.

The speaker will be Dr. Todd Green, author of the book *The Fear of Islam: an Introduction to Islamophobia* in the West. Dr. Green is Associate Professor of Religions in Luther College, Decorah, Iowa. The event is free and open to all for this timely and important discussion.

In Our Prayers



Prayers of Sympathy

For Betty Schraeder (SH Sunday School teacher), whose husband Les passed away

For Jon Kregel, whose grandfather passed away

Prayers of Concern

For Garry Hesser and Barb Rusinak, both recovering from surgery

For Mindy Eschador's mother Judy

For Ann Antus

For all our homebound members including Nick and Mavis Rusinak, and June Andrix

Prayers for the World

For the families and friends of those killed in Brussels bombings

For the family and friends of terrorism victims in Nigeria, Yemen, Pakistan and Iraq



Voices and Views

Dean Creighton



I am honored and humbled to be chosen as the new First Christian Church Board Chair. For those of you who may not know, I have been a member of FCC for a total of approximately 20 years. I am currently an elder and served on Pastor Laurie's search team. Although I was surprised to be asked to consider taking on this role, something inside me was telling me that this is something that I could do. I was greatly encouraged by the confidence of others in my ability to be the Board chair. So my thanks go to the Board for entrusting me with this important responsibility.

I am also encouraged by the energy and enthusiasm of our ministerial staff and the FCC Board members. I am looking forward to working with all of them more closely and will definitely need their help to be an effective chair, and need to learn from all of them. Laurie, Dan, and Deb continue to work hard and strive to make FCC a dynamic place of worship, and a conduit to provide service to others locally and worldwide.

I feel that we have reached a very important point in the life of FCC. We spent several years working through the process of selling and leaving the 2201 1st Ave. church, and now have been in SHMC for 4 years. We feel comfortable. We have worked out the kinks of sharing the building with Salem Lutheran and Lyndale Church of Christ. Now what? What's next? Sit back and relax, and just enjoy what we have? What is our next chapter? How do we serve our members? How should we serve the community and the world? How do we discern what God wants us to do with our resources of property and members?

The Board has begun discussing these very questions. We have decided to put together a group we are calling the "Building the Future team." The purpose of this group is to identify strategies and opportunities for FCC to continue to flourish and grow in its effectiveness in doing God's work. I am expecting deep and serious discussions about the future of FCC. We are looking for other members of the congregation in addition to Board members who want to be involved in this effort. I encourage you to prayerfully consider your vision and wishes for FCC and help us work together to make those dreams happen. I look forward to First Christian living into the future to which God is calling us.

Dean

Another chance for Health Care Directive planning

If you missed the advanced care directives class last fall, it will be presented again April 10 from noon to about 1:30 or 2:00 in the Garden Sanctuary. After a 30 minute presentation, there will be time for questions and assistance in filling out the form. Consider advanced care planning to be a gift to your loved ones! The presenter will be from Honoring Choices Minnesota. Let Julie Andrix know of your interest or call the church office.

Two choral groups offer April music

FCC music lovers may be interested in upcoming April performances by two groups which each have a "local connection."

~ Former choir member **Zac Colby** is in **Cantus**, which will perform a program called "Would You Harbor Me" examining how

life can sometimes take unexpected turns. These concerts will be

Thursday, April 7, 7:30pm at MacPhail Center for Music in Minneapolis

Saturday, April 9, 7:30pm at Trinity Lutheran Church in Stillwater

Sunday, April 10, 3 pm at Ordway Concert Hall in St. Paul

Thursday, April 14, 11 am at Colonial Church of Edina

Sunday, April 17, 3 pm at Wayzata Community Church in Wayzata

Several of these performances will have a Q&A following the performance with people from St. Stephen's Human Services.

~ **Laurie Zaepfel**, church administrator for Salem, sings with **Caritas**, a non-profit choral group that raises money for local organizations. Their April concerts are

Sunday, April 10, 3 pm at Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church –
Benefiting Our Saviour's Community Services.

Friday, April 15, 7 pm at Valley of Peace Lutheran Church—Benefiting
Cherish All Children

Sunday, April 17, 3 pm at Church of the Sacred Heart, Robbinsdale –
Benefiting BreathLogic. This concert will be a joint program with
folk singer Sara Thomsen.

Visit www.cantussings.org or caritasvocalensemble.org for ticket and venue information.

Day Camp dates set, registration available

This year's South Minneapolis Day Camp will be June 27 - July 1 at Bethel Lutheran Church (same spot as last year). The theme will be Peace ~ Salaam ~ Shalom. New this year is a separate track for middle school kids (just finished grades 6-8). High school youth are eligible to be shepherds. Information and registration materials are available online.

Day camp info here: <http://oursavioursmpls.org/day-camp-2.html>

Day camp registration form here: <http://oursavioursmpls.org/day-camp.html>.



FCC Board Notes

Thirteen people attended the March 15 meeting of FCC's General Board. Highlights of the meeting include the following:

- The board approved a motion to use memorial funds to **purchase a computer** for the Associate Pastor, who has been using his personal computer for church work.
- The board approved the formation of a **"Building the Future Ministry Team."** The group will focus on the future of the church including the financial needs for the future. Kirsten Cackoski will head up the group.
- **Two representatives from FCC** are needed for the SpringHouse safe church policy review. The group will meet from 2-4 times to review the 5-year old SH Safe Church Policy.
- Treasurer Pat Dunlop presented the Treasurer's Report. \$17,728 was received in pledge income for February, which is \$1686 more than the monthly expected income.
- The Finance Committee notified the board of a budgeting error recently discovered in the Worship budget.

*Sundays at First Christian Church
Worship at 10:30*

Before Worship

Children's Classes, 9:15 am
Hearthstone Class, 9 am
Adult book study 9:15 am

After Worship

Fellowship Time 11:45

**Narrative Lectionary Text
for Sunday, April 3
You Shall Be My Witnesses
Acts 1: 1-14**



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

Reflections on the Word

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

A commentary on today's passage points out that Jesus is not giving a command to the disciples, but is speaking in the future tense, predicting what they will do and thus foreshadowing what happens in the rest of the Book of Acts.

As modern day disciples, we too are part of the vision Jesus had for his followers.

*Lord of love, Send us out into the world to seek your presence and to be your presence in the world.
Amen.*

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

Ministry Team

Dan Adolphson, Associate Pastor
dan.adolphson@fccmpls.org
Julia Andrix, Faith Community Nurse
Rick Bowman, SHMC Building
Manager
Serena Chial, Nursery Attendant
Adam Conrad, Music Director
Pamela Cook, SHMC Director of
Youth and Young Adults
Laurie Pound Feille, Senior Minister
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Yunyue Liu, Keyboardist
Martha Harris, Courier Editor
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& SHMC Building Use Coordinator

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