

# The Courier

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis



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## UPCOMING Events

SpringHouse Huddle,  
Saturday, June 10, 9 am

Brews and Views, Monday,  
June 12, 6:30 pm

Pastor Laurie in class during  
weekdays, June 5-23

## Congregation to vote on Sanctuary June 11

A congregational meeting will be held following worship on June 11 for a discussion and vote on a proposal from the Sanctuary Task Force for SpringHouse Ministry Center to become a sanctuary-supporting church for refugees. All three congregations must vote in the affirmative for this resolution to take effect.

The Sanctuary Task Force held three forums to explore the sanctuary issue (a summary of these forums is on page 3). The Task Force is proposing that SpringHouse Ministry Center declares itself a Sanctuary-Supporting church. This means that members of the congregations would offer support and assistance to a church actually housing sanctuary seekers through such things as shopping, transportation, on-site help, and other tasks. It could also mean supporting sanctuary-seekers through other channels, such as attending deportation hearings.

Here is the proposal that we will discuss and vote on at the June 11 congregational meeting. (\*Paragraphs about the background and discernment process are not included here.)

### Proposal from the SpringHouse Sanctuary Task Force

#### Proposal

\*Given this background and discernment, the SpringHouse Sanctuary Task Force recommends that each congregation and SpringHouse vote to become Sanctuary-Supporting.

By Sanctuary-Supporting we mean that we will provide material, spiritual and emotional support to a partner congregation that has voted to be sanctuary should the need arise. Additionally, this will be a public stance.

#### Future Work and Implications

The SpringHouse Sanctuary Task Force will continue to meet for 4-6 months and is exploring additional ways for SpringHouse and its member churches to witness to immigrant justice through a solidarity lens. In particular, each congregation is exploring its denomination's "Immigrant Welcoming" processes and other avenues to act in solidarity with immigrants and immigrant families facing the harsh and significant consequences of the current immigration policies in the US.



## *In Our Prayers*

### *Prayers of Joy*

*For the birth of Emerson  
Lena Krengle on May 14,  
daughter of Jen and John  
For the arrival from the  
Philippines of Ana and  
Esther Bowman to join  
Rick and the Bowman  
family  
For the ordination of  
Brooke Apple, former SH  
youth minister*

### *Prayers for Concern*

*For Gwen Elmshouser now  
living at Our Lady of  
Peace in St. Paul  
For James Petermeier,  
whose grandfather died  
recently  
For Jim Smith (husband of  
Henrietta) whose brother  
Tom died recently  
For all our homebound  
members, including June  
Andrix and Evelyn Lawson*

### *Prayers for the World*

*For the Wisconsin families  
who lost their homes in a  
recent tornado*



## A message from Pastor Laurie Pound-Feille



### ***Busy Summer of Service Coming Up!***

Summer is almost here! That means it is time once again for our Mission At Our Doorstep week. This is a week where we do a Mission Trip right here in the Twin Cities. Over the years we have worked at Community Emergency Services, Hopewell Music Cooperative, Feed My Starving Children and Avenues for Homeless Youth. We have also packed school kits, hygiene kits, baby kits and cleanup buckets for Church World Service. Of course we can't forget making our Bags of Grace, Sandwich bags for Simpson Shelter and our ever popular Lemonade/Dog Treat/Catnip stand in front of SpringHouse. Who can forget our signup sheets for putting together backpacks for Youth Link and all of the other supplies that we need during the week? It is always a fun and long week but in the end we have made a difference right here in our own community.

This year the Mission and Outreach Team has already been planning our Mission At Our Doorstep Week for this year, July 17-21. We will return to Feed My Starving Children and have 25 spaces reserve at the Chanhassen location for Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Be sure to mark your calendars and be on the lookout for how to register. Also be looking for the many signup sheets and abundance of info that will come your way regarding all of the mission opportunities we will have that week.

After Mission At Our Doorstep twenty-nine people from SpringHouse Ministry Center will travel together on a Servant Trip to León, Nicaragua, July 27<sup>th</sup>-August 7<sup>th</sup>. We are so excited that all three of the churches at SpringHouse are participating in this year's trip. We have nine youth who will be going on the trip! We have held several fund raising lunches to help offset the cost of the trip. We can use more donations so if you are able to and would like to make a donation to our trip please let me know!

This summer is also a General Assembly summer. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will gather in Indianapolis from July 8-July 12. It is a wonderful time of gathering, worshipping, learning, debating issues and enjoying being together. Bryan and I along with Pastor Dan will be attending this year.

June 5-June 23, will be my last classes for my Doctor of Ministry degree. I will be in class for three weeks straight and then the writing of my thesis will be in full gear. I will have several chapters due every month in the Fall with the Thesis due in January. My oral defense will be in either March or April with graduation happening in May. Thank you for all of the prayers you have sent my way over the past several years as I have worked toward this degree. I ask for your prayers to continue during this coming year!

In the midst of an incredibly busy summer for us all, please remember to keep each other in prayer and to be in worship when you can. We are blessed to have such a faithful, healthy and loving community of faith. I am grateful for each one of you. Much love and peace, Pastor Laurie

## Summary of Sanctuary discernment process

The Sanctuary Task Force is made up of representatives from all three SpringHouse churches: Rae Buzzell and Rev. Rhonda Hlavinka (Salem), Wendy Manuel, Kathy Hintz and Rev. Laurie Pound Feille (First Christian), and Kathryn Lee, Rev. Paula Bidle, Rev. Rebecca Voelkel and Rev. Ashley Harness (Lyndale).

The Task Force sponsored three discernment forums covering theological, legal and logistical issues related to sanctuary.

**Forum One** was held Sunday, February 19, and was led by the three SpringHouse senior pastors. Pastor Harness reviewed the ancient Biblical history of offering sanctuary in temples or cities to people unfairly accused of wrongdoing. She also talked about the United Church of Christ's involvement in the sanctuary movement in more recent times. Pastor Feille discussed the activity of Disciples churches in Texas in providing sanctuary to people fleeing violence. Pastor Hlavinka told about parishioners in her previous church who were detained, and also commented on the process by which Lutheran synods around the country are becoming "Sanctuary Synods." All three pastors referenced multiple Biblical passages about welcoming the stranger and loving our neighbors.

**Forum Two** was held Sunday, March 26 and was led by Rebecca Burnett, a Minneapolis lawyer with experience in immigration issues and Michele Garnett-McKenzie from the MN Advocates for Human Rights organization. They provided information about immigration law history, current enforcement practices, and an overview of potential legal issues and liabilities for Minnesota congregations providing sanctuary to undocumented immigrants. Ms. Burnett provided a 9-page document that very thoroughly outlines legal issues for sanctuary churches. She pointed out that federal law is not entirely settled around the country, but in Minnesota, 8<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court rulings apply. She also noted that enforcement priorities change under different administrations more than the law changes.

**Forum Three** was held Sunday, May 7, to address logistical issues of being a sanctuary space. Deb Murphy explained that sanctuary seekers would primarily use the children's area, which could accommodate 6-8 people using air mattresses for sleeping. Kathryn Lee reported that the SpringHouse insurance premium would be raised slightly and also that the insurance policy would require that someone from a SpringHouse congregation would have to be in the building at all times while the sanctuary seeker is present. According to Kathryn, eight people in the whole of the US have requested sanctuary in a church. A key question posed in Forum Three was this: **What is the goal of SpringHouse congregations with regard to sanctuary seekers and what are the most effective ways that we can accomplish that goal?**

## FCC Board Notes

Fourteen people attended the regular monthly meeting of the First Christian Church General Board on May 16. Highlights of the meeting include the following:

- Kathy Hintz reported that the SpringHouse Sanctuary Task Force has a proposal to present to the three congregations. The board selected June 11 as the date for FCC's congregational meeting and vote on the proposal.
- Lake Harriet Christian church had a 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on Sunday, May 21. The Board agreed to send a letter to them from our church, and to ask Myra Rusten to design a flower display to be delivered.
- The SH Youth Minister position has been posted at United, Luther and Augsburg seminaries. Elizabeth Larson has volunteered to meet with the youth on Sundays during the summer; parents will also fill in until a youth minister is found.
- Pastor Dan reported that all four Twin Cities Disciple churches will sponsor a booth together at the Pride Festival, which will be June 24-25.
- Pastor Laurie begins her final three-week seminary class on June 5.
- Finance Chair Skip Wolverton reported that April pledges received were \$10,863.



<h1 style="margin: 0;">June 2017</h1> <h2 style="margin: 0;">First Christian Church</h2>		<h3 style="margin: 0;">Sunday Morning Schedule</h3> <p style="margin: 0;">9:00 Spiritual Formation Classes 10:30 Worship 11:45 Fellowship Time in Gathering Space</p>
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					4pm First Fridays	9 am Men's Group 9:30 Grief Support Group
4 <i>South Sanctuary Pentecost</i>		6 FCC Des Moines, IA CYF Overnight	7 8 am Lectionary Bible Study	8 7 pm Pastor Laurie PRC		10 9 am Men's Group 9 am SH Huddle 9:30 Grief Support Group 10 am Carter Circle brunch
11 <i>South Sanctuary</i> Noon – Congregational Meeting and Vote Noon – SH Green Team	12 6:30 pm Brews and Views 6:45 SH Building Committee	13	14 8 am Lectionary Bible Study 2 pm Mission & Outreach 5:30 Finance Committee	15	16	17 9 am Men's Group 9:30 Grief Support Group
18 <i>South Sanctuary FATHERS' DAY</i> 11:45 SH Activistas	19 7 pm Covenant Revision Committee	20 6 pm Worship Committee 7 pm FCC Board	21 8 am Lectionary Bible Study	22	23	24 9 am Men's Group 9:30 Grief Support Group  SH Carpet Cleaning upper level  <i>TC Pride Festival</i>
<i>NeSoDak</i>	<i>Overnight</i>					
25 <i>South Sanctuary</i> 11:45 Blood Pressure Checks 6:30 pm Elders  <i>TC Pride Festival</i>	26	27	28 8 am Lectionary Bible Study	29 <b>Puppet Show</b>	30 Boy Scout Troop 907 Overnight	

	Elders	Worship Leader	Children's Moment	Diaconate	Bus Drivers
<b>June 4</b>	Martha Harris Sandy Morgan	Becki Whitaker	Dan Adolphson	A. Bliss M. Carlson	Garry Hesser 612.721.4905
<b>June 11</b>	Ann Wolverton Mike Hesano	Karen Bowman	Laurie Feille	A. Creighton W. Manuel	Mike Hesano 651-645-6758
<b>June 18</b>	Mike Hesano Steve Rusinak	Athena Carlson (via Skype)	Steve Rusinak	B. Flanagan S. Grady B. Hall	Mike Morgan 612.926-9834
<b>June 25</b>	Steve Rusinak Martha Harris	Alice Keith	Elaine Tucker		Garry Hesser 612.721.4905

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

## Volunteers needed for Day Camp

Adults and high schoolers who can give even a few hours during Day Camp Week June 19-23 are needed to help make this ecumenical, collaborative, Christ-centered camp work! Morning help (9-12:30) is needed to welcome kids, serve snacks, co-lead art activities and just be a presence. Afternoon help (12:30-4) is needed for field trip chaperones on Tuesday and Thursday and adult presence on-site at Bethel. Volunteers do not have to commit to every day; even one morning or afternoon of volunteering would be appreciated! Please contact Pastor Martha Bardwell, day camp co-director, if you are available to help, whether or not you have a 'role' in mind. ([martha@oursavioursmppls.org](mailto:martha@oursavioursmppls.org), 612-871-2967) or talk to Deb Murphy.

## Host a Coffee Hour this summer

The simple new coffee hour system is in place – individuals or teams are invited sign up to bring treats for the coffee hour following worship. Use the signpup calender on the counter near the kitchen or volunteer by calling Nancy [nhomdrom@gmail.com](mailto:nhomdrom@gmail.com) or Sandy [sandykorgan@gmail.com](mailto:sandykorgan@gmail.com). The volunteer hosts can decide what food they want to bring.

## Two short notes . . .

- The **Saints baseball game will be July 15**, not July 1 (incorrectly published in the last Courier.) See Mike Hesano for tickets!
- The Mission & Outreach team says thanks to everyone who stayed after church on April 30 and helped put together Bags of Grace. We did 100 bags in 20 minutes! Record time!



Michael Vanderford and the children led the congregation in a spirited version of "Pharaoh, Pharaoh" during the Sunday School Celebration worship on May 21

## SpringHouse Board Notes

The SpringHouse Board met on Sunday, April 30, following the worship services. This was the first of what will be quarterly meetings for the board, instead of monthly evening meetings.

Committee Discussions: The Sanctuary Task Force and the Child Ministry Team each gave an update to the board. April Conlee (Lyndale) and Nancy Curry (FCC) will be the Child Ministry co-directors for the next year.

### Business Items:

- The board voted to approve the Memorial Garden Design Proposal presented by Mary Vanderford and Doug Malchow.
- Alison Creighton from FCC will be the new SH Treasurer.
- <sup>a</sup> The board voted to approve the revised Building Use Policy presented by Martha Harris of the Building Use Subcommittee.
- The Building Committee reported on current operations and the SH Financial Statement was presented by Emma Jorstad.

Dreaming Our Future: Ashley Harkness led the board in a discussion of ways to improve and enhance family support for SH families.

The next quarterly meeting will be in August on the Sunday when SH has its joint Worship in the Park.

## Sundays at First Christian Church

Worship at 10:30

### Before Worship:

Spiritual Formation Classes:

9:00 Hearthstone Class,

9:20 Children's Classes;

9:30 SH Joint Adult Class: Darkwood series on "Be@itudes"

### After Worship

11:45 Fellowship Time

**Scripture Reading for  
Sunday, May 28  
One in Christ  
Galatians 3: 1-9, 23-29**



tellthelordthankyou.com.  
10.6.14 post

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

### Reflections on the Word

*Galatians 3: 26 – "For in Christ  
Jesus you are all children of  
God through faith."*

In this age of tribal clashes,  
identity politics, and racial  
tensions, the words to a  
traditional African American  
echo Paul's simple yet profound  
explanation of Jesus' message:  
"If anybody asks you who I am,  
who I am, who I am,/ If  
anybody asks you who I am,/ If  
anybody asks you who I am,/ If  
anybody asks you who I am,  
Tell them, I'm a child of God."  
*Loving Deliverer, Help us to  
know ourselves as your children  
that we might serve you in  
purity of joy. Amen.*

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

#### Ministry Team

**Dan Adolphson**, Associate Pastor,

[dan.adolphson@fccmpls.org](mailto:dan.adolphson@fccmpls.org)

**Julie Andrix**, Faith Community Nurse, [fcn@fccmpls.org](mailto:fcn@fccmpls.org)

**Rick Bowman**, SHMC Building Manager

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

**Pamela Cook**, SHMC Youth Minister,

[springhouseyouthdirector@fccmpls.org](mailto:springhouseyouthdirector@fccmpls.org)

**Pearl Evans**, SHMC Child Care

**Laurie Feille**, Senior Pastor, [pastor@fccmpls.org](mailto:pastor@fccmpls.org)

**Martha Harris**, Courier Editor, [harrismartha@mac.com](mailto:harrismartha@mac.com)

**Deb Murphy**, Office Manager & Director of Spiritual

Formation of Children and Youth,

[deb.murphy@fccmpls.org](mailto:deb.murphy@fccmpls.org) & SHMC Building Coordinator,

[events\\_SHMC@fccmpls.org](mailto:events_SHMC@fccmpls.org)

**Maria Thieling**, SHMC Child Care

**Mike Vasich** - Pianist

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