

The Courier

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis



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UPCOMING Events

*SpringHouse Huddle,
Saturday, July 8, 9 am*

*Brews and Views, Monday,
July 10, 6:30 pm*

*Saints Game, Saturday,
July 15, 7 pm*

Rev. Theresa "Terri" Hord Owens to be named new GMP at General Assembly

Rev. Theresa "Terri" Hord Owens will be presented as the nominee for General Minister and President (GMP) of the Disciples of Christ during General Assembly that begins July 8 in Indianapolis. She will replace Sharon Watkins as GMP.

A Disciple since young adulthood, Hord Owens is currently dean of students at the University of Chicago Divinity School and pastor of First Christian Church of Downers Grove, Illinois.

Rev. Hord Owens is a native of Terre Haute, IN, and a descendant of one of Indiana's oldest African-American free settlements. She earned her bachelor's degree in Government with a minor in African-American Studies from Harvard University.

After spending 23 years in the business field, she felt God has another assignment, and she accepted her call to ministry, earning a Master of Divinity degree at the University of Chicago Divinity School. She was ordained at Light of the World Christian Church wearing the robe of her paternal grandfather, the late Rev. Noel Hord. In 2005, she was appointed Dean of Students at UChicago Divinity School.

According to information on the DOC website, "Rev. Owens is widely sought after as a preacher, speaker and workshop facilitator. Her ministry and intellectual interests include a theology of reconciliation, cultural intelligence, developing inclusive and multi-cultural congregations, and the mentoring of you and young adults."

Rev. Hord Owens is married to Walter Owens, Jr., with whom she will soon celebrate 30 years of marriage. They have an adult son, W. Mitchell Owens, III.

More biographical information, as well as comments from the Search Committee, Hord Owens' Vision Statement, and video clips can be found at <http://disciples.org/ogmp/meet-the-gmp-nominee/>





In Our Prayers

Prayers of Joy

*For the dedication of
Emerson Lena Krengle into
our church family June 18*

Prayers of Sympathy

*For the family of Susie Smith
on her death from cancer*

Prayers for Concern

*For Dave Whitaker, and for
Shannon Grady's sister,
both injured in accidents
For the Wolverton's niece
Marsha who is entering
hospice*

*For Gwen Elmsouser and
Phil Kinney*

*For all our homebound
members, including Elaine
Glore and Donald Ulm*

Prayers for the World

*So many prayers: Castile
and Yanez families, victims
of London fire and
Portuguese wildfires,
Congressional members
and staff wounded in
shooting, Southern Baptist
LGBTQ members, sailors
on USS Fitzgerald ... and
many more. . .*



A message from Pastor Laurie Pound-Feille and DOC Twin Cities Pastors



A Pastoral Letter to Disciples in the Twin Cities

It was nearly a year ago that Minnesotans awoke to the startling news that an African-American motorist named Philando Castile was shot dead in Falcon Heights by Jeronimo Yanez, a St. Anthony police officer. It was a cruel irony that Philando lost his life just in front of the state fairgrounds, which Minnesotans call "the Great Minnesota Get-Together." This event reminded Minnesotans that not all of us are treated equally, especially when it comes to race. The recent acquittal of Yanez brought pain to the family of Philando Castile and the African-American community here in Minnesota. It made many feel that in the Great Get-Together that is Minnesota, African Americans are valued less than white Minnesotans.

Members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) have a theology of the Table. We believe that the communion table is not our table, but belongs to Christ who welcomes all to partake of the feast. As Disciples, we believe that we are called by Jesus to welcome everyone to the table both in our congregations and in our lives. We are called to bring those that have been kept away from God's love and make room for all at God's Table.

As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to pray for justice and speak out against injustice. But that is just the beginning. Christ compels us to listen, to hear and to be in mission with our African-American sisters and brothers to dismantle the structures that have made coming to God's table difficult.

In the Design of the Christian Church, we Disciples are to yield ourselves to God in the bonds of Christian faith. May God leads us to build deeper relationships across racial boundaries to partner together to create a more just society.

May God be with all of us as we work to welcome all to God's Welcome Table.

Yours in the Unity of Christ,

the Congregational Pastors of Twin Cities Disciples of Christ:

Laurie Pound Feille, Dan Adolphson, Tammy Rottschaefer (Lake Harriet CC),
Dennis Sanders, (FCC, Mahtomedi), Mark Keeler (Plymouth Creek)

Mission at Our Doorstep week almost here!

We are so excited about our Mission at Our Doorstep week of missions! MaOD will run from Monday, July 17 through Thursday July 20. The



mission projects that will be held at Springhouse during the week include gathering supplies for Church World Service Hygiene Kits, Clean Up Kits and School Kits; making sandwiches for homeless shelters; creating Bags of Grace for people asking for help on street corners; sewing catnip toys

and school kit bags; filling backpacks for YouthLink; offering a lemonade/water/dog treat (and catnip toy) stand for all of our neighbors, and having a community meal with our neighbors. We will also participate in an evening packing session at Feed My Starving Children in Coon Rapids.

The **sign-up sheets** are on the worship closet doors in the South Sanctuary. Pick a day, pick a certain mission project or sign up for multiple projects. Invite your friends and family to join in our missions. An extensive **list of supplies** and complete calendar is in the MaOD booklet [Download Booklet](#). Supplies are also posted in the South Sanctuary on the worship closet doors. Please sign up for what you would like to bring. After you have purchased those items, please indicate that you have done so by crossing off your items and writing DONE by that entry on the sign-up sheet. In this way we can avoid duplicates of items and know what is still needed. You may start bringing supplies to the building on **Sunday, July 9**.

Photos from Vacation Bible School (aka Day Camp)



Jimmy Tucker (left) was FCC's participant in this summer's Day Camp; he had a go at bowling during an afternoon outing. Glenn Crown (right) installs a "Peace Totem" created at Day Camp 2016; adult volunteers made the pieces; middle schoolers assembled them, and the youngest campers painted them. Thanks to Glenn for putting on a polyurethane coat before planting it.



FCC Board Notes

Twelve people attended the regular monthly meeting of the First Christian Church General Board on June 20. Highlights of the meeting include the following:

- The congregational vote to become a Sanctuary-Supporting Church was 35 yes, 1 no and 0 abstaining. Deb Murphy reported that the Sanctuary Team is meeting and checking on further possible actions to support sanctuary churches
- Mission at Our Doorstep signup sheets are posted in the South Sanctuary. Kirsten Cackoski pointed out that the Wednesday night Community Meal will need extra helping hands. The board discussed advertising for this event.
- The organ builder is now working almost every day on final work to complete the installation. Pat Dunlop raised questions about organ music and the need for accessories such as an organ light.
- The Board voted to approve two Wholeness Fund Requests: 1) \$16,940 for the Nicaragua trip and 2) \$5000 for Hopewell Music Cooperative.
- Finance Chair Skip Wolverton reported that April pledges received were \$18,308.
- Board members discussed financial issues the church is facing.

July 2017 First Christian Church				Sunday Morning Schedule 9:30 Spiritual Formation Classes 10:30 Worship 11:45 Fellowship Time in Gathering Space		
<i>South Sanctuary</i>						1 9 am Men's Group 9:30 Grief Support Group
2	3 <i>Offices & Building closed</i>	4  Ankeny Christian Church	5 8 am Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Residence	6 9 am Ecumenical women's ministry at Mary Lou Norman's	7	8 9 am Men's Group 9 am SH Huddle 9:30 Grief Support Group General Assembly 7/8 – 7/12
9 Noon – SH Green Team Noon – Child Ministry Team Meeting	10 6:45 SH Building Committee	11 7 pm Covenant Revision Committee	12 8 am Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Residence 2 pm Mission & Outreach	13 9 am Ecumenical women's ministry at Mary Lou Norman's 7 pm Pastor Laurie PRC	14	15 9 am Men's Group 9:30 Grief Support Group 7 pm Saints Game
16 11:45 SH Activistas	17 Mission at Our Doorstep	18	19 8 am Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Residence	20 9 am Ecumenical women's ministry at Mary Lou Norman's 2 pm Groveland Food Shelf Board Mtg	21 7/21-7/23 SpringHouse Camping at Carver Park	22 9 am Men's Group 9:30 Grief Support Group
23 Servant Trip Commissioning	24 6:30 pm Brews and Views	25 5:30 Sanctuary Team	26 8 am Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Residence 7 pm FCC Book Club at Amy Dunlop's; book is "Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Krueger	27 9 am Ecumenical women's ministry at Mary Lou Norman's Nicaragua Trip 7/27 – 8/7	28	29
30 South Sanctuary	31					

	Elders	Worship Leader	Children's Moment	Diaconate	Bus Drivers
July 2	Ann Wolverton Tom Curry	Justin Carlson	Dan Adolphson	K. Hintz Mary Hurlocker	Mike Hesano 651-645-6758
July 9	Barb Creighton Sandy Morgan	Julie Andrix	Anna Bliss	Max Hurlocker P. Kinney	Mike Morgan 612.926-9834
July 16	Tom Curry Lu Griffin	Bryan Feille	Laurie Feille	E Tucker B. Whitaker G Madsen	Garry Hesser 612.721.4905
July 23	Val Dunham Ann Wolverton	Robin Hesser	Steve Rusinak		Mike Hesano 651-645-6758
July 30	Sandy Morgan Kirsten Cackoski	Ron Keith	Elaine tucker		Mike Morgan 612.926-9834

Note: Please call drivers by Saturday for Sunday bus ride

A letter from Mary Vanderford

After the vote, a step to take

The vote of all three churches at SpringHouse to become a sanctuary supporting church was a significant step for me. I hope it also resonates as an important step for you.

I have been seeking ways to connect with those in our midst who are undocumented and subject to deportation. One such avenue for me has been to become active in an immigrant group working to end deportation. This group is called MIRAC which stands for Minnesota Immigrant Rights Action Committee. They are a group which has organized a NO More Deportations Campaign. (FB page will provide details of most up-to-date activities.)

One aspect of this work is to find ways to assist families where one member is in detention and facing deportation. At this time there are two young men from Central America who were detained May 11th in St. Paul and are currently being held by ICE officials. Elmer Hernandez Lopez is from El Salvador and Oscar Gomes Manueles is from Honduras. Neither man had any criminal conviction. Elmer is the sole supporter of his wife and young child. His wife Kathryn has asked MIRAC for support with his case, including the opportunity to sell food in order to make money for his legal costs and to support their family while he is in detention. MIRAC is assisting Kathryn to accomplish this. MIRAC also has set up a gofundme web page where individuals can donate to this family directly.

So - my request is that you consider making a donation today. You can donate online here: <https://www.gofundme.com/s7c55h-help-keep-a-family-together>

Thanks for considering this. Sincerely, Mary Vanderford, Lyndale UCC

Summer Worship = Summer Fun

Summer fun is being incorporated into summer worship services. So far, we've danced, learned polyrhythms (tap feet in 4, clap in 3!) and played Bible Books Bingo. So come to Sunday morning worship this summer to see what surprises our staff still has in store for us!

News Briefs . . .

- The **Saints baseball game is July 15 @ 7 pm**. Tickets are general admission bleachers, \$6 each. See Mike Hesano for tickets.
- One or two more people are still needed to **help with LiveStreaming** on Sunday mornings. It's easy and simple – talk to Pastor Dan for more information.
- Lots of work was accomplished at the June 24 **Share-the-Care**: main floor coat room and garden level refrigerator were cleaned; garden care and totem pole planting done outside; sanctuary chair arms rests tightened, and carpets cleaned in the Gathering Space and Office, Thanks to Mike Cackoski, Dean Creighton, Mary and Michael Vanderford, Erica Larson, Glenn Crown and Shannon Fast for all this work.

Notes from the Pride Booth

Anna Bliss wrote this Facebook post about being in the Pride booth last week, and she gave us permission to reprint it for the Courier. Thank you, Anna.

For the last few years I have volunteered at my church's Pride booth. I'm not there to try to convert anyone. If someone is looking for a place of worship that will welcome them, I am happy to talk about my congregation and our denomination. I want to be there so that all the people who have been told they aren't welcome, that they are going to hell, that they are not loved can see that there are people of faith who believe differently. I want them to see that there are faith communities who see the divinity in everyone - the ones dressed in leather and the ones with rainbow tutus and the ones who are only just discovering who they are. And every year I have worked, even today when I was there for just a couple of hours, I hear a story that breaks my heart a little - someone who says, "my parent doesn't know I'm here and I'm scared to tell them because we attend _____ church..." Breaks. My. Heart. This is your child. If you attend a church, you must see this child as a child of God. If you cannot see the image of God in your own child's face, in their heart, in who they are, how can you say you truly believe?

Sundays at First Christian Church

Worship at 10:30

Before Worship:

Spiritual Formation Classes:

9:30 Children's Art of the Covenant Class

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

After Worship

11:45 Fellowship Time

Scripture Reading for

Sunday, July 2

Psalm 30



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

Reflections on the Word

*Psalm 30: 5b – Weeping may
linger for the night, but joy
comes in the morning*

When I am sick, I feel like I'll
be sick forever. When I am full
of sorrow, I think I'll always be
sad. But the tide always turns.
Health returns. Joy returns.
When we open ourselves fully
to God, we step into God's
goodness where we are meant to
live.

*Always loving God, Help us let
go of our fears and sorrows so
that we can open ourselves to
your joy and tender care. Amen.*

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

Ministry Team

Dan Adolphson, Associate Pastor,

dan.adolphson@fccmpls.org

Julie Andrix, Faith Community Nurse,

fcn@fccmpls.org

Rick Bowman, SHMC Building Manager

Adam Conrad, Music Director & Composer-in-
Residence

Pearl Evans, SHMC Child Care

Laurie Feille, Senior Pastor,

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OF MINNEAPOLIS
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
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