

The Courier

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis



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UPCOMING Events

*FCC Family dinner, Sunday,
February 25
following worship*

*Brews & Views,
Monday, Feb. 26, 6:30
at Black Stack Brewing
755 Prior Ave. N., St. Paul*

*Youth Event –
Feed My Starving Children,
Saturday, March 3, 4:30 pm*

New Sunday morning class on Poor People's Campaign

Pastors of all three SpringHouse churches are heading up a special Lenten study for Sunday morning Joint Adult Education. The focus is the newly organized Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival which has its roots in the 1968 Poor People's Campaign led by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

One month before his assassination, Dr. King spoke to a gathering of over fifty multiracial organizations to begin the work of the Poor People's Campaign that aimed at ending the triple evils of poverty, racism and militarism. Dr. William Barber's new Poor People's Campaign (Barber is a Disciple pastor from North Carolina) aims to continue this work by uniting tens of thousand of people across the country to challenge the evils of systemic racism, poverty, the war economy, ecological devastation and the nation's distorted morality.



Pastor Dan Adolphson led the first session on February 18, giving those in attendance (over 25 people) an overview of the theology that was the underpinning of Dr. King's work and beliefs throughout his life.

Future sessions will be the following:

- Feb. 25: Overview of new Poor People's Campaign and Dr. William J. Barber II (led by the Senior Pastors)
- Mar. 4: Examination of Systematic Racism & Denominational Roots (led by the Senior Pastors)
- Mar. 11: Examination of Poverty (led by Pastor Rhonda)
- Mar. 18: Examination of Militarism (led by Pastor Rebecca)

Palm Sunday and Easter will see a pause in this study, but it will resume for two Sundays after Easter.

*Special Family Style Dinner
Sunday, February 25 following worship
South Sanctuary*

*Family style means food provided – not a potluck!
Purpose? Spend time in fellowship, especially with Max and
Mary Hurlocker who will be leaving us soon for their new
home in North Carolina
Call the church office let us know you'll be there!*



In Our Prayers

Prayers of Concern

*For Nancy Curry and family
as Nancy recovers from
surgery for a broken femur*

*For Pastor Rhonda's
husband Bob*

*For Wendy Manual's
daughter as she seeks new
job*

*For all cancer survivors and
those getting cancer
treatments*

*For all our homebound
members, including Mary
Lou Cain and Phyllis
Dunlap*

Prayers for the World

*For the families and
community of Parkland,
Florida, as they grieve the
deaths and injuries of
young people and teachers
For immigrant families, and
the many young lives
hanging in the balance as
political decisions are
reached*



A message from Pastor Laurie Pound Feille



Poetry as a pathway to discovering ourselves

During Lent this year we will be using Poetry in different parts of our worship services. We used poetry during our Ash Wednesday service and we used a poem as our Call To Worship this past Sunday. We are grateful that SALT Project, who we use for videos and printed materials during Advent and Lent, decided to use poetry during Lent too! We would love to think that we influenced their decision but it was sheer coincidence.

Some of us may love poetry and some of us may write poetry. Every time I hear the word "poetry" I get knots in my stomach. I remember teachers, as far back as elementary school, asking us to sit and write a poem. I wrote one in elementary school after the launch of a space shuttle and it was featured at our local library. It was only a couple of sentences but if I remember correctly it did rhyme. Truth is I'm pretty sure every poem about the launch from our class was featured at the library.

By the time I reached Junior High we began to look in our English classes at poems as more than writings that rhyme. It was at that point that I became very aware of my poetry writing abilities compared to my classmates. Several of my classmates could sit down and within five minutes write incredible poetry. I would sit down and within five minutes still be looking at a blank piece of paper. We were being asked to compose poems in classes outside of English classes. I found myself constantly looking at a blank piece of paper and feeling as if I was not as smart as many of my classmates.

I share this to say that our choice of using poetry during Lent has brought all of those knots back to my stomach. Don't get me wrong---I love poetry. I love to read it and I love hearing it read. I was moved to tears by one of the poems read at our Ash Wednesday service and I was moved by the poem we read as our Call To Worship this past Sunday. The problem is I feel as if I am back in Junior High and everyone can write a poem except for me.

Lent is a time when we should be made to feel uncomfortable. It is in being uncomfortable that we can begin to grow in our faith and in our understanding of what it means to be followers of Jesus Christ in this world. When we begin to explore why something makes us uncomfortable or why we don't want to change or why we are afraid to write one single poem we begin to discover more about ourselves and the world around us. This leads us to a greater understanding of God and how we are called to live in this world.

I hope you will join in this poetry filled journey to Lent. Who knows - maybe several of us will write poems of our journey before Easter morning comes. Much love and peace, Pastor Laurie

"Look to the Future" Fund reflects FCC history

Last fall, the FCC board voted to create a new fund to support the church's general budget. The monies for this new fund came from the \$1.6 million invested after the sale of the 2201 building to the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. A total of \$600,000 was moved from what is called the Wholeness Fund into a new fund called the "Look to the Future Fund."

At the January 2018, meeting of the board, Trustee Skip Wolverton gave some background on the name of the new fund. He read from *The Story of the Portland Avenue Christian Church*, written in 1955 by Winworth Williams. In his book, Williams, with rhetorical flourish, told a story about how in 1944, an "elderly gentleman, with erectness of stature and keenness of spirit, arose from his



Portland Avenue Christian Church

accustomed pew in the front of the church and made the motion that we as a congregation raise \$11,000 for the purpose of a new building." This 87-year-old gentleman, Dr. George Haggard, concluded with the statement: "We Must Look to the Future."

Eleven years later, ground was broken for the new building at 2201 First Avenue. Williams concludes his saga about how members of the Portland Avenue Church raised the money for building a new church this way: "As we look to the future in 1955, let us not mark this year as the end of a building period but the beginning of a new adventure in wider opportunities of Christian Kingdom Building."

Skip Wolverton explained to the board that this spirit of looking for opportunities to do the work of the church in the world was appropriate for our decision to shore up our financial position with the "Look to the Future Fund" in order to keep our focus on our mission, and not just on worries about the bottom line.



First Christian Church at 2201 2nd Ave. South

Words from Rev. Hord Owens



Rev. Teresa Hord Owens, General Minister and President of the Disciples, issued a statement on February 14 about the Florida school shooting that is posted on the Disciples News Service. Her statement includes these paragraphs:

"We are weary of these scenes, these horrifying, traumatic moments that have now some estimate have affected nearly 150,000 children in school settings since Columbine. Add to that the daily trauma that children in some neighborhoods endure daily as friends and loved ones are shot in front of their eyes; the sobering confession of children whose greatest fear is that they will not live to walk home from school.

"At the 2015 General Assembly in Columbus, OH, Disciples passed a [resolution](#) to speak to gun violence for the first time in nearly 25 years. Cultural understandings of the role of guns in society and how one interprets the 2nd amendment have generated vigorous and often vitriolic debate. . . . This resolution called on Disciples to model and teach "grace-filled, love-based action and non-violent conflict resolution", to promote emergency response plans. Above all, the resolution calls for "dialogue, cooperation, advocacy and action that moves toward a reduction of gun violence and promotes anti-racist, pro-reconciling education in our communities and nations..."

Read Rev. Owens full statement at Disciples News Service <http://disciples.org/dns/>



<p>March 2018 First Christian Church</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday Morning Schedule</p> <p>9:15/9:30 Spiritual Formation Classes 10:30 Worship 11:45 Fellowship Time in Gathering Space</p>
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				<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p>7 pm Pastor Laurie PRC 7 pm SHMC Youth Parent Advisory Team</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <p>9 – 1pm Share the Care 9 am Men's Bible Study 3 pm First Saturday 4:30 Youth - Feed My Starving Children</p>
<p>4 South Sanctuary Noon – Child Ministries Team Meeting Noon Family Folk Dancing (lunch at 11:30 am)</p>	<p>5 7 pm Carter Circle @ at Bpbbie Hall's 6 pm 7 pm – SHMC Marketing Cmte</p>	<p>6 8 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Residence</p>	<p>7 5:30 pm Soup 6 pm Holden Prayer 6:30 FCC Lenten Study 6 30 Handbells 7:45 Choir</p>	<p>8 7 pm SH Finance Committee</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 9 am Men's Bible Study 9 am SH Huddle 10 am Lenten Brunch</p>
<p>11 Daylight Savings Begins South Sanctuary Girl Scout Sunday Noon Social Justice Forum</p>	<p>12 6 pm Yoga with Liz</p>	<p>13 8 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study</p>	<p>14 5:30 pm Soup 5:30 FCC Finance Committee 6 pm Holden Prayer 6:30 FCC Lenten Study 6 30 Handbells 7:45 Choir</p>	<p>15 7 pm Pastor Dan PRC</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 9 am Men's Bible Study</p>
<p>18 South Sanctuary</p>	<p>19 6 pm Yoga with Liz 6:45 SH Building Committee</p>	<p>20 8 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study 6 pm Worship Team 7 pm FCC General Board</p>	<p>21 2 pm Mission and Outreach Mtg 5:30 pm Soup 6 pm Holden Prayer Service 6 30 Handbells 7:45 Choir</p>	<p>22 7 pm SHMC Board</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 9 am Men's Bible Study</p>
<p>25 PALM SUNDAY South Sanctuary 9:30 Intergenerational Sunday School PEEPS Dioramas</p>	<p>26 6 pm Yoga with Liz 6:30 Brews & Views</p>	<p>27 8 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study</p>	<p>28 6:30 Handbells 7:45 Choir</p>	<p>29 Maundy Thursday 9 am Ecumenical women's ministry 6:30 Maundy Thursday Labyrinth 8 pm Prayer Vigil Starts</p>	<p>30 Good Friday 3 pm End of Prayer Vigil 7 pm Good Friday Worship</p>	<p>31 9 am Men's Bible Study</p>

	Elders	Worship Leader	Children's Moment	Diaconate	Bus Drivers
March 4	TBN	Mark Carlson	Deb Murphy	A. Hesano Mary Hurlocker	Garry Hesser 612.721.4905
March 11	TBN	Julie Andrix	Deb Murphy	Max Hurlocker K. Hintz	Mike Hesano 651-645-6758
March 18	TBN	Kristen Van Heyningen	Deb Murphy	S. Lauer E. Tucker	Mike Morgan 612.926-9834
March 25	TBN	Jon Bates	Deb Murphy	B. Whitaker B. Hall	Garry Hesser 612.721.4905

Note: Please call drivers by Saturday for Sunday bus ride

Three ways to support immigrant families

The SpringHouse Sanctuary/Immigrant Welcoming Task Force is at work! Each congregation approved the proposed Immigrant Welcoming Resolution at their January annual meetings. The SpringHouse board will finalize resolution approval with a vote in March or April. The task force will be bringing three opportunities to support immigrant families to you this spring.

- Sign up to receive Action Request Alerts. Alerts will notify you of GoFundMe opportunities, immigrant justice training opportunities, or upcoming demonstrations.
- Sign up to participate in our partnership with Conversation With Friends (conversationswithfriendsmn.org). We plan to publish sign up lists for specific actions and dates. You can pick one date or several. Conversation With Friends volunteers do detainee visits, letter writing, Circle of Compassion prayers and safe release accompaniment. Volunteers must attend training. The task force is working to potentially schedule a training at SpringHouse.
- Sign up to attend an Interfaith Vigil for Immigrant Justice. These are hosted by the Interfaith Coalition on Immigration (ICOM) on second Tuesdays monthly, 7:30-8:30 AM at the Whipple Federal Building, 1 Federal Drive, Ft. Snelling. Sign up for just one, or for many. Bring a friend.

God whose Son was a fleeing migrant, comfort all who awake today hounded by threats against self and family. Open our hearts to the voices of children and parents pleading that we do all we can to keep them together. Make us builders of paths that protect and policies that fight pain. AMEN.

One more reminder for Share-the-Care

Share-the-Care, the team effort to maintain and clean up the SpringHouse building, is right around the corner on Saturday, March 3. Donuts will be ready at 9 am to fuel up the workers, and pizza will be offered at 1 pm to reward all the hard work. Please let Earl Dunham or Mike Cackoski know if you can help out.



SpringHouse Family Folk Dance set for March 4

Come join in the annual SpringHouse Family Folk Dance on Sunday, March 4. A lunch of pizza and salad will be served at 11:30 am, and we will dance from noon to 1:30 on the South Sanctuary wood floor. All ages, all congregations are welcome. The event will feature easy to learn, easy to follow folk dances taught and led by our favorite caller, Robin Nelson. For more information, contact Michael Vanderford at michaeljvanderfold@gmail.com or 612-296-9647.

Lenten Activities

Lenten Brunch

Saturday, March 10, 10 am
Gathering Space at SpringHouse
All are Welcome!
Program by Mary Hurlocker
on her Spiritual Journey
Wonderful Brunch Menu!

Reservations due by March 7 –
call FCC office 612-870-1868 or
office@fccmpls.org
Indicate childcare needs or special
food requirements

Cost \$8.50 (suggested donation)

Wednesdays in Lent

5-6 pm Soup Supper
6-6:30 pm Holden Prayer
in North Sanctuary
6:30 Lenten Study
Jesus and the Disinherited
by Howard Thurman

Sunday Mornings

Joint Adult Education 9:30 in
Gathering Space
Learning about New Poor
People's Campaign

At Home

Lenten Devotional Booklet
featuring poetry by Mary Oliver
and weekly meditations and
suggested practice



Sundays at First Christian Church

Worship at 10:30

Before Worship:

Spiritual Formation Classes:

9:15 Children's Classes;

9:30 SH Joint Adult Class

After Worship

11:45 Fellowship Time

Scripture Reading for Sunday, February 25

Jesus Washes Feet

John 13: 1-17



Christ Washing Feet of
Disciples by Jacobo
Tintoretto, Prado Museum

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

Reflections on the Word

John 13: 1b – Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

All of John is the story of God's love for the world, and John 13 is that love displayed in the specificity of Jesus' love for his own. Our participation in the vulnerable, mysterious, live-giving love of God begins with Jesus before us, humbling himself and us. It is in pouring ourselves out in love as the beloved teacher has done and as he makes possible in us that we become able to function as his servants, his sent ones, his friends, reflections of his light in the dark world God loves.

God of Love, Show us how to live and love in service and with compassion for the sake of all your children Amen.

By Meda Stamper, on Working Preacher

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

Ministry Team

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**Items for next Courier needed by Sunday,
March 4, 2018.**

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
OF MINNEAPOLIS
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
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