

The Courier

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis



What's **INSIDE**:

Message from
Pastor Laurie Feille,
page 2

Hurlocker Trees!
page 3

News Briefs,
Event Reminders,
page 3

September calendar,
page 4

Squiggle Space News,
page 5

UPCOMING Events

Upper Midwest All
Congregational Gathering,
August 24-25 in Newton, IA

Choir and Bells begin
rehearsals, Wednesday,
September 5, 6:30 and 7:45

FCC Finance Committee,
5:30, Wednesday,
September 12

Carter Circle to morph into Women's Fellowship



Carter Circle was formed years ago at the encouragement of Dorothy Richeson, wife of the minister at the time. There were many Circles already in operation but this Circle was for young (mostly married) women with small children. Well, those young women now have grandchildren and all other Circles have ended. More women have joined over the years but newer women who have joined the church say that they don't want to join a "Circle."

Consequently, the group formerly known as Carter Circle has decided to morph into Women's Fellowship to better reflect the inclusiveness for which it is aiming. **All women of the church (and all means all) are invited to come.** This is more than just a name change; the format will also change. The focus of Women's Fellowship is to encourage fellowship with our church friends through a Bible-based study. There will not be a leader of each meeting; rather, a volunteer will facilitate the meeting and bring additional information to the discussion. A free-will offering will be taken and the group will decide where to spend the money. A treat will always be served!

Meetings will be monthly from September-May; the location will rotate. From September-November of this year, the group will study *What Every Church Member Should Know about Poverty* by Bill Ehlig and Ruby Payne. (You will need to purchase your own copy.) January-May we will use a study guide which covers women's issues.

The September meeting will be at Kirsten's Cackoski's home on September 10; Kathy Hintz will be the facilitator. Meetings are at 7 pm, usually the first Monday of the month. Please join us!

Article by Karen Kandik



In Our Prayers

Prayers of Sympathy

*For the family of Phyllis
Takekawa, who passed
away Monday, August 20*

Prayers of Concern

*For Sandy Morgan
recovering from an
infection
For Nancy Curry's mother
who was injured in a fall
For Nancy Curry following
her dental surgery
For Bill Dunlop recovering
from recent surgery
For Pastor Laurie, her
family, and her father as he
recovers from his stroke
For all those who are
homebound, including June
Andrix and Kathy Merkel*

Prayers for the World

*For migrant families that
they may be together as
they make changes in their
lives
For firefighters and people
who have lost their lives or
homes to fires*



A message from Pastor Laurie Pound Feille



Soon to be together again after busy summer

It has been an unusual summer for the church staff. I think we may have only had one Sunday this summer when we were in worship together. Between camps, servant trips, vacations and me going to care for my dad we have been scattered. Even though your staff has been scattered, worship, Mission At Our Doorstep and our regular activities have happened. That is the beauty of a Disciples of Christ congregation. While it helps to have ministers and staff, you are not dependent upon us to make sure church happens. We even pulled off a beautiful ordination service for Rev. Wendy Manuel this past Saturday even though Adam and Mike were on vacation. Thank you for all the ways you have stepped in when we have been away.

With that said, we will all be back together on Sunday, September 2. It is time to come back from the lakes and cabins and gather with your church family. Some of us have had a relaxing summer and some of us have had a hectic summer. Through it all God has been present and we know that best when we gather as a community of faith.

In a few weeks we will be back to a full schedule. Rehearsals for choir and handbells will start back in September. I invite you to come and be a part of our music program. Adam and Mike have created a music program that welcomes everyone no matter your musical abilities. It is a good way to connect with other members and to be a part of creating something beautiful for our worship services. Please talk to Adam or Mike if you are interested and want to know more!

Our Children, Youth and Adult education programs will start back in full swing in September. We have amazing teachers and they are there every Sunday excited to share in learning with your children and with you. Our joint worship service on September 9 will kick off our Sunday education opportunities.

Our Mission and Outreach Team has worked hard through the summer. They have activities planned through the end of the year. Our Worship Team will be planning for Advent and Christmas and welcomes anyone that would love to help out! Our Board will be meeting monthly to take care of the business of the church. All of our SpringHouse Ministries have been meeting and we along with the other two churches have members involved in those ministries. If you are interested in how to become more involved with SpringHouse please let me know!

Most of all I want to see you. I want to hear us pray together, sing together, worship together, serve others together and share our life experiences together. First Christian is a wonderful community of faith that continues to offer the love of God every single day to all of God's children. That causes me great joy and I cannot wait for us all to be together again!

Much love and peace, Pastor Laurie

Youth to have State Fair outing, lock-in

On Friday, August 24, from 6 pm to Saturday, August 25, at 8 am, the youth will have an outing to the State Fair and return to SpringHouse for a lock-in. We'll meet at SpringHouse at 6 pm and then adventure over to the Minnesota State Fair! Your admission will be covered. Please bring spending money for the Fair. We'll return to SpringHouse at 10:30, have breakfast the next morning at 7:30 and end the lock-in at 8 am. Please call Jon at 651-253-8494 or springhouseyouth@fccmpls.org if you need to do a last minute RSVP.

Wendy Manuel ordained as Disciples minister

Newly ordained Rev. Wendy Manuel spoke the Words of Institution at the table with Elders Lu Griffin and Mike Hesano at her ordination ceremony on Saturday, August 18. Congratulations to Rev. Wendy!



A Thank You from the Hurlockers



With your generous gift card from Turtle Creek Garden Center, we were able to purchase two 9 ft. red maple (*Acer rubrum* "October Glory") trees for our new home. (The trees may be difficult to see in the photo, but they're emerging from the brown mulch mounds in the front yard). For a preview of their Fall color, see this link: <https://tinyurl.com/ybeb47ry> We love the new trees and we love and miss you, our FCC family!

Blessings,

Max and Mary

Event Reminders

Disciples Public Presence Conference, Sept. 16-17

at the Christian Conference Center in Newton, IA. The conference aims to bring together grass roots activists found in Disciples Public Presence, Disciples justice networks, General Ministries, Regions, and local churches for the sake of showing up together as Disciples in justice work. For more information and details, visit the website

<https://disciples.org/event/disciples-public-presence-conference/>

Women's Retreat for Disciple Women of the Upper Midwest Region, September 28-30

at Lake Koronis in Paynesville, MN. "When Words Fade, Music Speaks" is the theme of this year's Women's Retreat. The keynote speaker will be Mary Lenard of Giving Voice Chorus and chaplain will be Tammy Rottschafer. Contact Anna Bliss (akb@pobox.com, 612.998.5011) for more information. Registration forms available in the sanctuary or on the CCUM Fall Retreat Facebook page.

Gathering Sunday, Sept. 9: Joint Worship and start of Sunday School Year

Children's Sunday School starts at 9:15 in the Garden level Squiggle Space, worship in South Sanctuary at 10:30. Lunch for all follows worship!



September 2018 First Christian Church					Sunday Morning Schedule 9:15 Spiritual Formation Classes 10:30 Worship 11:45 Fellowship Time in Gathering Space	
						1
2 <i>North Sanctuary</i>	3 LABOR DAY	4 8 am Lectionary Bible Study	5 6:30 pm Handbells 7:45 pm FCC Choir	6	7	8 9 am SH Huddle
9 9:30 am Youth Parent Meeting 10:30 SH Joint Worship, 11:30 Joint SH Potluck Lunch 6:30 pm Elders	10 10 am Sanctuary Switch 6:45 SH Building Committee 7 pm Women's Fellowship @ Cackoski's	11 8 am Lectionary Bible Study	12 2 pm Mission & Outreach 5:30 pm FCC Finance Committee 6:30 pm Handbells 7:45 pm FCC Choir	13 7 pm Pastor Laurie PRC 7 pm SH Finance Committee	14	15 <i>11 am Celebration of Life – Pat Carter</i>
16 <i>Garden Sanctuary</i> <i>Disciples Public Presence Conference in Newton, IA</i>	17 6 pm – Building Safety Task Group 	18 8 am Lectionary Bible Study 6pm Worship Team 7 pm FCC Board	19 6:30 Handbells 7:45 FCC Choir	20	21	22
23 <i>Garden Sanctuary</i>	24	25 8 am Lectionary Bible Study	26 6:30 pm Handbells 7:45 pm FCC Choir	27 9 am Ecumenical Women's Fellowship @ ML Norman's	28 Disciples Women's Retreat 	29
30 <i>1 pm Celebration of Life – Phyllis Takekawa</i> In Bloomington						

	Elders (Offering elder listed first)	Worship Leader	Children's Moment	Diaconate	Bus Drivers
Sept 2	Arlene Hillestad Martha Harris	Barb Creighton	Dan Adolphson	A. Hesano K. Hintz S. Lauer E. Tucker B. Whitaker B. Hall	Mike Morgan 612.926-9834
Sept 9	SpringHouse Joint Worship				Garry Hesser 612.721.4905
Sept 16	Val Dunham Wendy Manuel	Karen Kandik	Laurie Feille		Mike Hesano 651-645-6758
Sept 23	Kirsten Cackoski Sandy Morgan	Martha Harris	Deb Murphy		Mike Morgan 612.926-9834
Sept 30	Tom Curry Mike Hesano	Jim Lee	Steve Rusinak		Garry Hesser 612.721.4905

Note: Please call drivers by Saturday for Sunday bus ride



In The Squiggle Space

Sunday School Starts Sunday, Sep. 9!

We will be following the Godly Play Curriculum fully this year. Last year, we transitioned from Spark Rotation curriculum to the Godly Play one, using a hybrid of both. The stories we will be doing in September are:

- Circle of the Church Year-September 9
- The Holy Bible-September 16
- Creation-September 23
- The Ark and the Flood-September 30

Sunday School Schedule

9:15–9:25 Enter the Squiggle space and be greeted. Children will have the opportunity to write down and pin up on the blessing board what they are feeling grateful for.

9:25–9:30 Get ready for the story. Light a candle and say opening prayer.

9:30–9:45 Story Presentation.

9:45–10:05 Respond to the story. Children respond to the story through art, writing, reading, or re-enacting the story.

10:05 to 10:10 Prepare and share the feast (snack).

10:10 to 10:20 Song time and ending prayer with Pastor Rhonda. Say good-bye.

Ways that parents can effectively support their children in the Godly Play program. Below is a partial excerpt from the Complete Guide to Godly Play (Volume 2) by Jerome Berryman.

- Follow the schedule as faithfully as you can.
- Please help your children arrive in plenty of time so they can be relaxed.

- It is best to say good-bye to your children at the doorway. This helps the door person help the child enter the room appropriately.
- It is also best not to hover at the doorway. Once your child enters the room, he or she will be safe. The mentors may be volunteers, but they are well trained.
- When you pick up your children, they may not be able to put into words what the lesson for the day was. They are not asked to memorize a summary or a Bible verse. They are invited to wonder together what the lesson means and how it is important for their lives.
- When you pick up your children, you will want to know what they have learned, but they will not always be able to tell you. They also may not have an art project or a work sheet to show you. The art is expressive art, and they may want to keep this private. Much of the significant communication in the room is nonverbal, and the history of the Christian tradition is full of teachings about how the mystery of God's presence is difficult to express.
- Please don't come into the room during the session so that the room can remain for the children. The mentors have been trained how to help maintain this child-centered focus by such things as talking softly. You are always welcome to come into the room after the class.

Children's Ministry Team. We meet October 7th at noon in the Children's Sunday School area (Squiggle Space).

Questions and Concerns. Please contact either April Conlee (april.conlee@gmail.com) or Nancy Curry (ncurry9107@comcast.net), co-chairs of the Children's Ministry team as listed below. Pastor Rhonda Hlavinka and Deb Murphy are the SpringHouse staff reps

Sundays at First Christian Church

Worship at 10:30 am

Before Worship:

9:15 am Godly Play (Children)

9:30 Adult Spiritual Formation Class

After Worship

11:45 am Fellowship

Time

Narrative Lectionary for Sunday, August 26 Mark 10: 17-22



"Educating the Rich on the Globe" by Tom Oterness

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

Reflections on the Word

Mark 10: 17: As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

Jesus's answer to the Rich Young Man in this familiar story shocks the young man, and continues to shock us. Sell all we have? The young man grieved at this idea. The disciples were perplexed. We must find our own understanding of this story through study, listening, pondering and searching our hearts.

Holy One, Thank you for the challenges you give us through your life and your words. Amen.

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
OF MINNEAPOLIS
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
610 W. 28th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55408**

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

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Next issue deadline is Sunday, September 9