

The COURIER

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis



What's INSIDE:

Voices and Views,
Jon Bates, page 2

FCC Board Notes,
page 3

Women's Retreat,
page 3

UPCOMING Events:

Celebration of the Life
of Pat Carter,
Saturday, Sept. 15,
11 am, South
Sanctuary

FCC Board Meeting,
Tuesday, Sept. 18,
7 pm

Women's Retreat,
September 28-30,
Paynesville, MN

Gathering Sunday launches year's programs

Children's, Youth and Adult SpringHouse programs for the 2018-2019 year were celebrated at the annual Gathering Sunday of the three SpringHouse congregations this past Sunday, September 9.

During the worship service, several of the Detroit Servant Trip participants shared their reflections on what the work trip in Detroit meant to them.



Speakers from FCC (Lu Griffin and Ali Hesano), Salem (Clark Hlavinka) and Lyndale (Kathy Hayden) as well as Pastor Laurie Feille and Youth Minister Jon Bates talked about the meaningful relationships developed, the connections with Detroit homeowners, and the personal growth they experienced while working with Rippling Hope to help fix houses in Detroit neighborhoods.



Ali Hesano speaking about experiences

The **Children's Sunday School** got started on Sunday morning with another year of using the Godly Play curriculum. More volunteer help is always welcome for adults to be "storytellers," "doorkeepers," and "project helpers" with the children on Sunday mornings at 9:15. If you are interested in helping, please contact April Conlee (april.conlee@gmail.com), Pastor Rhonda (revrhonda@discoversalem.org) or Deb Murphy (office@fccmpls.org)

Youth Ministry for students in both middle school and high school will have their first meeting on Sunday, September 16. Youth Minister Jon Bates urges youth subscribe to the Youth Ministry E-Newsletter in order to stay connected with events, updates, and information. Get signed up by talking to Jon at 651-253-8494 or by texting @db2kc8 to 81010 or emailing him at Springhouseyouth@fccmpls.org. (See also page 2 article)

Fall Adult Faith Formation for SpringHouse begins Sunday, September 16. The first 3-week series will focus on examining the disasters that have occurred in Puerto Rico, Detroit, and Flint through the lens of Scripture and some of the Poor People's Campaign tenets. Join with other SH adults in the Gathering Space at 9:30 am.

In Our Prayers. . .**Prayers of Sympathy**

*For Pastor Rhonda Hlavinka
and her family on the death
of her father*

Prayers of Joy

*For Jay Hillstad's mother
Arletta who at 84 was
recently baptized*

Prayers of Concern

*For Pastor Laurie as she and
her family help their father
Gomer recover from his
stroke*

*For Nancy Curry's mother as
she recovers from surgery*

*For Todd Hall having surgery
on his back*

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

Prayers for the world

*For the people affected by
hurricanes, fires, and other
natural disasters*

*For all refugees and
immigrants around the
world searching for a home*

**Voices and Views**

Jon Bates

***In search of SH adults to share in Youth Ministry***

A goal that I've had for the Youth Ministry at SpringHouse since beginning has involved inviting more adults into the mix of the youth ministry. I'm searching for adults that are intentional in knowing these awesome youth and in engaging them in conversation, faith formation, and relationship. I know that having these role models in the youth ministry will help allow these growing youth develop deeper into themselves, strengthen their faiths, yet also expand their connection to the SpringHouse community.

Do you have a sense of a calling, an interest, or nudge of having a more intentional connection to the youth at SpringHouse? Or do you know of another adult that may have this interest of becoming a Youth Group Leader at SpringHouse this upcoming year? I have a document that shares some expectations for needed adults in the midst of the youth ministry at SpringHouse. (You can find this document at <https://tinyurl.com/yaknnhrj>) I also hope the document doesn't come off as daunting, but more or less, appears as a living document that shares expectations that can be held together to allow a safe, affirming, and holy space for the youth at SpringHouse.

Please let me know if you'd like to get coffee or spend time and talk about this more! Or if you have a name that you'd like to share, please let me know!

God speed,

--

Jon Bates
Youth Minister
612-353-6292 #308 (O)
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Pat Carter service Saturday, September 15

A celebration of the life of Rev. Pat Carter will be held at 11 am Saturday, September 15 in the South Sanctuary at SpringHouse Ministry Center. A reception will follow the service; all are welcome to attend.

Fall Retreat to focus on power of music



retreat, to be held September 28-30 in Paynesville, MN.

"When Words Fade, Music Speaks" is the theme of this year's Women's Retreat for the Christian Church in the Upper Midwest. The keynote speaker will be Mary Lenard of Giving Voice Chorus – the choir that Karen and Warren Westphal sing with. Rev. Tammy Rottschaefter will be Chaplain for the

An invitation to the retreat states, "Music connects us in so many ways – to our history, our memories, our loved ones, to each other. Join us as we make a joyful noise – break forth into joyous song, sing praises, and remember."

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. Online registration is also available <https://docgeneralassembly.webconnex.com/2018FallWomensRetreat>

Sanctuary items – and action - needed for families

All three SpringHouse congregations are part of the network of Sanctuary and Sanctuary-supporting congregations who are providing solidarity and support for refugees, immigrants and asylum-seekers caught in the web of the current ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) system. Currently the Sanctuary coalition is seeking the following items: kids' bike helmets, Pack n' Play playpens, school supplies and \$50 Cub or Target gift cards. If you can supply any of these, please let Rebecca Voelkel know (RMMVoelkel@aol.com) and she will get them to those who need them.

Also, the SH Sanctuary Task force is organizing a list of folks who want to be informed when an action is needed. As immigrant communities are being threatened by ICE agents and undocumented individuals are being detained and deported at record levels, we are called to respond. Whether you choose to take action by writing letters, making phone calls, attending vigils or marching in the streets, you are needed. Please contact Mary Vanderford at mandmvanderford@gmail.com with your name and email address to become a part of the SpringHouse Immigrant Welcoming Action Team. You will receive occasional emails about opportunities for action you feel comfortable with.

FCC Board Notes

Ten people attended the August 21 meeting of FCC's General Board. Highlights of the meeting include the following:

- Youth Minister Jon Bates gave an update on the Youth program. October will mark Jon's first full year as the SH Youth Minister. He asked the board members to share their hopes for youth ministry. He also described a new phase he would like to develop for youth ministry, with volunteer adults working with the program. (See page 2 of this newsletter)

- The Carter Circle has changed and expanded to become "Women's Fellowship" at FCC, and it is open to women of all ages. FCC women will be having their annual Women's Retreat in Paynesville on September 28-30.

- Pastor Dan Adolphson is working with SH pastors to develop Adult Education ideas for the year. Dan is also part of a new Alliance Team for the Upper Midwest Region.

- Pastor Laurie Feille gave a workshop at the All-Congregational Gathering in Newton at the end of August. She is helping plan the Disciples Public Presence Conference for September 16, also in Newton, IA. GMP Terri Hold Owens is expected to attend.

Sundays at First Christian Church Worship at 10:30

Before Worship

Children's Classes, 9:15 am
Joint Adult class 9:30 am

After Worship

Fellowship Time 11:45

Narrative Lectionary For Sunday, September 16 Call of Abraham Genesis 12: 1-9



Fresco at Abbaye De Saint-Savin,
France

Reflections on the Word

Genesis 12:1 – Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you."

For all of human history, people have been called or driven from their homes to journey to new lands. Abram and his family risked everything and answered God's call. Who is God calling today to leave their country and kindred? Are we being called to be a part of someone's journey?

God of covenant, you promised Abraham land, descendants, and blessings so that he might be a blessing for all. Show us how to honor the covenant so that we might be a blessing to others. Amen.

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

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

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