

# The Courier

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis



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## **UPCOMING** Events

Daylight Savings Ends,  
Sunday, November 4

Midterm Elections,  
Tuesday, November 6

Youth at FMSC, and  
Bonfire, Friday,  
November 9

## Faithfulness in Stewardship: Sunday, November 4

Faithfulness

2019 FCC  
Stewardship  
Campaign

Stewardship is about joy. When you give your time, talent, and treasure to something you believe in, you feel joy when you see it succeed. What about First Christian Church brings you joy? Is it how we value our children? How we reach out to our neighbors near and far? Is it how we welcome everyone to the table?

Consider how FCC is faithful to the gospel message, and consider also how you can participate in FCC's work through your own stewardship.

Sunday, November 4, we will make our commitments to the work of FCC in 2019.

## Two theater productions coming up at SpringHouse

Two local theater groups, Theater Coup d'Etat and Orchard Theater Collective, will be putting on productions at SpringHouse during October and November.

Theater Coup d'Etat will present Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, directed by James Napoleon Stone, from October 26 through November 17, at 7:30. Admission is sliding scale, \$18-\$40. Tickets are available at [www.theatrecoupdetat.com](http://www.theatrecoupdetat.com) or call 1-800-838-3006.

Director Stone received an IVEY Award for his co-direction of *Hamlet* and "Best Director" in City Pages for *Equus*.

The Orchard Theater Collective will present *The Amish Project*, a one-woman show by Jessica Dickey that explores the events surrounding the Nickel Mines school shooting in an Amish community center in Lancaster, Pennsylvania in 2006. Ellen Fenster will direct *The Amish Project*, and Anna Leverett will perform. The show will run November 2, 3, 9, and 10 in the Garden Sanctuary. Tickets are on a sliding scale starting at \$12.

The Orchard Theater Collective was started in 2013 by actors in the University of Minnesota / Guthrie Theater BFA Actor Training Program. The group has gained nonprofit sponsorship and has performed at the Open Book, the James J. Hill House, Calvary Baptist Church, and the experimental theater in Minneapolis. Tickets are available at <https://orchard-theater-collective.ticketleap.com>





## *In Our Prayers*

### **Prayers of Joy**

*For the engagement of  
Alison Creighton to Stephen  
Sosienski*

### **Prayers of Concern**

*For Karen Westphal and  
Gomer Pound as they  
recover from falls*

*For Mike Hesano's cousin  
Tony who is entering  
hospice*

*For Ellie and Jim Bowman  
as they move into new  
housing*

*For Clark Hlavinka  
recovering from appendix  
removal*

*For Jim and Lynda Lee who  
lost a friend to cancer, and  
Caroline Povolny's friend  
who has been diagnosed  
with cancer*

*For all those who are  
homebound, including  
Kathy Merkel and Evelyn  
Lawson*

### **Prayers for the World**

*For Floridians still suffering  
from effects of Hurricane  
Michael*



A message from  
Disciples LGBTQ+ Alliance



## **Disciples LGTBQ+ Alliance deplures "erasure" of transgender people**

The Sunday New York Times (10/21/18) included an article about a new effort by the Department of Health and Human Services to narrowly define "sex" and other terms for purposes of their legislation and rulemaking. Specifically, the article describes plans to "erase" transgender people by removing hard-won legal protections against discrimination.

The Disciples LGBTQ+ Alliance deplures this effort and related attempts to build discrimination into legal systems. The inherent God-given dignity and full equality of transgender people is fundamental to the organization's beliefs, and is explicitly recognized by the 2013 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

While of course noting the American principle of separation of church and state, we also note that societal efforts like this one are often sponsored and supported by Christian factions whose interpretation of scripture and whose notion of God do not exhibit the unconditional love and acceptance we see in the example of Jesus Christ.

To the transgender members of the Alliance and trans people worldwide, know that we see you and that we will not let you be erased. We sympathize with your fear and confusion at a world that would punish you for being authentic. We love you, and God loves you, exactly as you are.

To our queer Christian members and allies, and people worldwide, we exhort you to work within faith communities and worldly systems to ensure that discrimination does not have a place in our society.

Robin Knauerhase (robin@disciplesallianceeq.org)  
Moderator, [Disciples LGBTQ+ Alliance](#)

## Want to be of help? Here are some ideas:

- **The Sheridan Story** project has started for the 2018-19 school year, so FCC volunteers are needed every other Friday to put food bags in the lockers of kids at Whittier School. Whittier School is just two blocks from SpringHouse. Volunteers meet at 10 am at the school office, and spend about an hour delivering the food bags. A sign-up sheet is in the SH office.
- Pastor Dan Adolphson and Elder Kirsten Cackoski could use a few volunteers to help them at the annual **Q-Quest Conference** on November 13 and 14. Q-Quest, which FCC has helped sponsor for several years, is a two-day event for 400 LGBTQ youth from all over Minnesota to come together for learning, sharing and entertainment. Middle School Day will be November 13, 9 am to 2 pm; High School Day is November 14, 8 am to 4 pm. Contact Dan or Kirsten for more information on how to help.
- Another **Gift Card Fundraiser** will begin soon, according to Becki Whitaker who organizes this project. You purchase a gift card at one of many participating stores and portion of the purchase goes to FCC's mission fund.



## SpringHouse Calendar accessible online



The SpringHouse Room Use Calendar is accessible online. There are a couple of ways to access it. It can be found on the FCC website or you can go to it directly at <https://calendar.churchart.com/calendar/73956030>.

You will not be able to edit, but it will give you information about room use. Whenever you are planning events and meetings, it can be helpful to check the calendar to see if there might be room available or if there's another event that might create scheduling conflicts for people.

Please also keep in mind that the building is very busy. The more lead time you can give Deb Murphy regarding your room needs, the more likely you are to be able to reserve what you need, especially on evenings and weekends. It is also very helpful to let her know if you have a room preference - or at least number of people expected. To prevent scheduling a drumming circle above a meditation group, it is also helpful to give Deb an indication of what the room is needed for, e.g. Personnel Committee, Planning Meeting, Bible study, Thanksgiving Eve service followed by pie, etc...

## FCC Board Notes

Eleven people attended the regular September meeting of the FCC General Board. Highlights of the meeting include the following:

- The SHMC Covenant Revision was discussed. Copies of the current Covenant, the proposed updated Covenant, and guide to the revisions will be emailed to all board members. A tentative date for a Q&A Forum is November 13.
- The Board Chair, Dean Creighton, will be putting together a nominating committee. It will be headed by Kirsten Cackoski.
- The November meeting will be November 27<sup>th</sup>, one week later than usual, at 7 pm in Lydia.
- The December Board meeting will be strictly about the 2019 budget. The annual congregational meeting to elect trustees, elders & deacons, and to approve the budget will be either January 13 or 20, 2019.
- Skip Wolverton gave the report on September financials. General offerings are down. Offering from Sunday, September 30 will appear in the October report, since those monies were deposited on October 1.
- Pastor Laurie reported that we received the Lilly Foundation grant check for her sabbatical.



<b>November 2018</b> <b>First Christian Church</b>				<b>Sunday Morning Schedule</b> 9:15 Spiritual Formation Classes 10:30 Worship 11:45 Fellowship Time in Gathering Space		
				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4 Daylight Savings Ends Garden Sanctuary</b>	<b>5</b> 6:45 SH Building Committee	<b>6 General Elections</b> <i>(Gathering Space &amp; South Sanctuary)</i> 8 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study	<b>7</b> 6:30 Handbells 7:45 FCC Choir	<b>8</b> 6 pm Pastor Laurie PRC 7 pm SH Finance Committee	<b>9</b> 6 pm Youth at FMSC/Eagan 7:45 Youth Bonfire at Whitakers	<b>10</b>
<b>11 Garden Sanctuary</b> 9:15 Inter-generational Sunday School 11:45 am Child Ministries Cookie Baking 12 noon; SHMC Board Meeting	<b>12</b> 7 pm Covenant Q & A in Lydia	<b>13 Q-Quest Middle School Conference</b> 8 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study	<b>14 Q-Quest High School Conference</b> 8 am Downtown Clergy Breakfast 5:30 FCC Finance Committee 6:30 Handbells 7:45 FCC Choir	<b>15</b> 7 pm Pastor Dan PRC	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 8:30 am Sunday Lunch set up/Turkey Roasting
<b>18 Garden Sanctuary</b> 11:30 am Thanksgiving potluck dinner 11:30 am Child Ministries Bake Sale supporting Sanctuary families	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 8 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  10 am Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship Service at Plymouth Congregational	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25 Garden Sanctuary</b>	<b>26 10 am Sanctuary Switch</b>	<b>27</b> 8 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study 6 pm Worship Team 7 pm FCC Board	<b>28</b> 2 pm FCC Mission & Outreach 6:30 Handbells 7:45 FCC Choir	<b>29</b> 9 am Ecumenical Women's Fellowship	<b>30</b>	

	<b>Elders</b> (Offering elder listed first)	<b>Worship Leader</b>	<b>Children's Moment</b>	<b>Diaconate</b>	<b>Bus Drivers</b>
<b>November 4</b>	Lu Griffin Mike Hesano	Alice Keith	Deb Murphy	A. Hesano K. Hintz	Mike Morgan 612.926-9834
<b>November 11</b>	Ann Wolverton Tom Curry	Kirsten Cackoski	Laurie Feille	S. Lauer E. Tucker	Garry Hesser 612.721.4905
<b>November 18</b>	Steve Rusinak Martha Harris	TBN	Dan Adolphson	B. Whitaker B. Hall	Mike Hesano 651-645-6758
<b>November 25</b>	Wendy Manuel Kirsten Cackoski	Kirsten Van Heyningen	Steve Rusinak		Mike Morgan 612.926-9834

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



## In The Squiggle Space

**Godly Play.** It has been a year since we began using the Godly Play curriculum. At this juncture, taking a step back and evaluating how it is going seems to be in order. The Children's Ministry Committee will begin the process of accessing the program. We will then gather information from children and parents in order to improve the program. Start gleaning thoughts from your child(ren) about their experience with Sunday school now.

### November Curriculum.

Stories for November:

November 4th: Prophets

November 11th: Intergenerational Event

November 18th: The Ark and the Tent

November 25th: No Sunday School—Art of the Covenant with Deb Murphy

**Donations Wanted.** Thank you to Myra Rusten, a Salem member, who donated a bookshelf for the Sunday school space. The Godly Play Old Testament story boxes are living on it now. We could use another's shelf, three feet or shorter, for the Parables story boxes to go onto. We are also looking for a bean bag chair or some other child sized comfy chair for a reading area.

### Cookies for Sanctuary Churches— Family Event.

Come bake cookies after church November 11. They will be sold the following week to raise money to buy Cub Food cards for sanctuary churches. Looking for volunteers to bring pre-made cookie dough. Baked goods brought in on November 18 to be sold would also be appreciated.

**Intergenerational Event November 11** Adult Ed and Sunday School will explore gratitude November 11 from 9:15 to 10:15 in the gathering space. Different activities will be offered, including creating a mural.

**Apple Picking.** A contingent from Springhouse went to Deardoff Orchards for apple picking on September 30 and had a lovely time there.

**Questions and Concerns.** Please contact either April Conlee or Rhonda Hlavinka, co-chairs of the Children's Ministry team as listed below.

April Conlee [april.conlee@gmail.com](mailto:april.conlee@gmail.com)

Rhonda Hlavinka [revrhonda@discoversalem.org](mailto:revrhonda@discoversalem.org)

## SpringHouse Notes

### How to Support Sanctuary Families in Minneapolis

As a Sanctuary-Supporting Church, SpringHouse is part of a network of other faith communities in South Minneapolis who are providing sanctuary at this time. We can support families living in sanctuary by donating Cub Food cards. You are invited to buy \$50 Cub food cards and place them in your churches offering plates. This is one small witness to being in solidarity with immigrant families. The cards will be delivered to the South Minneapolis Sanctuary Coalition by Rebecca Voekel and Wendy Manuel.

### Save the Date

The SpringHouse Sanctuary Task Force is hosting a fundraising luncheon on December 2. The proceeds will benefit the families who have sought sanctuary in South Minneapolis churches and synagogues. The menu will include special rice, beans, fajitas and barbequed chicken, catered by Yolanda who provided our meal last fall.

### SH Huddle Hiatus

Regular monthly meetings of the SpringHouse Huddle are taking a hiatus. Anna Bliss will continue to send out weekly emails actions and events of interest to voters and activists. Contact Anna ([akb@pobox.com](mailto:akb@pobox.com)) if you want to be on this email list.

*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, October 28  
Solomon's Wisdom  
I Kings 3: 4-9**



Solomon, by Michelangelo (Sistine Chapel)

**Reflections on the Word**

*I Kings 3:9 - Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?*

When God gives Solomon an opportunity to ask for anything, Solomon's request is one that establishes his piety and rightness for his kingship. This mythic story invites us to consider what we would request if God would ask us what we most want.

*God of our Past and our Present, Help us learn to discern what is good and evil in our lives. Thank you for the never-ending goodness of your grace. 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*

**Ministry Team**

**Dan Adolphson**, Associate Pastor  
[dan.adolphson@fccmpls.org](mailto:dan.adolphson@fccmpls.org)

**Jon Bates**, SHMC Youth Director,  
[springhouseyouth@fccmpls.org](mailto:springhouseyouth@fccmpls.org)

**Rick Bowman**, SHMC Building Manager

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

**Laurie Pound Feille**, Senior Minister  
[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

**Rhianna Peterson**, SHMC Child Care

**Tanner Vanderkrabben**, Bell Choir Director

**Mike Vasich** - Pianist

**Office Telephone:** 612.870.1868

[www.fccminneapolis.org](http://www.fccminneapolis.org)

**E-Mail:** [office@fccminneapolis.org](mailto:office@fccminneapolis.org)

**Next issue deadline is Sunday, November 11**

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