

# The Courier

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis



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## UPCOMING Events

Baptism at 10:20  
Sanctuary Fundraising  
Luncheon at noon  
Sunday, December 2

Advent Brunch,  
Saturday, December 8

Advent Soup Supper and  
Prayer Services,  
Wednesday, Dec., 5, 12,  
19, at 5 and 6 pm

## Sanctuary Luncheon to feature true-life stories



Yolanda Salas Guzman will prepare a delicious Mexican meal for the SpringHouse Sanctuary and Immigrant Welcoming Fundraiser Lunch on Sunday December 2. The luncheon will be at noon, following worship services.

The fundraiser luncheon program will feature testimonies from asylum seekers and stories about the sacred work of sanctuary. A family from Honduras will share their story of escape from terror in Honduras, their pathway through Central America and Mexico, their crossing of the US border, and their arrival in Minneapolis where they seek refuge. The mother's case for asylum is presently in the immigration courts.

The fundraiser luncheon program will feature testimonies from asylum seekers and stories about the sacred work of sanctuary. A family from Honduras will

Proceeds from the luncheon will benefit an asylum-seeking family and the South Minneapolis Sanctuary Coalition.

## Dec. 2 last day to order fundraising gift cards

Fundraising made easy! Order a fundraising gift card by December 2 and 4% of the value goes to SpringHouse missions. How to do this? Pick up an order form at church and fill it out, indicating which store cards you would like and in what amount. Pay for the church for the card, and it will be delivered to you. OR you can visit [ShopWithScrip.com](http://ShopWithScrip.com), enter our code (BF16DF4B443L6), and create an account. There you can see all of the card options available and submit your order. Pay the church, and we will deliver your card(s) to you at church.

Gift cards are great for sanctuary families, classroom supplies, holiday shopping, wedding and baby shower gifts, and your own everyday shopping. Cards ordered by December 2 should be back by December 16. Checks should be made out to First Christian Church. If you have questions, contact Becki Whitaker at [purplepercussionist@gmail.com](mailto:purplepercussionist@gmail.com) or 651-686-6571.

## Dec. 9: Help plan congregation's part of the Lilly Grant

As Pastor Laurie explores her family roots during her sabbatical thanks to the Lilly grant, our congregation will spend time exploring Disciples roots. Members of the congregation are invited to attend a meeting following worship on December 9 to hear and share ideas about this project. The planning committee wants to hear ideas from the congregation about what aspects of our Disciple heritage people would like to delve into. If guest speakers or workshops are desired, invitations would have to be issued soon in order to get on speakers' fall 2019 calendars. Anyone interested in helping develop this project is urged to attend this December 9 meeting.



## *In Our Prayers*

### *Prayers of Sympathy*

*For Pastor Dan Adolphson  
on the death of his Aunt  
Joyce*

### *Prayers of Concern*

*For Ann Antus' friend whose  
14-year-old nephew broke  
his neck in a hockey game  
For Deb Murphy's relative  
hurt in an accident  
For Pastor Laurie Feille's  
cousin Warren having  
surgery complications  
For Lu Griffin's friend  
having cancer treatment  
For Melinda Nickerson's  
concerns over  
neighborhood accident  
For all those who are  
homebound, including  
Phyllis Dunlap and Elaine  
Moe*

### *Prayers for the World*

*For Californians rebuilding  
their lives after devastating  
fires and waiting to hear  
from missing loved ones*



## A message from Pastor Laurie Feille



## Advent Excitement

I am so excited about Advent this year! In keeping with our theme of poetry we are blessed to have a poet join us for Advent and Christmas Eve. Anders Carlson-Wee, who read his poems and other poems at our Good Friday Service this year, will be sharing poems in our worship services. Anders is the son of a Lutheran pastor and he has used his poems in worship services at the church where his mother serves. We were blessed to have him with us on Good Friday and it is a blessing to be able to have Anders with us for Advent. To learn more about Anders, please visit his website:

[www.anderscarlsonwee.com](http://www.anderscarlsonwee.com)

Besides having our worship services filled with poetry we will also gather with the churches of SpringHouse on Wednesday nights for a Holden Service. We have been sharing in these Wednesday night services during Lent and Advent for several years. Each week one of the SpringHouse churches takes on leadership of the service. When we lead Mike plays piano and several of our section leaders lead the singing. It is always a holy time to gather no matter who leads!

Over the years instead of buying flowers to decorate our worship space at Easter and Advent we have been inviting the congregation to spend that money on items (or donate money for items) that are needed in homeless shelters, refugee services, or similar organizations that our Mission and Outreach selects. This year we will do the same. I am excited that we will be collecting items/money for sanctuary families. All three SpringHouse congregations voted to be Sanctuary Supporting congregations. We will offer our gifts this Advent to support the daily needs of the families who are living in sanctuary in churches in the Twin Cities.

Most of all I am excited to share in my sixth Advent with you! My first Sunday as your Senior Pastor was the first Sunday of Advent 2012. It was such a special time for us to begin our journey together and every Advent I again feel that excitement and joy of getting to serve alongside each one of you. I pray that during Advent you will come on Sundays and/or Wednesdays and gather as a community of faith to experience hope, peace, joy and love. May we all be blessed and transformed by the gift of God's love as we journey together to Christmas morning. Much love and peace, Pastor Laurie

## Advent at SpringHouse: Three Churches, One Spirit

**Sunday  
mornings  
at 9:30**



**Advent Study, Gathering Space** – SpringHouse pastors are leading an innovative study of Advent for these turbulent times. Together, SpringHouse adults will ask (and answer) some questions about Advent through our personal experiences.

**Wednesday  
Evenings  
starting  
Dec. 5**



**Soup Supper, 5 pm**  
**Holden Prayer Service, 6 pm** – A quiet, brief meditative liturgy with emphasis on bringing light in the darkness, and featuring meditative music.

**Saturday,  
December 8**



**Advent Brunch, 10 am** – All are invited! Please RSVP the church office with number in your reservation, any food sensitivities, and child care needs.

**Cookie Baking, noon** – Annual tradition of making treats for the Aliveness Project.

**Saturday,  
December  
15**



**Lefse Making, 9 am** – A tradition we've learned from our Salem friends – fun and delicious!  
**Youth Christmas Party, 5:30 pm** – SH Youth will gather to worship, play games, and enjoy dinner together. Bring a White Elephant Gift (\$5 or less) and feel free to bring a friend! Let Jon Bates know if he needs to be aware of any allergies.

**Sunday,  
December  
16**



**Annual Children's Pageant** during SpringHouse Joint Worship in South Sanctuary featuring angels, shepherds, sheep, wise ones, and maybe a few surprises!

**Monday,  
December  
24**



**Hot chocolate, cider, treats and carols at 3:45**  
**Family Friendly Service** at 4 pm with communion  
**Candlelight and Communion Service at 10 pm** featuring poet Anders Carlson-Wee

## FCC Board Notes

Ten people attended the regular October meeting of the FCC General Board. Highlights of the meeting include the following:

- Kirsten Cackoski reviewed the work done by the Covenant Review Committee. Each SH governing board will vote on recommending the Covenant to their congregations for approval. The SH board will meet on Nov. 11 to review the revisions and make recommendations to the churches. FCC's board will work through the revisions at the November 27 meeting.
- The December meeting of the board will be to discuss the 2019 budget.
- The annual congregation meeting will be January 13, 2019, following worship. The SpringHouse annual meeting is January 27.
- Trustee Skip Wolverton reported on finances in Treasurer Pat Dunlop's stead. He stated that "things are in pretty good shape." The board approved the report.
- Pastor Dan Adolphson and Kirsten Cackoski are seeking volunteers to help with the November Q-Quest, which FCC has supported for many years. Pastor Laurie will attend the Church Extension Board meeting in Indianapolis.

# December 2018

## First Christian Church



### Sunday Morning Schedule

9:15 am Children's Sunday School  
 9:30 am Youth & Adult Spiritual Formation Classes  
 10:30 Worship  
 11:45 Fellowship Time in Gathering Space

						<b>1</b>
<b>2 HOPE</b> <b>South Sanctuary</b> 10:20 Baptism of August Harness-Jiminez 12N Fundraising Lunch, Sanctuary Task Force	<b>3</b> 6:45 SH Building Committee	<b>4</b> 8:30 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study 6 pm Community Meal	<b>5</b> 5 pm SH soup Supper 6 pm Holden Advent Service 6:30 Handbells 7:45 FCC Choir	<b>6</b> 4:30 pm Sanctuary Task Force	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 10 am Advent Brunch 12 N Cookie Baking for Aliveness Project
<b>9 PEACE</b> <b>South Sanctuary</b> Noon – Lilly Grant Planning Meeting	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 8:30 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study	<b>12</b> 5:30 FCC Finance Committee 5 pm SH soup Supper 6 pm Holden Advent Service 6:30 Handbells 7:45 FCC Choir	<b>13</b> 7 pm SHMC Finance Committee	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9 am Lefse Making 5:30 – 9:30 Youth Christmas Party 7:30 pm Earth Sounds Choir Concert
<b>16 JOY</b> <b>SOUTH SANCTUARY</b> <b>Joint Service</b> <b>10:30</b> <b>CHILDREN'S PAGEANT</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 8:30 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study 6 pm Community Meal 6 pm Worship Team Mtg 7 pm FCC Board (re budget only)	<b>19</b> 2 pm – FCC Mission & Outreach 5 pm SH soup Supper 6 pm Holden Advent Service 6:30 Handbells 7:45 FCC Choir	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23 LOVE</b> <b>South Sanctuary</b>  <b>30</b> <b>South Sanctuary</b>	<b>24</b> <b>Christmas Eve Worship</b> 3:45 – Carols and Treats 4 pm Family Service 10 pm Candlelight Service	<b>25</b>  <i>Christmas Day</i>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> <b>South Sanctuary</b>	<b>31</b>					

	Elders (Offering elder listed first)	Worship Leader	Children's Moment	Diaconate	Bus Drivers
<b>December 2</b>	Pat Dunlop Val Dunham	Ron Keith	Deb Murphy	A Bliss M. Carlson	Garry Hesser 612.721.4905
<b>December 9</b>	Martha Harris Wendy Manuel	Ardis Armstrong	Deb Murphy	J. Carlson A, Creighton	Mike Hesano 651-645-6758
<b>December 16</b>	JOINT WORSHIP: CHILDREN'S PAGEANT			B. Flanagan S. Grady J en Krengel	Mike Morgan 612.926-9834
<b>December 23</b>	Arlene Hillestad Ann Wolverton	Karen Bowman	Deb Murphy	Jon Krengel	Garry Hesser 612.721.4905
<b>December 24</b>	4 pm: Steve Rusinak 10 pm Tom Curry, Sandy Morgan				
<b>December 30</b>	Mike Hesano Lu Griffin	Mark Carlson	Steve Rusinak		Mike Hesano 651-645-6758

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

## SpringHouse News and Notes

### SpringHouse Library has ideas for you

**New books!** You are invited to widen and deepen your knowledge and understanding of Racial Justice and Gender Equity with these six books new to the SpringHouse Library. These books were purchased with the suggestions of Pastors Dan Adolphson and Rebecca Voelkel and can be found on the book cart.

- **Racial Justice**

*The Cross and the Lynching Tree* by James H. Cone

*Stand Your Ground, Black Bodies and the Justice of God* by Kelly Brown Douglas

*The New Jim Crow; Mass incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* by Michelle Alexander

- **Sexual Orientation/Gender Equity**

*Where the Edge Gathers: building a community of radical inclusion* by Yvette A. Flunder

*Transforming: the Bible & the lives of Transgender Christians* by Austen Hartke

*An Introduction to Queer Theology: Radical Love* by Patrick S. Cheng

- **Lighter reading for this busy season.** Grab a book of fiction or biography or browse the kids and adults Christmas books on the shelves.

It's easy to check out a book by simply writing your name and the name of your selection in the notebook on the cart or on the table in the library. There is a box for your returns in the library.

### ***SH Green Team hears youth calling out to save their future – can you help?***

Elly Wagner of Lyndale UCC was moved by an Op Ed in the October 11 StarTribune written by seven local high school students entitled, "The Future is Terrifying; We Have to Act Now." The article cited a report from the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that says countries need to dramatically decarbonize their economies in order to keep global warming under 1.5 degrees Celsius.

The Green Team is a SpringHouse committee supporting action to deal with global warming and the damage that is happening in our environment. We believe that we are called by the Creator to care for the earth and all of life and to work for climate justice. Now we also have this call from these Twin Cities youth to increase our efforts.

The message from the youth and the IPCC is telling us that we need more people to heed the words of these terrified young people and make a commitment to help shape the future of our planet so that Minnesota youth as well as all of us will have a beautiful sustainable creation. Please think hard about this and then let the Green Team know what you are willing to do. If you can join the Green Team, that would be great, but you can also commit to other actions separate from the Green Team or in support of the Green Team. Call Elly Wagner at 952-922-7703 or email her at [ellyrw@aol.com](mailto:ellyrw@aol.com). She looks forward to hearing from you. As the Hopi elders said, "We are the ones we have been waiting for."

### **SpringHouse Covenant revision almost completed**

The SpringHouse Covenant Revision Committee has submitted its proposed revisions to the SpringHouse Board; church governing boards are now reviewing the proposal. Most of the changes were made to reflect current operations and practices that differ from the original vision of the Covenant in 2011. Members of the revision committee were Paul Wharton and Diann Uzelac, Salem; Michael Vanderford and Sam Orbovich, Lyndale; and Kirsten Cackoski and Martha Harris, FCC.

**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, December 2  
Faith as a Way of Life  
Habakkuk 1: 1-7; 2: 1-4**



Angel of Grief, 1894  
relief sculpture by WW  
Story, Rome

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

**Reflections on the Word**

*Habakkuk 1:2 - Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save?* Habakkuk reminds believers how important it is to keep on believing in a God that will bring deliverance. This unflinching belief in God's ability to make an end to violence is precisely the reason why the book Habakkuk was banned in Nazi Germany – the idea that God will end unjust power considered too dangerous to be tolerated.

*Faithful God, Be present to us in our distress, and show us how to be faithful to you in the midst of suffering. Amen.*

By Juliana Claassens, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa

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

**Ministry Team**

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**Next issue deadline is Sunday, December 16**

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