

The Courier

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis



What's *INSIDE*:

Message from
Pastor Bill Spangler-Dunning
page 2

New Fund from
Christian Church Foundation,
page 3

March calendar,
page 4

Child Ministry News,
page 5

UPCOMING Events

Mardi Gras Sunday,
March 3

Sanctuary Move,
Monday, March 4, 10 am

Ash Wednesday service,
March 6, 7 pm

FCC Elder's Meeting,
Sunday, March 10, noon



Lent: a good time for study and worship

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the forty days of Lent here at SpringHouse and around the world. Each year, FCC's worship staff

chooses an art focus – last year was poetry, and other years have featured fabric and visual art. The art focus at FCC this year will be drama. SpringHouse will continue its tradition of Lenten Holden Prayer services on Wednesdays at 6 pm.

The SH Adult Education focus for Lent will be **Social Justice through the Eyes of Prophets You May Not Know**. Each Sunday in March participants will learn about and discuss how some of the Biblical prophets underpin social justice. Adult Ed meets at 9:30 in the Gathering Space.

Looking ahead, here are the dates for the rest of the Lent/Easter season:

Palm Sunday, April 14
Maundy Thursday, April 18
Good Friday, April 19
Easter, April 21

In case you need a refresher, here is a brief definition of Lent: “Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*, which means “spring.” The forty days represent the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry. (see <http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/what-is-lent-and-why-does-it-last-forty-days> for more information)



Downtown
Congregations
to End
Homelessness

Local church folk to lobby at the Capitol March 13

Downtown Congregations to End Homeless (FCC is an active member of this group) will travel to our state capitol in March 13 to advocate for

legislation addressing a full continuum of housing needs To register for Day on the Hill, go to www.mnhomelesscoalition.org. New this year, Hennepin Avenue Methodist is providing a bus. The bus will leave Hennepin Avenue Church at 8 am and be back by 4 pm. To sign up for the bus please email john.cole@haumc.org. All members of FCC are welcome to join in this important social justice action.



In Our Prayers

Prayers of Joy

For Pastor Laurie Feille's Distinguished Minister Award from Brite Divinity School

Prayers of Sympathy

*For Ali Hesano, whose good friend died recently
Continued prayers for the Morgan, Lawson and Keith families*

Prayers of Concern

*For Grace Madsen who was recently injured in a fall
For Jay and Arlene Hillestad's nephew
For Nancy Curry's friend diagnosed with cancer
For all those who are homebound, including Phyllis Dunlap and Elaine Moe*

Prayers for the World

*For the people of Venezuela
For the leaders of the United Methodist Church*



A message from Pastor Bill Spangler- Dunning



Regional Pastor says goodbye

Saying goodbye can only happen after one has said hello. Yet, saying hello means opening up the possibility that in time, we will have to experience a goodbye and all the pain that goes with the end of something (people) that you have allowed to integrate into the depths of your heart and soul. I do not regret saying hello to the people in my home region of the Upper Midwest nearly two decades ago. However, having journeyed through so much together over these 20 years, it is with sadness that it has come time for me to say goodbye.

I have accepted a call to journey with the Christian Church in Virginia, as their Regional Minister, starting in August of this year. Virginia is just now beginning the journey of creating new structures and rebuilding relationships between churches to help them be Disciples Together. My experience in the Upper Midwest will hopefully help another region find the purpose and strength that the Disciples in the Upper Midwest have come to experience. Virginia is also Amy's home region and this move, at this time of our life, will allow us to be closer to family. There is never a good time to say goodbye, but I am confident in the gifts of this region, both throughout the churches and in the regional staff, and I believe that the next person you call as your regional minister will be overjoyed to have all of you to journey alongside in ministry.

My last adventure with all of you will be to host the General Assembly for the whole church this July. I look forward to showing the rest of the church the gifted and talented Disciples of this region, Disciples whom I have been proud to journey with all these years.

Blessings as always,
BSD

NOTE: Bill Spangler-Dunning has been the Regional Minister for Christian Church (D0C) in the Upper Midwest for many years. His "goodbye" printed here appeared in the most recent Upper Midwest Regional Newsletter.

Upper Midwest Disciples: ATTEND GA!

We want to astound the General Church with an overwhelming presence of Disciples from the Upper Midwest at the **General Assembly** in Des Moines, July 20-24. The Local Arrangements Committee is hosting a friendly competition to see which of the Upper Midwest churches can bring the most members to General Assembly 2019. The competition will be based on the ratio of attendees to members, so small churches and large can compete alike! The winning congregation will get to celebrate with a guest preacher and fellowship dinner hosted by the Christian Conference Center!!

Early bird registration for General Assembly ends March 31; there is a considerable discount for early birds!

<https://ga.disciples.org/registration/>

Some things to keep in mind as you plan to attend:

- Worship is free to attend each evening regardless of registration, but there are many fantastic activities and events that are included with registration.
- Sunday, July 21, 2019 will be Upper Midwest Day at Assembly. We will be hosting a gathering of Disciples from across our Region on this day and hope to connect with each other and celebrate our Region in a very visible presence.
- Volunteers get a discounted rate for Assembly—there are lots of opportunities, big and small. Sign up today and then register with the discount! (See below)
- Don't let lodging costs keep you from coming! We will be working to offer Disciples hosts in the Des Moines area for those who are interested.

Volunteer Opportunities at General Assembly:

Many hands and many gifts will be needed during the event to help it run smoothly. Volunteer sign-ups are already open for the following needs:

- Registration Kiosk Assistant
- Transportation Booth Staff
- Transportation Ambassador
- Communion Servers and Offering Collectors
- General Assembly Choir Members
- Hospitality and Security Patrol
- Over the coming months more opportunities will include Nursery and School-Age Children Assistants, and Information Booth Staff, and Home Hosts. Volunteers get a discounted rate if they register for the event.


The **General Assembly choir** will be under the direction of Dr. Leo Davis. Singers with all musical abilities and voice parts are welcome. Register online at <https://disciplesofchrist.typeform.com/to/xt8stl>. In the coming months, you will receive emails regarding music, rehearsal times, and locations

Bostick Select Fund



A new investment fund has been approved by the Christian Church Foundation: the Bostick Select Fund. Rev. Sarah Lue Bostick (1868-1948) was one of the first African American women ordained in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), serving for over 40 years. She was a devoted worker for the Christian Woman's Board of Missions and the National Christian Missionary Society. Her collection of missions literature was given to the Disciples of Christ Historical society, and opened an unparalleled window into women's and African American studies in the Stone-Campbell movement.

The Bostick Select Fund will be an active, faith-based investor, excluding investments in fossil fuels, weapons manufacturers, and companies targeted for divestment because of their involvement in perpetuating the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The Fund will actively invest in environmentally sustainable companies as well as those responding to an increasing global population. This fund, like Rev. Bostick and her ministry, represents a new approach to living out our faith. For more information about the Bostick Select Fund, contact the Christian Church Foundation.

<h1>March 2019</h1> <h2>First Christian Church</h2>					<h3>Sunday Morning Schedule</h3> <p>9:15 Spiritual Formation Classes 10:30 Worship 11:45 Fellowship Time in Gathering Space</p>	
					1	2 9:30 am Women's Fellowship in Lydia
3 South Sanctuary Mardi Gras Sunday with Dixieland Band Girl Scout Sunday Noon – Child Ministries Team	4 10 am Sanctuary Moving Day	5 8:30 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study	6 ASH WEDNESDAY 7 pm Ash Wednesday Service 7:45 FCC Choir	7	8 Truman State University: Baptist Student Union Mission Group <hr style="border: 1px solid purple; width: 100%;"/>	9 9:30 am – Lyndale Funeral <hr style="border: 1px solid purple; width: 100%;"/>
10 North Sanctuary Noon: Elders Meeting Truman State University: Baptist Student Union Mission Group <hr style="border: 1px solid purple; width: 100%;"/>	11 6:45 SH Building Committee	12 8:30 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study	13 8 am – 4 pm DCEH Day on the Hill 5:30 FCC Finance Committee 5:30 Soup Supper 6 pm Holden Prayer Service 6:30 Handbells 7:45 FCC Choir	14 6:30 Pastor Laurie PRC	15	16 10 am Lenten Brunch TBD: 3 pm SH Youth Worship Planning – OR – 6 pm Youth Overnight
17 North Sanctuary	18 7 pm SHMC Finance Committee	19 8:30 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study 6 pm Worship Team Mtg 7 pm FCC Board	20 2 pm Mission & Outreach 5:30 Soup Supper 6 pm Holden Prayer Service 6:30 Handbells 7:45 FCC Choir	21 4:30 pm – Sanctuary & Immigration TF	22	23
24 North Sanctuary	25	26 8:60 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study	27 5:30 Soup Supper 6 pm Holden Prayer Service 6:30 Handbells 7:45 FCC Choir	28	29	30
31 North Sanctuary						

	Elders (Offering elder listed first)	Worship Leader	Children's Moment	Diaconate	Bus Drivers
March 3	Tom Curry Ann Wolverton	Elizabeth Larson	Laurie Feille	A. Hesano	Mike Hesano 651-645-6758
March 10	Arlene Hillestad Wendy Manuel	Valerie Dunham	Deb Murphy	K. Hintz S. Lauer	Mike Morgan 612.926-9834
March 17	Lu Griffin Mike Hesano	Kirsten Van Heyningen	Deb Murphy	G. Maanum M. Nickerson	Garry Hesser 612.721.4905
March 24	Jay Hillestad Martha Harris	David Cobb	Deb Murphy	E. Tucker B. Whitaker B. Hall	Mike Hesano 651-645-6758
March 31	Pat Dunlop Kirsten Cackoski	Steve Rusinak	Deb Murphy		Mike Morgan 612.926-9834

Note: Please call drivers by Saturday for Sunday bus ride



In The Squiggle Space

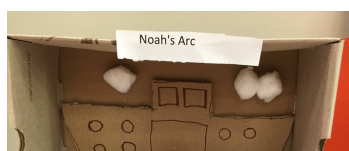


Kathy Hayden telling the story of *The Sower*

Godly Play stories. During February, we experienced the parables of Jesus. The Godly Play curriculum has 6 core parables—The Sower, The Mustard Seed, The Good Samaritan, The Good Shepherd, The Leaven, and The Great Pearl. In addition, we will hear about The Great Well, Zacchaeus, and the 10 lepers until the beginning of Lent—March 10. During Lent, we will explore The Mystery of Easter, The Faces of Easter, and The Anointing at Bethany.

It's Almost Time for Peeps Dioramas!

For our next intergenerational event we will be creating dioramas with Peeps. Start saving shoe box or other similar sized boxes. We will create the dioramas Palm Sunday, April 14. Suggested themes are a favorite parable, Psalm, social justice action, etc. Feel free to create one at home to bring in.



Family Events.

The pastoral staff decided to discontinue the family events after church and offer more intergenerational events during Sunday School/Adult Ed time. The next intergenerational event will be on Palm Sunday, creating Peeps dioramas.

Donations Needed.

Artist: Looking for someone to paint or draw 7 images of Jesus throughout different phases of his life to use for stories during lent.

Woodworkers: We need a wooden cross cut into puzzles pieces. See picture below.

We would welcome donations of different colored felt, low book shelf units, bean bag chairs, manipulative building toys like Legos, K'Nex, Magna tiles.

GP400-Mystery of Easter



Children's Ministry Team. We meet the first Sunday of the month at noon in the Sunday school space. Next meeting will be Sunday, March 3rd.

Questions and Concerns. Please contact April Conlee, chair of the Children's Ministry team at april.conlee@gmail.com.

**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, March 3
Transfiguration
Matthew 16: 24 – 17:8**



Transfiguration, by
Raphael

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

Reflections on the Word

*Matthew 17:5b – “From the cloud
a voice said, ‘This is my Son, the
Beloved; with him I am well
pleased; listen to him!’”*

What is revealed in this revelation of Jesus' glory? This divine appeal to listen to Jesus confirms, and urges attention to, what Jesus has just announced he must do as God's agent. What, then, is revealed to us about what we must do, to confirm Jesus' continued presence in the world?

*Radiant God, Reveal yourself to us
daily, so that we might enlighten
others with the good news of your
love. Amen .*

Adapted from Working Preacher
commentary by Warren Carter,
Brite Divinity School

**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*

Ministry Team

Dan Adolphson, Associate Pastor
dan.adolphson@fccmpls.org
Jon Bates, SHMC Youth Director,
springhouseyouth@fccmpls.org
Rick Bowman, SHMC Building Manager
Adam Conrad, Music Director & Composer-
in-Residence
Laurie Pound Feille, Senior Minister
pastor@fccmpls.org
Martha Harris, Courier Editor,
harrismartha@mac.com
Deb Murphy, Office Manager & Director of
Spiritual Formation of Children and Youth,
deb.murphy@fccmpls.org & SHMC
Building Coordinator,
events_SHMC@fccmpls.org
Rhianna Peterson, SHMC Child Care
Maria Thieling, SHMC Child Care
Tanner Vanderkrabben, Bell Choir Director
Mike Vasich - Pianist
Office Telephone: 612.870.1868
www.fccminneapolis.org
E-Mail: office@fccminneapolis.org
Next issue deadline is Sunday, March 10