

The Courier

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis



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UPCOMING Events

Lenten Soup Supper,
Holden Prayer,
Wednesday, April 3 and
10, 5:30 & 6:00 pm

FCC Elder's Meeting,
Sunday, April 7, noon

FCC Finance Committee,
Wednesday, April 10,
5:30 pm

Mission team has outreach opportunities

FCC's Mission and Outreach team always has opportunities for FCC members to reach out to needs in the community. The team is looking for people to help out in several ways:

- **Groveland Food Shelf donations.** During this Lenten season, cash donations are encouraged, because more food can be made available that way instead of collecting actual food items as we have done in the past.
- **April 13 meal at St. Stephens.** Bonnie Ford is coordinating this project and is inviting people to help prepare and serve a meal on Saturday evening, April 13. She has a sign-up sheet in the sanctuary; also, you can call the church office to sign up
- **Sheridan Story.** On the second and fourth Friday of every month, FCC workers go to Whittier School to distribute five-pound food bags in children's lockers, so that the families can have sufficient food for the family over the weekend. It only takes about 45 minutes to deliver the food, and it's fun to see all the lively goings-on at this neighborhood school. A sign-up sheet for this is also in the sanctuary.

All of these opportunities are excellent ways to practice Lenten generosity!

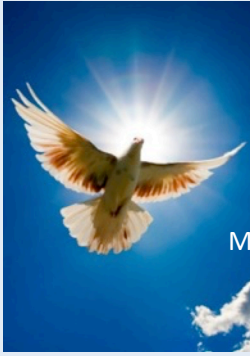
Prayer vigil and Friday communion during Lent

FCC's annual **Prayer Vigil** will begin on Thursday, April 18 at 8 pm (right after the Maundy Thursday service) It will continue until 3 pm on Friday, April 19. The Prayer Vigil is a long tradition at First Christian; you will be part of generations who have done this before you. This year you will again be able to sign up on line on the church's website; you will be notified when the sign up goes live. In the meantime, be thinking about what half hour time slot(s) you wish to use for your private praying. Time slots go quickly! More information to follow soon!

Noontime Friday communion is being offered all during Lent at SpringHouse. Every Friday through April 17, everyone is invited to partake of communion in the South Sanctuary. This practice is being offered to the SpringHouse community by Lyndale UCC.



SpringHouse youth bid farewell to Youth Minister Jon Bates (third from left) on Sunday, March 17. Jon is moving on to a full-time position as Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Roseville, MN. God Speed, Jon!



March 30, 201

In Our Prayers

Prayers of Joy

*Glenn Crown was feted after church on March 24 in honor of his 75th birthday
Former FCC member Diane Bales will be ordained April 28*

Prayers of Sympathy

*For Jen Kregel and her family on the death of Jen's grandfather, Bob Skiles.
For Melinda and Arlen Nickerson who lost their horse Gracie*

Prayers of Concern

*For Grace Madsen still recovering from a recent fall
For all those who are homebound, including Mary Lou Cain and Kathy Merkel*

Prayers for the World

*For the people in Christchurch, New Zealand, where 50 souls were killed in gun violence
For the people in neighboring states who are having severe flooding*



A message from
Pastor Laurie Pound Feille



FCC busy making plans for the year!

Summer is almost here! Yes, I know that it is still March. I know that we are in the middle of Lent and we haven't reached Easter yet. I know all of this but the planning, dreaming and visioning for the church continues year round. Easter is planned and Pentecost is pretty well planned too so we are now focused on summer and all that we have ahead.

Since I am leaving on sabbatical on August 1st, I have felt the pressure of getting everything planned for the fall before I go. That has caused me to be on top of planning for the summer. While that is a good thing it is also overwhelming when you sit down and realize everything that we do as church.

When Mission and Outreach met this past week, we thought that it would be a good idea for everyone to get the dates for Mission at Our Doorstep on your calendars. It is an important week in the life of our church and we need everyone who is able to participate. This year the dates are: June 24-27. We will have different outreach opportunities that include a cook out for the guests of St. Stephens Shelter and packing food at Feed My Starving Children.

We also have the opportunity to serve our neighbors long before summer arrives. During Lent we are collecting money for Groveland Food Shelf instead of spending money on lilies. We have the opportunity on several Fridays a month to pack food in children's backpacks at Whittier School. This allows the children to have food over the weekend. We will be serving a meal for the guests of St. Stephens Shelter on April 13 and will need volunteers to help. On Thursday, May 2, we are signed up to pack food at Feed My Starving Children from 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. at the Coon Rapids location. Join in with the meal at St. Stephens and the Feed My Starving Children packing session to get ready for those activities during Mission At Our Doorstep!

As we look forward to the summer weather and all that the summer days bring our way I hope that you will put the dates for Mission At Our Doorstep on your calendar. We also have members who will be participating in the Servant Trip to South Dakota July 28-August 3. They will need our prayers and our financial support as they go to learn more about our neighbors.

Our church participates in some type of outreach every month. It is a part of who we are as a community of faith and it is who we are called to be as followers of Jesus Christ. I am so grateful for the willing nature of this congregation to serve our neighbors. Thank you for always showing the love of God to the world around us. Much love and peace, Pastor Laurie

Some parking notes for SpringHouse

Did you know...?

- The parking lot between SpringHouse and the Greenleaf apartment building is owned by Greenleaf.
- The only Greenleaf parking spaces that are always "ours" are the seven spaces marked with the small sign that says *SpringHouse*. This includes Sunday mornings. If any of the other spots - besides the ones that are 24-hour reserved - are open, we may use them, but they are not exclusively ours to use.
- If you don't already have one, parking stickers/hang tags are available from the Building Use Coordinator Deb Murphy. They aren't absolutely necessary, but it can be a good idea to have one.
- Since Intermedia Arts no longer exists, neither does our arrangement to use that parking lot on Sunday mornings. Michael Vanderford is pursuing this possibility with the new owners of that building.

As a reminder, we may use the Trustone lot on Sunday mornings. They just ask that we leave the spot closest to the door available for any customers who might stop to use the ATM just inside that door. We have been granted use of the space until 1 pm. After that, unless special arrangements have been made by Deb Murphy, your car may be towed.

Two concerts of interest coming up soon

An Evening of Fun and Helping the Environment, Too

Put Saturday, April 6, on your calendar to hear Tom Neilson, folk singer, activist, and storyteller entertain at SpringHouse. This concert, which starts at 7 in the South Sanctuary, is a fundraiser to stop the Line 3 Pipeline, co-sponsored by MN350 and Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light. Tom Neilson, is a witty, warm, and very funny musician and satirist who will have us laughing and enjoying his music in a performance that will remind us of what is really important and the power of folk music to say it. Suggested donation is \$10-30.

Unbreakable Heroes celebrated by Gay Men's Chorus

The Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus stands with us to build safe space for LGBTQ people. March 29-30 at 8 pm TCGMC presents a concert highlighting the stories of LGBTQ heroes called UNBREAKABLE at Ted Mann auditorium in Minneapolis. Members of our community receive a \$5 discount when ordering tickets with the promo code LGBTQFAITH at tcgmc.org or by calling the U of M box office at 612-624-2345.

Share-the-Care, Saturday, April 6th

Come for doughnuts, fellowship, and sharing the care for our building on Saturday, April 6th, 2019, starting at 8 AM with carpet cleaning. If you're not a morning person, come when you can. In addition to carpet cleaning we need volunteers to help.

- * Kitchen Cleaning (Pat Dunlop, lead)
- * start the creation of four emergency information/equipment stations (Jon Hanke, lead)
- * Sunday school commons (Squiggle Space) cleaning (April Conlee, lead)
- * Gardening (sorry – too early in the season)

For further information call your Building Committee representatives: Mike Cackoski and Belinda Flanagan.

FCC Board Notes

Twelve people attended the March 19 meeting of FCC's General Board. Highlights of the meeting are as follows:

- The board voted to approve spending from Memorial Funds for two new office computers.
- A new SpringHouse Investment Committee has been created. Skip Wolverton volunteered to be FCC's representative to this group.
- The April board meeting was moved to April 23, so that it would not be during Holy Week.
- We will have two worship services on Easter, one at 8 am and the other at 10:30 am.
- Pastor Dan Adolphson testified at the State Capitol recently about a bill to outlaw Conversion therapy. Dan is working with Outfront Minnesota in efforts to pass this bill.
- Money from the Mavis Rusinak Fund can be used for General Assembly expenses. Anyone interested in this should contact Pastor Laurie.
- The Treasurer's report, given by Skip Wolverton, showed that at the end of February, the year-to-date actual income was \$22,076. The anticipated budget income was \$26,083.


April 2019

First Christian Church



Sunday Morning Schedule

9:15 Spiritual Formation Classes
 10:30 Worship
 11:45 Fellowship Time in Gathering Space

	1	2 8:15 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study	3 5:30 Soup Supper 6 pm Holden Prayer Service 6:30 Handbells 7:45 FCC Choir	4 6:45 SHMC Building Committee	5 10 am SHMC Library Mtg Noon – Lenten Communion in South Sanctuary	6 Share-the-Care starts at 8 am
7 North Sanctuary Noon – Child Ministries Team Noon Elders Meeting	8	9 8:15 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study	10 5:30 Soup Supper 6 pm Holden Prayer Service 6:30 Handbells 7:45 FCC Choir	11 6:30 Pastor Laurie PRC	12 Noon – Lenten Communion in South Sanctuary	13 Meal Prep for Serving St. Stephen's Mens Shelter
14 North Sanctuary Palm Sunday 9:15 Intergen'l Sunday School: Peeps Dioramas Noon- Renewal Planning Team Mtg	15	16 8:15 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study	17 2 pm Mission & Outreach Committee 5:30 Finance Committee 6:30 Handbells 7:45 FCC Choir	18 Maunder Thursday 7 pm Prayer Stations 8 pm Prayer Vigil Begins	19 Good Friday 3 pm Prayer Vigil ends 7 pm Good Friday Service	20 10 am Easter Breakfast Prep 1:30 pm Meal Prep for St. Stephens serving
21 North Sanctuary  EASTER 9 am Start Serving Easter Breakfast Easter Worship at 8:00 and 10:30	22	23 8:15 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study 6 pm Worship Team Mtg 7 pm FCC Board	24 6:30 Handbells 7:45 FCC Choir	25 9 am Handcrafters	26	27
28 North Sanctuary Noon – South Dakota Servant Trip	29 7 pm Book Group at Pat Dunlop's	30 8:15 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study 4:30 Sanctuary Team Meeting				

	Elders (Offering elder listed first)	Worship Leader	Children's Moment	Diaconate	Bus Drivers
April 7	Wendy Manuel Steve Rusinak	Jim Lee	Deb Murphy	A. Bliss A. Creighton	Garry Hesser 612.721.4905
April 14	Ann Wolverton Tom Curry	Alison Creighton	Deb Murphy	B. Flanagan M. Carlson	Mike Hesano 651-645-6758
April 21	8:00: Wendy Manuel Jay Hillestad 10 30: Lu Griffin, Mike Hesano	TBD Serena Chial	Deb Murphy	J. Carlson Jen Krengel Jon Krengel S. Grady	Mike Morgan 612.926-9834
April 28	Arlene Hillestad Pat Dunlop	Karen Kandik	Steve Rusinak		Garry Hesser 612.721.4905

Note: Please call drivers by Saturday for Sunday bus ride



In The Squiggle Space

Godly Play stories. During Lent, we will explore The Faces of Easter. Each week, a different story will focus on the different phases of Jesus's life and ministry. In March the children heard about the boy Jesus in the Temple with the scholars, Jesus in the desert for 40 days, and healing the blind person. For April, the stories will be about the Last Supper, and the One who Was and Still Is—sounds mysterious, yes? Also during Lent, there will be hopscotch as a choice during work/reflection time that will grow bigger each week—by Easter will be a recognizable shape. What could it be?

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 14th. Suggested themes are a favorite parable, Psalm, social justice action, etc. Feel free to create one at home to bring in.



Donations Needed.

We received bookshelves from Kayla Collins—a member of Lyndale who just recently passed away. We would love donations of different colored felt, bean bag chairs, manipulative building toys like Legos, K'Nex, Magna tiles.

Children's Ministry Team. We meet the first Sunday of the month at noon in the Sunday school space. Next meeting will be Sunday, April 7th.

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

Having Fun Loving the Earth

Every day should be Earth Day, but mark your calendar for the SpringHouse Intergenerational Earth Day Celebration on Sunday, April 28 at 9:15 am in the Gathering Space. Activities to inspire all ages will include making an earth wish tree, signing postcards to senators on the Green New Deal, planting vegetables to share, filming mini-videos on why you work for climate justice, checking on the size of your carbon foot print by filling out an eco-questionnaire, creating snack art, and more. Sponsored by the Green Team, this event will be a special opportunity to have fun while thinking about and acting to care for God's creation. See you there.

News Notes

Handcrafters going strong!

Mary Lou Norman and Irene Hackett are keeping the Handcrafters tradition alive, and welcome anyone to join them once a month at SpringHouse to knit, sew, or do any other craft you enjoy. Weather permitting, they meet 9 am every 4th Thursday at SpringHouse.

Save the date!

FCC will host a wedding shower this summer for Alison Creighton. Save the date of July 14, and watch for further details!

Bungalow stay for GA

Wendy Manuel has reserved a bungalow in Des Moines, IA, for the July General Assembly. She is offering to share this space with others attending GA, and notes that the cost would be considerably less than a hotel! Contact Wendy if you are interested.

Warm coats needed

Even though spring is almost here, winter coats for children are still needed for new refugee arrivals, who often find MN spring dauntingly cold. Boys' and girls' coats of all sizes are needed. Contact [MN Council of Churches here](#).

*Sundays at First Christian Church
Worship at 10:30*

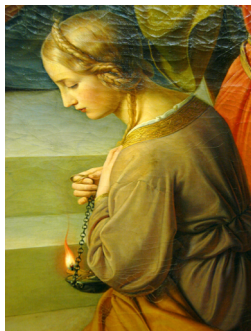
Before Worship

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

After Worship

Fellowship Time 11:45

**Narrative Lectionary for
Sunday, March 31
Parable of the Bridesmaids
Matthew 25: 1-13**



by Friedrich Wilhelm
von Schadow, 1789-
1862, Frankfurt,
Germany

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

Reflections on the Word

*Matthew 25: 3: When the foolish
took their lamps, they took no oil
with them.*

Commentator Elizabeth Johnson suggests that five bridesmaids were foolish because they were distracted by their secondary task of having oil in their lamps. Their real job was to welcome the bridegroom and accompany the bridal party with joy. How easy it is to be distracted by the world and miss the presence of Jesus in our midst.

*God of Presence, Help us be aware
of your presence all around us in
the world and in the people we see.
Amen.*

Elizabeth Johnson, Luther Institute
of Theology, Meiganga, Cameroon

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

Ministry Team

Dan Adolphson, Associate Pastor
dan.adolphson@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
Mike Vasich - Pianist

Office Telephone: 612.870.1868
www.fccminneapolis.org

E-Mail: office@fccminneapolis.org

Next issue deadline is Sunday, April 7

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