

The Courier

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis



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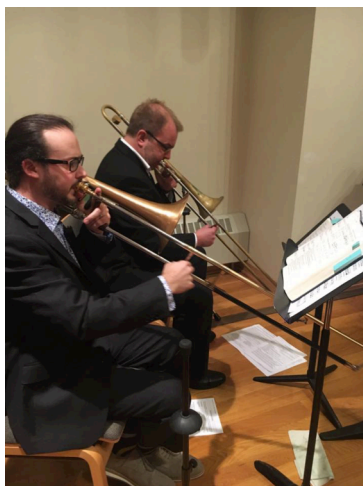
UPCOMING Events

FCC Book Club, Monday,
April 29, 7 pm at Pat
Dunlop's

Feed My Starving
Children,
Thursday, May 2, 7 pm
at Coon Rapids site

FCC Elder's Meeting,
Sunday, May 5, noon

Easter 2019



Clockwise: SH Easter breakfast, Handbells, 10:30 congregation with fresh flower cross, brass duo of M=Beb Bussey and Matt Hanzelka

Invitation to "Taking Heart" Open Houses for Ramadan

Ramadan is the month of the Islamic lunar calendar during which Muslims abstain from food and drink from sunrise to sunset; **in 2019 it falls between the dates of May 5 – June 4.** Fasting during Ramadan is one of the "five pillars" of Islam, and is performed to learn compassion, self-restraint, and generosity.

Taking Heart Open Houses is a long-running program coordinated by the **Minnesota Council of Churches (MCC)** and the **Muslim American Society of Minnesota (MAS-MN)** to bring Christians and members of other faith communities together with Muslims for food and conversation during Ramadan. Minnesota mosques and Islamic community centers welcome their non-Muslim neighbors for a traditional Iftar, inviting a time of encounter and learning. In 2018 Taking Heart saw more than 1,100 non-Muslims attend Open House Iftar dinners.

Registration is now open so you can sign up for one or more events at: <http://bit.ly/TakingHeartRegister>. Bring a friend and learn more about your Muslim neighbors! These events are free and open to the public. If you have any questions, please contact **the Rev. Cynthia Bronson Sweigert** at revcbs11@gmail.com



In Our Prayers

Prayers of Joy

For all the music makers and music creators who crafted such meaningful music for Lent and Easter at FCC

Prayers of Sympathy For:

Brenda Neudeck on the loss of her father

Grant Schellberg on the death of his 107 yo aunt

Wendy Manuel on the death of her brother-in-law Mike

Arlan Nickerson on the death of his godfather

Prayers of Concern

For all those who are homebound, including Phyllis Dunlap and Elaine Moe

For Landen, the boy who was thrown 30 ft at MOA

Prayers for the World

For the people in Sri Lanka who lost friends and loved ones in the Easter bombing

For the people in Oklahoma City, Columbine, Colorado, and other places where people are still grieving lost lives



A message from Pastor Laurie Pound Feille



Christ is Risen!

Christ Is Risen Indeed! These words filled both of our Easter Services this past Sunday. Music, joy, laughter, singing, trombones, bells, the Cross filled with flowers and much more filled Easter morning. We also enjoyed a wonderful breakfast provided by our youth as a fundraiser to help cover the cost for their camps and retreats. It was a great Easter at FCC and SpringHouse!

It takes a lot of people to have an Easter service and to have all of our services beginning on Ash Wednesday all the way through Holy Week. If you attended Maundy Thursday service, Good Friday service and Easter service you are aware that our worship space looked totally different for all three services. While Pastor Dan and I helped along the way, "Thank You" goes to Ann Wolverton, Worship Chair, the Worship Committee and those who answered Ann's request for volunteers. There was a lot of moving around of chairs, tables and anything and everything in our worship space. It is hard work transforming the Worship Space three times in a little over three days. Ann does a beautiful job of leading and she deserves a big "Thank You!"

We also had people prepare soup during Lent for two of the SpringHouse Holden Services. Thank you to Pat Dunlop for leading that effort. The soups were delicious and there was always enough for everyone. Thank you to everyone who provided soup! We also need to say thank you to Mike Vasich and our section leaders for leading the music for those two Holden Services. We are blessed with good music at FCC!

Our services during Lent were enhanced by the gifts of Adam Conrad and Deb Murphy. Adam composed a new piece of music for each of the six weeks of Lent. Deb created a dramatic reading of the Scripture for each of the six weeks of Lent as well as Easter Sunday. Together they created an experience for us that came out of the work that Deb did for her thesis. On Good Friday the choir sang all of Adam's songs and they were placed in the context of the Passion Narrative. To have original music created for our choir was a gift! Thank you to Adam and Deb for going above and beyond your job descriptions to create a holy space for us to experience Lent and Good Friday. Easter morning was brighter due to your hard work!

Most of all I am grateful for the members and friends of this congregation who joined in the holiness of Holy Week and the joy of Easter Sunday. Thank you for being willing to journey through Lent and to celebrate on Easter Sunday! It is a joy to serve as your pastor and to journey through life with you. Christ Is Risen! Christ Is Risen Indeed! Much love and peace,

Pastor Laurie

Changes to processing check requests at SH

Changes to the SpringHouse Ministry Center Covenant adopted by all three congregations earlier this year brought some changes to how we process check requests, coffee hour cash receipts, etc... The Covenant defines the membership of the Finance Committee (two representatives from each congregation), requires a Treasurer elected by the SHMC Board (currently Diann Uzelac/Salem) and creates a new staff position called Financial Secretary (Laurie Zaepfel).

Check request forms can be found in the SHMC Treasurer's mailbox (*center column at the very bottom...in a manila folder*). Please complete a form and attach the documentation (invoice/receipt) for payment to a vendor or for something you need to be reimbursed for from SHMC funds. Please submit your request as soon as possible so that we can process payment to you promptly. Put the completed request in Laurie Zaepfel's mailbox (*right hand column, 3rd down from the top*). Laurie processes requests for payments, prints checks, records data for our financial reports, routes checks to the designated check signers and distributes/mails out payments.

Deposits to our account at Trustone generally happen once a week and includes receipts from groups/individuals renting space in the building, checks from each congregation for shared SHMC Operating Expenses and miscellaneous cash receipts like those from the coffee hour donation basket. Envelopes can be found in the serving kitchen (drawer below the microwave) for coffee hour money. Once sealed, the envelope should be placed in Laurie Zaepfel's mailbox.

If you have any specific questions, please feel free to email either one of us. uzelac1026@netzero.net (Diann) or office@discoversalem.org (Laurie).

Driver's licenses for all advocated

The SpringHouse Sanctuary-Supporting Team is urging SH members to contact their Minnesota legislators regarding the Driver's License for All bill that is moving through the legislature. The prohibition on licenses—imposed by then-Governor Pawlenty in 2003—means that everyday tasks like giving a neighbor a ride to church or picking up children from after-school activities or driving to the doctor's office can result in potentially life-altering consequences. For these residents, something as minor as being pulled over for a burned-out headlight can trigger a series of events that results in separation from their families and the loss of their homes and livelihoods. Twelve other states have already taken action to end the prohibition on undocumented immigrants obtaining licenses.

Read the full letter from the Sanctuary Team on the FCC website for more information: <http://www.fccminneapolis.org/a-call-to-action-from-our-sanctuary-welcoming-committee/>

Gift Card Fundraiser

It's time for another round of gift card orders. If you haven't done this yet, it's easy! You order gift cards through the church, and the SpringHouse mission fund gets money!

Cards are available for a number of retailers. The easiest way to place an order is to visit ShopWithScrip.com, enter our code (BF16DF4B443L6) and create an account. There you can see the card options available and submit your order. Pay the church and we will deliver your card(s) to you at church. If you'd rather avoid the computer, talk to Becki Whitaker about how to place an order.

Gift cards are great for Teacher Appreciation, Mother's and Father's Day gifts, graduates, wedding gifts, baby showers, thanking the kid who picks up your mail, your own personal shopping and more!

The next round of ordering is due by May 5, with delivery by May 19.

If you have questions, contact Becki Whitaker at purplepercussionist@gmail.com or 651-686-6751. Thanks for helping support SpringHouse missions!

May 2019
First Christian Church



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

			1 6:30 Handbells 7:45 FCC Choir	2 6 pm Feed My Starving Children Coon Rapids	3	4 <i>[Salem Funeral in afternoon – Sandy Block]</i>
5 <i>North Sanctuary</i> Noon – Child Ministries Team Noon Elders Meeting	6 6:45 SH Building Committee	7 8:15 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study	8 6:30 Handbells 7:45 FCC Choir	9 6:30 Pastor Laurie PRC	10	11
12 <i>North Sanctuary</i> MOTHER'S DAY	13	14 8:15 am Lectionary Bible Study	15 2 pm Mission & Outreach Committee 5:30 FCC Finance Comm, 6:30 Handbells	16 7 pm Pastor Dan PRC	17	18 10 am Set-up Sunday Lunch
19 <i>North Sanctuary</i> 10:30 am SH Joint Worship 11:30 am Servant Trip Fundraiser Meal	20 7 pm SHMC Finance Committee	21 8:15 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study 6 pm Worship Team Mtg 7 pm FCC Board	22 6:30 Handbells 7:45 FCC Choir	23 9 am Handcrafters 7 pm Book Group at Cackoski's	24	25 6 pm SH Youth Lock-in until Sunday 9 am
26 <i>North Sanctuary</i>	27 Memorial Day	28 8:15 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study 4:30 Sanctuary Team Meeting	29 6:30 Handbells 7:45 FCC Choir	30	31	

	Elders (Offering elder listed first)	Worship Leader	Children's Moment	Diaconate	Bus Drivers
May 5	Steve Rusinak Kirsten Cackoski	Martha Harris	Dan Adolphson	A. Hesano K. Hintz	Mike Hesano 651-645-6758
May 12	Jay Hillestad Arlene Hillestad	Karen Kandik	Laurie Feille	S. Lauer G. Maanum	Mike Morgan 612.926-9834
May 19	Joint Worship celebrating Children's Sunday School			M. Nickerson E Tucker B, Whitaker	Garry Hesser 612.721.4905
May 26	Martha Harris Tom Curry	Ann Wolverton	Steve Rusinak	B. Hall	Mike Hesano 651-645-6758

Note: Please call drivers by Saturday for Sunday bus ride



In The
Squiggle Space

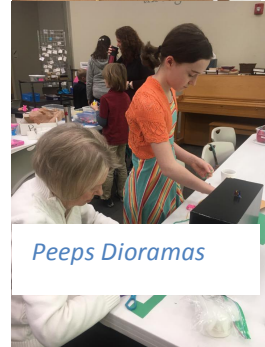
Godly Play stories for May. The Synagogue and the Upper Room on May 5th. For May 21st, the story will be The Mystery of Pentecost.

End of Sunday School Celebration. There will be a joint worship service to celebrate the end of the Sunday school year on May 19, planned by the Youth Group. The children have been practicing a few songs and will have roles in the service.

Earth Day. Join SpringHouse children for **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

Children's Ministry Team. We are done meeting for the year. Co-chairs for next year will be Maria Thieling from Salem and Nancy Curry from First Christian

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



Climate change novel added to SH library

Are you interested in climate change and worried about the future of the earth? I am, so when a friend suggested I read the novel Flight Behavior by Barbara Kingsolver, one of my favorite authors, I picked it up.

Almost immediately I was involved in restless Dellarobia Turnbow's experiences. Running away from her humdrum life, she trudges up the mountain in her backyard toward a rendezvous with a boyfriend. Nearing the top, she is stunned when the mountain explodes in pulsating, brilliant light, an intense fiery glow like a "lake of fire."

For the first time in history, millions of monarch butterflies have come to overwinter on this mountain in Appalachia. Their usual overwintering place in Mexico is experiencing catastrophic flooding and mudslides. A scientist comes to study this unusual phenomenon; journalists come to write about it; tourists come to see it; do-gooders come to save the butterflies. The miracle draws explanations from Dellarobia's family, her church, and the community. Its impacts are physical, intellectual, psychological, spiritual, and social.

I recommend you read Flight Behavior by Barbara Kingsolver. You will not only learn about climate change, but as you identify with Dellarobia Turnbow, her family and community, you will experience its broad impacts. It is in the SpringHouse library.

Barb Livdahl, one of the SH librarians, submitted this book review.

Congratulations!

...to Deb Murphy for passing her oral defense for her Thesis! To celebrate this long coming accomplishment we invite you to offer gifts to a Congratulations Offering. Deb will be moving to a new apartment in the near future and any donations made in celebration of her completing her Thesis will help with moving expenses. Checks can be made out to FCC with "Congratulations Offering" in the memo. You can also donate through Givelify.

We are so proud of you Deb!!

*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, April 28
The Great Commission
Matthew 28: 16-20**



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

Reflections on the Word

*Matthew 28:19 – Go therefore and
make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the
Father and of the Son and of the
holy Spirit.*

The Great Commission is often interpreted as a mandate for travelling to distant lands to proclaim the gospel. Yet in the global village in which we now live it is not necessary to travel far in order to find many nations and peoples. Now, more than ever, Jesus' vision of a faithful community of all nations needs to be lifted up.

*God of Action, Make us
instruments of proclamation so that
all might know of the love you have
for humanity. Amen.*

Elizabeth Johnson, Luther Institute
of Theology, Meiganga, Cameroon
(adapted)

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

Ministry Team

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Next issue deadline is Sunday, May 5

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