

The Courier

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis



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UPCOMING Events

Elders' Meeting, noon,
Sunday, July 7

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

Bridal Shower for
Alison Creighton,
Sunday, July 14,
following worship

Search begins for new Regional Minister

After 20 years of Dunning is stepping Regional Minister Midwest. An appointed, and a with our own **Justin** committee team.



service, Bill Spangler-down from his post as for Disciples in the Upper interim minister has been search committee formed, **Carlson** as one of the search

Spangler-Dunning congregational Sunday, July 21, at Conference Center in celebration, taking General Assembly, will be from 4 to 6 pm, with a formal program at 4:30 pm.

will be honored at an all-gathering and reception on the Forte Banquet and Des Moines, Iowa. This place on the second day of

Rev. John Richardson has been called to serve as the interim minister for the Christian Church in the Upper Midwest. He has served churches in Texas and Georgia and served as regional minister in North Carolina and, most recently, as Interim Regional Minister in Ohio. Rev. Spangler-Dunning noted that "John mentored me in regional ministry and has much to offer the Upper Midwest." Rev. Richardson's term begins August 1.

Justin Carlson is one of seven members of the Regional Minister Search Committee, which will be chaired by Rev. Suzie Moore of Stanhope, Iowa. The other members of the committee are the following:

- Mariah Himes, Downtown Disciples, Des Moines
- Rev. Peter Mitchell, Marion Christian Church
- Michael Msuya, Lacona Christian Church
- Rev. Katie Russell-Hainline, Runnells Christian Church
- Pastor Larry Sotam, First Pacific Islanders Christian Church of North Dakota, Bismarck

The search committee will have an initial training and orientation, and then begin the process of listening throughout the region to gather a sense as to what kind of leadership the region needs in the years to come.

The Disciples Newsletter Express states, "All Disciples, throughout our entire region, are encouraged to join in this search process. The more voices that are included in the identification of our needs and hopes, the more successful the work of the search committee will be."

Information courtesy of The Disciples Together Express newsletter of the Upper Midwest Disciples

June 28, 2019



In Our Prayers

Prayers of Joy

*For Gomer Pound's safe arrival in Minneapolis and for his new place to live
For all the people who pitched in to help others during Mission At Our Doorstep
For the success of the Standing Rock Camp and the South Minneapolis Day Camp*

Prayers of Concern

For all those who are homebound, including Mary Lou Cain and Donald Ulm.

Prayers for the World

*For the migrant children who are suffering from neglect and deprivation as they are detained by the US government
For world leaders that they may work to find peaceful solutions to conflicts*



A message from Pastor Laurie Pound Feille



General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) 2019 in Des Moines is less than one month away! We will gather as a denomination July 20-24. I am thrilled at the number of members of the congregation that we have attending this year. There is nothing better than gathering with thousands of Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) members, clergy and friends. The worship services are filled with the holiness of so many people gathered. The music is great and the sermons are inspiring. There are workshops held during the day that are filled with a variety of learning opportunities. There are business sessions where we discuss issues in prayerful, respectful ways with all of our different understandings of what it means to be a follower of Jesus. There are opportunities to get ideas and meet new people in the display area. In other words there is never a reason to be bored at a General Assembly!

There are also meals to be eaten. Some meals will be with friends (old and new) at local restaurants in Des Moines and others will be eaten in hotel and convention center ballrooms. While I love the meal times this year I am very excited about one meal in particular. As we have previously announced First Christian Church, Minneapolis is receiving an award at the Christian Church Foundation Dinner on Tuesday, July 23, 2019. Members of our congregation who are attending General Assembly will gather at this dinner where we will receive the James P. Johnson Stewardship Award.

Yes, FCC is getting a stewardship award! We are not the biggest donors in the denomination by any stretch of the imagination, but we are faithful in our stewardship. Our congregation continued to be good stewards during lean years and lived out good stewardship in the decision to sell the church building and eventually move to SpringHouse. Since the move we have continued to give of our resources in a variety of ways and still be mindful of our fiscal responsibilities as a church.

The Christian Church Foundation recognizes that stewardship takes many forms and is excited to honor the way we do stewardship. The James P. Johnson Stewardship Award, named in honor of the Foundation's president emeritus, recognizes a congregation that has demonstrated leadership, creativity and integrity in answering God's call to faithful stewardship, including the faith discipline involved in the stewardship of accumulated resources. I am honored to serve a congregation that lives this out so well. Your prayerful stewardship has changed lives in untold ways.

If you have been on the edge about registering for General Assembly I encourage to register and come! If you are able please sign up for the Christian Church Foundation Dinner on Tuesday, July 23rd and join in the celebration! Much love and peace, Pastor Laurie

July 2019

First Christian Church



Sunday Morning Schedule
 9:39 am Spiritual Formation Classes
 10:30 am Worship
 11:45 Fellowship Time in Gathering Space

	1 6:45 SH Building Committee	2 8:15 am Lectionary Bible Study	3	4 Independence Day Church & Offices Closed	5 Church & Offices Closed	6
7 Garden Sanctuary Noon: Elders Mtg; SpringHouse Servant Trip	8	9 8:15 am Lectionary Bible Study	10 5:30 FCC Finance Comm.	11 6:30 Pastor Laurie PRC	12	13
14 Garden Sanctuary Noon: Bridal Shower for Creighton-Sosienki	15 7 pm SHMC Finance Meeting	16 8:15 am Lectionary Bible Study 2:30 Groveland Food Shelf Board Mtg 6 pm Worship Team Mtg 7 pm FCC Board	17 2 pm Mission & Outreach Committee 7 pm FCC Book Club, place TBA	18	19	20 DOC General Assembly in Des Moines
21 DOC General Assembly in Des Moines Garden Sanctuary	22 DOC General Assembly in Des Moines	23 DOC General Assembly in Des Moines 8:15 am Lectionary Bible Study 6 pm LHENA Rain location	24 DOC General Assembly in Des Moines	25 9 m Handcrafters	26	27 <i>Liberty Christian Church (DOC) one-night overnight</i> <i>Deb @ ADAM Camp</i>
28 Garden Sanctuary 9 am Send-off for Pastor Laurie ADAM Camp	29	30 8:15 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study	31			

	Elders (Offering elder listed first)	Worship Leader	Children's Moment	Diaconate	Bus Drivers
July 7	Kirsten Cackoski Ann Wolverton	Mark Carlson	Dan Adolphson	A. Hesano K. Hintz	Mike Hesano 651-645-6758
July 14	Jay Hillestad Pat Dunlop	Karen Bowman	Laurie Feille	S. Lauer G. Maanum	Mike Morgan 612.926-9834
July 21	Steve Rusinak Martha Harris	Barb Creighton	TBD	M. Nickerson E. Tucker	Garry Hesser 612.721.4905
July 29	Ann Wolverton Tom Curry	Pat Dunlop	Steve Rusinak	B. Whitaker B. Hall	Mike Hesano 651-645-6758

Note: Please call drivers by Saturday for Sunday bus ride

Note: The full calendar for FCC and SpringHouse is available online at <https://calendar.churchart.com/calendar/73956030>

Come and garden at SH this Saturday!

by Belinda Flanagan

The Gardens at SpringHouse are in need of more weeding, mulching, watering, pruning and of course new ideas are always welcome! The next day for the communal gardening experience is Saturday morning, June 29, 10 am to noon. If you like to garden, please come join the SpringHouse Gardeners for a couple of hours of dirt and flowers. There will be treats!

Celebrating Earth Continued

By Elly Wagner

Thanks to everyone who participated in the SpringHouse Earth Day Celebration. It showed how much the people of SpringHouse care about climate justice. One of the indications of that caring was shown by the many wishes people hung on the Wish for The Earth Tree, written on the beautiful paper leaves made by Eila Savela. Here they are:

- May you remain ever beautiful in your greens and blues and scarlets
- God help us to open our eyes to caring for our earth Healthy wetland habitats
- I wish for clean lakes and rivers
- May we all awaken to our love for you
- An end to mining and oil drilling, etc. I wish for a beautiful sustainable world for my grandchildren
- Awareness of climate change, more trees, pollinator support, water justice
- I wish that we save the Minnesota moose
- I wish people would plant more trees
- That hope, love and equality persevere
- I wish the Kyoto Accord can be accomplished
- No more wars that destroy the earth and all her beautiful diverse inhabitants, plants, people, animals, gifted amazing Lord in your mercy hear our prayer
- Everyone learns to enjoy the earth and take care of it
- That we listen to the wisdom of indigenous leaders/elders
- That we always keep our most important work the ocean
- I love the earth
- I wish the wild life will be safe
- For all animals to have their habitat
- Clean your boats—protect against invasive species
- I wish plastic would be banned worldwide

Local theater having show at SH

Theater Coup D'Etat is producing another show to be performed at SpringHouse in July. *The Pillowman* by Martin McDonagh will run Mondays, Fridays, and Saturdays through July 20. More details can be found on the theater's website.

Week of Compassion Update

Vy Nguyen, Executive Director of Week of Compassion, posted this letter recently with some WOC news:

“As you know, Week of Compassion is more than a week. As the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Week of Compassion works with partners to alleviate suffering throughout the world. Any time we respond to disaster, welcome a refugee, or empower a community to provide for its needs, we fulfill our mission -- which is a mission of the wider church. ...

“In our weekly updates, we share stories of our presence and impact around the world: from disaster response, to refugee and immigration ministry, to ongoing sustainable development projects in impoverished areas. ...

“As we look ahead to a new season of serving and connecting, we also [launch a new website](#) this week. Its primary purpose is to share stories of our presence around the world, and engage congregations in the work that we do together. The new layout allows for better navigation, easier online giving, and more opportunities to engage. ...

“We hope that you will visit our booth at General Assembly as we celebrate of our 75 years of service.”

Vy Nguyen is scheduled to be one of our guest speakers this fall during Pastor Laurie's sabbatical.

*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

**"Bless to Us" texts for
Sunday, May 26
Psalm 42: 1-8
Luke 1: 57-80**



**John the Baptist in the
Wilderness by Geertgen**

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

Reflections on the Word

Luke 1: 80: "The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel."

To be "in the wilderness" often means to be lost actually or lost emotionally, a wandering soul without a path forward. But someone "strong in spirit" may be in the wilderness purposefully, seeking to grow and learn and connect with both the inner and outer worlds. Surely the latter was what John the Baptist did during his time in the wilderness. Perhaps we need to make room for some time in the wilderness for ourselves.

God of Growth, Give direction to those of us wandering in a wilderness that we may grow into a deeper knowledge of you. Amen

**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

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Rick Bowman, SHMC Building Manager

Adam Conrad, Music Director & Composer-in-Residence

Laurie Pound Feille, Senior Minister

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harrismartha@mac.com

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Rhianna Peterson, SHMC Child Care

Craig Simenson, SHMC Youth Interim Director, springhouseyouth@fccmpls.org

Maria Thieling, SHMC Child Care

Tanner Vanderkrabben, Bell Choir Conductor

Mike Vasich - Pianist

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Next issue deadline is Sunday, July ???