

The Courier

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis



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UPCOMING Events

FCC Book Study begins,
9:30 am,
Sunday, August 4

Elders' Meeting, noon,
Sunday, August 4

FCC Finance Committee,
Wednesday, August 14,
5:30 pm

Sabbatical and Renewal time launches July 28

Pastor Laurie Feille begins her sabbatical on August 1, but the congregation will gather on Sunday, July 28, for a special send-off for her and Bryan as Laurie begins her three months of study and renewal.

August will also mark the beginning of the first round of Congregational Renewal activities. Every FCC member is urged to participate in as many activities as possible, so that we as the church can also be renewed during this special time.

Sunday, July 28. Worship in the Park, Send-Off Celebration and Catered Picnic

Please join us at North Mississippi Regional Park (5115 M. Mississippi Drive) in Minneapolis. Worship will begin at 10:30, followed by a catered lunch. This is our opportunity to send Pastor Laurie off on her 3-month sabbatical with our blessings and wishes for a time of renewal and discovery. This is all being paid for by the Lilly Grant, so you don't need to bring anything, just come and participate! If you would like to ride the bus from SpringHouse, please contact Pastor Dan (dan.adolphson@fccmpls.org).

Book Study: *A Handbook for Today's Disciples* by D. Duane Cummins. We will have several opportunities to participate in conversations about this book. The first opportunity will be on Sunday mornings in August from 9:30 - 10:15. The Lilly grant paid for a copy of the book for every household in our congregation and Kirsten has been distributing them. If you have not received yours yet, please contact Kirsten at cackoski@msn.com or call 612-788-4826.

Prayer Groups: If you would like to participate in a small prayer group to meet regularly during our time of congregational renewal, please sign up on the sheet in the sanctuary or contact Kirsten (see contact info above). Please indicate your preferred geographic area. It also helps if you can let us know what day/time of day you would prefer to meet.

Fellowship Meal Groups: Would you like to join with fellow congregants for food, conversation and fun? We will put together groups based on geographical preference and whether you want to dine out at restaurants or dine in one another's homes. Sign up sheets are in the sanctuary, or you can contact Kirsten to sign up. (*Activities list continued on page 3*).



Rediscovering. Renewing. Revitalizing.
First Christian Church
July 28 - November 17, 2019

July 20, 2019



In Our Prayers

Prayers of Joy

For the success and safe travels of the SpringHouse Servant Trip

For the Disciples denomination as they gather for the biannual "family reunion" called General Assembly

Prayers of Concern

For Brenda Neudeck who broke her shoulder and arm while bowling

For Dean Creighton's mother

For Jim Bowman

For FCC members who have friends suffering from illnesses or grief

Prayers for the World

For the people in the Midwest and South affected by flooding and Californians affected by earthquakes



A message from
Pastor Laurie Pound Feille



Some whys and hows about Sabbaticals

Sabbatical and Renewal time is almost here! By the time you receive this newsletter August 1st will be less than two weeks away. After 26 years of ministry this will be my first sabbatical and I am so excited to have this incredible opportunity thanks to a Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Grant. The best part of this grant is the funds that are given to the congregation for renewal while the pastor is on her renewal journey. Y'all are going to have a great time while I am gone and have the opportunity to hear outstanding preachers!

Some may wonder why pastors take 3-month sabbaticals. It is due to the 24 hour/day demands of ministry such as weekly preaching, pastoral care, hospital calls, phone calls, funerals, weddings, meetings, teaching, and all of the other opportunities to care for the congregation and the wider community. As pastors we get one day off a week and we are on call 24 hours a day. It is an honor and a sacred privilege to be able to walk life's journeys with the members and friends of the congregation and that is why it is important for pastors to take time to rest and renew. I want to be the absolute best pastor I can be for you and that means I also need to take care of my family and myself. I am so grateful that when you called me to be your pastor you included a sabbatical after 5 years. I waited until after the 6th year due to my studies for my Doctor of Ministry degree. Thank you for caring enough to realize the importance of allowing your pastor a sabbatical!

Over the next 3 months (August-October) I will be resting, renewing, enjoying family, enjoying new adventures and learning more about my Welsh and Irish heritage. I will spend time in the United States as well as in Wales and Ireland. Bryan and I will get to spend some much-needed time with our grandchildren, extended family and we will have time just for ourselves.

All of this means that over the next 3 months pastoral care concerns will be handled by Pastor Dan, Elders of the church and other pastors in our congregation. While it is an honor and joy to know what is happening in each of your lives, part of the sabbatical agreement is that the congregation will not contact the pastor to share any personal concerns or congregational concerns.

This will be difficult for me for that has been my life for 26 years! To make this happen on my end I will not be checking email, answering phone calls,

(Article continues on page 3)

FCC active in many ways at General Assembly

Lu Griffin and Mike Hesano will be FCC's official delegates to the Disciples General Assembly in Des Moines, IA, from July 20-23, but upwards of 20 other FCC members will also attend various events during GA.

Our congregation will be honored by the Christian Church Foundation at a dinner on Tuesday, July 23. FCC will be recognized with an award for its many years of faithful stewardship, and a video featuring several church members will be shown.

Pastor Dan Adolphson has been busy for many months heading up transportation at GA, plotting out all the routes for the many shuttle busses that will take participants from hotels to the convention site.

Pastor Laurie Feille will co-lead (with Rev. Dr. Dietra Wise Baker) a workshop Monday afternoon, July 22, titled "Advocacy, Activism and Organizing." As the organizer of the Disciples Public Presence group, Pastor Laurie is also helping plan an action and rally at the Iowa State Capital on Wednesday afternoon, July 24. Dr. William Barber, Disciples leader of the new Poor People's Campaign, will participate in this event. A "Litany of Confession" will be read, addressing issues of care for the earth, care for immigrants and other current concerns.

Church Renewal Activities, continued from page 1

FCC Day at Como Park, Saturday, September 14: Mark your calendars for this fun day at Como Park. More details will be coming soon!

Cidery Tour, Sunday, August 11, 2:00 - 7:00 p.m.: This will be the first of several opportunities to just be together and have fun! We will meet at SpringHouse and visit three metro area cideries to taste their beverages and enjoy some good food. Sign up at church or contact Pastor Dan.

Pastor Laurie Reflection, continued from page 2

replying to texts or responding to messages on messenger. There is a chance that we will run into each other around town or at the Minnesota State Fair. If we do, please say "hi" but understand when we can't talk about church or what is happening with church members. I know that one member of our congregation will be in Dublin the same time Bryan and I will be there. We have already agreed that if we see each other we will say "hi" and compare notes on what to see and do, but we will not talk about church.

I ask that on your end if we see each other and I start asking how people are doing, what's going on in your life or about church that you will answer me with "Laurie, we will not talk about that until November."

I am going to miss all of you so much! I love you and I thank God that you called me to be your pastor. Have a great time over the next 3 months and know that I will be ready to return and be your pastor on November 1st! Much love and peace, Laurie

SpringHouse Board Notes

The SpringHouse Ministry Center Board met in March and June, and several items continue to be under discussion:

- Lyndale would like for SH to have a way to evaluate vendors for "social responsibility scores." Deb Murphy explained that SH has focused on cost factors and quality local businesses when contracting with vendors. FCC and Salem do not have members interested in forming a task force on how to evaluate vendors for social responsibility, so Lyndale will continue to do research and report to the board.

- A proposal to build a new apartment building directly across from SpringHouse is being considered by the city. The SH building committee is tracking developments on this project.

- SHMC was assessed \$2055 for street improvements completed in the summer of 2018. The notice of the assessment was "lost in the shuffle" and so extra fees and interest were charged.

- Rental groups have been requesting better technology to use with screens and projectors in meeting rooms. The SH website also needs upgrading. The current SH budget currently does not have monies for these upgrades.

August 2019

First Christian Church



Sunday Morning Schedule
 9:30 - Book Study: "A Handbook for Today's Disciples"
 10:30 Worship
 11:45 Fellowship Time in Gathering Space

				1 Deb @ ADAM camp	2 Deb @ ADAM camp Liberty CC Overnight	3
4 Garden Sanctuary <i>David Cobb, preaching</i> 9:30: Book Study Noon: Elders Meeting Noon: Child Ministry Team	5 6:45 SHMC Building Committee	6 8:15 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study Deb on Vacation	7	8	9	10
11 Garden Sanctuary 9:30: Book Study 2 – 7 pm Cidery Tour Deb on Vacation	12	13 8:15 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study	14 5:30 FCC Finance Committee	15 7 pm: Pastor Dan PRC	16	17
18 Garden Sanctuary 9:30: Book Study 10:30am Worship in the Park Followed by Potluck Picnic Noon: SHMC Board Business Meeting	19 7 pm SHMC Finance Committee	20 8:15 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study 6 pm Worship Team 7 pm FCC Board	21 2 pm Mission & Outreach Committee	22	23	24
25 Garden Sanctuary <i>Christine Isham, preaching</i> 9:30: Book Study z	26	30 8:15 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study 4:30 pm Sanctuary TF	28	29 9 am Handcrafters	30	31

	Elders (Offering elder listed first)	Worship Leader	Children's Moment	Diaconate	Bus Drivers
Aug 4	Mike Hesano Lu Griffin	TBD	Dan Adolphson	A. Bliss A. Creighton	Mike Morgan 612.926-9834
Aug 11	Arlene Hillestad Steve Rusinak	Lu Griffin	Justin Carlson	B. Flanagan M. Carlson	Mike Hesano 651-645-6758
Aug 18	SpringHouse Worship in Bryant Park			J. Carlson Jen Krengel	Mike Morgan 612.926-9834
Aug 25	Ann Wolverton Wendy Manual	Dean Creighton	Steve Rusinak	Jon Krengel S. Grady	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>

Email for building use request: shcoordinator@fccmpls.org

Lyndale pastor also on sabbatical

Pastor Ashley Harness began a sabbatical leave from Lyndale United Church of Christ on July 1. In her absence, Rev. Rebecca Voelkel will be the Sabbatical Coordinating Pastor, working on worship, organizational and pastoral duties. Two interns, Matta Ghaly and Allison Connelly will also help in various roles, and Karn Anderson will continue with her administrative work in the office.

New email for building use requests

So many requests for use of space at SpringHouse come through Deb Murphy's email (she's already booking into next spring!) that it has become difficult to track them all. Therefore, if you need to make a room request or want information about something in the building, please use the following email address:

shcoordinator@fccmpls.org. As much notice as possible is greatly appreciated, but please provide Deb with at least a day's notice.

Remember that anyone can access the SpringHouse online calendar for information about meeting times and places. This is a read-only calendar, so you can't make reservations but you can find out about all of the church and community activities going on at SpringHouse currently or in future months. The link to the calendar is <https://calendar.churchart.com/calendar/73956030>



Alison Creighton and Steve Sosienski opened gifts at their shower given by FCC Women's Ministry on Sunday, July 14.



Work began on Monday, July 15, on the repair of the stained glass windows in SpringHouse

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

Before Worship

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

After Worship

Fellowship Time 11:45

**Lectionary Text
for Sunday, July 21
Mary and Martha
Luke 10: 38-42**



Christ in the House of Mary and Martha, Diego Velázquez

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

Reflections on the Word

Luke 10: 39: "She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying."

St. Francis de Sales reportedly once said, "Every one of us needs half an hour of prayer each day except when we are busy – then we need an hour." So, if we are feeling busy, overwhelmed, and spiritually depleted, we need to sit at the feet of Jesus as Mary did and feed the presence of Christ within so that we can be the presence of Christ in the world.

Lord, open my eyes to refreshing new ways to pray so that I may feed the Christ within me. May I gain strength and wisdom to raise my voice for peace and justice in a deeply wounded world. Amen.
by Sharon Seyfarth Garner,
Disciplines 2019 (adapted)

*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,
shcoordinator@fccmpls.org

Rhianna Peterson, SHMC Child Care

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

Maria Thieling, SHMC Child Care

Mike Vasich - Pianist

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Next issue deadline is Sunday, August 4

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