

The Courier

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis



What's *INSIDE*:

Views and Viewpoints by
Martha Harris,
page 2

Every Meal, Gardening,
Green Team info,
page 3

June Pride and Queer Prom,
page 3

UPCOMING Events

Women's Fellowship Brunch,
@Amy Dunlop's,
Saturday, June 10, 10 am
(RSVP to Pat Dunlop)

Trustees Meeting,
Thursday, June 15,
6:30 pm on Zoom

FCC Board Meeting,
Tuesday, June 20,
7 pm on Zoom

Coffee Hours continue,
9 am on Wed & Sat,
Happy Hours
5 pm Tues & Thurs

Mission & Outreach projects set for June, July

Sandwich making for Groveland Food Shelf:

June 11, right after worship in the Gathering Space. We hope to make between 200-300 sandwiches which will be delivered on June 13. We have been told by another organization that we make the BEST sandwiches; let's keep our reputation up! Grab a snack at Fellowship Hour and meet at the tables in the back of the Gathering Space! Many hands make many sandwiches!



July Mission and Outreach Activity:

collecting donations to Augsburg Health Commons at Central Lutheran Church.

When a person experiencing homelessness (PEH) experiences a health condition, the ability to manage or treat that condition will often be much more complicated. Keeping prescriptions filled and managing them are difficult without a permanent place to live; accessing regular medical appointments can be difficult if a person does not have a phone, an address, or transportation; exposure to extreme weather conditions can exacerbate chronic medical conditions; substance abuse can sometimes be a way to manage the stress of homelessness.



Augsburg Health Commons is a health-focused, no cost, drop-in center located at Central Lutheran. It is staffed by nursing faculty and students from Augsburg University. Many of their guests are experiencing homelessness and have the

following needs to assist them in maintaining their health:

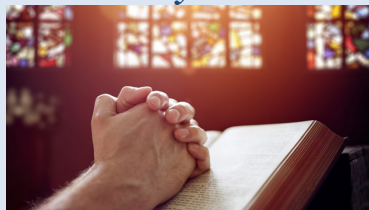
- Men's and women's underwear-various types and sizes
- Toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss
- Travel-size soaps and hair products
- Hand sanitizer
- Deodorant

There are several ways for you to donate: bring products to church and leave them in the sanctuary; contact Bonnie Ford for a pickup at your home; order online and have them delivered to:

Restoration Center at Central Lutheran Church
333 South 12th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55404
(612) 870-4416

For more information about this topic, go to www.alignmpls.org and click on Organizing Campaign.

In Our Prayers



We pray in sympathy with **Lu and Mike Hesano** at the death of Mike's **Grandma Hebeeba**, and for **Henri Smith** at the death of her friend **Donna**.

We pray in concern for **Margaret Hutchens'** friends **Myron and Lou**; for **Juanito Carter** as he continues with health concerns; for **Lynda Lee** as she heals from knee surgery, for **Diane Hackett's** heart valve surgery; for **Jen Kregel's dad Jeff**, who suffered vertigo while hiking in Utah, and also for **Jen's grandpa Jerry** who has been hospitalized recently;

We celebrate the beginning of **Pride month**, recognizing that each member of the LGBTQ+ community is created perfectly and holy in God's image. We also remember our siblings in Ukraine who live daily with the effects of an on-going war.

Gracious God, we lift up these persons in our prayers, asking the blessing of your Grace and outpouring of your Love upon them. Amen

Views and Viewpoints

Martha Harris



Learning about a life at a memorial service

Years ago, I went to the funeral of someone from FCC and was surprised to learn that this person had been an avid skier – something I couldn't even imagine about him. And not too long ago, when I attended the service of John Takekawa and saw all the photos, tributes and, of course, the high military honors he received for his WWII service, I realized I only knew the tiniest bit about his life. In fact, that's almost always the case for me: I really only learn significant details about a person's life when I go to their funeral.

Very few people at FCC knew anything about my husband, Richard Robinson. Over the years, he had met a small circle of FCC friends at a few social gatherings, and at a couple of service projects for Habitat and Feed My Starving Children. However, he never attended church with me, but that was no surprise. For many years, he faithfully took his mother to the family church of St. James A.M.E, dropping her off at the door and picking her up afterwards. He just wasn't a church-going guy.

Despite his church-avoidance, Richard believed in God and in basic Biblical values. So I truly loved the point that Elder Jeffery Stephenson made when he gave his "Words of Comfort for the Family" as he officiated at Richard's memorial service. Jeffery was our student at North High School; he was on my newspaper staff, played football for Richard, and then went on to an NFL career, winning two Superbowl rings. He is now an Elder at the West Angeles Church of God in Christ in Los Angeles, and the words that meant the most to me in his talk were about what he called Richard's Ministry. As he (and the others who spoke at the service) framed it, Richard's ministry was to love his students and players like they were members of his family; to treat them with respect and dignity; to give them another chance when they made mistakes; to act with humility, gentleness and patience (well, most of the time anyway); to recognize and nurture the talents of both students and coaches; and to do what he could to help those he worked with have success in their lives.

Elder Jeffery's point was that Richard "walked the talk." As Pastor Laurie said in her sermon on Sunday, "The truth about our lives is how we live." I'm glad that the people who attended Richard's service could learn a bit about the life he lived.

One final word: My heart overflows from the love that so many members of First Christian have shown me and our family in their cards, calls, gifts; in the many familiar FCC faces I saw at Richard's service; in Pastor Laurie's prayers at the service, the reception, and at the gravesite; in the flowers sent to my home and to the church, and for the four women (Karen Kandik, Val Dunham, Pat Dunlop and Kathy Hintz) who served food at Sabathani Community Center after the service. There aren't words enough to express my thanks.

Every Meal completes distributions for year

Every Meal distribution ends June 8. FCC volunteers delivered approximately **300** meals to families this year. That is 300 families who have food insecurity that was alleviated for a weekend. And each delivery takes just a little over an hour! Not much time for a BIG payoff! Thank you to Ann Antus, Kirsten Cackoski, Athena Carlson, Bonnie Ford, Martha Harris, Kathy Hintz, Karen Kandik, and Tammy Rottschaefter for their hard work! Additionally, FCC gave \$4,889 from the Wholeness Fund to help Every Meal support the 450 schools where they deliver food!

Twin Cities Pride, June 24 and 25: Join us!



The Twin Cities Pride theme for 2023 is “Elevate and Amplify.” This year’s celebration has expanded hours among other changes. The hours have been extended for when our FCC Booth will be meeting and greeting Pride participants, so we’ll need more people this year to help spread extravagant love!

Booth set-up will be on Friday, June 23 this year. Loring Park will be open on Saturday, June 24 from 9 am to 7 pm, and Sunday, June 25 from 10 am to 6 pm. Shifts for working the booth are either 2.5 hours or 3 hours depending on the day. Sign up for your shift at <https://tinyurl.com/5c999bzb>.

SpringHouse to host Queer Prom June 16

Join the Center for Sustainable Justice for a Totally Fabulous, All Generations Queer Prom event on Friday, June 16, from 7-10 pm at SpringHouse Ministry Center. This is a free, intergenerational and substance-free event celebrating queer and trans lives and experiences.



Whether you are young or young at heart, this is an event for all generations to come together and dance the night away. We welcome everyone from all walks of life to celebrate who they are and who they love. This is a night to dress up, let loose, and have fun with your queer and trans family.

We will also be collecting a free will offering for [Iowa Safe Schools](#). The mission of Iowa Safe Schools is to provide safe, supportive, and nurturing learning environments and communities for LGBTQ+ and allied youth in Iowa through education, outreach, advocacy, and direct services. We will also have a family-friendly, Iowa Drag Queen group performing, a DJ and a photo booth.

Gardening & Green Team News

Weeding Springhouse gardens:

The SpringHouse gardens need weeding. Many hands make light work! If you don’t know the weeds from the flowers, we can teach you. Please join us and meet others from Springhouse on any of these dates:

Mon, June 12, 11 to 1
Sat, July 15, 10 to noon
Sat, July 29, 10 to noon
Sat, Aug. 5, 10 to noon

If you have them, bring garden gloves tools, and a water bottle.

Bird Walks: Melia Derrick of the SpringHouse Green Team, will lead birding walks on Thurs., June 8, Thurs. June 15, and Monday, June 26. She will be at North Mississippi Regional Park off highway 94 and 57th Ave. Walks begin at 9 am. The park borders the river, and has nice views and shady areas. If you’d like to join her, let her know at runningbird68@aol.com.

Wakan Tipi Volunteering:

Formerly known as Lower Phalen Creek Project, Wakan Tipi Awanyankapi is a Native-led, East Side environmental conservation nonprofit. Lyndale UCC and SpringHouse Green Team member Melia Derrick will lead hands-on volunteer opportunities on Tuesday evenings July 18 and Oct. 3. People wanting to volunteer can contact Melia at runningbird68@aol.com.

Sundays at First Christian Church

Worship at 10:30, in person or
livestreamed at fccmpls.org

Children's Table Activities in person during worship: **Join us!**
Children's Activities are also available online at www.fccmpls.org

Revised Common Lectionary

June 11, 2023

Calling of Matthew

Matthew 9: 9-13



Vocation of St. Matthew, Juan de Pareja, Prado Museum

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

Reflections on the Word

Matthew 9:9 – As Jesus was walking along, he saw man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he got up and followed him.

Matthew jumps up from his tax booth and follows Jesus without question or hesitation. But in the next verse, it says that tax collectors and sinners were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. We have a tendency to think of the disciples as better-than-the-rest followers, but tax collectors and sinners were within Jesus' tight-knit group. Jesus and the Holy Spirit invite us all to the same table.

Beloved One, Help us to see you in those around us, and know that we are all your beloved children. Amen.

Andrew Roth Murdock in *Disciplines*, 2023, 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

Chelsea Boyden, SHMC Youth Minister

springhouseyouth@fccmpls.org

Laurie Pound Feille, Senior Minister

pastor@fccmpls.org

Martha Harris, Courier Editor,

harrismartha@mac.com

Deb Murphy, Director of Spiritual Formation
of Children, deb.murphy@fccmpls.org

Tim O'Grady, Keyboardist,

timothy.ryan.ogrady@gmail.com

Dr. Caroline Povolny, Director of Music

Office Telephone: 612.870.1868

www.fccminneapolis.org

E-Mail: office@fccminneapolis.org

Next issue deadline is Sunday, June 18

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