



**First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis**

**“A Thoughtful Church in
the Heart of the Cities.”**

www.fccminneapolis.org

**Mission Plan for May-December 2009
First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Minneapolis, MN**

Introduction

Below is the Mission Calendar for July-December 2009. This calendar include planned and proposed mission opportunities at First Christian Church. If you are interested in participating in any of the following activities or have an mission idea of your own to share, please contact Associate Minister Dennis Sanders at associatepastor@fccminneapolis.org or by phone at 612-870-1868.

Theology

So, why does a church do mission?

A church does mission because it is part of the mission dei, which is a fancy Latin term for Mission of God. God is an active God, a missionary God. As Jesus was preparing his ascension to Heaven, he said this to his disciples:

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, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.
-Matthew 28:19-20

Jesus called his followers to go into the world and preach the gospel. Reading the book of Acts, we find out that is what they indeed did. They went to the far corners of the world sharing the love of Christ.

As a congregation, we are called to leave the doors of the church and be the church to people in our neighborhood and in our world.

We share that love not only in word but also in deed. In the Old Testament, the Hebrew prophets implored that the people pursue justice in their world. They reminded the people that God wants not just empty worship, but also that they care for the sisters and brothers:

*He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,*

and to walk humbly with your God?
-Micah 6:8

Mission is evangelism. When we go out to care for the hungry or assist the poor, we don't do it simply because we are good people. Instead we do this because we love God, because we are sent by God and we do it in God's name. When people see a community of faith doing mission work, they are curious what is going on at this congregation. Missions is not about the church doing nice things, instead it is about being the church.

Mission Calendar (July-December 2009)

Please note that this calendar is subject to change. Updated versions will be placed online or at church as the calendar changes.

May 2009

- Pentecost Offering: May 24 and 31
- Food Pantry Sunday: May 17

June 2009

- Feed My Starving Children: June 10
- Twin Cities Gay Pride: June 27-28
- St. Stephen's Supper: June 20
- Food Pantry Sunday: June 21

July 2009

- St. Stephen's Supper: July 18
- Food Pantry Sunday: July 19

August 2009

- Backpack Drive for Whittier Park Elementary
- Feed My Starving Children : August 13
- St. Stephen's Supper: August 15
- Food Pantry Sunday: August 16
- Grande Sale: August 20-22 (proceeds go to support Disciples Mission Fund)

September 2009

- Sunday Night Supper (St. Mark's Episcopal)- September 13 (tentative)
- St. Stephen's Supper: September 19
- Food Pantry Sunday: September 20
- Reconciliation Offering Received: September 27

October 2009

- Sunday Night Supper (St. Mark's Episcopal)- October 11 (tentative)
- Minneapolis CROP Walk: October 11

- St. Stephen's Supper: October 17
- Food Pantry Sunday: October 18
- Feed My Starving Children: October 24

November 2009

- Food Pantry Sunday: November 15
- St. Stephen's Supper: November 21
- Thanksgiving Offering Received: November 22

December 2009

- St. Stephen's Supper: December 19
- Food Pantry Sunday: December 20
- Christmas Offering Received: December 20