



Christian Church

First Christian Church of Minneapolis (Disciples of Christ)

July 18, 2009

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On the Web

fccminneapolis.org

Pastor Bob's blog
[The Spiritual Journey](#)

[Flickr photos of FCC](#)



Regional School for Leaders set for Aug. 29

Does the idea of holding outdoor worship services to reach the “un-churched” interest you? What about learning more about the history and future of Deacons? Or maybe you’d like to sing some new choir music?

These are just a few of the many interesting and informative workshop sessions that will be offered at the annual “School for Congregational Leaders” in West Des Moines, Iowa, on Saturday, Aug. 29.

This 37th annual regional gathering will be in West Des Moines, at Valley Southwoods Freshman High School, near the West Des Moines Christian Church. A total of 48 workshops will be offering valuable insights on just about everything involving the life of the congregation. Examples include:

- Journeying into new meeting spaces for worship and education
- Spiritual practices for congregations
- Sidewalk Sunday School: Outdoor worship reaches un-churched
- Coaching transformation for congregational leaders.
- Elders and congregational transformation
- Scrapbooking: Preserving your church’s history
- Building youth community online
- Planning Spirit filled worship; inviting openings for the Spirit



--Richard Hamm

Richard Hamm, former General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will be the keynote, and there will be some celebration pieces connected to the 200th anniversary of the Campbell movement that is half of our roots as Disciples.

Registration deadline is August 14th. Registration forms are available on the CCUM web-site, and will be a bulletin insert for the next 2-3 weeks in FCC’s Sunday worship bulletin.

This is a great opportunity for learning, and fellowship with other Disciples in our Region. Make plans now to attend!

Coming up:

July 25th (Saturday):
Amy Morton's HS Graduation Party

August 9: FCC Family Picnic

August 20-22: Grande Day Sale

Call FCC Office for details!

A Look at the Brite Side

Facebook survey prompts good questions for FCC

A couple of weeks ago, Chris Wogaman passed along to Dennis, who passed it along to me, a survey a friend of Chris', Seminarian Mindy Roll, conducted informally on Facebook among mostly 20- and 30-somethings. It wasn't a "scientific" survey, simply an invitation to comment on religion and church.

Among the many comments coming out of this bit of social commentary, the first on the list of why people went hunting for a faith community was for "a sense of community" – meaning (I think) a place of belonging and family. Another component is a matter, vaguely speaking, of having things to do with a sense of purpose and mission.

One of the good things about FCC Minneapolis is that there does seem to be a strong sense of caring community here.

It becomes a matter of how to extend that sense of caring community beyond the people already here.

The two questions I keep asking of you (and on which our Transition Team will start its discussions when it meets shortly) are: "What is the ministry of First Christian Church?" and "What do we need to do to become more attractive and user-friendly for 20- to 50-somethings?" Of course, the biggest thing we can do, as we talked about on Sunday, is to invite others to experience our caring community.

I'd like to see YOU (and a friend) on Sunday!
Bob

QUESTIONS OF FAITH SUNDAY JULY 26TH

During worship on Sunday, July 26, the sermon time by Pastor Bob will be in a "Questions of Faith" format. At the beginning of the service you are invited to fill out an index card with a question about faith life, church life, or God life. Bob will pick those up during the prelude and use the sermon time to respond to the questions offered. (Bob adds the note here that what he does is respond, not answer. If an answer comes out of the response, that's the work of the Holy Spirit!)

So put your thinking/praying caps on, and be prepared to participate in Questions of Faith on July 26th.

In our prayers

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

We pray in concern for **David Pyles** who is undergoing radical chemotherapy treatment, for **Bob Risinger** and his family as his Huntington's disease progresses, for **Pastor Bob Brite** as he copes with new diagnosis of Ménière's disease, and for **Dennis Sanders' father** recovering from surgery and other physical difficulties; for traveling mercies for **John Carter** as he returns to Paraguay and for **Ali and Zack Hesano** and **Wes Creighton** who are at church camp this week; in joy over new jobs for **Zack Morton** and for **Nancy and Tom Curry's daughter-in-law Tara**; in thanksgiving for beautiful music in our worship services; in concern for all **those serving in armed services** around the world, and their families at home who wait their return; and for all homebound members of FCC, including **Emma Armstrong** and **Grace Couture**.



The **Chi Rho youth group from West Des Moines, Iowa**, was in the Twin Cities July 11-12. They filled food packets at Feed My Starving Children, and joined FCC's worship service on July 12.

A Note from Pastor Dennis Sanders

Food Pantries still need supplies in the good ol' Summertime

It's summer time in Minnesota -- but hunger doesn't take a vacation.

We usually think about hunger during specific times of the year like Thanksgiving-Christmas and the Minnesota Food Share Drive in March. But after those two times of the year, those dealing with hunger here in the Cities are largely forgotten.

It's not done on purpose, of course. We just tend to forget.

July 19 and August 16 are the next two Food Pantry Sundays. Please consider dropping off non-perishable food items or placing your spare change in the coffee cans located near the lounge and in the narthex. Please help make sure that that working families in Minnesota will also be able to enjoy the summer.

Grande Day Sale a "two-by-two" project

The upcoming Grande Day Sale (Aug. 20-22), a major project of Women's Ministries, benefits people on local, national and even world-wide levels.

Locally, people in FCC's immediate neighborhood can find household and personal bargains. Many nearby neighbors come back year after year to stock up on "gently used" yet useful items.

This year, we'll be joined in this sale effort by the Spirit of St. Stephen's Catholic Community, in our first joint service effort with these friends who worship in Fellowship Hall at 9:00 am every Sunday.

Thus, the Grande Day Sale is a good example of the power of "two by two" that both Bob Brite and Jay Hillestad talked about during worship on July 13, as they interpreted the scripture from the Gospel of Mark where Jesus sends the disciples out "two by two."

The Grande Day Sale is a way for FCC members to work in partnership with local and national communities to carry out Jesus' commission of love and service.

The Sale will be Thursday and Friday (Aug. 20-21) 12-7pm, and Saturday (Aug. 22), 9-1pm.

<h1>August 2009</h1> <h2>First Christian Church</h2>					<p>Summer Sunday Schedule: 9:00 Prayer Circle 9:30 Worship 10:45 Fellowship Hour 11:00 Bible Study</p>		
						1 9 am- Men's Group	
2	3 8 pm AA	4 7 pm- Worship Committee Meeting	5	6 9am Handcrafters	7	8 9 am- Men's Group	
9 FCC Church Picnic, North Mississippi Park, 11-3	10 7 pm Book Group at Westphal's 8 pm AA	11 7 pm Property Committee 5:30 SOSSCC Family Pot-luck	12 5:30 pm Finance Committee 5:30 Dist 18 AA 6 pm Lectionary Bible Study	13 9 am Handcrafters	14	15 9 am- Men's Group	
16 Food Pantry Sunday Elders 11 am GRANDE DAY SALE SETUP	17 8 pm AA	18 7 pm Board Meeting	19	20 9 am Handcrafters GRANDE DAY SALE (12-7)	21 GRANDE DAY SALE (12-7)	22 GRANDE DAY SALE (9-1)	
23	24 8 pm AA	25	26 6 pm Lectionary Bible Study	27 9 am Handcrafters	28	29 9 am- Men's Group	
30	31 8 pm AA						

	Elders	Worship Leader	Bus Driver	Diaconate	Greeters
Aug. 2	Arlene Hillestad Jay Hillestad	Martha Harris	Mike Morgan 612-926-9384	Team 1 Grace Madsen	Martha Harris
Aug. 9	Martha Harris Karen Kandik	Ardie Armstrong	Mike Hesano 612-645-6758	Team 1	Warren & Karen Westphal
Aug. 16	Karen Kandik Martha Harris	Mary Hurlocker	Garry Hesser 612-721-4905	Team 1	Ardie Armstrong Shirley Draine
Aug. 23	Max Hurlocker Mary Hurlocker	Karen Kandik	Mike Morgan	Team 1	Karen Kandik
Aug. 30	Mary Hurlocker Max Hurlocker	Pat Carter	Garry Hesser	Team 1	Valerie Dunham

FCC News in Brief

Church Family Picnic Aug. 9

The Annual FCC Church Family Picnic will be held at North Mississippi Park on Sunday, August 9 at 11:30 a.m. We have reserved the pavilion from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. The Membership Committee will furnish beverages and paper products, but the rest is potluck. So bring your favorite picnic dish or dessert to share. Plan to come to the park after morning worship at the Church and we'll eat at about 11:30 a.m. There is a playground and wading pool for children, so bring a bathing suit and towels for your children.

To get to North Mississippi Park take I94 North to Exit 226. Go towards 53rd Avenue North and stay straight to go onto I94 then turn slightly right onto Lyndale Ave N (follow the signs). Please let Mary Hurlocker ((651)-777-6622) know if you need or can provide a ride.

Hold those donations!

Because our space is severely limited, items for the Grande Day sale should not be brought to the church before Aug. 1.

Items will be collected from Aug. 1 to Aug. 18. On August 16, set up for the sale will begin in Fellowship Hall. Tiempo Nuevo has graciously agreed to worship in the sanctuary so we can set up for the sale. More details on the sale will be in the next Courier.

Music in the Neighborhood

Plymouth Congregational Church is offering some free concerts in the next two weeks. Jearlyn Steele and Sanford Moore will perform July 21, and the bluegrass band Monroe Crossing will play July 28.

The concerts go from 7 to 8:15 pm in the Jones Commons area just inside the door at 1919 LaSalle Ave. S.

New Photo Directory coming

Do you ever see people in church and wonder what their names are? Have you ever heard an announcement regarding a member and wish you could put a face with a name? Are you new to our church and wish you had something to help you put names with faces? Well, help is on the way! We are producing a pictorial directory for our church. Life Touch Church Directories will take our pictures September 8 and 9 from 2:30 – 9:00 p.m. There is no cost to you or to the church to have your photograph taken, and you will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and directory for participating. You will be able to view your images electronically immediately after you are photographed. At that time you will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits to share with family and friends.

We will begin the sign-up process for photography and portrait view sessions on Sunday, August 16. We will continue to do sign-up until September 8, but earlier sign-ups will get the first choice of times! You can go on line to our church website at fccminneapolis.org and click on the link to sign-up, or bring your calendar and stop by the table in the Lounge to sign-up.

To make our directory a success we need volunteers. Mary Hurlocker is coordinating the volunteers for our new directory. If you are interested in helping during our photography sign-ups, telephoning our members, or serving as a host or hostess during the actual photography sessions, contact Mary Hurlocker at (651) 777-6622 or call the church office.

A Word of Thanks

Clarinetist Peter Cain, soprano Laura Anderson, and pianist James Barnett brought us beautiful music for worship on July 16. The worship committee and the congregation extend thanks to this trio of excellent musicians.

Bi-Weekly Calendar

Sundays at First Christian Church

Worship at 9:30 am
Bible Study, 11 am
Fellowship Hour, 10:45 am

This Week at FCC

Sunday, July 19

Food Pantry Sunday

Bible Study 11 am
 Elders Meeting 11 am
 "Beside Still Waters" worship at Riverside Park 7 pm

Monday, July 20

AA 8 pm

Tuesday, July 21

FCC Board Meeting 7 pm

Thursday, July 23

Handcrafters 9 am

Friday, July 24

-Article deadline for next Courier

Saturday, June 25

Men's Group 9 am

Next Week at FCC

Sunday, July 26

"Questions of Faith"

Bible Study 11 am

Monday, July 27

AA 8 pm

Wednesday, July 29

General Assembly opens in Indianapolis
 Lectionary Bible Study 6 pm

Thursday, July 30

Handcrafters 9 am

Sat. Aug. 1

Men's Group 9 am

Reflections on the Word

From the Lectionary Gospel Reading for July 19th

Mark 6:31: "Jesus said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while."

Reflection: Jesus calls his disciples to rest, into a "Sabbath". Sabbath comes from the Hebrew, *shavat*, meaning "to cease from work." Summer is usually seen as a time for rest, ceasing from work for vacation. But even vacations can be stressful. Vacation time is not always Sabbath time.

Prayer: Jesus, who calls us to rest from work, give us moments of peace to rest, recharge, and remember you. Amen.

--Chris Wogaman

A Thoughtful Church in the Heart of the City

Ministry Team

All Members of the Congregation

Robert Brite, Interim Minister

Dennis Sanders, Minister of Diversity and Mission

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