

The Courier

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis



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UPCOMING Events

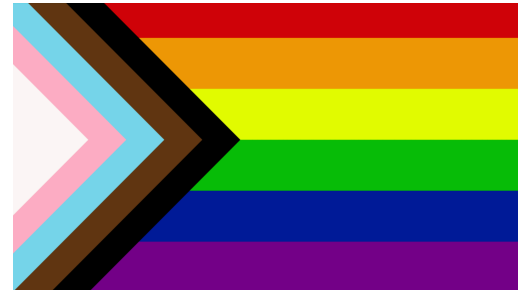
FCC and Friends Book Group,
Monday, June 17, 7 pm

FCC Board Meeting,
Tuesday, June 18,
7 pm

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

Pride Month has something for everyone

Both here at FCC and at venues around Minneapolis, we will have many opportunities to celebrate Pride month. Some of the events even feature FCC-connected folks as leaders or participants. And don't forget the chance to meet and greet people by volunteering to work in the FCC booth during the Pride festival.



Worship Series: "The Outsiders" The June Sunday worship series at FCC is "The Outsiders." Life on the outside of the "in" crowd can make it difficult to fit in, to feel "at home." The Gospel of Luke chronicles Jesus' ministry with those on the so-called "outside." During this series, we will be pairing these texts with the stories of selected individuals from the LGBTQ+ community. What can we learn from these stories and Jesus' call to turn the inside out and the outside in?

FCC Booth at TC Pride Festival in Loring Park June 29-30

The Twin Cities Pride Festival is Minnesota's second largest festival and the largest FREE Pride festival. Once again we will have a booth at the festival in Loring Park, sharing the extravagant welcome of our congregation and sharing the message that All Means ALL. Plus, stickers!! It is always a lot of fun!!

We have lots of shifts available to be filled – [click here to sign up for a shift.](#)

"This is Me" concert by Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus, June 21-22

Set against the majestic backdrop of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Mahtomedi, this event promises to be a celebration of diversity, acceptance, and the transformative power of music. Pastor Dan's husband Keith is a member of the chorus. This season's grand finale concert of the TCGMC is a unique fusion of choral music and dance designed to challenge the stigma surrounding body image. This concert represents a powerful collaboration between TCGMC, the acclaimed James Sewell Ballet, Minnesota Valley Women's Chorus and See Change Treble Choir.

Mitch Grauberger AKA Primordial Chaos in 3 events: Our own Mitch is hosting a Wild Card Drag Game Night on June 7 at Metta Coffee in Anoka, performing in the show "Kings and Things Veggie Tales" on June 13 at Lush Lounge and Theater in NE Minneapolis, and leading a story time at 4 pm on June 22 at CanCan Wonderland in St. Paul. Mitch/Misha is a Drag artist also known as Primordial Chaos.

Go to FCC's webpage for more details on all of these events:

<https://www.fccminneapolis.org/pride-month-activities-tc-pride-booth-signup/>

In Our Prayers



Prayers of Joy: We rejoice to welcome KC Helmeid Jennifer Stockdale as new members of our church. We also rejoice with former Salem pastor Jen Nagel who is now the Bishop-elect of ELCA Minneapolis Synod.

Prayers for sympathy: For Lacey Athey whose son Everett passed away one year ago; for the Rennert family, especially Logan, whose college housemate Dylan died recently; for Elaine Tucker's co-worker Carolyn, whose partner Brad passed away last week.

Prayers of Concern: For Bonnie Ford's daughter Pauline; for Jon Sill, recovering from food poisoning,

Prayers for Community: For the family of police officer Jamal Mitchell, killed recently in the Whittier neighborhood, as well as the family of Osman Said Jimale, also killed in this tragic incident.

Prayers for the World: For the ongoing sorrow and misery of people living in Gaza, Israel, Haiti, Ukraine and other places around the world.

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

A message from Pastor Laurie



Doing something right at FCC!

Happy PRIDE! We had a great day in worship for the first Sunday of PRIDE month! We had several visitors, and two people, who have been attending worship often, officially made FCC their church home as they joined the church. It is always a wonderful reminder that God is still creating when people join the church. Including our three youth who were baptized in April, we have had seven people join the church already in 2024. That says to me that we are doing something right in worship, sharing that God's love is for all, fellowship, outreach and welcoming our visitors. It also says that there is new life at FCC!

New life is important as it has been hard for churches to bounce back after COVID. Our Board Co-Chair, Margaret, has shared with the Board on several occasions that there are many churches that did not make it through COVID and there are churches that made it through but no longer have the members or resources to keep going. I am grateful that we are living into what it means to be church not only after the pandemic but church in 2024. While changes have come with technology, we have stayed true to who we are as Disciples of Christ, and we are trying to allow the Spirit to lead us and guide us in all aspects of church. That is not an easy task and yet if we will trust that God is leading us and use our brains, talents, gifts, resources, listen to our hearts and listen to the Spirit I believe that 2024 may be one of the most exciting years we have had in a long time. The first five months sure have been exciting!

To celebrate our life together as a community of faith and the presence of God in our midst, our worship series for July and August is being created by the diversity of voices in our congregation. Our series is called "Many Voices, One Body." Thank you to those who have sent me scriptures and hymns. If you have not sent a scripture or hymn suggestion yet, please send it to me as soon as possible.

Before we get to July though we still have four more Sundays in June to show our visitors and the community around us that ALL are welcome and loved by God and to be present at different PRIDE events especially PRIDE weekend at the end of the month.

Thank you church for all the ways you continue to be present and live out the love of God for all. Much love and peace, Pastor Laurie

Meet new members KC and Jennifer

KC Helmeid and Jennifer Stockdale joined FCC on June 2. We are excited to introduce them to you! Both KC and Jennifer are originally from the Midwest (Wisconsin and Illinois); they met while they were both acting in theater in Chicago. They moved to Seattle where KC taught high school Drama and Jennifer taught Art and ESL. They moved to Minneapolis last year to be nearer to family, especially to their son and their daughter and her wife. Their daughter has a degree in Behavioral Analysis and works with the Woodbury Police Department. Their son is in theater; he previously was in theater in Chicago.



KC and Jennifer are "exploring" (their word) what they want to do professionally. KC has composed music for the theater and continues to do that in the Twin Cities. Jennifer enjoys drawing/painting and gardening.

Jennifer was raised in the Disciples of Christ denomination; her father was a DOC minister. KC was raised Lutheran but some years ago decided that DOC was the better fit for him. They both state that they are happy to be at First Christian.

Please greet KC and Jennifer when you see them! We are so blessed that they have joined us!

Story by Karen Kandik

Annual Brunch for Women's Study June 22

The **Annual Brunch for the Women's Study Group** (and any other women/nonbinary church folk who are so moved to attend) is scheduled for Saturday June 22. It will be at **Amy Dunlop's house** (please contact Kathy at kathymw@msn.com if you need the address). We will start gathering about 10 am, and have our lovely meal (egg bake, fruit, sweet rolls, juice/coffee) at about 11:15. We tend to review our past year and look forward to our upcoming meetings, among other fun conversations. This is a nice relaxing way to get off the meeting/Zoom treadmill and enjoy each other's company. No RSVP required.

As for meetings: we do not meet in June or July. Our next meeting will be Monday, August 5, at 7 pm and we will continue our discussion (chapter 1) of **Learning To Walk In The Dark** by Barbara Brown Taylor. A zoom link will be sent out prior to the meeting.

FCC Board Notes

Thirteen members and staff attended the May 21 meeting of FCC's General Board. Highlights of the meeting were the following:

- A motion to call Chelsea Boyden to serve her United Theological Seminary required ministry intern year with First Christian passed unanimously. A second motion from the Wholeness Fund committee to fund \$2000 of Chelsea's internship expenses also passed unanimously.
- The Stewardship Committee reported that they are creating a narrative budget for FCC, to be presented later this year. We are currently operating under the same budget used in 2023.
- Ann Wolverton forwarded this information: For the first three sessions since the transition to SH from Westminster, we have had 20, 19, 24 & 27 attendees at the Saturday morning Grief sessions. Three new persons have registered.
- Pastor Laurie reported June worship will focus on Pride for the whole month. July & August will be based on congregationally-requested scriptures and hymns.
- Mike Cackoski gave the Treasurer's report. April pledge income was \$13,357, and year-to-date deficit is -\$25,865, covered by borrowing dedicated funds currently in the checkbook. A CD for \$50,000 has been purchased from checkbook funds.

FCC Calendar for June 2024

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

Sundays	10:30 am Worship, Children's Activity Table
	11:30 am SH Youth Group
Tuesdays	8 am – SH Lectionary Group
	5 pm - Happy Hour
Wednesdays	9 am - Coffee with Pastors
Thursdays	5 pm - Happy Hour
Saturdays	9 am - Coffee with Pastors
	10 am Grief Support groups at SpringHouse

MONTHLY MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Wed., June 5	7 pm - Elders meeting
Thur., June 6	12 pm - Mission & Outreach Committee
Sat., June 8	10 am - Houseplant Care Clinic
Mon., June 10	5 pm - SpringHouse Building Committee
	7 pm - SpringHouse Finance Committee
Wed., June 12	12:30 - FCC Finance Committee
Sun., June 16	Graduation Sunday during worship
Mon, June 17	7 pm – FCC & Friends Book Group
Tues, June 18	7 pm - FCC General Board
Sat., June 22 -	10 am – Annual Women's Brunch
Sun., June 23	Noon – Sandwich making after worship
Tues., June 25	7 pm - Worship committee
Sat- Sun, June 29-30	TC Pride Festival, Loring Park

Note: Worship services are hybrid (In person and Streamed); most meetings are on Zoom unless otherwise noted. Links are sent in emails and eblasts.

Another round of sandwiches June 23

Mark your calendars for June 23 after church for putting together 200 sandwiches for Groveland Food Shelf

Also, thanks to all who helped put together hygiene kits for Church World Service on May 4. And by "all," we mean Addie, Emme, Kaden, and Lucas (our recently baptized kids)! They organized themselves into a well-oiled machine and made quick work of assembling the kits!

Graduation Sunday

Graduation Sunday will be June 16, which is also Father's Day. If you or anyone in your family is graduating this spring/summer, please let Deb Murphy know. This would be from High School, College, Technical College, or any advanced degree program. deb.murphy@fccmpls.org



We already know about one graduate: Aiden Whitaker, son of Becky and Dave Whitaker, who graduated from School of Environmental Studies

Justin Carlson wraps up year in Tacoma

Justin Carlson will be celebrated with a farewell party at First Christian Church in Tacoma, Washington June 9. He will be in another internship this summer in Chicago, then finish his third year of seminary at the Disciples Divinity House at the University of Chicago.



**NATIONAL WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME INVITES YOU!
VIEW THE 2024 INDUCTION CEREMONY**

Watch inspiring speeches by the inductees and family members!*

Register at: <https://114816.blackbaudhosting.com/114816/2024-Induction-Watch-Party---Twin-Cities>

June 13, Thursday, 5-8 pm

Springhouse Center, 610 W 28th St, Minneapolis, MN 55408

Event Host and Hall Board Member: Rita Nakashima Brock

5-5:30 pm – Reception with Hors d'oeuvres

5:30-7:30 pm – Viewing

7:30-8 pm – **Special Guests live via Zoom:**



Inductee Judith Plaskow



Hall Director Jennifer Gabriel

***Historic "Firsts" Inducted:**

Patricia Bath, (1942-2019), American ophthalmologist, inventor, humanitarian, and first Black woman physician to receive a medical patent for cataract surgery.

Ruby Bridges, civil rights activist, author, speaker and founder of The Ruby Bridges Foundation to promote tolerance and create change through education.

Elouise Pepion Cobell ("Yellow Bird Woman" of the Blackfeet Nation) (1945-2011), entrepreneur, advocate, founder of the Blackfeet National Bank, and lead plaintiff in \$3.4 billion settlement for mismanaged Indian Trust Funds.

Kimberle Crenshaw – pioneering scholar on civil rights, critical race theory, Black feminist legal theory, intersectionality, and race, racism, and the law, and author of the paper on race and gender discrimination for the United Nations' World Conference on Racism in 2001.

Peggy MacIntosh – feminist theorist of "privilege," especially white privilege, founder of the National SEED (Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity) Project on Inclusive Curriculum.

Judith Plaskow – first feminist scholar of religion in the Hall, first feminist Jewish theologian, co-founder and editor of Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion, founder of B'not Esh, a Jewish feminist spirituality collective, and first lesbian president of the American Academy of Religion.

Loretta Ross – co-creator of BIPOC feminist theory of Reproductive Justice, National Coordinator of the SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective, Co-Director of the 2004 March for Women's Lives, and founder of the National Center for Human Rights Education (NCHRE).

Sandy Stone – openly trans woman, creator of a framework for identity beyond gender essentialism and founder of transgender studies, founding Director of the Advanced Communication Technologies Laboratory (ACTLab) at UT Austin.

Anna Wessels Williams, (1863-1954), American pathologist at New York Department of Health's diagnostic laboratory, first woman elected chair of the laboratory section of the American Public Health Association, and researcher for vaccines for diphtheria and rabies, as well as scarlet fever, smallpox, influenza, and meningitis.

Serena Williams, No. 1 in singles for 319 weeks in the Women's Tennis Association, with a joint-record 186 consecutive weeks, year-end No. 1 five times, 23 Grand Slam singles titles, the most in the Open Era and second-most ever, and an entrepreneur, investor, fashion designer, and executive producer.

(Full bios of all the amazing inductees at <https://www.womenofthehall.org/hall-of-fame-induction/2024-inductees/>)

Note that Rita Nakashima Brock, member of FCC, is the host for this watch party event to be held at SpringHouse!



*It's summertime! And it's time
for another corny pool party
poem...*

Invitation for 1st Christian Church Women's Pool Party – Summer 2024

The summer season has arrived; hot weather is here again,
I've scheduled a women's pool party; **4:30 or 5:00 is when it ends.**
Last year, the heat index registered, close to one hundred and eight,
But the lot of us stayed hydrated; no one suffered a bad sun-burned fate.

I'll serve sloppy joes in crock pots—both barbequed chicken and saucy beef,
Along with unsweetened iced tea; notably, the brand is called, "Pure Leaf."
This time it's a partial potluck; we'll all have many a dish,
Remember that swimming is officially optional, if you don't want to be a fish.

There are now many garden statues, located around our pool,
The frog figurines are my favorite; all over the backyard those toads rule.
You'll see a peculiar "Toad Abode;" there's a small door to enter the hut,
And there are sunbathing frogs that are "chilling;" maybe next year they'll play putt-putt.
You may find the frogs adorable, and want to give them numerous hugs,
Since there are two cute toads sitting together, playing checkers with ladybugs!

I can't wait for this lively gathering; every year it's part of my summer fun,
You should take a break from your labors; leave any mundane chores "undone."
By this, I am not encouraging delinquency, or laziness and sloth,
But a swimsuit will feel much better, instead of wearing cotton or similar cloth.

Saturday, July 20th, is the swim party's mid-summer date,
It starts at about 11:00, but for all latecomers we'll await.
Everyone will laugh and socialize; we'll have scads of summer fun,
Come! And make some memories, under the radiance of God's golden sun!

--Arlene Jorgensen Hillestad

If you want to bring a dish (not required), **call me at 612-309-4360**, and we'll organize food so we don't duplicate items. I'll have all the beverages, sloppy joes, baked beans, chips and, hopefully, sorbet. Desserts might be a good idea, salads, and fruit or other side you believe would be fun eating. **If the weather does not cooperate on July 20th, we'll reschedule for the 1st of 2nd Saturday in August.**

SpringHouse News

Houseplant Care Clinic

Saturday, June 8 - 10 am to noon

Volunteers wanted!

Do you have a houseplant that needs help? Repotting with some fresh soil might be just what the plant doctor ordered!

Come to Springhouse on Saturday, June 8, and we'll help you repot that plant! We're also repotting several of the plants around Springhouse - so if you can spare the time, we'd welcome your help with that too. Potting soil provided. For more info, contact Jon Hanke, Mary Vanderford or Wendy Eidukas.

Adopt a (Spring)house plant!

Now through June 16

Several of the plants around Springhouse are struggling and in need of new homes. These include:

- Christmas Cactuses from South Sanctuary
- Queen of Thorns* from Timothy meeting room
- Peace Lily* from Baptismal Font
- Norfolk Pines from Library (these like direct sunlight)
- Ficus trees* from Library

All are free to anyone who wants them! These plants will be gathered in the common area and available until Sunday, June 16; after that, they'll be discarded.

** These plants may be toxic if by humans or pets.*

Jon Hanke
612-910-3107

Livdahl Legacy Update

Salem church concluded the Livdahl Legacy campaign on Pentecost Sunday. After seven weeks



of story-telling and fundraising, the total of funds raised was \$15,710.10, busting through the initial goal of \$5,000.

Congratulations to Salem and the Livdahl's for this wonderful campaign.

Lyndale Ave. forum at SH

SpringHouse community members will soon have an opportunity to weigh in on the Lyndale Avenue reconstruction project that will begin in 2027. (You may have seen the signs about this project that have been posted for several months.) Hennepin County is hosting a drop-in community conversation right here at SpringHouse on Tuesday, June 11 from 4-6 PM. More info and additional ways to give feedback can be found

here: <https://beheardhennepin.org/lyndale-avenue>

SpringHouse board notes

The SpringHouse board met Sunday, June 2 via Zoom. Highlights from the meeting include the following:

- The pastors and board chairs from the three churches will be meeting to decide on the date for the next sanctuary move, which will be sometime this summer.
- Building Coordinator Alison Jones will be on vacation on the following dates: June 20-29 and August 5-7.
- Treasurer Andy Rennert presented the Profit and Loss figures for SH. Spending is staying within the projected budget lines for the most part. Andy also announced that he will be stepping down as SpringHouse Treasurer at the end of this year.

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 Third Sunday after Pentecost Mark 3: 20-35



Brothers and sisters of
Christ in Paraguay

Reflections on the Word.

Mark 3:35: Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

Jesus redefines family in these verses from Mark. In his multidimensional view, kinship is based not just on blood, but on doing God's will. Jesus' family is not only his mother, brothers and sisters, but also the circle of his disciples and indeed anyone around him who loves, honors and lives out the will of God.

Loving God, Help us learn what your will for us truly is. Amen.

C. Clifton Black, on the "Working Preacher" website. (adapted)

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

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
OF MINNEAPOLIS
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
610 W. 28th Street
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*A Welcoming Community of Faith in the Heart of the
City*

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Next issue deadline is Sunday, June 30