

TODAY, MARCH 6, 2016

8:30 a.m.

- Dwelling in Prayer and the Word (Swedish room)

9:30 a.m.

- Worship and communion (sanctuary)
- Children's programming during worship
Nursery – infants through age 3 (Nursery & Toddler Room)
Children's church – ages 4 through 5th grade (Room 252)

11:00 a.m.

- Playtime for kids and parents (gym)
- Women's History Month event (multi-purpose room)

Dan Collison, Lead Pastor / dcollison@1stcov.org

Ashley Aamot, Receptionist / info@1stcov.org

Heather Albinson, Volunteer Visual Arts Associate / halbinson@1stcov.org

Bruce Balgaard, Director of Worship / bbalgaard@1stcov.org

Norm Blagman, Homeless Shelter Volunteer Coordinator / shelter@1stcov.org

Todd Bratulich, Pastor for Community and Mission Engagement / tbratulich@1stcov.org

Carma Gjerner, Director of Children & Families / cgjerner@1stcov.org

Brian Ogren, Church Administrator / bogren@1stcov.org

Charlie Peterson, Communications Coordinator / cpeterson@1stcov.org

Robert Robinson, Artist in Residence / rrobinson@1stcov.org

Doug Vigoren, Facilities Manager / dvigoren@1stcov.org

Sara Wilhelm Garbers, Office Manager / Preaching Team / swilhelmgarbers@1stcov.org

MetroKids Early Childhood Education

612-332-5437 www.metrokids.org

Charice Deegan, Executive Director / cdeegan@metrokids.org

THIS WEEK AT FIRST COVENANT

MONDAY, MARCH 7

11:30 a.m. Interlude

TUESDAY, MARCH 8

6:30 p.m. *United International Christian Fellowship*

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

10:00 p.m. Life Group at Augustana Senior Apartments

1:00 p.m. *Christian Legal Aid*

THURSDAY, MARCH 10

6:30 p.m. Gospel Choir rehearsal (lounge)

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

Church office closed

SATURDAY, MARCH 12

6:30 p.m. *United International Christian Fellowship*

NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 13

8:30 a.m.

- **Dwelling in Prayer and the Word** (Swedish room)

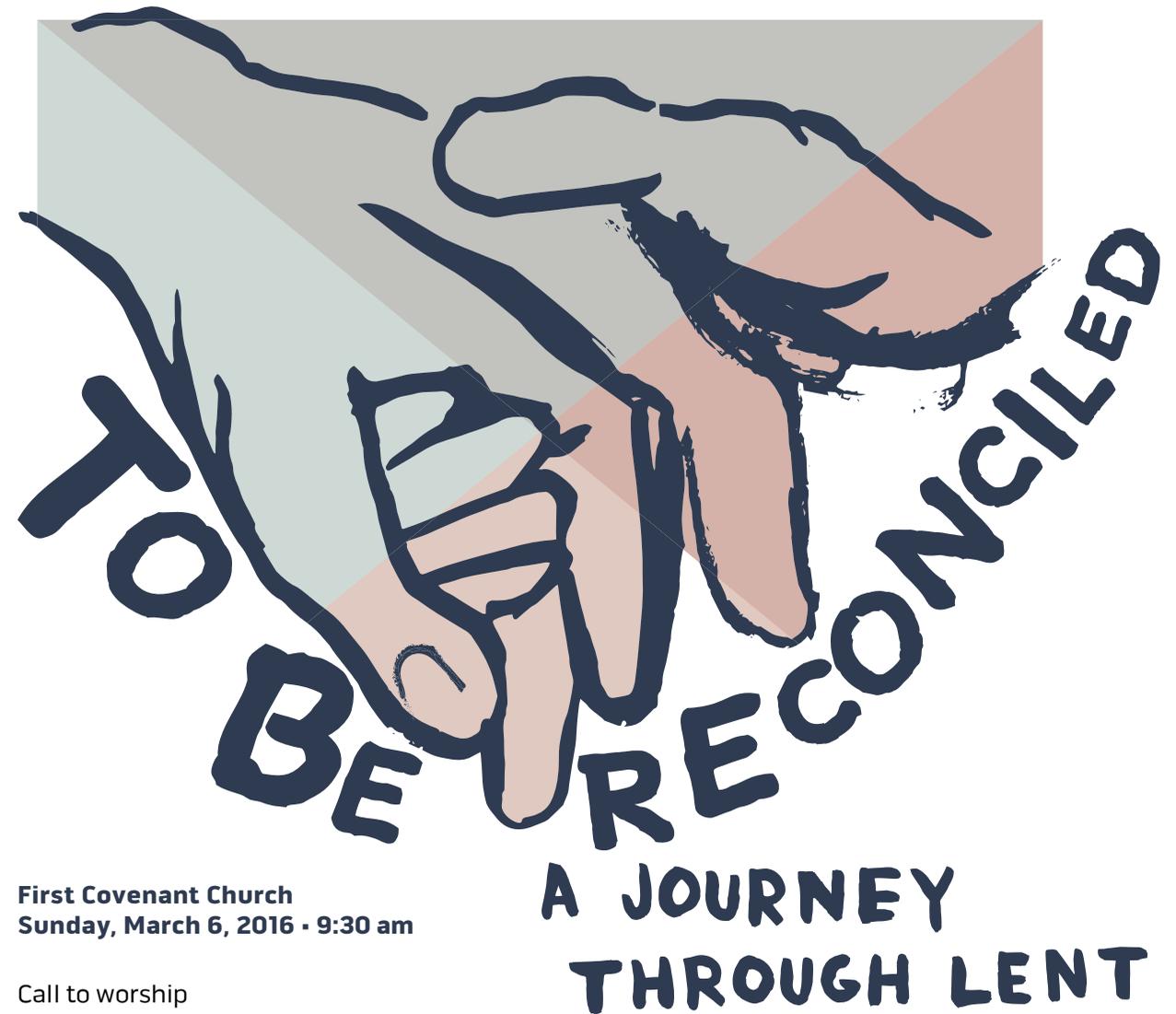
9:30 a.m.

- **Worship** (sanctuary)
- **Children's programming during worship**
Nursery – infants through age 3 (nursery & toddler room)
Children's church – ages 4 through 5th grade (room 252)

11:00 a.m.

- **Playtime for kids and parents** (gym)
- **Adjourned annual meeting** (sanctuary)
- **All-church meal** (fellowship hall)

First Covenant Church events are listed in bold type.



First Covenant Church
Sunday, March 6, 2016 • 9:30 am

Call to worship

"Hallelujah You're Worthy to be Praised"

Welcome and announcements

"Bless the Lord"

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

(Children are excused for children's church)

Offering

Women's History Month: A Conversation about Gender, Justice and Faith

Message: "A New Way to See" (2 Corinthians 5:16-21)

Communion

"Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)"

"The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power"

Benediction



"A NEW WAY TO SEE"

Welcome!

First Covenant Church is a diverse, multi-generational, urban Christian community offering hope and transformation through the love of God and the life and teachings of Jesus.

Visitors, we would love to meet you. After the worship service, stop by the front of the Sanctuary for a warm welcome by ministry staff.

Glad You're Here

Welcome, children: Care for infants through age three is available beginning at 9:20 a.m. for the worship service. Children's church (ages 4 through fifth grade) begins right before the sermon starts. An announcement will be made and teachers will guide kids to Room 252. After the worship service, pick up your children and stick around for conversation and coffee.

Get your caffeine jolt: The Kafeino Coffee stand offers delicious coffee beverages at a reduced rate. Or pick up a free cup of coffee in the foyer.

How can we help you? The connection card in your worship guide is one way to ask for prayer, get information, and let your voice be heard. Fill out a card and drop it in the offering plate. If you have a question or prayer request, write it on the back. Pastors and staff meet every week to pray.

Read all about it: First Covenant's newsletter, *First Things*, is available in the foyer and usher stands. To receive future newsletters electronically, write your email address on the back of your connection card and place it in the offering.

Bibles are available: If you would like to have a Bible of your own, ask an usher.

The FCC website: Check out 1stcov.org for up-to-date event schedules, ministry opportunities, and sermon MP3s and PDFs.

Community

The speaker today is Dan Collison, Lead Pastor of First Covenant Church.

Dwelling in Prayer and the Word: From 8:30–9:15 a.m., you are invited to a quiet space where you will receive Sunday morning's scripture to read and meditate upon. It's an opportunity to prepare for worship, reflect in the quiet, listen for God's voice, and seek God in prayer. Dwelling is available every Sunday (except when there are Wake-Ups) in the Swedish Room located at the top of the ramp in the foyer.

Celebrate communion: Everyone pursuing a journey with Jesus Christ is invited to join in communion today. Not sure what that means? Speak with one of the pastors at the front of the sanctuary after the worship service. If you would like to pray with someone, come to the front of the sanctuary during communion.

Join us this month as we celebrate Women's History Month and explore together matters related to gender, faith, and justice. We will feature various conversations related to gender and faith during worship services throughout the month, and are hosting a special third hour experience TODAY in the Multi-Purpose room, immediately following the service. The program will follow in the vein of last week's Breaking Ice "Where I'm From" as we consider our stories and the stories of others in our community. All are invited to join us for this special third hour event. Additionally, on Sunday, March 20, the Committee on Racial and Economic Justice will focus on issues of gender and justice. Please join in the conversation as we grow together as a community.

Shelter volunteers: The First Covenant temporary homeless shelter is going strong. Will you assist Salvation Army staff during a short evening or morning shift? Please check out the online volunteer calendar for open dates (www.1stcov.org/missional/homeless-shelter) or contact Shelter Volunteer Coordinator Norm Blagman (shelter@1stcov.org or 612-927-3125).

Quarterly offering opportunity: Four times each year, FCC offers a special giving opportunity to ministry partners. The gifts received go directly to these organizations to assist in their important work. The first quarter's organization is Downtown Congregation to End Homelessness (DCEH) whose vision is to ensure that everyone has access to safe, decent, and affordable housing in Minneapolis. To learn more about DCEH, visit their website at DCEH.org. To participate, use the First Quarter Special Giving envelope from your offering envelopes or write First Quarter Special Giving on your check. Thank you for your support of this important ministry.

This week, please pray for Twin Cities Christian Legal Aid (TCCLA). TCCLA seeks to serve the poor, disabled and homeless by offering legal advice, limited assistance and spiritual counsel in various locations around the Twin Cities as well as referrals to Christian and other agencies in order to help individuals and their families become free of legal entanglements and become reconciled with God. TCCLA is here at First Covenant every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m.

What's Ahead

Recharge, refresh: Next Sunday, experience God at First Covenant Church through music, scripture, the arts, and community. The worship service begins at 9:30 a.m. The message, "A New Kind of Confidence," is the second week in our Lenten series, "To Be Reconciled."

Gospel Choir (Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.): Join us in the lounge this week and lend your voice to the First Covenant Gospel Choir led by Robert Robinson. No choir experience is necessary. You are needed and wanted.

Adjourned Annual Meeting / All-church meal (Sunday, March 13, after the service): Our Adjourned Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 13, immediately following the church service. We will share ministry updates, the pastor's report, and update you on several important matters and opportunities before our congregation. Immediately following the meeting, we will enjoy an all-church meal in the Fellowship Hall. We encourage all to make time to attend; you do not need to be a member as the purpose of this meeting is for the sharing of information and to celebrate the continuing life of our church community and how God is actively leading FCC.

Holy Week Wake-Up (Sunday, March 20, 8:30 a.m.): Wake-Ups are multi-generational, family friendly times where everyone is welcomed as we gather to awaken our hearts and bodies to the love and presence of God. Our Holy Week Wake Up will include some time of reflection, painting our prayers and an invitation to enjoy deliciousness both spiritually and physically. For more information please contact Todd Bratulich at tbratulich@1stcov.org or Carma Gjerner at cgjerner@1stcov.org.

Save the Date: Maundy Thursday Service (Thursday, March 24, 7:00 p.m.): Join us for a special Maundy Thursday service as we come to the end of the season of lent and journey through Holy Week. Experience "The Table of Reconciliation" as we enter into the story of Jesus' last night with his disciples on the eve of his death through reflection, worship, and participation in the sacraments Jesus instituted on that solemn night. Childcare will be provided.

Run or Walk 6K for Clean Water (Saturday, March 19, 9:30 a.m. Doors open at 9 a.m.): Join your First Covenant friends and family on March 19th for a family oriented 6k run/walk for clean water! Meet here at FCC, and enjoy a beautiful run/walk along the Mississippi river. 6 kilometers is the average distance that women and children in developing countries walk to reach unsafe drinking water. You can walk, you can run, you can bring your kids, your stroller, your dog, your non-running self and friends! Register today after the service or at: <http://bit.ly/roundtheriver6k> Contact Nick Cross with questions at nhcross@gmail.com (740) 701-3459 or to volunteer.