

TOPAY,
JULY 31, 2016

THIS WEEK
AT FIRST COVENANT

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.

- Town Hall meeting (lounge)

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

Ashley Aamot, Administrative Assistant / info@1stcov.org

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

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

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MONDAY, AUGUST 1

11:30 a.m. Interlude

6:30 p.m. "Who Is This Man? A Summer Run With Jesus" class (lounge)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2

6:30 p.m. *United International Christian Fellowship* (lounge)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5

Church office closed

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

6:30 p.m. *United International Christian Fellowship* (lounge)

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 7

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.

• **Congregational meeting** (sanctuary)

First Covenant Church events are listed in bold type.

WORK LIFE

**First Covenant Church
Sunday, July 31, 2016 - 9:30 am**

Welcome and experiential reflection

Announcements

(Children are excused for children's church)

Offering

God at work: Sarah Swanson

Dramatic reading: "I Know My Soul"

Message, Part I: "Ethics and Integrity"

"St. Patrick's Breastplate"

"All the Poor and Powerless"

Message, Part II: "Ethics and Integrity"

"Center"

"Instruments of Peace"

Benediction

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.

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 the new-and-improved 1stcov.org for up-to-date event schedules, ministry opportunities, and sermon MP3s and PDFs.

Community

Our speaker today, Sara Wilhelm Garbers, is a member of FCC's staff and preaching team, teaches at Bethel and United Theological Seminaries, and is also working on her Ph.D. dissertation at Loyola University in Chicago in Integrative Studies in Ethics and Theology (with a focus in Ethics). She and her spouse, Andy, are grateful to be a part of the First Cov community!

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.

Town Hall meeting today: Please join us in the lounge after today's service for an informational Town Hall meeting. During this time, the Leadership Team will present designs, maps, and all additional details as they develop and will entertain any questions you might have so that you will be able to make an informed vote at the congregational meeting on August 7, 2016 (see *What's Ahead* for more information).

Monthly Group Runs: First Covenant runners of all abilities are welcome to join a new monthly group running group. Join us the first Saturday of every month in the First Covenant parking lot for a morning jog by the river. We'll decide on distance that morning and brunch after!

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, "The Job/Rest Balance," is week eight of our series on purpose, "Work Life." We will celebrate communion.

Who is this Man? A Summer Run with Jesus (Mondays, July 18–August 22, 6:30-8:30 p.m.): You are challenged to come on a seven-week adventure pilgrimage as we become part of the crowd following Jesus. Together we will read the four gospels in chronological order. We

will attempt to capture a true life historical account, following Jesus throughout His ministry. Using maps and historical background of the times, we will become "a fly on the wall" or one of the crowd, attempting to see and experience for ourselves, who really was Jesus—a good teacher, a prophet, or truly God in flesh among us? And ultimately, you are invited take a chance to see if this pilgrimage can actually change your faith in any way. Contact Chris Fossum (christinefossum@me.com) for the class outline or any other information or questions.

Congregational Meeting (Sunday, August 7, 11:00 a.m.): The Leadership Team is calling a Congregational Meeting to authorize the Leadership Team to enter into and implement a long term ground lease with Community Housing Development Corp. (CHDC) The ground lease will allow CHDC to build and lease approximately 159 affordable housing units. In exchange, CHDC will fund the site redevelopment and a number of important improvements to the church building. At this meeting we expect to discuss and ask for authority for the Leadership Team to enter into appropriate agreements to develop and manage a parking facility that will be underneath the new affordable housing complex and part of the current parking lot along with an aboveground parking area.

Our constitution does not allow for proxy votes on matters such as these so it is imperative for as many members as possible to be in attendance for this important vote.

All Church Picnic and Baptism (Sunday, August 28, 4:00 p.m.): Mark your calendars! On August 28, we will be gathering together for a picnic and lake baptism at beautiful Theodore Wirth Beach in North Minneapolis. The park offers lots of recreational options including a playground for children, swimming beach, and plenty of green space for all ages to enjoy. Come as early and stay as late as you want. We will secure a picnic spot around 4 p.m., eat at 5 p.m., and hold the baptism service at 6 p.m. Church will provide the hot dogs, lemonade, and paper products, you bring a dish to share. Interested in being baptized? Get in touch with Todd Bratulich at tbratulich@1stcov.org!

Sunday Worship is moving to a new site on September 11!

First Covenant Church is in the final stages of committing to a complete site redevelopment, including the new construction of an affordable housing project, parking structure and upgrades to the church facility. It has been determined that Sunday, September 11 is the necessary date to begin worshipping at an alternate location during the construction phase of redevelopment. North Central University in Elliot Park (located just three blocks away at 1410 Elliot Ave. So., Minneapolis, MN 55404) has agreed to provide parking and host our worship services in the Trask Worship Center, which includes both a large worship space and classrooms for children's programs. Worship will continue to be held at 9:30 a.m. Questions? Please contact the church office at info@1stcov.org or 612-927-3101.

