

TODAY, OCTOBER 22, 2017

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.

- Committee on Racial & Economic Justice (CREJ)
(Lounge)

noon

- Vikings v. Ravens (volunteers needed!)

12:30 p.m.

- *Street Voices of Change* (lounge)

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

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

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

Lisa Albinson, Volunteer Visual Artist / lalbinson@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

Joy Erickson, Pastor of Congregational Care / jerickson@1stcov.org

Carma Gjerning, Director of Children & Families / cgjerning@1stcov.org

Ashley Grinnell, Associate Music Director / agrinnell@1stcov.org

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

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

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

Sara Wilhelm Garbers, Pastor of Connections /
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MetroKids Early Childhood Education

612-332-5437 / www.metrokids.org

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 23

11:30 a.m. Interlude

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24

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

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

Church office closed

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

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

NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

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)

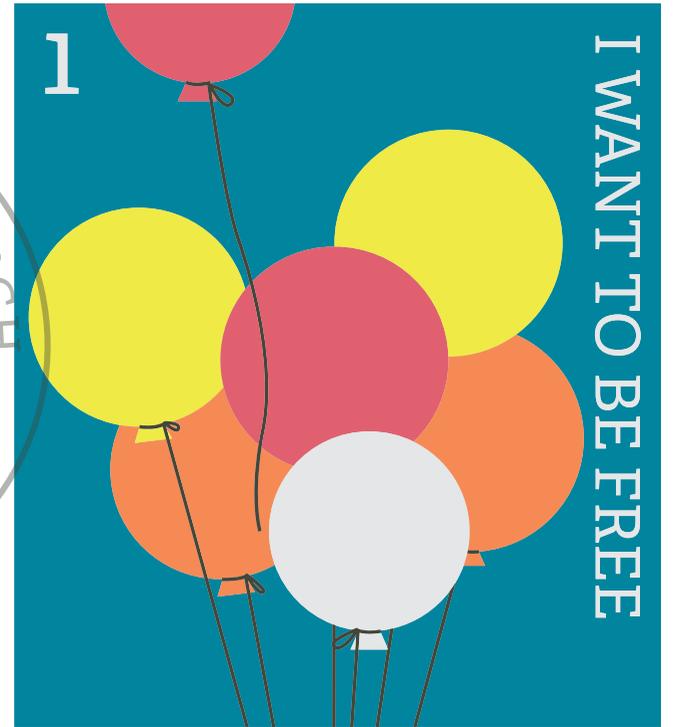
12:30 p.m.

- *Street Voices of Change* (Lounge)

First Covenant Church events are listed in bold type.



**Heard something great, but didn't
have a chance to make a note?**
Head to 1stcov.org this week and grab
the MP3 of today's sermon!



First Covenant Church Sunday, October 22, 2017 - 9:30 am

"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Welcome and greeting

"If You Say Go"

"Instruments of Peace"

"All the Poor and Powerless"

(Children are dismissed for children's church)

Offering

Message: "The Crucible of Equality" (Galatians 3:26-4:31)

"One Voice"

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 first** 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.

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.

Today's Speaker

Dan Collison is our Senior Pastor. He sometimes calls this work serving as "air traffic control" for the thriving and engaged First Covenant community. In addition to his work as our leader, Dan also serves as a civic leader for the downtown Minneapolis business community. Dan has been serving churches since the 90s in various leadership capacities. He received a B.M. from the Eastman School of Music (NY), M.Div. from Bethel Seminary (MN), and D.Min. from Fuller Seminary (CA), and is an ordained minister in the Evangelical Covenant Church (ECC). He says, "I love helping people discover the joy of Christian faith and serving others." If you are looking to connect further with this community of faith, please let him know.

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 in the Swedish Room located at the top of the ramp in the foyer.

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 on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 1:00 p.m.

Do you have a passion for sustainability and recycling? Do you want to see our community and partners who share our building create best practices based on environmental consciousness? Do you want to be a partner in that work? First Covenant is starting a "green team" to own the work of making our building a more sustainable place as we work to implement new ways to tackle being green. No prior experience or major time commitment is necessary to be involved! Email Maddy Bartsch at saltofthenorth@gmail.com to find out more and get involved.

Shelter volunteers needed! As we get ready to begin our seventh season of providing shelter for adults experiencing homelessness, we are looking for volunteers in a couple of capacities.

1. *Serve a meal.* Sign up as an individual or organize a group to help purchase, prepare and serve an evening meal to our shelter guests. The schedule is filling up fast, so check out the calendar of available dates at www.1stcov.org/shelter. Then, pick a date for your group and email Norm Blagman at shelter@1stcov.org to reserve your date.
2. *Serve as a volunteer advocate.* Advocates work more directly with guests by assisting St. Stephen's staff with nightly check-in process, building connections with staff & guests, and helping guide volunteer groups as needed. Position requires a somewhat consistent presence (weekly or biweekly preferred). Training will be provided. We'd love to provide a volunteer advocate every night of the week! Contact Todd or Norm for more information.

What's Ahead

CREJ today at 11am! Join us in the Lounge after the worship service for our monthly gathering of the Committee on Racial and Economic Justice (CREJ) for a facilitated conversation around the intersection of race, justice, and faith. Today's topic, "Taking a Knee: The Power of Symbols in Public Discourse" will explore the current controversy around Colin Kaepernick as a window into how difficult conversations about race take shape in our cultural contexts, and how symbols function to both create and shape the discourse.

DCEH Volunteer Training (This Wednesday, October 25, 6:30 p.m.): Are you interested in volunteering in our homeless shelter, but struggle to know how to engage with people experiencing homelessness? Join us as First Covenant hosts a volunteer training event with the Downtown Congregations to End Homelessness (DCEH) on Wednesday, October 25 at 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall. The evening will include a meal, introduction to the FCC Shelter, and training on the topic of "Difficult Conversations". We are currently in need of a few additional FCC volunteers to help host the event. Please contact Pastor Todd Bratulich if you are interested in participating or volunteering.

Just Mercy Book Club (This Thursday, October 26, 6:30 p.m.): We're a group of readers who want to open our minds and hearts to books that will inform and change us. We meet on the last Thursday of every month, from 6:30–8:00 p.m. at Open Book Minneapolis (1011 S Washington Ave, Minneapolis). This group is open to all who want to learn more about issues of race, justice and more. Please join the Just Mercy Book Club group on Facebook for current information. What we're reading this month: *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe.

A New Advent Experience (Beginning December 5): Join the Advent Meditation group, meeting this year on three Tuesday evenings, December 5, 12, 18, from 6:30 - 8:30pm, at First Covenant, as we explore art journaling together. Art journaling is a way of playing with color, images and words to express our feeling and thoughts as we read scripture and pray together. There is NO previous art experience required. The group will be engaging with Henri Nouwen's book, *Advent and Christmas*. Contact Joy Erickson at jerickson@1cov.org to register or if you have any questions. The book and supplies will be available at the first gathering on December 5th.

SAVE THE DATE: Sabbath Retreat (January 19-20, 2018): You are invited to begin the new year finding rest, renewal and delight in the midst of the fullness of your life on the First Covenant Sabbath Retreat, January 19-20, 2018 at the Franciscan Retreat Center in Prior Lake, MN. More information, registration forms, and details of the retreat will be available in November.

Upcoming Meetings

Town Hall meeting (Next Sunday, October 29, 11:00 a.m.): You are invited to attend a Town Hall meeting in advance of our Annual Meeting (which will be held on Sunday, November 12). During the town hall meeting, we will hear updates on site redevelopment, preview our 2018 budget proposal, and meet our candidates for various Leadership Team positions.

Listen & Dialogue (Sunday, November 5, 11:00 a.m.): Join us for a follow-up conversation based on your response to our initial inquiry as to the ways in which we are formed and grounded theologically as a community of faith. We will have compiled your responses and intend to engage in more dialogue as we refine our mission and vision as a community.

All-church meal and annual business meeting (Sunday, November 12, 11:00 a.m.): Please join us for our monthly all-church meal in Fellowship Hall, followed by the annual business meeting at noon in the Sanctuary.

Notes
