

TODAY, AUGUST 6, 2017

THIS WEEK AT FIRST COVENANT

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.

- First Sunday Lunch (Normandy Inn, 405 S. 8th St.)

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

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Sara Wilhelm Garbers, Pastor of Connections / swilhelmgarbers@1stcov.org

MetroKids Early Childhood Education

612-332-5437 / www.metrokids.org

Charice Deegan, Executive Director

cdeegan@metrokids.org



MONDAY, AUGUST 7

11:30 a.m. Interlude

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11

Church office closed

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12

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

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 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.

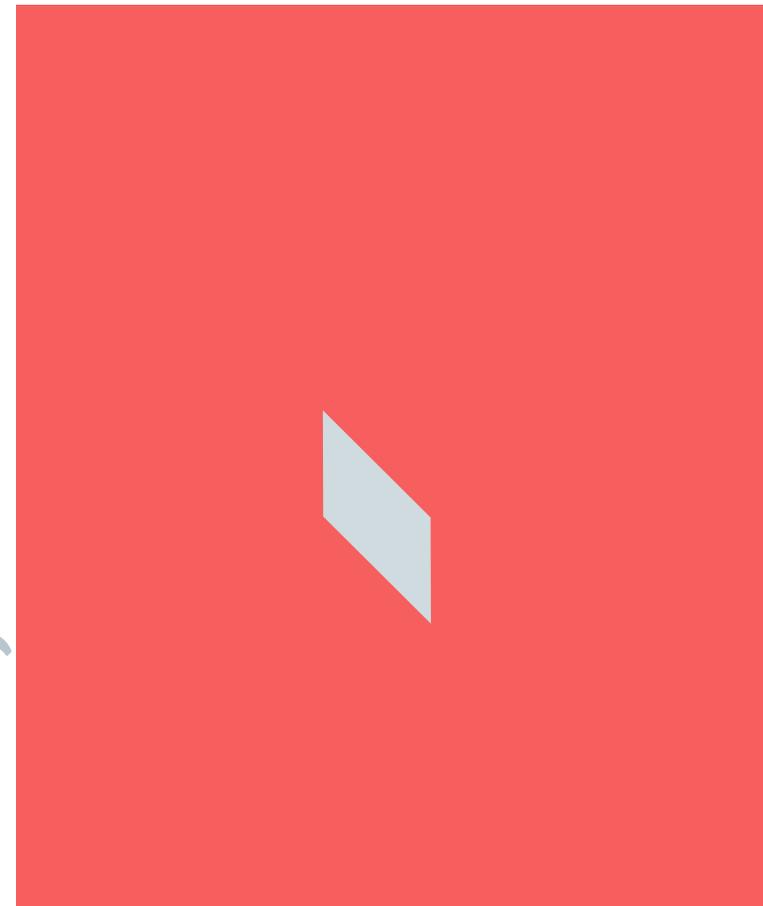
- **All-church meal** (fellowship hall)

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!

“Why We Gather”



First Covenant Church Sunday, August 6, 2017 - 9:30 am

Call to worship

“Love Can Change the World”

“Bringing in the Sheaves”

Welcome and greeting

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

“St. Patrick's Breastplate”

(Children are dismissed for children's church)

Offering

Message: “Growing Together Spiritually” (Acts 2:42-47)

Communion

“None But Jesus”

“Thank You for Hearing Me”

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.

Is it hot in here? First Covenant Church is well over a century old and it has never had air conditioning. That's the bad news. The good news is the lounge is nice and cool. If you're overheated, step through the door to the right and back of the sanctuary, find a cozy chair, and listen to the service in comfort.

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

Sara Wilhelm Garbers is our Pastor of Connections and is a core member of our preaching team. Her efforts focus on connecting the community with one another and with the mission of First Covenant. She seeks to foster relational spaces for authentic points of connection while also strategically implementing the mission of First Cov

through our collective efforts. Sara is working on her Ph.D. in Ethics at Loyola University in Chicago and teaches at United Seminary. If you are wondering about how you might connect here, and/or how you might lead connection efforts and the building of community, please reach out to Sara.

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.

Celebrate communion: Today we celebrate communion together, which is one of the most poignant and ancient practices of the Christian faith that affirms the completeness of the work of God in Christ on our behalf. If Christian faith and community is new or unformed in your life, please know that at First Covenant we are a grace-filled gathering of people who see ourselves as a family of equals, everyone humbly in need of grace. We are committed to a journey of generous and openhanded faith in which everyone is given safe space to journey toward Jesus Christ. So, whether new to Christ or renewed in Christ, we are all invited to the table of God to encounter the love and grace of Christ as we receive the elements (bread and cup).

First Sunday Lunch: Join with others from First Covenant for lunch today after the service! The invitation is open to all, and provides a way for us to get to know each other more. You can meet in the lobby and walk over together or meet us at Normandy Inn (405 S. 8th St.). Parking is free with a validated ticket. If you have questions please call Ruthie Mattox (651-283-7317) or Barbara Newman (847-868-4672).

This week please pray for the Downtown Congregations to End Homelessness (DCEH). DCEH is an interfaith collaboration of 14 downtown Minneapolis congregations working together to end homelessness and poverty. DCEH focuses on shifting from an immediate needs approach to long term solutions through a combination of education, advocacy and action.

MetroKids Needs You! MetroKids is hiring an Assistant Teacher in the toddler and infant classrooms. Competitive salary and rich benefits are offered. If you or someone you know is interested in applying for the position, please send a cover letter and resume to the Executive Director, Charice Deegan at cdeegan@metrokids.org. Thank you!

What's Ahead

Recharge, refresh: Next Sunday, experience God at First Covenant Church through music, scripture, the arts, and community. The service begins at 9:30 a.m. The message, "Talking Generously About Generosity," continues the "Valuing Grace-Filled Accountability" segment of our "Why We Gather" series.

Repairing the Breach: A Gathering on Racial Justice in Incarceration and Immigration Policies in Hennepin County (Saturday, August 12, 11:00 a.m.): Join us at Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church 2600 E 38th Street Minneapolis as we gather with hundreds of leaders from churches across Hennepin County for a prophetic dialogue with Sheriff Stanek and Attorney Freeman, encouraging them to ensure that love, justice and dignity are at the center of policies on immigration and criminal justice. We will hear stories of how our families and communities are being impacted by existing incarceration and deportation policies, and we will call our County's leaders to work with us to repair the breach and to bring healing and justice to our broken immigration and criminal justice systems. The event is free but registration is required at tinyurl.com/repairingthebreach. Childcare will be provided at the meeting! Contact Barbara Newman for more info at newman.barbara@gmail.com

All-church meal (Sunday, August 13, 11:00 a.m.): Next Sunday, after the worship service, please join us in the fellowship hall for our monthly all-church meal! If you'd like to bring a dish to share, please sign up in the lobby after today's service.

Congregational meeting (Sunday, August 20, 11:00 a.m.): Please join us for an important congregational meeting in which we will discuss the following: 1) vote to consolidate debt as affordable housing project moves forward; 2) provide financial giving update; and 3) review opportunities to Build Beloved Community through our time and talents. In accordance with our bylaws, only those who have been members for six months or longer will be able to vote, but ALL members of our community are invited and welcome to attend this meeting.

All Church Picnic and Baptism (Sunday, August 27, 5:00 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 (<https://goo.gl/maps/7d1CKAS2tCJ2>). 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!

Just Mercy Book Club: 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. **Next get-together:** Thursday, August 31, 6:30 pm. We'll be discussing Michelle Alexander's *The New Jim Crow*. See you there!

One More Light

Linkin Park

Should've stayed, were there signs, I ignored?
Can I help you, not to hurt, anymore?
We saw brilliance, when the world, was asleep
There are things that we can have, but can't keep

If they say
Who cares if one more light goes out?
In the sky of a million stars
It flickers, flickers
Who cares when someone's time runs out?
If a moment is all we are
Or quicker, quicker
Who cares if one more light goes out?
Well I do

The reminders, pull the floor from your feet
In the kitchen, one more chair than you need, oh
And you're angry, and you should be, it's not fair
Just 'cause you can't see it, doesn't mean it, isn't there

If they say
Who cares if one more light goes out?
In the sky of a million stars
It flickers, flickers
Who cares when someone's time runs out?
If a moment is all we are
Or quicker, quicker
Who cares if one more light goes out?
Well I do