



The Link



Volume 41, Number 20

June 24, 2010

Sunday Worship:

6/27/10 at 9:20 AM
Sondra Eddings preaching

7/4/10 at 9:20 AM
Tim Diebel preaching

7/11/10 at 9:20 AM
Tim Diebel preaching

Prayer Themes:

June 27: **Summer:** Please pray for all summer vacationers: for safe travels, good health, and for times of refreshment and rejuvenation.

July 4: **Independence Day:** Please give thanks for the freedoms we enjoy, and pray that God grants all of us the grace we need to fulfill our responsibilities to our neighbors here and around the globe.

July 11: **Concerts:** Please pray for everyone who attends a concert or event at First Christian, especially for those who don't know Christ, or who don't yet have a church home.



CAMP NEWS

To Camp We Go!

First Christian youth have a couple of busy camp weeks ahead. Please hold in prayer the following campers:

Junior Camp #3 (June 28-July 3) – Escher S.

ChiRho Camp #9 (June 28-July 3) – Samantha R., Elijah S., Ethan S., Dylan M., and Steeli Ss

ADAM Camp (July 5-9) – Amy De., Samantha R., and Thayne H.

PeeWee Camp (July 6-8) – Adam R. and Noah B.

GrandCamp #21 (July 10-11) – Keyla M. and her grandpa, Jerry M.

What a wonderful experience is in store for all of them.

NEWS FROM



Grace Offering



A Relevant Message

I have been thinking and praying a lot about how we can make the gospel message relevant for this world we find ourselves in... The message of God's love for and intimate involvement with humanity is vast and unchanging. But I am aware that the language we use to tell others about it, and the way that it is expressed in our lives does change. So how do we see today's happenings, the events of our lives in the ancient stories? What language do we use to connect God's truth of life with our lives?

In one of the classes I took in seminary, I helped plan a worship service that aimed to connect to people who were new to the church. A service that had to assume that most of the people attending did not understand the jargon used in most churches. My task was to prepare the communion meditation. It was difficult to explain the significance of the Last Supper, disciples, bread, cup, salvation... without using words that we've "always" used, which new-Christians or non-Christians wouldn't understand. I found that I had to re-write the meditation several times. That exercise has helped me be a little more aware of what I say and how I say it. Liturgy is wonderful, but only when it holds meaning for the people participating.

How do the ancient stories, the history of God's involvement in the lives of people – how do these things connect to you today? How do you share with other people your understanding of the truth of God's love?

As we seek to create a place of welcome for others, especially for others who are most likely not familiar with or comfortable with traditional worship, what are ways we can help make the ancient stories relevant for new hearers? How can we make the truth of God's love for all persons come alive in ways others relate to?

I'd love to hear your thoughts. Send me an email, call me, or stop me to talk when you have time.

May the God of Peace strengthen you this week.

Suzanne

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH STAFF

Senior Minister

Timothy C. Diebel tdiebel@fccdm.org

Minister of Community Life

Sondra Eddings seddings@fccdm.org

Minister of Family Life

Suzanne Stout [sstout@fccdm.org](mailto:ss Stout@fccdm.org)

Minister of Music

Carl B. Staplin Carl.Staplin@drake.edu

Music Director/Composer in Residence

Ben Allaway BENLMNOP@aol.com

Bookkeeper

Steve DeHaven sdehaven@fccdm.org

Custodian

Richard Shoemaker (no e-mail)

Office Administrator

Nanette Johnson njohnson@fccdm.org

Save the Date!

Annual Picnic



**All-Church Picnic
Sunday, July 25**

Farmers' Market

The Market is open every Wednesday through September 29 (4-7pm) Shoppers are welcome, as are volunteers. Sign-ups are located in the Fellowship Hall.



"Before we get started, let's say a little prayer for humility."



Independence DAY

The Church will be closed Monday, July 5 for the Independence Day holiday.

SUMMER Learning Hour

We hope you've been enjoying our Sunday Learning Hour classes in June. Beginning June 27, we start a 3-week series using the documentary "A Little Salsa on the Prairie."

This film chronicles the rapid ethnic diversification of the community of Perry, Iowa. With this film as a guide, we will share together about issues pertinent to immigration, employment, and social relations between different ethnic groups. Through the film, we will hear from the residents of Perry concerning their plans, fears and hopes for the city.

Make plans to join us to share your experiences, and to listen and learn from others' - June 27 through July 18. (note: there will be no Learning Hour classes on July 4)

And for our younger members:

Infants through pre-K: Nursery care is provided for our littlest ones during the Learning Hour time (meets in the Mezzanine nursery).

Grades K-5: Meets each week to watch a bible-story video, and spend time coloring and playing together (meets in the Mezzanine classroom).



Youth Summer Get Together #1

June 27th, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

For all youth in grades 6-12. The date has changed to Sunday, June 27th, 6:00 - 8:00 pm. We'll share pizza, pop and conversation.

Where: The Stout's home (1105 64th St, Windsor Heights). Join us for a time of relaxed fun - and bring a friend if you wish. Please RSVP to Suzanne at 274-0511.

First Christian Church

2500 University Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50311
515.255.2181
fax: 515.255.8759

Web: www.fccdm.org
Christian Church in the Upper Midwest:
www.uppermidwestcc.org

Sunday Morning Schedule:

9:20 am -- Morning Worship
10:45 am ---- Friendship Time
11:00 am ----- Learning Hour

OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Thurs — 8:30-4:30
Friday — 8:30-1:00

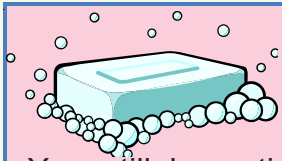
The Link ...

... is published twice per month. Submissions are due Wednesday of the previous week and may be edited for length, clarity, or for consistency with other articles.

NEXT DEADLINE:

June 30 (July 8 issue)

WE ARE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST, an Open & Welcoming community of faith, called to witness to God's creative power in the midst of a richly diverse neighborhood. We are challenged to share in a vibrant Spirit-led common life. As we mature in the Spirit and respond to God's calling, we are empowered and compelled to reach out to neighbors near and far in a reconciling ministry partnership.



Hygiene Kits

You still have time to contribute money or supplies for the Disciples Women's collection for hygiene kits for Haiti. Needed items are listed in the previous *Link* issue. Money is also needed for shipping and for purchase of extra items. Make your check to "Disciples Women" with a memo of "Hygiene Kits."

Jazz in July

Jazz in July is coming. 25 concerts will be performed in a variety of outdoor venues around the Metro area. On July 28, there will be a concert on the Drake Campus - a great opportunity to buy dinner at the Farmers' Market and then head across the street for the music. For a complete schedule, go to www.metroarts.org/.



Summer Music News

**SUMMER CHOIR-
ALL ARE WELCOME!**

July 18th, come to choir practice at 8:30 Sunday morning to sing at the 9:20 service. We would love to have anyone who would like to sing, and the anthem will be accessible to all. Call Ben if you like at 720-1038, or just show up! Join us!

Summer Special Music

Ben is scheduling special music now, and there are many slots open. Please call him at 720-1038 if you would like to provide a special music number this Summer.

Dino Piano Concert

**Sunday, July 11
at 3:00 pm**



Free-will Offering

This renowned concert pianist brings his signature style of classical, religious, and contemporary music and showmanship which has made him a hit for three decades. Dino continues to play on tour as well as in Branson, MO. For further information, go to his web site at: <http://www.dinoplayspiano.com/>.

