


The Growing Edge

(A monthly publication of Fridley United Methodist Church.)

November 2011

IMAGINE NO
MALARIA

**A WORLD OF PEOPLE UNIFIED IN THE FIGHT
AGAINST A NEEDLESS KILLER.**

 The people of The United Methodist Church®

It's time we all join hands with Africa,
on a personal mission to heal.

Imagine No Malaria,
then make it real.

Sustaining life.
One person at a time. One month at a time.

Just \$28 per month will save 100 lives.



ImagineNoMalaria.org

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Blessings to you at
Thanksgiving



Blessings and safe travels to you
this Thanksgiving Holiday.

FUMC Staff



Daylight Saving Time ends
November 6, 2011.

The office will be closed on Thursday & Friday, November 24 & 25.

Growing Edge Deadline is due the 15th of every month by 9:00 a.m.

Charge Conference scheduled for November 7 6:30 p.m. for setting staff salaries.



Prayer Chain Information
Call to share your joys and concerns
National United Methodist Prayer Chain:
1-800-251-2468



“Are we there yet?” Who has not asked or had to answer that question while on some sort of journey. Churches often determine that they are “there” when they reach a certain size. The assumption is that “there” doesn’t require as much work or as much reaching out into the neighborhood or as much time and energy as it took to get “there”. It doesn’t. It takes more.

As a community of faith we are never “there”. The call of Jesus the Christ is to seek out everyone in order to share the love of God with them and help them discover the new life that is theirs with Christ. Whether it is Fridley UMC or a mega church, it is clear we are not “there”, in fact we are losing ground. The number of persons who are avowed atheists are growing. The number of people who say they have no religion is growing even as denominations from extremely conservative to extremely liberal are getting smaller at an alarming rate. No church, no denomination is “there”, that place where there is no person left to reach, no person left to find, no person left to invite. We now know that somewhere in the past 50 years, we stopped reaching them.

As long as Christ has not returned in glory, we have work to do, people to invite, lives to touch with the love of God. We need to grow in our ability to witness to our faith outside of the church walls.

That means we have some learning to do. Our mission field has changed. We need to know who makes up our mission field and figure out how to reach them. I am very hopeful that FUMC will choose to survey our civic and business leaders, and those who work in the “trenches” to find out what our community needs, and what they see as the challenges our communities will face in the near future. When we know that, we can develop a plan that will target specific needs, reach specific people, not only with caring ministry but with a witness to Jesus. As witnesses we invite others to know Jesus as their Savior, and commit to walking with them on their faith journey. We do this, not for ourselves, although it may help FUMC. We do this for them, and for Jesus who told us to go into the world preaching, teaching, baptizing, forgiving and inviting everyone to become one with God and with all others.

Are we there yet? No. But we are still on our way! And we call that faithfulness.

Pastor Deb

CARING MINISTRIES



Dates for Stephen Ministers:

November 22 Support Meeting 7 PM

December 20 Longest Night Worship 7 PM

Please keep our Stephen Ministers and our trainees in your prayers as they serve in this important ministry.

EDUCATION

Sunday morning classes are in full swing!!

We offer classes for all ages from **10:50 – 11:45**, with four choices each week for adults and classes for all ages! The nursery is open every Sunday from 9:15 – 11:45 for children under age 3. AND, we offer a second class for our preschool and kindergarten children after the story for all ages in worship. This class ends at the beginning of fellowship time.

FUSION

In FUSION!, all ages meeting together to experience the scriptures read and preached in worship, followed by discussion and related activities.

This is a Sunday morning learning experience for people of all ages, including children, youth and adults, meeting from 10:50 – 11:45 in the Fellowship Hall. Youth and young adults are especially invited. This is a season of discovery and growth in relationship with the Creator and each

other. Please consider joining us in this new adventure called FUSION! May the energy of God's creative love flow in and through us.

ADDITIONAL ADULT CLASSES at 10:50 on SUNDAYS

Seekers: *focus on the scriptures that are read and preached in worship each week, meet in the Northwest corner of the Fellowship Hall, led by Bill Ekstrum and Shelley Colvin.*

Linking Faith and Life: *focus this fall on discerning what God is doing, through the lenses of world religions and spirituality, meeting each week in the lounge with JoEllen Ambrose and Kate Smith-Sheeder.*

Short Term classes:



Beginning November 20 - Advent Study:

The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem, led by Pastor Deb Walkes and Pastor Paul Bosshardt. Join us for a journey to the times and characters of Christmas, to help us we experience the birth of Christ in our lives in a new way. They will meet Sundays Nov 20, 27, Dec 11 and 18. (December 4 is our annual presentation of the Nativity Story.)

Another ADVENT STUDY: In addition to our Sunday morning sessions of ***The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem***, we're offering an early morning choice of the same class. We will meet Thursday mornings from December 1 through the 22nd, at 7:30 AM. Pastor Diane will lead this class – sign up on her office door so that we can order enough books! Hope to see you there.

SUNDAY AFTERNOONS: We are reading and discussing Brian McLaren's book entitled ***A New Kind of Christianity: Ten Questions that are Transforming the Faith***. This is a 9 week study, meeting **every other** Sunday evening beginning September 18 - November 13, from 4:30 – 6:00, breaking for the holidays and resuming on January 8 until February 19, the Sunday before Lent begins. Pastors Deb and Diane lead the study. From a review of this book: "A New Kind of Christianity is built around the exploration of ten important questions that Christians throughout the world are asking. McLaren doesn't so much provide pat answers to these questions as give thoughtful responses which leave the door open for further exploration. This is not a book for people who want a pedagogue to tell them what to believe. Rather it inspires you to bring your own theology into the light and take an honest look at what you believe, why you believe it and if, perhaps, you ought to rethink a thing or two (or ten)." As of this writing we still have some room – join us! It won't be hard to catch up.

Important Sunday morning dates to know:

December 4 The Christmas Story, at 11:00 (NO Sunday school classes) **All children and youth are invited to participate – see Pastor Diane. There will be reading parts and costumes character parts. NO memorizing. Just the children and youth retelling the story of the birth of the baby Jesus. Beginning November 6, and through Nov. 27, children who wish to sing as a part of the Story will practice at 10:30 – 11:00, after worship and before Sunday school begins. See Judy Ryan for more information on the music for the Story. We can use additional adult helpers – please see

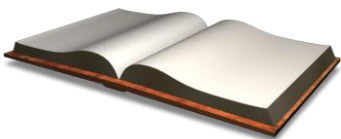
Pastor Diane.



****December 25 and January 1: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ANY AGE!**

Wednesday Study Group (aka WSG) meets each Wednesday morning at 9:30 in the Computer Room with Pastor Deb. They enjoy a lively discussion of books of the Bible and related studies. This is an open group – join them!

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP: Our next book retreat is March 3, 2012, from 9:30 – 1:30, and we will discuss The Cellist of Sarajevo, by Stephen Galloway. From a review of the book: Inspired by Vedran Smailovic, the cellist who, in 1992, played in a bombed-out Sarajevo square for 22 days in memory of the 22 people who were killed by a mortar attack, this is a novel about four people trying to maintain a semblance of their humanity in the besieged city. We look forward to another wonderful discussion! Our group is open to everyone who loves reading. We meet about three times a year, choosing each book as we go. Join us!



Look for our **COKESBURY BOOK FAIR** at the Alternative Gift Market, Nov 19, 9 - 1, with leftovers on Sunday morning, November 20 after Sunday school classes (individual classes will visit the fair during their class time if their leaders choose to). The church will receive 10% of our sales, so do your Christmas shopping here!



NEW IN THE LIBRARY: Take a look at our subject listing of the library books, find **What's New**, and take a look at the large number of wonderful new books! We've recently added Cutting For Stone, Real Friends vs the Other Kind (Middle School Confidential), The Death of a Parent, and a children's book called Only One You. Several of our new books are UMW selections for the year. We also have added the videos from our 55+ presentation on mail fraud from the Postal Inspection unit.



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

A Men's Bible Study Group meets every Friday morning at 6:30 a.m. at Keys Cafe on the east side of University Avenue NE near 83rd Street in Spring Lake Park. We eat a Keys breakfast (\$3 - \$10 including tip.) We take turns volunteering to lead that week's lesson, guiding us through a reading of scripture and story and a discussion of the meaning of that lesson for our lives. We also share prayer concerns.

The Bible study text that we use for each attendee is "The New International Lesson Annual", for which we each make a voluntary annual contribution of about \$20. We keep a free extra copy or two in the church library for anyone who would like to try out this opportunity. All men are welcome. For more information contact Roger Olson.

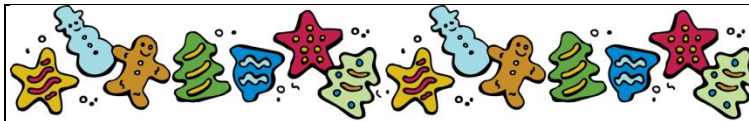


YOUTH GROUP



Don't forget to bring pop cans to church November 5. Money collected will go to a mission of our choice!

December 4, (2:00 – 4:00 p.m.) we will host our second annual, bring the dough, cookie bake. All Fridley UMC members and friends are invited to use the church ovens and helping hands to bake cookies. All we ask is that you share 1 dozen of your cookies to package for homebound and others who could use a little Christmas Cheer!



All Church Cookie Bake

(The youth meet every 1st & 3rd Sunday at 6:00 p.m.)

CHURCH ALBUM



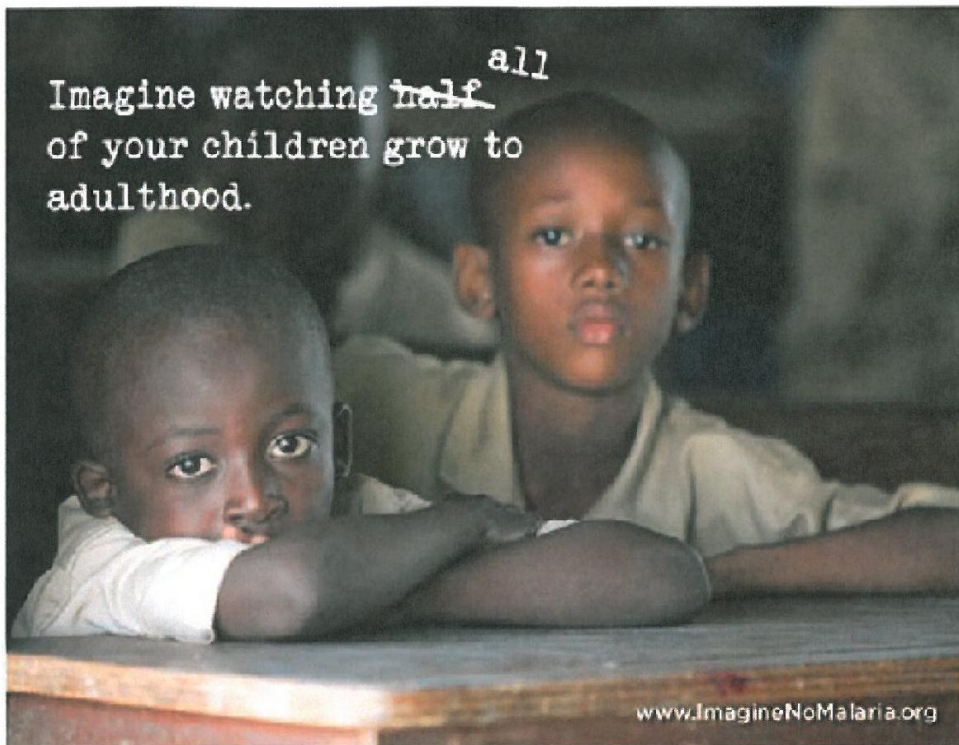
With Deepest Sympathy

Our sympathies go out to the family and friends of Sylvia Heath whose mother passed away, and to the family of Sue Berger. Both passed away this October.

We were informed that Myrtle Thomas had passed away February, 2011, our prayers go out to her family.

MISSIONS

NOVEMBER SPECIAL MISSION OFFERING



Pray: God can do more than we can ever imagine.

Know: The people of The United Methodist Church have embraced this cause. You can change a life.

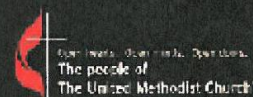
Act: Get your church involved. A pledge of just \$28 per month will change 100 lives.

"Let us not love with words, but with actions and in truth."

1 John 3:18

**IMAGINE
NO
MALARIA**

Our Special
Mission Offering
for November -
Please give
generously!





Warm Clothes for Loaves and Fishes

Yes, winter is coming, again. It's time to check your closet and try on your winter clothes. We will be collecting CLEAN, gently used warm coats, jackets, boots, hats, scarves, gloves and snow pants - (OUTER WEAR) to donate to our guests at Loaves and Fishes. All sizes are needed for infants, children, men and women. Donations will be collected in a bin in our Donation Station near the front doors. They will be delivered to our guests at the Loaves and Fishes site at Holy Rosary Church, November 10th when we serve the evening meal.

Coat Drive

Keep someone Warm

Thank you, *Pat Brown; Loaves and Fishes FUMC coordinator*

AT THE DONATION STATION (the bins in the hall near the front doors) we are collecting:

- Books and Magazines for inmates of Anoka County Jail. – please remove your address. No catalogues or tattered magazines please.
- Supplies for health and school kits. See the list on the bin for exact items needed.
- Batteries (button sized to D cell, no car or computer batteries)
- Used Ink Cartridges
- Used Cell Phones
- Campbell's Soup Labels
- Used Eyeglasses for the Lions' Club
- Pop Tops from cans for Ronald McDonald House
- Plastic caps - rigid plastic screw on caps
- Personal sized toiletries for Family Table guests.



ADVENT MITTEN TREE will be in the lounge on November 20: Yes, once again we will have a Christmas tree for you to decorate with your hats, mittens, scarves, socks and gloves for people of all ages. This year, the beneficiaries of the warm articles you add to the tree will be the several groups, including our family table guests at the December meal. Please bring new items, or very gently used.



10,000 VILLAGES STORE! Our missions committee will once again host a 10,000 Villages Store at our Gift and Craft Market here on November 19,

with leftovers for sale on the 20th before and after worship and Sunday school. As in past years, there will be a large variety of craft and gift items from artisans in many countries. Buying these items as Christmas gifts gives lovely and useful items to the recipient, but also gives a fair wage to the artist who created it. Come to our sale! 9 – 1, November 19!

55+



55+ Trip to Feed My Starving Children! We had a great trip to help pack food for starving children. Thanks to all who attended! We are making a difference.

ADULTS WITH AGING PARENTS: We will meet again in the computer room November 15. We're reading a book together entitled A Bittersweet Season: Caring for Our Aging Parents and Ourselves. Chapters 10-12 will be discussed at the November meeting. Anyone who is dealing with issues around caring (either locally or long distance) for aging parents is welcome to join us. Books are available at local or internet bookstores, or Pastor Diane can order one for you.

SINGLES BREAKFAST! 55+ folks, join us for breakfast at Perkins at 7520 University Ave in Fridley, on Tuesday, November 1 at 9:30 AM. This is just a social time – come, relax and enjoy the company of FUMC friends. Everyone orders what they want, and pays their own bill!



55+

LUNCH

55+ LUNCH AND PROGRAM! Join us again November 14, for fabulous chili lunch prepared by Nancy Nehring and her hard working crew, and a program on Imagine No Malaria, which is our mission emphasis for November. We meet in the fellowship hall at 12:30 PM. A free will offering is taken to cover the meal cost, and we'd like your reservation by Wednesday, November 9, sign up on the clipboard posted on the wall outside of Brenda's office or call her at 571-1526 or email her at Brenda.Labarre@fridleyumc.org. Bring your friends! There's always room for more, and it's a good time to share what's great about FUMC! **AND BY THE WAY:** If you are willing to give a ride to someone who is no longer driving for these Monday lunches, please let Pastor Diane or Deb know. Thanks!

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

2011 Harvest Supper and Bake Sale November 4, 2011

Bake Sale begins at 9:00 AM.

Harvest Supper from 4:30 to 6:30 PM (one seating).

Good eats! Magnificent meat loaf, great green beans, terrific salad bar, delicious rolls and, of course, scrumptious pies, pies, and more pies.

Tickets – Adult \$10, kids \$4; Carry Out Available!

Tickets on sale 10/23 and 10/30. Tickets also available from the office

(please pay by check only).

UMW members-at-large will be contacted for possible pie donations.



Bring Your Pop Cans to Church Day!

Saturday, November 5, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

All the pop cans at the church are recycled and the money goes to the youth. We now have a refurbished pop machine and we invite you to partake in a cold refreshing pop AND leave the recycling to us! To help us even further, we have joined with the Trustees in a Bring Your Pop Cans to Church Day! You can bring your pop cans to church and throw them in the trailer or pickup truck we will have for that purpose. We'll take the cans to the recycler and the money raised will go to support the youth and a mission of their choice! If this experiment works well for us we'll do it on a regular basis. Please save your pop cans and see you November 5. *Pastor Deb & The Trustees*



Rubber Stampers!

Do you have any cards you have made that are: gathering dust? . . . cluttering up your closet? ... not useable for you anymore? We will take them off your hands! Liz Walstrom Sery and Judy Schuldt are collecting them to sell at the Alternative Gift Market on November 19th. Just give them to either of us by November 16. Proceeds to youth missions. *p.s. be sure to include an envelope.*

Next Stampin' Up Fun Time is -

Thursday, November 10 at 6:30 pm

Fridley United Methodist Church hosts our 3rd Annual Craft and Gift Market Saturday November 19, 2011. 9 AM – 1 PM!



Our Craft and Gift Market is an opportunity for people to buy gifts from individuals, church groups, and non-profits for holiday and other giving.

What is unique about this market? All your purchases go towards local church ministries and non-profits. Gifts available are items (crafts, books, jewelry from other countries, etc,) services enjoyed at the Market (concessions), and donations to non-profits (Meals on Wheels, Simpson Housing Services).

Who are craft and gift providers? Non-Profits (Alexandra House), Church groups (Missions, Education Council), Church crafters, and maybe you! FUMC Church groups or individual crafters may participate with the expectation that all profit goes to FUMC. Every group and person must register to be a part of the “market.” No registration necessary to come and buy!

Who can come? The community-at-large is invited along with Church members to shop.

Add joy to your giving with an opportunity to purchase gifts that will give twice!

Interested in selling? Register to sell your crafts TODAY to reserve your space - contact JoEllen Ambrose.



UMW NEWS

FRIDLEY UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

November is World Thank Offering Month. UMW supports missions in all 50 states and almost 100 countries!

Ruth Circle; Tuesday, Nov. 8th at 7:15, will be meeting at the home of Evie Skurich, Co-hostess will be Joan Jagunich, Diane Jachymowski will do Devotions and Judy Schuldt will lead the program with our World Thank offering emphasis for November.

(Naomi Friendship Circle will meet on Friday, November 4 at 10:00 AM to wrap potatoes for the Harvest Supper.)

Naomi Friendship Circle will meet Friday, November 11th at 9:30 AM at the Church. World Thank Offering and program scheduled. 12 *(continued on page 13)*

The Women in Islam class at the Community Center will meet November 29th for those who signed up to attend.



THANK-YOU VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

The following people delivered Meals On Wheels the week of September 19 - 23.

Three day drivers: Ron Newport and his friend Wally.

Two day drivers: Al & Sue Madison; Gary Trull; and Jim & Evie Skurich.

One day drivers: Jean Mills; Gary & Wanda Boyer; Harvey & Jean Stewart; Wayne Specker; Fred & Marilynn Forsberg; Dick & Pat Zeglen; Dave & Judy Ryan; Paul & Sue Bosshardt; Lee & Gaylene Switzer; Russ & Delores Hendrick; and Kathy Sinner and Jim Nenevich.

The next week that F.U.M.C. drives will be October 31 thru November 4. If you are available to help, please call me.

Janet Fossum 763-780-5694

F.U.M.C. Meals On Wheels Coordinator

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
November		1 <u>9:30 AM 55+ Singles Breakfast @offsite</u> <u>6:45 PM Stephens Training Offsite</u> <u>7:00 PM Family Table Leadership</u>	2 <u>9:30 AM Wed. Study Group</u> <u>11:00 AM Staff Meeting</u> <u>7:00 PM Chancel Choir</u>
6 Daylight-Saving Time Ends <u>8:00 AM -8:30 Prayer</u> <u>9:30 AM Worship</u> <u>10:30 AM Fellowship</u> <u>10:50 AM All Age Learning</u>	7 <u>9:30 AM Bridge</u> <u>12:30 PM Genesis Ringers</u> <u>6:30 PM Charge Conference</u> <u>7:00 PM SPRC</u>	8 <u>11:30 AM NECCL</u> <u>6:45 PM Stephens Training Offsite</u> <u>7:15 PM Ruth Circle</u>	9 <u>Deb @ Seminar</u> <u>9:30 AM Study Group</u> <u>11:00 AM Staff Mtg.</u> <u>6:00 PM Fridley Friends of Earth</u> <u>7:00 PM Chancel Choir</u>
13 <u>8:00 AM -8:30 Prayer</u> <u>9:30 AM Worship</u> <u>10:30 AM Fellowship</u> <u>10:50 AM All Age Learning</u> <u>4:30 PM -6:00 PM McLaren Study</u>	14 <u>12:30 PM 55+ Lunch</u> <u>12:30 PM Gen. Ring</u> <u>6:00 PM Rainbow Staff Board</u> <u>7:00 PM Rainbow</u> <u>7:15 PM Tabitha Circle</u>	15 <u>9:00 AM BOM</u> <u>9:00 AM Grow.E.Due</u> <u>6:45 PM Stephens Training Offsite</u> <u>7:00 PM Adults with Aging Parents</u> <u>7:00 PM Swim Boost</u> <u>7:00 PM Trustees</u>	16 <u>9:30 AM Study Group</u> <u>11:00 AM Staff Mtg.</u> <u>7:00 PM Chancel Choir</u>
20 <u>8:00 AM -8:30 Prayer</u> <u>9:30 AM Worship</u> <u>10:30 AM Fellowship</u> <u>10:50 AM All Age Learning</u> <u>3:00 PM Fridley High School Alumni Choir Concert</u> <u>6:00 PM Youth</u>	21 <u>3 PM Diane IN</u> <u>12:30 PM Genesis Ringers</u> <u>6:45 PM Ed. Council</u> <u>7:00 PM Evangelism</u> <u>7:00 PM UMW Board</u>	22 <u>6:30 PM Deb: Urban Ministry Meeting;</u> <u>7:00 PM Stephens Monthly Mtg.</u>	23 <u>9:30 AM Wed. Study Group</u> <u>11:00 AM Staff Mtg.</u>
27 Advent <u>8:00 AM -8:30 Prayer</u> <u>9:30 AM Worship w/Communion</u> <u>10:30 AM Fellowship</u> <u>10:50 AM All Age Learning</u>	28 <u>12:30 PM Genesis Ringers</u> <u>7:00 PM Church Council</u>	29 <u>6:45 PM Stephens Training @Offsite</u>	30 <u>9:30 AM Study Group</u> <u>11:00 AM Staff Mtg.</u> <u>7:00 PM Chancel Choir</u>

Charge Conference scheduled for November 7; 6:30 p.m. for setting staff salaries.

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>3</p> <p><u>6:30 PM Harvest Dinner Set Up</u> <u>7:00 PM Chancel Ringers</u></p>	<p>4</p> <p><u>6:30 AM Men's Bible Study</u> <u>9:00 AM Bake Sale</u> <u>10:00 AM Naomi Circle wrap potatoes</u> <u>4:30 PM -6:30PM Harvest Dinner</u></p>	<p>5</p> <p><u>9:00 AM -1 PM Bring pop cans to church</u> <u>9:00 AM Twin City District UMW Planning in Fellowship Hall</u></p>
<p>10</p> <p><u>Deb @ Seminar</u> <u>2:30 Diane in</u> <u>4:30 PM Loaves & Fishes</u> <u>6:30 PM Stampin Up</u> <u>7:00 PM Chancel Ringers</u></p>	<p>11</p> <p><u>6:30 AM Men's Bible Study</u> <u>9:30 AM Naomi Circle</u></p>	<p>12</p>
<p>17</p> <p><u>9:30 AM Older Adult Ministry</u> <u>7:00 PM Chancel Ringers</u> <u>7:00 PM Stewardship/Finance</u></p>	<p>18</p> <p><u>6:30 AM Men's Bible Study</u></p>	<p>19</p> <p><u>8:30 AM Stephen Training@Offsite</u> <u>9:00 AM -1PM Alternative Gift Market</u> <u>10:00 AM Fridley High School Alumni Choir Rehearsal</u></p>
<p>24</p> <p><u>Office Closed</u> Thanksgiving Day</p>	<p>25</p> <p><u>Family Table Set Up</u> <u>Office Closed</u> <u>6:30 AM Men's Bible Study</u></p>	<p>26</p> <p><u>11:30 AM Family Table</u></p>