

The Growing Edge

(A Monthly Publication of Fridley United Methodist Church)

*Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the
Transformation of the World.*

March 2022

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From the Pastor	2
Church Album	5
Education	2
Events & Opportunities	5
Missions	3
UMW News	5
55+ Breakfast	5

LENT BEGINS:

**ALL ARE INVITED TO OUR
ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**



Prayer Chain Information
*Call to share your joys
and concerns:*

*National United Methodist
Prayer Chain:
1-800-251-2468*

BOOK GROUP:

March 5th from 9:00 AM – Noon.

We will be reading the book *The Seed Keeper* by Diane Wilson. The book group is open to all!

March 13, 2022

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS





PASTOR WAYNE'S WORLD

The older I become, the more I find myself indebted to the Christian season of Lent. Lent allows us to venture a little more deeply into self reflection and self awareness as we set aside time to praise, pray and worship as we anticipate greater intimacy with our Lord Jesus Christ.

Lent affords us the opportunity to take inventory of the words, stories and narratives that are essential to the person we are and the person we are becoming. Lent is a time to ponder what we consider to identify as what truly constitutes the Good, the Beautiful, and the True.

May the upcoming Lenten time be for us a time of serious contemplation. As we emerge from our Covid haze to once again frequent restaurants, participate in family gatherings, returning to full classrooms and greater opportunities to share in the gift of face to face communication and communion within the Body of Christ, the Church.

Technologies will continue to create more automation, more algorithms, and more artificial intelligence in our future. May our future at Fridley UMC also entail the preservation of historical and cultural memory, embodied familial interactions, a connection with our natural world and true devotion to the Triune God, in whose image we are made and find our true and beautiful identity together.

In Christ, Pastor Wayne

EDUCATION



EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday School starts 11:30 AM.

LINKING FAITH AND LIFE CLASS meets in the computer room. Come check us out.

SEEKERS BIBLE STUDY CLASS meets in the far corner of Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

CLASS FOR WOMEN: Karin Gaertner is leading a deepening faith class for women in the choir room. You're invited.

PASTOR WAYNE will lead a class in the back of the sanctuary. Join us.

Children are welcome to attend worship with their family. Children's coloring pages and crayons can be found on the back sanctuary table.

“FAITHFUL AND INCLUSIVE” The Bible, Sexuality and the United Methodist Church. Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM from February 27th - April 3rd.

ALSO (mid-week learning opportunity)

ZOOM MONDAY MORNING CONNECTED IN CHRIST! RENEW AND REVIEW at 9:30 AM, (online only.)

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE SHAPING at 9:30 AM; by Zoom or come join us in the lounge.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY: A Men's Bible Study Group meets every Friday morning at 7:30 AM at the Sunset Grill in Blaine. All men are welcome. For more information contact Bill Ekstrum.

A GATHERING FOR GUYS: *Grit & Spit* meets every Friday at 9:00 AM in the Lounge. Join us for coffee and courageous conversation and prayer. See you there.

MISSIONS

March missions is the Lenten Mission Offering, please see enclosed letter.

Missions Committee Seeks Input From The Congregation

Over the past year, the FUMC Missions Committee has worked to identify local, regional, and international non-profits who seek to ease life's challenges and offer respite for those populations who are stressed and in need of hope. We thank you for the financial support your gifts provided the organizations selected last year. These organizations are deeply appreciative of our financial gifts which helped further their missions. (*Please see chart on page 4.*)

The committee wishes to learn of a wider group of charities that might be considered for the Mission of the Month and welcomes suggested options from members of our congregation. While the Missions Committee makes some selections based upon a long history of support by the church, we have also responded to urgent needs found in our state and nation. Two or three months of the year can be filled by new organizations whose programs meet a real need within our local community.

If you would like to suggest a local or statewide organization that fills a unique need, let us know. We would like to expand the organizations we

consider in the selection process and be able to consider choices brought forward by members of the congregation.

Please contact Jeff Mondloh with organizations you would like included in the pool of choices from which the committee selects.

**FUMC 2021 MISSION GIVING
(December 2020-November 2021)**

MONTHLY MISSIONS		
The Graners - Missionaries to the Dominican Republic	December 2020	2,500.00
Habitat for Humanity	December 2020	1,275.00
Loaves and Fishes	January	730.00
Impact Services-Meals on Wheels	February/March	1,650.00
MN Foodshare	February/March	1,650.00
Emma Norton	February/March	600.00
Simpson Housing Services	April	845.00
MN Conference Love Offering	May	800.00
Children Home Society	June	1,105.00
Mobility Worldwide	July	1,610.00
Cars for Neighbors	August	805.00
Family Table	September	2,305.00
Loaves and Fishes	September	50.00
UMCOR Global ministries	October	1,195.00
Alexandra House	November	1,765.00
SPECIAL SUNDAY OFFERINGS		
UMCOR: Undesignated Funds	March	570.00
Native American Ministries	April	20.00
World Communion	October	55.00
Student Day	November	170.00
TOTAL MONETARY GIVING		\$19,700.00

Thank you for your generous donation to these missions. This outreach has helped children, families, and individuals locally, throughout Minnesota, and around the world.

CHURCH ALBUM

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Mary Strassburg's family and friends upon the death of her brother Paul.

55+

55+ BREAKFAST: 55+ folks, join us for breakfast at Perkins at 7520 University Ave in Fridley, every *first* Monday of each month at 9:30 AM. This is just a social time to have fun and relax.

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

KNITTING/CROCHET GROUP

All are welcome to join us on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at 1:30 PM in the lounge. The next dates we will get together are March 8th & 22nd.



UMW NEWS

FRIDLEY UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

NAOMI CIRCLE will meet March 11th at 1:00 PM in the choir room. March is the month for Prayer and Self Denial. A donation will be taken and it will be the topic of the program presented by Pat King. Marilyn Hodgeman will bring treats.

RUTH CIRCLE will meet on March 15th at 1:00 p.m. in the church lounge. Carolyn Doyle and Reba Moreau are co-hostesses. Kathy Bednar will offer devotions. This is our chance to wear Green for St. Patrick's Day.

March is the month we experience the Call to Prayer and Self Denial Program. This year's Program will be given by Diane Jachymowski. Come prepared with your offering.

We miss many of our Circle members. Hopefully the icy roads and parking lot will be less of a problem as signs of spring appear. If you need a ride call Evie or Jean or another Circle member for a ride. See you there!



THANK YOU VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

The following people from FUMC delivered Meals on Wheels the week of February 7 - 11.

Three Day Drivers: Fred & Barb Severni; and Janet Fossum with Tim's help two of the days.

Two Day Drivers: Thrin Otten with Jean Mills helping her one day, and Evie Skurich helping the next day; Mike and Jody Lee; and Al & Sue Madison.

One Day Drivers: Jeff & Janet Mondloh; Roger & Leone Olson; Jim & Diane Jachymowski; Gary Boyer; and Ruth Hilliard and Pat King.

With several of my regular drivers in warmer climates, I came up six drivers short. The Jachymowski's and Fossum's each did a double route, dropping me down to four unfilled spots.

Someone in church was asking me about delivering meals. This person thought that if they signed up, it meant that they would be committing to driving every time. Not true. People help when they can, and as you see, some people help one day and others do more. FUMC delivers every eight weeks, and we do the Fridley and Spring Lake Park Routes. Immaculate Conception Catholic Church shares our week, and they do all the Columbia Heights routes. You pick the food up at Unity Hospital at 11:30 AM, the maps and directions are very good, and it takes one hour or less.

I could really use some more help, and would love to add your name to my thank you.

The next week that FUMC will be delivering is April 4 - 8.
Questions, catch me in church, or feel free to call me.

Janet Fossum
FUMC Meals On Wheels Coordinator.

Dear Fridley UMC,

Every child needs the love and protection that only a family can give. Thanks to your gift of \$1,105.00 to Children's Home Society of Minnesota, more children will find loving and permanent families. Your gift will make it possible for Children's Home to facilitate even more adoptions in the year ahead. Adoption is a lifelong journey. Gifts like yours allow us to support children and families every step of the way.

On behalf of all whose lives will be forever changed by your generosity, thank you. With gratitude, *Aileen Sanchez, Senior Director of Philanthropy*

Fridley UMW in memory of Gerry Greenwaldt,

Thank you so very much for the generous donations for our school. It's groups like you who make a difference for our children! Deepest gratitude and thanks to you all. *Hayes Elementary School*

Fridley UMC,

I want to thank you for the generous financial gift from your July 2021 mission. With your help we will be able to keep Anoka County residents moving forward in safe running vehicles.

Best Regards, *Joe Mckenziee, Repairing Cars For Neighbors*

More *Jesus*
Less Drama
Less Selfishness
Less Complaining
Less Bitterness
Less Gossip
Less Pride
Less Anger
Less Me