

The Growing Edge

(A Monthly Publication of Fridley United Methodist Church)

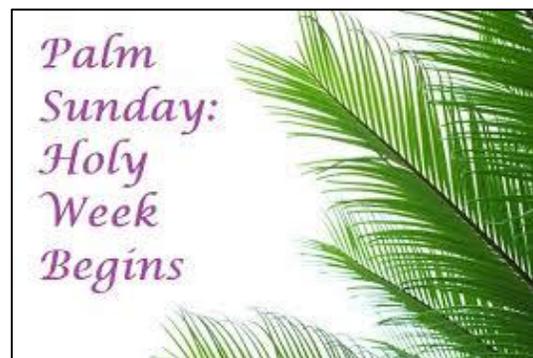
*Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the
Transformation of the World.*

April 2022

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April 10, **Palm Sunday**
"Welcome the King"

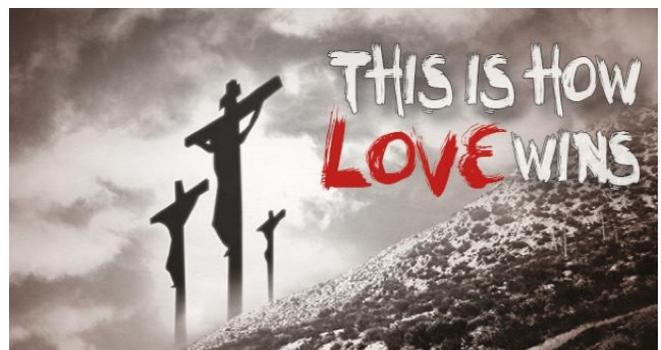


April 14

Maundy Thursday Service at 7 PM



April 15, **Good Friday Service at 7 PM**



April 17, **EASTER SUNDAY**



Prayer Chain Information

*Call to share your joys
and concerns:*

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



PASTOR WAYNE'S WORLD

FUMC Family and Friends,

We serve and are served by our Risen Christ, in these unsettled and uncertain times. With or without the Covid pandemic, we are well aware that we're not in Kansas anymore.

Do we have any clues in these foggy days of change on how we should live? Will we work on changing ourselves into competent CREW members on the U.S. Fridley UMC, or will we try to change others to stay stuck in the CROWD?

We need to plan on instability and disruption to stay around for awhile. Politics is becoming more polarized and technology platforms are not immune to tearing at our fabric of civil society. Older basics and methods appear to be ready for the dust bin of history. However, Ash Wednesday reminded all of us "from the dust we came and to the dust, we return."

Going forward, we recognize that selfishness will cause most adults to act like teenagers. Sadly, self-centered people are often angry confused people. Implications suggest that fickleness will give loyalty and faithfulness a "run for their money." It's no surprise then, that a self-obsessed culture is a divided culture. A divided culture needs a united church. Our torn culture needs Fridley UMC to be an alternative to itself, not an echo chamber of itself.

So now we see our opportunity and invitation to be the Church that Christ said he would build to withstand all alienation and separation between people here on earth.

This church will be built not with weakly formed strong opinions, but on the commonalities and connections we share as resurrected Christ CREW members.

Perhaps at Fridley we will be a Church that emphasizes CREW over CROWD; commonalities in place of confusion; going forward in place of reversing course.

With all these challenges, I have a great hope that we will embrace this opportunity to be the Body of Christ. With great humility, curiosity and anticipation we will allow ourselves to be led by our Good Shepherd Jesus. He knows the way out of the grave much better than we do!

Because He Lives.

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. The lessons are based on the Common Lectionary, which often (but not always) correspond with the scripture for our worship service. 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.

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; 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. We eat breakfast, take turns leading that week's lesson, guiding us through a reading of scripture, story and discussion. We share prayer concerns. 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



Lenten Mission giving.

***Minnesota Food Share** is the largest food drive in the state, bringing together faith communities, organizations and businesses to help keep 300 food shelves Statewide stocked throughout the year.

***Emma Norton Services** provides safe, secure, affordable housing for women, individuals and families in transition. This past year they renovated 13 townhomes at Emma's Place. These

homes are available to families who have three children, and at least one family member in recovery from mental illness, chemical dependency or who have a physical disability. Counseling and support is available and they strive to create environments that support empowerment, diversity, innovation and adaptability to promote healing.

***Meals on Wheels** our church has supported for over 45 years, both with volunteer drivers and with monetary gifts. Volunteers deliver nutritious, hot meals to Fridley, Spring Lake Park, Columbia Heights and Hilltop. Those who receive the meals include seniors, people needing medical rest, and others with medical disabilities. Leadership is "Impact Services" of Anoka County. Volunteers pick up the meals at Unity Hospital, providing a hot meal for those who need it and a joyful moment of blessing for both volunteers and receivers!

(The next week that FUMC will be delivering is April 4 – 8, and we are looking for more volunteers; if you would like to volunteer or have questions, call or email Janet Fossum, FUMC Meals On Wheels Coordinator; 763-780-5694.) Thank you!

MISSION NEWS

Greetings from Ardell and Gordon Graner, our retired missionary friends! They are now in Germany, helping to care for their infant twin grandchildren, Lea and Maya. Check out the picture of them on the Mission bulletin board. The parents of the twins are the Graners' oldest daughter, Jenny, and her husband, Robert.

FAMILY TABLE

The Family Table team is hoping to restart in person sit-down meals in June! We need to know if you are interested in volunteering and what roles you would like to do by April 22 to help us plan this next phase of Family Table. New and returning volunteers welcome, and feel free to try a new team that may work better for you now.

Friday Prep work team:

*Fresh produce cleaning and cutting. Sometimes baking.

Saturday Teams:

*Setup: Moving tables and chairs, setting the tables.

*Greeters/Security: Welcoming guests to the building and keeping them in the waiting area until the dining room opens.

*Kitchen: Final prep work, plating meals and desserts, kitchen clean up
Hosts: Table hosts sit and eat with the guests, lead hosts seat guests at tables.

*Servers: Fill drinks, take orders, bus tables.

*Runners: Carry heavy trays of individual plates, bus tables.

*Dishwashers: Cleaning dishes by hand and with dishwasher, putting dishes away.

*Clean up and Reset: Return the fellowship hall and lounge to their Sunday and Monday morning state, moving table and chairs, vacuuming and mopping.

Email brenda.labarre@fridleyumc.org or call the church office (763) 571-1526 or call and leave a voicemail or email for Judy Lange.

We are excited to hear from you and see our neighbors for meals in person again!

REMINDER:

Please bring your own coffee cup for fellowship time to help with the 3Rs of conservation: *Reduce, Reuse and Recycle*.

Thank you!



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 – come, relax and enjoy the company of FUMC friends.

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 April 12th & 26th. Questions? Call Evie Skurich.



SPRING OUTING!

May 21, 2022. UMW – United Women of Faith and all Ladies of the Church – are having a Ladies Day Out again this year. We will be going to the Mad Hatter Restaurant and Tea House in Anoka for brunch/lunch at 11:30 AM. We will be ordering off the menu - not having high tea. You can check online at www.madhatteranoka.com to check out the brunch menu.

We will meet at church at 11:00 AM to carpool to Anoka. They have the cutest gift shop upstairs too so bring some fun money in case you find something you can't live without.

Please contact Cindy Doerr if you have questions and to place your reservation. Reservation due by May 8, 2022. Also let Cindy know if you are able to be a driver. Mad Hatter limits reservations to 12 per table, but if we have more than that, we will get more than one table! If you are interested in attending but need a ride to church, let Cindy know and we can arrange for someone to pick you up. Everyone is Welcome!! Happy Spring!



UMW NEWS

FRIDLEY UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

NAOMI CIRCLE will meet April 8th at 1:00 PM in the choir room. We will send Easter cards to shut-ins. Marilynn Forsberg will provide treats.

RUTH CIRCLE will meet at the home of Evie Skurich on Tuesday, April 19th at 1:00 PM. Our Theme for the day is "Think Spring." Bring an item that reminds you that Spring is here. We hope to meet on Evie's large deck and listen for the sounds of spring. Jean Mills is Co-hostess and Carolyn Doyle is giving devotions.

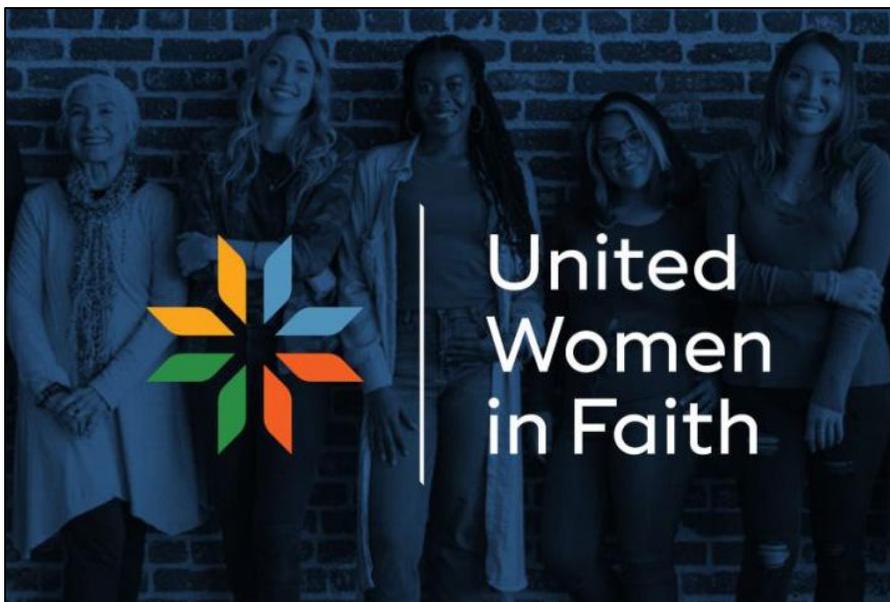
We hope all Circle members can come and bring potential Circle members. Pray for a beautiful day so we can worship God in Wonder. Call Evie or Jean.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN HAS CHANGED THEIR LOGO AND NAME!

We will now be called Women United in Faith (although we will retain the name United Methodist Women, for legal purposes). The purpose of the change is to be more inclusive and take us into the future. We're a sisterhood, acting in faith to tackle the hard work of the world without hesitation. Driven by God's love and united in sisterhood, we work to improve the lives of women, children and youth. Every day, we show up. We take action. We get it done. And we invite all women to join us. Watch the bulletin board to see what we are doing around the world or talk to someone in our group.

Dawn Bushnell

President of Fridley Women United in Faith





Dear Fridley UMC,

Your thoughtful gift of \$50.00 on 2/4/2022 as a donation from Fridley UMC is helping families who are doing everything they can to provide for their families. Because of you families have been able to receive enough meals to feed themselves and their children while they continue employment search. Thank you for caring for your community.

With sincere gratitude,

Cathy Maes, Executive Director of Loaves & Fishes

Deep gratitude for all the prayers, calls & cards during my serious illness and recovery. It was wonderful to receive welcoming hugs and good wishes when I returned to church.

Joyce Dahlberg

Thank you for your generous donation of \$400 from the Fridley United Methodist Women along with the \$400 from the Fridley United Methodist Women donated in memory of Gerry Greenwaldt. We greatly appreciate your donation and promise to put it towards our Stevenson families in need. With heartfelt thanks.

Veronica Mattisen from Stevenson School

Dear Friends in Mission,

Thank you! Your financial support of \$1,300.00 is enabling Global Ministries missionaries to fulfill the mission of the church. Through your financial support you are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships in more than 60 countries around the world. Nearly 400 United Methodist missionaries come from many places and backgrounds, witnessing and serving in dramatically different locales and cultures. On behalf of the people who are recipients of the love of God through the direct ministry of a Global Missions missionary – Thank you!

Roland Fernandes, General Secretary (UMCOR)

Dear Fridley UMW,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$150 from Fridley United Methodist Women in support of Avivo's programs and services. Thanks to your group's support, Avivo continues to be a stabilizing force and steady presence for our communities' most vulnerable members,

persevering alongside Minnesotans who are working hard to achieve recovery, move out of poverty, or escape homelessness. Thank you for believing that everyone should have the opportunity to live well and work well.

Kelly Matter, President and CEO

Dear Fridley UMC,

Thank you. Your partnership with Twin Cities Habitat gives the best gift anyone could want: The firm foundation of home. Your gift means a local family can buy a home they love with a mortgage they can afford. You gave a child the gift of a quiet place to study. You gave the parents the gift of financial stability so they can save for the future. You gave a neighborhood the gift of a stable home that will be an anchor for the community.

With gratitude,

Chris Coleman, President and CEO

Dear Fridley UMW,

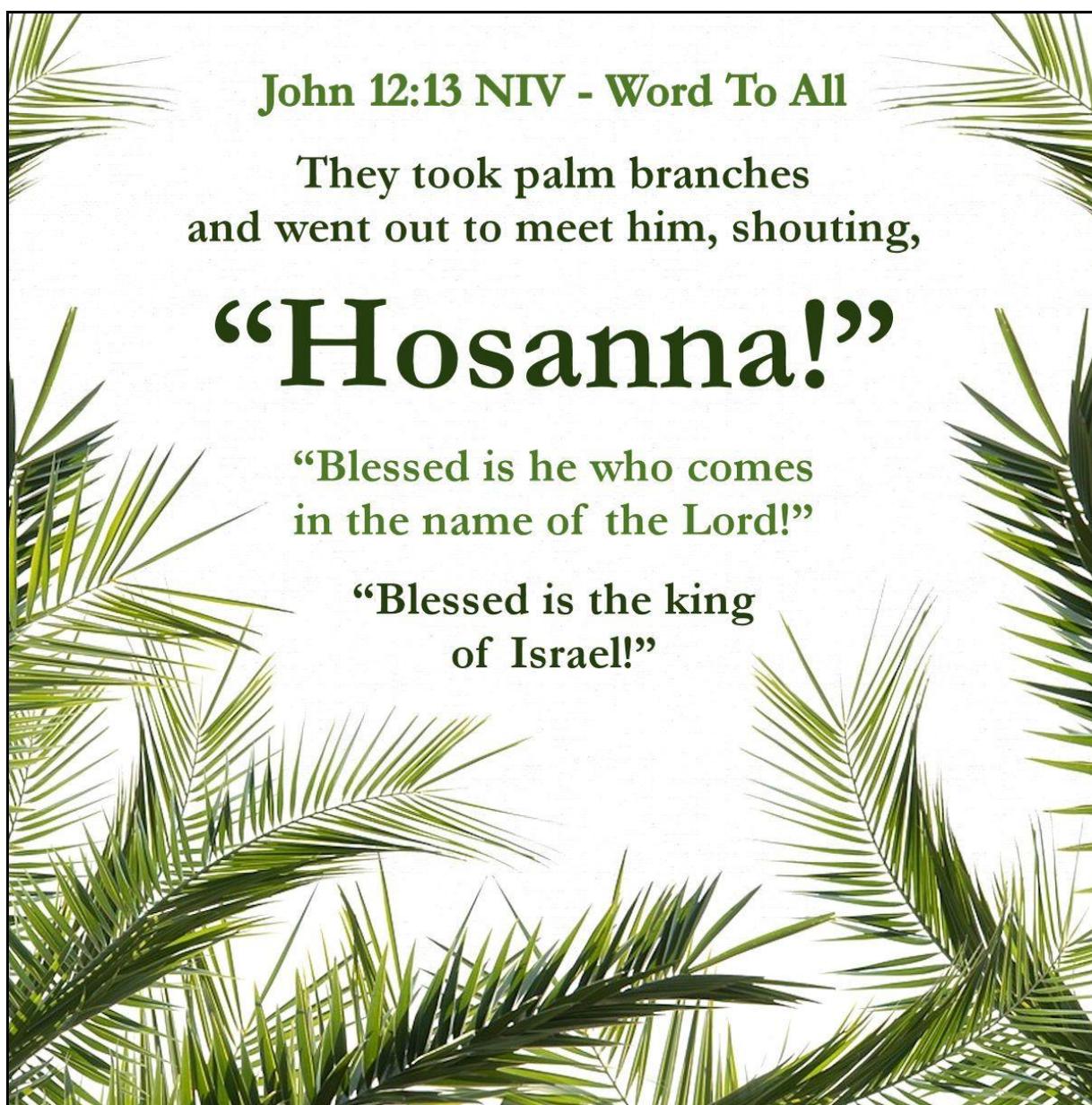
Thank you for providing the gift of HOPE to young people experiencing homelessness during a Minnesota Winter. Your donation of \$150.00 on February 15, 2022 will fund our mission to help with essential winter supplies and the ongoing support needed to help at-risk youth thrive.

During weeks when wind chill can be life-threatening, a young person without a home needs the basics to survive: warm gear, grab-and-go food, personal care supplies; necessities available at our HOPE 4 Youth Drop-In center. Beyond these, our caseworkers team with youth to find stable housing, educational opportunities, jobs and more.

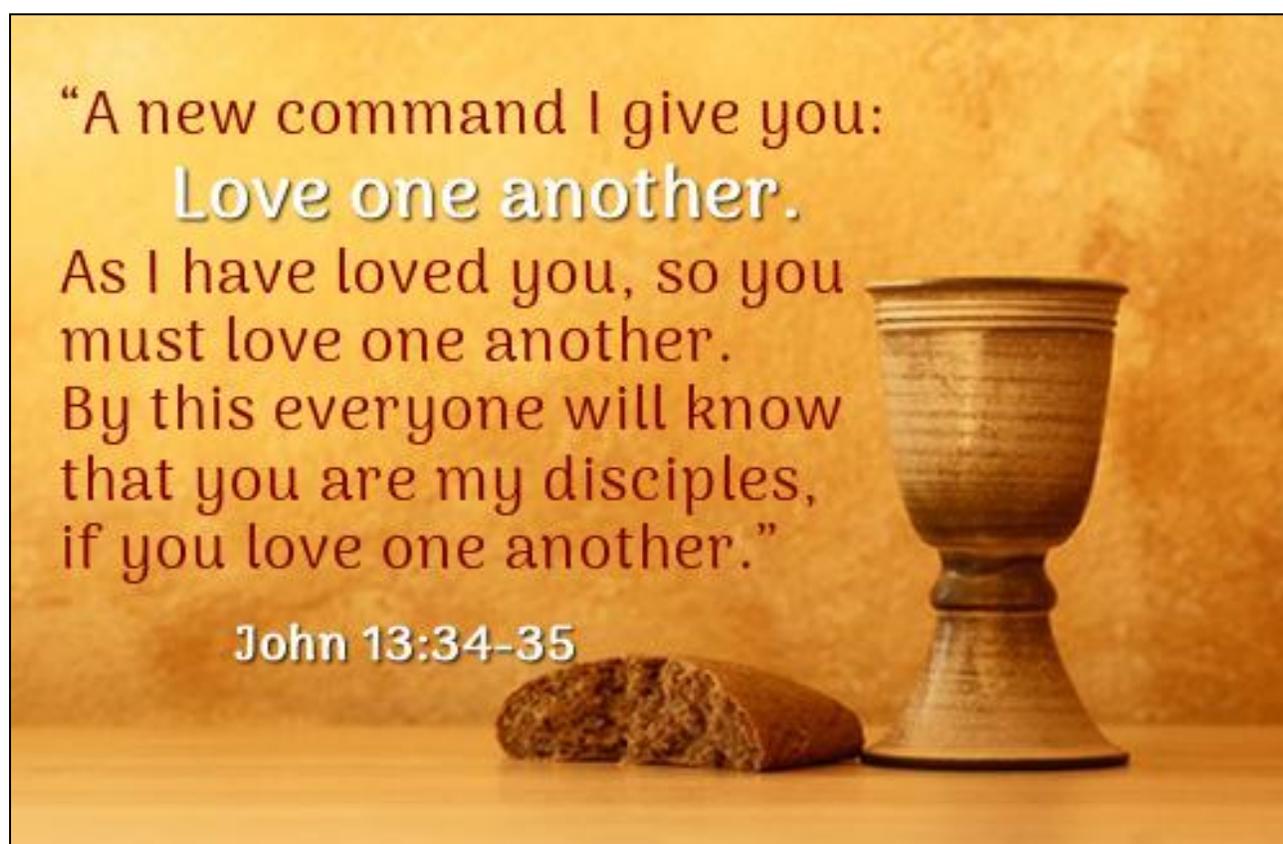
On behalf of the young people who ask us for help, I offer you heartfelt thanks.

LaChelle Williams, Executive Director, HOPE 4 Youth

APRIL 10, PALM SUNDAY BEGINS HOLY WEEK



MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 14; service at 7:00 PM



GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 15; service at 7:00 PM



EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 17
JOIN US at 10:00 AM!

