

# The Growing Edge

(A Monthly Publication of Fridley United Methodist Church)

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

## January 2023

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**SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2023**

**NEW YEAR'S DAY**



**SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023**

**EPIPHANY SUNDAY**



**CHARGE CONFERENCE**

A Charge Conference has been scheduled for Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 11:30 AM. All are invited to attend.



### **Prayer Chain Information**

*Call to share your joys  
and concerns:*

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



## ***PASTOR WAYNE'S WORLD***

No person knows their own future, but we all know that someday we will no longer be here, and that those now young will remain for a while after us. We live and love and share the Good News of the Gospel for our generation, and for our children and our grand children. That is the way of Christianity, handing down the FAITH once for all delivered, one person at a time, one day at a time, to leave behind a Christ-Honoring legacy to the following generations.

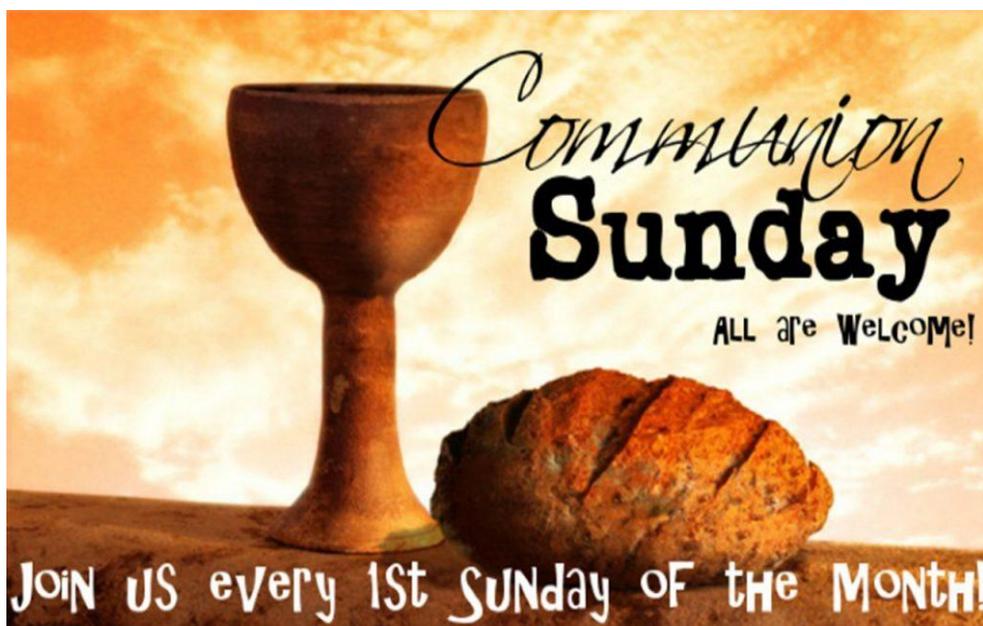
We are all invited by the Holy Spirit, to join in this transmission of God's Kingdom to the next generation with faithfulness and fidelity.

As we look forward to this new calendar year 2023, may we believe, belong, and bear fruit that will outlive our lifetimes. The Word of the Lord endures forever, the Light has overcome the darkness. In the Body of Christ, the Church, we are on the winning side of what is THE GOOD, THE BEAUTIFUL and THE TRUE.

In anticipation of our Bridegroom, who is coming back, and our invitation to the wedding feast of joy and peace.

*Pastor Wayne*

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### **UPDATE ON THE CUSTODIAN POSITION**

The Custodian position has been divided to meet the current needs of the Church including Rainbow.

Finding a custodian that has a boiler's license, clean and do all the maintenance is a tall task during this time where it is very hard to find qualified people that will work. There was an immediate need to have a licensed boiler person monitoring the boiler to be sure it functions properly and to meet state requirements.

SPRC decided to break the position into 3 areas: licensed boiler, cleaning, and maintenance.

- 1) A licensed boiler person was hired to oversee the boiler and do weekly checks during the boiler season.
- 2) SPRC, Trustees, and Rainbow Director collaborated in hiring a cleaning service to clean the Rainbow areas 5-days a week and the church areas 2-days a week.
- 3) Maintenance will be overseen by Trustees who will bring in outside people or vendors as needed.

The challenge is that there needs to be more church members to be part of the Trustees committee. Some simple tasks can be done without bringing outside people in, but the task needs to be assessed. FUMC is an older building and requires maintenance. A couple of outside sources have and will be used when needed. Whether we have a custodian in the building or not, Trustees make the decision as to what to do and how to handle each situation. Any help with shoveling snow at various times will be welcome. Please share any ideas that you may have with Tim White of Trustees, or Karen Smith of SPRC.

The goal is to have a safe and clean facility for everyone to enjoy. Your ideas and help are welcome!

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**COMMITTEE LEADERS** please remember to send your agenda and meeting minutes to Brenda in the office for our permanent church files. Thank you!

## 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 discipleship class for women in the choir room. You're invited.

**PASTOR WAYNE'S CURRENT EVENT CLASS:** "Signs of the times" education opportunity will be in the back of the sanctuary following fellowship time. 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.)

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**WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE SHAPING** at 9:30 AM.  
Come join us in the lounge, or join us by Zoom.

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### **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.

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### **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.

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## **MISSIONS**



### **SPECIAL MISSION – JANUARY HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL**

Today global hunger is on the rise. In 2021 more than 30% of the world's population faced moderate or severe food insecurity. Heifer International, based in Little Rock, Arkansas, is a truly amazing global development organization on a mission to end hunger and poverty in a sustainable way! Their rich history began during the Spanish Civil War with an Indiana farmer named Dan West who was distraught when milk ran out with children still waiting in line. He realized they needed "not a cup, but a cow." Animals provide nutritious food, generate income, empower women in rural communities, increase access to renewable energy and help communities build resilience.

A wide variety of animals are provided: heifers, goats, pigs, sheep, water buffalo, alpaca, ducks, chickens, and honeybees.

Heifer International believes ending global hunger and poverty begins with agriculture. Since 1944, it has invested in more than 39 million small scale farmers and their families around the world, providing livestock, training, and a wide variety of farm-focused services. Working with rural communities in 21 countries in Africa, Asia, the Americas, including the U.S., Heifer International supports farmers and local producers to strengthen local economies and build secure livelihoods that provide a living income. Their essential values are accountability, full participation, sharing and caring. They also strongly advocate caring for the earth. They are aligned with the United Nations and have partnered with many organizations including the Peace Corps. They have won several awards including the Presidential End Hunger Award.

Heifer has endured for 75 years and continues to improve and expand their original, successful, method of helping others around the world. Let's do our best to support this outstanding mission through our gifts and prayers!

Your Mission Commission

Please consider donating to this worthy cause. We are so grateful and appreciate your continued ministry to the missions of FUMC. Remember that giving is easy using the "Give Online" button on the FUMC website and then select "Missions." You can also mail your donation to the church's office at 680 Mississippi Street, Fridley, MN 55432. Please write "January Missions" on the memo line of your check. Thank you for your generous support of our mission programs!

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### **FAMILY TABLE**

The next Family Table meal is Saturday January 28<sup>th</sup>! We love to hear from our guests when they feel welcome and enjoy the meal. We recently had a guest who came alone say how much he appreciated table hosts, so he didn't feel so lonely eating his meal. If you or someone you know has the gift of welcoming others into conversation, table host may be the right volunteer position. You get to eat and converse with the guests at your table. It is the easiest role at Family Table and very appreciated by our guests.

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### **HUMAN RELATIONS SUNDAY, January 15, 2023**

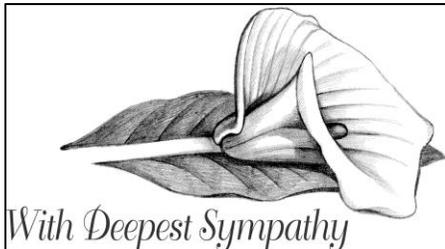
Six Special Sunday Offerings are received from United Methodist churches each year. Human Relations Sunday is a special offering which helps church-based community developers' work in racial and ethnic minority communities in the United States and Puerto Rico. The offering also ensures a second chance for youth offenders. We celebrate this offering on the Sunday before the observance of the Rev. Martin Luther

King Jr.'s birthday. You can leave your donation on Sunday, January 15, or mail it to the church and write "Human Relations Day Offering" on the memo line. Thank you!

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

## CHURCH ALBUM



Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of: Wanda Boyer upon the death of her brother Ronald who passed in November, and to Mary Bowen upon the loss of her sister Martha Unke who passed away in December.

*When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure.*

## 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



"UnDeck The Halls" will be on Monday, January 9 at 7:00 PM. Please come and help us take down our Christmas decorations. Remember, the more help we have the lighter the work.

### KNITTING/CROCHET GROUP

All are welcome to join us on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 1:30 PM in the lounge. The next time we will get together is January 10<sup>th</sup>. Questions? Call Evie Skurich.





## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

**NAOMI CIRCLE** will meet January 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM in the church choir room. Marilyn Hodgeman will bring treats and Pat King will do the devotions.

**RUTH CIRCLE** will meet on Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM. For more information, contact Joyce Dahlberg or Reba Moreau.

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Thank you to UWF Women and the Fridley congregation for contributing to our Christmas fundraiser to be given to the Fridley elementary schools, Hayes and Stevenson. Thanks to you, \$1,180.00 was collected. That amount along with the amount the UWF Board approved, allowed us to give \$740 to each of the schools!

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