

The Growing Edge

(A Monthly Publication of Fridley United Methodist Church)

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

March 2023

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March 12
Daylight Saving Time Begins



March 20
First Day of Spring



Sunday, April 2
Palm Sunday



Sunday, April 9
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

Fridley UMC Family and Friends,

I'm so thankful that our winter-time bleakness is slowly succumbing to the rhythms of impatient Spring.

Into the season of Lent we go. The scriptures distinguish between two kinds of "life": Bios and Zoe. Bios is the basic organic life in all living things, while Zoe is called the "spiritual life."

Since one of our grandchildren is named Zoe, I've taken an active interest in all that this word entails.

Christ uses the term Zoe to clarify a superior kind of life, to that of the seeds that are subject to the hardness, thorniness, shallowness, and fleeting pleasures of life = Bios. Instead Christ uses the word Zoe to declare I am the resurrection and the life (Zoe) they who believe in me, though they die, yet shall they live (Zoe.)

We all need Zoe life in our living. With only Bios life we are likened to a carved or chiseled statue. With Zoe life, the statue becomes an abundant glorious unbounded human; more real than the passing atoms of an aging earth; more real than the forces of entropy and decay that bombard us.

Through Lent we go, on our journey, we remember Christus Victor and our ZOE inheritance.

God Bless.

Pastor Wayne

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

KEY AND FOB HOLDERS

If you are no longer on a committee, or if you have church keys that you have no need for, can you please return your keys or fob to (only) Tim White or Brenda LaBarre. That way we can mark the form that you signed when the keys/fob were issued to you, as returned and you will no longer be responsible for them. We are very low on church keys and will need to make new ones, and we're also low on fobs. We see there are many keys/fobs out there that can be turned in, and save us this expense of ordering more keys and fobs.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

EDUCATION



EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday School starts 11:30 AM.

LINKING FAITH AND LIFE CLASS meets in the computer room. During Lent we will be using the study book “LUKE – Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts and Outlaws” by Adam Hamilton. 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.)

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE SHAPING at 9:30 AM.

Come join us in the lounge, or join us by Zoom.

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 MISSIONS (March and April)

Please refer to the Lenten letter in this Growing edge.

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.” Or you can also mail your donation to the church. Please write “Lenten Offering” on the memo line of your check.

Thank you for your generous support of our mission programs!

FAMILY TABLE

Friendly faces, fellowship, a good laugh, a willing ear. Fresh green salad, warm meal, fun dessert. Free pencil puzzle page. Free books for readers of all ages and abilities. Family Table provides these at our monthly seated meal and our guests genuinely appreciate them. We do know though, that many of our guests from the drive-through meals are not joining us inside, for their own very valid reasons. The Family Table leadership team is imagining how we could do both a drive through and a seated meal on the same day. We are open to ideas on how to make that work, in particular, parking lot safety, so feel free to share your ideas with us!

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 Dawn Bushnell and family upon the loss of her brother in law.

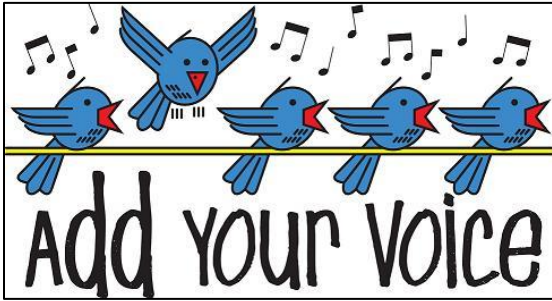
When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure.

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



CALLING ALL SINGERS

We are hoping to form a choir to sing on Easter Sunday. Rehearsals will be on Wednesday nights at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary - March 22, March 29 and April 5. All ranges of voices are welcome. Tenors and basses need more members. If you like to sing, come join us. We had a great time singing for Advent/Christmas. Let's do it again for a glorious Easter.

Sign-up sheet is on the choir room door. Or see/call Sharon White for more information. Hope to see you on March 22nd.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Hey all you avid readers, we are having a Book Discussion on Saturday, March 11th, from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM and would like you to join us! We are reading Before We Were Yours, by Lisa Wingate. The book is based on one of America's most notorious real-life scandals, in which Georgia Tann, director of a Memphis-based adoption organization, kidnapped and sold poor children to wealthy families all over the country. I hope that I have piqued your interest and that you will join us for a lively discussion.

Both men and women are invited.

This is not a UMW/UWF event, but for all UMW/UWF members, this is a book that counts toward our reading program (see Pat King with questions). Contact Dawn Bushnell if you are interested.

KNITTING/CROCHET GROUP

All are welcome to join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 1:30 PM in the lounge. The next time we will get together is March 14. Questions? Call Evie Skurich.



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

NAOMI FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE will meet Mar 10th at 1:00 PM in the church choir room. March is our month for Prayer and Self Denial collection. We will also get Easter cards ready for mailing to the church shut-ins. Marilyn Forsberg will provide the cards. Edna Garrison will provide the stamps and Jo Rezek will bring treats. Hope you can come.

RUTH CIRCLE will be gathering on March 21st at 1:00 PM in the Lounge. Hostess; Evie Skurich, Co-hostess; Kathy Bednar. Joan Jagunich will offer devotions and Diane Jachymowski will do the program.



I appreciated all the cards, phone calls, emails and prayers during my recent eye surgery. The healing will take awhile-please continue to keep me in your prayers.

Thankfully, Jinny

Dear FUMC,

You made a difference today for a neighbor facing food insecurity. You gave a parent peace of mind that they can provide food for their children. Because of you a senior will not need to choose between food or much needed medication. Every dollar you donated to SACA has made an impact. A sincere thank you for your contribution of \$1215 on 12/29/22.

SACA Co-Directors, Dave Rudolph and Elaine Walker

