

# *The Growing Edge*

*(A Monthly Publication of Fridley United Methodist Church)*

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

## *July 2023*

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The church office will be closed on  
Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>.

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Join us on Sunday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> for  
Rev. Donna Dempewolf's first  
Sunday preaching at FUMC.

You're invited to a special welcome  
for Rev. Donna on Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup>  
with refreshments after the service.



### **Prayer Chain Information**

*Call to share your joys  
and concerns:*

Diane Jachymowski

763-571-7572

dejladybug@gmail.com

(Please call before 9:00 PM.)

*National United Methodist*

*Prayer Chain:*

*1-800-251-2468*



FUMC welcomes Pastor Donna Dempewolf. Please take time to introduce yourself when you attend the services in July so both you and Donna will get to know one another. She is looking forward to getting to know church members, and more about FUMC.

There will be a special welcome celebration on Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> with refreshments after the service.

We look forward to learning and growing in our faith with her preaching and teaching. We also look forward to her leadership and guidance to help FUMC leaders and church members become a stronger team. We hope to learn how to work more efficiently and help grow our FUMC family.

Pastor Donna's goal is to meet and learn a little about everyone over the summer months. Thank you, Pastor Donna for coming to FUMC. We look forward to working with you.

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Thank you for the super abundance of gratitude and generosity you showered on Pastor and Family in this season of new beginnings and old rememberings. We are filled with joy in the Lord's provision during this last decade of faithfulness and fruitfulness at Fridley UMC.

*Pastor Wayne, Holly and Family*

*(Picture is of Wednesday Bible Shaping Group.)*





## **-OUR CHURCH-**

By Gene

THIS IS -OUR CHURCH- IN FRIDLEY, MINN  
IT'S HERE FOR JESUS, WHO FORGIVES SIN  
OUR CHARTER MEMBERS, WORKED AS A TEAM  
TO START -OUR CHURCH- THIS WAS THEIR DREAM  
THEIR DREAM CAME TRUE, THEIR WORK WELL DONE  
BECAUSE OF THEM, THANK GOD AND SON  
A CHURCH UNITED, CALLED METHODIST  
WITH BIBLE STORIES, LIKE A JUDAS KISS  
IT'S ON A CORNER, OF CITY STREETS  
AN A-FRAME BUILDING, IT LOOKS SO NEAT  
FRONT OF THE CHURCH, IS FULL OF GLASS  
A CROSS IS SEEN, AS CARS GO PASS  
STAINED GLASS WINDOWS, ON TWO WALLS  
TOP OF THE CHURCH, A CROSS THAT'S TALL  
PEOPLE WALK THROUGH, DOORS FRONT AND BACK  
ALL ARE WELCOMED, WHETHER WHITE OR BLACK  
IN THE SERVICE, SERMONS AND HYMNS  
ALL ABOUT JESUS, AND PRAISE TO HIM  
HYMNAL SONGS, AND TINKLING BELLS  
WHATEVER THE SONG, IT'S WELL DONE  
OUR PASTOR SAID, IT'S TIME TO GO  
WHO WILL BE NEXT, WE DO NOT KNOW  
WE NEED ANOTHER, AS CLEVER AND SMART  
TO KEEP OUR CHURCH, FROM FALLING APART  
WE THEN FOUND OUT, COUPLE WEEKS AGO  
A LADY NAMED DONNA, WILL HELP IT GROW  
AN INTERIM PASTOR, FOR MAYBE A YEAR  
IT WAS GOD'S PLAN, FOR SENDING HER HERE  
SHE HAS EXPERIENCE, HELPING CHURCHES GROW  
AND SHE'LL TELL US, WHAT THINGS TO KNOW  
OUR CHURCH'S BEEN HERE, SIXTY PLUS YEARS  
TO REVERAND DONNA, WE WELCOME YOU HERE  
YOU'LL BE WITH FRIENDS, WITH LOVING HANDS  
AND GIVE YOU SUPPORT,WHENEVER WE CAN  
OUR CHURCH IN FRIDLEY, IS NEW TO YOU  
FOR US AND YOU, THERE'S MUCH TO DO  
WHEN LEAVING CHURCH, SAY THIS TO FRIENDS  
GOD BE WITH YOU, TILL WE MEET AGAIN  
SIXTY PLUS YEARS, SINCE IT BEGUN  
FOR ALL THESE YEARS  
THANK  
GOD AND SON

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

# EDUCATION

**SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL RESUME IN THE FALL.**

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

(mid-week learning opportunity)

## 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 - TBD

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

# MISSIONS



**July Mission of the month is: Fridley back to school supplies (monetary donations.)**

Backpacks and School Supplies for the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Fridley Back to School Resource Fair.

As we have done for several years, we are taking monetary donations for back-to-school supplies. Last year we raised enough money for about 38 backpacks filled with supplies. This year our goal is \$2000, 57 filled backpacks worth!

From the Fridley schools contact Aloda: “When we started this community engagement back in 2013, we serviced 200 families at that time. 10 years later we are serving 400+ families with your continued support in the past. We've been able to make this a sustainable program for the Fridley Public School District.”

Please have your monetary donations to the church office by July 26<sup>th</sup> and checks should be written to FUMC with "school backpacks" in the memo. Thank you.

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 “July Missions” on the memo line of your check. Thank you for your generous support!

**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 Bob Schuldt and family upon the passing of Judy.

*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.



## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Dear Fridley Women in Faith,  
I so very much appreciate your gift in Jim’s memory to keep the work and mission of Mobility Worldwide Minnesota going and growing! Your donation will make a huge difference in the recipient’s life and the lives of those around them. This will help us get to the production of cart #2000. Your gift of \$150 dated 5/7/2023 has been matched – thank you!  
With deep gratitude,  
*Dawn Carlson Conn with Mobility Worldwide MN – Twin Cities*

Dear UWF

Thank you for your generous gift of \$150.00 on 6/6/23 to Simpson Housing Services' Build Up Campaign. We are deeply honored by your investment in our mission to house, support, and advocate for people experiencing homelessness.

Yours in gratitude,

*Elisabeth Loeffler, Director of Advancement and Communications*

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**UNITED METHODIST MINNESOTA ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

I want to thank FUMC for the opportunity to attend the United Methodist Minnesota Annual Conference, which was held May 31-June 1 of this year. The theme of this year's Conference centered around Jesus, and the Road to Emmaus, Luke 24:13-35.

It was amazing to hear our new Bishop, Lanette Plambeck, speak, along with Bishop McAlilly from Nashville. They spoke of courage, boldness and love in the church.

There were several pieces of legislation. One included the UMC sending letters to our elected officials about banning the sale of assault-style weapons and devices that increase the speed of firing. The vote was yes.

The second approved resolution was adopting a resolution calling upon the U. S. Government about the rights of Palestinian children being detained by Israel. This was also voted yes and was to be sent to the 2024 General Conference.

The Love Offering from the Churches in the Conference was \$40,000.00.

There was also recognition for many of the Methodist Clergy, including the retirement of our own, Pastor Wayne Swanson.

For a complete look at the Highlights of the 2023 Annual Conference go to the website: [www.minnesotaumc.org](http://www.minnesotaumc.org) or contact me and I will get you a copy.

*Kathy Skogen*



Thank you!

A grateful thank you to all who helped with what was needed for the Memorial Services for Duane Widmark and Dee Watts. The families were so appreciative! Thank you for your help with set-up, clean-up, and laundering table cloths, and most of all; your welcoming of guests with warm hearts and open minds. All of you are so appreciated. May God always bless you with the kindness you show others.

*Jinny Erickson and the Funeral Reception Committee*

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