

The Growing Edge

(A Monthly Publication of Fridley United Methodist Church)

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

March, 2024

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From the Pastor	2
Church Album	5
Education	3
Events & Opportunities	6
Missions	4
UWF News	6
55+ Breakfast	6

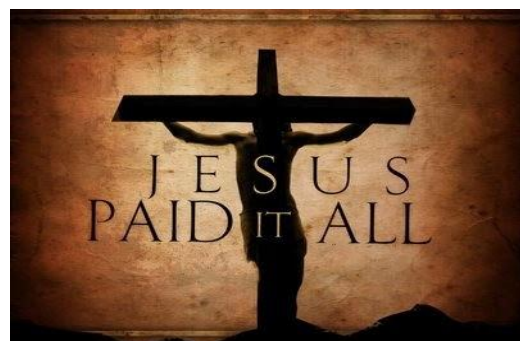
HOLY WEEK begins on March 24,
Palm Sunday, Worship at 10:00 AM



March 28, Maundy Thursday
Service at 7:00 PM



March 29, Good Friday
Service at 7:00 PM



March 31, Easter Sunday,
Worship Celebration at 10:00 AM



Prayer Chain Information

*Call to share your joys
and concerns:*

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

RECKLESS LOVE

Have you ever paid attention to Jesus' itinerary? Have you ever noticed that he is rarely still? Jesus is always in motion, moving from place to place. He is walking down roads, going into villages and cities, talking and teaching along the way. The number one thing you seem to need when you become Jesus' disciple is a good pair of walking shoes. He is constantly on the move.

Jesus' disciples met all sorts of people they otherwise would not have known. In many ways, their itinerary was reckless. Jesus' path took them to the up-and-in and down-and-out. He debated with his detractors, shared meals with unexpected guests, and interacted with the physically and mentally challenged. Jesus dove headfirst into situations that other people would avoid.

Jesus took risks to show us how to love our neighbors. He crossed all sorts of boundaries as he guided his disciples to encounter surprising places and people. I wonder, as followers of Jesus, what steps might he be calling us to take? What neighbors is he calling us to love? What door is he yearning for us to open? Whose heart is he aching for us to touch?

I look forward to walking with you this Lenten season.

Along the way,
Donna

NEW PASTOR REVEREND DR. YOLANA WILLIAMS

SPRC is very excited to announce our new Pastor, Reverend Dr. Yolana Williams.

SPRC met with Reverend Dr. Yolana Williams and was enlightened with her background, her interests, her life path and experience that brings her to FUMC.

Her passion is ministry which has taken her on various adventures that has shaped her into the person that she is today. Her dedication to God, the Bible, building disciples, building relationships, and resolving conflicts will not go unnoticed. Her ministry is being a pastor of all people.

Her background includes pastoring a church that she helped develop from several churches and helping them become united in Christ. She has an extensive background in music including vocal, piano, violin, and drums. She is a leader, has been a professor, worked in nonprofits, and worked in a church that houses a child care program. She has an extensive background in a variety of ways to reach people. She shared an idea of how to nurture and reach young children that are enrolled in Rainbow.

The person we met has an enormous amount of knowledge working with people from various backgrounds and is dedicated to her ministry, bringing people closer to God and developing strong relationships with one another. She has worked and been involved in various programs that reach out into the community. Here are a few excerpts from her write up.

Her Vision of the Church

The body of Christ, in the form of the Church, balances a journey that is both inward and outward. What we do outwardly must be a natural outgrowth of a spiritual journey that is reflective and evaluative. We must all be “compelled by the love of Christ.” (2 Cor. 5:14a). I envision a church that prioritizes a personal relationship with Christ and one another, then uses those developed relationships to broadcast into the broader community. *Love God, Love Self, Love Neighbor.*

Leadership Style

I see myself as primarily a facilitator, a shepherd who creates the environment in God’s work where the body can thrive. This often begins with awareness of the gifts God has given and of the gifts God desires to give.

Aspirations for Ministry and for Serving the Local Church

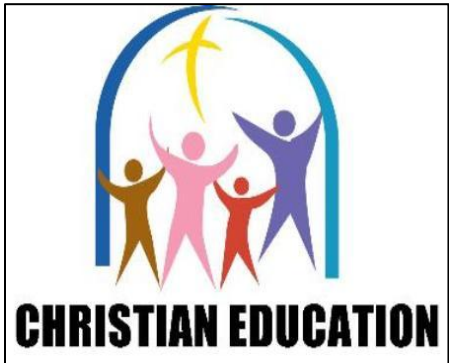
My primary aspiration for ministry and for serving the local church is first to foster a realization of how precious each one of us is to God. Second, promoting the understanding of how being precious to God becomes evident in our daily lives. Finally, I aspire to provide the skills that will enable the people of God to take steps as disciples of Christ to change the world by offering hope.

We look forward to working with Reverend Dr. Yolana Williams.

June 9 there will be a celebration of appreciation for Pastor Donna, and this will be her last Sunday preaching.

June 30 will be Reverend Dr. Yolana Williams first Sunday.

EDUCATION



EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday School starts 11:30 AM.

LENTEN STUDY meets in the computer room. Lenten book study on *Multiplying Love: A vision of United Methodist Life Together* by Paul W. Chilcote beginning Sunday, February 25.

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

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.

A GATHERING FOR GUYS

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

BOOK RETREAT

The next Book Retreat will be on Saturday, March 2, 2024 from 9:00 - 12:00. The Book we will be discussing: A Knock at Midnight. The author is Brittany K. Barnett. Men and women are invited to join us. Please let Dawn Bushnell know that you are coming!

MISSIONS



Lenten Offering March and April - We are so grateful and appreciate your continued ministry to the missions of FUMC. Giving is easy using the “Give Online” button on the FUMC website under Lenten Offering. You can also mail your donation to the church. Please write “Lenten Offering” on the memo line of your check. Thank you!

FAMILY TABLE

We are so happy to thank the Families of Cindy Robb, Judy & Bob Schuldt, and Jan Redman for designating Family Table for their memorials. Through their generosity we were able to purchase new tablecloths for the first time since Family Table started.

The fresh summer & fall flower look on reusable cloth is part of the welcome we provide to our guests when they may not often have a nice sit down meal otherwise in their lives.

Gently used kids books: Our book table is currently light on kids books. Our guests often take books to have at home for their kids or grandkids or even for themselves if they don’t read at an adult level.

Volunteer opportunity: Do you use American Sign Language? We would love to have a table host or server with some ASL experience to help serve our guests.

FUMC 2023 MISSION GIVING (December 2022-November 2023)

MONTHLY MISSIONS		
Venessa Kambi (Ag Grad)	December 2022	1,090.00
Habitat for Humanity	December 2022	1,090.00
Heifer Project	January 2023	510.00
Hope4Youth	February	1,365.00
MN Foodshare	March/April	1,850.00
Meals on Wheels (Impact Services)	March/April	1,910.00
Emma Norton	March/April	600.00
MN Conference Love Offering	May	830.00
Family Promise	June	1,075.00
Fridley School Supplies	July	2,075.00
Tamarisk	August	577.00
Matthew 25	September	606.00
International Institute of MN	October	915.00
UMCOR-Undesignated	November	1,140.00
SPECIAL SUNDAY OFFERINGS		
Midwest Mission	January	\$500.00
Human Relations	January	20.00
Native American Ministries	April	60.00
Koronis Ministries	June	500.00
Rainbow School and Daycare Center	August	500.00
UMCOR - Maui	August/September	305.00
SACA Foodshelf	August	50.00
TOTAL MONETARY GIVING		\$17,568.00

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

CHURCH ALBUM



With Deepest Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Chuck Gooder and family upon the passing of Shar.

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.

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

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

EASTER CHOIR

All voice ranges are welcome!

Celebrate Easter Sunday by singing in our choir. We will rehearse on Wednesday March 20th and 27th at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the Choir Room door. Come join us!



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 12, 2024



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

NAOMI FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE will meet Friday March 8th at 1:00 PM in the church choir room. Jo Rezek will bring treats and Pat King will do the lesson on Prayer and Self Denial with a collection afterwards. We will also get Easter cards ready to mail to shut-ins.

RUTH CIRCLE will meet on March 19 at 1:00 PM in the lounge. Carolyn Doyle will do devotions, and the program by Evie Skurich on Prayer and Self Denial. Joan Jagunich will be hostess and Diane Jachymowski will be co-hostess.



THANK YOU VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

The following people from FUMC helped deliver meals the week of February 5 - 9.

Three day drivers: Fred & Barb Severni.

Two day drivers: Tim & Janet Fossum.

One day drivers: Chuck & Bonnie Ames; Jim & Diane Jachymowski; Ruth Hilliard & Pat King; Jeff & Janet Mondloh; and Mike & Jody Lee.

The next week that help from FUMC is needed, is April 1 - 5. If you are available and willing to volunteer, please call Laura Fanucci on her cell, 763-300-2626. Thank you.

Thank You for all the prayers, cards, and positive thoughts for my recent surgery and recovery. I felt covered with prayer.
With gratitude, Sheila Moenck

Dear Friends in Mission,
Through your financial support you are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships in the U.S. and in more than 60 countries in which UMCOR and partnering agencies engage in direct ministry to persons in need. Thank you for your gift of \$1,140.00 given in December, 2023. And to the UMCOR Disaster Response and Recovery amount of \$305.00.
Roland Fernandes, General Secretary.

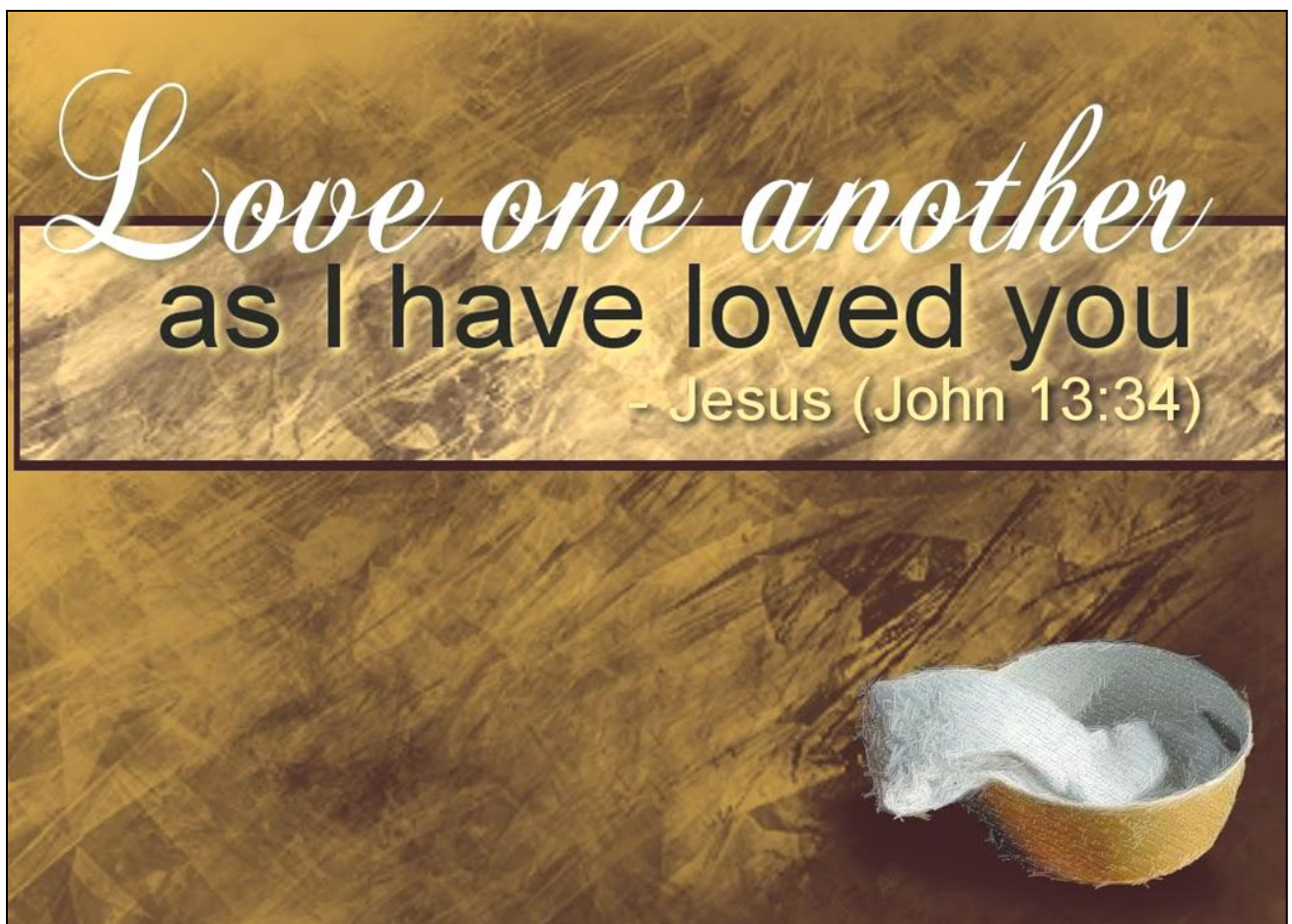
DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS: March 10, 2024



**HOLY WEEK BEGINS ON MARCH 24,
PALM SUNDAY: “Welcome the King”**



**MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE
March 28, 2024 at 7:00 PM
“I give you a new commandment”**



GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
March 29, 2024 at 7:00 PM
“It is finished”





Come and celebrate with us!

EASTER SUNDAY

March 31, 2024 at 10:00 AM

All are welcome!

