

The Growing Edge

(A Monthly Publication of Fridley United Methodist Church)

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

May 2024

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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

CHARGE CONFERENCE to approve
incoming pastoral compensation:

May 5, 2024 at 11:35 AM



Mother's Day; May 12

Mother's Day

Pentecost Sunday; May 19



Trinity Sunday; May 26



Memorial Day; May 27



Prayer Chain Information

*Call to share your joys
and concerns:*

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

YOU'RE IT!

The word *pentekoste* in Greek means 50. It's the fiftieth day after Easter. It's a day when we say, "Come, Holy Spirit, Come!"

Pentecost reminds me of a game I played as a child. The game was called "hide and seek." Some of you may be familiar with this childhood game to hide out and be sought out. For those who have not played, or who have not played for a while, it goes like this: You start all together at home, a place of safety and sanctuary (usually a tree). One person is it. The rest scatter from home and hide while the person who is "it" covers their eyes, counts to twenty, and then shouts, "Ready or not, here I come."

The person who is "it" then seeks the others out: to tag them, to touch them, before they can return to the safety and sanctuary of home.

In the story of Pentecost, the early disciples are all together in one place. It was seven weeks after the Jewish celebration of Passover and Jews from near and far came to Jerusalem again. This time to commemorate Shavuot (also called Pentekoste in Greek, as it's celebrated 50 days after Passover.) It's the day tradition held that the Torah was given to Moses on Mount Sinai.

When the early disciples were gathered all together in one place. As they were hiding out, the Holy Spirit began to move. It swirled and blew, and maybe even whispered in a breathy tone, "Ready or not, here I come." Then the Holy Spirit sought them out; it blew in like a whirlwind, tagging them, touching them, claiming them as "it."

We will be celebrating Pentecost at Fridley UMC on Sunday, May 19. You are invited to wear red, the liturgical color of the Holy Spirit, and your sneakers, because, ready or not, it continues to move among us. It is still tagging us, touching us, and calling us to open our hearts, minds, and doors to all people and all voices. It is still tagging us, touching, us and calling us to be Church in our community and world.

Come, Holy Spirit, Come!

Blessings,

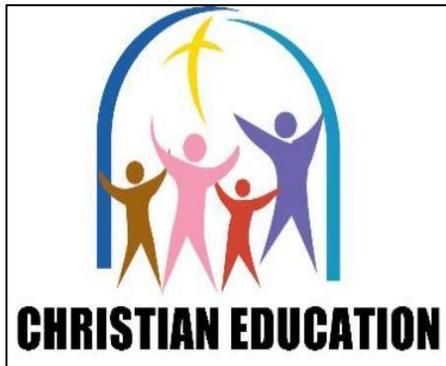
Donna

TIME IS GOING FAST. PASTOR DONNA'S LAST DAY WITH US WILL BE SUNDAY, JUNE 9TH.

Please plan to stay after church on June 9th, 2024 and join us in celebrating the year she has been our interim pastor and the things she has accomplished during that time. We will have coffee, punch and some of her favorites and other treats to eat. Come and wish her well in her next assignment at Northfield United Methodist Church.

(If you are able and willing to help set up for the festivities, we will be meeting at 10:00 AM on Saturday, June 8th to get the Fellowship Hall ready for our celebration. Please contact Cindy Doerr or just show up. We will have something for everyone to do – mainly get tables and chairs set up, 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.

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

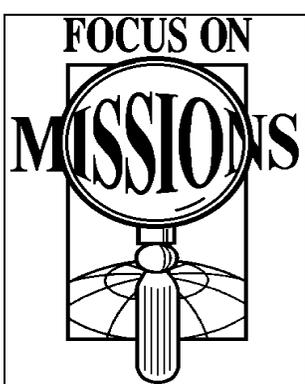
A Men's Bible Study Group meets every Friday morning at 7:30 AM at the Sunset Grill in Blaine. We eat breakfast; take turns leading that week's lesson, guiding us through a reading of scripture, story and discussion. We share prayer concerns. All men are welcome.

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, Saturday, May 4, 2024 from 9:00 -12:00. The Book is: *A Knock at Midnight*, author is Brittany K. Barnett. Men and women are invited. Please let Dawn Bushnell know that you are coming!

MISSIONS



Mission for May is the MN United Methodist Annual Conference Love Offering.

This year's offering will be divided between 4 organizations which help our neighbors both at home and

abroad heal from trauma and find safety. (% of gift directed to each organization.)

 **A Trauma Care Center in Ukraine (30%)** has been selected in response to the massive mental health impact of war. Through a collaboration with UMCOR, the money will be used to purchase and develop a ministry center for trauma care which currently operates from a hotel near the city of Uzhhorod. The center will be able to immediately house displaced persons suffering from PTSD. Located near one of the strongest Ukrainian United Methodist Congregations, it is hoped that the church will provide a convenient population to recruit volunteers.

 **Legal Clinics partnering with the Volunteer Lawyer Network (VLN) (30%)** are selected to help those facing problems with immigration, citizenship, asylum and humanitarian relief. The VLN will offer legal clinics in Methodist churches sprinkled around Southern/Central Minnesota and Minneapolis. The work will help provide support to Hispanic / Latino Affinity groups by lawyers and para legals offering individual consultation and legal education in group settings.

 **The Emma Norton Services' Restoring Waters housing development (30%)** has been selected to promote their housing project scheduled to open May 14. Creating a home-like calming environment for 60 individuals/small families, the Love offering will provide funding for new programming aimed at reducing trauma through art creation, cooking, gardening, meditation and yoga/movement.

 **Finally, Volunteers in Mission (10%)** has been selected to offer scholarships to United Methodist Volunteer participants who serve in all 50 states and 100 countries. Most 2-week team projects provide hands on support in construction, disaster response, teaching, health care and packing supplies for overseas shipments. The Love offering will help offset the cost to first-time participants with scholarships of \$200 - \$400 per volunteer.

With so much turmoil in the world, we need access to the restorative presence of nature, community and spirituality to enable healing from life's traumas. Please consider donating to the Love Offering to support these worthy causes.

We are so grateful and appreciative of your continued support of FUMC missions. Your gift can easily take place using the "Give Online" button on the FUMC Website and then select Missions. Or you can send a check marked May Missions directly to FUMC, 680 Mississippi St., Fridley, MN 55432. Thank you for your generous support of Our United Methodist Conference' Love offering.

FAMILY TABLE

FREE BOOKS TABLE: The free books table is popular among our guests! If you have gently used kids books of any age, our guests would love them. Some of our guests read the young adult books themselves, but others pick up children's books for their visiting grandkids.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE: We are regularly hosting a small table of American Sign Language users. It would be great to have a server or table host with some ASL usage. Please contact Judy Lange or the church office if you are interested.

CHURCH ALBUM



With Deepest Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Mary Young's family and friends upon her passing, and to Jerry Robb's family and friends upon his passing. We will notify you when Jerry's service has been scheduled.

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.

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



SPRING CLEANUP

Please save Saturday, May 18th to help Trustees with our spring cleanup both inside and outside! We will be "open for business" from 9-1:00 and realize you may not be able to help that entire time, but any amount of time you can share will be most appreciated. If you have equipment such as rakes or a leaf blower and are willing to bring it/them, that will also be helpful. There will be snacks, sandwiches, chips and beverages for workers as well as camaraderie, conversation and FUN!! We look forward to working with you on the 18th!!

EASTER CHOIR SET TO SING FOR JUNE 9 SERVICE.

If you sang on Easter and loved it or if you didn't get in with the Easter singing and would like to join the choir for just one more Sunday,

please join us for two rehearsals on Wednesday, May 15 and Wednesday, June 5 at 7:00 PM to rehearse for their next performance on Sunday, June 9. Questions, contact Cindy Doerr or Dave Ryan.

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 May 14.



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

NAOMI FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE will meet Friday May 10th at 1:00 PM at the church for our final meeting of the year. A special lunch will be provided by Marilynn Forsberg and Pat King.

LADIES DAY OUT this year will be Saturday, June 15, 2024. We will be going to lunch at Kendall's Tavern & Chophouse at the Bunker Lakes Golf Course. Plans have not been finalized so please watch for more information on Sunday morning announcements and June Growing Edge for times, etc. We hope meet at church around 11:00 AM or 11:15 AM to be up at Kendall's by 11:30 AM or 12:00 noon for lunch (times not finalized as of this writing with Kendall's.) Please contact Cindy Doerr if you wish to carpool from the church and if you are able to drive.



Thank-you to all who sent cards, visited, and prayed for me during my recovery from a broken femur. It is so comforting to have a loving family.
Don Greenwaldt

Dear Friends,

Without the dedication of supporters like you, we would not be able to provide the breadth of services we offer. You enable us to create a space of healing for those who desperately need it. Your gift insures that survivors can build safer and more stable lives as we continue to take one step closer to a future free from violence. Thank you for your donation of \$1,500 on 2.16.2024.

With gratitude, *Connie Moore, Executive Director of Alexandra House*

THANK YOU VOLUNTEER DRIVERS:

The following people from FUMC helped deliver Meals on Wheels the week of April 1 - 5.

Three Day Drivers: Fred Severni with Barb's help two of the days.

Two Day Drivers: Dave & Judy Ryan; Mike & Jody Lee; and Janet Fossum with help from Tim one of the days.

One Day Drivers: Chuck Ames; Ruth Hilliard & Pat King; Jim & Diane Jachymowski; and Donn & Jinny Erickson delivering for their first time. (Yay!)

The next time they will be asking for help from FUMC will be May 28 - 31. It will be a four day delivery week due to Memorial Day. Feel free to contact Laura at MOW's on her cell phone, 763-300-2626, if you can help.

A great thank you to all who helped with the memorial service for Mary Young. Everyone's help is so very much appreciated. For all your contributions, the family was so very pleased. Many hands make work easy. May each of you be blessed with the kindness you give and share with others.

Jinny Erickson, and Funeral Reception Committee.

HAVE A BLESSED AND SAFE MEMORIAL WEEKEND!

