

# The Growing Edge

(A Monthly Publication of Fridley United Methodist Church)

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

## October 2024

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October 6, 2024



FUMC PARKING LOT.

October 27, 2024



### Prayer Chain Information

*Call to share your joys  
and concerns:*

*National United Methodist*

*Prayer Chain:*

*1-800-251-2468*

## FROM THE PASTOR

The United Methodist Book of Discipline describes Rally Day in this way. “Rally Day is observed in some congregations to celebrate a new start or a renewed effort in involving children, youth, and adults in Sunday morning classes for Christian education. Rally Day may coincide with Promotion Sunday, but it may be observed at a different time. When Rally Day is observed independently, focus on efforts to involve as much of the congregation as possible in Sunday school or other Christian formation opportunities.”

These words are stodgier than our celebration. I’d like to have you key in on a phrase found right at the beginning “celebrate a new start or a renewed effort in involving children, youth, and adults...” This season, for many, is about new starts and renewed efforts. As we look forward to the upcoming season, I am filled with anticipation and excitement for how God will bless and use us. Hallelujah!

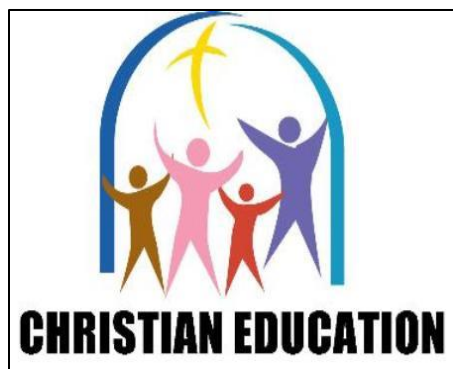
As I write this, my heart is still bubbling over with joy. Our celebration was the total package; great weather, good music, and a congregation whose smiles lit up the parking lot. My heartfelt thank you to those who rolled up their sleeves toting equipment, chairs, and tables, hung balloons, and brought in flowers to make the setting festive, prepared a beautiful snack for fellowship, and those just around pitching in wherever needed. It was hard work, but the joy expressed and carried into the week was well worth it. Thank you, thank you, thank you. Let us all press in and up for more of what the Lord freely gives. Amen.

*Pastor Yolanda*

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# 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 bulletins will be handed out following the children's sermon.

**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

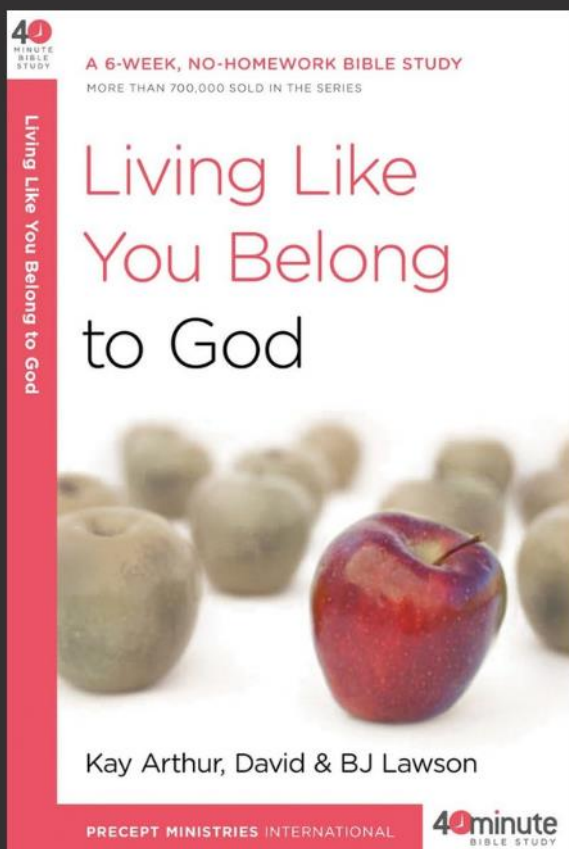
A Men's Bible Study Group meets every Friday morning at 7:30 AM at the Sunset Grill in Blaine. We eat breakfast; take turns leading that week's lesson, guiding us through a reading of scripture, story and discussion. We share prayer concerns. All men are welcome.

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## 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.

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**New Bible Study  
6-weeks**

**Thurs. 5:30-6:30  
Beginning Oct.  
3rd**

**Led by Pastor  
Yolanda**

The Education Committee has been working on our library to clean the shelves and update our collection. A number of books have been removed, many taken to Half Price Books to make room for new books and to make our display more attractive and accessible. We have also moved the Bibles from the library to the pews in the sanctuary to enable those who choose to compare different Biblical editions. The message remains the same but the delivery can vary! Please check out these valuable resources and we hope you find a book to enjoy in the near future!

## MISSIONS



### **SACA Food Shelf in Columbia Heights**

Our Mission focus for October is the Southern Anoka Community Assistance (SACA) Food Shelf, founded in 1976 to help meet the food insecurity needs of residents in Columbia Heights, Hill Top, Fridley and Spring Lake Park. Dave Rudolph, Food Shelf Co-Coordinator has been directing this organizations program efforts for the past 14 years. He reports an ever-increasing demand for the food shelf. Today, the program serves 55,000 clients on a yearly basis. This represents an increase of 91% as compared with service numbers from 2019. Over the past 14 years, the program has evolved from providing prepacked boxes of groceries into a service where clients self-select food that fits their individual family tastes. Recently, SACA increased their ability to serve clients by changing food shelf appointments from 15 minutes to every 10 minutes. This allows for 10 more families to be served every day.

SACA operates on food and financial donations from the community. They use monetary donations to buy food through Second Harvest where each \$1 can purchase over 10 pounds of food.

SACA provides healthy food for our community members in need with the goal of supporting a pathway to stability and self-sufficiency. The food shelf also provides for individual food delivery through a program called SACA Delivers. The service focuses on clients who find it hard to travel to pick up food at the food shelf. They receive a monthly delivery of food

#### Who are clients of the food shelf?

Large families, single parent families, individual adults, students, and Seniors are served by the food shelf.

#### What life circumstances bring people to seek food assistance?

Clients often speak of seeking assistance when they are going through a rough patch lasting 1 – 3 months.

Big bills, lost jobs, retirement that doesn't cover their needs and

prescriptions outstripping their budget bring clients to seek help.

SACA also runs a Thrift Store that is open to the public. All essential items are affordably priced. Thrift store items are donated by the community and the store is maintained and staffed by volunteers. All (yes, 100%) of their sales revenue is used to purchase food. All donations to the SACA Thrift Store are tax deductible.

3 FUMC members volunteer their time with SACA. Jody Lee, Gary Boyer and Jeff Mondloh volunteer for 4 hour shifts each week. SACA is always seeking additional volunteers. Volunteers with Spanish language skills are especially needed to help clients with limited English abilities. Speak with one of us if you would like to learn about the available opportunities.

The food needs for our community are great. Please consider donating to this worthy cause.

Giving is easy by using the “Give Online” button on the FUMC website. Select “Missions” or mail your donation to 680 Mississippi St NE Fridley, MN 55432. Write October Mission on the memo line. Thank you for your thoughtful support of this valued local community non-profit!

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## **FAMILY TABLE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

A couple additional people are needed over the next few months for the Reset Crew. The main task is to clean off tables and move them toward the back of the fellowship hall, with some additional reset tasks. Arrive around 12:30 PM or slightly earlier if you'd like to eat! All done by 2:00 PM if not earlier. Contact Judy Lange or the church office if you are interested.

## **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**

### **KNITTING/CROCHET GROUP**

All are welcome to join us on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 1:00 PM in the lounge. The next time we will get together is October 15. Questions? Call Evie Skurich.

FUN

# Calling all Youth Grades 7-11

Answers to tough  
questions ...or at least  
some of them.

Snacks

A combined youth  
group/confirmation class led by  
Pastor Yolanda will begin on Sunday  
October 6th @ (5:00-6:00)

Bible Study

Field trips

Have your parent(s) contact Pastor Yolanda @  
[pastor.yolanda@fridleyumc.org](mailto:pastor.yolanda@fridleyumc.org)



## FUMC CLEAN UP

**Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, lunch provided

FUMC trustees are sponsoring a fall cleanup and we need many volunteers! The outside needs to be cleaned up for winter; the fans throughout the church, minus Rainbow fans, need to be cleaned; the kitchen needs some deep cleaning under the direction of Jinny Erickson; the bins located at the front entry are no longer being used and are available for you to take prior to our cleanup date – those that remain will then be taken to a second hand store; signage in the bathrooms for door locking needs to be placed so that all know the instruction upon entering; bathroom counters need a thorough cleaning as do the vents. The trustees hope to have the bathrooms painted prior to the end of the calendar year. We have a sign up for those who are available to help enable planning for the best use of our volunteers. We sincerely hope this includes you!!



A special thank you to all who sent cards, emails, and called to check in on me after my fall. Thank you to all the women who witnessed my fall and did not hesitate to call for help. I am doing well. Thanks be to God. Thank you my church family for caring so much. *Jinny Erickson*

Friends,

With the passing of my mom, I received so many cards with expressions of sympathy, caring, and love. You sent an overflow of affection! You truly have blessed me.

God bless all of you. *Brenda LaBarre*

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Thank you for generously investing in GMCC (founded as Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches.) We received your gift of \$1,482.50 on 7/23/24 designated to Minnesota FoodShare. Your generous act of caring is making an immeasurable difference during challenging times for so many of our neighbors. Sincerely, *Adrienne Dorn, Executive Director*

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## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

**NAOMI FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE** will be held Friday October 11<sup>th</sup> in the church choir room at 1:00 PM. Leone Olson will bring treats and Pat King will give the lesson. All are welcome.

**RUTH CIRCLE** - will meet on October 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM in the lounge. Joyce will be doing the program on "Being close to God."

**TABITHA CIRCLE** is sponsoring a session at Feed My Starving Children on Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 5-6:30 PM after which we will go to Applebee's at Northtown for supper. We will meet at church at 4:30 PM to drive to the Coon Rapids site.

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