

The Growing Edge

(A Monthly Publication of Fridley United Methodist Church)

April 2018

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MAUNDY THURSDAY

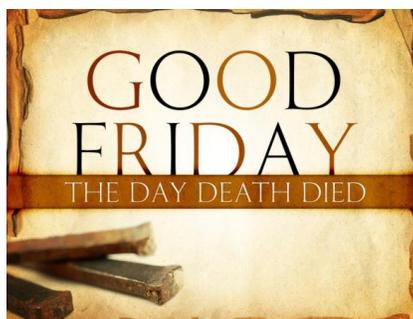
March 29, 2018

Holy Communion will be offered from 5:00 to 7:00 PM in our sanctuary. Take some time to meditate, reflect on Holy Week and its meanings. Kneel at the rail and receive the communion elements. Come anytime, leave when you feel complete.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

March 30, 2018 at 7:00 PM

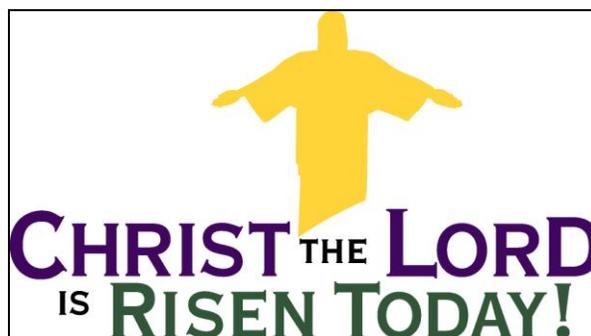
All are welcome.



EASTER SUNDAY

April 1, 2018

Worship Times: 9:15 & 11:15 AM



Prayer Chain Information

*Call to share your joys
and concerns*

National United Methodist

Prayer Chain:

1-800-251-2468



PASTOR WAYNE'S WORLD

Greetings to Fridley's family and friends, especially for those emerging from the confines of authentic Minnesota winter. Spring will be especially sweet this year!

I'm wondering how many times I've said or heard others say "It's my life." Thousands of times this folly has been uttered. Reality sometimes gets past our pride and we observe the way the world actually works. We need each other. None of us are independent from others; whether or not we want to admit it.

Believing we are autonomous and self-sufficient is simply fiction. Without loving connections and attachments, we compromise our genetic, biological and spiritual makeups. Times of crisis quickly bring the truth to light. In days of difficulty, we find our security by the community of enduring friendships we are part of.

Commitment to community, through the generations, help us to know who we are and who we aren't. This sense of responsibility to community gives us the capacity to transmit values that are essential in the development of our conscience and character.

So, the next time you are about to say "It's my life," remember the myth of personal autonomy and the illusion of self-sufficiency, self-expression and self-gratification.

We are created by a God, who lives in the sustaining reality of nurturing relationships. God's life and God's image in us, is found and relished in loving relationships and community.

C.S. Lewis remarked that we cannot love the whole world, but we certainly can love our neighbors. With God's help, may Fridley UMC continue to be made new by Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit to reach out and build new friendships by reaching new people to be family with us.

Blessings, Pastor Wayne

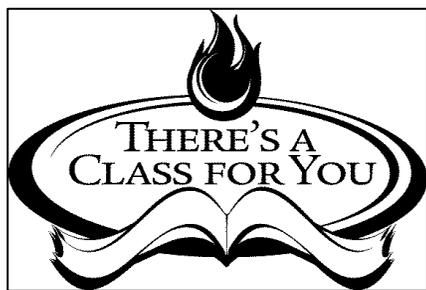
CARING MINISTRIES



Dates for Stephen Ministers:

April 24, 7:00 PM; *Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart*,
Chapters 5-8

EDUCATION



EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday School starts 10:45 AM.

PASTOR WAYNE'S CLASS is a Confirmation/Discipleship opportunity for everyone from middle school to old school. The time will be from 10:35 -11:05 AM in the computer room upstairs. Bring your refreshments with you. We will learn to be apprentices of Jesus in his new kingdom living.

LINKING FAITH AND LIFE CLASS is a learning opportunity where participants explore current life topics from a faith perspective. This class meets upstairs in the Sunday School room next to the computer room. Come join us.

SEEKERS BIBLE STUDY CLASS is Bible study class that 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. See you there.

Children are welcome to attend worship with their family. Children's supplies (children's bulletins, crayons and coloring pages) can be found just outside the back sanctuary doors.

ALSO (mid-week learning opportunity)

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE SHAPING STUDY at 9:30 AM.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

A Men's Bible Study Group meets every Friday morning at 6:30 AM at Keys Cafe on the east side of University Avenue NE near 83rd Street in Spring Lake Park. We eat breakfast at Keys, take turns leading that week's lesson, guiding us through a reading of scripture, story and discussion. We share prayer concerns. The Bible study text that we use is *The New International Lesson Annual*. We keep an extra copy in the church library for anyone who would like to try out this opportunity. All men are welcome. For more information contact Roger Olson.

A GATHERING FOR GUYS

Grit & Spit will be on Saturday April 7, at 9:00 AM at the Fridley American Legion; 7365 Central Ave. NE, Fridley. There will be coffee, rolls, and spirited conversation. Hope you all can make it.

Spring 2018 LEAFs (Life Enrichment Adult Forums)

Enrollment is open to anyone. They provide opportunity to adults to enjoy lifelong learning, creative experience and interfaith fellowship. The program consists of a variety of classes, convocation, fellowship times, and lunches are offered to residents of the metropolitan area.

Time: 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Places:

Christ Lutheran Church; April 9th

Christ the King Lutheran Church; April 23rd

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church; May 7th & May 14th

For further info., call Ron Seekamp at 763-571-7821 or call St. Philip's Church at 763-571-1500.

MISSIONS



April Mission – PET Mobility

The mission focus for the month of April is **Personal Energy Transportation (PET) Mobility**.

PET Mobility produces mobility carts and ships them to rural areas of developing countries around the world. These mobility carts bring the gift of mobility and dignity to those who are unable to walk. The hand-cranked carts allow individuals to go where ordinary wheelchairs won't go and there is no cost to the

individual receiving the cart. These carts provide a child with the ability to attend school and receive an education; a family provider can find employment or bring products to market in an effort to provide for themselves and their dependents; recipients can go to church, the marketplace and social gatherings; individuals can travel to local health centers for increased access to needed medical care.

PET Mobility also has open shop hours twice a week if you wish to volunteer to help assemble these carts. Workshop hours are on Tuesdays from 9:00 – 1:00 PM and Thursdays from 12:30 – 4:00 PM. Call 763-742-5960 for more information. Please consider donating to this important mission. We thank you for your generous support of our mission programs!



Sample cart!

FAMILY TABLE DEVOTIONS

Right before we are ready to serve our guests, Family Table volunteers gather for announcements and pray. We pray for our guests and neighbors, and we give thanks for the food that has been provided. Anyone can lead the prayer by reading a devotional, leading a small liturgy, or an impromptu prayer. A signup sheet is available at the table where we pick up and return our nametags.

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY

Sunday, April 15th is the next **SPECIAL SUNDAY OFFERING** opportunity. It will be Native American Ministries Sunday. Your offerings will help support Native American outreach with annual conferences, provides seminary scholarships and strengthens, develops and equips Native American rural, urban and reservation congregations, ministries and communities. Let us help them to authentically worship and serve Jesus. Envelopes will be in the bulletin on April 15th for your use.

HOPE 4 YOUTH

Since last fall, FUMC has been furnishing an evening meal once a month at Hope 4 Youth, a drop-in center for homeless youth in Anoka County. We are serving a nutritious, warm meal to youth and their children (yes!). This service will be provided on Tuesday, April 17th and on Tuesday, May 15th. If you are willing to help with this outreach ministry, please contact Judy Ryan or Angela Panter.

AT THE DONATION STATION (the bins in the hall near the front doors) we are collecting:

- Batteries (button sized to D cell, no car or computer batteries)
- Used Cell Phones
- Used Eyeglasses for the Lions' Club





55+ SINGLES 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



THE SALAD LUNCHEON IS AROUND THE CORNER.

"Love is in the Air" is the theme and we will have entertainment by Jennifer Grimm and Joe Cruz. (Please check them out on their websites.) The date is Saturday, April 7th, at 11:00 AM. Delicious salads and bars will be served afterwards. Tickets remain at \$15, so bring your family and friends. They will be in for a real treat. Tickets are available on Easter Sunday and during the week in the Church office (by check only).

Some background information about Jennifer Grimm & Joe Cruz:

A dynamic duo with the tenderness of Ella Fitzgerald & Joe Pass and the rhythmic excitement of Tuck & Patti, Jennifer Grimm & Joe Cruz have joined forces to bring their passionate talents together on one stage.

Jennifer Grimm is a nationally acclaimed vocalist and songwriter with credits to her name including performing at New York's Carnegie Hall, scoring hits internationally with radio favorites in Aruba and the Netherlands, writing music for Sony Entertainment, being licensed with

Universal Entertainment, and having her music featured on networks such as NBC, USA, and SHOWTIME. Her speaking voice may sound familiar as well due to her being heard on commercials for Target, Caribou Coffee, Office Max, HealthPartners, True Value and many more. Having been raised with her traveling show-business family, it's easy to tell that the stage suits Jennifer as she puts everyone at ease with her charismatic familiarity with the audience.

Joe Cruz is regarded as one of the most versatile and energetic multi-stringed instrumentalists on the national music scene today. Throughout his 40 year career, this passionate musician has developed a vast array of styles, playing anything from solo acoustic guitar to screaming electric, swinging with a jazz combo, picking mandolin in a bluegrass band or exploring his Latin roots on Cuban tr3s and Puerto Rican cuatro. Cruz is also a composer and his solo guitar record, Pasi3n, can be found on iTunes. Having played in numerous productions at the Children's Theatre Company, The Guthrie, Park Square Theatre, and The Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Joe is delighted to return to collaborating with Jennifer Grimm once again.



UMW NEWS

FRIDLEY UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

NAOMI FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE will meet April 13th at the church at 9:30 AM. Jo P. will provide treats and Edna G. will do the program. We will make paper flowers for White Pines Assisted Living. The flowers are for May Day and will be placed on each resident's food tray.

RUTH CIRCLE will meet April 17th at church. Hostess is Judy S. co-host is Jean M. programs will be Peggy M. and devotions will be Joan J.

Thank-you UMW for the money you donated during our Christmas Potluck! We received a really nice thank-you from the Hayes School Counselor, Margo Rothenbacher. She gave real examples of ways they used the Gift Cards that we gave them. Please check out the Thank-you on the UMW Bulletin Board. Fridley United Methodist Church Members should be proud of how we are making a difference in our community.



THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! To everyone who helped us with Brian Erickson's Memorial Lunch on Thursday, February 22nd by helping with setup, serving, cleanup, reset and tablecloth laundering. Some of you volunteered before I even got around to asking. We deeply appreciate all the willing workers and could not have done it without you. God is Good!

Leone & The Funeral Reception Committee

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Dear Fridley United Methodist Church,

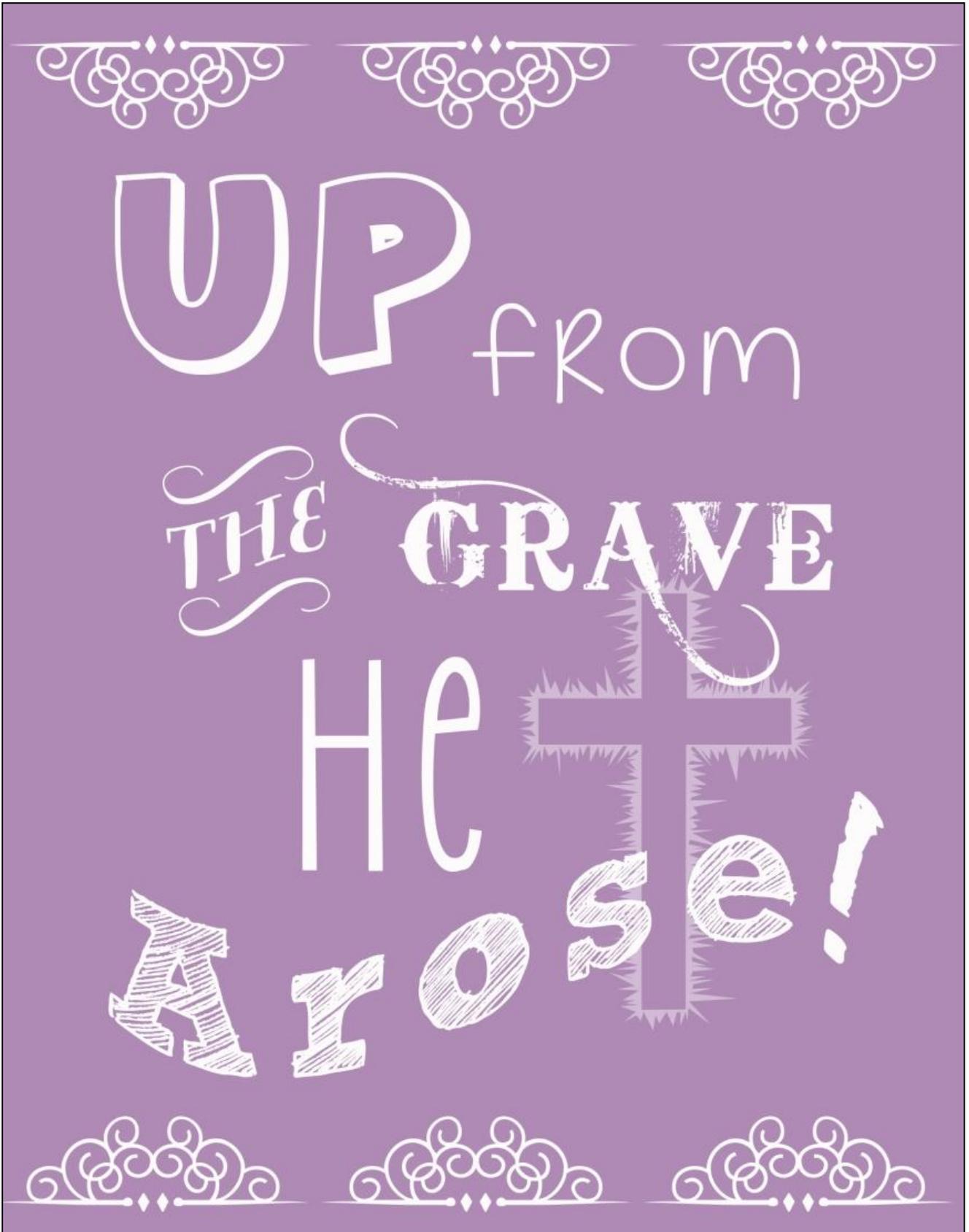
Thank you for the gift cards donated to Hayes School. Here are 2 examples of how your kindness helped others.

A second grader with twin brothers who were born premature, with your help and a teacher sponsor, we were able to get clothes for all the children including winter coats, snow pants, hats and mittens, and were given gift cards for food and other basic necessities.

Another family had a son who was in the hospital with a severe brain injury. The mom lost her job as she refused to leave her son's side. On the way home, the family stopped at school to get their gifts. Between the teacher sponsors and your gift cards, there were six bags of blankets, clothes, small toys and gift cards for food. The injured son, who had a helmet on, thanked me many times for helping his family. The mother was extremely grateful and cried.

Thank you for providing help to our Hayes families in need.

Margo Rothenbacher, Hayes School Counselor



HAVE A BLESSED EASTER!

(The office will be closed on Monday, April 2)