

The Growing Edge

(A Monthly Publication of Fridley United Methodist Church)

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

February 2019

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Happy Valentine's Day

February 14, 2019



dear friend
YOU
are loved



Prayer Chain Information

*Call to share your joys
and concerns*

National United Methodist

Prayer Chain:

1-800-251-2468





PASTOR WAYNE'S WORLD

While Jesus walked upon this earth during his public ministry, he repeatedly warned his disciples about the stumbling blocks they would encounter in the world and in themselves, as they learned to follow Jesus and be part of his Family, the Church.

On the eve of his crucifixion, his disciples were having a snit-fit about who of them was the best. Later that evening, the three closest to Jesus fell asleep despite his plea that they keep vigil with him. One of the twelve disciples soon betrayed him. After Jesus was arrested, nine of the remaining eleven ran away and hid for days. Of the two disciples that remained, one denied him three times, and went into hiding with the others.

The lone disciple who stayed with Jesus through the crucifixion was John. It was this disciple that later insisted that Jesus loved all his disciples “to the end.”

Even though his disciples would regularly misunderstand him, resisted his sacrificial intentions and exhibited fear and cowardice, Jesus still sent them out to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. “Go therefore and make disciples,” he said to his stumbling disciples.

Today, our way forward as Jesus’ disciples, even as we stumble, shake, and scatter, is to remember the path that Peter followed after his scandalous denial of his Savior. Peter repented with tears, and was restored to Christ’s fellowship after the Resurrection. Peter’s stumbling would continue, and so too, would the amazing restoration Jesus offered to Peter and to us, “to the end.”

Blessings, Pastor Wayne

CARING MINISTRIES



SAMARITAN'S PULSE – “Shepherding in Caring, Competency and Connection”

At Fridley UMC we are transitioning to a new format for developing and delivering caring ministry in our family of faith. It is called Samaritan’s Pulse, taken from the story of Jesus in Luke 10:25-37.

This new ministry of our church will consist of people who are committed to growing in their relationship with Jesus Christ, in their friendships with others, and in self awareness.

Samaritan's Pulse is a covenant ministry of the Pastor, extended to laypeople who desire to work with the Pastor to grow in compassion, competency and caring for one another in the body of Christ.

For those interested in engaging their Samaritan's Pulse, join us on Thursday, February 28th at 7:00 PM to see if God is calling you to be part of this developing ministry. *Blessings, Pastor Wayne*

FAMILY TABLE MEETS THE HUB!

Family Table leadership is excited to announce our new partnership with The HUB. We have been partnered with Second Harvest Heartland since the beginning in order to feed our guests nutritious and fun meals at a deep discount. Over the years, Second Harvest has reorganized to focus on programs larger than ours, and began to require us to shop for 500 pounds of food at a time. It's difficult for a once a month program like ours to store the supplies and plan our meals. Luckily, Second Harvest has partnered with Loaves and Fishes to create The HUB as a food re-distributor. We will be able to shop our order online ahead of time for pickup. The HUB also has a greater variety and supply of fresh produce than we were able to get at Second Harvest. We are looking forward to this new partnership!



More information can be found at <http://www.loavesandfishesmn.org/the-hub.html>.

February Family Table: Allina Nurses will be checking cholesterol, blood sugar and blood pressure.

LYDIA PROJECT UPDATE

A huge thank you to everyone who has had a part in the Lydia project. Our original goal was 100 scarves, which we surpassed. We are now over 200! We would like to bring our portion of the project to completion. If you are currently working on a scarf, finish it. Please let me know if you have a scarf "in the works". There is no need to start new ones.

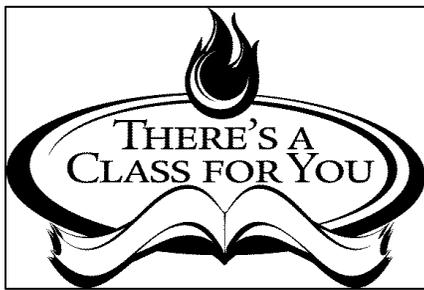
The finished scarves have been tagged, will be bagged and packed in boxes to go to the Minnesota Annual Conference meeting in May. They will store them until the General Conference in 2020. We will have a final count and dedicate them in early May.

Thank you for all the hard work and the beautiful scarves you have created. They will be enjoyed by many.

Sharon White, Lydia Project Coordinator

P.S. Several scarves have recently been left at church with no name on them. Please let me know if you are the creator of any of them (1 knit; 5 crocheted.)

EDUCATION



EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday School starts 10:45 AM.

PASTOR WAYNE'S INTERGENERATIONAL CONFIRMATION/DISCIPLESHIP CLASS:

This is an opportunity for everyone from middle school to old school. Meet in the choir room, and 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 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.

EXPLORING DISCIPLESHIP

Exploring Discipleship Class meets Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:00 PM. Together we explore and learn what the Bible teaches us about living as followers of God and disciples of Jesus Christ.

Using the Bible as our guide, we gather around God's stories and explore how God is still working in and through our church and our lives to send us out to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. This class is co-led by the Pastors, and is designed for anyone seeking to deepen their faith and walk with our Lord. Come and see!

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

A Men's Bible Study Group meets every Friday morning at 6:30 AM at Keys Café, (8299 University Ave NE, Spring Lake Park). We eat breakfast at Keys. We 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 *Men of the Bible*, with authors Ann Spangler & Robert Wolgemuth, for which we each make a voluntary annual contribution of about \$20. We keep a free 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, February 2nd 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.

MISSIONS



FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN – Special Mission for February

Feed My Starving Children is an outstanding and exciting mission! It was created in 1987 by Richard Proudfit, a Minnesota business man, who had visited Honduras following a hurricane, and was deeply troubled, as he witnessed children starving and dying. He felt led by God to do something to help. He worked with Cargill to develop a simple, extremely nutritious meal, easy to prepare, and high in proteins and vitamins, that could be stored and shipped easily. It consists of rice, soy protein, dehydrated vegetables, and vitamins mixed with chicken flavoring.

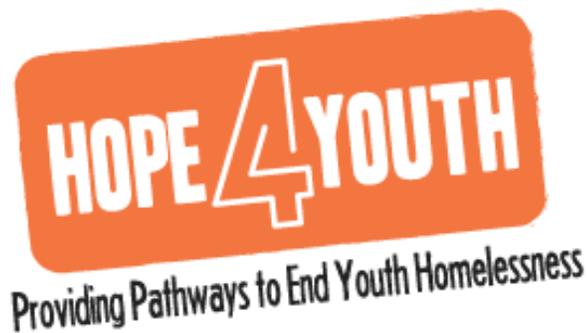
Many members of our church have volunteered in preparing these meals for shipment. Meals have been sent to nearly 70 countries throughout the world! Unfortunately, there continues to be a great need for these meals in many areas. East Africa and Haiti are currently in desperate need.

If you would like to volunteer, check out FMSC.ORG. Many people gather groups and celebrate special occasions by assembling meals.

Recently, Feed My Starving Children partnered with “Waste Wise” in Sandstone, MN, to create space, save money, and ensure that they are disposing of their waste in the most responsible way possible.

Let us give our best, as we support this important mission!

Hope4Youth meals continue the second Tuesday of every month and the congregation is encouraged to participate. If you want to volunteer or to get more information, 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



CHURCH ALBUM



With Deepest Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Ethel (May) Wells upon her death.

55+



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

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

We are **NOT** having a blood drive this year, but please consider giving at other locations as they are in great need for donations.

IMPORTANT!! Red Cross Issues Public Plea for Blood Donations.

The organization said today it had about 27,000 fewer blood and platelet donations than needed during Christmas and New Year's. People nationwide, especially those with type O blood, are urged to schedule an appointment to donate. Appointments can be scheduled by downloading the free American Red Cross Blood Donor App, going to the Red Cross website, or calling (612) 871-7676. Thank you!



American Red Cross



UMW NEWS

FRIDLEY UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

NAOMI CIRCLE will meet Friday, February 8th at 9:30 AM at the church. Marilyn Hodgeman will bring treats and Mary Bowen will provide materials for us to make valentines for shut-ins.

RUTH CIRCLE will meet on Tuesday, February 19th at 1:00 PM at the home of Carolyn Doyle. Her co-hostess will be Joan Jagunich. Devotions will be given by Joyce Dahlberg and the program will be shared by Diane Jachymowski. Please call Carolyn for directions or Evie for a ride.

TABITHA CIRCLE will meet on February 26th at 6:30 PM. We will be tying blankets for distribution to shelters including Caring and Sharing Hands. Please see Judy Ryan for more details.



Dear FUMC Friends,

Thank you very much for the cards, visits, phone calls, emails, texts, gifts of food and most of all the Prayers for my recovery following my successful hip replacement surgery. Your acts of kindness are greatly appreciated and remembered. I am thankful I am a part of our church caring community.

Blessings to all. *Pat Brown*

THANK YOU VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

The following people from FUMC delivered **Meals on Wheels** the week of December 17th – 21st.

Two Day Drivers: Jim & Evie Skurich; Roger & Leone Olson; Ron Newport and his friend Wally, and Tim Fossum.

One Day Drivers: Chuck & Bonnie Ames; Dianne McKusick; Bob & Sandy Locker; Mike & Jody Lee; Jim & Diane Jachymowski; Perry & Carol Johs; Mary Young & Jim Nenadich; Jock Robertson & Kerry VanFleet; Carrol Rahn; and Janet Fossum.

Our delivery weeks for 2019 are: February 18-22; April 22-26; June 24-28; August 26-30; October 28-Nov. 1; December 30, 31, January 2 & 3.

New drivers are always needed. Please call me or talk to me in church for more information.

Janet Fossum

FUMC Meals on Wheels Coordinator

NOMINATIONS

Leadership and work teams for 2019 will be forming. However, in the near future we will be operating under our current roster. Thank you for your patience and service. Please let the church office or Pastor Wayne know if you will be stepping down from any leadership positions or work teams in 2019. Dates for our Charge Conference are being finalized.