

# February Messenger (Copy 01)

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## The Monthly Newsletter for Edina Morningside Church

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The Messenger: February 2018

### February Worship and Second Hour Preview

**February 4th: "Come and See as Jesus Sees"**, given the striking conversation Jesus has with the Samaritan woman in [John 4:1-42](#), leaving both of them changed. We'll also receive communion in the pews. For Second Hour, we'll screen part of the PBS series *Race: The Power of an Illusion*. [The excerpt](#) highlights the connections between racial exclusion laws ("redlining") and poverty today.

**February 11th:** On this final Sunday of our "Come and See" Epiphany series, we uncover the role of Jesus in healing a man born blind, and the opposition he faces from religious authorities ([John 9:1-41](#)). **Bring your bling**--masks, boas, beads, etc--because this is our annual Mardi Gras service as well! Following worship, the Second Hour is our Pancake Breakfast fundraiser for youth at the Daylight School.

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**February 14th: Ash Wednesday** falls on Valentine's Day this year, which is the perfect opportunity to begin Lent with those you love, especially Christ, who says, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" in [John 15:1-17](#). We'll receive ashes as a reminder of life's brevity, but also share communion by intinction as a reminder of our undying connection to divine love through Christ.

**February 18th: "No Greater Love"** will be our focus throughout Lent, and it begins today with Jesus' words in [John 10:1-18](#). Though sheep and people get lost or wander astray, the greater love of our Good Shepherd calls us back to his path. The Second Hour today (and throughout Lent) will be a brief time for quiet meditation in the sanctuary after worship.

**February 18th (7pm):**

Please join us every third Sunday at 7pm during the winter months for a warm and centering Taizé-style worship service in the sanctuary. Our 30 minute, candlelit service of meditative songs, scripture and silence is followed by a simple soup supper in the library. Please join in; all are welcome!



**February 25th:** As we see from Jesus' encounter with a woman caught in adultery ([John 8:1-11](#)), the love of God transcends a fault-finding legalism, choosing freedom and new horizons instead. We also receive a special offering for Seminary Sunday, to support future leaders of the church.

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## Faith Formation Notes

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## In Our Prayers

*We especially hold these members and friends in our prayers:*

## February Birthdays



## SUNDAY SCHOOL

### Sunday School is Cool



**February 4:** Faith formation class will be held for students in grades K-5 (Janet Anderson teaching) and 6-8 (Sarah Gednalske teaching). High school students are encouraged to attend worship.

**February 11:** All students in grades K-12 are welcome in Fellowship Hall during worship to prepare for the Mardi Gras Pancake Breakfast fundraiser to benefit the Daylight School. (See Pancake Breakfast)

**February 18:** Faith formation classes will be held for all students in grades K-12. (Becky Phelan, Megan Gratzek, and Janet Anderson teaching.)

**February 25:** Faith formation class will be held for students in grades K-5 (Robert Schumacher teaching). Middle and high school students are encouraged to attend worship.

### MARDI GRAS PANCAKE BREAKFAST TO BENEFIT DAYLIGHT SCHOOL: FEBRUARY 11!



Join the crowd in Fellowship Hall at 11:00 a.m. for traditional pre-Lenten feasting on pancakes and sausage! All are encouraged to wear Mardi Gras beads and masks to worship this Sunday—we'll have extra if you don't have your own. Youth in grades 6-12

## BIRTHDAY!

### Feb. 4

Jessica Krebs-Boie

### Feb. 9

Ivy Kersten

### Feb. 10

Emily Comes Flying & Rebecca Sorensen

### Feb. 13

Will Gednalske

### Feb. 17

Doug Toth

### Feb. 19

Mark Sorensen

### Feb. 20

Ella Haugen

### Feb. 24

Seth Jurgens

### Feb. 26

Joan Palmer

### Feb. 27

Tom Martens  
Dave Russell

### Feb. 28

Jim Olson

Please **let us know** if we missed your big day!!

## Women's Fellowship



will be helping in the kitchen with the folks who will be traveling to Kenya this summer to do mission work at the Daylight School. In addition, our K-5 students will be making prayer books that morning that will be taken to the school with our missionaries. And Gary Lundgren's Dixieland jazz band returns to the stage! All funds raised will go for the materials needed to do work at the school. (Travelers are paying their own way.) Tickets are \$5.00/plate and donations are welcome. Invite your friends! Mmmm! Pancakes!

### **CONFIRMATION**

Our confirmation classroom lesson will take place on Wednesday, February 7th from 6:30-8:30 p.m., when we'll be studying the Holy Spirit. Later in the month on February 23-24th, confirmation students will be visiting places of worship outside the walls of Edina Morningside. All church members are welcome to join them at those synagogue and mosque services. (See Weekend of Worship)

### **OWL**



Our Whole Lives human sexuality classes for high school students continue on Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. (Heads up! It's the third Wednesday this month and next!) We'll be examining media messages about sexuality and starting to learn how to distinguish between healthy and unhealthy relationships. We're having so much fun that we're thinking about adding an additional class this spring. If you're an adult member of the church, are



**WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP (WF) is sending cookies to EMC college students and those serving in the military again!**

Each February WF packs boxes of homemade cookies, bars and other goodies and ships them off to our young people. This year we have a wonderful and LARGE group of 14 young people and we can really use your help to fill the boxes to overflowing. Please bring your goodies to the church for us to pack on Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>. We are also in need of BUBBLE WRAP and PACKING PEANUTS. Questions? Contact [Laurie Cory](#) or [Pam](#)

you interested in having fun? [Reply to me](#) if you would consider taking OWL classes for adults this fall.

### **BOUNDARY TRAINING**

I'll be taking a boundary training class for faith formation leaders on Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. If you work with children in the church and can join me, I'm happy to drive us! [RSVP](#) and I'll get you registered.

### **CROWD-SOURCING FAMILY SUNDAY: MARCH 4**



Our next Family Sunday is March 4<sup>th</sup> and we need your input!. Our focus will be on "Jesus the vine and we the branches". So I want to hear your stories. **Why do you attend church?** I'm looking for your philosophies, your stories, your favorite hymns. Tell me about a loved one's funeral, a child's baptism, the youth director you came out to. Tell me about your love of incense, your belief in justice, your favorite church basement recipe. [Send me](#) a two-sentence email or a three-page essay. I'm looking for your beautiful squares to stitch together a quilt that will warm us all on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

*Janet Anderson*

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## **Front Porch Friday**

### [DeLaittre](#)

## **February Calendar**



[Click here](#) to see what is happening at EMC in February.

## **March Messenger Deadline**



Articles for the March Messenger should be in the church office on **February 26th**.

## **Daylight Update**



Take a minute to meet [Andrew Ulasich](#) the U.S. Director of Operations for Daylight Center

## ICONS, PAINTINGS AND NESTING DOLLS- February 23

The Museum of Russian Art has three particularly interesting exhibits currently on display. On the main level is a lovely collection of Icons. On the upper balcony, bright colors and an impressionist style make paintings from the "Vladimir School" a delight. And on the lower level, everything from Russian fairy tales to political figures are depicted in the Russian Nesting Dolls - called "Matryushkas"!



The Front Porch Friday group will visit The Museum of Russian Art on Friday, February 23. We meet at the church at 10:00 AM, and carpool to the museum in South MPLS. We will try to arrange a tour guide. After our visit, we lunch together at Wyld Acres on Nicollet and 53rd. Please RSVP on the sign up sheet in the narthex or by contacting [Molly Cox](#), [Laura Simonson](#), or the [Church Office](#)

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## Weekend Of Worship



All are invited to join the confirmation class on in a weekend of worship February 23rd - 25th. On Friday night we meet at a local

synagogue for a tour and education session,

and School. His path to Daylight is an interesting one.

Please continue to keep the people of Kenya, the dedicated people who support Daylight, and the staff and children at Daylight in your prayers.

Blessings!

*Pam DeLaittre*

## Contact us

**Pastor**

[Rev. Oby](#)

[Ballinger](#)

**Administrative  
assistant**

[Laurie Eckberg](#)

952-926-6555

**Website**

[emcucc.org](http://emcucc.org)



then stay for Shabbat service. On Saturday, we'll have a similar experience at a mosque in Rosemount. There will be a tour/education session starting at noon and then you can witness the 1pm prayers. Sunday morning everyone will be at worship here at EMC. Please [let Pastor Oby know](#) that you're interested in attending one or more of the special worship experiences.



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## Preschool News



We have had a fun, but busy, return to school after winter break. We had three new students start in January! **Enrollment for the 2018-2019 school year is now open.** If you or anyone you know is looking for a preschool please contact the directors, [Jessie Holly and Destiny Rock,](#) 952-926-6555.

This **Saturday, February 3rd, from 10-11:30** we will be holding a combination **Open House/Stay and Play** event. All families are welcome; whether you have a student currently enrolled in our preschool, you are looking for a preschool for the 2018-2019 school year or you are just looking for a large

space for your children to play and burn some energy on a cold winter morning. We will have activities set-up in both of our classrooms for families to enjoy together!

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## Morningside After Dark

Big thank you to the wonderful EMC Volunteers led by Pastor Oby and “House Manager” Mary Engelke



for setting up and tearing down a memorable night of “Second Chances.” What an honor to have Janet Anderson read with the group of 17 brilliant performers!

We have another big show coming in hot on Monday, February 12th for “Heartbreaker.” We would be grateful for a handful of volunteers to help with the show’s tear down. Each volunteer will receive a sweet Sugar Sugar gourmet candy store thank you gift from Rebecca for volunteering. Please contact the [church office](#) or [Rebecca Sorensen](#) if you can help!

Thank you again for your support of Morningside After Dark! It is bringing in a grateful audience and raising funds for the church all at the same time.

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## December Financial



# Report

	12/2017	Year to Date
Budgeted Pledges	\$32,802	\$223,051
Actual Pledges	\$26,027	\$216,943
Difference	(\$6,775)	(\$6,108)

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