

Friday Update/June Messenger May 25, 2018 (Copy 01)

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The weekly newsletter for Edina Morningside Church
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Friday Update/June Messenger: May 25, 2018

Through the Lens of Faith, by Pastor Oby

What's happening in the world and the church, as it relates to God's purpose for Edina Morningside Church: "Sharing the joy of Christ's love by welcoming and serving".

Last week I attended a continuing education visit to San Francisco with several dozen other young pastors in the United Church of Christ. (I've been a part of this cohort since 2014, and we are gathered for such trainings as a leadership investment strategy of the UCC's Pension Boards.) Our focus this time was "Creativity and Design", experiencing church and non-church

innovations in order to learn about how communities are adapting to the twenty-first century.



I've got much to share about the experience, and I'm trying something new in sharing it. Below you can click on a Facebook update from me (you don't need a FB account) and read comments about the experience with each picture. I hope that helps you get more of a sense of the experience.

Finally, I hope you'll plan to attend worship and help me with my first "Instant Sermon" at EMC! When you arrive, you'll have a chance to write a serious or silly faith question/comment on a slip of paper. In the sermon time, I'll read and respond to as many of those (on the spot) as I can. See you Sunday!

Sunday Service - May 27, 2018

Before Worship

- Rehearsal of service parts
- Fill out prayer request slips

This Week's Leaders

- **Leading Worship:** Rev. Oby Ballinger
- **Minister of Music and Liturgical Arts:** Rev. Elaine B. Kirkland
- **Song Leader:** Lisa Lally
- **Worship Reader:** Laurie Eckberg
- **Nursery Attendant:** Ella Williams
- **Offering Counter:** Doug Engelke
- **Ushers:** Marge Ellingson, Janet Preston and Don Patrick

During Worship

- Nursery Care available
- Thank you and blessing to Janet Anderson before her two-month writing break
- "Instant Sermon" by Pastor Oby
- NOW Testament from Kim Graff, speaking for the UCC's Open and Affirming Coalition (our loose coin recipient for June)
- May loose coin offering for the [National Alliance on Mental Illness \(NAMI\)](#)

In Our Prayers

We especially hold these members and friends in our prayers:

— — — — —

Faith Formation

GONE WRITING



I will be on summer break in June and July, walking with Santiago along the river and in the woods and across the prairies and behind the freeways and in the dog parks. Last summer's book project is on hiatus, but I'll be working on a series of essays about those dog walks--and about living a counter-cultural life with God's peace at its center.

I am filled with gratitude for the year of wonderful faith formation memories we made together at EMC. Lisa Lally, Larry Williams and I just completed an Our Whole Lives curriculum with a cohort of five intelligent, curious, passionate, funny high-schoolers. Last year's Christmas pageant lingers in my mind as a fun, fulfilling, and beautiful testimony to the work of a loving and committed community: I hope that some of you are like I am and will be planning in July what Christmas music and stories you want to be a part of this December. We had a bang-up Mardi Gras Pancake Breakfast this winter, an Easter egg hunt joined the Advent Workshop as a community open house, and I was privileged to work with Oby in co-teaching the confirmation class: all joyful events. For those of you who didn't get around to taking a Sacred Intuition class, I will be leaving some meditation samples outside the office for you to try out during the summer months; some participants experienced profound insight and emotional healing through their practice. It was an honor to be a part of that class, which was an outgrowth of the Spiritual Writing Group which continues to be excellently facilitated by Mary Rogers.

When I return in August, I'll be working to put together a simple faith formation program for our K-12 students: likely one that involves regular Sundays of children in worship and in a chapel setting where we learn about the Bible and the Christian faith through stories, yoga, art, games, and sharing meals. If you want to be a part of children's or youth programming in the fall, talk with Oby or the Vision Council this summer, or connect with me in August.

This, fall, I look forward to taking the initial class offering of the Damascus Project, which is an educational collaboration of the Minnesota and Wisconsin Conferences of the UCC. That class is about how to engage in theological reflection, and Oby and I are thinking about what opportunities for adult faith formation I can shepherd in the fall.

Until then, Santiago says "Woof!" and the keyboard goes, "Clickety-clack!" Enjoy the summer!

Janet Anderson, Director of Faith Formation

This Week at EMC

Church Office Hours:

Tu - Fr

10am-3pm

Parish Office Hours:

Tu - W, Th

10am-12pm

has, does, and will, lead the people out of their despair and discouragement. All generations proclaim trust in God! Featuring the song, "Let Your Freak Fly" by the Morningside Theater Camp, in celebration of Pride weekend!

June Birthdays



- June 3** Amber Washington-Howard
- June 4** Matt Grim
- June 5** Greta Kulevsky
- June 6** Pat Strickler
- June 7** Jim Gratzek
- June 8** Charlotte Beegle
- June 10** Kristen Peterson
- June 15** Lily Kulevsky
- June 16** Diane Sowden
- June 18** Doug Engelke
- June 20** Darla Young
- June 21** Diane Halpin
- June 22** Nicole Chidester
- June 23** Mary Lenard
- June 25** Charlie Preston
- June 26** Chuck Clay & Donella Neuhaus
- June 27** Dan Jurgens

Please [let us know](#) if we missed your big day!!

Daylight News!



Daylight
Center & School

As folks from EMC prepare for their upcoming journey to Kenya this month's update gives some insight into what they can expect. To read all about it - [click here](#) - and see below for the latest on helping to pack those travelers suitcases with supplies for Daylight.



WOW! Our EMC Travelers to Daylight Will Need Bigger Bags! Have you checked the poster in the narthex and seen how the contributions continue to grow!? It's WONDERFUL! When our EMC team gets to Daylight Center and School, they will be sharing their skills with the community. They will need to take supplies with them or buy what they need in Kenya. All these supplies cost money and this is where you can help.

There are 7 items that our team members have identified that they need to practice their skills. Each item has a dollar amount attached to it.

Vitamins for the children for a day	= \$5.00
"Spot It" game cards	= \$10.00
Curriculum books	= \$20.00
Soccer ball and pump	= \$30.00
Fabric for the sewing project	= \$50.00
Power tools	= \$75.00
1/10 th of a flat screen TV for class	= \$100.00

Each sticker on the poster represents an item donation. If you are paying by check, please make the check to EMC and put Daylight and the name of the item or items in the memo spot. If you are using cash, there are envelopes on the table below the poster. Please write your name and circle the item or items on the envelope. Contributions can be put in the Sunday collection plate, given to Laurie Eckberg in the office or to Pam DeLaittre. Watch the stickers grow! Let's see how full we can make the bags for the trip to Daylight! Any questions, please contact [Pam DeLaittre](#). Many thanks in advance for your generosity!!

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

Blessings! Pam

Taking Heart Open Houses

There is still time to join members of EMC at the Taking Heart Iftar meal on June 6th at 7:30pm at the Northwest Islamic Community Center in Plymouth. Follow the link below to register

register

Taking Heart Open Houses is a long-running program coordinated by the Minnesota Council of Churches (MCC) and the Muslim American Society of Minnesota (MAS-MN) to bring Christians and members of other faith communities together with Muslims for food and conversation during Ramadan. Minnesota mosques and Islamic community centers welcome their non-Muslim neighbors for a traditional Iftar meal at sunset, inviting a time of encounter and learning. [Follow this link for more information, and register to attend an Iftar interfaith meal this year!](#)



June Calendar



Want to know what is happening at EMC next month?
Check out the [June Calendar](#)

Member and Community Happenings



[Last week it was announced](#) that Minnesota high school coaching legend **Art Downey** has retired after 62 years coaching the Edina High School boys program. Art is the only head coach in Edina swimming history and his teams won 10 state titles. An amazing person, leader, educator, and Coach. Congratulations, Art!

Community Housing Forum - *The Changing Landscape of Affordable Housing*

Thursday, May 31st, 7pm

Southdale Library, 7001 York Ave. Edina

This forum will focus on a report to the community on the crisis of affordable housing in Edina and the metro, the effects on our neighbors, and how we can respond as a

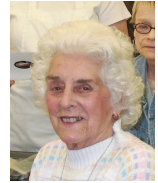
Land and the metro, the effects on our neighbors, and how we can respond as a community.

**Let Freedom Ring performed by the Bloomington Chorale (including Rev. Molly Cox)
Friday, June 1st, 7pm**

Normandale Highlands United Methodist Church

Enjoy this patriotic presentation featuring songs of service and valor. Tickets for the May performances may be [purchased online](#). Tickets for June 1st concert will only be available at the door (cash or check only). Adults \$15, Seniors and Students \$10.

Happy 97TH Birthday, Charlotte! On June 8th Charlotte Beegle will be 97 years young! Some of you may not know Charlotte as she is one of our dear home bound seniors but she is sharp as a tack with a marvelous sense of humor. Among other things, she has been active with the Humane Society for many, many years and has a passion for cats. It would be so much fun if we could shower her with birthday cards on her special day. If you would like to join in the festivities, here is her address: Charlotte Beegle



3663 Park Center Blvd. - #110
St. Louis Park, MN 55416

**Beacon Congregation Convening
Tuesday, June 12th, 7-8:30pm**

Colonial Church

All are invited to connect with others across the collaborative to work so that all people have a home. This convning allows us to provide additional information regarding our discernment of what homes to create next, an update on progress with Families Moving Forward – and hopefully gives us a chance to celebrate a successful legislative campaign around #BondsThatBuildHomes! [Register online](#)

Do you have events or news to share? [Please email us](#) the information by Wednesday for inclusion in the next Friday Update.



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4201 Morningside Road
Edina, MN 55416

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