August Messenger/Friday Update: July 26, 2019 (Copy 03)

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The weekly newsletter for Edina Morningside Church <u>View this email in your browser</u>

August Messenger/Friday Update: July 26, 2019

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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".

You may have seen or heard invitations over the last month to a "conversation training" next Wednesday night (6:30-9pm), and I hope you've considered attending! The church's membership has grown in the last few years, and this is a



chance to practice "going deeper" in conversation with one another in curious and loving ways. We also live in a time of desperate need for healthy communities, seeking to understand each other across identities and differences. There are a number of organizations that use (and teach) one-to-one intentional conversations; our partner in the past for such work has been ISAIAH, and they'll be leading with us again this time.

Wednesday night's training is the beginning of a two-month "conversation drive", to help build deeper relationships of care and mutual understanding with one another at church. In case you haven't seen it in the Friday Update or heard about it in worship, here's the proposal:

- Wednesday night's session (open for youth as well as adults) will be led by myself and Ollin Montes, a community organizer with ISAIAH who has successfully led such "inreach" drives in other congregations. It will give us training in having transformational, enriching conversations, connecting with other people below the surface chit-chat of weather or sports. We'll see modeled, then practice with each other, this deep listening and caring conversation.
- By the end of the night, we'll also **receive a list of a few different members of the church** to seek an in-depth conversation with over the next two months, and a way to share our progress with each other.
- We're planning a "capstone conversation" afterward to **share how the conversations went**, and what we have learned about our church community.

Would you join in the conversation training on Wednesday night, and seek out such caring conversations over the next two months? <u>Please let me know</u> if you're interested in joining the near-dozen people who have already said they can attend. You can also connect with our member <u>Bruce Fisher</u> on Sunday if you have questions or want to learn more. At the very least, I hope you will say "yes!" if a participant seeks an in-depth conversation with you over the next few weeks.

Part of what makes church different from other social spaces is our belief in each person as a child of God, and our desire to follow Jesus in caring for the deep struggles and joys of life. Amid all the other things going on in the church and our world, building up our community of hope and connection feels the most important to me as we prepare for another year of activities ahead. I hope to see you next Wednesday night!

Sunday Worship Service - July 28, 2019

Before Worship

- · Rehearsal with worship participants
- Fill out prayer request slips

This Week's Leaders

- Leading Worship: Rev. Oby Ballinger
- Music Director: Conie Borchardt
- Nursery Attendant: Nicole Martens
- Ushers: Donella Neuhaus
- Offering Counter: Donella Neuhaus

During Worship

- Children's activity table in the Sanctuary
- Nursery Care available
- · Loose coins collected in July go to ISAIAH

After Worship

• Refreshments and Community in the Gathering Space

In Our Prayers

We especially hold these members and friends in our prayers:

This Week at EMC

Pastor's Office Hours:

Tu-Weds

appointments encouraged

Tuesday

• 10am – Bible Study (Meeting Room)

Wednesday

- 11:15am Meals on Wheels
- 5:30pm Hand of AA (Gathering Space)
- 6:30pm Conversation Training w/ ISAIAH



August Worship Preview

August 4th: Rev. Frank Bennett leads our worship, continuing in our focus on Biblical wisdom passages with a sermon on Proverbs 3:1-18. We welcome guest musician Fran Linhart, and share communion by intinction at the front of the sanctuary.

August 11th: Pastor Oby explores the biblical figure of "Woman Wisdom", who was at God's side in the creation of the world, according to Proverbs 8:22-36. After worship, our Second Hour is

a leadership training for elected leaders and anyone else who is interested.

August 18th: Rev. Molly Cox leads worship and adds her insight to our biblical wisdom reflections. Following worship, community member Sally Larson leads a session of Holy Yoga in Fellowship Hall.

August 25th: Emily Goldthwaite Fries and Charlie Green share insights from their service as our delegates at the MN Conference Annual Meeting in June, and we watch an excerpt of a speech given there by Rev. John Dorhauer, the national president of the United Church of Christ. After worship, we offer a Blessing of the Bikes before Edina students return to school the next day!



August Birthdays

August 2 Julia Lorenzen August 7 Gary Lundgren August 9 Robin Ray August 13 Don Dibble August 15 Jessie Holly August 24 Cooper DeLong August 25 Mary Rogers & Cindy Joyce August 28 Graham Peterson August 31 Joe Toth

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

Conversation Training

As we've been growing in members, and when it's generally harder to get to know our neighbors, Edina



Morningside Church is offering a **training in effective**, **transformational, one-to-one conversations**. ISAIAH organizer Ollin Montes will lead this training for the EMC community on **Wednesday**, July 31st from 6:30-9:00pm.



We will learn how to have deep and intentional conversations with members of our community and be part of a cohort in the church who will have these conversations over the course of the summer and into the fall. After the training, we'll see how many conversations we can have among church members, better understanding the joys and struggles of this community. <u>Please RSVP to the church office.</u>

Pastor Relations Committee



The Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC) is comprised of <u>Laurie Cory</u>, <u>Leah Lamon</u>, and <u>Larry Williams</u>. It meets quarterly with Pastor Oby to provide a sounding board for him on how he feels things are going, and to act as liaisons from the congregation about issues that you, the congregation, bring forth. If there are any concerns or things that you would like to have shared, please bring them to one of the members of the committee, who will treat the information with complete confidence and bring it up at the next meeting -

Tuesday, August 6th.

Second Hour: Leadership Training

August 11, 11:15am - 1pm

After worship on Sunday, August 11th, the Second Hour will be a **Leadership Training Session**, designed for members of our coordinating Ministry Teams and the Vision Council. This retreat covers a variety of topics, ranging from discussion of a long-term vision for the church to best meeting practices (and who's opposed to



more-efficient, shorter meetings?). All are welcome to attend. We're planning for the whole session to run from **11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch will be provided**, so for planning purposes please RSVP to <u>Lisa Lally</u>, Church Moderator.

June Financial Report

Budgeted Pledges	June \$14,684	Year to Date \$110,132
Actual Pledges	\$16,556	\$117,919
Difference	\$1,872	\$7,787

VEAP School Supply Drive Ends on August 1st



Let's equip our local students for the first day of school, and the whole year! Many students in our community need help filling a backpack to ensure

success during the school year. Every child should have access to the tools and supplies they need! This summer, our community partner <u>VEAP</u> will collect and sort school supplies and then distribute to the schools.

When: July 15 – August 1

What supplies are most needed? Backpacks, headphones, USB thumb drives and calculators are the most needed items. (NEW SUPPLIES ONLY PLEASE) Traditional supplies like notebooks, paper, pens and pencils are needed as well. Other ideas include: Pens, Spiral Notebooks, Two-pocket Folders, #2 Pencils, Markers, Colored Pencils, Crayons (24 ct.), Rulers, Pencil Boxes and Pouches, Highlighters, Erasers, Glue Sticks, Glue Bottles, and Scissors.

Please plan now if you'll be able to share any supplies during the donation window that starts in July. Thank you for helping make sure every student gets a strong start when school resumes in the fall!



Calling all of those who want to have a fun gathering while playing a little golf! Denise Cochran and Lisa Lally have secured some tee times at **Braemer Golf Club in Edina** on **Sunday, August 18th** starting at 3:30 pm. We will play nine holes in a scramble format (best ball), so don't be intimidated by your skill level! The cost for 9

holes plus cart is \$36.00. Fellowship to follow afterwards at the course's grill room. OR...if you just want to **show up afterward for the fellowship**, plan on 5:30 pm.

Three requirements: A good sense of humor, a spirit of adventure and a golf bag with some clubs in it. Interested?? Please email <u>Lisa</u> or <u>Denise</u> to get on the list. We need a solid count by August 11th.



Show Up For Beacon's New Project: Vista 44

At the April kick-off where Beacon launched its effort to build affordable housing in Hopkins (Vista 44), Jessica shared that her boys have stability and are THRIVING because of supportive housing. How can we help more families like Jessica's have a place to call home? How can you show your support for building Vista 44, family supportive housing in Hopkins?

Beacon needs 40 – 50 supporters to show up at this hearing: Tuesday, August 20, 7 p.m. at Hopkins Fire Station (101 17th Ave. S.): City Council hearing on the Vista 44 concept plan. Our presence lets decision makers know that we care, and that affordable, supportive housing for families is a priority! We'll have "I can see Vista 44" stickers we can use to identify ourselves.



Questions?

Contact Beacon organizer <u>Kat Vann:</u> (651) 789-6260 ext. 214.

Vatas an Dessan's land use annihilation honnon later

votes on beacon's rand use application happen rater
this fall. Save these two important dates and help get
the word out to others:
Tuesday, October 22, 6:30 p.m. (likely at City Hall):

Planning & Zoning Commission hearing

• Monday, November 4, 7 p.m. (likely at City Hall): City

Council hearing

Dakota Sacred Sites Tour



Healing Minnesota Stories and the Minnesota Council of Churches have announced dates for open Dakota Sacred Site Tours. These tours visit sites in the Twin Cities that are sacred to the Dakota people. Participants will experientially learn about the land's importance throughout history in a way that facilitates healing. (Pastor Oby can share his experience of a tour last year.) If you are interested in joining folks from EMC for the Sacred Sites tour on

September 29th from 1-5pm, please contact the church office.



Click <u>here</u> to see what is happening at EMC in the coming month!

Daylight Update



We've prayed for Peter Losenguria's younger brother Limaye Loitapira when he was shot on June 5th while herding his cows. For the latest on Limaye and the impact this event has had on the community <u>read this month's update</u>. Also, be sure to let Pastor Oby know if you're interested in more information about joining <u>EMC's trip</u> <u>to Daylight</u>, now accepting applications for summer 2020.



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

Member and Community Happenings

Hennepin County Commissioner Conversations

Join Beacon Congregation members as we learn about the resources needed for supportive housing, including rental assistance. Hear Hennepin County Commissioners discuss the county's role and the potential to be an ally in our work with the legislature.

All conversations are 7-8pm

<u>Click here to register</u>

Wednesday, July 31st, Commissioner Mike Opat, District 1 Thursday, August 8th Jan Callison, District 6 Tuesday, August 13th, Commissioner Jeff Johnson, District 7 Wednesday, August 21st Commissioner Irene Fernando, District 2

Not sure who your commissioner is? <u>Click Here</u> Also, feel free to attend more than one conversation (where you live, where you worship). EMC is in District 6.

ME/CFS Alliance Fundraiser

(organized by EMC's Lianne and Bob Beyerl) Tuesday, July 30th, 4-9pm

LTD Brewing, 8 8th Ave N, Hopkins

We hope you and your thirsty friends will drop by for an evening of celebration as we commemorate Minnesota **ME/CFS Alliance's first year** of providing education to our medical community, and support for the 17,000+ missing in Minnesota due to myalgic encephalomyelitis /



chronic fatigue syndrome. LTD Brewing offers outstanding craft brews and root beer. Add a

their sales this evening. Appetizers provided, and onsite donations will be available.



Meals on Heels Thursday, August 15th, 6-9pm Nicollet Island

Meals on Heels is an evening of great food and fashion, benefiting our collective desire to bring nutrition and independence to our neighbors through **Meals on Wheels**. The evening includes drinks and food tastings presented by local restaurants from their menus followed by the Swank Soles Competition and a raffle - all proceeds benefiting Metro Meals on Wheels. <u>Click here for tickets and information</u>.

Hope for Recovery Workshop in St. Paul

Saturday, August 17, 9am - 3pm

NAMI Minnesota, 1919 University Ave W., St, Paul

NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness) will hold a free workshop that provides information on mental illnesses, treatments, crisis management, suicide prevention, the mental health system and local resources along with practical strategies for helping a loved one or friend. This includes learning the LEAP strategy for improving communication: Listen, Empathize, Agree-on what you can, and Partner. This workshop is for family and friends of a teen or adult living with a mental illness and people living with a mental illness who are doing well in their recovery.For information or to register call 651-645-2948 or see "classes" at <u>namimn.org.</u>

Family Course on Mental Illnesses Offered in Edina Thursday's starting Sept. 12th, 6-8:30pm

NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness) is offering a free educational course

that helps families gain a greater understanding of mental illness, discuss resources, build communication skills, reduce stress and find support. Over 4,000 Minnesota families have benefited from this course. Join others for this series taught by family members who have walked the walk. The Family-to-Family course will meet weekly for 12 weeks on Thursdays starting Sept. 12, from 6:00-8:30 p.m., at Lutheran Church of Good Shepherd, 4801 France Ave. S., Edina. For information or to register (required), call Cathy at 253-691-9401 or Marge at 952-934-1166.

2019 Walk to End Alzheimer's - Twin Cities, MN Saturday, September 28th

8am Registration, 9:30am Ceremony with Walk immediately after

Target Field, 1 Target Way, Minneapolis

Held annually in more than 600 communities nationwide, the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's® is the world's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research. This inspiring event calls on participants of all ages and abilities to join the fight against the disease! For more information and to donate.

Do you have events or news to share? <u>Please email us</u> the information by Wednesday for inclusion in the next Friday Update.

Contact us! Pastor: <u>Rev. Oby Ballinger</u> 612-900-3914 (cell) Music Director: <u>Conie Borchardt</u> 952-926-6555 (office) Administrative Assistant: <u>Laurie Eckberg</u> 952-926-6555 (office) Website: <u>emcucc.org</u>



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