

Monthly Newsletter for Edina Morningside Community Church

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February Messenger

From Pastor Oby

Hello, and welcome to February! Somehow we've already made it through the first month of 2017. You can read here all about what we've been up to at church, and what we're planning for the coming months. We are an active, energized church, and I love serving as your pastor! I hope to see you at upcoming events, and hope that you also take time for quiet regeneration if that's what your spirit needs now. For myself, I had a week of continuing education in January, and some have asked for more information about what that involved. Here's the short version. :)

I belong to a select group of 15 younger UCC pastors who are part of a 10-year program of continuing education. For the first four years, we attend classes together every January in Phoenix (it's rough, I know) and for another week sometime in the summer. This is our third year together. As you can see, we've really come to enjoy each other!

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This year's week of classes considered different personality types, how our personalities are best suited for group dynamics, and how we can work best with folks of different personality types. What I found the most interesting and useful from the week was something called the Hermann Brain Dominance Inventory, a description of four different types of personality that each relate to a different color. In the language of this inventory, I'm a Red with shades of Yellow, which is to say that I thrive on relationships, and love to consider the "big picture". Coming back from this week of learnings, I've started reflecting on how this bias toward relationships and big-picture helps (or hinders) my service as your pastor. Similarly, what are the gifts that each of our staff members and leaders brings to their efforts as part of a team? This contemporary tool is another way of saying what the Apostle Paul wrote in his letters, that people serve different roles in the church (much as parts of a body). We need one another, and God has pulled us together to be mutually beneficial community in the service of God's good news.

I am happy to share more as the opportunity arises, and I welcome your questions or comments about these continuing education experiences. Thank you for the gift of time, and the new energy I receive from such learnings. See you in church!

- [Daylight News](#)
- [Messenger Deadline](#)
- [From the Archives....](#)
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In Our Prayers

February Birthdays



- 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

Moderator's Corner

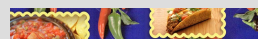
Happy February, everyone! I hope you are all staying warm and surviving our rather bizarre winter. There is a lot going on at EMC and I wanted to catch everyone up as much as possible.

This last Sunday at our Special Congregational Meeting, the congregation approved a proposal submitted by Trustees and Cabinet to pursue an \$800,000 capital campaign over the next few months. The pledges will be payable over a period of 3 years, and will be used to repair and update the church's entryway and gathering space (narthex/library), repair the organ and pay for the exterior repairs that are currently underway on the east wall. We will be hiring the UCC Capital Campaign Services to help us – these are experts who do this work with churches all over the country and who tell us this goal is on the lower side of what we should be able to raise. As we move forward, please visit the church's website, emcucc.org, and sign in as a member or friend to see the initial proposals. These are subject to additional input and discussion, and obviously to final costs. Your thoughts and input on how the space should look and be configured is welcomed – please contact [Thom Miller](#), [Charlie Green](#), [Jeff Strickler](#), [Frank Bennett](#) or [myself](#) with your input and thoughts! (If you are not yet able to access the membership area of the website, click the button requesting access and you will be sent a password to sign in with.)

There will be a “quiet” period while we form the committee and do some planning and training of committee members, continue to develop plans for the actual repairs and renovations, and develop materials that show the plans more clearly. If you

Feb. 26 - Joan
Palmer
Feb. 27 - Tom
Martens &
Dave Russell
Feb. 28 - Jim
Olson

Thank You! Thank You!



We made \$858.00 from the taco salad fund raiser! We are very grateful that this congregation is always so generous and many people contributed more than the cost of their meals. Women's Fellowship covered the cost of the meal so all of the proceeds will go towards Families Moving Forward and any other food ministries. Again, our thanks!

*Women's
Fellowship*

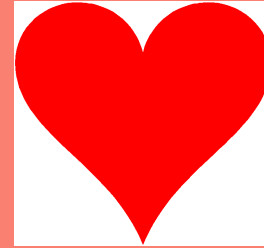
[Pastor Oby](#), know as soon as possible. Kick off of the actual pledge drive will take place around Easter and last a few weeks.

Speaking of the east wall, this week will see the outdoor work to remove the stone façade move into the building as the contractors prepare to pull the wall back to plumb. There will be supporting columns placed in the preschool room and the library, intended to support the interior building as this happens. These columns are sturdy, but let's encourage the kids not to climb on them, ok? In addition, some of the ceiling in the library will be removed to allow the contractors access to the outer wall. The re-plumbing of the wall may or may not require using the wall in the back of the sanctuary – we are hoping not, but won't know until the contractor is further in the process. This process should take a couple weeks, so be prepared for evidence of construction inside the church for the next couple weeks, and probably beyond as some of the aftermath will need to be repaired (and those repairs will probably be incorporated into the capital campaign projects – no reason to fix it twice).

The Governance Committee is moving forward on a proposed structure for the future governance of the church and is hoping to have it's proposals ready for congregational discussion in the next several weeks. Deacons are planning a great Lenten series, Janet Anderson and BOCE continue to do a great job with both Christian Education and service projects for young and old, and Stewardship is gearing up to start recruiting new members for various committees.

Finally, we are looking for people who would be

February Calendar



Click [Here](#) for the February Calendar

Daylight News



The results from the 8th grade national exam are in! Click [here](#) to find out the exiting results for the students at Daylight!

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

members of committees, but there is more and more going on and this is a great opportunity to do something for the church that is discrete, easy, rewarding and greatly appreciated. Help with the coffee machine and anything else you need is available from old hands. Please let [Laurie](#) in the office know if you would be interested. Do it with a friend!

I am looking forward with excitement to continuing to live into EMC's purpose of sharing the joy of Christ's love by welcoming and serving in the coming months.

Blessings to all! *Sonja*

Faith Formation News

Sunday School Schedule:



February 5: Class for students in grades K-5

February 12: Classes for students in all grades K-12

February 19: Class for students in grades K-5

February 26: Children and youth in grades K-12 will be prepping for the Pancake Breakfast (see below)

Equipping Teens for Life: A Health and Wellness Conference for Young People and Their Parents

Messenger Deadline

Please have articles for the March Messenger submitted to the church office on February 27th.

From the Archives....

The Church We Would Build.....
(circa 1946)

In the late 1940's the members of Edina Morningside Community Church undertook a capital campaign to complete the church building.

A booklet was created to present the needs and design to the

financial backing of the Minnesota Conference of the UCC via the Ashley Endowment, on Saturday, April 8th Edina Morningside will be hosting Peggy Orenstein, author most recently of *Girls and Sex*. In addition, we will be joined by a bevy of youth professionals for a conference aimed at teenagers and their parents. Orenstein will provide the keynote address, and presenters from The Annex Teen Clinic, Bethel University, Camp Erin, Minneapolis Community and Technical College, Robbinsdale UCC, Treehouse, and others will provide insight on issues that affect teens such as academic stress, relationships, grief, depression, and more. The conference will also address questions that parents might have about a new world of gender terminology, social media, and sexual pressure.

Want to help make this event a success?
Email me if you can:

- Distribute promotional flyers
- Handle the accounting for this event (grant money, purchases, payments, etc.)
- Stuff folders with brochures
- Do painting or minor building repairs
- Set-up or take-down break-out session spaces
- Be a greeter
- Manage catering
- Bake or sell cookies at MADark on February 27th to fund and promote the conference

original booklet is in the church office but you can use the following links to look at some of the pages: the [cover](#) - a page on [church history](#) - the [designs](#) for the church exterior and floor plans for the interior.

Enjoy -
Doug Fuerst

Preschool News



Preschool is busy enrolling students for the 2017/18 school year.

The Preschool Board will be hosting another Parent's Night Out on Saturday

community that we care about the worries and struggles that they face just beyond our church walls. Thank you.

OWL Class, Wednesday, February 22, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

In January, our middle-school OWL class

participants were given some ways to assess and consider healthy versus unhealthy relationships. This month, we'll be discussing what roles social media and technology play in our sexual lives, and how to engage in healthy behavior online, as well as in life.



Mardi Gras Pancake Breakfast: Sunday, February 26th, 11:15 a.m.



It's that time of year! Our period of Lenten quietude, fasting, and reflection will be preceded by a noisy, hearty, bead-clacking breakfast of pancakes and sausage flipped and grilled by the youth of EMC. This year, the cost of tickets will support a youth canoe trip to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area in July. Neil Kulevsky will be managing the youth in the kitchen. Please let me know if your youth will be there to help him. Tickets will go on sale February 12th. Come with a rumble in your tummy.

Contact us

Pastor

[Rev. Oby Ballinger](#)

Administrative assistant

[Laurie Eckberg](#)
952-926-6555

Website

[emcucc.org](#)



I will return from vacation on February 5th.

BOCE will meet at the church on Thursday,
February 9th at 7:00 p.m.

Janet Anderson,
Director, Christian Education,
Youth, & Family Life
Edina Morningside Community Church

February Worship Preview

February 5th: Luke 7:1-17 (Raising the Widow's Son); "Affordable Care Acts" sermon by Pastor Oby; communion in the pews; invitation to complete a "Spiritual Gifts Inventory" in February

February 12th: Luke 7:18-35 (Are You the One?); "Declaring Deliverance" sermon by Pastor Oby; Sharing with Children by Janet Anderson

February 19th: Luke 7:36-50 (Forgiven at Jesus' Feet); "Forgiving Greatly" sermon by guest preacher Rev. Steve Boorsma

February 26th: Luke 9:28-45 (Transfiguration); "Demon Free" sermon by Pastor Oby; Mardi Gras festivities; Youth Pancake Breakfast after worship

Financial Update

Messenger Financial Report

	12/2016	Year to Date
Budgeted Pledges	\$18,463	\$221,551
Actual Pledges	\$33,077	\$224,933

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Difference

\$14,614

\$3,382



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