

Friday Update October 26, 2018 (Copy 01)

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The weekly newsletter for Edina Morningside Church

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November Messenger/Friday Update: October 26, 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".

To nobody's surprise, this is the season for political messages. With less than two weeks to go before voters choose candidates for local and statewide offices, our airwaves, mailboxes and phone screens ask us to align ourselves with one ideology or another. It can seem inescapable, even when some might hope to escape such "worldly concerns" in church. As your pastor, this is a challenging season to preach in because I feel called by God to reflect on the issues of the day, but fear that any mention of a public concern will be read through a partisan lens. This is a helpful time to recall that God is neither a Republican or a Democrat. Both party platforms and the candidates that adhere to them fall short of the ideals that Jesus espoused. At the same time, the policy choices of (would-be) decision-makers are also moral choices, revealing the deeply held values that pull on the levers of power. Jesus and the biblical prophets who preceded him speak at great length about the



faithful use of money, land, military might, and ruling authority. My challenge in preaching is to follow those examples, yet not slip into an ideology that puts a donkey or an elephant in the place of the cross. In a phrase, this is to be "political but not partisan".

Trying to be succinct, let me share how I try practice this. Here are some of the principles I use in deciding what to say and do in this realm:

- Weigh in on matters of public concern when needed, doing so from a position of moral persuasion rather than partisanship.
- Seek the "Kingdom of God" that Jesus also served, which he described as good news for the poor, release to captives, healing for the blind, and freedom for the oppressed (Luke 4:18).
- Be charitable and kind in disagreement, challenging faulty principles and policies rather the people behind them (who are children of God as I am, and neighbors I am called to love in Christ).
- Model--and call on others to practice--conducting our public discourse in ways that leave room for another to be right, for ourselves to learn anew, and for us to maintain civil community.

These are just a few principles, but they seem like the most important ones right now. I'm eager to hear you reflect also on what it means to be a Christian in these highly-charged times. Would you [let me know](#) how you're thinking about these matters also? Even (especially) if you disagree or think I've fallen short?

Sunday Worship Service - October 28, 2018

Before Worship

- Rehearsal of service parts
- Fill out prayer request slips

This Week's Leaders

- **Leading Worship:** Rev. Oby Ballinger
- **Guest Musician:** Fran Linhart
- **Song Leaders:** Darlene Clay, Barb Green, Wendy Grim
- **Scripture Readers:** Frank Bennett, Pam DeLaittre, Karin Miller, Rebecca Sorensen
- **Faith Formation Director:** Janet Anderson
- **Nursery Attendant:** Sarah Gednalske
- **Ushers:** Alan Eidsness and Jim Olson
- **Fellowship Hosts:** Karin Miller & Co.
- **Offering Counter:** Marge Ellingson

During Worship

- Children's Activity Table in the Sanctuary
- Story and Stretch with Janet Anderson

- Nursery Care available
- Loose coins collected in October go to [Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative](#)

After Worship

- **Second Hour:** "From the Archives" with Church Historian Doug Fuerst
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In Our Prayers

We especially hold these members and friends in our prayers:

Second Hour: From the Archives..

The Church Archives

This week's **Second Hour presentation** is by Doug Fuerst, church historian, updating us on what is new in the church archives. (Hint: there have been tremendous changes!) Following Doug's update, there will be a mini tour of the archives and a brief Q & A for those with questions.

Invitations from Janet Anderson, Faith Formation Director



Story & Stretch

This Sunday, K-12 students are invited to examine King Solomon's wisdom through storytelling, meditation, and yoga poses following Time with Children in the sanctuary.

At-Home Practice

The story of King Solomon reminds us that we are faced with decisions each day. Some science suggests that the ability to make decisions is limited, that we need to rest and recharge when faced with too many. You can do that [here](#) with at-home meditation practices.

Christmas Program Open Invitational and Rehearsal!

Musicians, readers, actors, and set-designers are invited to meet



musicians, readers, actors, and set-designers are invited to meet with Elaine Kirkland, Tom Martens, and me, Janet Anderson, after church on November 4th from 11:30-12:30. We'll read through music and story in small groups, finding places for all those who wish to participate. Can't make it but want to take part in the program on December 16th? **Please let us know of your interest by November 4th, so that we can plan the program appropriately.** Thank you!



This Week at EMC

Church Office Hours:	Tu - Fr	10am-3pm
Pastor's Office Days:	Tu, W, Th	appointments encouraged
Faith Formation Days:	Tu, W, Sa	
Preschool Hours:	Tu - Fr	9am-1pm

Tuesday

- 10am **Bible Study** (Sanctuary)



Wednesday

- 11:15am **Meals on Wheels**
- 5pm **Greeting Trick-or-Treaters**
- 5:30pm Hand of AA

Saturday

- 9am **Fall Church Cleanup**

November Worship and Second Hour Preview

November 4th: Just before Election Day, we consider the foreign general **Naaman's healing** by the Hebrew prophet Elisha (2 Kings 5:1-15), made possible by the actions of brave servants. What small actions do we take that make a great difference? We share communion in the pews and welcome guest musician Mikah Meyer. Our Second Hour at 11:30 focuses on the Christmas Program theme, music and scene ideas. **Remember to "fall back" after Daylight Savings Time!**

November 11th: The prophet **Micah** (5:2-5; 6:6-8) guides us in discerning what God’s covenant requires from humanity—justice, mercy, and humility. As our nation and communities seek to come together after another challenging election cycle, these biblical principles show the way forward. We also mark the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day, which ended World War I and restored peace. Our Second Hour is the delicious Meatloaf Luncheon!

November 18th: Worship invites us into the world of **Isaiah**, who told King Hezekiah to stand firm against an invading army and trust in God’s ability to turn “swords into plowshares”. We welcome three children into the Christian faith through baptism, welcome new members, and bless pledges for 2019 financial support. Second Hour focuses on next steps in our affordable housing partnership with [Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative](#).

November 18th (7pm): Please join us for a warm and centering **Taizé** 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 Meeting Room. Please join in; all are welcome!

November 25th: This service explores the prophet **Jeremiah’s** life and times, especially his call to serve God (1:4-10) and his sermon calling for justice and mercy in God’s house (7:1-11). As we turn from celebrations of Thanksgiving and prepare for Advent on the horizon, how will we make ourselves ready for Love to be born anew in our hearts?



November Birthdays



November 1 - Anthony Fantin
Annabell Sorensen
Luke Sorensen

November 3 - Anna Clay

November 8 - Kris Kulevskv

November 9 - Gwen Williams
November 11 - Wendy Grim
November 14 - Barb Green
November 18 - Paula Kostel
November 19 - Jayne Stevenson
November 20 - Rob Joyce
Jill Schons
November 22 - Molly Cox
November 23 - Charles Scriver
November 27 - Ruth Stauffer

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

Daylight News



Read this month's [Daylight update](#) for the latest on Dama, the professional seamstress at Daylight, and the work that takes place in the Center's sewing room.

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!

November Calendar





[Click here](#) to see what is happening at EMC in November!

Fall Church Cleanup - Saturday, November 3rd



Please join us for a Fall Cleanup of the church grounds, 9:00am, Saturday November 3. As they say: Many hands make for light work. It's amazing what we can accomplish during this 1/2 day. Grab a rake and join us for as much as you are able!

VOLUNTEER AT PERSPECTIVES

Feeling worried about the election, the holidays, etc.? Focus your energies on helping others by volunteering for three hours at **Perspectives on Monday, Nov. 5, 3:30–6:30 p.m.** You'll love the kids and no prior cooking experience is required. [Sign up today!](#)



Get Ready for the Meatloaf Lunch!!!

Sunday November 11th



Women's Fellowship is already planning this sumptuous lunch for Sunday, November 11th right after worship. Meatloaf, baked potatoes, corn, jell-o cups,



dessert..... YUM! Come Hungry!

Tickets:

- \$12/adults
- \$6/children
- \$40/family maximum

If you want take-out meals, please, please, please sign up in advance and we'll have the meals packed and ready to go right after church. No waiting!

If you have a special dietary need, please contact Laurie Cory.

If you would like to help clean-up after the dinner that would be GREAT, too. Let us know!

Tickets are on sale **NOW**. Purchase them at church or contact [the office](#) – 952-926-6555. Any questions or want to make a reservation? Contact [Laurie Cory](#) or [Pam DeLaittre](#).

Gathering for EMC Newcomers!

Are you a newcomer to Edina Morningside Church? Have you been thinking about becoming a member of the church? We invite you to a Newcomer Gathering on Saturday morning, November 10, 9:30-11am. We'll get to know one another better and talk about Edina Morningside Church--our mission and ministry, what we stand for, and ways to get involved, if you choose. Those interested in joining EMC will be welcomed as new members in worship on Sunday, November 18. [Contact Pastor Oby](#) to RSVP, request more information, or express interest. Welcome!

Beacon Action Opportunity

As the Franklin / Hiawatha Encampment ('The Wall of Forgotten Natives') has grown, so has community awareness of the pressing concerns of those experiencing homelessness. The collaborating congregations of Beacon are being asked to consider how we can respond to this



are being asked to consider how we can respond to this urgent need, and whether our expertise in creating supportive housing and organizing for policy change should be part of the broader community response.



All of this is predicated on a single question:

"How are our faith values calling us to respond to this emerging need?"

Make plans to join a Special Congregational Meeting for Discerning Our Response to the Encampment on Thursday, November 8 @ 7pm at Edina Community Lutheran Church (4113 W 54th St, Minneapolis, 55424)!

Register at:

www.beaconinterfaith.org/special-congregation-meeting

To learn more about the encampment and see an updated list of items of immediate need, visit:

www.franklinhiawathacamp.org

PS. Our donation to Beacon has been gratefully received, and we are now officially part of the Collaborative. Yeah!

September Financial Report

	9/2018	Year to Date
Budgeted Pledges	\$18,912	\$153,661
Actual Pledges	\$6,653	\$143,366
Difference	(\$12,259)	(\$10,345)

November 6 - Election Day



Early voting has begun, absentee ballots are still available, and here's your chance to vote for candidates and policies you believe will help manifest what we pray for each week: "your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven". You can



learn everything you need to know about same-day registration and voting--even view a sample ballot tailored for your address--at MNvotes.org. Election Day is Tuesday, November 6th.

Available Wall Art

Do you have a wall space that needs a little something? These framed prints are available on a first come basis. Please [contact the church office](#) if you are interested in taking one (or all) home.



Candy for Meals on Wheels!



Halloween is coming up soon! When purchasing your candy, consider donating some candy (or even your leftover Halloween candy) to Meals on Wheels. Our volunteers love candy! Just bring it to the United Methodist Church of Peace office at 6345 Xerxes Ave S, Richfield. Office hours are 9am-1pm. They will see that Meals on Wheels gets it. Thank you!

Member and Community Happenings

Morningside Neithborhood Association Candidate Forum/Annual Meeting Sunday, October 28th

Weber Park, 4115 Grimes Ave S, Edina, MN 55416

Come meet the candidates for Edina City Council at 2:45pm with the forum starting at 3. The MNA annual meeting will follow at 5.

Halloween Party at Linden Hills UCC

Halloween Party at Linden Hills UCC

Wednesday, October 31st 6 to 8pm

Linden Hills UCC, 4200 S Upton Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55410

Children and teens are invited to Fellowship Hall for a time of music, games, food, and treats. Wear a costume if you'd like, or just come as you are! Any child under the age of 10 must have a parent or guardian present.

Parent Training in West St. Paul on Substance Use and Your Child

Thursday, November 15th 6 to 8pm

Northern Service Center, 1 Mendota Road West, room 110 B, in West St. Paul.

Alcohol and other drug use can be a difficult topic to discuss with our teens, especially when there are so many mixed messages in the media. This presentation will help you navigate those mixed messages by providing a better understanding of current drug trends and how substances interact with adolescent brain development. It will also provide tips and tools for parents, including what to do if you learn your teen may be using alcohol or other drugs, and when to seek treatment. The class will be led by Andria Botzet (M.A., LAMFT) with the assistance of NAMI Staff. For information or to register, go to "classes" at namimn.org or call 651-645-2948.

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

Contact Us

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