

February Messenger/Friday Update: February 1, 2019 (Copy 01)

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The weekly newsletter for Edina Morningside Church

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February Messenger/Friday Update: February 1, 2019

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 month, the Vision Council and I had a fruitful discussion about one of the big-picture dynamics of American church life these days: discipleship. Rather than measuring health of congregations in terms of "butts in pews" or official church members, it is more faithful to ask, "Are we creating stronger, more faithful followers of Jesus Christ? Are we inspiring and equipping people to show the love of God in word and deed?" We welcomed eight new members (plus young Matthew) in worship last Sunday, but I'm convinced that is just one step in the process of faithful discipleship. Rather like "commencement" ceremonies are a beginning to the next phase of life and not simply an end to schooling; joining a church is a mile marker, not the final destination. [The article we discussed as the Vision Council](#) suggests that a



disciple is one who worships, is part of a community, commits to spiritual practices, is generous and serves, and is seeking to be Christlike. In the conversation that night, we agreed that growth into discipleship is part of the covenant we expect of one another as members. We promise to keep growing ourselves, and keep encouraging growth in others--church member and friend alike.

What do you think? Do you find it helpful to think of your Christian faith as a continual growth into discipleship? Where would you place yourself on a "discipleship continuum" from Searching – Exploring – Beginning – Growing – Maturing? [I'd love to read your thoughts](#), or better yet give me a call (612-900-3914) and we can talk it through together!

Sunday Worship Service - February 3, 2019

Before Worship

- Fill out prayer request slips and Volunteer Ministry interest forms

This Week's Leaders

- **Leading Worship:** Rev. Oby Ballinger
- **Minister of Music and Liturgical Arts:** Rev. Elaine B. Kirkland
- **Faith Formation Director:** Janet Anderson
- **Nursery Attendant:** Gina DeLong
- **Ushers:** Alan Eidsness, Dan Jurgens and Jim Olson
- **Fellowship Hosts:** February Coffee Co-op
- **Offering Counter:** Donella Neuhaus

During Worship

- Children's Activity Table in the Sanctuary
- Nursery Care available
- Time with Children, followed by a youth Story and Craft
- Communion by Intinction
- Loose coins collected in February donated to [Perspectives](#)

After Worship

- Second Hour: Affordable Housing Roundtable with Stephanie Hawkinson (right) from the City of Edina



In Our Prayers

We especially hold these members and friends in our prayer:

Second Hour: Affordable Housing Roundtable Discussion



After worship, grab a cup of coffee and a treat then come down to Fellowship Hall for **Second Hour**, an “**affordable housing roundtable**” conversation with Stephanie Hawkinson from the City of Edina.

Invitations to Faith Formation

Story & Craft

Just as in worship, Sunday school classes continue to focus on the many teachings in Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount. This week, Laurie Eckberg will lead children in a craft that helps them to understand how Jesus taught us to live, pray, and love.

Dreams Are the Way to God

In the Bible, dreams are understood to be methods of divine communication. Though our rationalist society discourages that kind of faith, many of us still receive dreams as messages from the spirit that lies within or among us. Karen Boileau has a Master’s degree in education and a decades-long passion for dream interpretation. Join her—and me—for gatherings Sunday February 10th, 17th, and 24th providing guidance in studying and acting on dream wisdom. 1:30-3:00 p.m. All faiths welcome; invite a friend!



2 English Teachers Read the Bible

The third Monday in February is the 18th, and that’s when Larry Williams and I will co-host an evening Bible study focused on one or more teachings considered to be as close to verifiably the words of Jesus as we can come. We meet from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Snacks are welcome if you want to share. Candlelight and fellowship are provided.

Serving the Hungry

Edina Morningside is a congregation of talented cooks and enthusiastic foodies. That may be why we are particularly cognizant of Jesus' exhortations to feed the hungry. **Looking to get involved?** Connect with Karin Miller about serving at Perspectives in St. Louis Park; with Jane Putzier about serving Families Moving Forward at Parkway UCC in Minneapolis; with Molly Cox about serving Meals On Wheels around Edina; and with Pam DeLaittre about serving at 66 West affordable housing for young people in Edina.

At-Home Practice



This week's lesson from Matthew includes the line that is rendered in the King James version of the Bible, "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." That line means, "Experience what is happening now and don't look ahead with worry." Can you practice that for one week?

Jesus told us to stop worrying about what to wear, what to eat, and what work to do. That's everything, y'all. Stop worrying about *everything*. Can you wake up each morning for a week and ask God to guide you, and then trust that everything necessary will get done? Try it.

--Janet Anderson, Director of Faith Formation

This Week at EMC

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

Monday

- 3:30pm **Perspectives Outreach** (St. Louis Park)
- 7pm MNA Steering Committee Meeting (Meeting Room)

Tuesday

- 10am **Bible Study**
- 6:15pm **Pastor Relations Committee** (Meeting Room)

Wednesday

- 9:30am **Women's Fellowship** (Meeting Room)
- 12pm **UCC Clergy Cluster Luncheon** (Meeting Room)
- 5:15pm **Music Director Search Committee** (Meeting Room)
- 5:30pm Hand of AA (Fellowship Hall)

- 6pm **Youth Group** (EMC)
- 6:15pm **Morningside Bells Rehearsal**
- 7:30pm **Chancel Choir Rehearsal**

Thursday

- 6pm **Preschool Parent Night Speaker** (Fellowship Hall)
- 6pm **Beacon Core Team** (Meeting Room)

February Worship and Second Hour Preview

February 3rd: We share communion at the altar and consider God's perennial blessings, as shown by God's care of the birds and flowers in nature. Though we wonder about God's presence in hard times, Jesus promises in God's abiding care in Matthew 6:19-34. After worship, the Second Hour is an "**affordable housing roundtable**" conversation with Stephanie Hawkinson from the City of Edina.

February 10th: As we continue learning from Jesus during the Sermon on the Mount, Rev. Frank Bennett preaches on "**the Golden Rule**" (Matthew 7:1-14, 24-29). Second Hour is a **Potluck and Ministries brunch**, where we build community over a meal and meet to coordinate the ministries of the church.

February 17th: When Jesus teaches **parables** about the kingdom of God, he uses metaphors that act as footprints, marking the paths of kindness and mercy. We learn of God's ways through fields, seeds and yeast (Matthew 13:24-43). Our Second Hour is a **Lenten Liturgy Workshop**, your chance to help design parts of worship during Lent with Rev. Elaine Kirkland and members of the Liturgical Arts Teams.



February 17th (7pm): We gather for a warm and centering **Taizé** worship in the sanctuary. This 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!

February 24th: We experience the tugs of **fear and faith** in Matthew 14:22-33, as the disciples panic and Jesus saves during a storm at sea. Second Hour is a chance to connect with one another over coffee/treats, and help **setup for Morningside After Dark** in Fellowship Hall.

Edina Morningside Preschool

(check out the new logo!)

With all this frigid cold weather many of you might be dreaming about warm summer days. Not us at preschool, we are thinking about fall because, it's registration time! We are happy to share that many of our current families will be returning next fall. Some current students are heading off to kindergarten and while we are excited for their adventures that does leave us with some open spots. We have been giving lots of tours to new families and we are hosting an open house Saturday February 2, from 10:00am-11:30am. If you know someone who's interested or looking for a preschool please let them know about Edina Morningside Preschool.



Pastor Relations Committee



The Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC) is comprised of [Cathy Baldwin](#), [Laurie Cory](#), and [Larry Williams](#) and 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, February 5th.**

Cookies for College Kids

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP - It's almost time for Women's Fellowship to fill and send our boxes of homemade cookies and other goodies for Valentine's Day to EMC young people who are in college or serving in the military. This year we planning to send 16 boxes. Look for the poster board in the



planning to send to boxes. Look for the poster board in the Gathering Space to see who these young people are.



If you would like to bake some treats, here are some suggestions for larger, sturdy cookies that pack well - sugar cookies, oatmeal, chocolate chip, snickerdoodles, gingersnaps, peanut butter, etc. We wrap 2 cookies back to back and pack them in boxes with bubble wrap and packing peanuts so they have to stand up to that. Crisp cookies tend to stay fresher longer than soft, chewy cookies. This year we will be wrapping the cookies and packing boxes on Wednesday, Feb. 6th. If you can't bake but would like to participate, consider contributing other goodies, like granola bars, individual boxes of raisins, small bags of nuts, Valentine hearts, fun size candy bars, microwave popcorn, commercially made rice crispy bars, etc.

Please bring your cookies and goodies to church by 9:30 AM that Wed (Feb. 6th). If you need to bring them earlier or want to put them in the freezer before then, please let us know so we don't miss them. Be sure they are well marked for the Women's Fellowship cookie boxes. If you have any questions, please contact [Laurie Cory](#) or [Pam DeLaittre](#). Thank you and Blessings, *Women's Fellowship*

February Birthdays



February 4 - Jessica Krebs-Boie

February 7 - Larry Johnson

February 9 - Ivy Kersten

February 10 - Rebecca Sorensen

February 13 - Will Gednalske

February 14 - Aaron Mills

February 17 - Doug Toth

February 19 - Mark Sorensen

February 20 - Ella Haugen

February 21 - Brian DeLong

February 24 - Seth Jurgens

February 25 - Gabi Miller
February 26 - Joan Palmer
February 27 - Tom Martens, Dave Russell
February 28 - Jim Olson

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

MTC Summer Camp Registration

REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER 2019 CAMPS is now open! Forms are now available on the [church website](#).

Youth Camp (completing grades 6-9) **Legally Blonde the Musical, JR.**



Wait List Only

Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 12:30 pm 6/10-6/27

Shows Thu 6/27 7pm, Fri 6/28 10 am & 7 pm, Sat 6/29 10 am

Elementary Camp (completing grades 2-5) **Annie Kids!**

Mon - Fri 1:30-4:30 pm 6/10-6/21

registration closed

Shows Fri 6/21 7pm, Sat 6/22 10 am & 3pm

Just Added

Elementary Camp (completing grades 2-5) **A Year with Frog and Toad KIDS**

Mon - Fri 9am - 12pm 7/8-7/19

Shows Fri 7/19 7pm, Sat 7/20 10 am & 3pm

Children's Camp (completing grades K-1)

Mon 6/24-Fri 6/28 1:30-3:30 pm

Recital Fri 6/28 3:00 pm

Once a camp fills, a short waiting list will be created. It is possible that people will pull out of camp, providing the opportunity to shift a wait-listed student into camp. See more details (and share this opportunity!) via the [Morningside Theatre Company page](#) on Facebook.

Thank-you! Thank-you! Thank-you!

Many thanks to all who supported our outreach ministry with Beacon by participating in the taco salad lunch this last Sunday. We raised \$753, which will be used to purchase food for dinners served at Families Moving Forward and for the birthday lunches we provide for the 66 West residence for formerly homeless young people. If there are excess funds, we'll use them for another Beacon-related project; for example, we contributed \$500 last December toward the expenses of moving people from the encampment to more permanent housing. The ladies of Women's Fellowship (a small but mighty group) greatly appreciate your continued support for this important ministry.



Daylight News



Daylight
Center & School

This month you can [read about Daylight Village School](#) in Alale, a second campus for Daylight. This school has 100 amazing elementary age students who live at home and juggle doing their farm chores and walking to and from school in addition to their learning.



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!

EMC Welcomes New Members



A special **welcome to new members** who join Edina Morningside Church on Sunday, January 27th! From left to right, they are:

(back row) Kaitlyn Gill, Mike and Kristen Coddington (with son Matthew), and Bruce Fisher

(front row) Mark and Jill Mironer, and Aaron Mills and Amanda Sicoli. We're blessed by your presence and look



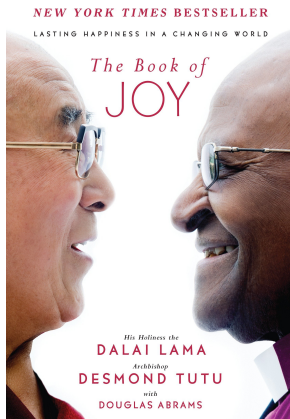
forward to “being church” together for years to come!

February Calendar



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

"The Book of Joy" in Lent



How can we find greater joy? How can we encourage it in others, and in the world?

This year for Lent, EMC will read insights on joy from Christianity, Buddhism and science. We'll be using this book by the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Pick up your copy of “**The Book of Joy**” at EMC starting February 10th, and prepare to join a weekly small group for discussions in March and April!

Save the Date: Front Porch Friday to Visit Como Conservatory on March 1st!

Will you be ready for a breath of spring any time soon? Mark your calendar for Friday, March 1, when our Front Porch Friday group will visit the Marjory McNeely Conservatory in St. Paul's Como Park. Many of you have visited there before - a lovely display of flowers in a warm space - just the break we need from winter! March 1



sounds like a long time off - but it will be here before we know it! In addition to the flower display, we will see the Bonsai exhibit, and maybe some zoo!



As usual, we will meet at church at 10:00 AM to carpool, and visit a St. Paul restaurant for lunch. Sign up on the board in the Gathering Room to RSVP.

Morningside After Dark



The 2019 Morningside After Dark storytelling and live music series kicked off on Monday, January 28th. It was a great show featuring 6 musicians and 6 writers exploring the theme “Changing Lanes.” Save the date for our next event on **Monday, February 25th** which will center on the theme **"Fight or Flight"**. If you

would like to volunteer to help tear down the event at 9pm please contact Rebecca Sorensen at: morningsideafterdark@gmail.com! Save the date for our final show of 2019 on April 29th. Thanks as always to our amazing church and volunteers for your support!

Member and Community Happenings

**EHS Thespians (with our own Anthony Fantin!) present
Murder Crime at Brockingsforde Manor
January 31, Feb 1, Feb 2 at 7 pm @ EPAC/Edina High School**

Brockingsforde Manor sits alone among the hills and streams of Westenshire, the only building for a thousand leagues. Hidden in the mists of solitude, its halls contain a thousand mysteries. But on this night, a group of strangers is summoned by a cryptic, yet compelling, invitation. Suddenly, a scream pierces the darkness! It was a crime. A Murder Crime. Trapped in a puzzle of creaky doors, ancient relics and paintings whose eyes follow your every move, can the guests solve the mystery before it's too late? To purchase tickets [click here](#).

**“Creating Caring Faith Communities”
Wednesday, February 13th 6:30-7:45pm**

St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 13600 Technology Drive, Eden Prairie.

Learn about mental illnesses, the impact of negative attitudes and five things each of us can

Learn about mental illnesses, the impact of negative attitudes and five things each of us can do to make Minnesota a better place for people who experience a mental illness. This class is for faith communities interested in learning about mental illnesses and helping to change attitudes towards mental illnesses. This free program is open to the public. For more information, contact Kay King at 651-645-2948 ext. 113 or kking@namimn.org

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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