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The weekly newsletter for Edina Morningside Church

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June Messenger/Friday Update: May 31, 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".

Rev. Elaine B. Kirkland and I started our ministries at Edina Morningside Church on the same day--Rally Sunday in September of 2016. I'd briefly sung in a choir under Elaine's direction during my college years, and was eager for the opportunity to work again alongside her joyful, creative spirit. What was originally a four-month interim shift as EMC's Music Director has



become the last almost three years of Elaine's leadership as our Minister for Music and Liturgical Arts. Under Elaine's care, the Chancel Choir and Morningside Bells have grown in spirit and numbers, we've begun using a much wider variety of musical forms in worship, and liturgical creativity has blossomed. If you have marveled at awe-inspiring moments on Easter Sunday, been inspired by dramatic interplay between music and worship words, or appreciated creative re-enactments of biblical texts on Sunday mornings, that is in large part due to Elaine's talents and those of the teams she has gathered around for such work. In every part of our ministries that she has touched, in my regular planning meetings with her, and in collaborations with other staff and church members, Elaine has watered the seeds of inspiration in others, coached flexibility in the face of change, led with an eye toward justice and love, modeled joy in the journey of life, and committed to the hard work of seeing a vision become reality. What I treasure most in Elaine's leadership is her patient ability to nurture courage, again and again nudging hesitant people like me to the edge of our comfort zones to "do a new thing" with God and this community. Because of Elaine's confidence and detailed preparation, we succeed beyond our earlier imaginings.

Elaine's years at Edina Morningside Church were an unexpected "encore" after she had already retired from a full and successful career as a UCC pastor and music minister, most recently at Mt. Sinai Congregational Church, UCC in Mt. Sinai, New York. She and Lisa Lally have postponed since 2016 the delights of retirement and travel, for which they originally moved to Minnesota. Now as Elaine takes her leave from a staff role at Edina Morningside Church, they will at last have more time for travel and rest. Because they remain members at EMC (and Lisa has just begun at least a year of service as our Moderator), Elaine will not vanish from the community. She will, though, take some months for renewal and worship elsewhere, giving the professional courtesy of time and space for our next Music Director (Conie Borchardt) to establish herself in the role. We'll miss Elaine's weekly presence, but look forward to future occasions when we shall be together again.

Please join the entire church and I this Sunday morning at 10am for a final worship service with Elaine's leadership, and then a reception downstairs afterwards in her honor. Thank you, Elaine--your faith and leadership have given us the skills and courage to navigate well going forward, even in changing times like these!

Sunday Worship Service - June 2, 2019

Before Worship

- Rehearsal with worship participants
- 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 Leaders:** Darlene Clay, Charlie Green, Lisa Lally, Catriona Ray, Jane and Larry Williams
- **Soloist:** Aaron Mills
- **Pianist:** Barb Green
- **Nursery Attendant:** Ella Williams
- **Ushers:** Dan Jurgens and Jim Olson
- **Offering Counter:** Cathy Baldwin

During Worship

- Children's Activity Table in the Sanctuary

- Nursery Care available
- Communion by Intinction
- Recognition and Farewell for Elaine B. Kirkland
- Loose coins collected in June go to [Edina Meals on Wheels](#)

After Worship

- Second Hour: Elaine Kirkland Celebration
 - Jane and Larry Williams Renewal of Vows (12pm)
-

In Our Prayers

We especially hold these members and friends in our prayers:

This Week at EMC

Church Office Hours:	M-Th	10am-3pm
Pastor's Office Hours:	Tu-Fr	appointments encouraged

Monday

- 7pm **Morningside Theatre Co. stage move** (Fellowship Hall)
- 7pm Morningside Neighborhood Assn. Steering Committee (Gathering Space)

Tuesday

- 10am **Bible Study** (Meeting Room)

Wednesday

- 4pm **MTC Placement/Casting** (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:30pm Hand of AA (Gathering Space)

Thursday

- 4pm **MTC Placement/Casting** (Fellowship Hall)

Friday

- 4pm **Sicoli/Mills Wedding Rehearsal**

Saturday

- 4pm **Sicoli/Mills Wedding**
-

June Worship and Second Hour Preview

June 2nd: Finishing the Easter season and preparing for Pentecost, we share in a service of music and **farewell for Rev. Elaine B. Kirkland**, as she steps back from her role as our Director of Music and Liturgical Arts. Elaine reflects on how God is “doing a new thing” (Isaiah 43:18-20), we share communion with her by intinction at the front of the sanctuary, and receive a choral benediction at the end. Second Hour is a reception for Elaine in Fellowship Hall.

June 9th: On **Pentecost Sunday** we celebrate “the birthday of the church”, when the Holy Spirit caused a great movement of wind, fire and speaking in tongues, sparking the movement of Christ’s disciples to go and share “good news”. We also welcome EMC’s incoming Music Director Conie Borchardt, and celebrate this year’s graduates from high school and college. If you can, wear red—a color of the Holy Spirit!

June 16th: We mark **Pride Sunday** one week before Twin Cities Pride, and two weeks before World Pride in New York City commemorates fifty years (to the day) since the Stonewall uprising started the modern movement for LGBTQ equality. Guest Michael Dhani Bennett brings special music with voice and brass, while the Second Hour afterward is a conversation about LGBT equality with Jesus Lucero from OutFront Minnesota. Wear rainbows!

June 23rd: Worship starts with youth from Morningside Theatre Company singing from the musical they’ve been rehearsing all month, the title song from “Legally Blonde: The Musical”. We also continue in the second week of a **worship series on Sabbath**.

June 30th: This service concludes our series focused on Sabbath, and the Second Hour is a report on **discoveries in the Church Archives**. A state grant has helped us contract with a specialist to catalogue our 3-D objects in the church, so we’ll have a show-and-tell about

what has been found recently.

Note that worship in July moves to Wednesdays instead of Sundays, beginning with Wednesday, July 3rd.

June Birthdays



- June 3** Amber Washington-Howard
- June 4** Matt Grim
- June 5** Greta Kulevsky
- June 7** Jim Gratzek
- June 8** Charlotte Beegle
- June 10** Kristen Peterson
- June 15** Lily Kulevsky
- June 16** Diane Sowden & Hsien-Hsin Chang
- June 18** Doug Engelke
- June 20** Darla Young
- June 21** Diane Halpin
- June 22** Nicole Chidester
- June 23** Mary Lenard
- June 24** Greg Martens
- June 25** Charlie Preston
- June 26** Chuck Clay & Donella Neuhaus
- June 27** Dan Jurgens & Thom Miller

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

Spring Gardening *Tomorrow*



Join the Green Team tomorrow, **Saturday, June 1st at 1pm** for some **spring gardening** at EMC. Bring your gardening tools and energy for planting, and help us with a general sprucing-up of the church grounds.

An Invitation from Jane and Larry Williams~~

Dear Church Family,

On June 2nd, after we celebrate Elaine's "refirement" in Fellowship Hall, please join us back in the sanctuary for a short Renewal of Vows service, in celebration of our 25th wedding anniversary. There will be a bit of music--you'll get to hear Elaine one last, last time :) --and a bit of fun. We'll end outside with a piñata replica of our wedding cake, filled with a sweet treat. This is a no-frills, no-gifts moment in time, to jumpstart our next 25 years. Join us, if you can.



Jane and Larry Williams

Summer Coffee and Community



There are **no coffee co-ops over the summer months** of June, July and August. Treats after worship will be occasional and "potluck" – bring food to share if the Spirit moves you! We will still have coffee and lemonade each week.

April Financial Report

	Year to Date
Budgeted Pledges	\$75,869

Actual Pledges \$86,253

Difference \$10,384

An Invitation from Barb and Charlie Green~~

We are hosting our annual **Garden Party** on Sunday June 9 in the afternoon - and all EMC folks are invited. We just love to show off the iris when they are in bloom! The "official" hours are 1 pm to 6 pm, to avoid clashing with a neighbor's brunch, but EMC folks are welcome to come over right after church coffee hour. We would encourage you to walk over, as we suspect there won't be any space to park on the street (although for those who need it there's likely to be a spot in our driveway.) Please come if you can.



Barb and Charlie Green

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group: June 10, 6:30 - 8:30pm



On Monday, June 10th, at 6:30pm, the monthly **Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group** gathering will take place for those seeking information and resources in caring for those with dementia. This meetings will take place in the EMC Meeting Room and will be facilitated by Frank Bennett and Mary Lenard. [For More Information](#)

Families Moving Forward, June 24th 5pm

Edina Morningside Church has a commitment to serve dinner for Families Moving Forward at Parkway United Church of Christ (3120 Washburn Avenue North in Minneapolis) on Monday, June 24th. We'll meet and set up dinner at 5, serve at 6, then play with kids and clean up

*Families
Moving
Forward*
Reason

lunch at 6, serve at 6, then play with kids and clean up



between 6:30 and 7:30pm. This is an intergenerational service opportunity that provides a lot of satisfaction! If you haven't participated in the past, maybe now is the time to try it out. Women's Fellowship will provide the meal. Please use the sign-up in the Gathering Space to indicate your interest or [email us](#).

The Vikings Are Coming! Front Porch Friday - June 28th



No NOT the football Vikings--the Scandinavian Vikings who explored, plundered and settled the world in the first millennium! The AMERICAN SWEDISH INSTITUTE is hosting THE VIKINGS BEGIN, an exhibit of artifacts from the period before the Vikings became notorious. Helmets, weapons, jewelry, etc. are displayed in both the new Annex of the Institute, but also in the beautiful adjoining Turnblad Mansion. We will plan to view the exhibit and lunch at the renowned "Fika" restaurant on site.

Join us Friday, JUNE 28 for a special experience! As usual, meet at 10:00 to carpool from the church. Cost is \$12 adults, \$8 seniors, \$6, 6-18.

June Calendar



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

Morningside Preschool News

They say time flies when you are having fun. If that's the case, we sure had lots of fun in preschool this year, because nine months really flew by. Thank you to the church and Preschool Board for all your support, helping our program to be a wonderful outreach to the community. May was a busy month with our Mother's Day Tea, a trip to Stages Theater, and the year-end potluck. We wrapped up the school year by releasing painted lady butterflies that the children had watched grow from caterpillars.



We wish everyone a wonderful summer, and we will be back in August to prepare for the next fantastic year at Edina Morningside Preschool!

Laura Gennrich, Jessie Holly, and Destiny Rock

Save the Dates for Worship!



Worship moves to Wednesday evenings in July, including the Wednesdays of July 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th. Each week we'll gather on the patio (weather permitting) at 6:15pm for dessert, with worship starting at 6:45. We **return to Sunday morning worship on July 28th**.

Archives Exhibit at Gateway Bank Morningside

A few months ago, Gateway Bank Morningside (4350 France Avenue South) was searching for a way to demonstrate their commitment to the area. Upon opening a branch location in our neighborhood, they approached our church Archives asking for help tracking down historic photos for permanent display on the walls of their Lobby and Conference area. As the Archives collection has many photos from the early days in the Village of Morningside, we were able to provide the bank with nine images suitable for framing. One of



those images shows the early church as the centerpiece. It is on the Lobby wall of the bank, surrounded by five additional familiar neighborhood images including Constable George Weber.

In conjunction with the photos on display, Gateway Bank has also given a generous donation to the church and offered EMC additional exhibit space in the bank for future temporary displays of more images from the archives collection that highlight early church and neighborhood life. Brian Maxwell, President of Gateway Bank Morningside, extends an open invitation to the congregation to stop by and see the current images at your convenience. Pastor Oby vouches for the quality of their complimentary cookies also...

Daylight Update



This month's update is full of photos and information about the working farm that is part of the everyday life for all the students at Daylight School, our mission partner in Kenya! [Click here](#) to learn more, and let Pastor Oby know if you're interested in more information about joining [EMC's trip to Daylight](#), planned 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!

Holy Yoga this Summer?

Are you interested in Holy Yoga this summer? Community member Sally Larson has been trained in this Christ-centered path of connecting mind, body and spirit, and teaches [classes in the community](#) (among the many others offered through Holy Yoga Twin Cities). [Read more about Holy Yoga here](#), and [let us know in the office](#) if you're interested in Holy Yoga during a Second Hour (or other time) over the summer.

Help At Your Door

"Help At Your Door, serving seniors since 1984: Are you a senior who needs a little extra help? Help At Your Door provides a variety of services for seniors and individuals with disabilities to help them continue living at home. They provide grocery delivery, transportation services, and chore/home help (handyman, cleaning, etc.). Call today! Easy signup over the phone and no computer required. **651-642-1892.** helpatyourdoor.org.



Lost and Found



Anything look familiar?? These are lost and found items from the past year. They are currently on the counter in the Meeting Room. Any unclaimed items will be leaving the building on June 8th. Come by and claim your lost treasure!

From the Archives....

During the month of May, Phase 1 of the church archives project started work on cataloging and labeling all of the historic furniture and furnishings in the church, eg; lecterns, pulpit, pews, reredos including the dossal curtains, hanging chandeliers and stained glass windows in the Sanctuary, including a professionally-taken photo of the rose window above the Chancel. In the weeks to come, an enlarged photo will be displayed of this wonderful window we couldn't quite see clearly viewing it from the floor.

Each object now cataloged has been given a unique locator number entered into the archives collection management system (CMS), including condition reports, complete descriptions of each

item of furniture and furnishings, along with historical background notes and photographs. Where the back story of the object is known, that is included as well.

This task is complete and now we are on to working with the books and bibles in the church collection, which we hope will be finished during the month of June. We then anticipate a final brief catalogue and labeling effort for historic furnishings discovered and not entered during our work in May, and then a final project report submitted as required by our grant funding agency, the MN Historical Society (MNHS).

Once the report is accepted and considered closed, another grant funding request will be written and submitted in September 2019. This is intended to cover Phase 2 of the church archives project: to continue cataloging/labeling work consisting of 2" x 2" slides, lantern slides, early to midcentury photographs, and other audio/visual media in the collection.

If we are successful and are again awarded additional MN Legacy Grant funding by MNHS, Phase 2 of the project will begin this Fall the first week in October.

On June 30th at Second Hour, the entire Archives team will host a review on efforts to date that have been taken to safeguard the church collection. Be sure to take a moment to stop by and meet those involved in this effort. The Archives remains open and available if you'd ever like to stop in and look around during cataloging work.

Church Historian [Doug Fuerst](#)

Member and Community Happenings

Lessons Learned from Ferguson

Weds, June 5th, 7:00pm

Mayflower Church UCC. 106 E. Diamond Lake Rd., Mpls, MN 55419

Judge Mark Kappelhoff, former deputy assistant attorney and current judge for Hennepin County's Fourth District, will recount his work in Ferguson, Missouri, and the investigation of that city's abuse of the criminal justice system. We will also consider the current state of our own criminal justice system and what we can all do to hold our leaders accountable.

Love is Alive & Kickin (incl. EMC's Molly Cox)

June 7-16th

Bloomington Center for the Arts

Alive & Kickin is an ensemble of seniors, aged 60 and up, who perform rock music to present another view of aging! Alive & Kickin got its start rehearsing at Edina Morningside

Church, and has thrived ever since. EMC members Bill and Diane Sowden were founding members, as were June Griffin and Molly Cox. The group performs all over the metro area and in Duluth. Their major shows are held at the Bloomington Schneider Theater Friday-Sunday June 7-9, and Wednesday-Sunday June 12-16. [Click here for more information and tickets](#), or call 952-563-8575.

Free Mental Health First Aid for Older Adults Course in St. Paul

Thursday, June 13th, 8:30am - 5:30pm

NAMI Minnesota, 1919 University Avenue W., Suite 400, St. Paul MN

NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness) will hold a free Mental Health First Aid for Older Adults training course. Learn about common mental illnesses and co-occurring disorders with a focus on older adults. Learn basic first aid skills needed to help a person who is experiencing a mental health problem or crisis. This workshop is not intended for professionals who have a background in mental health. Lunch is not provided so please plan to bring your own bag lunch. To register (required) or get more detailed information, please contact NAMI Minnesota at 651-645-2948 or see “classes” at namihelps.org.

ECO Camp

June 24th - 27th, 9am - 1pm

Union United Church of Christ, 3700 Alabama Ave, St. Louis Park

Create & expand a love of Creation, grow abilities for a smaller environmental impact and learn how inner peace and satisfaction come from relationships not ownership. [For more information](#)

Mental Health Crisis Planning for Families Video

NAMI Minnesota recently released its newest video “Mental Health Crisis Planning for Families.” The video helps parents learn to recognize, prevent, plan for, and manage their child’s mental health crisis. It is patterned after NAMI’s booklet and class of the same name. The 15-minute video can be viewed in English or Spanish and was made possible by a grant from the Hope & Grace Initiative, a project of the New Venture Fund. To view “Mental Health Crisis Planning for Families,” go to “videos” at namimn.org, or call NAMI at 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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