



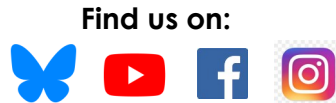
Good Samaritan welcomes and affirms all persons regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, race or socioeconomic background. We seek to reconcile any differences that divide us.

**PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

- Rev. Max Richter**, Lead Pastor (952) 452-9395, max@good.org  
**Rev. Jim Beard**, Director of Congregational Care (952) 452-9396, jim@good.org  
**Jan Russell**, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries (952) 452-9398, jan@good.org  
**Noemi Dooley**, Coordinator of Online Engagement noemi@good.org  
**Carey Shunskis**, Director of Music Ministries/Chancel Choir carey@good.org  
**Cynthia Betz**, Organist/Accompanist cynthia@good.org  
**Kate Graber**, Chancel Chimes Director kate@good.org  
**Christina Herold**, Jubilee! Bell Choir Director christina@good.org  
**Brad Carlin**, Homeward Bound Director bradleypcarlin@gmail.com  
**Serena Steffenhagen**, Small Groups/Faith Alive Director serena@good.org  
**Kim Hill**, Bookkeeper (952) 452-9394, kim@good.org  
**Cindy Bergstrom**, Office Manager (952) 929-0049, cindy@good.org  
**Dan Green**, Building Engineer (612) 889-4015, danrg@good.org  
**Rev. Dandy Lewis**, Website Administrator dandy@good.org

**E-News**  
 Email cindy@good.org to receive the weekly e-news.

**Prayer Chain**  
 Email jim@good.org for prayer requests or to receive the weekly prayer chain email.



**Thank you...**

- Ushers:** Caroline Carlin  
**AV Techs:** Beth Hutson, Brad Carlin  
**Liturgist:** Becky Hart  
**Special Music:** Jubilee! Bell Choir  
**Nursery:** Shelley Scharping  
**Fellowship Hosts:** Caroline Carlin, Janet VanBenthuyssen

**WORSHIP**  
**10:00 AM**

March 8, 2026

**Our Vision**

**Inspiring  
 Joyful Faith**

**Building a  
 Loving  
 Community**

**Serving  
 Neighbors  
 Near and Far**

**Today's  
 Scripture**  
**Mark 6:32-44**  
**Ephesians 3:20-21**



**Good Samaritan United Methodist Church**  
 5730 Grove Street, Edina, Minnesota 55436  
 (952) 929-0049 ~ good.org

## WELCOME !

Nursery care is available for ages 6 weeks-3 years.

Large print hymnals and bulletins are available from the ushers.

Hearing assist devices are available at the sound booth.

Thank you for supporting our ministries! Offering plates are available by the Sanctuary doors as you exit or scan this QR code to give securely online.



Please join us for refreshments in Fellowship Hall after worship.

\*Standing or sitting.

PRELUDE "When We Are in Our Greatest Need" J.S. BACH

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: If you need good news, settle into this space.

**All: We have good news to share.**

If you need a word of hope, then trust us when we say,

**there is hope enough to go around.**

If you need a glimmer of joy, then you're in luck!

**We have resilient joy abounding.**

If you need to feel God's presence in your midst,

**then know that this is God's house.**

This is the good news of the gospel.

**God is here. Love is real. Joy is on the move.**

**Let us worship our with-us God!**

\*OPENING HYMN "Lord of All Hopefulness" FWS 2197

### WORDS OF WELCOME

CHILDREN'S TIME Jan Russell  
*After Children's Time, children are invited to Sunday School in 200.*

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

SPECIAL MUSIC "Blessed Assurance" CYNTHIA DOBRINSKI

SCRIPTURE READING & PRAYER OF CONFESSION  
Mark 6:32-44; Ephesians 3:20-21 (NRSVUE)

SONG OF PREPARATION "O Lord, Hear My Prayer" FWS 2200  
*sing 3x*

SPIRITUAL MESSAGE OF THE DAY Pastor Jim Beard  
"The Good News is...Together, the Impossible is Possible"

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our God\*, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*(\*Mother, Father, Creator, etc. - use the word that is most meaningful for you.)*

CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM Maya Kathryn Lee Ellwood  
The Baptismal Covenant II, UMH pg. 39  
SPECIAL MUSIC "The Blessing" ARR. PAUL MCKLVEEN

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR LIVING OUR FAITH

\*CLOSING SONG "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service" UMH 581

### \*FINAL WORDS OF BLESSING

\*POSTLUDE "Let All Things Now Living" ARR. CINDY BERRY

**Liturgy:** by Rev. Sarah A. Speed, adapted | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

**Cover Image:** *Far More Abundantly* by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.



## Far More Abundantly

by Lauren Wright Pittman

Inspired by Ephesians 3:20-21

11"x14" Hand-carved block printed with oil-based ink on paper, with gold leaf detail

I read this Ephesians text alongside the feeding of the five thousand. I placed Jesus at the center of the image,<sup>1</sup> but he did not feed the crowds alone. He asked his disciples to offer what they had. They responded with meager resources, yet those small gifts were enough. Consider the archway and what it could symbolize. Do you see a table, a tablet, a boat, a door, a tomb—or all of these things or something else?

Through the lens of Ephesians, if Jesus were to ask us today what we have to give, our answer would be: *We have the power you have given us to do the impossible.* The same power that turned five loaves and two fish into a feast for thousands— with *leftovers*—empowers us “to accomplish far more abundantly than all we can ask or imagine.” Do we allow this truth to settle into our bones and animate our actions?

In a world convinced of scarcity, this is astonishingly good news. We already have enough. And as my mentor used to say, “*Enough is abundance.*” What will we do with this abundance? Is it too lofty to dream of a world that sustains all of life? Perhaps. Yet I believe it is God’s own desire that all may have life, and have it abundantly.<sup>2</sup> This is the work before us, accomplished through the power at work within us, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

—Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman, adapted

1 In the center of the image, Jesus raises his arms and breaks bread. Above Jesus’ hands is a mustard seed. Surrounding the baskets are thin line carvings of mustard flowers. Like the seed, we may be small, but we hold so much potential inside of us. Surrounding the archway are twelve baskets of seven loaves or fish which take on the shape of flowers. The number twelve represents community, and seven represents wholeness. When everyone has what they need, the community is whole.

2 John 10:9-11



## Good Sam Happenings

You're in a GOOD place to ... connect, grow, worship ...

### Pastor Max on Vacation

Pastor Max is on vacation through this Tuesday, March 10. Pastoral emergencies can be directed to Pastor Jim at 763-300-9626.



### March is Minnesota Food Share Month

This year, we are highlighting the food shelf at **STEP** (St. Louis Park Emergency Program).

**STEP** provides emergency food packs for clients who are in immediate need of food. Some of these clients are unhoused. STEP provides easy to use, small-sized options, which are not often donated. We would like to create a supply of these items so STEP can meet the increasing requests for emergency food. We will be collecting your

donations through the month of March. Look for the collection basket in the Narthex.

#### Items needed:

- mac & cheese cups
- easy-open canned vegetables
- individual cereal boxes/cups
- tuna or chicken pouches (unflavored)
- chicken salad pouches (unflavored)
- snack-sized trail mix/nuts
- shelf-stable almond milk



### Easter Flowers

Easter flower order forms are available on Welcome Table in the Narthex. Order flowers to decorate our Sanctuary for Easter Sunday and take home after worship. Orders and payments are due into the church office by next Sunday, March 15.





**Parenting Workshop**  
**"5 Keys to Raising Resilient Kids"**  
**Sunday, March 29, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**



Parents, teachers, and other caregivers can learn proven strategies to help kids handle stress, anxiety, and life's ups and downs with confidence. There is no charge for this workshop; however, there is a limit on the number of attendees. Please reserve your spot at [tinyurl.com/GSResilient](http://tinyurl.com/GSResilient) or with the QR code.

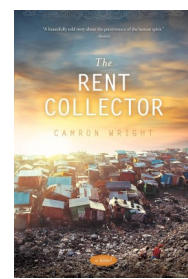


**FMSC Food Packing**

Upcoming Feed My Starving Children dates: For **Wednesday, March 11**, 9:30-11:15 a.m., contact Claudia to sign up - [claudiaLboysen@gmail.com](mailto:claudiaLboysen@gmail.com). For **Friday, March 27**, 7:15-8:45 p.m., contact Jane - [jane.heimerl@yahoo.com](mailto:jane.heimerl@yahoo.com).

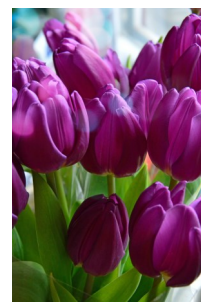
**Book Group March Meeting**

The next meeting of the Thursday Afternoon Book Group will be on **March 12** at 1:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Our discussion title will be *The Rent Collector* by Camron Wright. This novel centers on a Cambodian woman who lives with her family in a municipal dump in Phnom Penh. Please join us for fellowship, discussion and refreshments. Questions: Contact Vicki Dunn, 952-930-3431, [victoriadunn@myctl.net](mailto:victoriadunn@myctl.net).



**FAMILY UKRAINIAN EGG DAY**  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 21**  
**1:00-4:00 P.M.**  
**ALDRSGATE HALL**  
 Egg dying event for all ages.  
 RSVP by March 19 to Jan  
[jan@good.org](mailto:jan@good.org) or 952 452-9398.

**Save the Date!**  
**Spring Social**  
 WITH  
 HOMEWARD BOUND  
**Friday, May 1**  
**7:00-9:00 PM**  
**Aldersgate Hall**  
 Good Music, People, and Dessert



**2026 Easter Flower Order Form**  
**Help Beautify our Sanctuary!**

Orders and payment are **due by Sunday, March 15**. Fill out this page with payment and put in the offering plate or mail to the church office (5730 Grove St, Edina, MN 55436). Checks can be made out to Good Samaritan UMC with "Easter Flowers" in the memo line.

**PLEASE NOTE! This year, we will not deliver these flowers to our homebound members, but our Caring Ministries team will be giving them other smaller plants. You may donate money for these plants (see below). All ordered plants should be taken home after the 10:00 a.m. Easter worship service.**

		<b>Quantity</b>	<b>\$ Subtotal</b>
Easter Lily	\$13	_____ (white)	\$ _____
Asiatic Lily	\$15	_____ (yellow) _____ (orange) _____ (pink)	\$ _____
Azalea	\$25	_____ (pink) _____ (white) _____ (bi-color)	\$ _____
Hydrangea	\$30	_____ (blue) _____ (pink)	\$ _____
Mums	\$13	_____ (yellow) _____ (white)	\$ _____
Tulips	\$12	_____ (yellow) _____ (orange) _____ (purple) _____ (pink)	\$ _____
Donation for plants to deliver to our homebound members			\$ _____
<b>ORDER TOTAL</b>			<b>\$ _____</b>

\_\_\_\_\_  
**YOUR NAME(S) (PLEASE PRINT)** **PHONE NUMBER**

**IN MEMORY OF** --- or ---  **IN HONOR OF** (check one and fill out line below)

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Plants should be picked up after the 10:00 a.m. Easter worship service.*