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## Morris to Celebrate 8th Annual MLK Day of Service

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
**MORRIS**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Morris to Celebrate 8th Annual MLK Day of Service**

*All are invited to take part in service projects, a march, program, and community meal.*

MORRIS, Minnesota (January 3, 2017)—The University of Minnesota, Morris will celebrate the 8th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service on Monday, January 16. People of all ages and abilities are invited to join in this Day of Service, which includes service projects as well as a march, program, community meal, and facilitated conversations about hopes for the Morris community.

Volunteers can take part in one of three service projects: preparing a Morris Community Meal, leading lessons about the Civil Rights Movement at Morris Area Elementary School, or discussing shared hopes for Stevens County. [Preregistration for these projects](#) is required.

Everyone is invited to gather at East Side Park for a public march to Faith Lutheran Church (108 West 8th Street, Morris, MN 56267) at 4:15 p.m., in honor of King's dedication to equality for all. A program will begin at 5 p.m., with a free community meal at 5:30. Free transportation back to East Side Park and the Morris campus will be provided after the meal.

This year Lazos, Morris Area PFLAG, and the Morris Human Rights Commission are co-sponsoring a speech or essay contest for students in grades 7–12 who reside or attend school in Stevens County. A panel of community leaders will judge the entries and award three cash prizes and the opportunity to share the speech or essay with participants in the day of service. More information and guidelines are available at [z.umn.edu/mlkdayspeech2017](http://z.umn.edu/mlkdayspeech2017).

Those interested in participating in service projects can register at [z.umn.edu/mlk2017](http://z.umn.edu/mlk2017). Free parking is available in all campus lots. For more information, contact the Office of Community Engagement at 320-589-6457 or [engagmnt@morris.umn.edu](mailto:engagmnt@morris.umn.edu).

The MLK Day of Service is sponsored by the University of Minnesota, Morris Offices of Equity, Diversity, and Intercultural Programs and Community Engagement and the Division of Education as well as Lazos, Morris Area PFLAG, the Morris Human Rights Commission, Willie's Supervalu, Pomme de Terre Foods, Common Cup Coffeehouse, the City of Morris, Faith Lutheran Church, the Morris Public Library, Casey's General Store, Thrivent Financial by Aileen Sperr, Morris Public Schools, Kiwanis, West Wind Village, and Bank of the West.

**Schedule of Events**

**Project Option 1: Preparing Morris Community Meal**

11:15 a.m.

Transportation from campus to Faith Lutheran Church (108 West 8th Street, Morris, MN 56267)

11:30 a.m.

Free lunch and meal preparation, followed by transportation to East Side Park for the march

**Project Option 2: Leading lessons about the Civil Rights Movement at Morris Area Elementary School (MAES)**

11:30 a.m.

Free lunch and training (Morris campus)

1:30 p.m.

Transportation to and check-in at MAES (151 South Columbia Avenue, Morris, MN 56267)

2 p.m.

Lead lessons

3 p.m.

Dialogue with teachers and students, followed by transportation to East Side Park for the march

**Project Option 3: Community Dialogues about shared hopes for Stevens County**

1:45 p.m.

Transportation from campus to Common Cup Coffeehouse, Morris City Council Chambers, and/or Morris Public Library

2 p.m.

Community dialogue and poster making, followed by transportation to East Side Park for the march

**Public Events**

4:15 p.m.

March from East Side Park to Faith Lutheran Church

5 p.m.

Program at Faith Lutheran Church

5:30 p.m.

Morris Community Meal at Faith Lutheran Church

[View this story electronically.](#)

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