



GOOD THINGS HAPPEN

Newsletter of Minnehaha United Methodist Church

We seek, we serve, we celebrate.

AUGUST 2020

In-Person Worship Option Begins August 9

Many of you have been worshipping with us online, and that has been our only option since March 15 of this year. Going forward, online worship will **always** be available. And, we are adding an option of worshipping in person as well, starting August 9. In our worship surveys, about 25% of you indicated a desire to have such an option. With more and more information indicating that the outdoors is the safest way to gather, we want to offer that while the weather still allows it. So, here's how it works.

If you want to worship online:

★ Click on the icon on our website or go to our YouTube channel 9:00 on Sunday morning. You'll catch what's happening on the church lawn in real time.

★ Do that same thing anytime after 9:00, and you can watch the recording of the service. We'll leave it up, along with all our other services, to be watched anytime you want.

If you want to worship in person:

★ Come to the side lawn a little before 9:00 on Sunday mornings (beginning Aug. 9).

★ Wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth.

★ Bring a blanket or chair (we do have some chairs if you need one or forget yours).

★ There will be a central place you can pick up a bulletin and leave your offering.

★ There are circles painted in the lawn, about 6 feet apart, to help us keep the appropriate spacing from each other.

★ The playground will be closed.

★ So will the indoors of the church building.

★ We'll have a worship service, shorter than "usual." You'll be invited to hum to the music rather than sing, and we'll wave to one another in order to pass the peace.

★ You are welcome to hang around after the service to chat, but maintain the distance the circles provide.

★ If you want to come in your car and just park alongside the lawn and stay in your car with the windows open to hear, you are welcome to do that.

★ *If it is raining* please stay at home. We will move our worship leaders to some place free of rain and



Minnehaha Snapshot: Second Quarter 2020

In the second quarter the church building was quiet. Yet we continued our weekly online worship and monthly online Taizé services. Our meetings were on Zoom. And Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, our website, eNews blasts, mailings, texts, and phone calls kept us connected. We remain strong.

130 PLANTS FOR YOUTH



In April, our Minnehaha Youth sold 130 plants to support youth programs and missions.

100 PERCENT PAID IN FULL



All bills, mortgage and apportionment payments, and staff salaries were paid through June 30. Thank you!

29 PLAYED OR SANG FOR A CHURCH SERVICE



During the second quarter, 29 musicians and vocalists contributed their talents to our online services. Interested in participating? Contact Anders Nelson.

317 AT EASTER SERVICES



Minnehaha UMC's online attendance for the Easter service was 317: 247 views on YouTube, 38 views on Facebook, and 32 views on Instagram.

79 PERCENT OF BLDG. LOAN PAID OFF



As of the end of June, we've paid off 79% of our 2010 building and remodeling project.

20 ATTENDED ZOOM COFFEE HOUR



At 10:00 – 10:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings about 16 to 20 people join us for Zoom Coffee Hour. It's good virtual fun. (Coffee not provided.)

14 JOINED A BIBLE STUDY GROUP



In June, 14 people participated in an online Bible Study on the minor prophets. Now we're starting up some book discussion groups. Interested? Contact Becky.

72 WENT ON THE FAMILY ADVENTURE COURSE



On Sunday, June 14, 72 people joined us for the first annual Minnehaha Family Neighborhood Adventure Course. They visited Wanda's house, the raised bed garden, and more!

OUR ENTIRE CONGREGATION MOURNS THE DEATH OF GEORGE FLOYD AND CONDEMNS THE SYSTEMIC RACISM THAT HAS UNDERMINED THIS COUNTRY FOR SO MANY GENERATIONS. THIS MUST STOP. BLACK LIVES MATTER.

Summer Reflections

Minnehaha Summer 2020

It's certainly been a different summer than we anticipated, but we are so grateful for creativity and technology that's allowed for continual connection within our community! Our children, youth, and their families explored and celebrated and learned and grew together: restoring our energies and offering hope for whatever the future brings!



FAMILY FUN DAYS



YOUTH BIKE RIDES



RECOGNIZING GRADUATES



ZOOM COOKING, CRAFTS, & MORE



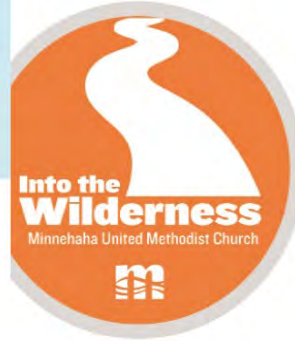
VIRTUAL/AT-HOME VBS



SHARING HOPES IN THE GARDEN



MINNEHAHA AUTUMN 2020



FAITH FORMATION OVERVIEW

We will be spending August figuring out exactly what things will look like - keeping in mind the health - physically, emotionally, and spiritually - of all of our community. Here's what we do know: We will be heading "Into the Wilderness" together. We will kick-off the Faith Formation for the Fall on September 13th - details will follow, it won't look like a regular Rally Day. We will continue to find ways to seek, serve, and celebrate together - most likely using a variety of online, print, and - when possible - socially distant-outside options.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

We're planning to use curriculum by the same publisher as our VBS, with focus on activities that families can do together. We're looking into some group percussion options for all ages for music; outdoor adventures as weather allows, and connecting families via both live online gatherings and asynchronous activities - for service and for seeking. We're also looking at ways to mark milestones as a community remotely.



YOUTH

We'll continue to offer opportunities to connect weekly online, and in person as possible. Our focus will continue to be on developing relationships amongst the youth, but also with the larger congregation, and as such will keep growing our amazing team of volunteers. Confirmation will begin this fall for our ninth graders, also as a hybrid model.



ADULTS

We're working on a series of opportunities for adults to connect as well, again with the use of technology. There will be a Confirmation 101 Class for Adults - examining what it means to be a Christian and a Methodist, as well as book discussion groups centered on racial justice and other areas of concern.



MORE INFORMATION WILL BE SHARED AS DECISIONS ARE MADE.
WANT TO HELP?
HAVE QUESTIONS?
CONTACT EDUCATION@MINNEHAHA.ORG



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livestream from there. You are invited to tune in online.

- ★ And, use common sense. If you are not feeling well, please stay home. Do not attend if you have a fever or a persistent cough. Do not attend if you think you may have been exposed to Covid-19 in the last 14 days. And, if you do test positive for Covid-19 within 14 days of attending a worship service, please let us know at the office (office@minnehaha.org) right away so that we can hold you in prayer, as well as use contact tracing to let others know of their possible exposure.

The goal is to offer this outside worship option through the end of September. But, we'll see. As we have all learned, things (and weather) can change quickly, so we'll adjust as necessary. Unless something dramatic changes on the virus front, we'll plan on being back to online only again in October.

If we find that the outdoor, in person option is so popular that our side lawn doesn't provide enough space, we will add a second service.

Are you on
Facebook?
Join our private
Minnehaha
Community Page!

