



# GOOD THINGS HAPPEN

Newsletter of Minnehaha United Methodist Church

We seek, we serve, we celebrate.

MAR 2021

## March

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

### About Us:

Minnehaha United Methodist Church is a thriving multi-generational, multicultural Christian community devoted to social justice and personal spiritual growth. The congregation is both mission- and worship-focused. In addition to its worship, education, and social activities, the church supports local mission activities, including a food shelf and a monthly food distribution program. The church also supports a variety of national and international relief, education, and development projects.

### A Reconciling Congregation:

**Minnehaha United Methodist Church opens our doors to all God's people. We will strive to offer unconditional love and acceptance** to all persons, regardless of race, sexual orientation or faith history. We work to eliminate prejudice and discriminatory practices within ourselves and within our community. -adopted 2006

### Our Mission:

We seek, we serve, we celebrate, we carry our Christian faith into our community and the world. We provide a caring gathering place to worship God and to grow spiritually. -reconfirmed 2011



Mark your calendars for

# 2021 SUMMER CAMPS THROUGH CAMP MINNESOTA

HEAD TO [WWW.CAMPMINNESOTA.ORG](http://WWW.CAMPMINNESOTA.ORG) TO FIND INFORMATION (INCLUDING COVID PROVISIONS) AND TO REGISTER NOW FOR THESE SLEEP AWAY CAMPS.

*We're encouraging Minnehaha Families who feel comfortable with Camp to consider the sessions below so Minnehaha Kids can attend together - but all sessions at Camp Minnesota are open to us!*

## CAMPS THROUGH CAMP MINNESOTA

### **Teddy Bear Camp**

July 15th-17th at Camp Koronis  
*A great first sleep away camp!*

### **Trailblazers Camp**

Minnehaha kids are already registered at two different session - pick which works best for you:  
July 11th-14th at Camp Koronis  
August 1st-4th at Camp Koronis

### **Pathways Camp**

July 12-17 at Camp Koronis

### **Northern Pines Teen Camp**

August 1-6 at Northern Pines

## REGISTER TODAY!

**For 6-9 year olds**

**For 8-12 year olds**

**For 9-13 year olds**

**For 13-16 year olds**

MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR **SUMMER PROGRAMMING AT MIMNEHAHA** ARE IN THE WORK - KEEP TUNED FOR INFO ON MUSIC & DRAMA CAMP, VBS, AND MORE!



[WWW.MINNEHAHA.ORG](http://WWW.MINNEHAHA.ORG)



## Worship in March

We are in the season of Lent, looking at the various covenants that God makes with humanity over time. With a break, of course, for Camping Sunday on March 21! On Saturday, March 27, we'll have a palm processional outside at the church in preparation for Palm Sunday the next day. Show up at the church at 10:00 (or, come early to help with the clean up from MinneHarvest and then stay for the palm processional). We'll work out the details as we get closer, so check your enews. We'll record the processional and the use that recording at the beginning of our livestream service on Palm Sunday, March 28. We are planning on observing Holy Week much like we did last year, with a Facebook Live Maundy Thursday service on April 1 and a pre-recorded Tenebrae service on Good Friday, April 2. See information elsewhere on how to be a reader for that service. Easter is April 4, and the plan right now is to have a pre-recorded service available that day. Stay tuned for that, a lot depends on weather and volunteers.

We are still planning on doing livestream services on March 7, March 28, and then each of the Sundays in May. You tune in to worship the same way on those Sundays, the only difference is that the service won't be available before 9:00 a.m., and it will look a little different since we are using our sanctuary cameras to capture everything. Potentially, we'll move to outdoor, in-person worship on Memorial Day weekend for the summer.

March 7	“How to Be Community” - LIVESTREAM <i>Exodus 20:1-17</i>
March 14	“Dealing With Complaints” <i>Numbers 21:4-9</i>
March 21	Camping Sunday
March 28	“New Covenant to Come” <i>Jeremiah 31:31-34</i>



Winter Retreat looked a little different this year. Throughout this issue see photos from our socially-distanced Winter Celebration!

# Minnehaha Kids Wednesday Nights

**When:** Wednesdays From 6:15 to 7pm  
Feb. 24th, March 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, & 31st

**Where:** Zoom!

**Who:** Minnehaha First - Fifth Graders

**What:** We'll be playing games & working on our contributions for Camping Sunday (online, March 21st) and Easter (online, April 4th)

ZOOM link will be available in weekly Children's Email.

Want to be added to this email list? Contact Jenia at [education@minnehaha.org](mailto:education@minnehaha.org)



## MANY THANKS!

Thanks to the volunteers who helped out over this past month with Children, Youth, & Family Ministries - I so appreciate all you do for Minnehaha (& enjoyed the break!):

Beth & Paul Minehart, Monica Regan, Jason Emrick, Amy & Jed Retherford, Ani Goodenberger, Allison Jessee, Melanie Homan, Becca Fehr, Scot Miller, Scott Gruenhagen, Val Mayer, & Annette Meier

## *Readers Needed for Good Friday*

For Good Friday (April 2), we need 14 readers to record themselves reading a passage from the Gospel of Mark and then extinguishing a candle. The only complicated part is that you actually need 14 candles – to represent the 14 readings, and you will have some lit and some unlit (depending on which reading you are doing). If you are willing to do this, please let Becky know ASAP. She'll send the passages, the instructions, and the link to the google drive for the recording to you. We'd like all the recordings to be uploaded by March 22.

## *Newcomer Class*

We'll be holding an introduction and orientation class for anyone new to Minnehaha or interested in joining on Thursday, March 4 at 6:30 p.m. via zoom. If you have been attending our worship services and want to know a little bit more about us, this is the opportunity to do that! We'll send you the zoom link directly, so if you are interested, please contact Becky Sechrist at [becky@minnehaha.org](mailto:becky@minnehaha.org). If you can't make that date but would like to come to a future class, please let us know that as well!







## *Supercharge our Solar!*

Minnehaha has reached a goal of 100% carbon-free electricity and now is the opportunity to meet your carbon reduction goals at home! The Sustainability and Climate Action committee is hosting an information session via Zoom about community solar options. Come hear from a SunShare representative and members of MUMC who have used SunShare to learn about options to leverage community solar for your home. Save the date and look for additional details in future email updates.

Community Solar Information Session - Wednesday, March 10, 6:30-7:00 pm

To learn about SunShare, visit [mysunshare.com](https://mysunshare.com)

Email questions to [climateaction@minnehaha.org](mailto:climateaction@minnehaha.org)

## *Taizé Online*



It's easy to get caught up in the daily demands of life. In our busyness, we can lose track of ourselves, and of what God is calling us to be and to do. Take an opportunity to slow down, to rest in silence and music, and to feed your soul. Our Taizé team created distantly-recorded services that are available on our website and our YouTube channel, and they are creating a new one each month. Watch the e-news for when the new one is posted.

## *MinneHarvest*

Our free food give-away once a month (on the fourth Saturday of the month) is a source of food relied upon by many, and it happens through volunteers who come each month. Please join us on March 27. You can volunteer anytime between 6:30 and 10:30 a.m. We start setting up at 6:30, unload the trucks starting at 7, serve the food at 9:00, and are usually done cleaning up by 10:30. Join us for all or any portion of that time, dress appropriately for the weather, and bring a friend (and a mask)!

## Welcome to New Members!

Welcome to the newest members at Minnehaha! Martha Bentley, Emma Dolphin & Thomas Miller, Melanie Homan & Brennon Schaefer, Ann Marie Johnson, Larry Stalberger, and James & Katy Stewart. You can see their faces and learn a little bit about them by watching our February 28 worship service.



**Minnehaha 2021 Palm Processional**  
**Saturday, 27th March at 10am**

Join us - weather and public health permitting - for an outside, masked Palm Processional.  
We'll be recording it to use in our online worship service on Palm Sunday - March 28th.  
*More details to follow - watch your news & social media!*





**United  
Methodist  
Women**

## United Methodist Women

On January 23, 2021, Kim Kanuit and I (Maureen Trepp) attended the Twin City District Winter meeting through Zoom along with over 100 others from the Twin Cities and around the state. I really wanted to hear Patty Wetterling’s message along with reconnecting to other UMW members; it was well worth it.

This annual meeting includes a worship service that highlighted the goals and themes of the UMW and included the passage Galatians 5: 22-23: “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control”. These eight qualities really struck me as important right now as we leave closely, sometimes too closely, with some and grieve the distance to others. Patience, faithfulness, self-control: all are needed as we experience the unknowns of this pandemic and upheavals in our country’s politics. Really fighting systemic racism will require joy, love, peace, kindness and gentleness along with learning.



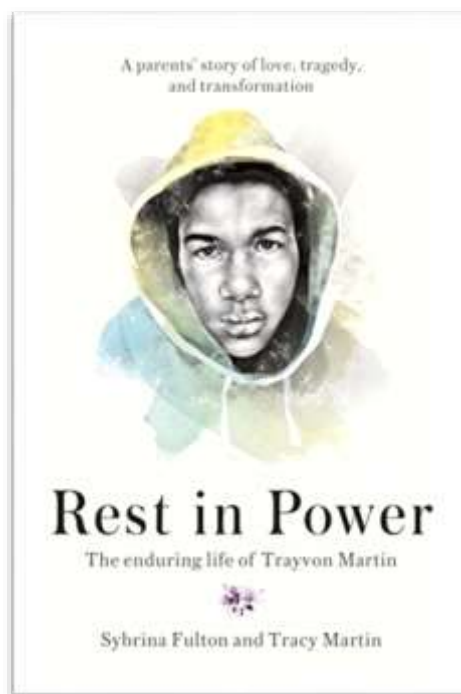
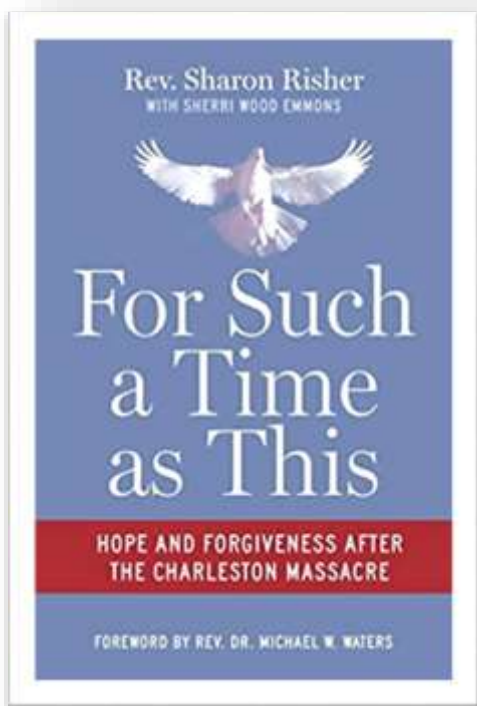
The keynote speaker was Patty Wetterling, so well-known to Minnesotans as an advocate for missing and abused children. She began her presentation by sharing the song “I Believe” which she said gave her something to stand on during those 27 years of waiting for Jacob. Her love of children also gave her strength as she founded the Jacob Wetterling Foundation for missing children along with working nationally with several organizations who have been successful in starting Amber Alert along with finding missing kids. She also shared the 11 qualities that were important to Jacob (and are

similar to Galatians 5:22-23) “To be fair, kind, understanding, honest, thankful, a good sport, a good friend, joyful, generous, gentle with others and positive” She said she has hoped that, “all children know they are special and deserve to be safe.”

### Looking for a Good Social Action Book ?

A Reading Program has been part of our National UMW for many years, encouraging members to read Good Books on themes relevant to our spiritual and collective lives. As Covid and Minnesota weather has provided me with more reading time, I explored the UMW Reading Program Catalog for 2021 and found a raft of books I’d like to read. If you wish to keep track of your reading of the suggested books, there is a recognition of UMW members who participate. This month

I’m suggesting the books listed for the theme “Social Action”; they include books for youth,





It's almost here - the 2021

MINNEHABA

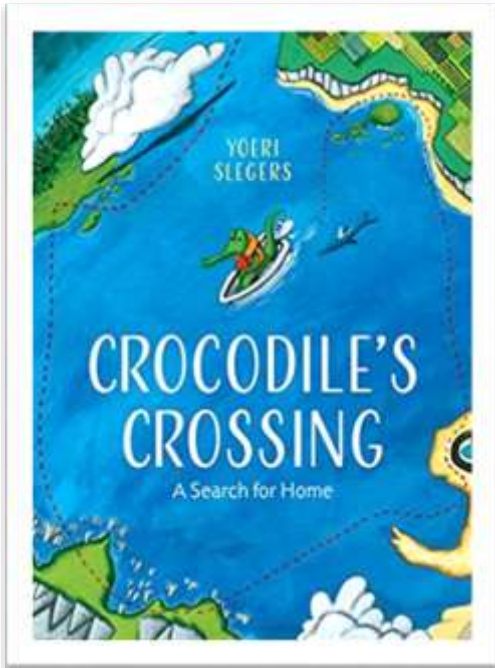
YOUTH

# PLANT SALE

Watch the Minnehaha enews and social media for your chance  
to order in March with plant delivery in May.

Proceeds will support Minnehaha Youth Ministries





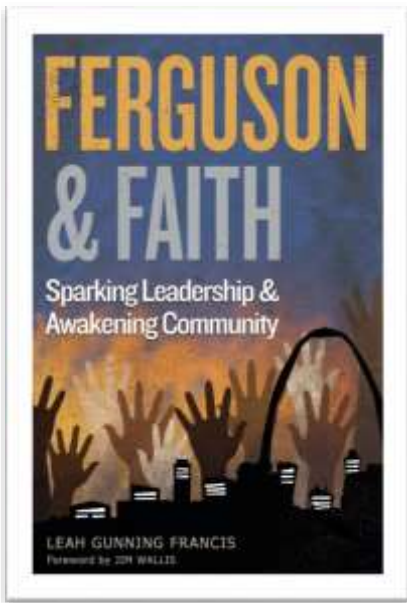
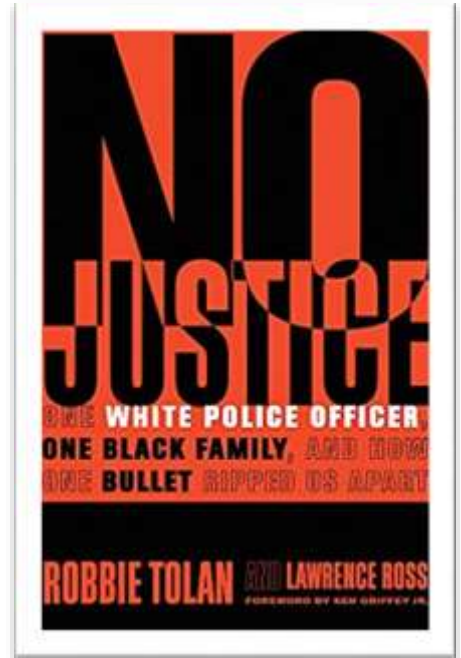
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children and adults. We could purchase some of the titles for our library if there are folks interested but...kind of hard to get to our library right now! Check out the books below and also the Reading Program Catalog.

**Are YOU Zoomed out? If not....**

Got a free hour some afternoon to enrich your soul? UMW is also offering Faith Talks on Zoom. I attended a very good Black History Month Faith Talks meeting on Feb. 11 at 2:00 which featured author Darryl Stevens who wrote "Bearing Witness", examining really listening to the stories of others along with Emily Jones, Exec. Dir. for Racial Justice for the UMW. The meeting taught me about numerous

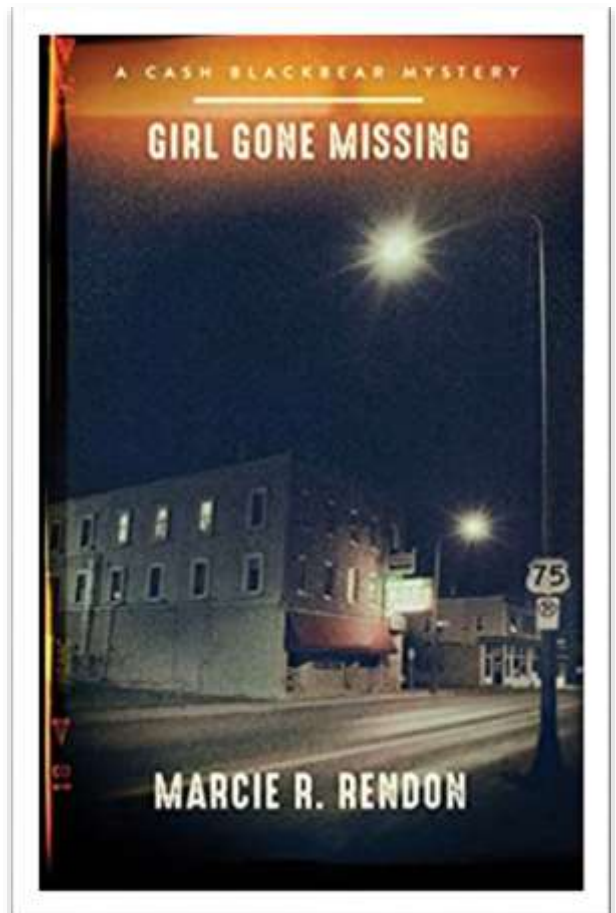
resources and suggested methods of combating racism. Check out the next one at Faith Talks: United Methodist Women Podcasts.



**Food Serving Mission**

We began our food serving ministry on Tuesday, Feb. 23 serving dinner, in to-go containers, to residents of the Midtown Clare Housing apartments. Servers/cooks were Mary Heltsley, Maureen Trepp, John Darlington and Margaret Rawson.

*"Be the kind of woman that when your feet hit the floor in the morning, the devil will say, "Oh crap!"* -Patty Wetterling's favorite quote



Note  
from the  
pastor



### Beauty of the Clouds

My morning dog walk often takes me east at the beginning of my walk, which means if I am lucky enough to be walking at the right time, I get to see the sunrise. This winter has been a series of gray mornings, as you are well aware, and the heavy clouds have given me almost no glimpses of the sun, just a slow brightening of the sky. And then it got cold! And, with it, the glorious sunshine. Now, as I walked east, I shaded my eyes with my frost-covered mittens because the brightness of the sun rising and reflecting off the snow was so bright. But just recently, the weather has begun to warm, and the weather has changed back to less bright sunshine. The last few mornings, though, the clouds haven't gained the heaviness of earlier in the winter, and the sunrises have been a brief glory of reds, oranges, and yellows before the sun disappeared behind the heavier layers of clouds again. It has been beautiful, and it reminds me that each of these sunrises have their own beauty. But the wonderfully colorful sunrises come because there are some clouds to reflect the rays of the sun. I don't want to say that we have to have painful, teary moments in order for us to experience joy, but I think we could experience joy just fine without the presence of pain. But it is a reminder that the clouds can still reflect glory. The rising of the sun (or, more accurately, the turning of the earth) is as reliable as God's presence. Every day, the sun rises. It might rise into a cloudless sky or into heavy overcast. It might rise at 5 in the morning, or not until 7:30 (in our time latitude), but it rises. We might see it, we might not, but it is there. And, occasionally, we get glimpses of a colorful sunrise to remind us of the amazing wonder of this thing. I hope our relationship with God is like this. There might be clear skies in our lives, or heavy overcast. We might be looking for God at 5 am or not until noon. But God, like the sun, is there. Always there. Always available, always full of glory, no matter whether our lives are containing pain or joy. In this season of Lent, where we are called upon to reflect and to strengthen our relationship to God and to focus on being a more whole person of God, I hope you find a spiritual practice that lets you be reminded of God's constant practice, and a spiritual practice that enhances your ability to recognize God and respond to God more fully.

In Joy,

Becky







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3/21



Time Change

It's time to spring ahead and gain some sunlight in our evenings. Set your clocks forward one hour before tuning in to worship on Sunday, March 14.