

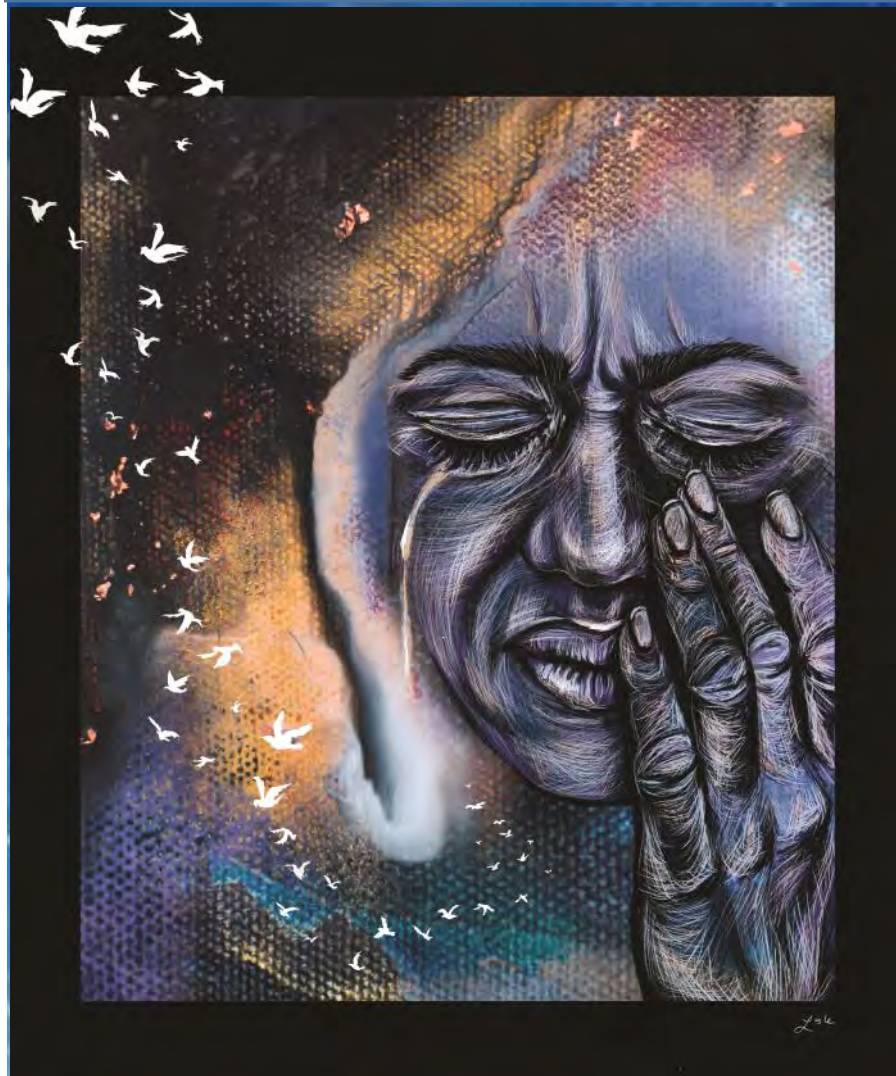


GOOD THINGS HAPPEN

Newsletter of Minnehaha United Methodist Church

We seek, we serve, we celebrate.

Advent 2023



Worship in December

Dec. 3 1st Advent (Traditional)

Communion

Luke 1:5-23

“Weariness”

Dec. 10 2nd Advent (Methodicals)

Luke 1:24-45

“Joy in Connection”

Dec. 17 3rd Advent (Traditional)

Luke 1:57-66

“Amazed”

Dec. 24 4th Advent (Methodicals)

Luke 1:46b-55; Luke 1:67-80

“Sing Stories of Hope”

Christmas Eve

4p.m. Informal with Flashlights

10p.m. Traditional with Candlelight

Luke 2:1-20

“We Make Room”

Dec. 31 (Traditional)

Luke 2:21-38

“Rooting Ourselves in Ritual”

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Make Your Face Shine

by Lisle Gwynn Garrity

(Inspired by Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19)

This artwork is a part of our Advent series. For more info see page 11!

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MinneHarvest

Our free food give-away once a month is a source of food relied upon by many, and it happens through volunteers who come each month. We gather outside on the 4th Saturday of each month, which is December 23 this month. You can volunteer anytime between 6:30 and 10:30 a.m. We start setting up around 6:30, serve the food starting around 7:00/7:30, 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!

The Food Shelf has a special request for **sugar** for baking during the month of December!

United Women in Faith

Thank you, thank you to all of you who came to our Annual Bazaar! The event on Nov. 11 is one of our bigger holiday fundraisers that also connects us to our community and offers great gifts, yummy food and edible items to bring home. It is always a success!



United
Women
in Faith

A major important event of the fall was the funeral of our lovely Kate Stower which we, as the UWF, were honored to serve at the reception meal. Our sanctuary was completely full for a very moving and warm service recognizing Kate. The luncheon of sandwiches, salad and bars was put together by a very large group of people under the organizing of Char Johnson. Great thanks to Jenny Ammerman, Sharon and Kris Kimble, Kim Kanuit, Ellie Kleinshrodt, Sarah Hicks, Sarah Schroelucke, Susan DeLattre, Shirley Arms, Annette Meier, Sue Johnson, Becky Nyseth, Mary Vrabel, Gene Thompson, Maureen Trepp, Chuck Kanuit, Becca, Cullen, Sylvie and Greta Fehr, Paul, Beth and Gail Minehart, Ann Hall, Kitty Campbell, Jason Emrick, Kendra and Chris Kramer, Jen Schroeder, Peggy and Kip Kirkpatrick, and Hayley Forrest. If I missed a name, I apologize. I want everyone at Minnehaha UMC to know that those who help with our funeral service are greatly appreciated along with those who donated baked bars for the reception. Thank you!



We continue to serve dinner at Simpson Shelter once every month in their new temporary site. Thanks for serving in October goes to Mary Vrabel, Alexis Sheets, Calvin and Sarah Emrich, Criag and Char Johnson and myself. If you'd like to help with this, future dates are Mon., 11/27, Wed. 12/20, and in 2024, Wed., Jan. 31. We begin by carpooling from church at 5:30 or meet at the site and are finished by 8:00 or so. Please let Maureen Trepp know to include you on our list.



BIG ANNOUNCEMENT!!! Your UWF will be sponsoring the annual All Church Musical in February. This year's show is "Adventures of the Fearsome Pirate Frank" with a cast of many pirates; also Villagers, Spiderman, more pirates, zombies, a lot more pirates and others! Rehearsals start on Jan. 2 and will be on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30-8:30 until the performances which are on the weekends of Feb. 3 and Feb. 10 (6 shows). All ages (older than 5) are welcome to join the cast. You do need to sing!!! Contact Maureen Trepp if you are interested or have questions. All income goes to the missions of the UWF serving women and children.

Toy Drive Donations Needed

During the 3 Tuesdays in December, Food Shelf Parents are able to select toys for their children, ranging from babies to teenagers. Parents may choose a toy, a stocking stuffer, and a hat and gloves for each of their children. All this is made possible by the generosity of members of Minnehaha. *Every year, parents respond with "Thank you, thank you, thank you!" and "Oh my gosh, these presents are so nice!" and "Can I really get a hat and gloves for each of my children?"*

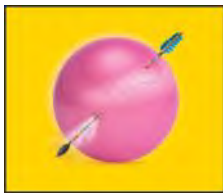
There are three ways you can help with this mission:

- Buy toys, hats, and gloves and bring them to church. To arrange another drop off time contact Renee Beymer. (janos3@juno.com
- Write a check to the church (put Toys in the memo line) or
- Give through our Donate button on the website and designate it for Christmas Toys.

With your help Good Things will, indeed, continue to Happen Here



Racial Justice Team and Friends see For the People



On November 4th, twenty four members and friends of Minnehaha's Racial Justice team gathered at the Guthrie to experience *For the People*. *For the People* is a comedy drawing on Minneapolis' rich Dakota and Ojibwe heritage and examines the myriad facets of contemporary Native life. It was a funny, entertaining, and thought-provoking play. After the play, eight of us went across the street to Kindee Thai Restaurant to discuss our reactions to the play over delicious food and drink.

Minnehaha Fellowship

Join other Minnehaha folks at Arbeiter Brewing on the 4th Saturday of each month from 3-5. You can bring your own food, and there are a variety of non-alcoholic drinks also available. In addition, Arbeiter welcomes children and dogs. Join us on December 23.

Parents Night Out

★ Saturday, Dec. 2 from 5-8pm

Parents' Night Out is a fun-filled evening for children 4th grade and under (yes, including babies!) and an opportunity for parents to either meet up together somewhere to socialize, or Christmas shop, or simply relax and take a nap. This event also raises money for our youth program! Cost is \$10/child or \$25 family max.

Registration Form: <https://forms.gle/iE7EuLFiKpSTxwU7>

Christmas Pageant

★ Sunday, Dec. 17 at 4:00pm

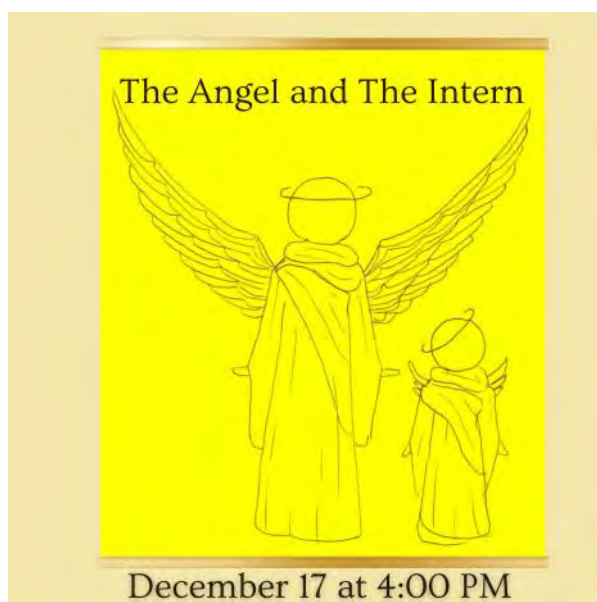
This year's Christmas Pageant is "The Angel and The Intern". Following the pageant, enjoy a dinner in Fellowship Hall.

*Rehearsal is on Wednesday, Dec. 10 from 6:15-7:30 pm. (Parkway Pizza dinner beforehand from 5:30-6:15 pm)

Sunday School Pajama Day

★ December 31

Children and youth are invited to wear their pajamas to Sunday School and watch the video of the Christmas pageant together in Room 208.





Wednesdays at Minnehaha!

Feeling a Little Blue for Christmas

Sure, there's lots to be joyful about as we approach Christmas, but the shorter days and colder temperatures don't leave everyone full of good cheer. Add in a feeling of frenzy from the rush of the season, and it already begins to feel a little overwhelming. Add in even more, a job loss or change, the loss of a loved one, a change in health, a strained friendship, a move, and it can begin to feel like we are out of sync with the joy being expressed at every turn.

You are invited to rest awhile in silence, in quiet music, and in the glow of candlelight as we observe our Blue Christmas Taizé service on December 15 at 7:00 p.m. Whether you need an opportunity to just sit still for a little bit, or you are looking for a way to acknowledge feelings of loss or depression, join with others for an hour of reflection and rest as we continue to find God's presence in the midst of wherever we are.

FEELING A LITTLE BLUE FOR CHRISTMAS

**BLUE CHRISTMAS TAIZÉ SERVICE
ON DECEMBER 15 AT 7:00 P.M.**

Advent Party Sunday, Dec. 3

10:45-11:30



**MAKE AN ADVENT WREATH
DECORATE CHRISTMAS TREE
CHILDREN'S SECRET GIFT SHOP**

Advent Party

★ Sunday, Dec. 3 from 10:45-11:30am

Everyone is invited to this all-church event during the education hour! Activities include making Advent wreaths for your home, decorating the Christmas tree in the narthex, and children can shop for Christmas gifts in the Children's Gift Workshop.

Christmas Eve

Please join us, and invite your friends and neighbors, for Christmas Eve services this year. It's a little complicated by being on a Sunday, so please note that the 9:30 service in the morning will be our regular Sunday morning worship, and the Christmas Eve services are in the afternoon and evening.

- ★ 4:00 – a child-friendly service featuring music with The Methodicals and flashlights in place of candles.
- ★ 10:00 – a more traditional candlelight service with choir and organ.

All-Church Christmas Caroling

★ Sunday, Dec. 3 at 4:00pm

All ages are invited to meet at church to Christmas carol around the neighborhood including singing in front of a few members' homes and inside Nokomis Square!

ALL-CHURCH Christmas CAROLING

Sunday, Dec. 3 4:00 pm



Minnehaha United Methodist Church



How Does a Weary World Rejoice?

For Advent this year, we are following the theme of “How Does a Weary World Rejoice?” This is much, indeed, that makes us weary. The news headlines alone are wearying – war, shootings, campaigns and elections, fraud, pollution, ineffective agencies, etc. It’s enough to make me want to stop getting any news at all. I find, however, that the reality of my life has joy and hope in it. I see people being kind to one another. I hear people trying to work through their differences. I see adult children working to help their parents downsize, and small children picking flowers for their parents. Individuals invite others into their homes for holiday

Every generation bears its own weariness.

dinners, and just for regular dinners. Neighbors watch out for neighbors, lending a helping hand, lending tools, assisting with a project. This is how a weary world rejoices.

Every generation bears its own weariness. The world Jesus was born into was weary, in some ways that are similar to our world and in ways that were different. And in every generation, there are people who are faithful to God’s calling, people who reach out to one another, people who work to make the world and humanity better. As we enter into this time of preparation for Christmas, I invite all of us to acknowledge the weariness, but also to look for the joy and the hope.

In Joy,

Becky



Advent Devotionals and Calendars

Advent, the season of preparation for Christmas, begins on December 3. We are following a theme of “How Does A Weary World Rejoice?” and have Advent calendars for families with children, and an Advent Devotional for every household. You can pick up either/both of these items at the church any Sunday. Let us know if you cannot make it to church and would like us to mail you a devotional and/or calendar.



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12/23

Visit us online!
www.minnehaha.org

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

It is Minnehaha tradition to decorate our sanctuary with poinsettias for the week of Christmas. If you would like to be part of this, complete the order form below and bring it to the church office (or drop it in an offering basket). The cost is \$16 per poinsettia (6.5" pot single red poinsettia). You may take your plant home after 4pm or 10pm Christmas Eve Service.

Orders should be turned in by December 10 at noon.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Please dedicate this plant in: (select one) Honor Celebration Memory Other

of: _____

ORDER YOUR
POINSETTIAS

