



Good THINGS HAPPEN

Newsletter of Minnehaha United Methodist Church
WE SEEK WE SERVE WE CELEBRATE



Late Fall/Advent 2024

Worship for Advent

We are once again using resources from *A Sanctified Art* for Advent, which starts on December 1. The theme this year is Words for the Beginning. Here is the description from the authors:

“Advent is a season of endings and beginnings. As the calendar year comes to a close, a new church year rushes in. Christ’s birth ushers us into new ways of living and loving—and yet, we feel the weight of many things coming to an end. The world as we know it spins madly on. Advent will start as another election season in the US comes to a close. What are the reminders we will need in order to move faithfully through this threshold? We have crafted an Advent series filled with blessings, with the words we need to hear again and again as we begin a new season. We invite you to enter this Advent season as if you are entering a sacred new chapter, holding fast to the reminders that will bolster you for the journey ahead. No matter what you are facing, no matter what this new day brings, let love be your beginning.”

SAVE THE DATE:

Minnehaha Winter Retreat is January 24-26 at Lake Koronis Assembly Grounds in Paynesville, MN.

Brochure with all the details coming soon!

In this Issue:

<i>United Women in Faith</i>	<u>2</u>
<i>Advent Party</i>	<u>3</u>
<i>Children, Youth</i>	<u>4,5</u>
<i>Worship & Advent</i>	<u>6</u>
<i>Adult Study</i>	<u>7</u>
<i>Food & Toy Drives</i>	<u>8</u>
<i>Red Cross</i>	<u>9</u>
<i>Fellowship</i>	<u>10</u>
<i>Pastor’s Note</i>	<u>11</u>



- ◆ **Nov. 3** (Methodicals)
Communion/All Saints Sunday
Mark 12:28-34
“The Great Commandment”
- ◆ **Nov. 10** (traditional)
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37
“Instructions For A Disciple”
Rev. Gail Alexander preaching
- ◆ **Nov. 17** (Methodicals)
Mark 13:1-8
“Give Us A Sign”
- ◆ **Nov. 24** (traditional)
John 18:33-37
“Of This World”
- ◆ **Nov. 27**
Thanksgiving Eve at 7pm
- ◆ **Dec. 1** (Methodicals)
Communion /1st Sunday of Advent
Luke 1:26-38; Isaiah 43:1-7
“You Are A Blessing”
- ◆ **Dec. 8** (traditional)
2nd Sunday of Advent
Ruth 1
“We Can’t Go Alone”
- ◆ **Dec. 15** (Methodicals)
3rd Sunday of Advent
Luke 3:7-16
“Do The Good That Is Yours To Do”
- ◆ **Dec. 22** (traditional)
4th Sunday of Advent
Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:46-55
“Hope Is Worth the Risk”
- ◆ **Dec. 24** Christmas Eve
★ 4:00 Informal with flashlights
★ 10:00 Traditional Candlelight
Luke 2:1-20
“Love Knows Your Name”
- ◆ **Dec. 29** (Methodicals)
An interactive service focusing on the theme of Joy, interspersing scripture passages with music and activities.

United Women in Faith

Happy Holidays! Yes, it's the season with Halloween always beginning the good times! Your UWF is especially thankful to you for sharing your time and dollars at our fall



United
Women
in Faith

fundraisers as you helped our treasury to grow so we can continue to aid missions for children and women. We are pleased to announce a new mission: Watercourse, which provides therapists for mental health concerns to children. Watercourse is embedded in several local Minneapolis Public Schools and its help is available to students who attend those schools.

Our Rummage Sale in September was profitable for us totalling \$2,633.71 which we shared with the working budget of Minnehaha UMC. We could not do this sale without the wonderful rummage you brought for the sale and the very long list of volunteers who helped over the four days: Maureen Trepp, Kim Kanuit, Kitty Campbell, Charlene Johnson, Margaret Rawson, Chuck Kanuit, Les Linster, Don Mathews, Craig Johnson, Beth Minehart, Becky Nyseth, Linda Duncan, Sharon Shimomura, Lil Grothe, Shirley Arms, Beth Minehart, Gail Minehart, Scott Gruenhagen, Paula Barton, David Noren, Diane Strobel, Wanda Driver, Jane Moren, Dan and Becky Johnson, Bev Young, Judi Bartlett, Rene Cronquist, Annette Meier, Julie Darlington, Jason Emrick, Calvin Emrick, David Hougen, Chris Kramer, Conrad Larson, Michele, Sharon Kimble. You can see it takes a lot of folks to put this sale on. We are strongly considering moving it to early June in 2025 to coincide with the annual NENA sale; do you think you'd have your rummage ready?

As you are reading this, you are probably getting set to head on over on Nov. 9 to the annual Holiday Bazaar to get your baked goods, homemade crafts, yummy lunch and hang with your buddies. The Holiday Bazaar is a great way to be a part of the neighborhood and we really thank the many volunteers who help out with it.

Where is one place our funds go locally? We pay for the dinners that are served monthly at Simpson Shelter, an event where volunteers are welcome. We serve about 50 people once a month at the temporary shelter at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church on 33rd and Pillsbury Ave. So.. Our hot meals are chosen and prepped by Char Johnson and Margaret Rawson; we carpool from church around 5:20 p.m. and servers can be adults or youth. Maybe YOU? Thanks to those who help often: Craig Johnson, Kevin Korell, Josh Espinosa, Sarah and Calvin Emrick, Mary Vrabel, Dave Noren, Paula Barton, Susan Delattre, Kitty Campbell, and Maureen Trepp. Our next date to serve is Nov. 19. Contact Maureen (maurentrepp@yahoo.com) if you'd like to help.

Your UWF also makes the All Church Family Musical happen by paying for our scripts, royalties, costume/prop pieces and technical help. Once more we are planning on using the month of January to rehearse for shows the weekends of Jan. 31-Feb. 2 and Feb. 7-9. Our first rehearsal date is Jan. 5 with rehearsals Sundays from 5:00-7:00 and Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00-8:00. We really want adults to be in this one and sing, dance, and act with youth so, kids, bring your parents along to perform. The musical's title will be announced in December.

My great wishes to you for a happy, peaceful holiday season; Peace, Maureen Trepp



Annual Holiday Bazaar

Crafts, Dept. 56 Collectibles, Baked Goods & Rice Pudding



BREAKFAST
9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Egg Bake, Sweet Rolls

LUNCH
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Sloppy Joes or Chicken Hot Dish
Dessert

EAT IN OR CARRY OUT

Saturday, November 9, 2024
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.



Minnehaha United Methodist Church
3701 East 50th Street, MPLS • www.minnehaha.org



Minnehaha Playgroup

Babies and toddlers with their caregivers are invited to stop by each Thursday morning at church for a time of play and community. Playgroup meets upstairs in the nursery and preschool rooms. Follow the "Minnehaha Playgroup" on Facebook for more information.



All Church Advent Party

Sunday, Dec. 1st at 10:30 am



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

Advent Party

All ages are invited to join the party to kick-off the Advent season! Activities include decorating the Christmas tree in the narthex, making an Advent wreath to take home, coloring large murals, and children are invited to shop and buy Christmas gifts for their friends and family in Santa's Secret Workshop.

Young Families Playgroup

Saturday, Nov. 16 from 9:30-11:30 am in rooms 202 and 204

All babies, toddlers, and their parents/caregivers are invited for playtime and socializing!

Kids' Clothing Swap

Saturday, Nov. 16 from 10:30-Noon in Fellowship Hall

Donate your kids' outgrown clothes and then come to the swap and take what you want!

Youth Groups Christmas Gift Shopping

On Sunday, Nov. 17 both our youth groups will be shopping for Christmas gifts to donate to the Food Shelf Gift Collection. If you would like to make a monetary donation towards this shopping trip, please indicate on your check or online donation.

Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

Wednesday, Dec. 11 from 6:00-7:15 pm in the Sanctuary.

*Parkway Pizza dinner at 5:30 pm (\$5/person; \$20/family)

Christmas Pageant

Sunday, Dec. 15 at 4:00 pm with dinner following



Middle School Youth Group (6th-8th grade)
 meets Sundays from 4-5:30 pm in youth room 302/304 (unless otherwise noted)



High School Youth Group (9th-12th grade)
 meets Sundays from 4-5:30 pm in youth room 308 (unless otherwise noted)



Halloween Parade fun!





Advent Devotionals and Calendars

Advent, the season of preparation for Christmas, begins on December 1. We are following a theme of “Words For the Beginning” 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 beginning mid-November. Let us know if you cannot make it to church and would like us to mail you a devotional and/or calendar.

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 20 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.

All Saints Sunday

We will be celebrating All Saints Sunday on November 3, reading the names of all the members of the congregation who have died since the last All Saints Sunday, remembering their lives and their ministry among us. If you know of any family members or good friends of people who have died in the last year, please be sure to extend an invitation to them to join us for worship that day.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

We are the host for this year’s ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve service on Wednesday, Nov. 27 at 7:00 p.m. There will be a mass choir (which anyone is welcome to join) with a joint rehearsal prior to the worship service at 6:00. We’ll have some time to meet each other and renew ongoing relationships afterwards, so if you can help out by bringing a pie to share with others, that would be great. Pies can be home-made or store-bought, and as simple or as complicated as you want. We look forward to seeing you the night before Thanksgiving as we come to God with gratitude for all that God has given us.

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church, St. Peder’s Lutheran Church, and Minnehaha United Methodist Church invite you to:

**ECUMENICAL
THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE**

NOV. 27 AT 7 PM

*Come, let us gather to worship with
gratitude and thanksgiving!*

Pie following the service

Minnehaha United Methodist Church
3701 E. 50th Street, Mpls.

Advent Book Study

Our bishop, Lanette Plambeck, will be leading an Advent Book study for United Methodists across the Dakotas and Minnesota conference. You are invited to read “The Christmas Letters” by Magrey DeVega. [Order your book now in paperback or ebook](https://www.cokesbury.com/9781791033231-The-Christmas-Letters?refq=The%20christmas%20letters) : <https://www.cokesbury.com/9781791033231-The-Christmas-Letters?refq=The%20christmas%20letters>

Which has us looking at a special set of letters written to the earliest believers about the incarnation of Jesus. The study will be held over zoom, so you can participate with other United Methodists from the comfort of your home. In order to get the zoom link, and other relevant information, please register at <https://www.minnesotaumc.org/2024-advent-study>

The study will be held on **Tuesday evenings, Nov. 26-Dec. 17, 7:00-8:15 p.m. CST.**
The schedule is:

- November 26, 2024 — Chapter 1: Good News: Looking Back to Look Ahead
- December 3, 2024 —Chapter 2: Love Incarnate: The Word of Life Revealed
- December 10, 2024 —Chapter 3: Fully Human: Joy in Humility
- December 17, 2024 —Chapter 4: Fully Divine: Peace through Christ

Time for Renewal

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. On the third Friday of each month at 7:00 p.m. from October through May, we offer a Taizé service, a time of sanctuary, a time for prayer, a time for community, and a time for silence. As we sing and pray, our hearts are opened so that we may hear God speaking to us, and our souls are fed so that we may be about God’s work in the world. Please join us on for our first service of this program year on November 15 for a time of renewal. The service is also livestreamed, so you can worship through your screen, wherever you are, either in real time or anytime after.

On December 20, our Taizé service will also be our Blue Christmas service.



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 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 present 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.
- 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



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. You can volunteer anytime between 6:30 and 10:30 a.m. We start setting up around 7:00, serve the food starting around 8:00, and are usually done cleaning up by 10:30. Join us on November 23 and December 28 for all or any portion of that time, dress appropriately for the weather, and bring a friend!

MINNEHARVEST
a food mission of minnehaha united methodist church

November Food Drive

For the month of November, children and youth will be collecting non-perishable food for the Minnehaha Food Shelf. We'll then bless the food in worship on Sunday, Nov. 24.

MONTH OF NOVEMBER



FOOD DRIVE

**CHILDREN AND YOUTH
WILL BE COLLECTING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD
FOR THE MINNEHAHA FOOD SHELF
IN NEED OF:**

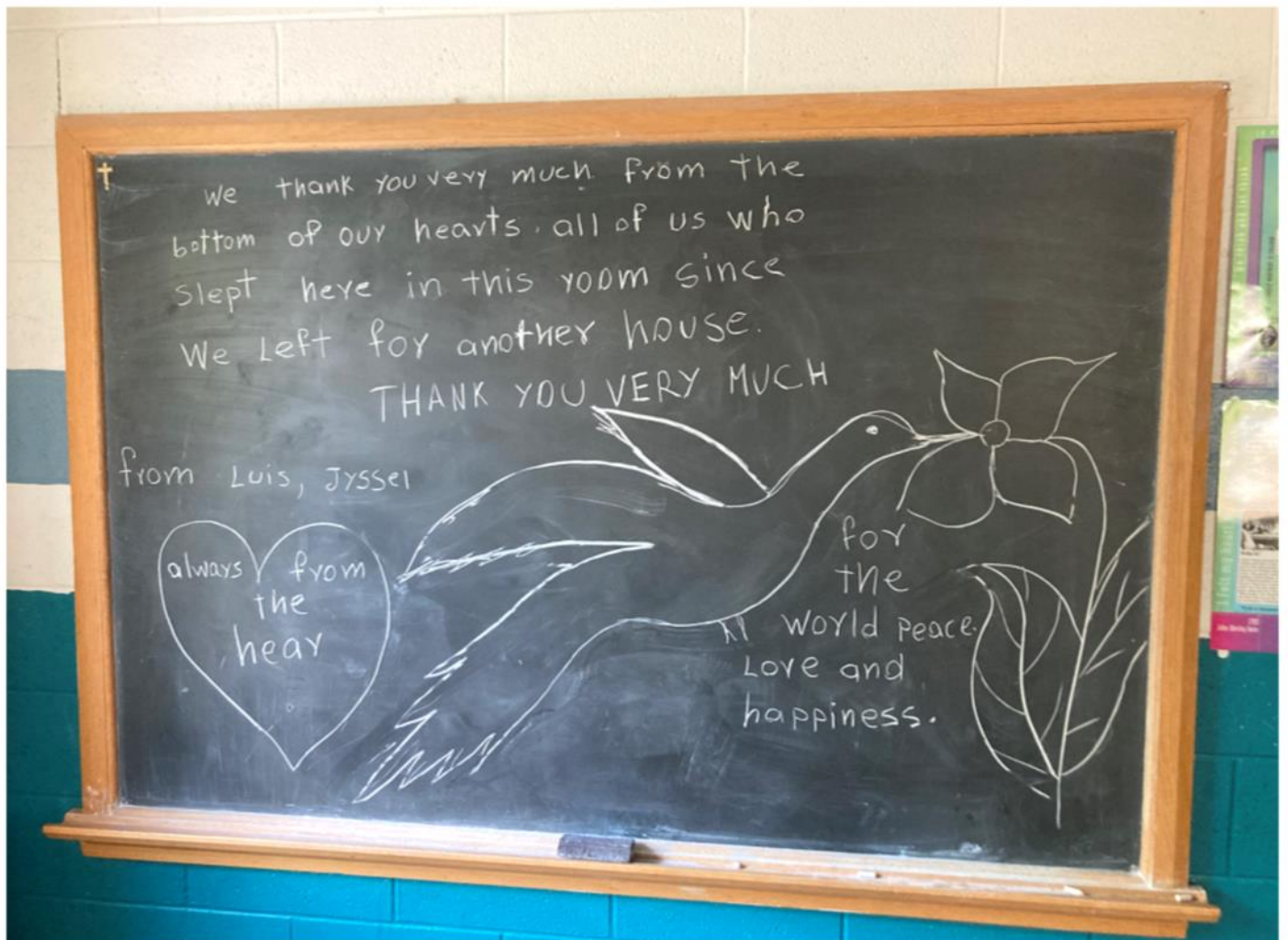
- HEARTY SOUPS*
 - CANNED FRUIT*
 - ONE-DISH MEALS*
 - 1-LB. BAGS OF RICE
 - PERSONAL CARE ITEMS
- *CANNED ITEMS WITH POP-TOPS, PLEASE.**
**IN RECOGNITION OF THANKSGIVING, WE WILL
PRESENT AND BLESS THE COLLECTED FOOD IN
WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, NOV. 24
(SEE COLLECTION BIN IN THE NARTHEX)**

A Thank You From Red Cross Clients

Minnehaha UMC was called on again to be an emergency shelter for the Red Cross in both August and Early October, due to apartment fires in South Minneapolis. We hosted a total of approximately 33 people between the two events, including 18 people plus four small dogs that stayed for two weeks in August.

Thankfully, we are able to offer our space to help. The Red Cross provides food, shelter, clothing, other necessities and various forms of support for their clients as they find new places to stay when they are displaced. Their completely volunteer staff works tirelessly at the local level to help those experiencing some of the worst trauma of their lives...and they are always looking for new volunteers! <https://www.redcross.org/volunteer/become-a-volunteer.html>

As a thank you, one of the families that stayed in August, and spoke little-to-no English, used google translate to leave us a lovely note on the chalkboard of the room they stayed in:



Newcomer Class

We'll be holding an introduction and orientation class for anyone new to Minnehaha or interested in joining on Sunday, November 24 at 10:45 a.m. (during Sunday School) in the library. If you are interested in coming, please let Becky Sechrist know so we can plan appropriately.

Minnehaha Fellowship

Join other Minnehaha folks at Arbeiter Brewing on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 3-5 pm. 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 November 16 and/or December 21.

Parents' Night Out

This is a fun-filled evening for children at church and also for parents who are invited to meet up at Town Hall Lanes! Cost is \$10/child or \$25 family max. Dinner is provided for your child(ren). NOTE: Registration closes on Wednesday, Dec. 11.



Wednesday Nights at Minnehaha

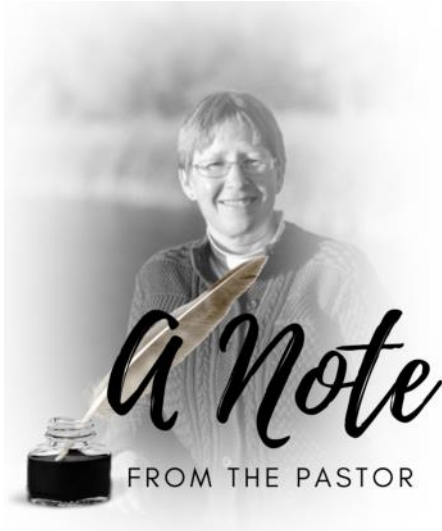
Wednesday Night Dinner

Wednesday Night Dinners are from 5:30-6:15 pm. Everyone is invited to join in these weekly meals for good food and conversation. Suggested Cost: \$5/person; \$20/family

Wednesday Night Childcare

Wednesday Night childcare is offered from 6:00-7:15 pm by the childcare team for kids to play in the gym and/or nursery/preschool rooms while adults continue to eat, socialize, help clean-up or attend a committee meeting.





Legacy

Minnehaha UMC has benefitted from the legacy of so many people. People you may have known, or names that have no face in your mind's eye, people have put Minnehaha in their wills. They have names us as beneficiary on their life insurance policies. And, as a result, we have received over \$300,000 over the last decade. According to our policy, undesignated bequests go into 4 piles. One quarter goes into the operating budget. One quarter goes into an investment fund without specific restrictions. One quarter goes into a Trustees fund for building use, and one quarter goes into an investment fund that the Trustees can use for building repair/maintenance. Sometimes, we get \$1,000. One memorable time, we got \$100,000. Another time, we kept receiving notices from various insurance companies indicating that a beloved member

had put us as a beneficiary in numerous insurance policies. All of those gifts, together, have allowed us to do a number of things. Most importantly, we have been able to keep up with regular maintenance of the building while also paying off the loan from the last building renovation. We have enough in our reserves to make a major dent in fixing the roof when that day comes. And, we have enough to match funds for our major elevator repair.

Because sometimes fixing small problems repeatedly is an indicator that a major renovation is necessary.

...sometimes fixing small problems repeatedly is an indicator that a major renovation is necessary.

I give thanks for all those faithful people who were forward-looking and left some money for the future use of the congregation. I gave thanks for all of you who have also put the congregation in your wills and are still around. We appreciate the ways in which you are looking to our future. For all the rest of you, I encourage you to consider putting Minnehaha in your wills. You don't have to have \$100,000. If each person gave \$1000 after their death, it all adds up and continues to allow us to be forward-looking.

We are following in the steps of a great cloud of witnesses. You each add so much to the life of this congregation by your very presence, and I give thanks for each and every one of you.

In Joy,

Becky





3701 East 50th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55417

Address Service Requested

Phone: 612/721-6231
E-Mail: becky@minnehaha.org
office@minnehaha.org

11/24

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 8 at noon.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

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

of: _____



ORDER YOUR
POINSETTIAS