



Good THINGS HAPPEN

Newsletter of Minnehaha United Methodist Church

→ we seek we serve we celebrate

Autumn 2025

Worshiping in a New Season of Hope

We are nearing the end of “ordinary time” in the life of the church calendar. Ordinary time stretches from the Sunday after Pentecost until the Sunday before Advent (which begins on Nov. 30 this year). The focus of the texts from the Old Testament in these next 2 months is the prophets. Usually, the prophets are a hard read. They have difficult things to say to people who don’t want to hear it. If a prophet is writing a letter (or giving a speech) to a ruler, it’s rarely because that ruler is doing a great job. The prophets don’t save their critique for leadership, though. They cast a wide net, pointing out how the people are also complicit, by going along with the corrupt leader, or because they gain from what the leader is doing or because they are going about their lives, ignoring the injustices happening all around them.

This might sound a little familiar and that’s because it turns out that people are people, across the centuries. The prophets wrote more than 2500 years ago, but the situations they describe could be just as true today as they were then. It is also true that hearing their words is no more comfortable now than it was to the people in their own time.

In our current situation in the world, the prophets have some truth for us to hear. And, even with all their doom and gloom, they hold out a spark of hope. They hold out for us the light that is still there in the tunnel. As we listen to their words this fall, I encourage you to embrace the discomfort. And, I encourage all of us to look for the light in the tunnel and to make it our call to add to the light.

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Time Change

It will soon be time to fall back and gain that hour we lost in the spring. Set your clocks back one hour before attending worship on Sunday, Nov. 2

♦ **Oct. 5** (Methodicals)

World Communion
Psalm 137
“This World is Ours”

♦ **Oct. 12** (Traditional)

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7
“Settling”

♦ **Oct. 19** (Methodicals)

Jeremiah 31:27-34
“A New Covenant”

♦ **Oct. 26** (Traditional)

Joel 2:23-32
“Dreaming Dreams”

♦ **Nov. 2**

Communion + All Saints Sunday
Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
“Where Is the Justice?”

♦ **Nov. 9** (Traditional)

Haggai 1:15b-2:9
“Full House”

♦ **Nov. 16** (Methodicals)

Isaiah 65:17-25
“A New Thing”

♦ **Nov. 23** (Traditional)

Jeremiah 23:1-6
“The Days Are Coming”

♦ **Nov. 25** Thanksgiving Eve (Tuesday)
7:00 Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service at Bethel. Combined choir

♦ **Nov. 30**

1st Sunday of Advent + Communion
Isaiah 2:1-5
“Swords into Plowshares”



United
Women
in Faith



United Women in Faith

Hold onto your hats (hopefully wintry ones by then), get ready to delight yourself, your family and friends at our annual HOLIDAY BAZAAR! Your United Women in Faith are in charge of this community event where we serve both breakfast (egg bake, cinnamon rolls) and lunch (sloppy joes or chicken noodle hotdish), vast numbers of desserts, and offer a huge variety of baked items along with multiple jars of jams and jellies, RICE PUDDING, possibly lefse and other goodies to buy and eat. Our vendors have been preparing crafts, floral arrangements, books, games, jewelry, weavings, stones andoh so much more to purchase from a variety of artisans. We also have our own church cookbook, Dept. 56 and Granny Corner collectibles along with other holiday ornaments and decorations. AND... the event is right here at Minnehaha UMC on Sat. Nov. 8 from 9:00-2:00. The income generated from this event goes to the treasury of the UWF who will choose which of the many missions we support to gift this year. WE NEED YOU to help out! This one day event is a lot of fun and a way to get to know our community. We can also use help on Friday, Nov. 7 setting up and cooking. Please tell Maureen Trepp (maureentrepp@yahoo.com) if you are volunteering or would like to be a vendor and Margaret Rawson (margaretrawson100@gmail.com) if you would like to bake for the bake sale or the dessert table.

Our continuing monthly mission is serving a dinner at Simpson Shelter during the last week of each month. They are currently building a new grand apartment and shelter on the corner of 1st Ave. and 28th Street. Check it out.

We also continue to serve receptions for funerals, birthdays, weddings, anniversaries or other events a families request them. We really need some new helpers as it can be tiring work, though usually the event is on a Saturday and not for a very long time commitment. If you would be willing to be on a roster to serve at some time, we would love to get your contact info. Again, please let me, Maureen Trepp know or any of our Leadership Team members who are Jenny Ammerman, Margaret Rawson, Kitty Campbell, Kim Kanuit, Char Johnson and Becky Nyseth.

Maureen Trepp, *President*

Ukulele Ensemble played in worship on Sunday, August 31



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 8, 2025
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 on Thursday mornings for a time of play and community. Playgroup meets in the 2nd floor nursery and preschool rooms. Follow the "Minnehaha Playgroup" on Facebook for more information.

Halloween Costume Parade

Come in your Halloween costume and walk in the parade! We'll meet in the side yard at 9:45 am, line up along the sidewalk in front of the church to begin the parade at 10 am. We'll walk down to Nokomis Square courtyard (collecting treats along the way) and then loop back to church for hot apple cider.

*Youth and adults can also join the fun! Wear your costume and help handout candy along the route. Meet inside the church doors at 9:45 am to get your bucket of candy.



**SAVE THE DATE**

Christmas Pageant
on Sunday, Dec. 14
at 4:00 pm

*Rehearsal on
Wednesday, Dec. 10

Sunday Youth Group

Youth (6th-12th grade) gather each Sunday from 4:00-5:30 in room 302/304 for snacks, games and activities!



Church Conference

Church Conference is the official word we use for an all-church meeting. We need to have a church conference sometime in November to set the salaries for Jean Elliott and Becky Sechrist. We do this before the formal budget is adopted because the denomination requires that all clergy salaries be set by December 1 so that the numbers can be processed by the pensions people. If our budgeting process prompts a change in salary, then we can make a correction and vote on it the same time we vote on the budget, sending in amended paperwork at that time. This year, we will be holding this meeting as part of a cluster with other United Methodist congregations in our area. We will gather at on Sunday, Nov. 23 at 1:00 in our building, hear some words from our Conference Superintendent, Rev. Michelle Hargrave, and then do the work that we need to together. Anyone can attend, and anyone with full membership can vote.



All Saints Sunday

We will be celebrating All Saints Sunday on November 2, 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.

Adult Faith Forum on Sundays

The Faith Forum for adults on Sunday mornings (10:45-11:30) is on the topic of Anti-Racism through October 12. We are using a video series from Jamar Tisby called "How to Fight Racism".

Newcomer Class

We'll be holding an introduction and orientation class for anyone new to Minnehaha or interested in joining on Sunday, October 26 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.



Wednesdays at Minnehaha

Wednesday Night Dinners

Everyone is invited to this weekly meal from 5:30-6:15 pm in Fellowship Hall. Enjoy good food and conversation!

Wednesday Night Childcare

There is supervised childcare from 6:00-7:15 pm in the gym and nursery/preschool rooms.



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 second 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 October 10 and November 14 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.



Advent Fest

Following the worship service, everyone is invited to gather in Fellowship Hall to prepare for Advent:

- Make a family Advent wreath
- Create Christmas tree ornaments
- Color Advent murals
- Children's Secret Giftshop - kids can shop for Christmas gifts for parents, neighbors and friends. (All gifts are \$1.00)

-No Sunday School Classes

Pastor Becky's New Role

I wanted you all to be aware that I have agreed to take on a role in our Conference for the next 3 years. I have agreed to be the co-chair of something called the Host Committee. As you may have heard, the world-wide gathering of the United Methodist Church that takes place every 4 years is coming to Minneapolis in 2028. The Host Committee is in charge of everything surrounding that conference. Everything from helping people get from the airport to their hotels to the convention center to getting everyone registered to helping people get to the room they need to go to providing field trips and security and quiet places to pray. It's a big task, but the other co-chair, Cindy Sauffer, and I will be recruiting lots of other folks to head up the various task groups. It doesn't change anything about my appointment to Minnehaha as your pastor, but it does tie up a few dates a year on my calendar with meetings that I won't be able to get out of. When we get to the "we need lots of volunteers!" stage, you will definitely be hearing more from me! But for now, I just wanted you to be aware of this way in which I will be working in our connectional system.

Food Shelf Suggested Monthly Donations



Pasta Dinner



October 23rd

5:30-7:30

New Branches
5011 31st Ave So.
Minneapolis

****Prizes & Gift Baskets
Drawing**

Early Bird Tickets

\$30 / \$35 after 10/15

Kids under 5 eat **FREE**.
Advanced Tickets Required

Scan for tickets



**Fundraising
Benefit for
Minnehaha
Food Shelf**

**FAT LORENZO'S
Catering**



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 7:15 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 October 25 and November 22 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



Harvest Dinner and Variety Show

Our Annual Harvest Dinner and Variety Show will be on Saturday, Nov. 15! Save the date, read the article about the Variety Show to the left, and keep an eye on the bulletin and your e-news for more details as we get closer. The Variety Show will be lots of fun, and the dinner will be a multi-course dinner featuring beef brisket with an enticing vegetarian option. This is one of the 2 major fundraisers for the church, so please plan to come, and invite friends to join you as well.

Our fundraiser **Harvest Dinner** is returning on November 15! Come for a wonderful meal and fellowship. We will also be having a variety show before the dinner again. If you have a song to sing, a piece of music to play (groups as well as individuals are welcome), or a rehearsed skit, please let Julia Cook know right away.

Rally Sunday Pie Toss



All-Church Service Project

Following the worship service, everyone is invited to gather in Fellowship Hall to make blank birthday cards, decorate birthday bags, and then assemble 50 birthday bags! These birthday bags will be donated to VEAP.

-No Sunday School classes

OCTOBER 19 ALL-CHURCH SERVICE PROJECT

Following worship, we'll gather in Fellowship Hall to make blank birthday cards and assemble Birthday Bags!



2025 Contributions...So Far!



WE'RE IN A SLOW PERIOD. AUGUST CONTRIBUTIONS WERE JUST \$24,795.

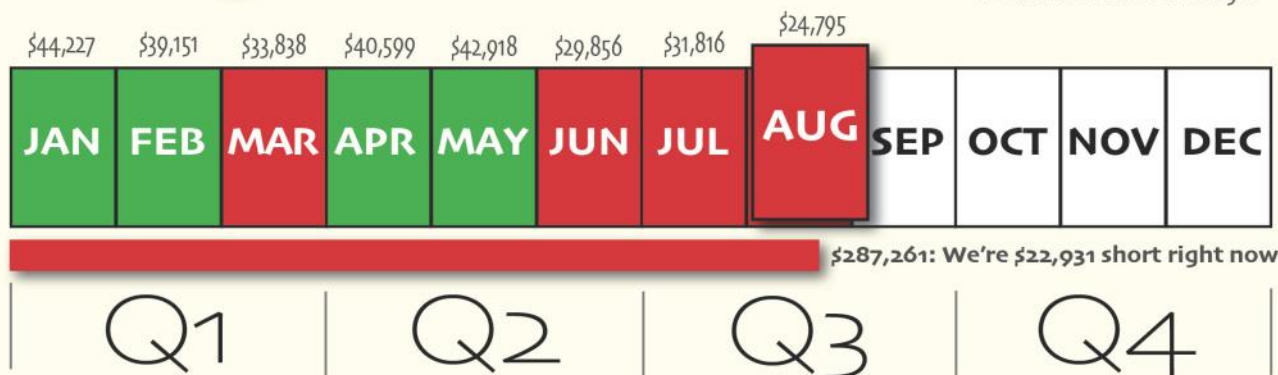
FOUR MONTHS LEFT IN 2025

Our Monthly Contribution Goal is 1/12 of \$465,293 or \$38,774.

CONTRIBUTIONS
SO FAR FOR 2025:
\$287,261

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS
GOAL FOR 2025:
\$465,293

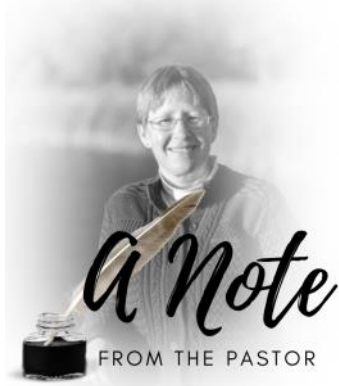
Includes \$23,645 to balance the church budget



4 Easy Ways to Donate to Minnehaha UMC

Cash		No Fee
Check		No Fee
EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) via VANCO		0.45% Fee
PayPal (QR Code)		3.5% Fee

There are many ways to give to the church: Volunteer, support our food ministries or other missions, or with cash, check, or electronically. A monthly contribution through your bank (EFT) makes it easier for us to budget for the year, and there's just a small added fee. But do whatever works best for you. Know that the church also accepts gifts of stocks, bonds, and other securities, as well as real estate and more. And also consider making Minnehaha UMC a beneficiary in your will or trust. If you need more information on gifting to Minnehaha United Methodist Church, contact the church treasurer or the pastor. Thank you!



For Just Such a Time

In the book of Esther, the main character, Esther, is challenged by her uncle Mordecai to risk her safety as queen and reveal that she is Jewish, and that one of the king's edicts has allowed her people to be slaughtered. As part of his appeal, Mordecai says, "who knows, maybe you have been made queen for just such a time as this."

We are living in challenging times. And, for most of us, we are doing it as people of privilege.

Well, how about I just speak for myself. My pension money is doing great in the stock market. I can afford the price of eggs. It is time to renew my passport, and I am not worried that it will be held up or come back to me marked with the wrong gender. And, I am appalled at the news on a daily basis. Actually, I'm usually appalled on an hourly basis. Even while I benefit from the society I live in, I am vehemently opposed to the decisions being made by my leaders.

Maybe, we are here for just such a time as this. "The Church" is being re-positioned in many places to accept a theology of white nationalism and Christian nationalism. And I want nothing of it. I find it antithetical to my theology, my

understanding of God, my values. So, I do everything I can to make sure that I am speaking out against such theological shifts. I do realize that mainly I am preaching to the choir.

"who knows, maybe you have been made queen for just such a time as this."

But it still needs to be said. And, I need to take all the steps I can to make sure that I am not being swept up into something that looks good just because it's easy. Standing against nationalism can feel uncomfortable, risky, and even dangerous some days. And on those days, I revisit the book of Esther. She had to be talked into doing the brave and risky thing, but she did it. She was not sure that it would end well, although her story does end well. The book of Esther gives lots of clues to the readers of its time that it is a story, not an historical account. It was written to give encouragement to those who were living far away from Israel and needed to be courageous in order to hold onto their faith. It seems that we have some things in common with the first readers of Esther. So, be of good courage. Know that God calls us into difficult things from time to time. Pray and ponder on what kind of thing you are being called to in this day and this time.

In Hope,

Becky

Youth Confirmed on Sunday, Sept. 14
Elias, Owen, Diana, Hazel, Miles, Zeke





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10/25

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