



GOOD THINGS HAPPEN

Newsletter of Minnehaha United Methodist Church

We seek, we serve, we celebrate.

AUG 2021

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August



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

Minnehaha Snapshot: Second Quarter 2021

In the second quarter of 2021, many of us gathered for outside worship in May, while others watched on our YouTube channel. Meetings were both in person and on Zoom. Graduates were recognized, and 2nd and 3rd graders received their bibles. Normal? What's normal?

8 GRADUATES RECOGNIZED JUNE 6



On June 6, the church recognized eight graduates: Allie, Nick, Isaac, Hannah, Meghan, Matthew, Kate and Meredith. Congratulations!

100 PERCENT PAID IN FULL



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

98 PLANTS TO SUPPORT YOUTH MINISTRIES



In March, Minnehaha's youth held an online plant sale to support the church's youth ministries. Ninety-eight plants were sold and more than \$700 raised!

127 MET OUTSIDE ON MAY 23



Minnehaha returned to Sunday outdoor worship on May 23, with 127 attending in person and 42 views on our YouTube channel.

81.9 PERCENT OF BLDG. LOAN PAID OFF



As of the end of June, we've paid off 81.9% of our 2010 building and remodeling project.

12 TYPES OF FLOWERS IN OUR MONARCH GARDEN



We're part of the neighborhood's Monarch Mile, planting and tending a garden to attract and feed monarch butterflies. This year we added Joe Pye weed and several varieties of milkweed.

7 ELECTRIC VEHICLES ON DISPLAY IN APRIL



On April 25, seven electric vehicles were showcased at the church: 2 Chevys (Volt & Bolt), 3 Teslas (S, X & Y), a Nissan Leaf and a Volvo.

16 2ND & 3RD GRADERS GOT BIBLES IN PERSON



In May, 16 of Minnehaha's second and third graders (and a few fourth graders) received bibles at a ceremony on the south lawn of the church.

2 MUMC FAMILY FUN GATHERINGS IN JUNE



On June 9th and 30th, preschoolers through fifth graders and their families gathered for an earth-themed event and a farewell to June.

Worship in August

The month of August will feature our *Worship at the Falls* (on August 1), another guest preacher (Peter Johnson), and the return of our *Animal Blessing service* (August 29). Join us in the lawn at 10:00, and if it rains, bring a mask as we move inside to worship together in the sanctuary.

We look forward to seeing you in person on the lawn, or “seeing you” virtually as you worship with us online.

August 1	Worship at the Falls	<i>II Samuel 11:26-12:13a</i>
August 8	Peter Johnson preaches, Renee Beymer leads worship	
August 15	“Making the Most of Our Time”	<i>Ephesians 5:15-20</i>
August 22	“How to Dress”	<i>Ephesians 6:10-20</i>
August 29	“Blessings of the Natural World”	<i>Song of Solomon 2:8-13</i>

Animal Blessing

Animals play an important role in many of our lives. If you have a special pet, we invite you to bring it to our annual animal blessing service on Sunday, August 29. We'll gather inside if it is raining, but either way, there will be a time in the worship service to have your pet blessed. Whether you have a horse or a hamster, bring them to church. Just make sure it's in a crate or container or on leash of some kind. If you don't have a pet, but wish you did, come anyway, and bring a stuffed animal if you'd like. If your pet doesn't like crowds, other animals, or can't really get out, bring a picture and we'll bless that. You may also wish to recognize the death of a pet in this way. And, invite your friends to bring their pets as well; we welcome everyone.

Worship and Potluck Picnic at the Falls

On Sunday, August 1 we will be joining with other congregations in our neighborhood for a worship service at Minnehaha Falls Park. The service will be held at the band shell and will begin at 10:30. Masks are optional for vaccinated members. In addition, if you want to bring a lunch and sit with neighbors from the other congregations, we'll be gathering at the picnic tables behind the band shell after the service is over.

Note that if you need accessible parking, it is available near the pavilion and gives you a level path to the band shell.

For those of you unable to make it, the service will be livestreamed (or, if we cannot get a stable internet connection, recorded). If we have to record instead of livestream, we will upload it to our YouTube channel (with a link on our website) by Sunday afternoon.



AUGUST



August. How did we arrive here already? It's been a fun and full summer: getting to see folks:

At outdoor worship on Sunday mornings (and getting to observe monarchs visiting the flowers and bees busy pollinating, discovering tomatoes ready to pick, and hearing & watching the wren in its birdhouse)

At Youth Tuesday Nights, a & at our Family Fun Nights on the Minnehaha lawn and favorite neighborhood locations. It was a joy to have people of all ages come together to make our Celebrate Creation VBS happen - we sang and created and played and observed and discovered and remembered that God took time to stop and admire creation and declared it good!

Creativity abounds as first through eighth graders and numerous volunteers are together this last week of July to tell the story of Minnehaha Falls through poems, dances, songs, and skits (we hope you'll join us for the performance on Friday the 30th at 6:30pm at Minnehaha Falls).

And, we are so grateful for the ministries of Camp Minnesota, which ran overnight camps that a number of our children & youth participated/are participating in.

And, over the course of this next month, we'll continue our Youth Tuesday Nights, we'll have a couple Family Fun Events, continue to care for the summer garden and begin preparing for fall.

On August 15th, a survey will come out to all of you - we hope you'll participated to help determine what programming will serve our community best in light of the most recent developments in the Covid Pandemic. In the meantime, we hope you enjoy the rest of your summer.

Hope to see you all soon!

With love & gratitude,

Jenia Strom, Director of Children, Youth, & Family Ministries



YOUTH TUESDAY NIGHTS

We'll be wrapping up a summer of Youth Tuesday Nights with biking nights, volleyball, and Ultimate Frisbee.

Join us each Tuesday through August 31st from 6-7:30pm at Minnehaha.

At Minnehaha, our Youth Program is for youth in 6th through 12th grade. Are you receiving our weekly youth emails that have updates on events and other important events? If not, be sure to contact education@minnehaha.org to be added to that mailing list!

School Supply Drive

Thanks to the wonderful joy of buying school supplies of a very generous member of Minnehaha we are off to a good start on our annual school supply drive with:

- (540) spiral bound notebooks - split between wide ruled and college ruled
- (90) boxes of No. 2 pencils - (12) pencils in each box
- (100) boxes of washable markers
- (480) black ballpoint pens
- (480) blue ballpoint pens
- boxes of crayons and colored pencils

And many other items

Every year we provide backpacks filled with school supplies for 160 to 180 children of the families that patronize the Minneharvest. With the help of members and friends of our church we can make the beginning of the school year special for these children.

Some of the ways to help with this mission

Buy school supplies and bring them to church

Designate an offering for school supplies in the Sunday offering

Donate cash to be used for school supplies

Backpacks will be handed out at the Aug 28th MinneHarvest.



Fun and Fitness

"Fun and Fitness" is finally meeting again! We invite anyone who is interested to join us. We have fun keeping our body parts moving (as many as possible). Lots of stretching, breathing, and low-impact exercises. We do what we can and have fun doing it! Try us, if it's not for you, that's okay too.

We will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning Tuesday, August 3 on the third floor, Rooms 302/304. Questions? Call Shirley Arms at 612-251-1370.



WHEN: AUGUST 20-22

WHERE: BAKER PARK RESERVE
ON LAKE INDEPENDENCE
(JUST A 40 MINUTE DRIVE
FROM SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS)

COST: \$53.23/FAMILY FOR TWO NIGHTS

RSVP TO BETH MINEHART AT
952.232.7711 **BY AUGUST 4TH**

Minnehaha Kids & their Families are invited
to join us for our next

**Minnehaha
Family Fun Event**
Wednesday, Aug 11th
5:30-7pm
at Minnehaha Falls Park

Time on the playground, picnic dinner (Sea Salt is
always an option!), running through The Oak
Grove, checking out the falls and more...



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 August 28, which has our special additional event of handing out school supplies and backpacks to families with school-age children. You can volunteer anytime between 6:30 and 10:30 a.m. We start setting up at 6:30, unload the truck starting at 7, serve the food starting around 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 (and a mask)!



United
Methodist
Women

United Methodist Women

Summer End greetings, as we physically get back together, return to the State Fair and in-person education, clean out our closets and continue to mission to those in need.

- Funeral reception serving has begun once more with a June funeral for Robert Mitby, our first for which we put our bakers to work and supplied over 15 pans of bars (mostly chocolate!) serving about 100 guests on June 19. Special thanks to Gene Thompson for manning the dishwasher! We are very lucky to have the lovely platters, dishes, linens and flowers to make a beautiful reception. Please let Kim Kanuit know if you'd like to be added to the contact list for serving; many of the funerals are on a weekend.
- We have ended our food service to Clare Housing with one last lovely dinner prepared by Margaret Rawson and Mary Heltsley on June 28 and delivered by Julie Darlington and Maureen Trepp to 25 folks at their apartments.
- Our crew of serving dinners to those in need will begin work on September 29, going back to serving at Simpson Housing Services on 28th St. and 1st Ave.. Simpson Housing will begin to build a new facility in the same location soon. For September 29, we'll prepare a meal for 120 at MUMC and bring it over to serve on site. If you're interested in helping please let me, Maureen, know. Our future dates are Oct. 27 and Nov. 29.
- RUMMAGE SALE RETURNS!!

Need to stock up on some rummage? Need to get rid of some rummage? You can do both! Bring your items to church on Aug. 29 or Sept. 5; come back on Sept. 6,7, and 8 to sort and price and return on Sept. 9, 10, and 11 to sell and buy! Help when you can; we need you!! Contact Maureen Trepp at maurentrepp@yahoo.com or Kim Kanuit at kanuitk@q.com. Our funds from the rummage sale will go to the church's budget and our UMW budget to pay for our meals at Simpson and other missions.



OLD FASHIONED Church Rummage Sale

**Lots of great stuff!
Housewares & Linens.
Toys. Books. Electronics.
And more!
(But no clothes)**



**Thursday, Friday & Saturday
Sept. 9, 10 & 11**

Day	Date	Time
Thursday	September 9	9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Friday	September 10	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Saturday	September 11	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Minnehaha United Methodist Church
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A Quick Report on Minnesota Annual Conference 2021

by Shirley Yeoman, MUMC Delegate to Annual Conference

The 2021 Annual Conference was conducted June 22-24. Two days of Conference took place virtually via Zoom webinar, and attendees spent one day gathered in small groups at local church host sites across Minnesota.

Most of conference was educational, inspirational or informational. Legislatively, conference was pretty uneventful. The conference approved the usual budgets, reports, etc. and one resolution *“that all congregations in the Minnesota Annual Conference join in the work of dismantling racism, opposing white supremacy, and advocating for racial justice.”*

If you would like to learn more about the Minnesota Annual Conference this year, there’s a ton of information on the Conference website at <https://www.minnesotaumc.org/resources> or on the Conference Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MinnesotaUMC/videos/>. The information is presented in some very well-done videos. If you watch the one entitled: *Jesus Made A Way* (a review of how churches coped during Covid) you will catch some glimpses of familiar faces.

Note
from the
pastor



Renewing Our Souls



There have been a lot of books, articles, even news reports in the last few years about the healing, and important, impact of spending time in nature. Our bodies need the Vitamin D we get from the sun, moving our bodies has a calming effect on our emotions, and there is lots of air outside to help diffuse any germs being breathed out by others. This important connection to the natural world has been written about and reflected upon by theologians and spiritual authors for generations. It isn't just our bodies that do better if we can get outside, it's also our souls. I've been reading reflections from a variety of authors this summer from an anthology called *Summer: A Spiritual Biography of the Season*. The essays range from prayers to psalms to Frederick Douglas's speech, "What To The Slave Is The Fourth of July." All have a nod to the season of summer, with almost all of them making some kind of reference to the natural world. Watching a goldfinch or a squirrel can be a spiritual experience. So can planting a flower or harvesting zucchini. And, looking out our windows at a neighbor's garden can be just as inspiring.

It has been a rough year and a half. And, it will likely be rough for awhile longer. Take time to renew your body and your soul. Get outside if you can. Contemplate on the spiritual impact of the natural world around you. And, if you can't get outside, it turns out that looking at images of the natural world can have a similar impact.

May we all find nourishment and renewal as we continue to come back together as a congregation.

In Joy,

Becky



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8/21



join us for a
Minnehaha Music & Drama Camp Performance of

Minnehaha Falls: The Musical

Enjoy Stories, Songs and Dances as you travel the
History of Minnehaha Falls and its People

Friday, 30th July at 6:30 pm

At Minnehaha Falls Park

Bring your own camp chairs/blanket

Performance begins at the pergola north of the
Stevens House, on the ridge on the upper southwest
side of the falls. Then, we'll continue throughout the
park, guided by the actors.

In case of rain, check
www.minnehaha.org for
performance plans.

