



Good THINGS HAPPEN

Newsletter of Minnehaha United Methodist Church

→ we seek we serve we celebrate



SPRING 2026

Spring and Summer Worship

A few years ago, Bruce Barkhauer used a Lilly Grant to visit all the National Parks. With his friend, Brad Lyons, they created a book with a little history of each park as well as a spiritual reflection that was appropriate for each location. The result is a book entitled American's Holy Ground, 61 Faithful Reflection on our National Parks. As we approach Minnesota's great get-away season (summer!), I'll be utilizing the reflections in this book for the Sundays in the Easter season, focusing on a different park each week and following the theme reflected by the park. Chances are good that we will continue following the theme into summer as well. Even if you have never been to a National Park, and have no intention of going to one, I have found the reflections in this book to be larger than just a national park, and larger even than a love of the outdoors. I hope that this journey through the United States landscape will give us a way to talk about the bigger issues of our day (like change, miracles, immigration, just to name a few) while also painting a picture of wonders of God's creation.

In this Issue:

<i>United Women in Faith</i>	<u>2</u>
<i>MinneHarvest</i>	<u>3</u>
<i>Children & Youth</i>	<u>4,5</u>
<i>Upcoming Worship</i>	<u>6</u>
<i>Easter & Holy Week</i>	<u>7</u>
<i>Newcomer Classes</i>	<u>8</u>
<i>Auction & Lunch</i>	<u>9</u>
<i>Healthy Bones</i>	<u>10</u>
<i>Pastor's Note</i>	<u>11</u>

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

INFO PAGE 7



Mar. 29 (Traditional)
Palm Sunday/Communion
Matthew 21:1-11
"It's a Parade!"

◆ **Mar. 30 Good Friday**
7pm Tenebrae Service

◆ **April 5 Easter**
7 a.m. Sunrise led by youth
9 a.m. Traditional
11 a.m. Contemporary
John 20:1-18
"Early in the Morning"

◆ **April 12** (Traditional)
I Peter 1:3-9
"New Beginning"

◆ **April 19** (Methodicals)
Ps. 104:24-34, 35b
"Sacred Creation"

◆ **April 26** (Traditional)
Acts 2:42-47
"Change is Inevitable"

◆ **May 3** (Methodicals)
I Peter 2:2-10
"You Are the Miracle"

◆ **May 10** (Traditional)
Acts 17:22-31
"It Is A Gift"

◆ **May 17** (Methodicals)
Mark 6:30-44
Hebrews 13:2
End of Program Year with the Spring Musical
"Stone Soup" & Celebration of Gifts!

◆ **May 24 Pentecost** (Blended Outside)
Acts 2:1-21
"The Breathing of the Holy Spirit"

◆ **May 31** (Blended Outside)
Psalm 8
"The Glory of God"



United
Women
in Faith

United Women in Faith

During this Lenten season, your United Women in Faith were pleased to once again celebrate our annual UWF Sunday on March 8. With Becky's fine sermon on the Woman at the Well, we were able to highlight some of the missions we support along with awarding two UWF Service awards to those who have made a difference in the Minnehaha community. Below are the awards we gave out and who received them, written by Kitty Campbell.



*This person has not been limited in his span of volunteering here at Minnehaha. He enjoys the committees and has been on the Board of Trustees as a member and chair. This person has been on the Church Council and loves Finance and its committee. He has been our investment advisor since 2010. He does the Congregation Trust Fund and our memorials. He set up our Endowment Fund and has also been on the Stewardship Committee. This list is long! He has lots of fun here, too. He has been a drummer in the Methodicals which we enjoyed very much. All the kids know him because he was a middle and high school Sunday school teacher. We saw him on stage as an actor; he is often in the kitchen doing dishes and cleaning up. He attends the Winter Retreat and has helped with the Bazaar and Rummage Sale. He secretly wants dance lessons from his brother-in-law Paul Minehart. Have you guessed that this award winner is **Scott Gruenhagen?***

*This person can be found volunteering many hours at Minnehaha UMC. He has been on the Social Justice committee and is the chair. He brings to the table many discussions about race, economic and environmental injustices. He leads the team in finding strategies and resources to best serve our Minnehaha family. He has served as Minnehaha's auditor for 5 1/2 years and spent a year as chair of the Finance committee. You will see him volunteering at MinneHarvest and as a kitchen helper and rummage sale cleaner. He and his family have attended Minnehaha since 2002. Guess who? **Kip Kirkpatrick***



We shared photos of the new facility of Emma Norton Services where we continue to serve dinner about once a month. Those serving on March 2 were Corey Dallas, Char Johnson, Kevin Korell, Sarah Emrich and me. On March 31, our servers were Char Johnson, Corey Dallas, Kevin Korell, Susan DeLattre, Mary Vrabel and Kitty Campbell. We are limited to 6 servers who prepare the meal that is designed by the chef at Emma Norton and then serve it, a change after 30 years of making the meal and bringing it there.

What's next? We NEED YOU and YOUR RUMMAGE! As you are doing that spring cleaning or clearing, put aside household items, books, games, tools, small appliances (not clothes nor jewelry) that you are willing to donate to the annual All Church Rummage sale which will be the week of June 10-14 (the same week as the neighborhood NENA sales) with set-up on the 10th

(Continued on page 3)



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; join us on April 25 and May 23 for all or any portion of that time, dress appropriately for the weather, and bring a friend! 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.

MINNEHARVEST
a food mission of minnehaha united methodist church



(Continued from page 2)

and 11th and the sale running Fri. June 12-cleaning up and clearing out after the worship service on Sun. June.14. If you have any spare time during the prep days of Wed., and Thursday from 9:00 until we get done each day, we can really use your help on sorting and pricing. We'll also need sellers on Friday and Saturday from 9:00-4:00, and after church on Sunday. You may bring items for the sale to the Fellowship Hall before or after the worship services on May 31 or June 7. Proceeds from this sale are shared with the church budget and the UWF so we really need help!! Please let UWF Leadership team members (Char Johnson, Jenny Ammerman, Margaret Rawson, Kitty Campbell, Kim Kanuit and Maureen Trepp) know that you're helping.

Your high school Senior student will be notified shortly about the college scholarships we happily endow to those applying; watch for it!

Our United Women in Faith group continues to be aware of the damage done by the ICE invasion this winter and will continue to aid financially those in need. Hopefully an event like that will never happen in an American city again. We are Minneapolis Strong and will fight for the beauty, culture, diversity and joy of living where we do.

Peace to you, Maureen Trepp, *UWF President*

Introduction to Confirmation

The confirmation program at Minnehaha takes place for youth in 9th grade. All parents and students of next year's 9th graders (or any older youth who want to participate) are invited to an introductory meeting on Sunday, April 26, at 11:30 a.m. following Sunday School. We'll gather downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like information about our confirmation program, please contact Becky Sechrist.



The Children's and Cherub choirs sang March 22

MINNEHAHA

YOUTH GROUP

SUNDAYS

4:00-5:30 PM

NOTES

- May 10 - No Youth Group
- May 17 - End of Year Party (3-6 pm)

All 6th-12th graders welcome!

Bible Presentation

Sunday, May 10 at 9:30am Worship

All our 2nd graders, along with their families, will be invited up front for a special presentation to receive their new Bibles!

SUNDAY, MAY 10

2ND GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATIONS!

MINNEHAHA

Youth Group

Sundays

4:00-5:30 PM

NOTES:

- April 5: No Youth Group
- April 19: Skateville after fundraiser lunch (1-3pm)



**Youth Plant Sale
Pick-Up Day
WEDNESDAY
MAY 13th
5:30-7:00 pm**

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



**MINNEHAHA
THEATER
CAMP**

JUNE 22-26

9AM-3PM

**2:00 PM PERFORMANCE
FRIDAY, JUNE 26**

**EXPLORE IMPROV, SKIT MAKING,
CHARACTER CREATING,
AND ACTING JUST FOR FUN!**

YOUTH FINISHING 5TH-12TH GRADE

COST \$100

REGISTER ONLINE MINNEHAHA.ORG



**MINNEHAHA
HIGH SCHOOL
MISSION TRIP**

July 19-23

High school youth are invited to serve our neighbors with various outreach opportunities around the Twin Cities. This is a 5-day, 4-night service learning trip that partners with local non-profits to explore a variety of justice issues such as food insecurity, poverty, housing, and creation care. There will also be evening activities, worship, and a fun all-day outing on Thursday.

**Who: Finishing 8th-12th Grade
Where: Overnight lodging at Lake Harriet UMC
Cost: \$100**

REGISTER ONLINE MINNEHAHA.ORG



**MIDDLE SCHOOL
SERVICE TRIP**

July 27-29



**INTERFAITH
ACTION** OF GREATER
SAINT PAUL

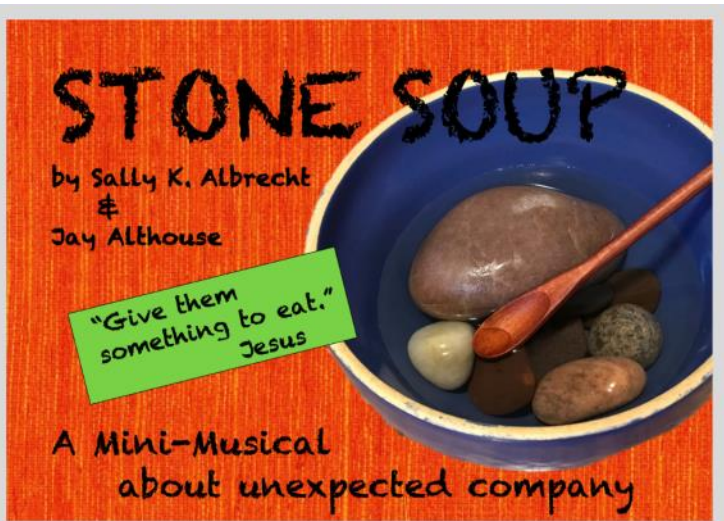
Middle school youth are invited on this 3-day, 2-night service trip led by Interfaith Action of St. Paul. Come and gain hands-on experience of serving and learning about St. Paul.

**Who: Finishing 5th-8th Grade
Where: Serving around St. Paul.
Overnight lodging at Hamline UMC
Cost: \$100**

REGISTER ONLINE MINNEHAHA.ORG

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 April 11 and May 8 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.



A Minnehaha Spring Musical!
May 17 at 9:30 am

During Celebration Sunday Worship Service



Minnehaha Spring Musical - Stone Soup

What do you do when uninvited "company" shows up in YOUR neighborhood, on YOUR doorstep, maybe even in YOUR SANCTUARY...and they're hungry?!

Experience the fable of Stone Soup in the Minnehaha Spring Musical during the Celebration Sunday Worship Service on May 17 at 9:30 a.m.

The morning will be flavored by Jesus' fondness for feeding folks – and you are invited to join in a pot-luck coffee hour and food collection with LOTS of LEFTOVERS to share!



Holy Week Services

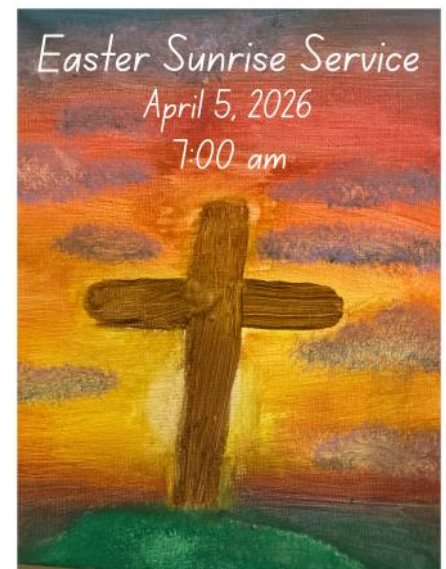
Holy Week is observed during the last week of Lent, between Palm Sunday (March 29) and Easter Sunday (April 5). It is traditionally a time to remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, his last supper with the disciples, and his arrest, trial and death.

- We will have a Good Friday service on April 3. It will start at 7:00 p.m. and will include 14 readings from the gospel of Matthew about the events leading up to Jesus' death. It also includes music, silence, and the extinguishing of lights.



Three Different Services for Easter

Join us for Easter Sunday on April 5. Our sunrise service will be at 7:00, led by the youth. We will have two more indoor services, with the choir and organ at 9:00 and the Methodicals band at 11:00. In addition, there will be refreshments between each of the services, and an Easter egg hunt for children from 10:00-11:00. We hope to see you on Easter morning!



Newcomer Classes

We'll be holding an introduction and orientation class for anyone new to Minnehaha or interested in joining on Wednesday, April 15. Please join us during the Wednesday night dinner at 5:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall (dinner is at 5:30). Your meal is on us, and we'll have a table set aside for the class. Just to give us an idea of numbers, please RSVP to becky@minnehaha.org.



Young Adult Gathering

Young Adults (roughly aged 19-35) gather on the third Sunday of the month for brunch at Berry Sweet Kitchen at 10:45. Join us on April 19 and May 17.

Wednesday Night

Childcare

Childcare is offered following the Wednesday Night Dinners from 6:00-7:15 pm. Supervision is offered for kids in the gym and the nursery/preschool rooms while parents continue to eat, socialize, help clean-up, or attend rehearsals or committee meetings.



Wednesday night dinners are from 5:30-6:15 pm downstairs in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to join in these weekly meals for good food and lively conversation. Cost: \$5/person; \$20/family



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



WELCOME TO THE WILD MID-WEST

2026 All-Church Auction
Sunday, April 19 | Lunch @ 11:30 a.m. | Auction Starts @ 12:01 p.m.

YOUTH FUNDRAISER PASTA BAR LUNCH

**SUNDAY, APRIL 19
11:30 AM**

\$5 PERSON

Join us on
Sunday, April 12
at 10:45 am

for
**Young Families
Storytime**

2nd floor
Nursery

- Listen to a Story
- Sing a Song
- Playtime

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2026



After a great January, we're slowing down a little but still above our goal for the first two months of 2026.

OUR FEBRUARY 2026 CONTRIBUTIONS ARE:

\$34,095

*Note: January contributions were revised upward by \$468...from \$55,690 to \$56,158

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS GOAL FOR 2026:

\$502,810

We need to average \$41,901 each month to make our goal.



We're still in the green: \$90,253. That's \$6,451 above the goal for the first two months of 2026.



4 Easy Ways to Donate to Minnehaha UMC

Cash		No Fee
Check		No Fee
EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) via UMCO		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. Contributing through a Donor Advised Fund (DAF) or Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) are other options. 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!

Project Healthy Bones



DETAILS & TOPICS:

- **April 9: Feed Your Bones**
 - 6:30 - 8 pm in Fellowship Hall
- **April 12: Develop Strong Bones**
 - 10:45 -11:30 am in the Sanctuary
- **April 26: Don't Break a Bone**
 - 10:45-11:30 am in the Sanctuary
- **April 30: Move Your Bones**
 - 6:30- 8 pm in Fellowship Hall

LOCATION:

**Minnehaha United Methodist Church
3701 East 50th St
Minneapolis, MN 55417**

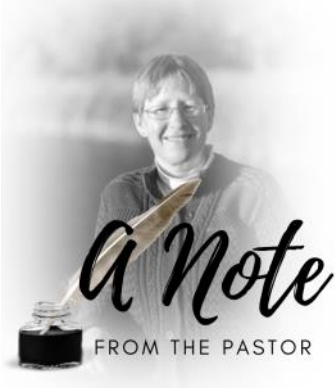
Bone Health is an important topic for men and women of all ages !

This series of classes will give attendees new or confirmed knowledge on how bones grow, how what we eat can help or harm bone cells, and how bones respond to the purposeful stress of exercise.

Each of the four sessions is a separate topic, people are welcome to attend one or all four. There is no cost. People who attend 2 or more sessions will be entered into a drawing for a 60 minute individualized assessment of strength, mobility, flexibility, and balance.

Instructor - Sharon Kimble is a physical therapist who specializes in caring for older adults. She has an interest in community health and fall prevention. She is a faculty member in the University of Minnesota Division of Physical Therapy and a clinician in a large local healthcare provider

Lens of Easter



We now enter the season of Easter. In the church calendar, there are 6 weeks in Lent, and 7 weeks in Easter! It seems only appropriate. While Lent is the preparation time for Easter Sunday, the reality is that the church really lives in Easter. We don't wonder what is going to happen to Jesus. We don't wonder if the followers survive and form a movement. We know that they do, and that movement becomes the Christian Church. Now, the Church hasn't always lived up to the high standards set by Jesus' words, but we are still trying. The amazing thing about this institution that we are part of is that we call one another to account. We argue for inclusion of women, of people of color, of LGBTQ persons. We call for a priority in caring for the poor. We look around and try to make our building

more accessible for more persons. And, when Christian Nationalism rears its ugly head, we call it out and we don't pretend that it doesn't matter.

Because we are a people of Easter, that is the standard we hold ourselves to. We want the church to be as incredible as it can. Not as glitzy or as selective as it can, but as down to earth and real as it can. We want our congregation and all of Christianity to be living in the knowledge of the resurrection, not in the fear of Good Friday. We want our congregation and all of Christianity to constantly check ourselves to make sure that we are following in the footsteps of Jesus, who healed the sick, handed food out to the crowds, paid attention to the lepers and the women and the foreigners, and called on his followers to do the same.

In this Easter season, let us not forget why we gave up (or added) a practice during Lent. Let us live into the promise of Easter as well as the call to be Easter people.

In hope,

Becky



Bell Choir & recent Baptisms





3701 East 50th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55417

Address Service Requested

Phone: 612/721-6231
E-Mail: becky@minnehaha.org
office@minnehaha.org
4/26

Visit us online!
www.minnehaha.org

