



Volume 53  
Issue 8

# August 2022 MUSTARD SEED

*The Joy Is In The Giving  
And Being Together!*

*Our church family offers us many ways to learn  
and grow together in ministry. Thank you to  
everyone who has given of their time and  
talents!*



*Red T-Shirt & Communion*



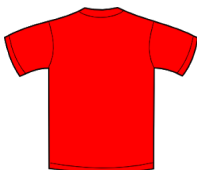
*Pork Chop Dinner & Bake Sale*



*"Let's Go Fishing"*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- ~Saturday, August 6th & Sunday, August 7th - Communion & Red T-Shirt Weekend
- ~Saturday, August 6th & Sunday, August 7th - Cindy White Sermon
- ~Friday, August 12th @ 6:30 p.m. - Youth Back to School Movie Night
- ~Saturday, August 20th & Sunday, August 21st - Backpack Blessing During Services
- ~Sunday, August 21st @ 10:30 a.m. - Youth Walk in the Park
- ~Sunday, August 28th @ 10:30 a.m. - 2022-23 Confirmation Information Meeting





## Pastor's Page - August 2022

*<sup>12</sup> Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. <sup>13</sup> Have compassion on Your servants, Lord. <sup>14</sup> Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.*  
(Psalm 90: 12-14)



*A note  
from the pastor*

The Father of National Parks, John Muir said, “Thousands of tired people are beginning to find out that going to the mountains is going home; that **wilderness is a necessity**; and that mountain parks are useful not only as fountains of timber and irrigating rivers, but as fountains of life.” At the end of June, my family visited 6 National parks in Colorado and Utah. It was a whirlwind tour through a beautiful part of the country. I was drawn to John Muir’s due to our sermon series, “The Journey through Wilderness”. As I gazed at mountains, valleys, canyons, and rivers, I reflected on the significance of wilderness in our lives. Wilderness disconnects us from busy life, cities, stress, news, and noise. Wilderness allows space for breathing, meditation, and quietness. I pray that all of you can experience the blessing of wilderness. I am grateful for this opportunity for summer break with my family.

As of July 1, I started my 8<sup>th</sup> year with MUMC. This is an exciting season in our congregation’s faith journey. Phase 1 of the new church building was recently completed with the installation of shingles on July 17. I hope we can begin Phase 2 of the building project soon. We experienced some surprises in the sale of our current building (ie. the discovery of underground oil tanks.) However, our Trustee and Building Committees have worked hard to address issues. While the final closing date is postponed (due to the oil tanks,) we are moving closer to this date.

MUMC celebrated a magnificent “Pipe Organ Concert” on Saturday, July 9. The sanctuary was filled with the sounds of classic hymns and other musical offerings by our music ministry team. We raised more than \$3000 from this concert/fundraiser. On the following Saturday, July 16, we had a successful Pork Chop dinner and bake sale. This dinner/fundraiser raised nearly \$2000 for the Ridge Road Building Project. On Saturday, July 23, we had an encore performance of the church play, “Let’s Go Fishing.” The cast worked hard to offer a fun and poignant story of family and faith. Thank you to everyone who organized these wonderful fundraising events this past month.

On June 25-26<sup>th</sup>, Marlin Hartman celebrated the wonderful work of our ASP team in West Virginia. On July 3-4<sup>th</sup>, Chris Vause preached on the faithfulness of Daniel. Praise God for the gift of inspirational lay preachers! Praise God for the leadership of our VBS team, who hosted a fun One Day VBS on June 26. I am also grateful for the leadership of our UWF (United Women of Faith – formerly known as UMW) and all of our servant leaders who offered their help for Erlene Crater’s funeral luncheon on June 18<sup>th</sup>, Jo Coop’s funeral luncheon on July 17<sup>th</sup> and breakfast for Becki Wagnon on July 19<sup>th</sup>. Thank you all for your faithful service!

In July, our nation grieved the senseless shootings in Highland Park during the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade. Together, we cried out, “How long, O Lord? How long can we endure these recurring tragedies that plague our society?” I encourage us to not lose hope. Giving in to despair will not help us leave a better world for the next generation. In the midst of wilderness, let’s keep our eyes fixed on Jesus Christ, who is the author and perfecter of our faith. In the midst of hardship and struggles, let’s hold fast to the promises of God, who is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Just as the LORD led our ancestors through the wilderness to the Promised Land, the LORD will lead us to a better and brighter future. The key is to trust and obey – do not give up hope – remain prayerful and faithful – and do what we can each day to honor the LORD.

Several weeks ago, I visited one of our shut-ins. During our conversation, she reminded me that it is difficult to be patient. However, each of us has a choice. We can whine and complain when plans don’t go our way OR we can be prayerful and faithful – we can smile and have a sense of humor about life’s unexpected twists and turns. As I left the visit, I felt as if God had spoken to me. I am grateful for our prayer warriors, who patiently pray and invite us to do likewise.

Sisters and brothers, let’s give thanks for God’s faithfulness this summer. Let us seek the LORD and ask for God’s mercy in the midst of our wilderness journey. As we take new steps toward our new home on Ridge Road, let’s be prayerful and thankful – smiling and patient even when life takes an unexpected turn. In doing so, we declare our trust in God, for whom no circumstance is unexpected and no obstacle is too great. May we find joy in our LORD who loves us and invites us to trust and follow Him every day.

Pastor Sarah



## Minooka United Methodist Church

205 West Church Street  
Minooka, IL 60447  
815-467-2322  
minookaumc.com

Facebook: Minooka United Methodist Church

### Saturday Worship

5:00 p.m.  
Blended Worship Service

### Sunday Worship Schedule

9:30 a.m.  
Online & In-person  
Blended Worship Service

### **Church Office Hours:**

Tuesday - Friday  
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

### **Office Manager Katie Wojcieszak**

Church Phone: 815-467-2322  
Church e-mail:  
admin@minookaumc.com

### **Pastor Sarah Hong**

815-212-5166  
pastor@minookaumc.com

### **Music Director**

**Jill Kohler**  
jlager97@gmail.com

### **Youth Directors Will and Jill Kohler**

jlager97@gmail.com



Please keep us informed of members who are critically ill or in the hospital:  
Office 815-467-2322  
Pastor Sarah 815-212-5166  
To be on our Prayer Chain, please call the Church Office.

**Saturday 5:00 p.m.**  
**Blended Worship**

**Sunday 9:30 a.m.**  
**Online & In-person  
Blended Worship**



The anticipation is over. The Food Pantry has moved to St. Mary's. We are putting all our energy and effort into providing a seamless transition for our community families. The UMC annex has served the community for many years and will be remembered for all its caring support and it is a future goal to continue serving with the same quality at St. Mary's.

As you may have heard, all pantries are starting to feel the effects of inflation. Prices, supply, and demand are challenging the level of services provided by the pantries. During our shopping trips, we have seen prices are higher and shortages are real. But so far, we have had sufficient donations to fully support our families. Also, surprisingly, we have not had an increase in our numbers. Thus, we have been able to continue our quality of support. However, we are always aware this can change.

Finally, we pray and ask God's guidance and support when following his example to "feed" those that need our support. We ask his blessing on our community of donors and receivers.

Thank you for your generosity. Stay healthy and safe.

Jean Jun and Virginia Guertin

### "God's Promise"

Jesus did not abandon His disciples to do the work He called them to do. He promised to be with them (and us) always. You can trust Jesus to keep His promise. His promise means that you will never face any situation alone. He is always with us, in us, to strengthen, guide, and encourage us as we make disciples. "...And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:20) Do you believe that God wants to speak to us about the challenges we face today? We need to follow God's guidance.

We get our wisdom from God's Holy Word. "I run in the path of your commands, for you have broadened my understanding. (Psalm 119:32) In Scripture we find wisdom for life, and we can move forward with confidence when we live in the light of God's truth. We can trust God's promise. As we face this day, we can walk with Him into whatever awaits us. We ask God to reflect spirit-infused humility and confidence in each situation we face and feel His presence more real to us than anything else.

Blessings,

Pearl Lindley, Certified Lay Servant



## ASP 2022



The Minooka United Methodist Church completed its annual mission trip to the Appalachian area the first week of June. The 10 missionaries returned to Boonesville, Kentucky in Breathitt County. This area is famous for violence in early 1900's and lack of schools. Our two teams, led by Will and Jill Kohler, Beth Froidcoeur, Kelli Murphy and Marlin Hartman, reroofed a trailer and insulated the floor of a home. Our team members included Ava Staley, Kim Wences, Kyla Kohler, Owen Leonard and Chloe Sutton. The team experienced challenges of extreme heat all week (95 degrees each day and mid 80's at night), loss of air conditioning at the shelter, COVID causing some volunteers to return home and cooks calling in sick. Our team experienced hard work, challenges and people living in poverty. The Minooka United Methodist Church Mission Team would like to express our appreciation for all those who supported this effort, it can't be done without you.

God's work is not always easy or glamorous, our youth stepped up to do jobs that many would refuse. WWJD, I think we know who is beside us in spirit.

ASP Mission Leader

Marlin Hartman







**AgeGuide**  
NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS

presents

## THE 27<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SENIOR LIFESTYLE EXPO



# AUGUST 23 & 24, 2022

FROM 9AM TO 2PM

DRURY LANE,  
OAKBROOK TERRACE

Tickets are \$5.00 (Cash only)

Exhibitors, educational seminars,  
health screenings, demonstrations  
and so much more

Visit  
[WWW.AGEGUIDE.ORG/SENIORLIFESTYLEEXPO](http://WWW.AGEGUIDE.ORG/SENIORLIFESTYLEEXPO)  
or call 800.528.2000 for more information



### Mobile Food Pantries:

The Mobile Food Pantry distributes food in a drive-through to people in need.

St. Mary Immaculate  
15629 IL Rt. 59, Plainfield

August 23rd from  
4:30-6:00 p.m.

# 2022 THREE RIVERS FESTIVAL

**Wednesday, August 10 - Sunday, August 14**

Central Park • 24856 W Eames Street, Channahon • Route 6 at Bluff Road

## Carnival Rides

Wednesday: 6-11 p.m. (Unlimited Rides \$30)

Thursday: 6-11 p.m. (Unlimited Rides \$30)

Friday: 6 p.m. - Close (Unlimited Rides \$35 6 p.m. - close)

Saturday: 1 p.m. - Midnight (Unlimited Rides \$30 1-5 p.m.)  
(Unlimited Rides \$35 6 p.m. - close)

Sunday: 1 - 8 p.m. (Unlimited Rides \$30 1 - 5 p.m.)  
(Last Blast \$25 Wristband 5 - 8 p.m.)

## Beer Garden

Wednesday & Thursday: 6 - 11 p.m.

Friday: 6 p.m. - Midnight

Saturday: 1 p.m. - Midnight

Sunday: Noon - 7 p.m.

## Food Midway

Wednesday & Thursday: 5 - 9 p.m.

Friday: 5 p.m. - Midnight

Saturday: 11 a.m. - Midnight

Sunday: Noon - 8 p.m.

## Family Entertainment Stage

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 5 - 9 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Sunday: 1:30 - 6 p.m.

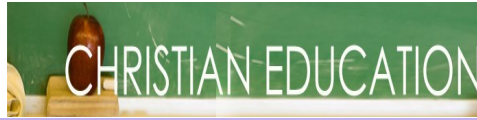
## ExxonMobil Kidz Zone

Saturday Noon - 5 p.m. • Sunday 1 - 5 p.m.

Inflatables • Play a Round Golf • Wacky Jr Obstacle Course

Bounce House • Sand Art • Face Painting

Air Brush Tattoo • Miller's Petting Zoo



This is a year of big changes for the Sunday School ministry at MUMC!

### **New Leadership**

My name is Katrina Nolan, and I am the incoming Sunday School Superintendent. I joined the MUMC family in 2019, and I live here in Minooka with my husband Alex and my 2-year-old son, Eli. I've been teaching Sunday School for the past year, and I'm excited to partner with Mari Kirsch and our team of teachers to continue this ministry for the next generation of children!

### **New Curriculum**

We are also excited to debut a new curriculum, Celebrate Wonder, from Cokesbury Kids. This curriculum engages children's natural sense of curiosity to help them understand God's love. The thing I really like about Celebrate Wonder is its focus on connecting the weekly Bible lesson to the children's experiences in the real world. I believe that kids at all grade levels will be able to find something in each lesson that resonates with them.

### **New Church**

One of the biggest changes, of course, is our temporary move to Channahon UMC. Like any kid who is nervous about starting a new school and meeting new people, I was nervous about what this move would mean for our Children's Ministry. But, God's guiding hand is always evident - I soon discovered that CUMC's Director of Religious Education, Brittany Alcantar, is an old friend of mine from the University of St. Francis! Brittany and I have enjoyed reconnecting and are excited about the opportunity to combine forces to enhance both churches' Children's Ministries.

When we move our worship services to CUMC, our Sunday School will also move, and will combine with CUMC's Sunday School. I believe this will be a beautiful way for new friendships to blossom!

As of right now, our move date is up in the air. We will hold our Rally Sunday kickoff on September 10 and 11, and will start Sunday School classes the following week. If we are still at MUMC at that time, we will continue to hold Sunday School at our regular time during the 9:30 a.m. service until we move locations.

### **Same God**

In the midst of all these changes, I'm keenly aware that our kids' lives have already been turned upside down the past few years with the pandemic and all the challenges that came with it. Our Sunday School team will do our best to establish routines that feel safe and familiar so that our children can thrive.

The world seems chaotic to us adults, and even more so for our young kids.

Above all, I want Sunday School to be a place where our children learn that they are loved unconditionally - by God and by their church family. Please pray for us as we trust in God's unfailing and unchanging love!

Katrina Nolan  
Sunday School Superintendent

### **Rally Sunday**

**September 10th & 11th**



Mark your calendars for this exciting day at MUMC! Stay tuned for more information regarding our Rally Sunday. Lots of fun is being planned to start the Sunday School year out on an exciting note. Your family won't want to miss it!



***Important Date!***

***The 2022-23 Confirmation Class  
information meeting is  
Sunday, August 28th @ 10:30 a.m.***

*All rising 8th grade students and their parents are invited to attend this informational meeting for our upcoming Confirmation Class.*

*Please see Pastor Sarah with any questions.*





**BLESSING  
OF THE  
BACKPACKS**

**Save the Date!**  
August 20th & 21st

Come and worship with us as we bless all students and teachers during our worship services. Reminding each of us of God's abundant love for us each and every day in each and every circumstance. This will start the year out on the right foot. See you there!



### **Kids Above All Back-to-School Drive**

Running through August 26, you can help ensure that the hundreds of kids in the care of Kids Above All have the supplies they need to succeed this school year through the agency's annual backpack drive. Recommended donation drop-off is between July 27 and August 12. If you have a small group interested in volunteering, Kids Above All needs many helping hands to assemble the backpacks. To find a link to the Amazon wish list and more information, visit [kidsaboveall.org/bts-drive](http://kidsaboveall.org/bts-drive). To volunteer, please contact Catherine Inserra, Manager of Faith & Community Relations, at [cinserra@kidsaboveall.org](mailto:cinserra@kidsaboveall.org) or 847-224-2870.



**VOLUNTEER**



**DONATE NOW**

**KIDS ABOVE ALL**

## **Youth** NEWS AND EVENTS

**Friday, August 12th 6:30-8:30pm**

*Back to School Movie Night on the BIG SCREEN  
- Annex*

Join us for a fun evening with your friends! Pizza and drinks will be provided. "The Prince of Egypt" will be featured on the big screen!

**Sunday, August 21st 10:30a-12p**

*A Walk in the Park*

Join us after service for a fun time in the park! We will meet at the church and walk together. Wear your tennis shoes!




### **Sunday School Final Cleanup**


The Christian Ed team is in need of volunteers after church on Sunday, August 14, to help us finish clearing out the Sunday School closet. The items that will be kept and stored have already been packed, we just need a few strong helpers to help carry the discarded items to the dumpster.

**Volunteers are needed to help pack and clean the church. Contact the trustees or the church office if you can help.**



## SPECIAL DAYS SPECIAL PEOPLE August

1	Claude Crawshaw	20	Powell Patterson	
1	William Dasbach	20	Jerry Morrow	
3	Jim Joerger	21	Cadon Casagrande	
5	Pearl Lindley	21	Calvin Sabo	
5	Kimberly Wences	21	Adam Satorius	
6	Maria Larabee	24	Ron Herath	
7	Karna Nave	24	Marguerite Stelling	
8	Evan Satorius	26	Liz Figge	
8	Evan Satorius	26	Colin Hiser	
9	Jill Kohler	26	Pegi Laneuville	
12	Stacy Taylor	26	Wendy Tredennick	
13	Paul Froidcoeur	28	Dale Lockwood	
15	Colleen Arnold	28	Joye O'Keefe	
16	Karen Dorick			
17	Shirley Deary			
18	Connor Yenser			



7	Gary & Cindy Gossen
11	Art & Marie Webb
11	James & Kathy Joerger
14	Gerry & Karen Pubentz
15	William & Julie Dasbach
29	Frank & Joy Hathcock

## August 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 12:00 PM Faithtalk	3 5:00 PM Prayer Partners	4	5	<b>6 Communion &amp; Red T-Shirt</b> 5:00 PM Worship
<b>7 Communion &amp; Red T-Shirt</b> 9:30 AM Worship	8	9 12:00 PM Faithtalk	10 5:00 PM Prayer Partners	11	12 6:30 PM Youth Back to School Movie Night	13 5:00 PM Worship
14 9:30 AM Worship	15	16 12:00 PM Faithtalk 7:00 PM Finance Mtg.	17 5:00 PM Prayer Partners	18	19	20 5:00 PM Worship & Backpack Blessing
21 9:30 AM Worship & Backpack Blessing 10:30 AM Youth Walk in the Park	22 7:00 PM Book Group	23 12:00 PM Faithtalk 7:00 Church Council	24 5:00 PM Prayer Partners	25	26	27 5:00 PM Worship
28 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Confirma- tion Class Infor- mation Meeting	29	30 12:00 PM Faithtalk	31 5:00 PM Prayer Partners			



## AUGUST SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

<b>August 6th</b>	<b>Communion &amp; Red T-shirts</b>
LAY READER	Chris Vause
<b>August 7th</b>	<b>Communion &amp; Red T-shirts</b>
LAY READER	Kim Nave
USHER(S) & GREETERS	Volunteers Needed
<hr/>	
<b>August 13th</b>	
LAY READER	Karen Gaba
<b>August 14th</b>	
LAY READER	Val Gunderson
USHER(S) & GREETERS	Volunteers Needed
<hr/>	
<b>August 20th</b>	
LAY READER	Chris Vause
<b>August 21st</b>	
LAY READER	Marlin Hartman
USHER(S) & GREETERS	Volunteers Needed
<hr/>	
<b>August 27th</b>	
LAY READER	Karen Gaba
<b>August 28th</b>	
LAY READER	Shari Millard
USHER(S) & GREETERS	Volunteers Needed

### **August 6th & 7th**

*Communion & Red  
T-Shirt Weekend*

*Cindy White will also share a  
sermon this weekend.*



## FINANCE COMMITTEE

We collected more than \$3,000 for the pipe organ preservation cost.

Over \$580 was collected for Ridge Rd. at the church summer play "Let's Go Fishing".

*Thank you for your generosity!*

Don't forget to use My E-offering to donate on-line or set up recurring giving! Go to [www.minookaumc.com](http://www.minookaumc.com) and click on the red "Give" button on the top of the webpage.



You can visit our website at [minookaumc.com](http://minookaumc.com) to find the monthly calendar. The Mustard Seed, Happenings, and bulletins can be found under our Resources on the website as well.

September 2022 news is due into the office no later than **Monday, August 15th**. If you have any questions or articles you would like in our next issue, please contact the office at 815.467.2322 or [mumc2322@gmail.com](mailto:mumc2322@gmail.com).



## GROUPS, BIBLE & BOOK STUDY

### BOOK GROUP



Join us Monday, August 22nd @ 7 p.m. The book selection for August is *The Lions of Fifth Avenue* by Fiona Davis.

Contact Cindy White with questions.

### FAITHTALK: BIBLE STUDY



Faithtalk meets Tuesdays at noon in the fellowship hall. All women are invited to join this Bible study based on "The Family Life Bible"

Contact Cindy White with questions.



How would you feel if you knew that people were praying for you, your concerns, or your family on a regular basis? Pretty comforting right! Come join us every Wednesday at 4 p.m. for approximately an hour. We come together based on the scripture in Matthew 18:18-20.

<sup>18</sup> "Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." <sup>19</sup> Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three are gathered in My name, I am there among them."

Prayer is powerful! We pray for each other, stand in agreement with each other, and we know our prayers are heard. If you can't make it in person, you can text Pastor Sarah or Karen Gaba and we will pray for your needs/concerns. Prayers get answers! We hope to see you and pray for you.

### Senior Exercise

*Senior exercise classes at our location have ended. Beginning July 26th classes will resume at the Minooka Village Hall in the community room.*



**Prayer Needs Healing & Recovery:**

Alex & Brie  
 (Mari Kirsch)  
 Baby Alex  
 (Vicky Napierkowski)  
 Baby Rocco  
 (Adrienne Hartman)  
 Officer Tyler B.  
 (Val Gunderson)  
 Beulah Carmichael  
 (Gus D.)  
 Chuck  
 (Cindy White)  
 Mel Coop  
 Joy Courtright  
 Sylvia Courtright  
 Rev. Gary Curl  
 (Alex Nolan)  
 Bonnie Davy  
 Gus DeGuzman  
 Nancy Fiske  
 (Jill Kohler)  
 Cindy Gossen

**Prayer Needs Healing & Recovery:**

Jeff & Jeanette Harris  
 Tianna Juley  
 Roslyn Kryszewski  
 Pegi Laneville  
 Carol Lockwood  
 Hannah Loverude  
 May  
 (Mindy Closen)  
 Dale Nave  
 Joyce O'Brien  
 Amy Pease  
 Bob Pesak  
 Bob Stelling  
 Sue, Suzanne & Cindy P.  
 Julie Thompson  
 John Tuebel  
 (Val Gunderson)  
 Jodi Trudeau  
 (Val Gunderson)  
 Ellis Wright  
 Ashton Yard  
 Joan Yunker

**All Military - Church Family**

Troy Herath  
 Charles Loverude  
 Dutch Nave  
 Bret Nemitz  
 Duane Schmitke  
 Ethan Staley

**\*Please let the office know when name(s) can be taken off the list.**

Dear Wonderful Ladies,  
 Thank you  
 for sharing your  
 church with us.  
 It was always  
 a pleasure to  
 work-out to your  
 delicious smells  
 as you prepped  
 meals in the  
 kitchen.  
 Many Blessings,  
 Tues. Thurs. Senior Fitness

**Minooka United Methodist Church**  
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 Minooka, IL 60447  
 815-467-2322

[www.minookaumc.com](http://www.minookaumc.com)

**Facebook: Minooka United Methodist Church**