

Volume 53 Issue 10

The Joy Is In The Giving

And Being Together!

Children's Message



## Senior Luncheon



# October 2022 MUSTARD SEED

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!

## Funeral Luncheon for Bonnie D.





### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

~Saturday, October 1st @ 3:45 p.m. - Fall Bible Study
~Sunday, October 2nd @ 8 a.m. - Fall Bible study
~Monday, October 3rd @ 1:00 p.m. - Afternoon Circle (Meet in Fellowship Hall.)
~Monday, October 3rd @ 5:45 p.m. - Fall Bible Study
~Tuesday, October 4th @ 10:30 a.m. - Fall Bible Study
~Tuesday, October 4th @ noon - Fall Bible Study
~Wednesday, October 5th @ 7:00 p.m. - Fall Bible Study
~Saturday, October 8th @ 7:30 a.m. - Men's Prayer Breakfast
~Wednesday, October 19th @ 11:30 a.m. - Senior Luncheon
~Saturday, October 29th @ 8 am. - Lord's Ladies Prayer Breakfast
~ October 29th & 30th - All Saints Day Services
~Sunday, October 30th from 2-4 p.m. - Trunk or Treat @ Heritage Woods











# Pastor's Page - October 2022

<sup>13</sup> In one body of Christ, we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." (Ephesians 4:13)

The proverb, "Rome wasn't built in a day," describes the current situation of MUMC and the sale of our current building. After removing two underground oil tanks in August, we hoped to quickly establish a closing date with a buyer. As it turned out, the Tier 1 letter for the tank removal was delayed due to an illness of the person in charge. Then, we learned that the buyer's loan lender needed an official letter from the EPA and not just the Tier 1 letter which we presented.

While this news is disappointing, let's remain hopeful. When I visited the late Bonnie Davy, she had always said, "Well.. I guess it is what it is." As your pastor, I am confident that this waiting time is a growing time. This is a time to pray and be patient. This is a time to praise and worship God, whose timing is always perfect. Thanks be to God, who invites us to trust and obey in all times and seasons.

I am grateful for the time I spent with my father in South Korea last month. We ate together. We worshipped together. We walked and exercised every day. For the first time in three decades, I celebrated Korean Thanksgiving Day (September 10) with my father. Spending time with my father taught me how I can love my father in practical and meaningful ways at this stage in our lives. I pray that our MUMC family will do likewise and learn to care for one another in practical and meaningful ways in this season of our lives.

One suggestion is to join a Fall Bible Study this month. The curriculum is "Better Decisions, Fewer Regrets" by pastor Andy Stanley. It's not too late to sign up. For six weeks, you'll share stories of faith, wisdom, wonder, and even struggles in your life. Likewise, you'll hear the stories of friends and neighbors. I pray that this is a time of encouragement and deepening faith as we confirm God's love in our lives.

Another idea is to connect with one of our service ministries. Even as a busy working mom or a retiree dealing with health issues, there are various ways you can serve others in Christ's name. For example, you can pick bags of candy at the grocery store for the Trunk or Treat (Oct. 30). You can buy extra pasta or peanut butter for the Food Pantry. You can invite friends and neighbors to the Senior Luncheon. You can send greeting cards to people who are going through difficult times. You can call, text, or email people who you have not seen at church for a while. You can offer prayers for people on our prayer list. The list can go on and on. If you have any questions about ministry opportunities, contact me (Pastor Sarah.)

While we wait for God's timing with the building project, let's remain obedient to Christ. Let's continue to meet together toward love and good deeds. Rather than becoming cynical, let's remain hopeful. Let us serve faithfully as ambassadors of Jesus Christ with everyone we encounter.

Join me in expressing appreciation for our Building and Trustee Committee. The construction on Ridge Road is coming along with work on the parking lot and winterization of the exterior walls. Let's continue to cover this construction with our prayers every day.

Let's pray for our Sunday School students and teachers. Let's pray for our youth and youth workers. I am grateful for the leadership of Katrina, Jill, and Will, who have blessed our children and youth. Let's continue to support our next-generation ministries with our prayers and support.

Fall is a time of reaping and harvesting. It's a season of thanksgiving and gratitude. May God bless you, your family, and the ministries of MUMC in the month ahead.

With Christ's love,

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 - Thursday 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





It has been two months since our move to our new pantry location. During those months we have moved, organized the pantry, and provided six days of pantry service to our families. So far, so good!

In order to provide efficient service, we found we need more people on pantry days. We have kept our veteran volunteers and added a few new ones but would like a few more volunteers to help with shopping, pantry days, and dating. We would welcome a one-time offer to a monthly offer. If you can help, please let us know.

I have been asked where you can leave your future donations. There are two delivery locations. One is inside the church.

There is a bin in the back right corner. The second place is on the porch of St. Mary's office.

To continue on the subject of donations, we need to restock our shelves after the move. We have a Wish List this month: Peanut Butter, 1# box of spaghetti, salad dressing, crackers, popcorn, jelly, oil & canned fruit

Thank you for your generous support. Without it, as I have said before, the pantry would not be successful. Until next month, stay healthy and enjoy the Fall season.

Finally, I would like to share this Rule.

Jean Jun and Virginia Guertin



#### "Faithful to the End"

When times are tough, we can be tempted to turn from Jesus' example of servant leadership. Yet Jesus did not call us to be servants only when it feels good. He Himself washed the feet of His disciples, including Judas, on the night when He was betrayed. We need to draw strength from our relationship with the Father. "The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake." (Psalm 23:1-3)

The Lord has given us another day to live and placed us in circumstances where we can influence those around us. He invites us to draw deeply of His Spirit as we make our way through each minute. "This, then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed. Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.

(1 Corinthians 4: 1-2) We need to look to the Lord today for spiritual strength so that we can be faithful in what He

has called us to do.

Blessings,

Pearl Lindley, Certified Lay Servant





#### October Sunday School Unit: "Seeking"

Date	Pre-K through 5th Grade
10/2	David Plays Music (Un-Birthday Party)
10/9	David and Goliath
10/16	David and Jonathan
10/23	Solomon Prays for Wisdom
10/30	Solomon Builds the Temple



#### **Children's Message Volunteers Needed**

We need volunteers to deliver the Children's Message at the start of Sunday service. The Sunday School Superintendent will work with you to coordinate your message with the Sunday School lesson for that week.

To sign up, contact Pastor Sarah or Katrina Nolan.



#### October Class Schedule

~October 9th, Class @ 11:00 a.m. (Zoom) - Common Heritage with All Christians & Our Protestant Heritage

~October 23rd, Class @ 10:45 a.m. (In-person) - Our United Methodist Heritage, UM Talk Funny, & UMC Beliefs

~October 30th - Trunk or Treat 2-4 p.m. (Wear a costume and bring candy.)

Our Confirmation Class includes: Addie, Lilly, & Tred Please keep them in your prayers as they continue this faith journey.





# COMMUNITY NEWS

#### Free Senior Luncheon October 19th @ 11:30 a.m.

"Forever Young"

We will hold a free lunch at St. Mary Church for ages 55 and better on the third Wednesday of the month! Invite friends and neighbors (55 years and older). Please make your reservation by calling the office at 815-467-2322 no later than October 14th this month.





The Food Pantry, which now operates out of the St. Mary's Church basement, is in need of the following items: peanut butter, 1 # boxes of spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, canned fruit pineapple pepper.

Donations can be placed in the bins in Fellowship Hall.

#### Mark Your Calendars! **MUMC Community Trunk or** Treat!

MUMC & Heritage Woods of Minooka are partnering to bring you Trunk or Treat 2022 on Sunday, October 30th from 2:00-4:00 pm! This event is open to the community! Heritage Woods is located at 701 Heritage Woods. Dr., Minooka.



#### **Prayer for Autumn Days**

God of the seasons,

there is a time for everything;

there is a time for dying and a time for rising.

We need courage to enter into

the transformation process.

God of autumn.

the trees are saying goodbye to their green, letting go of what has been.

We, too, have our moments of surrender, with all their insecurity and risk.

Help us to let go when we need to do so.

God of fallen leaves

lying in colored patterns on the ground,

our lives have their own patterns.

As we see the patterns of our own growth,

may we learn from them.

God of misty days and harvest moon nights,

there is always the dimension of mystery

and wonder in our lives.

We always need to recognize your power-filled presence.

May we gain strength from this.

God of harvest wagons and fields of ripened grain,

many gifts of growth lie within the season of our surrender.

We must wait for harvest in faith and hope.

Grant us patience when we do not see the blessings.

God of geese going south

for another season, your wisdom enables us

to know what needs to be left behind

and what needs to be carried into the future.

We yearn for insight and vision.

God of flowers

touched with frost and windows wearing white designs,

may your love keep our hearts

from growing cold in the empty seasons.

God of life,

you believe in us, you enrich us,

you entrust us with the freedom to choose life.

For all this, we are grateful.

Amen.

JOYCE RUPP





#### FINANCE COMMITTEE

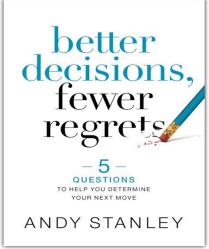
Last month we were pleased to share with you that our current general fund spending is being covered by our current incoming gifts. This is because of careful spending by all our committee chairs. On behalf of the Finance Committee, thank you for these efforts!

For those of you who wish to give to designated funds in addition to your regular pledge, we have some designated funds which could benefit from extra resources. For example, ASP Fund and Food Pantry are in good shape at this time, however, other funds such as the Ridge Road building fund and The Good Samaritan Fund would greatly appreciate any additional donations.

As Pastor Sarah explained so well in her sermon on "Hugging Porcupines and Squeezing Skunks", the Good Samaritan Fund at MUMC is one of the means for us to share our good fortune with others who are experiencing a particularly challenging time in their financial life. The Good Samaritan Fund is not part of the general fund but is a separate account that is used at the discretion of the pastor to help out persons in need of emergency grocery money or gas money to get to work. The dispensing of these funds is usually in the form of gift cards and is a confidential exchange between our pastor and the person in need. This is a good mission for all of us to support.

If you wish to donate to The Good Samaritan Fund or any other specific fund, please write that on your check and notate it on the offering envelope or in your e-offering. If you have any questions about this, please talk to Pastor Sarah or any member of the Finance Committee.







Our "All-Church Fall Bible Study" starts this weekend!

Good questions lead to better decisions. Discover game-changing questions to ask every time you make a decision--questions that will help you in your finances, relationships, career, and more.

Your decisions determine the direction and quality of your life. Your decisions create the story of your life. And while nobody plans to complicate their life with bad decisions, far too many people have no plan to make good decisions. This book will help you live differently.

In *Better Decisions, Fewer Regrets*, Andy Stanley will help you learn from experience and stop making bad decisions by integrating five questions into every decision you make, big or small.

#### You'll discover how to:

\*Develop a decision-making filter that reveals which choices will likely lead to positive results in your life.

\*Avoid selling yourself on bad ideas and making quick decisions when time is short.

\*Find truth and clarity in any tricky decision.

\*Improve relationships and heal division through better decisions.

\*Discover the reasons behind your decisions so you can move forward with positive changes. \*Consider the long-term impact of your choices so you can write a life story worth celebrating.

\*Easily identify any red flags that signal which decisions may result in future regrets.

Better Decisions, Fewer Regrets will set you up for success in every season of life, for the rest of your life.

Session 1: More than a Decision

Session 2: The Integrity Question

Session 3: The Legacy Question

Session 4: The Conscience Question

Session 5: The Maturity Question

Session 6: The Relationship Question

Sign up sheets can be found in the narthex.

Join one of these sessions.

\*Saturday @ 3:45 p.m. - October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, & November 5

\*Sunday @ 8 a.m. - October 2, 16, 23, 30, & November 6 (This session will not meet on October 9th).

\*Monday @ 5:45 p.m. (Zoom) - October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, & November 7

\*Tuesday @ 10:30 a.m. - October 4, 18 & November 1

\*Tuesday @ Noon - October 4, 11, 18, 25, November 1, & 8

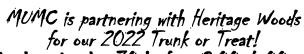
\*Wednesday @ 7 p.m. - October 5, 12, 19, 26, November 2, & 9

good questions lead to better decisions!



#### **Outreach Committee News**

### Mark Your Calendars!



Join us on Sunday, October 30th, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. The Outreach Committee is looking for donations of individually wrapped candy and volunteers to decorate their trunks. Come on out, open your trunk, show some decorations and pass out candul

A collection box for candy and sign-up sheets are located in the narthex. Thank you!





**MEMBERSHIP** 

CLASS



#### **New Member's Class**

Anyone interested in becoming a member of MUMC is invited to join this class on **Sunday**,

November 6th @ 10:30 a.m. Meet downstairs in the Senior High Sunday School room. The

class will cover the United Methodist history, theology, and local church's story.

New members will be initiated into the congregation during worship on November 13th during the 9:30 a.m. service. A reception with light snacks will be held after the service in Fellowship Hall.

Contact Karen Crawshaw with your interest.

#### ALL SAINTS DAY SERVICES

On Saturday, October 29th and Sunday, October 30th during worship we will honor the lives and memories of those who have entered into eternal life from October 15th 2021-October 14th, 2022

If you would like your loved one to be included submit your pictures (1-2) for the service before October 20th. Please send them through email (preferably) or drop them off. Mark your calendar and invite your family to attend these services in-person or online (9:30 a.m.).

Contact the office or Pastor Sarah if you have any question.







#### Charge Conference

The 2022 conference has been scheduled for Sunday,
November 13th at 5:30 p.m.



Each committee will need to submit a ministry highlight and possible online reports. Please be on the look out for an email from the

office outlining what each committee will need to submit. Thank you for your cooperation!

Northern Illinois Conference of UMC asked each local church to participate in this mission project - To help 750 asylum seekers (migrants from Texas) from Central & South America, we receive donation of New Small size clothing (especially socks, underwear, sports bras etc.), new First Aid kits (Band-aids, Bandages, etc), new Medications for adults and children (e.g. Ibuprofen, Acetaminophen, etc), NEW Personal Hygiene items (toiletries, feminine products, etc), NEW Duffle Bags/Small



Suitcases. You can drop off your donation at Channahon UMC(24751 West Eames St, Channahon 60410) between Tuesday to Friday 9am-1pm or contact Pastor Sarah.

# SPECIAL DAYS SPECIAL PEOPLE October

# October 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 World Communion Saturday 3:45 p.m. Fall Bible Study 5:00 p.m. Worship
2 World Communion Sunday 8:00 a.m. Fall Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School	3 1:00 p.m. UMW Circle 5:45 p.m. Fall Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Worship Comm. Mtg.	4 10:30 a.m. Fall Bible Study 12:00 p.m. Fall Bible Study	5 5:00 p.m. Prayer Partners 7:00 p.m. Fall Bible Study	6	7	8 7:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast 3:45 p.m. Fall Bible Study 5:00 p.m. Worship
COLUMBUS						
9 9:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School 10:40 a.m. Building & Trustee Mtg. 11:00 a.m. Confirmation (Zoom)	10 5:45 p.m. Fall Bible Study	11 12:00 p.m. Fall Bible Study	12 5:00 p.m. Prayer Partners 6:00 p.m. Outreach Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Fall Bible Study	13	14	15 3:45 p.m. Fall Bible Study 5:00 p.m. Worship
16 8:00 a.m. Fall Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School	17 5:45 p.m. Fall Bible Study	18 10:30 a.m. Fall Bible Study 12:00 p.m. Fall Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Finance Mtg.	19 11:30 a.m. Senior Luncheon 5:00 p.m. Prayer Partners 7:00 p.m. Fall Bible Study	20	21	22 3:45 p.m. Fall Bible Study 5:00 p.m. Worship
23 8:00 a.m. Fall Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Confirmation (In-person)	24 5:45 p.m. Fall Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Book Group	25 12:00 p.m. Fall Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Church Council	26 5:00 p.m. Prayer Partners 7:00 p.m. Fall Bible Study	27	28	29 <b>All Saints</b> 8:00 a.m. Lord's Ladies Prayer Breakfast 3:45 p.m. Fall Bible Study 5:00 p.m. Worship
30 <b>All Saints</b> 8:00 a.m. Fall Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship & Sunday School 2:00 p.m. Trunk or Treat	31 5:45 p.m. Fall Bible Study					

#### OCTOBER SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

October 1st Communion & Red T-shirts
LAY READER Mari Kirsch
October 2nd Communion & Red T-shirts

LAY READER Marlin Hartman
USHER(S) & GREETERS Volunteers Needed

October 8th

LAY READER Chris Vause

October 9th

LAY READER Mari Kirsch

USHER(S) & GREETERS Volunteers Needed

October 15th

LAY READER Mari Kirsch

October 16th

LAY READER Val Gunderson
USHER(S) & GREETERS Volunteers Needed

October 22nd

LAY READER Chris Vause

October 23rd

LAY READER Kim Nave

USHER(S) & GREETERS Volunteers Needed

October 29th

LAY READER Chris Vause

October 30th

LAY READER Kim Nave

USHER(S) & GREETERS Volunteers Needed



Fellowship Sign-up 10:30 a.m. Sunday

Could you sign up for one Sunday? There is a sign-up clip board in Fellowship Hall.

Contact Karen Gaba with question.

October 2	Outreach
October 9	Mari K.
October 16	Thelma White
October 23	Volunteer Needed
October 30	Volunteer Needed

Don't forget to use My E-offering to donate on-line or set up recurring giving! Go to <a href="www.minookaumc.com">www.minookaumc.com</a> and click on the red "Give" button on the top of the webpage.





⁄lessage

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

November 2022 news is due into the office no later than **Monday**, **October 17th**If you have any questions or articles you would

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.

#### GROUPS, BIBLE & BOOK STUDY

BOOK CLUB	<b>Book Group -</b> book selection "Home Front" by Kristin Hannah	Monday October 24th @ 7 PM			
WOMENS Breakfast	Lord's Ladies Prayer Breakfast Meet in the annex.	Saturday, October 29th @ 8 a.m.			
BREAKFAST	Men's Prayer Breakfast  Meet in the annex	Saturday, October 8th @ 7:30 a.m.			
Prouger Partner	Prayer Partners - prayer meeting  Meet in the sanctuary.	Wednesday @ 5 PM			
	UWF Circle <u>Meet in Fellowship Hall</u>	Monday, October 3rd @ 1 p.m.			

Fall Bible Study	Time	Location
Monday 10/3, 10, 17, 24, 31 & 11/7	5:45 p.m.	Zoom
<u>Tuesday</u> 10/4, 18, & 11/1	10:45 a.m.	Stelling Home
Tuesday 10/4, 11, 18, 25, 11/1 & 8	Noon	Fellowship Hall
Wednesday 10/5, 12, 19, 26, 11/ 2 & 9	7:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall
Saturday 10/1, 8, 15, 22, 29, & 11/5	3:45 a.m.	Fellowship Hall
Sunday (No meeting 10/9) 10/2, 16, 23, 30 & 11/6	8 a.m.	Fellowship Hall



#### Senior Exercise

The free classes offered by Morrís Hospítal now take place at Mínooka Víllage Hall.

#### <u>UWF Afternoon Circle</u>

Circle will start up again in October.
Meetings will be held in Fellowship Hall
on the first Monday of the month at
1:00 p.m. We will read and talk about
many of the women found in the Bible.
The next meeting will be
October 3rd. All women are invited to

**October 3rd. <u>ALL</u> women are invited to** join not just UMW members. We hope you will join us!

#### Prayer Needs Healing & Recovery:

Alex & Brie (Mari Kirsch) Officer Tyler B. (Val Gunderson) Baby Rocco

(Adrienne Hartman)

Robert Blagg (Cindy Gossen) Joy Courtright Sylvia Courtright Rev. Gary Curl (Alex Nolan) Gus DeGuzman Kathy Farmer (Chris Vause) Nancy Fiske (Jill Kohler)

Jeff & Jeanette Harris

Janet Harvey Martha Ann Harvey

Cole Herron (Cyndi Campbell)

#### **Prayer Needs Healing & Recovery:**

Tianna Juley Roslyn Kryszewski Pegi Laneuville Carol Lockwood MaryLou (Adřienne Hartman)

Mav

(Mindy Closen) Dale Nave Robert Nave Joyce O'Brien Amy Pease Bob Stelling Julie Thompson John & Karin Teubel (Val Gunderson) Jodi Trudeau (Val Gunderson)

Èllis Wright

Joan Yunker

Leslie Wzorek

**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.



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 5 p.m. for approximately an hour. We come togeth-

er 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. 19 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.

> Minooka United Methodist Church 205 West Church Street Minooka, IL 60447 815-467-2322

Www.minookaumc.com Facebook: Minooka United Methodist Church