

When do Groups meet next?

Book Group - "The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot" by Marianne Cronin Meets at Ridge Rd.	Monday 10/28 @ 7PM
Bible Study Reading "The Acts of the Apostles" Meets at Ridge Rd.	Thursday @ 6:30PM
Faithtalk - Bible Study Meets at Ridge Rd.	Tuesday @ Noon
Prayer Team Come pray for your needs and concerns. Meets at Ridge Rd.	Wednesday @ 5:00PM
Skeptic's Circle Meets at Starbucks	Tuesday 11/12 @ 6:30PM
Youth Group 6th through 12th Grades Meets at Ridge Rd	Wednesday @ 7:00PM
UWF Afternoon Circle Meets at Ridge Rd.	Monday 10/14 @ 1:30PM

For more information about our groups please contact the church office.

LEADERS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE

LAY READER VAL GUNDERSON
SONG LEADERS DALE LOCKWOOD, SUSAN SPENCER & RUTH SATORIUS

VOCAL EMSEMBLE RUTH SATORIUS, SUSAN SPENCER, DALE LOCKWOOD, JAIDEEN AGBAYANI, KIM NAVE, JENNIFER FERGUSON, & OLIVIA FERGUSON

CHURCH STAFF

MINISTERS ALL DISCIPLES OF JESUS
LEAD PASTOR REV. DAVE BUERSTETTA
OFFICE MANAGER MELISSA CANDLER
MUSIC DIRECTOR JILL KOHLER
SUNDAY SCHOOL DIRECTOR KATRINA NOLAN

CHURCH CONTACT

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"Why? Because We Love You!"



Welcome!

Minooka United Methodist Church

Sunday, October 20th, 2024 9:30am

Welcome to Minooka United Methodist Church
Sunday, October 20th, 2024 9:30am

* Stand if you are able

Entering Music

Welcoming Pastor Dave

Preparing

*Gathering Lay Reader

Reader: God is a God who calls.

Many Voices: We gather to worship and to hear that call.

Reader: God is a God who equips.

Many Voices: We gather to worship and to be shaped into the body of Christ.

Reader: God is a God who sends.

Many Voices: We gather to worship and to live our faith in the world through our practices of discipleship. Let us worship God together in this place where all are welcome!

*Singing "Welcome" W&S #3152

Verse 1

Let's walk together for a while and ask where we begin
To build a world where love can grow and hope can enter in,
To be the hands of healing and to plant the seed of peace,

Refrain

Singing welcome, welcome to this place
You're invited to come and know God's grace
All are welcome the love of God to share
'cause all of us are welcome here; All are welcome in this place.

~This Week at MUMC~

SUNDAY 20TH

9:30AM SUNDAY WORSHIP
10:45AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
11:00AM NEW MEMBER RECEPTION

MONDAY 21ST

TUESDAY 22ND

12:00PM FAIHTALK BIBLE STUDY
7:00PM CHURCH CONFERENCE

WEDNESDAY 23RD

5:00PM PRAYER TEAM
7:00PM YOUTH GROUP

THURSDAY 24TH

6:30PM BIBLE STUDY

FRIDAY 25TH

SATURDAY 26TH

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

~Sunday October 27th @ 2pm—Trunk or Treat at Heritage Woods
~Monday October 28th @ 7PM—Book Group
~Sunday November 3rd—All Saints Day

Thank you for generously giving of your presence and gifts!

A generous anonymous donor has committed to giving some of their investments to purchase an electronic sign for us to better communicate our identity to our community. Amazing! Thank you!

Attendance October 13th at MUMC

In person: 57; online: 22

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

20 Guy Carlson, Jr.
20 Katrina Nolan
20 Addison Satorius
22 Karen Gaba
22 Chris Miller
24 Don Akerberg
25 Chris Vause

LEARNING

Thursday Night Bible Study

Our Thursday night group is a great way to learn more about our faith and to get to know other believers in a safe and confidential setting! We are currently reading Daniel and Esther. You don't have to be a Bible scholar or expert; no need to even read ahead! **Our Thursday Bible Study has moved to 6:30pm. Thank you for your flexibility as we move to an earlier time!**

Book Group

The October book is *The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot* by Marianne Cronin. Seventeen-year-old Lenni Petterson lives on the Terminal Ward at the Glasgow Princess Royal Hospital. Though she's been told she's dying, Lenni still has plenty of living to do. Joining the hospital's arts and crafts class, she meets magnificent Margot, an eighty-three-year-old, purple-pajama-wearing, fruit-cake-eating rebel, who transforms Lenni's life in ways she never imagined.

As their friendship blooms, a world of stories opens up for these unlikely companions, who, between them, have been alive for one hundred years. Though their days are dwindling, both are determined to leave their marks on the world. Lenni and Margot devise a plan to create one hundred paintings showcasing the stories of the century they have lived - stories of love and loss, of courage and kindness, of unexpected tenderness and pure joy.

Though the end is near, life isn't quite done with these unforgettable women just yet. Delightfully funny and bittersweet, heartbreaking yet ultimately uplifting, this book reminds us of the preciousness of life as it considers the legacy we choose to leave, how we influence the lives of others after we're gone, and the wonder of a friendship that transcends time.

PLANNING

Some Planning Groups are committees who, well, plan and organize our ministries and events. These include Worship Committee, Christian Education & Youth Committee, and Outreach Committee. Other Planning Groups are responsible for our physical plant, financial support, or legal responsibilities. These include Board of Trustees, Finance Committee, and Staff-Parish Relations Committee. Church Council guides the overall working of the church, overseeing mission, ministry, and administration and is comprised of the Chairpersons of all our committees plus a few at-large members.

Most of our committee meetings are open, meaning anyone can attend. (However, only committee members have a vote in meetings.)

Church Conference

This Tuesday, October 22nd, at 7:00 PM we are holding our annual Church Conference. All are invited. **Don't miss our two exciting announcements!**

Why attend Church Conference on October 22nd at 7:00pm?

*To be welcomed, it is an open meeting

*To share triumphs and challenges from the past year

*To share hopes and plans for the next year

*To hear an inspiring message from our Bishop Dan Schwerin (rhymes with 'tangerine'!)

*To practice gathering, one of our core commitments as disciples of Jesus
Hope to see you there!

Verse 2

Let's talk together of a time when we will share a feast,
Where pride and power kneel to serve the lonely and the least,
And joy will set the table as we join our hands to pray,

(Refrain)

Verse 3

Let's dream together of the day when earth and heaven are one,
A city built of love and light, the new Jerusalem,
Where our mourning turns to dancing, every creature lifts its
voice,

(Refrain)

Receiving New Members

Introduction

Siblings in Christ,

God is love. We often experience God's love as grace, a gift offered to us without price. Through this reaffirmation of our desire to follow God in the Way of Jesus Christ, we renew the covenant declared at our baptism, acknowledge what God is doing for us, and affirm our commitment to Christ's holy church.

We happily present **Jaideen Agbayani** and **John Auclair** who will reaffirm their faith and join our congregation today!

Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith

Jaideen and John, on behalf of the whole church, I ask you:
Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, repent of your sin?

I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in His grace, and promise to serve Him in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

I do.

To the congregation of Minooka United Methodist Church, do you, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include Jaideen and John in your care?

With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Jesus the Christ. We will surround Jaideen and John with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

Reception into the Minooka United Methodist Church

Jaideen and John, as members of Christ's universal Church, will you be loyal to The United Methodist Church, and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?

I will.

Jaideen and John, as members of this congregation, the Minooka United Methodist Church, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness?

I will.

Commendation and Welcome

Each of you here today are members of the household of God. To you and to the whole congregation of Minooka United Methodist Church, I commend Jaideen and John to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

SERVING

Helping Hands Food Pantry

Our Helping Hands Food Pantry is now serving 40 area families! We have a high need for protein-rich foods and monetary donations. Monies received will be used for milk and eggs. Any of these canned high protein foods are wonderful donations: tuna, chicken, salmon, Spam, peanut butter, baked beans, pork and beans, and pinto beans. We also need boxed spaghetti pasta and rice. Thank you so much for your continuing support of this ministry feeding our neighbors in need!

Grief Support Group

Our monthly Grief Support Group has begun and will meet on the second Thursday of each month at 12pm in the Sanctuary. It is open to anyone grieving a death. Contact group leaders Karen Pubentz or Chris Vause with any questions. Our next gathering will be November 14th.

UMCOR—Hurricane Helene Relief

UMCOR is the disaster relief arm of the United Methodist Church. UMCOR Early Response Teams are helping with removal of debris, tarping of roofs, and cleaning out of homes in hard-hit areas. Giving through UMCOR means 100% of your gift goes to onsite relief efforts because UMCOR's operational costs are funded through other means. To contribute to UMCOR's Hurricane Helene Relief in person, bring or mail a check marked Hurricane Relief in the memo.



We would appreciate donations of candy for the Trunk or Treat. Thank you in advance!

Chair Yoga Time?

Our Outreach Committee requests your input! We're attempting to ascertain level of interest in a Chair Yoga Class. Chair Yoga can help people exercise without putting pressure on joints, reduce the fear of falling, and help those who are not used to exercise to begin improving their strength and balance. We're thinking twice per week, morning and/or afternoon, but exact days/times are TBD. For now, we just need to know if you are interested! If so, please tell Gail Flatness at 815-342-5535.

***Singing** "For the Healing of the Nations" UMH #428

Verse 1

For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord,
For a just and equal sharing
Of the things that earth affords;
To a life of love in action

Help us rise and pledge our word, help us rise and pledge our
word.

Verse 2

Lead us forward into freedom,
From despair Your world release,
That, redeemed from war and hatred,
All may come and go in peace.

Show us how through care and goodness
Fear will die and hope increase, fear will die and hope increase.

Verse 3

All that kills abundant living,
Let it from the earth be banned;
Pride of status, race, or schooling,
Dogmas that obscure Your plan.
In our common quest for justice

May we hallow life's brief span, may we hallow life's brief span.

Verse 4

You, Creator-God, have written
Your great name on humankind;
For our growing in Your likeness
Bring the life of Christ to mind,
That by our response and service

Earth its destiny may find, earth its destiny may find.

***Sending Forth** Pastor Dave

Exiting Music

Jaideen and John, we give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of the United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. Amen!

Welcome our newest members, **Jaideen Agbayani** and **John Auclair!**

Conversing With Children

Praying Lay Reader

[Quiet prayer]

Reader: Goodness isn't always popular, Jesus. There are those who doubt that it has value, that fear that goodness only leaves us vulnerable and unable to navigate the complexities of the real world. But, we believe that the opposite is true, that it is goodness that must ultimately prevail, and goodness that holds the key to the wholeness and abundance we seek. Yet, we struggle to manifest the fruits of the Spirit. We know the whole law is summed up in the single commandment to love our neighbor as ourselves. Still we confess we create fences around ourselves to keep neighbors out and tell ourselves we have no responsibility to them or for them. We wish we were different.

[Quiet reflection]

Reader: So we pray for forgiveness and trust that You are our Redeemer. We pray for Your goodness to infiltrate every place where callous self-interest humiliates and impoverishes others; where casual disregard for the common good undermines security and neighborliness; where unexamined or overstated fear addicts us to control; where our obsession with the immediate blinds us to the consequences of our actions. Our prayer continues as Jesus taught us, saying...[Lord's Prayer UMH #894]

Singing

Vocal Ensemble

“You Are My All in All” & “How Great is Our God”

Reading Scripture Galatians 5:13-26 (The Message) Lay Reader

¹³⁻¹⁵ It is absolutely clear that God has called you to a free life. Just make sure that you don't use this freedom as an excuse to do whatever you want to do and destroy your freedom. Rather, use your freedom to serve one another in love; that's how freedom grows. For everything we know about God's Word is summed up in a single sentence: Love others as you love yourself. That's an act of true freedom. If you bite and ravage each other, watch out—in no time at all you will be annihilating each other, and where will your precious freedom be then?

¹⁶⁻¹⁸ My counsel is this: Live freely, animated and motivated by God's Spirit. Then you won't feed the compulsions of selfishness. For there is a root of sinful self-interest in us that is at odds with a free spirit, just as the free spirit is incompatible with selfishness. These two ways of life are contrary to each other, so that you cannot live at times one way and at times another way according to how you feel on any given day. Why don't you choose to be led by the Spirit and so escape the erratic compulsions of a law-dominated existence?

¹⁹⁻²¹ It is obvious what kind of life develops out of trying to get your own way all the time: repetitive, loveless, cheap sex; a stinking accumulation of mental and emotional garbage; frenzied and joyless grabs for happiness; trinket gods; magic-show religion; paranoid loneliness; cutthroat competition; all-consuming-yet-never-satisfied wants; a brutal temper; an impotence to love or be loved; divided homes and divided lives; small-minded and lopsided pursuits; the vicious habit of depersonalizing everyone into a rival; uncontrolled and uncontrollable addictions; ugly parodies of community. I could go on.

This isn't the first time I have warned you, you know. If you use your freedom this way, you will not inherit God's kingdom.

²²⁻²³ But what happens when we live God's way? He brings gifts into our lives, much the same way that fruit appears in an orchard—things like affection for others, exuberance about life, serenity. We develop a willingness to stick with things, a sense of compassion in the heart, and a conviction that a basic holiness permeates things and people. We find ourselves involved in loyal commitments, not needing to force our way in life, able to marshal and direct our energies wisely.

²³⁻²⁴ Legalism is helpless in bringing this about; it only gets in the way. Among those who belong to Christ, everything connected with getting our own way and mindlessly responding to what everyone else calls necessities is killed off for good—crucified.

²⁵⁻²⁶ Since this is the kind of life we have chosen, the life of the Spirit, let us make sure that we do not just hold it as an idea in our heads or a sentiment in our hearts, but work out its implications in every detail of our lives. That means we will not compare ourselves with each other as if one of us were better and another worse. We have far more interesting things to do with our lives. Each of us is an original.

Reader: May the Fount of Wisdom bless the words we have read and plant them deeply in our minds, our hearts, and our lives.

Many Voices: Amen.

Proclaiming “Why? Because We Love You!” Pastor Dave

Giving Pastor Dave

Blessing our Gifts with Music and Prayer Lay Reader

Many Voices: Loving and welcoming God, as we bring our tithes and offering to you this morning, help us open ourselves to a wider definition of discipleship. Bless these gifts and use them to advance your kingdom. Remind us that true greatness always comes through serving. Amen.