

When do Small Groups meet next?

<b>Book Group</b> - "Walking on Water" by Richard Paul Evans	Monday 09/22 @ 7pm
<b>Bible Study</b> Meets at Minooka UMC	Thursday @ 7:30PM
<b>Chair Yoga</b> Meets at Minooka UMC	Mon. @ 11:15am Thurs. @ 5:30pm
<b>Faithtalk - Bible Study</b> Meets at Minooka UMC	Tuesday @ Noon
<b>Grief Support Group</b> Meets at Minooka UMC	Thursday 9/11 @ 12 noon
<b>Prayer Team</b> Meets at Minooka UMC	Wednesday @ 5:00PM
<b>Skeptic's Circle</b> Meets at the Minooka Library	Tuesday 9/9 @ 6:30PM
<b>United Women in Faith Afternoon Circle</b> Meets at Minooka UMC	Monday 9/8 @ 1:30pm
<b>Youth Group</b> 6th through 12th Grades Meets at Minooka UMC	Wednesday's @ 7:00PM

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

**LEADERS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE**

LAY READER VAL GUNDERSON  
SONG LEADERS RUTH SATORIUS, GAIL GIRARD,

COMMUNION SERVERS MARY KIRSCH & MARY RAY

ACCOMPANIST  
MINISTERS  
LEAD PASTOR  
OFFICE MANAGER  
MUSIC DIRECTOR  
SUNDAY SCHOOL DIRECTOR

**CHURCH STAFF**  
ALL DISCIPLES OF JESUS  
REV. DAVE BUERSTETTA  
MELISSA CANDLER  
JILL KOHLER  
KATRINA NOLAN

**CHURCH CONTACT**

PHONE 815-467-2322  
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MUMCFINANCIALSECRETARY@GMAIL.COM

**Parable Club: Grapes Aplenty?**



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**Welcome!**

**Minooka United Methodist Church**

**Sunday, September 7, 2025 9:30am**

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Welcome to Minooka United Methodist Church

September 7, 2025 9:30am

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\* Stand if you are able

ENTERING MUSIC

WELCOMING

Pastor Dave

PREPARING

\*GATHERING

Lay Reader

Reader: What a generous God we worship! What an extravagant Creator, what a Source of abundance! God fills the universe with stars and galaxies beyond number; fills the world with creatures and objects, colors and shapes, types and varieties, more than we can apprehend, builds it all on atoms, molecules, and quarks too small to see, too many to imagine.

Many Voices: We thank You, gracious and giving God, and we praise You!

Reader: What a vibrant life this is! What an amazing array of experiences, relationships and opportunities! God provides us with minds and bodies, hearts and souls to perceive and enjoy all that life contains; calls us to appreciate each unique moment, each special gift.

Many Voices: We thank You, gracious and giving God, and we praise You!

Reader: What an amazing Savior is ours! What a self-giving, compassionate Lord! God enters our world and shared its challenges, lived and died as one of us, has risen, and opens the door to full, exuberant, abundant life.

Many Voices: We thank You, gracious and giving God, and we praise You!

~This Week at MUMC~

SUNDAY 7TH

9:30AM WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

10:45AM SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:45AM CONFIRMATION INFORMATION GATHERING



MONDAY 8TH

11:15AM CHAIR YOGA

TUESDAY 9TH

12:00PM BIBLE STUDY

6:30PM SKEPTIC'S CIRCLE @ LIBRARY

WEDNESDAY 10TH

10:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE @ PARK POINTE

5:00PM PRAYER TEAM

7:00PM YOUTH GROUP

THURSDAY 11TH

12:00PM GRIEF SUPPORT

5:30PM CHAIR YOGA

7:30PM BIBLE STUDY

8AM-2PM SUPPORT MUMC GARAGE SALE @ 314 N WABASSO ST

FRIDAY 12TH

8AM-2PM SUPPORT MUMC GARAGE SALE @ 314 N WABASSO ST

SATURDAY 13TH

8AM-2PM SUPPORT MUMC GARAGE SALE @ 314 N WABASSO ST

Thank you for your commitments of gathering and giving!

Attendance August 31st at MUMC

In person total: 58 online: 14

General Fund Giving for 8/31: \$1,485.65

Total giving in all for 8/31: \$1,710.65

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- 10 Derek Dailey
- 11 Mason Smith
- 12 Karen Crawshaw
- 12 Caleb Froidcoeur

## **GARAGE SALE TO SUPPORT MUMC**

Location: 314 N. Wabasso St. Thursday through Saturday, September 11th through September 13th, during the village-wide garage sales. All proceeds from this garage sale will benefit MUMC. (Please note this garage sale event is NOT at MUMC on Ridge Rd but at 314 N Wabasso St.) We are in need of volunteers! Please see Gail Flatness.

## **WEEKLY SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH GROUP**

Sunday School for children in Preschool-5th grade meets at 10:45 AM following our worship service. Youth Group for students in 6th-12th grades meets Wednesday evenings 7:00-8:00 PM. All our Sunday School teachers and Youth Group leaders complete Safe Gathering training and a background check.

## **THURSDAY EVENING CHAIR YOGA RETURNING SEPTEMBER 11TH**

Meet in the multi-purpose room for gentle movement and mindfulness in this accessible yoga class, perfect for all ages and fitness levels. No fee; free -will offering collected. Chair Yoga meets twice per week: Mondays from 11:15AM to 12:00Noon with Instructor Lu. Thursdays (beginning Sept. 11) from 5:15-6:00PM with Instructor Katy.

## **SENIOR LUNCH RETURNS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH**

“Forever Young” Senior Luncheon is so glad to be BACK! On the third Wednesday of the month, we hold a free lunch at St. Mary’s Parish Hall for ages 55 and better! Invite friends and neighbors (55 years and older) and plan to have fun! Due to the popularity of the luncheon please make your reservation by calling [815-467-2322](tel:815-467-2322). We are returning September 17th at 11:30am. See you there!

**\*SINGING** “Let All Things Now Living” The Faith We Sing #2008

### Verse 1

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
To God the Creator triumphantly raise,  
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,  
Who guides us and leads to the end of our days.  
God's banners fly o'er us; God's light goes before us,  
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,  
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,  
As forward we travel from light into light.

### Verse 2

The Law God enforces, the stars in their courses  
And sun in its orbit obediently shine;  
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,  
The deeps of the ocean proclaim the Divine.  
We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing;  
With glad adoration a song let us raise,  
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:  
To God in the highest Hosanna and praise!

## **CONVERSING WITH CHILDREN**

### **PRAYING**

Lay Reader

[Quiet prayer for contemplation]

Reader: How did it happen, God? How did we come to believe in scarcity? In “not enough to go around;” In “you gotta look after yourself”? How did we miss the plenty bursting out around us? How did we fall for the deception that what we can grasp in our hands would ever be enough? How did we grow so blind and so foolish, that we would allow so much beauty and life, so much joy and laughter, so much sharing and love, to pass us by unnoticed?

Reader: How poor we have become, and how poor we have made others, simply because we forgot your infinite, overflowing abundance. We allowed ourselves to think that sharing and giving leaves us with less. We nurtured appetites that are never satisfied unless they have far more than is needed, thinking our gluttony would silence our fear. Forgive us, and teach us about your generosity again.

[Quiet prayer for contemplation]

Reader: God of Justice, may you pardon our sins and lead us in the life path of justice, peace, and the grace of God. Remind us that you are able and willing to do far more than we can imagine. Open our eyes to the plenty we enjoy, the plenty we can share, and all the plentiful goodness in our world that cannot be owned, but can be enjoyed by all. Our prayer concludes as Jesus taught us, saying... [Lord's Prayer, UMH #894]

**\*SINGING**

"Pass it on"

UM Hymnal #572

Verse 1

It only takes a spark  
To get a fire going,  
And soon all those around  
Can warm up in its glowing.  
That's how it is with God's love  
Once you've experienced it;  
You spread God's love to everyone;  
You want to pass it on.

## CONFIRMATION INFORMATION TODAY

Who's invited?

Students in grades 7-8 and their parent(s)/guardian(s) are invited to a Confirmation Information Meeting today. We'll gather right after the conclusion of our 9:30am worship service. Our Confirmation Cohort begins Sunday, September 14th.

The purpose of Confirmation is to help students hear God's call in their lives and equip them as disciples of Jesus.

The purpose of our meeting today is to share our process and the expectations of the families who choose to join Confirmation.

## WHAT'S NEXT? NEW MEMBER EXPLORATION

What's New Member Exploration?

- If you recently started attending worship and want to learn more about Minooka UMC—this group is for you.
- If you have been involved for a while and want to learn what is expected of members but aren't certain about joining—this group is for you.
- If you are ready to commit to being a member and want to know how to join—this group is for you.

This short-term group meets after worship (11:00-11:45am)  
Sundays, September 21, 28, and October 5.

**Register for this group by emailing Office Manager Melissa Candler—[admin@minookaumc.com](mailto:admin@minookaumc.com)**

Questions? Contact Pastor Dave—[pastordavemumc@gmail.com](mailto:pastordavemumc@gmail.com)

**\*SINGING**

“Living Spirit, Holy Fire” Worship & Song #3109

Verse 1

Living Spirit, holy fire,  
Burning bright to light our way,  
Blaze among us and inspire  
Lives that praise you day by day.

Verse 2

Warm us, draw your people near  
When our love draws weak or cold.  
Free our frozen hearts from fear,  
That each story may be told.

Verse 3

Melt away the masks we wear,  
Hiding what we know and feel.  
Risking growth, we want to share  
Love in action, love that’s real.

Verse 4

Open hearts, affirm us all,  
Many splended, one in you,  
We embrace the work, the call:  
You are making all things new.

**\*SENDING FORTH**

Pastor Dave

**EXITING MUSIC**

Verse 2

What a wondrous time is spring,  
When all the trees are budding;  
The birds begin to sing,  
The flowers start their blooming.  
That's how it is with God's love  
Once you've experienced it;  
You want to sing, it's fresh like spring,  
You want to pass it on.

Verse 3

I wish for you, my friend,  
This happiness that I've found;  
You can depend on Him,  
It matters not where you're bound.  
I'll shout it from the mountain top;  
I want my world to know;  
The Lord of love has come to me,  
I want to pass it on.

**READING SCRIPTURE**

Lay Reader

Matthew 20:1-16 (NRSVUE)

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup> After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup> When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, <sup>4</sup> and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. <sup>5</sup> When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup> And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ <sup>7</sup> They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ <sup>8</sup> When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’

<sup>9</sup> When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius. <sup>10</sup> Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. <sup>11</sup> And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup> saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' <sup>13</sup> But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? <sup>14</sup> Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup> Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous? <sup>16</sup> So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

Reader: May God bless the reading, hearing, and living of these words.

**Many Voices: Amen.**

**PROCLAIMING** Parable Club: Grapes Aplenty? Pastor Dave

**GIVING** Pastor Dave



**BLESSING OUR GIFTS with MUSIC and PRAYER** Lay Reader

**Many Voices: Loving, Generous God, receive these gifts—offered not from perfection but from hearts seeking you. Use them to shape the world and us to be more reflective of your love. Amen.**

## **CELEBRATING COMMUNION**

Pastor Dave: This is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world—with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth—in which Christ became incarnate.

**Many Voices: All are welcome at this table—we who have much faith and we who would like to have more; we who have tried to follow Jesus and we who have failed. Christ invites us all to meet him here.**

Pastor Dave: Loving God, Fount of Justice, Jesus confronted the powers of greed and evil at the cost of his life—but You triumphed over death. By water and the Spirit You call us to continue his work until we and all people are truly free. So we remember the last night Jesus gathered with his friends. At that table, surrounded by community, Jesus took bread, gave thanks for it, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying:

**Many Voices: "This bread is broken as my body will be broken. Eat this and remember me."**

Pastor Dave: That night, at that table surrounded by community, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks for it, and shared it with his disciples saying:

**Many Voices "This cup is poured out as my blood will be poured out. Drink this and remember me."**

Pastor Dave: With thanksgiving we eat and drink. With joy we remember.

**Many Voices: And with Christ's inclusive love we gather together around his table. Amen.**

[The United Methodist Church offers open Communion. Meaning all are welcome at this table. Today we serve by intinction: lightly dip the piece of bread into the cup then eat. Self-contained packets of bread and juice are also available. All the bread is gluten free. Walk down the center aisle to receive; return via side aisles. If you have mobility issues, we will bring the elements to you.]