

When do Small Groups meet next?

Advent Study with Kim Meets at Minooka UMC	Sunday @ 8am
Advent Study with Cindy Meets at Minooka UMC	Tuesday @ Noon
Advent Study with Pastor Dave Meets at Minooka UMC	Thursday @ 7pm
Book Group - Book Group will not meet in December	Monday 1/26 @ 7pm
Chair Yoga Meets at Minooka UMC	Mon. @ 11:45am Thurs. 12/4, & 12/11 @ 5:30pm
Grief Support Group Meets at Minooka UMC	Thursday 12/11 @ 12 noon
Line Dancing Meets at Minooka UMC in the Fellowship Room	12/01 @ 1pm
Prayer Team Meets at Minooka UMC	Wednesday @ 5:00PM
Skeptic's Circle Meets at Brick & Ivy Coffee Co. 27754 Bluegrass Dr, Channahon, IL 60410	Tuesday 12/9 @ 6:30PM
United Women in Faith Afternoon Circle Meets at Minooka UMC	Monday 12/8 @ 1:30pm
Youth Group 6th through 12th Grades Meets at Minooka UMC	Wednesday @ 7:00PM

LEADERS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE

LAY READER
SONG LEADERS

VAL GUNDERSON
RUTH SATORIUS, GAIL GIRARD,
SUSAN SPENCER

CHURCH STAFF

MINISTERS
LEAD PASTOR
OFFICE MANAGER
MUSIC DIRECTOR
SUNDAY SCHOOL DIRECTOR

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

CHURCH CONTACT

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MUMCFINANCIALSECRETARY@GMAIL.COM

What Do You Fear?



Welcome!

Minooka United Methodist Church

Sunday, November 30, 2025 9:30am

Welcome to Minooka United Methodist Church
November 30, 2025 9:30am

* Stand if you are able

ENTERING MUSIC

WELCOMING

Pastor Dave

PREPARING

***GATHERING & ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING**

Vause & Gunderson Families

Family: In a world full of fear, where do you see hope?

Many Voices: We see hope when we look to the next generation. We feel hopeful when we gather together. We know hope, deep in our bones, when we dream of a better world.

Family: You are right. Even in a fearful world, hope is all around us. Today we light the candle of hope as a reminder of this good news. May this flicker of light help us remember that we have reason to hope.

[Light 1 blue candle]

Many Voices: Thanks be to God! Amen.

***SINGING** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" UMH #196

Verse 1

Come Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

~This Week at MUMC~

SUNDAY 30TH

8:00AM ADVENT STUDY WITH KIM
9:30AM WORSHIP EXPERIENCE
10:45AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
11:00AM GOOD FUTURES ACCELERATOR MEETING

MONDAY DEC 1ST

11:45AM CHAIR YOGA
1:00PM LINE DANCING
6:00PM CUB SCOUTS MEET

TUESDAY 2ND

12:00PM ADVENT STUDY WITH CINDY
6:30PM FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY 3RD

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

THURSDAY 4TH

7:00PM ADVENT STUDY WITH PASTOR DAVE

FRIDAY 5TH

SATURDAY 6TH



Thank you for your commitments of gathering and giving!

Attendance November 23rd at MUMC

In person total: 79 online: 14

General Fund Giving for 11/23: \$4,013.15

Total giving in all for 11/23: \$4,379.46

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

A Very Merry
Unbirthday
to everyone!



HELPING HANDS FOOD PANTRY IS IN NEED OF DONATIONS

We have set another record and we are now serving 54 families. We are so grateful for your generosity making that possible. We are thankful that we are able to respond to increased hunger in our community due to the delay in SNAP benefits; however we are still in need of your help . Some items we are in need of are: complete pancake mix, pancake syrup, boxed potatoes, canned pasta (Spaghetti O's, ravioli, etc), pasta sauce, spaghetti noodles, and cereal. All food and toiletry donations are appreciated. Thank you!

IMPACTED BY SNAP DELAYS?

Have you been impacted by SNAP delays or loss of income? Are you or your neighbors having difficulty putting meals on the table? Our Helping Hands Food Pantry is "neighbors helping neighbors" and supported by MUMC and St. Mary's Church. For confidential food assistance, please contact Melissa in the church office at 815-467-2322 or Chris Vause at 815-409-5599.

ADVENT STUDY SMALL GROUPS

Gathering with others in small groups of about 6-10 people is one of the best ways to learn and to grow our faith. Our Advent Studies meet for just a few weeks:

Sundays Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14, 21 at 8:00am facilitated by Kim Nave
Tuesdays Dec. 2, 9, 16 at 12:00noon facilitated by Cindy White
Thursdays Dec. 4, 11, 18 at 7:00pm facilitated by Pastor Dave

Our Advent Study explores the texts and themes of the season through scripture, poetry, music, and art. There is no cost to participate; all materials for the study are provided. There is no homework required. There is no sign up required; you can just show up. No prior bible reading or knowledge or expertise needed. We will all learn as we go along, exploring what the text says, what it leaves unsaid, what history and tradition tell us about the text, and how our own experience influences our reading. All are welcome.

Whether you're participating in a small group or not, we invite you to pick up an Advent Devotional from the ushers table.

Verse 2

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

CONVERSING WITH CHILDREN

PRAYING

Lay Reader

[Quiet prayer for centering and reflection]

Call to Confession

Reader: Friends, if you long to feel closer to God, then the Prayer of Confession is a step in the right direction. For in the Prayer of Confession, we lay our hearts before God. We pour out the truth of our lives. We do not hide anything from our Creator, and in that simple act, God somehow always feels closer. So join me in this prayer. Join me as we invite God to draw closer, to break in here:

Prayer of Confession

Many Voices: Ever-present God, we long to feel you close. We long to feel your presence in our lives. We long for you to break through the chaos and suffering of this world. However, if we're honest, we rarely stand still long enough to feel you in our midst. Forgive our rushing and distractions. Forgive our wandering hearts, and center us in this space. Remind us that even in the time of Herod, even on the longest nights, you are always there.

[Quiet prayer for reflection]

Words of Forgiveness

Reader: Found Family of faith, even when we doubt God's presence, even when we fail to notice God's fingerprints in this world, God is always moving closer to us. Hear and believe the good news this Advent season:

Many Voices: Nothing can keep God's love away. We are seen. We are forgiven. We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

Prayers for the World

Reader: In-breaking God, every time we read the story of Zechariah in the temple, we remember that you are a God that draws near. You are a God that breaks into the messy middle of our lives to offer hope, love, and good news. You are a God who sees our fears and offers words of comfort. Compassionate God, the hurt and longing in this world is enough to leave us speechless. So just as you did for Zechariah, speak to us. Remind us that we are not alone and that our prayers have been heard. Our prayer concludes as Jesus taught us, saying... [Lord's Prayer UM Hymnal #894]

***SINGING** "Wait for the Lord" Worship & Song #3049 (x3)

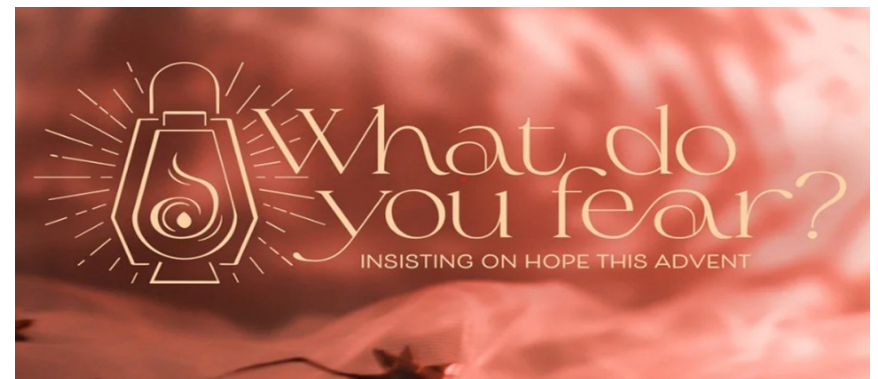
Wait for the Lord,
Whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord:
Keep watch, take heart!

In the Time of Herod

I didn't live during Herod's time—that brutal, murderous king, God save his soul.

But even hundreds of years later, I know the prayers of his people. I know the prayers of the mothers and the children under his rule. I know the prayers of the young men under his angry arm. I know their prayers, because anyone who has ever lived in this soft world for more than two days knows how to pray for a miracle. We rub our hands together. We fold weary shoulders in, a cage of bone to protect our bleeding hearts. We sing, we shall overcome and bind my wandering heart to thee. We walk across bridges and in front of powerful buildings. We cover our cars in stickers that scream, we will not give up! We allow a hungry cry to slip from our lips, giving our lament a life of its own (with room to dance!). And when all of that is said and done, we whisper to our creator, God, break through the yelling and the fear. Break through the violence and the oppression. Get past the Herod's of this world, and come be here. Like every bleeding heart before, we pray for a miracle.

—Prayer by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org



Christmas Schedule:

Saturday, December 20th, Longest Night Service @ 6:00pm
Wednesday, December 24th, Christmas Eve—
Worship for families @ 4:00pm
Worship with Communion @ 9:00pm

***SINGING**

The Faith We Sing #2091
“The King of Glory Comes”

Refrain

The king of glory comes, the nation rejoices.
Open the gates be-fore him, lift up your voices

Verse 1

Who is the king of glory; How shall we call Him?
He is Emmanuel, the promised of ages.

Refrain

The king of glory comes, the nation rejoices.
Open the gates be-fore him, lift up your voices

Verses 2

In all of Galilee, In city or village,
he goes among his people cur-ing their illness.

Refrain

The king of glory comes, the nation rejoices.
Open the gates be-fore him, lift up your voices

Verse 3

Sing then of David's son, our savior and brother;
In all of Galilee was never another.

Refrain

The king of glory comes, the nation rejoices.
Open the gates be-fore him, lift up your voices

***SENDING FORTH**

Pastor Dave

EXITING MUSIC

Some liturgy by Rev. Sarah Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

READING SCRIPTURE Luke 1:5-13 (The Message) Lay Reader

⁵⁻⁷ During the rule of Herod, King of Judea, there was a priest assigned service in the regiment of Abijah. His name was Zachariah. His wife was descended from the daughters of Aaron. Her name was Elizabeth. Together they lived honorably before God, careful in keeping to the ways of the commandments and enjoying a clear conscience before God. But they were childless because Elizabeth could never conceive, and now they were quite old.

⁸⁻¹² It so happened that as Zachariah was carrying out his priestly duties before God, working the shift assigned to his regiment, it came his one turn in life to enter the sanctuary of God and burn incense. The congregation was gathered and praying outside the Temple at the hour of the incense offering. Unannounced, an angel of God appeared just to the right of the altar of incense. Zachariah was paralyzed in fear.

¹³⁻¹⁵ But the angel reassured him, “Don’t fear, Zachariah. Your prayer has been heard. Elizabeth, your wife, will bear a son by you. You are to name him John. You’re going to leap like a gazelle for joy, and not only you—many will delight in his birth. He’ll achieve great stature with God.

¹⁵⁻¹⁷ “He’ll drink neither wine nor beer. He’ll be filled with the Holy Spirit from the moment he leaves his mother’s womb. He will turn many sons and daughters of Israel back to their God. He will herald God’s arrival in the style and strength of Elijah, soften the hearts of parents to children, and kindle devout understanding among hardened skeptics—he’ll get the people ready for God.”

Reader: With-us God, in the time of Moses, you spoke through water in the desert and a pillar of smoke. In the time of Herod, you spoke through angel choruses and unlikely miracles. In every time you have been speaking.

Many Voices: So today, in our time, speak again. Break through the chatter and the distraction of our weary minds and speak to us once more through the text we just read. Amen.

PROCLAIMING

Pastor Dave

What Do You Fear?

***SINGING**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Lyrics by Avery Arden of binarybreakingworship.com

O come, o come compassionate Divine,
And ransom captive Palestine
That mourns with tears that will not be soothed
Till empires fall and nations’ hearts are moved.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! God’s justice is at hand
To liberate the people and the land.

O come, o bright and ever-burning star;
Bring Gaza comfort from afar!
Dispel from her the shadow of death
That murders dignity and chokes out breath.

Refrain

O come, o Wisdom from on high,
Take up the outcast’s cause, the captive’s cry.
Guide us to build your kingdom on earth
Where all faiths flourish, and the last are first.

Refrain

O come, o King of Peace and Justice, break
All weapons down, and from them ploughshares make.
Let all tears dry, all peoples respond:
“We are each other’s magnitude and bond.”

Refrain

GIVING

Pastor Dave



BLESSING OUR GIFTS with MUSIC and PRAYER

Lay Reader

Many Voices: Ever-Loving God, you call us to live not in fear, but in faithful anticipation. We offer these gifts as people preparing our hearts, our hands, and our world for your coming reign. Let these offerings be signs of readiness, trust, and joy as we wait—and work—for your future to break into our present. Amen.