

When Do Small Groups Meet Next?

- Book Group** - Monday, March 23rd @ 7pm
"The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared"
by Jonas Jonasson
- Chair Yoga** - Mondays @ 11:45am
Thursdays @ 5:30pm
- FaithTalk Bible Study** - Tuesdays @ 12:00pm (Lent Study with Cindy)
- Grief Support Group** - Thursday April 9th @ 12:00pm
- Prayer Team** - Wednesdays @ 5:00pm
- Skeptic's Circle** - Tuesday, April 14th @ 6:30pm
Meets at: Brick & Ivy Coffee Co. 27754 Bluegrass Dr. Channahon, IL
- Youth Group** - Wednesdays @ 7:00pm
- Lent Bible Studies** - Sundays @ 8:00am (With Kim Nave)
Thursdays @ 7:00pm (With Pastor)

WiFi is available—"MUMC-Guest" (No password required)

LEADERS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE

LAY READER JENNIFER FERGUSON
SONG LEADERS RUTH SATORIUS, GAIL GIRARD,
SUSAN SPENCER

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
YOUTH DIRECTOR JENNIFER FERGUSON

CHURCH CONTACT

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1210 RIDGE RD. MINOOKA, IL. 60447

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One Sinner After Another



Welcome!

Minooka United Methodist Church

Sunday, March 22, 2026 9:30am

Minooka United Methodist Church Worship Experience

March 22, 2026 9:30am

* Stand if you are able

ENTERING MUSIC

WELCOMING

Pastor Dave

PREPARING

***GATHERING**

Lay Reader

Reader: Welcome to the weary and the worn.
Many Voices: Welcome to the wiggly and the eager.

Reader: Welcome to the skeptical and the seeking.
Many Voices: Welcome to the early risers and those still trying to wake up.

Reader: Welcome to the rule followers and the rule breakers.
Many Voices: Welcome to those hungry for justice and those desperate for mercy.

Reader: Welcome to the sinners and the saints.
Many Voices: This is God's house for all of us.

Reader: You can make yourself at home here.
Many Voices: Together, let us worship our just, merciful, and faithful God!

***SINGING**

UM Hymnal #121, v1,3-4
 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

Verse 1
 There's a wideness in God's mercy
 like the wideness of the sea;
 There's a kindness in God's justice,
 which is more than liberty.

~This Week at MUMC~

SUNDAY 22ND

8:00AM LENT BIBLE STUDY
 9:30AM WORSHIP EXPERIENCE
 10:45AM SUNDAY SCHOOL
 10:45AM CONFIRMATION COHORT

MONDAY 23RD

11:45AM CHAIR YOGA WITH LU
 6:30PM FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
 7:00PM BOOK GROUP

TUESDAY 24TH

12:00PM FAITH TALK LENT STUDY
 7:00PM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 25TH

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

THURSDAY 26TH

5:30PM CHAIR YOGA WITH KATY
 7:00PM LENT BIBLE STUDY

FRIDAY 27TH

SATURDAY 28TH

Thank you for living our discipleship commitments of gathering and giving!
Attendance March 15th at MUMC
 In person: 69 online: 24
General Fund Giving for 3/15: \$2,429.05
Total giving in all for 3/15: \$2,804.05

Happy Birthday!

Happy Birthday!

22 Brett Hinds
 22 Craig Nemitz
 23 Kaitlyn Craig
 23 John McGrath
 24 Amanda Sramek
 24 Teri Parrish
 26 Warren Dailey
 26 Jill Lesko

26 Dawn Nemitz
 28 Dick Parrish

Happy Anniversary

26 Maurice & Shirley Davenport



*Tell Me Something Good—
Grounding ourselves in the good news
this Lent*

GATHERING for learning, growing, and caring in SMALL GROUPS

Sunday, March 29th led by Kim Nave at 8:00am

Tuesdays, March 24 & 31 led by Cindy White at 12noon

Thursday, March 26th led by Pastor Dave at 7:00pm

GATHERING for HOLY WEEK Worship Experiences

Sunday, March 29— Palm Sunday, 9:30am

Thursday, April 2 — Maundy Thursday, 6:30pm

Friday, April 3 — Ecumenical Prayer Walk at Channahon UMC, 10:00am

Friday, April 3 — Good Friday, 7:00pm

Saturday, April 4 — Holy Saturday, 5:00pm

Sunday, April 5 — Easter Sunday, 9:30am



Next Sunday March 29th, at 12:30pm.

**Join us for a fun-filled Easter celebration featuring:
two egg hunts, crafts and games, and light refreshments.**

The Easter bunny will be here too!



Our Soup Supper Sign-up sheet is now in the lobby.
We hope to see everyone there!

Verse 3

For the love of God is broader
Than the measure of our mind;
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.

Verse 4

If our love were but more simple,
We should rest upon God's word;
and our lives would be Illumined
by the presence of our Lord.

CONVERSING WITH CHILDREN

PRAYING

Lay Reader

[silent prayer for reflection]

Call to Confession

Reader: Found Family, Jesus once said to a crowd, "Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone." Friends, none of us are without sin. None of us get it right all the time. None of us can get by without God's grace. In the Prayer of Confession, we acknowledge this truth. We put down our stones and we turn to God for forgiveness. Join me in this act of transformation. Let us pray:

Prayer of Confession

Many Voices: Holy God, we love to live our lives by the rules. We love clear answers. We love right and wrong. We love swift justice. We love to pick up stones, but you show us another way. You welcome shades of gray and nuanced conversation. You prioritize mercy over legality. You prioritize people over tradition. You prioritize love over everything. Forgive us for losing sight of what truly matters. Forgive us for clinging tighter to laws than to each other or to you. Forgive us. Soften our hearts. Root us in mercy, justice, and love. With hope for a better tomorrow, we pray.

[silent prayer for reflection]

Words of Forgiveness

Reader: Found family, Jesus saw a crowd ready to throw stones and invited them to choose another way. Jesus offered them grace, mercy, and compassion, and the same can be said for us. So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

Many Voices: Our God is a God of mercy. Our God is a God of compassion. Our God is a God of grace. We are forgiven, loved, and invited to choose another way. Thanks be to God for yet another second chance.

Reader: Our prayer concludes as Jesus taught us saying...[Lord's Prayer UM Hymnal #894]

***SINGING** "Amazing Grace" UM Hymnal #378, v1-4

Verse 1

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.

Verse 2

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

Verse 3

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

Verso

¡Dios de la esperanza, danos gozo y paz!
Al mundo en crisis, habla tu verdad.
Dios de la justicia, mándanos tu luz,
Luz y esperanza en la oscuridad.

Estribillo

Oremos por la paz,
cantemos de tu amor,
Luchemos por la paz,
fieles a ti, Señor.

Verse

May the God of hope go with us ev-ery day,
Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
Bringing light and hope to ev-ery land and race.

Refrain

Praying, let us work for peace,
Singing, share our joy with all,
Working for a world that's new,
Faithful when we hear Christ's call.

***SENDING FORTH**

Pastor Dave

EXITING MUSIC

The Lord has promised good to me,
 his word my hope secures;
 he will my shield and portion be,
 as long as life endures.



BLESSING OUR GIFTS with MUSIC and PRAYER Lay Reader

Many Voices: Life-Giving Spirit, we gather to be part of your work that restores, renews, and redeems. Use these gifts to add more faithfulness, mercy, and justice to our neighbors. May these gifts be tools of transformation in a weary world. Amen.

***SINGING** The Faith We Sing #2186
 “Song of Hope (Canto de Esperanza)”

Verse

May the God of hope go with us ev-ery day,
 Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
 May the God of justice speed us on our way,
 Bringing light and hope to ev-ery land and race.

Refrain

Praying, let us work for peace,
 Singing, share our joy with all,
 Working for a world that's new,
 Faithful when we hear Christ's call.

READING SCRIPTURE

John 8:2-11 (The Voice) Pastor Dave
 Matthew 23:23 (NRSV Updated Edition) Lay Reader

John 8:2-11—Pastor Dave

² He awoke early in the morning to return to the temple. *When He arrived*, the people surrounded Him, so He sat down and began to teach them. ³ *While He was teaching*, the scribes and Pharisees brought in a woman who was caught in the act of adultery; and they stood her before Jesus.

Pharisees: ⁴ Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. ⁵ Moses says in the law that we are to kill such women by stoning. What do You say about it?

⁶ This was all set up as a test for Jesus; His answers would give them grounds to accuse Him *of crimes against Moses' law*. Jesus bent over and wrote something in the dirt with His finger. ⁷ They persisted in badgering Jesus, so He stood up straight.

Jesus: Let the first stone be thrown by the one among you who has not sinned.

⁸ Once again Jesus bent down to the ground and resumed writing with His finger. ⁹ The Pharisees who heard Him *stood still for a few moments and then* began to leave slowly, one by one, beginning with the older men. Eventually only Jesus and the woman remained, ¹⁰ and Jesus looked up.

Jesus: *Dear woman, where is everyone? Are we alone? Did no one step forward to condemn you?*

Woman Caught in Adultery: ¹¹ Lord, no one *has condemned me.*

Jesus: Well, I do not condemn you either; *all I ask is that you go and from now on avoid the sins that plague you.*

Matthew 23:23—Lay Reader

²³ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint, dill, and cumin and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. It is these you ought to have practiced without neglecting the others.

Pastor Dave: Fount of Wisdom, clear out the cobwebs in our ears. Quiet the steady stream of thoughts marching through our minds. Open up space in our hearts so that we can receive your word for us today.

Many Voices: With hope we pray, amen.

PROCLAIMING

Pastor Dave

One Sinner After Another

***SINGING**

The Faith We Sing #2169

“God, How Can We Forgive”

Verse 1

God, how can we forgive
When bonds of love are torn?
How can we rise and start anew,
Our trust reborn?
When human loving fails
And every hope is gone,
Your love gives strength beyond
our own to face the dawn.

Verse 2

When we have missed the mark,
And tears of anguish flow,
How can you still release our guilt,
The debt we owe?
The ocean depth of grace
Surpasses all our needs.
A priest who shares our human pain,
Christ intercedes.

Verse 3

Who dares to throw the stone
To damn another's sin,
When you, while knowing all our past, forgive again?
No more we play the judge,
For by your grace we live.
As you, O God, forgive our sin,
May we forgive.