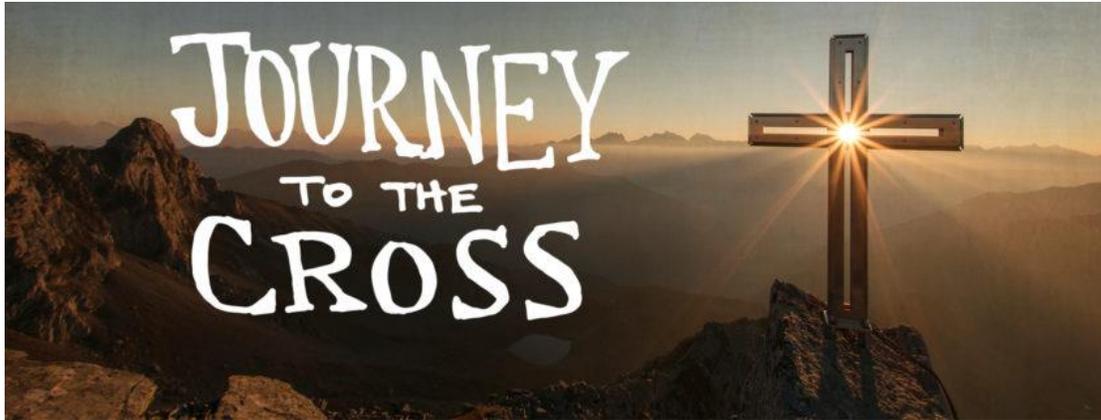


MINNEOLA'S STORY

April, 2019

*“...so let this be/a season for wandering,
for trusting the breaking,/for tracing the rupture
that will return you.
to the One who waits,/who watches,/who works within
the rending/to make your heart/whole.*

- Excerpt from “Rend Your Heart” by Jan Richardson



It Requires the Whole Story

April is going to be a month divided. For the first two weeks we remain in Lent. We continue our season of reflection, repentance and renewal all leading us to Easter Sunday on April 21st, a day of celebration and joy. The last two weeks of April will be filled with the smell of flowers, colors of spring and as many “alleluias!” as we can jam into our worship services.

I imagine sometimes this flip feels odd. I know it does for me. For six weeks we’ve been wandering in the wilderness with Jesus, wrestling, experiencing intimacy and I hope, this year some vulnerability with our Christ as well as ourselves. And then in what can sometimes feel like a single moment, we catapult into joy, glory and honor to the one who defeated death. It gives one a bit of whiplash.

As odd as it feels, I am here for this type of whiplash. While I was in seminary I spent the 10 days leading up to Easter with my brother and his family who attended a non-denominational church. I distinctly remember that the palpable joy of Easter morning wasn’t as keenly felt because there was no Lent, no Passion, no Good Friday. Our traditions can feel like a burden sometimes, but by keeping these days each year we bear the whole story which leads to the joy of the resurrection. Without wrestling Jacob wouldn’t have a blessing. Without wounds there can be no healing and without death there is no new life.

April is a month divided, a month that reflecting the seasons of our faith and the seasons of our lives, both the wrestling and the joy. I of course, invite you to all our services this month, but perhaps most earnestly to Palm Sunday (April 14th), our Holy Week Service (Thurs. April 17th @ 7pm) and Easter morning worship (April 21st at 9:30 am). Come and hear the full story of how God overcame death bringing us all to new life in Christ Jesus. Amen.

- Pr. Hannah

April Meetings

Adult Ministry Board: April 7th @ 11:30 am

Planning Council: April 10th @ 7:30 pm

Youth Board: April 28th @ 9:00 am

Financial Status

February 15th – March 14th

Income: \$ 6,571

Expense: \$ 9872.03

Deficit: -\$ 3301.03

(as of March 14, 2018)



If you would like to receive a more detailed report on a monthly basis by either mail or email, please contact the office by phone or at kileen@minneolalutheranchurch.com.

Financial Secretary Report

February 15th – March 14th

Operating Income \$ 6,571

Average need to make budget \$ 2,470

Actual average per week \$ 1,643

Building/Siding Fund Income = \$ 3,542

(In memory of Arlene Fredrickson)

Lent Offering = \$ 352

This looks quite skewed, but there was a snow day in there, so only 3 weeks of donations are spread over 4 weeks of budget. Thanks to all who continue to give as they are able to support our ministry. Thank you for all your financial support of God's ministry through Minneola.

April Council Update

- ✚ Siding/Building Fund is now over \$60,000!! Thank you for all your continued giving. Work is scheduled to begin the middle of May.
- ✚ There will be an additional Scrip Card opportunity in April. Scrip Card proceeds will continue to go to the Synod Leadership Initiative project.
- ✚ The Congregational Meeting has been scheduled for May 19th following worship.



Lenten Programming

A special offering collected throughout Lent will help support five selected area mission programs. Offerings will be divided equally to support the Zumbrota Food Shelf, Kenyon Food Shelf, Habitat for Humanity, Good Earth Village and Cannon River Good Neighbor Project. Important dates coming up:

- **Palm Sunday April 14th:** Palm Sunday & Cross+Gen Passion Story at 9:30 am
- **Thursday April 18th:** Holy Week Service at 7:00 pm
- **Sunday April 21st: Easter Sunday**
 - 8:00 am Easter Breakfast
 - 9:30 am Easter Worship

Continue to join us Wednesday evenings through April 10th as we continue to better know the hearts of ministry God has planted, cultivated and is blooming in our community.

-Pr. Hannah

SE Minnesota Conference

On Sunday March 24th, the Southeast Minnesota Conferences held their annual meetings and continued the process of electing our next bishop. After those meetings, there are seven names that will continue in the bishop selection process. Those names, in no particular order, are Emily Carson, Heather Culuris, Sean Forde, Regina Hassanally, Glenn Monson, Kristen Venne, and John Weisenburger. Between now and the Synod Assembly, the Synod will host three different discernment conversations:

- **Monday, May 13** from 6:30PM-8:30PM at St. John's Lutheran Church in Waseca
- **Tuesday, May 14** from 6:30PM-8:30PM at United Redeemer Lutheran Church in Zumbrota
- **Thursday, May 16** from 6:30PM-8:30PM at Zion Lutheran Church in Stewartville.

Everyone is welcome to attend and participate in these conversations as we discern who will guide Southeast Minnesota for the next six years.

Great Lakes Scrip Center Gift Cards

Scrip Card ordering is available during the month of April.

Great Lake Scrip Center (GLSC) has built a powerful network of national and local brands. Those brands include Starbucks, Target, Amazon, Best Buy among 750 others. GLSC works with members of Minneola and other organizations to order gift cards, who in turn, use the cards to shop at their favorite stores.

The gift card has an instant rebate percentage from around 2 - 16% on it that goes directly to Minneola when someone buys the gift card at face value. You don't have to sell the gift cards like a product fundraiser; you just use them for your own spending or as a gift for future special events.

The rebate to Minneola this year will be used to support the synod leadership initiative. *These funds help continue developing spiritual and resilient leaders, decrease the debt load of first call rostered ministers and support campus ministries in Mankato and Winona.*

Check out the list on the order sheet or use the web address www.glscrip.com for a listing of your favorite retailers. Additional order forms are located in the church entrance. **Place orders by Sunday April 28th after worship.**

Habitat for Humanity Happenings

The 2018 build season brought out 358 Volunteers who donated 5,085 hours to help house two families. In 2019 we are planning on housing three more families in affordable durable, energy efficient Habitat homes. We started rehab work on an existing home in early February and introduced the partner family that has been approved and chosen this site as their new home. Two more projects will be undertaken in the coming build season. Stay tuned!

Easter Breakfast

This year our Easter Breakfast will consist of Pancakes, sausages, fruit, juice, milk and coffee. Volunteers are asked to be at church at 7:30 am to start serving at 8:00 am.



Spring Salad Luncheon

On April 6th at 11:00 am, the Cross of Christ Women of the ELCA is sponsoring a luncheon of fellowship, food and music, door prizes and inspiration at the Cross of Christ Lutheran Church in Welch, MN. RSVP appreciated to Julie Schreifels at julie.schreifels@gmail.com.

Cannon River Conference Spring Event

The First English Lutheran Church of Faribault will be hosting the Conference Spring Event on Saturday, April 27th. Registration, coffee and displays will be from 8:00 – 9:00 am with program starting at 9:00 am. Presentation will be "Understanding and Engaging Our Immigrant Populations". Cost is \$12 with lunch included. Pre-registration is preferred. You can pre-register by email and pay the day of the event.

Checks Payable to: SEMN SYNOD WELCA
Mail to: Merilyn Calcutt - Treasurer
801 Headley Ct.
Northfield, MN 55057
507-645-2814

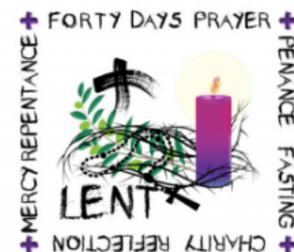
Happy Anniversary

Jared and Jen Nerison 4/27



Happy Birthday

Shirley Fredrickson 4/1
Kyle Stensland 4/1
Tracy Ludington 4/7
Jeffrey Post 4/9
Mason Edstrom 4/13
Parker Post 4/15
Hailey Schliep 4/15
Dave O'Brien 4/18
Janice Vangsness 4/21
Bexley Sprick 4/22
Tyler Lohmann 4/25
Charlie Vangsness 4/26
Doug Klatt 4/27
Brian O'Neill 4/28
Eli Hanson 4/29



April, 2019

Minneola Lutheran Church

13628 County 50 Blvd
 Goodhue, MN 55027
 Telephone Church Office: 507-824-2685
 Rev. Hannah Bergstrom de Leon Cell: 952-564-7002

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Soup Supper 6:45 pm Lenten Study 7:30 pm Holden Worship Choir practice after worship	4	5	6
7 9:30 am Ol' School 9:30 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Adult Ministry	8	9	10 6:00 pm Soup Supper 6:45 pm Lenten Study 7:30 pm Holden Worship Planning Council after worship	11	12	13
14 Palm Sunday 9:30 am Cross+Gen Passion Story 9:30 am 9 th grade Confirmation Meeting 10:30 am Worship w/communion	15	16	17	18 7:00 pm Holy Week Worship	19	20
21 Easter Morning 8:00 am Easter Breakfast 9:30 am Easter Worship	22	23	24 9:00 am Quilting 6:00 pm Confirmation at Lands	25	26	27
28 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content;">Education</div> 9:00 am Youth Board 9:30 am First Communion Class 10:30 am Worship w/communion 11:30 am Ditch Cleanup	29	30	27	28	29	30
				<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Upcoming Events: May 5th: Last Day of Sunday School, First Communion and Confirmation May 19th: Graduation Recognition May 26th: Service time moves to 9:30 am </div>		

Minneola Lutheran Church
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