

'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

Mark 25:40



A Year of Service

Matt: 25:35-36, 40

"...for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me... Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

These words from the Gospel of Matthew are well known to Christian and non-Christian alike. They are often used as evidence for and against a myriad of varying actions and commitments in society's life together.

As our programmatic year begins they will become our guide. This year's Sunday School curriculum is rooting itself into these words and what it looks like to serve; to serve our family, friends, strangers, neighbors and even those around the globe. We are taking Matthew at face value and going to dive into our biblical tradition to hear stories of feeding, drinking, welcoming, clothing, caring and visiting. Those stories will then be lived out through service to the other by our young people and I suspect an invitation or two to serve will be extended to the wider community as well.

There is so much noise in this world. So much to think about, read about, learn about and talk about and too often all that noise leaves us in paralysis, unable to DO anything. I know I am deeply guilty of such paralysis. This year's focus on service is designed to knock us all out of our heads and into our hearts and hands. To DO things, simple things like feeding, caring, or visiting. Yes, this focus is rooted in our Sunday School curriculum but as you all know, all too often it is "from the mouth of babes" that we hear our greatest lessons and see God's gospel shining through.

So as our year begins I invite us all into the discipline of doing, of serving in the many and diverse ways and places our God calls us. *"And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."* Colossians 3:17

-Pr. Hannah



We Are On A Mission in 2019-2020...

...to Welcome, Feed, Clothe and Heal Strangers!

Everyone WELCOME at Road Rally 2019!!

When: **September 15th at 9:30 am**

Where: Minneola Church - be ready to drive!

As our Sunday School kick-off, all ages are invited to join in the fun.

The more, the merrier! And be sure to bring your schedule for volunteering throughout this fall/winter.

Driver; needed!



September Meetings

Youth Board: September 1st @ 9:00 am
Pastoral Board: September 5th @ 6:30 pm
Stewardship Board: September 8th @ 9:00 am
Property Board: September 10th @ 6:30 pm
Cong. Council: September 10th @ 7:30 pm

Financial Status

July 15th – August 14th

Income: \$ 8,725.01
Expense: \$ 9,542.43
Deficit: \$ 817.42
(as of July 14, 2019)

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 kileen@minneolalutheranchurch.com.



Financial Secretary Report

July 15th – August 14th

Operating Income \$ 8,725
Average need to make budget \$ 2,470
Actual average per week \$ 2,181
Non-donation income (Ag Partner Equity \$ 26
Building/Siding Fund Income = \$ 720
Pancake Breakfast \$ 16

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.

August Council Update

- ✚ Ditch cleanup is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 8th. Lunch will be provided at the church before heading out for the cleanup.
- ✚ Sunday School kickoff starts on Sunday, Sept. 15th with Road Rally. All are welcome to join in on the fun.
- ✚ Sunday, Oct. 6th following worship there will be a Congregational Meeting.
- ✚ The siding project is complete. We are still in need of \$7,000 to complete the payment of this project. If you would like to make a contribution to this project please label it as "Building Fund" and drop off or mail to the church. Thank you to everyone for your support of this project!

Choir is Back!

The Minneola Adult Choir will begin practices on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:30 pm. First practice is **September 4th**.

God's Work Our Hands



"God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday is **Sunday, September 8, 2019**. This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. Across the country ELCA churches don their yellow shirts and go out into the world to serve, sharing God's love and Christ's light into the world. This year, Minneola will join in this day of service by caring for God's good creation through our bi-annual ditch clean up. There will be a light lunch served after worship in the basement and we will go from there. It usually takes about an hour or so and we make it fun!! So, please turn out on Sunday, September 8th and we'll get it done!

Sunday School Opener

Minneola's first day of Sunday School will be **Sunday September 15th starting at 9:30 am**. This year we will be focusing on doing God's mission in the world and serving our neighbors so, to that end, we will be heading out to various locations in our community to consider what it means to serve our neighbor. This event is for all ages, so consider joining us as we kick off this Sunday School year!

Confirmation will begin on **September 4th** at the *Kyllo farm*.

Barn Worship

We will once again be worshipping in the barn on Sunday **September 22nd at 10:30 am**. Come and join us as we praise God, raise our voices, alongside Cabin Fever who will lead us in a bluegrass gospel worship. Bring a side dish to share. Hot dogs and dessert provided.



It's a great event that brings the community together and there is a seat for you! Hope to see you there!

Thank You

Thank you to the Minneola members for remembering my birthday. It made my day special.

Wilma Satren



Minneola's Building Updates

As many of you have already seen our siding project has come to an end. Wood Doc Inc. has done a fantastic job helping to preserve our building for God's ministry in this place for generations to come. With the project complete also comes the final invoicing and we are still approximately \$7,000 shy of the \$70,000 required (*as of this writing*). So if you have been waiting to give or would like to give again now is the time. And THANK YOU to everyone who has already given to make this project happen. Without you we would not be here.

Beyond our siding project our organ is in need of some care and attention. This is an unexpected expense and the repair estimate starts at \$4,000. God has been very good to Minneola and the generosity of God's people here abounds, but as this will be above and beyond what we anticipated for the 2019 budget, it is only prudent to make the congregation aware of the situation.

If you would like to give to either of these outstanding projects, simply memo any gift accordingly. You can drop those gifts into our Sunday morning offering plate or mail them to our office at 13628 County 50 Blvd. Goodhue, MN 55027. Let us give thanks to God for the generosity and many gifts he has provided our community.

Becoming a Sanctuary Denomination

In early August, the ELCA held our tri-annual Churchwide Assembly. Much occurred during that week, but one thing in particular has garnered the attention of the media, elevating the ELCA to the nightly news. At the assembly, churchwide "approved a resolution declaring the ELCA a 'sanctuary church body,' encouraging participating in the ELCA AMMPARO initiative for migrant children, discernment of care for our immigrant neighbors in our context, and the promise of forthcoming resources for this work."

Now, with so much information readily available and numerous places for conversation, I feel compelled to share what the ELCA is saying about what this means for us as a church body, a congregation and as individuals. Within this month's newsletter is a PINK sheet of paper with a delineation of what becoming a "sanctuary denomination" means for us as the wider church, individual congregations and individual members of the ELCA.

I encourage you to take time to read and absorb this information about what this is, and what this isn't. It's important to know the facts and the expectations regarding what this really means for us all. As you digest, please do not hesitate to connect with me if you have any other questions, concerns or wonderings particularly in regards to Minneola's role and ministry. My door is always open.

Pr. Hannah

Community Meal

The Wanamingo Community Meal will be served on Sunday, September 8th from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm, at the Wanamingo Community Center. They will be serving grilled pork burgers, coleslaw, watermelon and zucchini bars.

Fall Swedish Supper

Hegre WELCA will be hosting their Annual Fall Swedish Meatball Supper on Wednesday, September 25th, serving from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Hegre Lutheran Church. The menu includes: Swedish meatballs, gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, coleslaw, pickles, cranberries, rolls, pie, milk, and coffee. \$15 for adults, \$5 for children 6-12, free for preschoolers.

GriefShare

GriefShare is a nondenominational seminar/grief support group that is facilitated by leaders who have lost loved ones of their own. Our next session will begin on Monday, September 9th, at First Covenant Church in Red Wing. We will meet from 7:00-8:30 pm

For more information call Susan at 651-388-4109, Suzy at 507-398-3729 or go to www.griefshare.org

Grief

By Kaylie Lindsay

"No one ever told me that grief felt so like fear".
C.S. Lewis

We grieve people. We grieve places. We grieve seasons of life, lost jobs, and attitudes once mastered. For me it is the latter.

The continuity of gentle grace that flows to my soul- the kind that envelopes and chokes out pride in order that I may be completely real - this level of grace does not always equal the amount in which I hand out. I often lack patience; I lack trust; I lack faith. And instead I cling to doubt, grieving over the loss of a learned mindset that once held my head high.

But despite a loss of discipline, coarse emotion and wild vexation; despite whatever once was, what could have been and what is. It takes grace - a special kind of grace - to realize that you're doing the best that you can. Your rhythm might be a little lost, and your steps might fall off beat. Your language might not be eloquent, and your desires may feel depleted by a seemingly empty soul. You may be living in the fear of unanswered questions - the kind that paralyzes and cripples you beneath yourself. But all of this is temporary.

Learn to be grateful -grateful though commotion and consistent obscurity. Because what was once learned can be learned again, and can only become even more mastered in time.

The Lord is My Shepherd

I was going through some things and found this. I had cut it out of a daily devotional written by Daniel Schantz - and I wanted to share it. Kileen

The Lord is my shepherd....

Lord, I am so confused. My life seems like a series of accidents. I'm getting nowhere.

I am the shepherd. You are a lamb. It's not your job to know the way, but to follow Me. Through all the twists and turns, I am leading you in paths of righteousness. You'll see when you arrive.

But, Lord, I'm falling behind financially. Who's going to pay all these bills?

You shall not want. Your daily cup is running over. Remember when I fed you in the presence of your enemies? And the time I anointed your head with healing oil, when you were very ill? Trust Me, one day at a time.

But I get so weary, Lord, So very tired.

I know, and I want you to lie down in green pastures. I can restore your soul, if you will give Me a chance. But you continue to worry and work as if I were not here, and as if everything depended on you alone.

Doesn't it?

Not at all. I am leading you for My name's sake, not because you are so wonderful. My name is "The Good Shepherd" and I intend to keep My good name by caring for you. It's what I do.

But I'm getting older, God. Sometimes I wake in the night, thinking about dying.

Even when you walk through that dark valley I will be there with you. I've already been

through death, and I know the way. When you come out on the other side, it will be to dwell with Me in My house forever.

But I have so many regrets. Things I said and did that fill me with shame.

Just settle down. My goodness and mercy have been following you everywhere. I am healing those old wounds and cleaning up the messes you made. Leave the past - and the future - to Me. Pay attention to this day - it's the only one you have for sure.

Lord, help me to go forward in faith, knowing that you, the Lord of all times, are leading me on.

Happy Anniversary

Karen and Michael Allen 9/1
Mark and Brenda Nerison 9/4
Larry and Janelle Fox 9/5
Denny and Mary Veiseth 9/5
Joseph and Sandra Morseth 9/7
Paul and Patsy Nesteby 9/13
Billy and Corlis Gifford 9/18
David & Yvonne Skordahl 9/18
Percy and Rosemary Thompson 9/18
Leon and Lynette Nerison 9/22
Bryan and Katie O'Neill 9/24
Lee and Rebecca Sjolander 9/26
Ronald and Karen Killo 9/28



Happy Birthday

Chandler Lohmann 9/1
Tyler O'Banion 9/1
Barb Kittelson 9/2
Tori Morseth 9/3
Lucas O'Neill 9/3
Donnie Husbyn 9/6
Christina Bremer 9/7
Adlee Lunde 9/7
Debbie Husbyn 9/10
Rueben Scheffler 9/10
Lorie Schott 9/10
Sophie Post 9/11
Taylor Waugh 9/13
Blake Hanson 9/20
Kaylea Hartfield 9/20
John Morseth 9/20
Gale Blakstad 9/21
Avery Prall 9/21
Marv Walstad 9/23
Janet Ramstad 9/24
Erin Banks 9/24
Mark Vieths 9/28
Matthew Husbyn 9/29
Derek Ludington 9/29
Heather Arndt 9/30



September, 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 9:00 am Youth Board 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Sanctuary Denomination Conversation	2 	3	4 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Confirmation @ Kylo farm 7:30 pm Choir Practice	5 6:30 pm Pastoral Board at Janelle O'Brien's	6	7
8 9:00 am Stewardship Board 10:30 am Worship w/communion, Baptism of Peyton Anne Pyfferoen 11:30 am God's Work Our Hands	9	10 6:30 pm Property Board 7:30 pm Congregational Council	11 6:15 pm Confirmation @ Lands	12	13	14 Installation of Rev. Regina Hassanally as Bishop
15 9:30 am Sunday School Opener Road Rally 10:30 am Worship	16	17	18 9:00 am Quilting 6:15 pm Confirmation @ Lands 7:30 pm Bible Study at Cheryl Kylo's	19	20	21
22 9:30 am Cross+Gen Sunday School 10:30 am Barn Worship lunch to follow 	23	24	25 6:15 pm Confirmation @ Lands	26	27	28
29 9:00 am Youth Board 9:30 am 9 th Grade Confirmation 10:00 Cross+Gen Worship Practice 10:30 am Worship w/communion	30			Upcoming Events: October 6 th -Congregational Meeting after worship October 13 th – Mission Sunday, potluck after worship October 27 th – Confirmation of 9 th Graders		
Minneola Lutheran Church revhannah@minneolalutheranchurch.com Office Assistant: kileen@minneolalutheranchurch.com						