

'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 Sustaining Connection



September has simply flown by in large part due to the fact that we have started up our programmatic year again. So the weeks are filled up with Sunday School, worship, Confirmation and Bible studies. I for one, love the energy and joy of September but I also realize it is a season and it will pass. The energy is literally not sustainable but the power of connection, the draw of “coming home” to church and the comfort provided are elements of our “September energy” which can be sustained year round and throughout our lifetime.

As the Minneola faith community moves into October we once again have the opportunity to participate in the sustainability of connecting to the church in a variety of ways. On Sunday October 6th an adult forum is being offered. It is a time to come and enter into fellowship and relationship. We will hear about the call and passion of one of our own; Rebecca Sjolander. During worship on the 6th we will be celebrating Campus Ministry Sunday with guests from the Winona Campus Center helping to lead worship. So often we forget those young adults who leave home and enter their college years, but Campus Ministry helps provide that place, that connection for those maturing into adulthood.

You can stay connected to our local church through our Fall Congregational meeting after church on the 6th and to God's work through the global church by joining us as we host a prayer vigil commemorating 30 years since the Berlin Wall came down. On the 13th we will celebrate the ministry our community participates in annually to share God's love and comfort throughout the world and also to share in local fellowship in the form of a potluck. And lastly we will close out our month with a celebration of Luther's Reformation and the Confirmation of three of our young people.

This month provides us a multitude of opportunities to *stay connected*, to experience that moment of “coming home” to church and to dwell in the comfort God provides through this faith community. This is one of God's greatest gifts to us all, each other and our community. Come as you are called, and may God who has created this community, reveal your place and your gifts within it and to it. Amen.

- Pr. Hannah

October Meetings

Cong. Council: October 8th @ 7:30 pm

Youth Board: October 27th @ 9:00 am

Financial Status

August 15th – September 14th

Income: \$ 9,028.00

Expense: \$ 9,972.02

Deficit: \$ -944.02

(as of August 14, 2019)

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



Financial Secretary Report

August 15th – September 14th

Operating Income \$ 9,028.00

Average needed to make budget \$ 2,400.00

Actual average per week \$ 2,247.00

Building/Siding Fund Income \$ 12,425.00

Fuel Fund \$ 100.00

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.

September Council Update

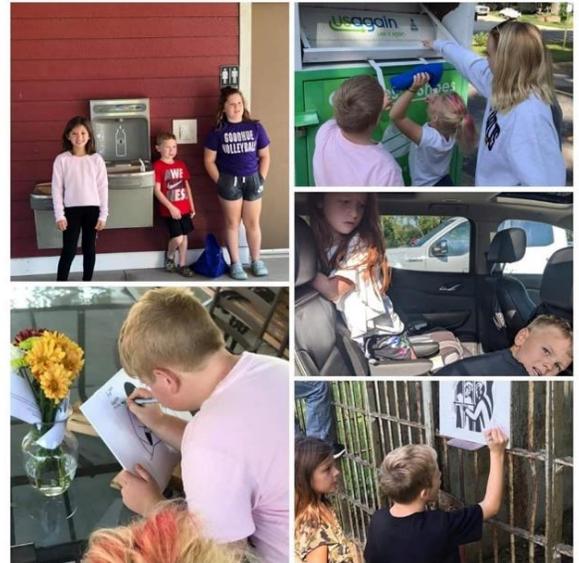
✚ The organ was evaluated and a large list of repairs are needed. Due to the total cost of repairs (\$50,000-100,000) it is not recommended to do any extensive repairs but instead look into replacement, perhaps with a digital organ instead.

In the meantime a list of prioritized repairs will be completed in order to prolong the life of the current organ so that a replacement can be investigated further.

✚ Remember to mark your calendars for the Congregational Meeting on **Sunday, October 6th** following worship. During this meeting we will be voting on the 2020 Ballot for Board/Committee Members at Minneola, and becoming an official Welcoming Congregation. In addition, we will be discussing the issues with the organ as well as introducing this years Feed My Starving Children activity.

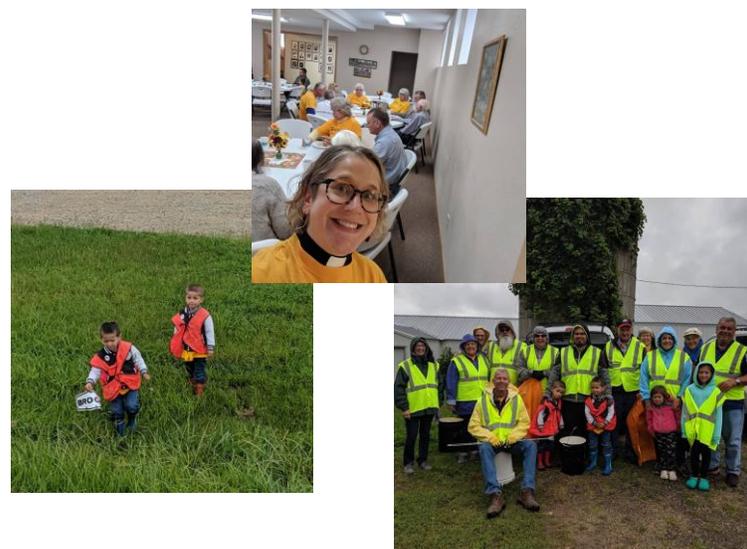
Sunday School

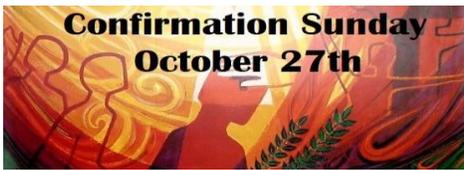
Our 2019 Road Rally was a huge success as our young people traveled throughout Zumbrota marking spots in the community that serve our neighbors. From food shelves to water fountains, people are provided for and we can be part of that work with God. Thanks to all who came out to join us on this mission to serve in God's name!



God's Work Our Hands

We had a great turn out for God's Work Our Hands on September 8th. It was a very special day. Thanks to everyone who was here in person and spirit.





Starting this fall, we will be celebrating the confirmation of our 9th graders on Reformation Sunday in October. We so hope you will join us for this celebration of faith.



A look at the difference our siding project is making to our building. A huge thank you to the entire Minneola Faith Community who have supported and given so generously to this project. It is completed as is our fundraising. God is good!

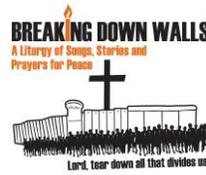
Campus Ministry Sunday

On **Sunday October 6th** we will be joining with other congregations across the Southeast Minnesota Synod to lift up, recognize and celebrate the campus ministries that serve our college students. We have the great opportunity to welcome that day representatives from the Lutheran Campus Center -Winona into our worship. We will host both a board member and a student and hear their testimony to God's love working through campus ministry. This is an often forgotten time in the lives of our young people and campus ministry provides a link for young people as they continue to form and cultivate who they are in society and in faith. Join us as we remember there is no age where God forgets about us and we have a part to play in these ministries.



Prayer Vigil Wednesday October 9th

2019 marks the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. When that wall came down on



November 9, 1989 it was a moment that signified newfound freedoms and reversals of divisions caused by the wall for the people of Germany. Thirty years later, the ELCA Peace Not Walls Initiative invites the whole

church into prayer. As we commemorate and celebrate the opening of the Berlin Wall, we hold in our hearts and prayers those separated and oppressed by other walls in our world, our country, our communities and even our own hearts.

On **Wednesday October 9th at 7:00 pm** Minneola will join in this movement of unity and peace by hosting a *Breaking Down Walls: A Liturgy of Songs, Stories and Prayers for Peace, Prayer Vigil*. This will be open to the public as we continue to wrestle down the reality of so many barriers and allow God to do God's work of transformation in our hearts and in our world.



Mission Sunday & Potluck



The whole community is invited to join us as we celebrate the multitude of missions Minneola participates in throughout the year as we display and bless the amazing quilts of 2019. Worship on **Sunday, October 13th** will begin

at 10:30 am and then we will share in a community potluck. So bring a dish to share (or not) and join us for food and fellowship as we celebrate another amazing year of supporting and living into God's call and mission through the place and people of Minneola Lutheran Church.

Bake Sale and Lunch

The Church Ladies of St. Mary's CCW are having a bake sale and lunch on **October 5th** from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm at the Bellechester Community Center. Fresh-baked sweet rolls, homemade soups, sandwiches and a large assortment of pies.

There will be drawings, face painting, door prizes and a fish pond. Many vendors selling items.

Vang Lutheran Annual Meal

Vang Lutheran Church in Dennison's annual Norwegian meal on **Wednesday, October 9th**. Meal will be Lutefisk, Norwegian Meatballs with Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Cranberries, Cole Slaw, Fruit Soup, Lefse and Norwegian Baking. Adults - \$17.00, 10 & under - \$6.00, Preschool age free. Mid-Day Serving at 11:00 am 12:00 noon and 1:00 pm by reservation. Call or email for availability and to be placed on the list - 507-789-5186 vanglutefisk@gmail.com. Continuous Evening Serving from 5:00 – 7:00 pm

A Possibility Poem

*By Deacon Mary Kay DuChene
Rivers Crossing Summer Issue*



For nothing is impossible with God.
All creation knows

A pine tree grows out of a barren cliff
A cacophony of green emerges after a
long white winter
A delicate flower bursts through a
sidewalk
A surprising cool breeze relieves on a
sweltering summer day

I can do all things through God who strengthens
me.

All creation knows

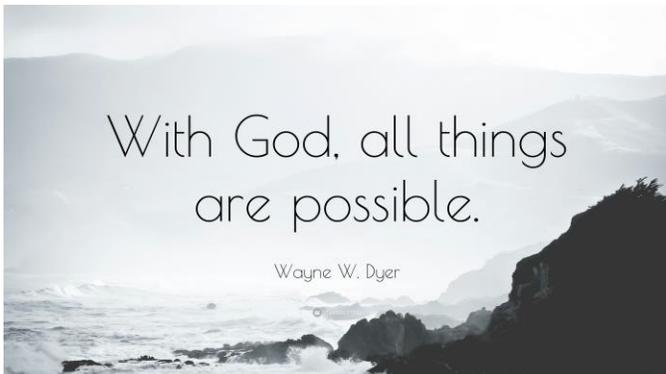
A scientist discovers insulin
A community offers shelter
A neighbor offers food
A Christian blesses a Muslim

All things are possible for the one who believes.

The women knew The Virgin Mary can
mother God
A Syrophenician's faith can deliver
healing
The women at the tomb can bring Good
News

All creation knows

Faith, hope, love
You are a God of Possibility



CREATE

By Kaylie Lindsay

CREATE

The biggest waste of our energy is positioning ourselves in the midst of unhelpful anxieties. We are perpetually trapped in the fantasy that we need public approval to validate our personal desires. We withhold what is in our hearts for fear of losing our audience. We shrink what's in our souls out of angst for offending someone. We diminish what's on our mind as if to say it's not important enough. We mute what's on our lips so that we dare not contribute something useless.

Why is it that we remain silent when we have so much to say? Why do we spend so much of our time muting ourselves in order to appease those closest to us?

You must learn to be you. Unapologetically you. For what you contribute can only be made in your hands; a creation so unique it cannot be replicated.

Despite your audience, despite your followers, despite past failures or future promises. Despite loosened expectations and wavered experience, despite the fear of being misunderstood,

CREATE

Happy Anniversary

Dave and Janelle O'Brien 10/3
Fred and Carrie Schliep 10/6
Lonnie and Stephanie Skordahl 10/17



Happy Birthday

Arin Kylo 10/1
Laurence Dietrich 10/3
Amy Husbyn 10/5
Trace Olson 10/5
Kyle Prall 10/5
Easton Blissenbach 10/7
Sawyer Arndt 10/8
Hunter Johnson 10/8
Ricki Sibley 10/8
Ann Husbyn 10/9
McKenzie Tews 10/10
Carrie Schliep 10/11
Connie Oldham 10/12
Les Kylo 10/16
Gage Thompson 10/18
Allison Dykes 10/21
Josslyn Lohmann 10/25
Hailey Blissenbach 10/26
Emma O'Neill 10/29



October, 2019

Minneola Lutheran Church

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 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 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 6:15 pm Confirmation 7:30 pm Adult Choir Practice	3	4	5
6 Campus Ministry Sunday 9:30 am Adult Forum 9:30 am Ol' School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Congregational Meeting	7	8 7:30 pm Congregational Council	9 6:15 pm Confirmation @ Minneola 7:00 pm Breaking Down Walls Prayer Vigil	10	11	12
13 Mission Sunday 9:30 am Ol' School 10:30 am Worship w/communion Potluck after worship	14	15	16 9:00 am Quilting 7:30 pm Women's Bible Study	17	18	19
20 9:30 am Cross+Gen Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	21 <i>Articles for Newsletter due</i>	22	23 6:15 pm Confirmation @ Lands	24 5:30 pm Good Gifts Gala	25	26
27 Reformation Sunday Confirmation Sunday 9:00 am Youth Board 10:00 am Cross+Gen worship prep 10:30 am Cross+Gen Worship w/communion	28	29	30 6:15 pm Confirmation			

Upcoming Events:
 November 3rd – All Saints Sunday
 November 23rd – Feed My Starving Children Mobile Packing Event
 November 27th – Thanksgiving Eve Worship @ Lands

Minneola Lutheran Church
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 Office open Wednesdays