

September 2018

The Extension

Minnetonka United Methodist Church

The vision of Minnetonka United Methodist Church is to be caring, inclusive, and Spirit-filled in all that we do. Our commitment is to follow Christ's example and, as a Reconciling Congregation, to welcome persons of all sexual identities and orientation into this faith community.

Kick-Off Sunday - September 9

We will be back to TWO Worship Services

Our Interim Pastor Dave Comstock will be preaching

9:00 am Traditional with organ, trumpet, trombone, clarinet, flute, and choir

10:45 am Jazz with the Restoration Jazz Band

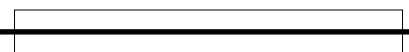
Special treats following worship to welcome Pastor Dave and his wife Carol.

Backpack Blessing

All children are invited to bring their backpacks to church for a special backpack blessing during the children's message. Start off your school year with the entire church praying for you, your teachers, your family, and a great school year!

Have you found our Information Wall in Fellowship Hall?

Sign up for Small Groups, Young at Heart, Family Ministries, Simpson Shelter, and other ways you can love and serve God through Minnetonka United Methodist Church.



Wednesday Night Dinners & Activities begin Wednesday, September 19 Dinner served 5:30-6:15 pm

September 19	Pasta Bar
September 26	Meatloaf Dinner

Meal costs: Adults - \$5; Children ages 4-12 - \$3; Children age 3 & under – FREE; Family Max \$20
Everyone is welcome but we ask that you make your reservations by Noon on Monday, so we have adequate food for everyone. To reserve your spot either RSVP to the church office or use the reservation form in the narthex. **We always welcome your help for the after-dinner clean-up!** Sign up to help when you sign up for the meal.

The intent of the Wednesday night meal is that it is an inclusive time of fellowship; therefore, all are welcome *regardless of ability to pay...* but still let us know you are coming. Please include your payment with your reservation if possible. Thank you!

Brown Bag: Uppity Women of the Bible-Judith: Mondays, 12:00-1:15 pm September 17-October 22

This fascinating volume examines the story of an Uppity Woman who took things into her own hands – including the head of a brutal warrior chief. Rev. Dr. Lisa M. Wolfe takes you on a tour of the Book of Judith, posing provocative questions along the way. Judith, from the Koine Greek version of the Hebrew Old Testament, reads like a historical novel rife with warfare, lust, espionage and intrigue. As the name states, you are welcome to bring your lunch and join in fellowship and study. Sign up in Fellowship Hall. Any questions, contact Judy Sunderland at the church office or judy.sunderland@minnetonkaumc.org. All are welcome!

Forgiveness: Finding Peace Through Letting Go Wednesdays, 6:30-7:45 pm September 19-October 10

This four-week study is by Rev. Adam Hamilton, who equates our need to forgive and be forgiven with carrying a backpack filled with rocks. Over time the tiny pebbles and giant boulders weigh us down and break more than our spirit. Freedom, grace, reconciliation, and joy are all promised to those who embrace forgiveness. Participants will watch a DVD and discuss the topic. A book is also available for \$10 at church. Sign up on the slat wall in Fellowship Hall. This study will be led by Sharla Duerre and Pastor Dave Comstock

Young at Heart (Seniors Group) Tuesday, September 25, 9:00 am-1:00 pm Feed My Starving Children

This month the group will be doing a service project at Feed My Starving Children. We will then eat lunch together, place to be determined. Sign up in Fellowship Hall. Any questions, contact Judy Sunderland at the church office or judy.sunderland@minnetonkaumc.org.

MUMC Morning Mom's Group Thursdays, 9:15-11:00 am Beginning September 13

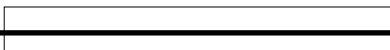
Mom's group is a time of fellowship, a place of support, and a place to grow in our faith as we nurture our young children. Free coffee and childcare provided. Contact Lisa LaMothe with any questions.

Men's Annual Retreat September 21-22

We will enjoy Christian fellowship and have a lot of fun on this weekend retreat held at Koinonia Retreat Center. Sign up in Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$85 with a \$25 deposit. Contact Bill Lurth at 952-933-1390 for more information.

MUMC Evening Mom's Group Tuesday, September 11, 6:30-8:30 pm

This is an informal gathering for discussion, fellowship, support, and fun. Contact Andrea Zuellig with any questions.



Family Ministry News
family@minnetonkaumc.org

Sunday School Kick-Off

Join us on Sunday, September 9 to kick off a new year of Sunday School! Then, come back each Sunday during either the 9:00 am or 10:45 am worship service for Sunday school. Preschool and Childcare available during both services.



Wednesday Nights, 6:30-7:30 pm
 Join us for learning, relationship building, and fun activities!
 Kindergarten-6th Grade

Children's Choir

Singers in K-6th grades are invited to rehearse every Sunday at 10:00 am downstairs beginning October 7. Talk with Angel Clark or Haley Mathison if you are interested in trying Children's Choir!

Backpack Blessing

Kids and Youth are invited to bring their backpacks to church on Sunday, September 9 for a special backpack blessing.



Acolyte

Calling all 4th-6th graders! Are you interested in being an acolyte (candle lighter) in worship this year? Sign up on Kick-Off Sunday!

Bible Sunday, October 14

3-year olds & 3rd graders get their Bibles! Talk with Haley Mathison if you have a special 3-year-old or 3rd grader in your life who'd like to receive a Bible.

3rd grade Bible classes:

- Sunday, September 30, 10:00 am
- Sunday, October 7, 12:00 pm
- Wednesday, October 10, 6:00 pm

VBS Thank You

To all of our volunteers that helped with Vacation Bible School set up, during the week, take down, behind the scenes, and the picnic and carnival we extend to you a huge thank you! We had over 70 volunteers who helped throughout the week, and 140 kids in all. Thank you to the congregation for all your support as our children's programs grow here at Minnetonka UMC – you make VBS possible. "When you pass through the waters, God will be with you!"

All-Church Service Event
Feed My Starving Children
Wednesday, October 17

All ages are invited to participate in our all-church service event. Ages 5 – 105 are welcome! We'll meet at church and carpool to Feed My Starving Children in Chanhassen. Sign up at the Family Ministry Table on Kick-Off Sunday!

Youth News

Confirmation Orientation

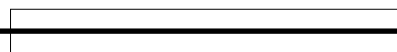
All 7th & 8th graders (and older students who haven't been confirmed) are invited to come to the confirmation orientation on Wednesday, September 12 at 6:30 pm with their parents. Any questions or to sign up, contact Haley Mathison or Pastor Tiffany McDonald.

High School Youth

This fall, high school youth will be gathering monthly for planning, devotions, serving, bonding, food, and friends! Email youth@minnetonkaumc.org to be added to the email list to get weekly updates on programs and events!

Youth Events

Join us for serving at Feed My Starving Children at the All-Church Service Event on October 17, then stay at church for a lock-in afterwards! We'll have food, watch a movie, play games, and more! Friends are welcome.



Your special opportunity could be funded by the Legacy Fund!

Each year the Legacy Fund helps to expand programs in the areas of education, music, outreach, facilities, and leadership. This year the grant allowance is \$19,000! Your special opportunity may qualify, so complete a request form to begin the process. Forms are available on the Minnetonka UMC web page and in the Office.

Blankets Needed for Quilting Ministry

The Quilting ministry needs your help! They will be collecting blankets, sizes twin through king (no child blankets, please). Please contact Sally Nelson at sallynelson55@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Sunday, September 2, 10:45 am

Gather with church friends to bless others and make a prayer shawl. It can be knitted or crocheted. If you would like to learn how to make a prayer shawl we would love to teach you and coach you along the way. We are available if you get stuck or just need encouragement. **All are welcome the first Sunday of the month.** Stop by to see what it is all about! Questions? Barbara Lunde 612.616.6569 or Marcia Yockers 952.807.4167

Coffee Hosts Needed

We all enjoy the wonderful fair-trade coffee on Sunday mornings. Did you ever wonder who made it for you? There is group of folks who take turns doing that! The only problem is we need more people to help serve. If you can be available to help with making the coffee on Sunday mornings, contact Chery Gustafson, acgustafson@msn.com. If you have not done this before, we can train you on that Sunday morning. Thanks in advance for your willingness to serve!

Save the Date! Saturday, December 1 - Annual All Church Christmas Celebration

This year's event will again be a fundraiser for the 2019 Youth Mission Trip. There will be food, entertainment and a make a difference opportunity. The event also offers many opportunities to serve, one is to be part of the planning committee. Please join us on **Sunday, September 23, 12:00 pm** following worship to get the ball rolling. Sign-up in Fellowship Hall. Any questions, contact Judy Sunderland at the church office. We look forward to another successful event!

Blood Drive at MUMC Wednesday, September 26, 3:30-6:30 pm

Memorial Blood Center needs YOU! Our summer blood drive was a roaring success with MUMC significantly surpassing our goal for that event. Our Fall drive is set for September 26. Please sign up either online at <https://www.mbcherohub.club/index.cfm?group=op&expand=48368&zc=55345> or on the slat wall in Fellowship Hall. As always, your participation is needed and appreciated as we assist MBC in insuring an adequate blood supply for those in need in the Metro area. Please contact Eric Lunde at 612-695-5618 with questions.



Minnetonka United Methodist Women**Lydia Circle – September 26, 9:30 am**

Lydia circle invites all women to attend the beginning of a new United Methodist Women's study on "What About Our Money? A Faith Response." As the book suggests, rarely do people have discussions about money and faith. We will look at the Biblical basis for this study; "Money is the second most common theme in the Bible!" Consider going to Lunch Bunch after our session.

Lunch Bunch - September 26, 11:30 am

Vandy's Grille, 7795 Laketown Pkwy, Waconia. Vandy's is located at the Island View Golf Club. For reservations and carpooling, please contact Eileen Jensen at 952-935-4306 by September 25. Everyone is welcome to join us for fellowship, food and fun.

UMW Rummage Sale Week - October 7-13:

Save your precious items for donation! Join friends and make new ones as you help raise thousands of dollars for UMW missions, locally and around the world. See sign-up sheets on the slat wall in Fellowship Hall or sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b49abab28a13-rummage>. If you have questions or want help, contact Michelle Boucha-Rayle (mbrayle@live.com) or Anne Bretts (editoranne@yahoo.com).

Mission Opportunities**Resource West School Supplies**

Thanks to all who have donated school supplies for Resource West! We will be collecting supplies through September. The donation bin with a list of the most-needed supplies is in Fellowship Hall.

Simpson Shelter Dinner

Our next service opportunity at Simpson Shelter will be on Monday, October 1st. Sign-up sheets for meal service and desserts are posted on the slat wall in Fellowship Hall. Please bring desserts to the church kitchen before noon that day. Contact Kathy Arendt at 612.810.0699 or email at kjarendt@aol.com. Carpooling is available.

Simpson Shelter Needs

Simpson Shelter always needs new or gently used flat & fitted twin size sheets, pillow cases, pillows, new or gently used bath towels; travel size shampoo; gloves, blankets, new men's and women's underwear, socks and t-shirts; disposable razors; stick deodorant; travel size toothpaste! Please place your donations in the bin in the lobby. Thank you to all who have donated so generously!

Going Places MN

Going Places MN is a ministry with roots right here at Minnetonka United Methodist Church. They provide suitcases for foster children to carry their belongings from one home to the next – instead of the typical black trash bag used across the country. The suitcases are pre-packed with personal items, toiletries, sheets, towels, games and other items that the child needs. The suitcases provide dignity and caring for children in need. Learn more about this at supper on Wednesday, September 19, or contact Kimm Kraai at 952.457.3371.

Reading Glasses for the Homeless

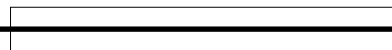
Minnetonka United Methodist Church is collecting reading glasses for Hennepin County's Health Care for the Homeless. Make a difference in someone's life by donating new or used readers, prescription or drug store variety. The collection bin is in Fellowship Hall.

ICA Great Taste – Thursday, October 4, 5:00 pm

Save the date for the annual Great Taste event to benefit ICA Food Shelf. Tickets available at icataste.org

Walk to End Hunger – Thursday, November 22 (Thanksgiving Morning)

Give back before you give thanks! Join this fun, family-friendly walk at the Mall of America on Thanksgiving morning. Bring your whole family and help raise funds for ICA Food Shelf while you have a great time. Form a team or walk with your friends and family. Contact ICA 952-398-0729 for more information.



Would you like to be part of MUMC's Reconciling Ministry Team?

Building an inclusive Church has been part of the ongoing work of the MUMC Reconciling Ministry Team. If you would like to be part of that movement, please consider joining this group. We meet every other month (odd numbered months) on the third Sundays between services. Our next meeting is Sunday, September 16, 10:00 am. Please join us, everyone is welcome. Questions contact Kelly Dunn.

MUMC Choir Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm, beginning September 5

If you are interested in becoming part of the music ministry at Minnetonka, our MUMC choir starts rehearsals on September 5 at 6:30 pm! Our choir is a no pressure, no long-term commitment group who loves learning to sing and how to enhance worship for our church. It doesn't matter if you can read music or not, and it doesn't matter if you have singing experience. If you are 9th grade or older, you are encouraged to participate. Still on the fence? Come to our first rehearsal and see what it's all about. You'll also learn the energetic anthem for Kick-off Sunday with a small group of instruments! There is NO such thing as a bad voice! Please email Matt Reaves at matt.reaves@minnetonkaumc.org if you have any questions!



Words of Appreciation

The Reconciling Committee would like to thank everyone involved in this year's Pride Parade! We had a great turn out for the parade, with almost 20 MUMC members, plus some friends, walking in the parade. It was an amazing day, and God's love could be felt throughout. It truly is a blessing to see how our presence there touches so many people.

MUMC cares and asks you to pray for...

- Family and friends of the 8th victim of domestic violence homicide of 2018 in Minnesota: Christina Marie Woods, 28, St. Louis County.
- The family of Shequill Halbert, 24, St. Paul, the 9th known victim of domestic violence in Minnesota.
- Josh Holtorf as he recovers from back surgery.
- Chandra Benjamin's father as he recovers from surgery.
- Carol Branby as she recovers from surgery
- Richard Weber, Derrick's father, as he recovers from surgery
- The family of Bill and Kathy Vollink on the loss of her great-nephew, Curt
- Joy at the birth of Lilian to Lisa Beth Lentini and Kevin Walker

INTRODUCING OUR INTERIM LEAD PASTOR – REV. DAVID COMSTOCK

Pastor Dave is a trained and experienced Interim Ministry specialist. After serving three churches as pastor from 1983 to 2005 (including eight years at Knox Presbyterian in St. Paul), he received a call from God to Interim Ministry. He describes his call this way: "to help congregations to transition from one chapter of their life together to another, to help them understand themselves and their history better and to begin to dream and plan for the future."

Pastor Dave comes to us from the Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA). His theological perspective is socially progressive, inclusive, and firmly grounded in Holy Scripture. He has served large churches (indeed, a variety of church sizes), and has led large staffs. We will be his seventh church to serve as an interim pastor.

The Servant Leadership Board had the pleasure of spending several hours with Pastor Dave a few weeks ago. We truly believe that he has the gifts and skills that Minnetonka UMC needs at this time in our journey. We sensed Pastor Dave has already opened his heart to us and has begun loving us. By his words and demeanor, he showed us that he is, above all, a pastor with a Spirit-filled love for people and deep desire to help people and churches. He wants to be our pastor, to get to know us, and to walk with us and help us discern our next steps.

Pastor Dave and his wife are relocating to Minnesota from Indiana to be near their two grandchildren. **His first Sunday with us will be Kickoff Sunday, September 9 when he will be preaching.** We will be having a welcome reception for him and his wife, Carol, and Meet and Greet sessions are being scheduled. Pastor Dave’s biographical brochure is available at the Welcome Desk, in Fellowship Hall, and in the church office.

Please come to MEET and WELCOME PASTOR COMSTOCK on SEPTEMBER 9

TOWN HALL MEETINGS with the SERVANT LEADERSHIP BOARD

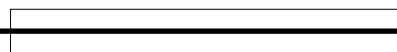
Town Hall meetings will be a way for the congregation and the Servant Leadership Board to exchange information and ideas, ask questions, and give feedback - to think, hope, and dream together.

These informal gatherings in Fellowship Hall will happen every 2 months on a Sunday from 12:00-1:00 pm. Childcare and light refreshments (snacks) will be provided. **The dates for 2018 are September 16 and November 18.** Dates for 2019 will be determined later this fall.

Hoping to see you there on September 16!

MUMC’s Servant Leadership Board

Jason Anderson	Myron Carlson	Judy Fallat	Elizabeth Frye	Megan Krueger	Eric Lunde
Tim Nordaune	Dennis Olsen	Steve Pieh	Bill Post	Patty Yeager	
Pastor David Comstock		Pastor Tiffany McDonald			



MINNETONKA UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
17611 Lake St. Extension
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MINNETONKA UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
17611 Lake St. Extension
Minnetonka, MN 55345
www.minnetonkaumc.org

PHONE:
952.474.4114

FAX:
952.474.4115

E-MAIL:
minnetonkaumc@minnetonkaumc.org

The Extension

Suggested Scripture Readings for September

15 th Sunday after Pentecost	Song of Solomon 2:8-13 Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9 James 1:17-27	18 th Sunday after Pentecost	Proverbs 31:10-31 Psalm 1 James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
September 2	Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23	September 23	Mark 9:30-37
16 th Sunday after Pentecost	Proverbs 22:1-2,8-9, 22-23 Psalm 125 James 2:1-13, 14-17	19 th Sunday after Pentecost	Esther 7:1-6, 9-10 Psalm 124 James 5:13-20
September 9	Mark 7:24-37	September 30	Mark 9:38-50
17 th Sunday after Pentecost	Proverbs 1:20-33 Psalm 19 James 3:1-12		
September 16	Mark 8:27-38		



*Open Hearts
Open Minds
Open Doors*

MUMC Staff

<i>Interim Pastor</i>	<i>Rev. David Comstock</i>
<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Rev. Tiffany McDonald</i>
<i>Administrator</i>	<i>Michelle Schober</i>
<i>Music Director/Admin</i>	<i>Matthew Reaves</i>
<i>Groups & Caring Ministries</i>	<i>Judy Sunderland</i>
<i>Children, Youth & Families</i>	<i>Haley Mathison</i>
<i>Jazz Music Coordinator</i>	<i>Dave Graf</i>
<i>Custodian</i>	<i>Scott Langseth</i>
<i>Sound Board/Technology</i>	<i>Jason Anderson</i>
<i>Nursery Attendant</i>	<i>Jamie Anderson</i>
<i>Pastor Emeritus</i>	<i>Rev. Harly Hagmann</i>

david.comstock@minnetonkaumc.org
tiffany.mcdonald@minnetonkaumc.org
michelle.schober@minnetonkaumc.org
matt.reaves@minnetonkaumc.org
judy.sunderland@minnetonkaumc.org
haley.mathison@minnetonkaumc.org
dave.graf@minnetonkaumc.org