



Illuminator

"Building relationships with Christ and each other"

Volume 19 Number 2

February 1, 2012

AT THE CROSSROADS: LENT 2012

"Our calling is where our deepest gladness and the world's hunger meet."

Frederick Buechner

Have you ever found yourself "at a crossroads" in your life, when your situation has changed and there are choices to be made that are unavoidable? We all have those times when we have no choice but to decide which new path we will take to address our new situation.

This Lenten season, we recognize that our world is changing and that the context in which we serve and worship is changing, too. What will be our new path as God's people so that our deepest gladness intersects with the world's hunger?

For the five Wednesdays in Lent, we will join together at the crossroads, using the Congregational Leader Series, Our Mission: Discovering God's Call to Us, as our guide.

Week 1: STOP to pray for God's guidance, confessing failures and celebrating blessings. We will introduce the prayer form of "Conversations with God" as our basis.

Week 2: LOOK to Scriptures and Christ's teaching to discern where we are to travel, and what we are to be doing. We will introduce the "Lectio Divina" prayer form as our foundation for discovery.

Week 3: LISTEN to the needs of the community and one another. This evening will be a time of sharing, praying, and worshipping. We will be using a worship format as our basis.

Week 4: GO and communicate the good news. This evening will be dedicated to making crosses and packaging books for "Books for Africa" (please note related article) as we share what journey Christ is calling this congregation to take.

Week 5: DO. We will have the opportunity to finish our projects from week four OR be traveling to help pack meals at a local "Feed My Starving Children" warehouse.

The "At the Crossroads" Lenten series take place in the fellowship hall. We are looking forward to this new approach to Lent and having you join us in this adventure!

Walking with you, Pastors Dan and Sally

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Upcoming Events

- @ Bible Study
February 4 – 9:00am
- @ MCLC Annual Meeting
February 5 – 11:00am
- @ WELCA Annual Meeting
February 28 – 10:30am
- @ Ash Wednesday Service
February 22 – 7:00pm

PRAYER LIST

Our Prayer List is a rotating list of all members of Minnehaha Communion. Martin, Melissa, Breanna, & Parker Thurber, Sandra Tindall, Earl & Barb Tolan, Valborg Tollefsrud, Carol Tornes, Curtis & Vi Town, Mickey & Sherry Trego, Nancy & Emmalee Trottier, Barbara Villebrun, Debbie, Nicholas, & Cassandra Villebrun, Dan & Joan Vindedahl, Daniel Waibel & Janet Lovejoy, Judith Watson, Dick West, Dave & Barbie Whale, Marion Whitbeck, Margaret Wilkes, John & Hillary Williams.



Pray for our Service Men and Women Chad Breslin and Jared Anderson (Grandsons to June Sibell), Nick Wilkes (Son of Margaret Wilkes), Brian Nutter (Son of Kim & Debbie Nutter), Tanya Whale (Daughter of Dave & Barbie Whale), Billy Markovich (Grandson of Bill & Gerry Knutson), Benjamin Maggard (Grandson of Frieda Lougee, nephew of Jean Lougee) Richard Johnson (Grandson of Martha Hinkle), David Melrose, (Son of Bruce & Deb Melrose).

Thank You from the Heart ♥

♥ Thank you Carl and Kathy Mackdanz for generously having the carpet in fellowship hall cleaned and also the blue chairs in the chapel. The chairs and carpet look great.

♥ Dear friends at MCLC, Thank you for bringing the cookies, bars, candy and craft items. Such a variety of delicious treats. I remember from way back, when there was any event at church, the ladies were always there to mix, stir, roll, butter, bake, cook, set tables, decorate, serve and clean up. Lowell and I appreciate and love all of you for thinking of us. Marion and Lowell Foster.

♥ Thank you to our custodian Bennie Henderson who has been working diligently on keeping the church clean, with much care given to the unisex rest room now that we have a new tenant. Bennie has also been painting small areas in the church. The alley stairwell, praise room, fireside room and stairwell outside the office have been completed. The painting will continue into fellowship hall. With the little bit of snow, Bennie has also shoveled on two Sunday's and spread salt for safety.

♥ Thank you from Minnehaha Food Shelf. This letter is to gratefully acknowledge your donations totaling \$200 to the Minnehaha Food Shelf during the year 2011. Your efforts towards helping less fortunate individuals in our neighborhood are greatly appreciated. We look forward to your continued support. Edwin Hollenbeck, Treasurer.

♥ Thank you Tim Bjorkstrand for the extra work done on the NE stairwell, your care of the church is most appreciated.

♥ Thank you to Sue Albers for supplying the December confirmation meal and to Donna Tanner for supplying dessert for the Wednesday evening Youth On a Mission group.

♥ Thank you to Shani Catarra for providing the confirmation meal, Sunday January 22.



Happy
Valentines Day

MCLC COMMUNITY NEWS

In Sympathy

Our sympathies to family of John Stark who passed away January 2012, in Florida. May God grant the family comfort and hope.

Pastor Wendy Cook

The ordination of former intern, Wendy Cook, was held on Sunday, January 15 in Homer City, PA – Pastor Wendy’s hometown. Pastor Sally attended and preached at the ordination. She brought greetings from MCLC and presented Pastor Wendy with a hand-tossed home communion set. Pastor Wendy has accepted a call to Berne, NY and will begin at the end of January, her new address is: 1732 Helderberg Trail, Berne, NY 12023. We continue to offer her our support and God’s blessings as she begins her service in ordained ministry!



Dear Pastor Sally, Pastor Dan, and the community of Minnehaha Communion,

Ordination is an incredible, spirit-filled experience. Thank you, Pastor Sally, for the uplifting message and for your mentorship and support.

Thank you to all of you for your love, care and prayers on my behalf. We are all in ministry together!

Thank you for the portable communion set. It is stunning. My sister took one look at it and said, “Oh, that is you!” She knows blue is my favorite color and that I have an appreciation for handmade things. I can’t wait to begin visiting people and bring them the Holy Eucharist!

Thank you so much for all your generosity, expressed in so many ways. God’s blessing upon you, Pastor Wendy

We Welcome our New Tenant

Tom Esch has a multi-faceted background which has prepared him to be useful to people and organizations that are in the midst of significant change or conflict. In the past 30 years he has lived in East Africa, Guatemala and in seven

different states in the United States. Tom has trained attorneys, business owners, managers, therapists and church leaders to be more skillful in working with people in challenging circumstances.

He has worked with a variety of organizations as trainer, speaker and facilitator. He also has served as an ordained minister, coordinator of social justice, director of workforce development and salesman in business. He has modeled ways to work constructively with people and with organizations on topics including leadership, power, reconciliation, diversity and justice.

Tom has a master’s degree in “Conflict Facilitation and Organizational Change” from the Process Work Institute in Portland, Oregon and a master’s degree in Theology from the University of Notre Dame. He has also completed Facilitative Mediation Training at Hamline University.

In addition Tom is also part-time Executive Director of City House, an organization dedicated to connecting persons of privilege with persons on

the margins of society. He is renting the three offices in the Fireside room across from pastors’ offices. We welcome Tom to our community.

Ecumenical Ash Wednesday Worship at Minnehaha Communion

We will be welcoming St. James AME and Bethany Lutheran to our Lenten worship experience on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd @ 7 pm. Choirs and special readings will surround the service on that night as we begin our 40 day journey into Lent.

For early risers, Bethany Lutheran (3901 36th Ave. S) will host a morning Ash Wednesday service at 10:30 am, followed by a soup and sandwich lunch. Please join us for this ecumenical opportunity to worship with our neighbors in the faith!

New Pew Envelopes for “Musical Offering” Sundays

At the January music and worship team meeting, it was approved to go ahead with a new idea to support special music here at Minnehaha Communion. Members have often told us how much they enjoy hearing

special music from guest musicians who visit Minnehaha Communion! On the Sundays when special music is provided, we will announce and remind people that the Special music offering will help defray the honorarium provided to the musician(s). These envelopes will give friends and members alike the opportunity to support this wonderful music ministry. Please look for these colored envelopes in our church pews in the coming weeks ahead.

Meeting “AT THE CROSSROADS” during Lent

For our five Wednesdays in Lent, we will be doing things a little differently this year. We hope to develop a way to serve one another, our community, and our neighbor as we meet together “at the crossroads.” This year, the Wednesday Lenten gatherings (on February 29th, LEAP DAY, March 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th) will all be starting at 6:30 pm in fellowship hall. PLEASE NOTE: NO SOUP WILL BE PROVIDED THIS YEAR, so please eat before you come. However, there will be time for hot drink and fellowship with a lite snack before we

gather from 6:00 – 6:25 pm. If you have any questions about the schedule please contact us at the church office. We look forward to taking this journey with you “at the crossroads. Pastors Dan and Sally

Stewardship Sound Bytes

Number 9 is Micah 6:8 - “Three steps to a good life”

The focus of our stewardship is not our money or our possessions, but rather the attitude of our heart. The attitudes in our heart lead to the steps of justice, kindness, and humility. All three of these shape and motivate the way we view, use, and give our money and possessions. May we consider furthering our three steps to the good life in our daily lives, coming straight from the heart.

Notice of Annual Meeting

The annual meeting will be held Sunday, February 5, following worship at 11:00 a.m. The council is preparing for the meeting by discerning where God is calling Minnehaha Communion in 2012. The annual reports will also be available at that time. Please stay for Fiesta Meal

Hosted by Minnehaha Youth, they will be serving a meat, bean and cheese Nacho bar on Sunday, February 5th (before the annual meeting) to gather funds for their mission trip in June to Marvell, Arkansas. A suggested donation of \$5 dollars per plate (with dessert a dollar extra). Thanks for your generosity and support of our youth! Please plan on attending.

WELCA Annual Meeting

WELCA Meeting, Saturday, Feb 18th at 10:40am -- A light brunch will be served! Women of Minnehaha Communion join us as we discuss activities/events for 2012 and approve our yearly budget. WELCA is all of us planning and working together. Mark your calendar for the 18th and see you at church.

We need the input from many. If you have questions, please see Kathy Mackdanz, Cleo Medlock or Pat Botten.

Looking Ahead

Our MCLC March Lenten Project: Books for Africa, which is the world’s largest shipper of donated books to the African continent. Since 1988, Books for Africa has shipped over 24 million high-quality text and library books to children and adults in 46 African countries. Millions more are needed. At BFA’s warehouse in St. Paul, volunteers sort and pack books according to category and age level. No heavy lifting is involved. Volunteers should be at least 14 years old. Volunteers give two or more hours of their time and meet on:

- Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
- First and third Saturdays of every month volunteer shifts are 9-11 and 12-2. Individuals can volunteer at the St. Paul warehouse– by signing up at the church office, by calling 612-722-9527 or email secretary@minnehahacommunion.org, before the end of February.

We appreciate your help with this important work!

Saturday Bible Study 2012

With "Tradition and Wisdom: Proverbs, Psalms, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, Matthew. We meet at 9:00 until 10:30 am in the Fireside Room, below is the 2012 schedule:
February 4 – Jean Lougee Leads
18 – Marcella Strand Leads
March 3, 17, 31,
April 14. All are welcome for study, treats and fellowship.

First Talk About Last Things

If you were unable to attend the forums on Advance Directive (Living Wills) or funeral planning, packets with the forms and background information remain available in the church office. Please contact Sue Arens with any questions or for assistance with the forms.

Also, if you missed the mini health fair on January 15th, a few copies of the book *Health at Home* remain. Please let Sue if you would like this health guide, compliments of Fairview Health Services.

Pastor's Report – Jan. 17th, 2012

YOUTH – AMP (stands for All Metro Praise) worship is being planned for the New Year ahead. This hip-hop service will take place the last Sunday night of the month at Augsburg College- for both January and February.

-A confirmation retreat was held this past weekend at Bay Lake Bible Camp Jan. 14th - 16th. This was a joint event with three of our youth attending along with St. Peder's, First in St. Paul, and Holy Trinity churches. 26 youth and 6 youth leaders participated together in learning about the Creeds. The kids enjoyed their experience of walking the labyrinth, mingling with others, campfire, and outdoor fun.

Pastor Dan and Julie Miller were the leaders on the retreat.

-A mission trip to Marvel, Arkansas is being planned for June 19-24. The youth will be working on special fundraiser for the annual meeting on Sunday, February 5th. The taco Fiesta will immediately follow the service before the annual meeting as we celebrate a "Fabulous February Fiesta."

WORSHIP- We had a wonderful Christmas season with the kids decorating the trees, lighting the advent wreath, and offering their program. The 1st Sunday of Christmas began the New Year with a historical Hymn Sing (that members really enjoyed on New Year's Day). Last weekend's Lay Sunday entitled "Fearfully and Wonderfully made" focused on our entire well-being. Thanks to all who participated and shared during this service and for Parish Nurse Sue Arens who organized this service.

Plans for Lent are now underway with the theme "At the Crossroads." We will be also following up with prospective new members before Lent starts (on February 22nd with Ash Wednesday)

EDUCATION- Sunday school: A teacher meeting was held recently to prepare. We are planning a possible spring outreach opportunity as well as the youth worship service on January 29th.

PASTORAL CARE- Our sympathies go out to the family of John Stark who died this past weekend. A memorial

service is being planned for Saturday, February 4th at Minnehaha. We also pray for those who are undergoing various health concerns and challenges at this time.

Parish Nurse Report January 2012

* Hosted adult forum on funeral planning, a follow-up to Advance Directive sessions held in December. Forms available in office for those unable to attend will also highlight this in next Illuminator.

* Health and Wellness Sunday January 15th was a success, the mini-health fair during coffee hour was well-received. I may repeat the health fair portion every few months, a good way to interact and distribute information.

* Have begun work with nursing student from St Kate's, her work here will conclude mid-February.

* Continue to share in on-going care and visits with members.

* One point of information: my church email account has been unable to receive incoming mail since late December, efforts continue to rectify this. If members need to contact me, please use the main church email or

my home email:

rjarens@comcast.net. You may also leave a phone message at the church.

Church Administrator Report

Tim Bjorkstrand has been called and work has begun on the NW stairwell and balcony. Tim had an opening in his schedule and work was begun Friday, January 13. Scheduled completion was January 17. This completes repairs from last year's ice dams and roof water damage.

HEY YOUTH!

Sunday school News

A Sunday school teachers' meeting was held on January 11th to look ahead and plan for upcoming events:

1. New curriculum has been purchased for all three classes. The younger groups will be using the "Spark" curriculum and the older group will be using Augsburg's "What Is a Lutheran?" as its guide.
2. Plans for the Jan. 29th Youth Sunday are underway with various involvement from our youth.

3. The Sunday school will be offering special music more Sundays this winter and spring.
4. An outreach opportunity, such as "Feed My Starving Children" and an end-of-the-year party was discussed.
5. The group is starting to explore possibilities for a presentation during worship on Palm Sunday.
6. The praise store is going well, but gift cards, which appeal to the older students, are needed.

Summer 2012 Bible Camp at Wapo

The 2012 Summer Bible Camp brochures and registration forms are here. You'll find them on the information shelf across from the office and a supply in the narthex. Questions, please call the office.

Youth Works Mission Trip

Where: Marvel, Arkansas
When: June 17th through 22nd, 2012
Cost: for the week (Monday – Friday in Marvel): \$248 per person. To sign up: Please contact Pastor Dan or Julie Miller at 612-636-2936. We are planning for optional stops in either Kansas City or St. Louis. Please plan

to bring an additional \$10 per person to cover any extra costs.

And in the End...

Power Tools to Lower Your Cost of Conflict

Thursday, February 2, 7:00pm till 9:00pm (Doors open at 6:45) St. Paul Area Council of Churches, 1671 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, (2 blocks west of Snelling). Cost \$69 (before 1/31) \$85 (after 1/31 or at the door). This seminar, offered by Tom Esch, president of Creating Resolution in Minneapolis, explores our increasingly stressful work life and presents valuable opportunities to learn how to integrate our various differences. Participants will explore the hidden power in conflict and how to respond appropriately and effectively to challenging situations, and how to access resolution in all of our personal and professional relationships. For more information, please visit the website www.creatingresolution.com or call 651-600-0096.

Lenten Service at Bethany

For early risers, Bethany Lutheran (3901 36th Ave. S) will host a morning Ash Wednesday service at 10:30 am, followed by a soup and sandwich lunch. Wednesday services continue throughout Lent and Maundy Thursday, at 10:30am followed by a soup and sandwich lunch.

Nordic Choir to Perform in Minneapolis

Luther College Nordic Choir, one of the top college choirs in the nation, will present a concert at 8:00 p.m. on **Saturday, February 4, 2012** at the Basilica of St. Mary, 88 North 17th Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Conducted by Dr. Allen Hightower, the choir will perform sacred choral works. \$20 adults, \$10 students; for tickets visit www.luthertickets.com or call 1-800-4-LUTHER. They will also be performing at Sunday morning services at Wayzata Community Church the following day at 9:00 a.m and 10:30 a.m.

Nokomis Square Blood Drive
 Nokomis Square, 5015 35th Avenue
 So, is hosting the American Red Cross
 Blood Drive, Saturday, February 25,
 from 10:00am to 3:00pm. For
 appointments call 1-800-733-2767 or
 online at www.redcrossblood.org,
 enter zip code 55417. Thank you.

Upcoming Scripture Texts
 You can find complete texts on our
 web site,
www.minnehahacomunion.com.

February 5, 2012 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 40:21-31
 Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
 1 Corinthians 9:16-23
 Mark 1:29-39

February 12, 2012 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

2 Kings 5:1-14
 Psalm 30
 1 Corinthians 9:24-27
 Mark 1:40-45

February 19, 2012 Transfiguration of Our Lord

2 Kings 2:1-12
 Psalm 50:1-6
 2 Corinthians 4:3-6
 Mark 9:2-9

February 26, 2012 First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 9:8-17
 Psalm 25:1-10
 1 Peter 3:18-22
 Mark 1:9-15

Ushers, Readers, Tellers and Van Drivers List For January

Ushers

February 5 – Wes Rannow, Sherry Trego
 February 12 – Roxanne Dunlop, Dan Mooney
 February 19 – Bruce Melrose, Dave Whale
 February 26 – Patty Botten, Patty Dolan

Coffee Hour

February 5 – Annual Meeting
 February 12 – Wendy Graber, Mary Foslien
 February 19 – Helen Holtti, Shirley Malcolm
 February 26 – Vi Bjorkstrand, Kathy Mackdanz

Reader

February 5 – Jeff Carlson
 February 12 – Linda Hagelberger
 February 19 – Rob Graber
 February 26 – Wendy Graber

Tellers

February 5 – Jean Lougee
 February 12 – Joan Vindedahl, Janet Lovejoy
 February 19 – Brenda Robbins
 February 26 – Jean Lougee

Van Driver

February 5 – Bryan Hagelberger 612-724-5520
 February 12 – Brent Sjodin 612-722-7430
 February 19 – Bryan Hagelberger 612-721-0037
 February 26 – No Driver

Please call for van service by Saturday before 7:00pm
 If you know of anyone who would like to drive the
 van on the fourth Sunday of the month, please contact
 Jean Lougee or Janet Lovejoy. Thank you!

Attendance

January 1 – 46
 January 8 – 80
 January 15 – 70
 January 22 – 80
 January 29 – 78



February Birthdays

Cassandra Villebrun	2-1
Lori Nelson	2-2
Joshua Leinum	2-4
Troy Medlock	2-4
Brent Sjodin	2-4
Shane Lehrke	2-7
Ryan Sandey	2-7
Jessica Roberts	2-7
Audrey Flanery	2-8
Wally Bjorkstrand	2-11
Joe Botten	2-12
Delores Roland	2-12
Kim Nutter	2-13
Peter Nutter	2-14
Sherry Trego	2-15
Delores James	2-17
Orville Bakke	2-18
Hillary Williams	2-18
Alexandra Sandey	2-21
Mariah Spence	2-21
David Lindquist	2-22
Beverly Ostby	2-22
Sydney Smith	2-22

Susan Albers	2-23
Nate Grefsrud	2-24
Sue Mooney	2-27
Jessica Sandey	2-28

If you do not see your birthday on this list, please call the office.

MINNEHAHA COMMUNION
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Worship & Sunday School 9:45am
Church office 612-722-9527 Fax 612-729-9492
Website: www.minnehahacommunion.com

Office E-mails:

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pastordan@minnehahacommunion.org
pastorsally@minnehahacommunion.org
rjarens@comcast.net (temporary email)

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Dan and Sally Ankerfelt.....612-729-0175

Parish Nurse

Sue Arens.....612-722-9527

Music Director

Jeonglim Kim.....651-399-7474

Church Administrator/Newsletter Editor

Ela Georg.....612-722-9527

Custodian

Bennie Henderson

President of the Congregation

Janet Lovejoy.....612-729-1469

Vice President of the Congregation

Jean Lougee.....612-724-5520

Treasurer of the Congregation

Jessica Sullivan.....612-872-8662

Secretary of the Congregation

Erin Brothen.....651-698-1188

Foundation

Brent Sjodin.....612-722-7430

WELCA

Kathy Mackdanz.....612-722-2392

Council Members: Jeff Carlson, Bryan Hagelberger,
Helen Holtti, John Molinaro, Dave Whale, Norm
Arlandson.

Mutual Ministry Committee: Sherry Trego, Janet
Lovejoy, Nick Salkowski, Bruce Melrose.

Fairview Representatives: Barbie Whale, John
Molinaro

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