



AUGUST 2023

THE EXTENSION *newsletter*



Minnetonka
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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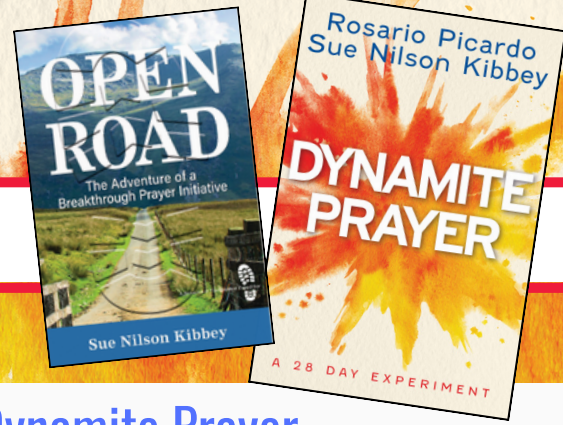
Mission & Service

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Free Fall Kick Off
Carnival
Sunday September 10 Worship at 10am, Carnival
to follow until 1pm
Taco Bar ★ Desserts ★ Games
Prizes ★ Bounce House
17611 Lake Street Ext
Minnetonka, MN 55345
All Are Welcome and Wanted!

**CHECK OUT OUR BRAND NEW
WEBSITE: MINNETONKAUMC.ORG**

THE BINNIEDICTION



Announcing the Next All-Church Study: Dynamite Prayer

God's Spirit, God's resurrection power, is always at work in the world, creating new possibilities and breathing new life into things. And God promises that, through Christ, we have access to this miraculous power. But how often do we actually experience and live in it?

Most of us spend our prayer life looking inward and focused on our problems instead of looking up and out for the possibilities God has for us. We want something new, something fresh, something more, but we don't know how to get there.

Are you feeling frustrated, stuck, overwhelmed or discontent? Are you unsure of what to do next? Does your prayer life feel flat? Do you pray because you think you're supposed to, but you wonder if God really hears you? You may need a breakthrough; an opportunity to see supernatural possibilities beyond your earthly limitations.

Beginning September 17, Minnetonka United Methodist Church will be launching a 7-week sermon series; 6-week all-church study and an exciting, 28-day experiment in breakthrough prayer. ***The purpose of this initiative is to unleash the power of the Holy Spirit in your life and in the life of the church.*** I hope you will plan to participate fully!

Breakthrough prayer is a simple, powerful process of surrendering what we know for the mystery God wants to reveal. In it, we discover we're not responsible for finding the ideas or the solutions but rather, trusting God to give us more than we could ever dream up on our own, and following what emerges.

THE DETAILS:

When are sign-ups? Sign-ups will be available online shortly and in-person, beginning Kickoff Sunday, September 10. You can pick-up copies of the books outside the Sanctuary.

How will the small groups work? Small groups will meet at different times and places (including Zoom) for an

hour. When you sign-up, you will be able to select a group based on the day/time/location that works best for you.

What are the Expectations of Participants?

- Read *Open Road: The Adventure of a Breakthrough Prayer Initiative* (a small, quick read that will lay a foundation for the prayer experiment to come), by Sue Nilson Kibbey.
- Read *Dynamite Prayer*, by Rosario Picardo and Sue Nilson Kibbey, a daily prayer guide (similar to a devotional) that includes just 3 pages of daily reading.
- Participate in a weekly small group in-person or on Zoom to discuss the questions featured at the end of each chapter of *Open Road*, as well as the questions that accompany your daily prayer guide.
- Participate in worship and other church activities that reinforce the material presented in the books. The sermon series will expand upon these ideas and explore biblical experiences of prayer in the Hebrew Bible and New Testament. (*Important Note:* a person will NOT need to have read the books or participate in a small group to enjoy or be inspired by worship, but you are highly encouraged to do both!)

All-Church Study Schedule

Sunday, September 17: Dynamite Prayer sermon series begins

The Week of September 24: small groups begin meeting

Weeks 1 and 2: Read 2 chapters of *Open Road* each week in preparation for your gathering

Weeks 3 - 6: Read *Dynamite Prayer's* daily prayer guide

What if I want to participate but none of the small groups will be meeting at a time that works for me? You are welcome to take and read/use copies of the books on your own. Talk to Pastor Carrie if you would like to be partnered for conversation with another person.

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Is there a cost to participating in the congregational study? We are asking for free will donations to help cover the cost of both books (suggested donation \$21). We understand that there will be some people for whom a donation may not be possible, and others who can cover the expense of books for themselves and others. Regardless of a person's financial situation, we encourage everyone in our faith community to pick up a copy of each book.

know someone who I think might want give this study a try—is it for MUMC people only? Absolutely not! Any and all persons are invited and encouraged to participate!

Who do I contact if I have questions and/or I'm interested in helping out in some way? Contact Pastor Carrie with any/all of your questions, ideas, concerns, or availability to help.

I hope everyone in our congregation will prayerfully consider participating in this all-church study and joining a 6-week small group. Prayer is a priority of Minnetonka United Methodist Church. I hope you will consider making it yours.

Best of All, God Is With Us,

United Women in Faith: Respect + Compassion = Community

You are invited to attend the 9:30 AM Fall Gathering and Annual meeting of Twin Cities District United Women in Faith online or in person at Hamline United Methodist Church, 1514 Englewood Avenue, St. Paul. on September 23.

Our speaker, Linda Finney, provides insights and concrete ways to help us listen and learn from our neighbors. She is the project coordinator of the Community Conversations Ecumenical Consortium. Several St. Paul churches came together as they recognized the need for respectful and compassionate conversations around issues of race, justice, and ethnicity. Ms. Finney is a member of Holy Trinity Episcopal. She is a retired public safety administrator and adjunct professor. The Twin Cities District United Women in Faith team is excited to hear from her and learn more about this program. It fits with our organization's work for racial justice.

8:30 Check-in, Displays and Emma's Tea/Coffee 9:20 Gathering in the Sanctuary 9:30 Worship, including offering, followed by speaker 11:30 lunch 12:15 Annual meeting. To register click [HERE](#) by Sept 15.



Iona Pilgrimage Presentation

Presentation by Rev Mike Miller, Rev Carol Walvatne and others

A Scotland and Iona Pilgrimage: A Traveling Prayer on September 29 6:30-8:00.

In the Church Fellowship Hall. See pictures and hear about our spiritual pilgrimage to Scotland and Iona. Learn about Celtic spirituality and contemplative worship. Enjoy some tea and cookies as we enjoy this time together. Sign up [HERE](#)





Your Creative Ideas for New Ministries are Needed!

Do you have an idea for a way to grow MUMC? The Legacy Fund Team would love to hear from you! For 2023, the grant allowance is \$26,000, and we are eager to distribute these funds to expand programs and take advantage of special opportunities in the areas of education, music, outreach, facilities and leadership! Grant request forms are available on the website. Questions, please email Bill Heuer at billheuer@yahoo.com.

Walking With Friends

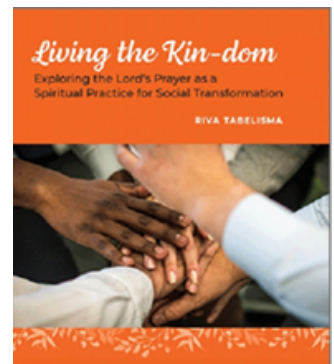
Walking with friends is a walking group at MUMC which began about 2 yrs ago. Friends meet at various trails in Minnetonka on Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. We walk for one hour. All are welcome to join, you need not be a member of MUMC. Location of walks are sent via email usually on Sunday. For more information please contact:
Anne Kamiri (952)240-4025 anne.m.kamiri@gmail.com
Or Pat Clawson (952-212-9276 paclawson@comcast.net

Imara International

Imara International is planning their 2023 Gala. It will take place on Nov 5 5:30pm - 8pm at Rush Creek Golf Club in Maple Grove. They are asking us to help them grow their silent auction by providing some gift baskets. We are encouraging all of the various church groups to consider providing a gift basket for this event. If your group is interested in providing a gift basket please contact Kent Mein(kent.mein@gmail.com) 952-250-0762.

Lydia Circle Fall Kick Off Gathering

Wednesday, September 27, 2023 9:30 am
This fall we will look at the Mission u study, "Living the Kin-dom: Exploring the Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice for Social Transformation". We start by looking at several translations of each verse and discuss how parts of the prayer give meaning in our lives today. Come and enjoy coffee and treats together and a lively conversation. All are welcome.



Men's and Women's Breakfast Groups

FRIDAY, SEPT. 15- 9:00 AM

Join your MUMC friends for break at Perkins Restaurant, Hopkins Crossroad and Hwy 7. There will be two separate tables for the men and women at the same time in different rooms. Please contact Harly and Cleone Hagmann (952-917-9022) by Thursday, Sept. 14th if you can be present or if you have any questions.



Wednesday Nights at MUMC

Come experience the best night of the week!
There is something for EVERYONE and NEW offerings this year!

WEDNESDAY DINNERS

5:30-6:30pm weekly
suggest donation, \$3-5 per person with a \$20 max for families
We strive to offer inclusive and nutritious food options. We will always have a child friendly and vegetarian option. If you have other dietary needs that are not being met by our menu please contact us at the office and let us know!
9/20 - pulled pork and rolls, hot dogs, corn casserole, coleslaw, vegetarian baked beans, assorted desserts
9/27 - pasta bar, salad, garlic bread, assorted desserts

WEDNESDAY WORD

NEW THIS YEAR!

6:30pm weekly
This year we will begin our Wednesday programing by recentering ourselves in a brief but meaningful worship moment together. When the weather cooperates we will meet at the outdoor worship area for a moment of faith connection before breaking out into our evening groups. Confirmation and Quest students are invited to meet us outside. Wednesday dinner participants are encouraged to migrate there after eating. Parents dropping students off for evening programs are invited to participate!

WEDNESDAY PROGRAMMING

After Wednesday word stay for small adult groups, bell choir, confirmation, quest, or simply coffee and fellowship! We'll never say no to help with kitchen clean up either!

We can't wait to see you!

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

FALL KICKOFF!



Fall Sunday School Starts September 10!

Come SHiNE with us as we explore our new curriculum together. We will love Jesus, grow in faith, and change the world!

**Quest Starts
Wednesday September
20, 6:30-7:30pm**

We will alternate between baking for Simpson shelter, doing story and stretch, and seasonal bible lessons and celebrations!



Fall Youth Group With Kailey Korder (and Becky) resumes Sunday September 24 after Church



We will make a simple lunch to share together, spruce up some painted rocks for the church garden and plan our fun year ahead together! Bring a friend!

UMCOR Responds with Disaster Relief:

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is always ready and active, providing relief and support for natural disasters at home and around the globe, providing funds for emergency relief and supplies, and boots on the ground. Ukraine, Turkey and Syria. Maui, Mexico, California, Louisiana. And now Florida in the aftermath of Hurricane Idalia. Last month MUMC sent UMCOR \$500 from the aluminum can fund. You can support [UMCOR](#) directly online or designate UMCOR on your MUMC offering. 100% of your donations go directly to disaster and humanitarian relief. And please click the box “Yes, I would like to give credit to my local church”.

ICA Food Shelf - It's Harvest Time

Thanks to all who continue to donate food, cash and other necessities to the ICA Food Shelf. At this time of harvest, ICA would love to receive donations from your gardens. Our new bin in the lobby stands ready to receive donations. Our MUMC tradition is to bring donations to the cart on the first Sunday of the month (Sept 3) when we take communion together. Your gifts make a difference right here in our MUMC community. Click [HERE](#) to donate cash.

Imara International

Our new ministry partner Imara International is making a difference in the lives of teenage mothers in Kenya by providing education and life skills for the moms and early childhood education for their children so that they all may achieve their full potential in their communities and the world. MUMC has joined them in this mission by becoming a “Wenzi”, in Kiswahili - a companion. Our 2023 MUMC Missions budget allocates \$1,200 toward their mission. Together we are creating a program that empowers, rather than enables; provides a safe, secure faith-based environment for learning and living; teaches skills that create job opportunities; and partners with the local community to build relationships. Visit their [website](#) or their [Facebook](#) page to learn more. And be sure to SAVE THE DATE for their Restore Gala, Sunday, November 5, 5:30-8:00PM.

Simpson Shelter Meal Service, Thurs, September 14, 6:00 pm:

Our MUMC team will be serving our fan favorite meatloaf dinner at Simpson Shelter. Open to vaccinated volunteers, age 8 and up. Click [HERE](#) to sign up. They are again able to receive home-baked cookies, bars and other desserts. Please bring desserts to the kitchen by noon that day.

Simpson Shelter Donations:

Thanks to all who continue to donate cash and much-needed shelter items. Special thanks to our Quilters who donate a quilt or 3 every month! If you have goods to donate, please leave them in the bin in the lobby. We'll bring them to Simpson tomorrow. Click [HERE](#) to find the list of their current needs. Click [HERE](#) to make a cash donation or designate Simpson on your MUMC offering.

Dignity Center Sandwiches, September 17, 11AM

On the 3rd Sunday of each month, MUMC makes sandwiches for The Dignity Center after worship. It's a fast fun family activity! Dignity Center is a ministry of Hennepin Avenue UMC that provides assistance with job hunting, interviewing, transportation to interviews, referrals to other organizations, clothing, household goods and meals - all to support people along their paths to stability. MUMC makes a difference with financial support, monthly sandwich donations and a year-round coat drive. Click [HERE](#) to donate directly to this ministry.

The Extension

is the monthly newsletter of
Minnetonka United Methodist Church

www.minnetonkaumc.org

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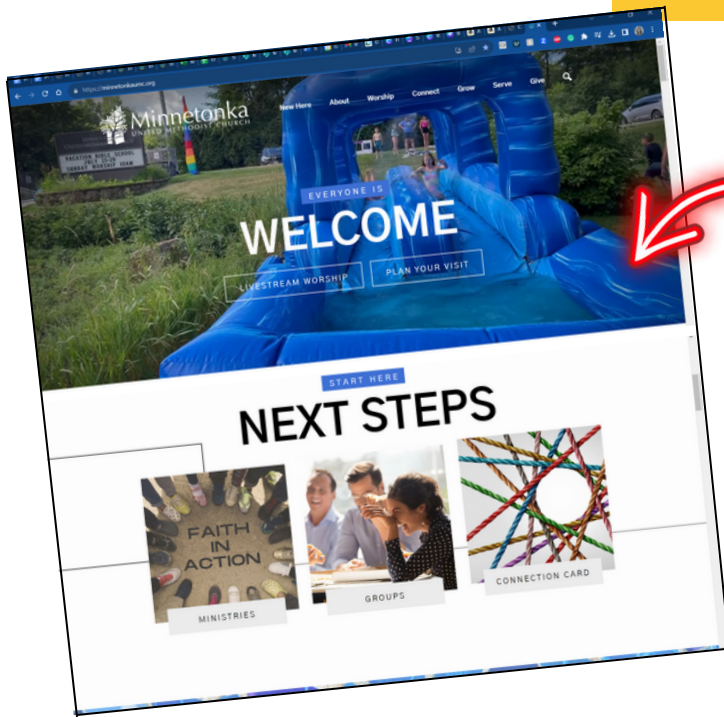
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