



Mindekirken COMMUNICATOR

A Monthly Newsletter of the Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church - ELCA

2024 July/August
Issue 242#



Visit from the President of the Norwegian Parliament

On Sunday, July 7th the President of the Norwegian Parliament, Masud Gharahkhani, will be in Minneapolis and will join us for the 10 am worship service at Mindekirken and kirkekaffe at Norway House. We hope you can join us for the celebration! At 12:30pm at Norway House, Masud Gharahkhani will join a panel discussion moderated by Former Ambassador to Norway, Ben Whitney, at a public Fireside Chat. More info at NorwayHouse.org

Registration required at mindekirken.org or call (612) 874-0716 (option 8) if you plan to attend kirkekaffe- no reservation required if you only plan to attend the service. Mange takk!



OLSOK
St. Olav's Wake
Saturday & Sunday
July 27-28 2024



Free Events!

Saturday July 27 at Norway House:

2:00 pm // Olsok Lecture presented by Gracia Grindal: *A New Perspective on Olav den Hellige*

3:30 pm // Singalong: Music and songs from different parts of the world

Sunday July 28 at Mindekirken:

9:15 am // Shirley Evenstad: The Rosemaling in Mindekirken

10:00 am // Olsok Worship Service

11:00 am // Kirkekaffe
Lefse Baking and Tasting with
Lynnelle Pratt

Demonstration of Rosemaling by
Charlotte Breivik: Bring your own cup or
vase so that you can try yourself!



PASTOR'S HILSEN



Another summer with drought?

The last summers have in many ways been challenging. Sky-high temperatures have given both farmers

and also all the rest of us a lot of challenges. So far this summer has not been like that, it has been plenty of rain. So let us just hope that we can avoid too much dry weather.

I remember a preacher who once talked about how we can also experience a spiritual drought during summer. Meaning that we leave town and our church for quite a while, and enjoy the more lazy days in a lake house or in a cabin. And by all means, we all need breaks like that in a world were we are more and more busy.

But, the point for this preacher was that too many of us also become

spiritually lazy during summer. We might not feel familiar with the local church near our cabin, so we do not feel comfortable attending the service there. And if we then also have forgotten to bring a Bible or a prayer book, we might spend several weeks without any spiritual nourishment at all.

Jesus has something to give us each day. But only if we seek him and read his words. So, sad to say, we will miss a lot if we neglect our spiritual life for a whole summer.

I do hope that each one of you will have a wonderful summer, relax as much as you can, fall will be here soon enough with all its challenges. And, find some ways of nourishing your spiritual life also during this time!

*God sommer!
Pastor Gunnar*

HYMN BLOG BY GRACIA GRINDAL

Gracia Grindal's *Hymnfortheday.com*, a blog on hymns and the text for the coming Sunday, has a brief devotional and lots of information of favorite hymns, many from the Nordic countries. Go to the site and scroll down to the bottom of the page and you will find out how to sign up to receive the blog every week. You can search for information on your favorite hymns on the site as well.

MISSION OF THE MONTH



Our current Mission of the Month is a near neighbor to Mindekirken, the Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center (www.miwrc.org). Here in Minneapolis we have the third largest urban American Indian population in the United States. MIWRC is a non-profit social and mental health services organization committed to

traditional ways of being and support of Native women and their families.

Your support provides family services, affordable housing, chemical dependency and mental health care, cultural resilience and healing, and other community issues. You may contribute to Mindekirken Mission of the Month via your designated offering or on our website. Many thanks for making an impact on the well-being of our community. - Wendi S.

Need Pastoral Care?

The Mindekirken pastoral care team wants to care for you and your family as you walk through life's celebrations and challenges.

Please contact Pastor Gunnar Kristiansen at 1gunnarkristiansen@gmail.com or call 651-955-5359, or the church office at 612-874-0716 if you are hospitalized, having surgery, or are in need of pastoral support.

Have a Prayer Request?

Prayer requests can be emailed to: 1gunnarkristiansen@gmail.com. All requests will remain confidential.

HOME GROUPS

The Northwest quadrant home group was hosted by Nancy and Lowell, photo below



FROM THE PRESIDENT



Summer at Mindekirken is always full of surprises! We love welcoming visitors. Our office staff appreciate a phone call or email if you would like a tour so that one of our tour guides can be notified to meet you for your visit.

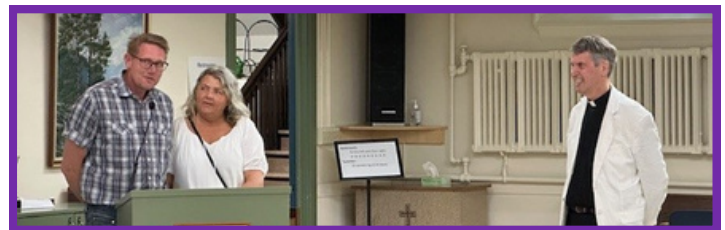


On June 1, Mindekirken once again partnered with Norway House for an information table at the annual Nordic Midsummer Fest at Buck Hill. *Photos above, left:* Irene was baptized at Mindekirken in 1934 and is now rejoining as a member; *center:* Race from Norway House offered a raffle for a one year membership to Norway House; *right:* Martha answering questions about the Mindekirken membership process

One of our trusted Building Attendants, Adrian Wear (*below*), was confirmed at Mindekirken along with two of his siblings.



If you stay late after kirkekaffe and sit next to Nancy Watkins, you just might become members of Mindekirken, as Nancy is always «at the ready» with membership forms in her purse. Peter and Kevin will be formally introduced to the congregation, along with the rest of the new members, this fall.



Visitors from Norway introduced by Pastor Gunnar at kirkekaffe.

Looking forward to seeing you at Mindekirken this summer.

*Best regards from Kirsti Grodahl,
Mindekirken Congregation President*



Painting of Lom Stave Church by Arna Rennan

TRUSTEES REPORT

Summertime when activities slow down at the church will give us an opportunity to work on maintaining the church, cleaning floors, carpets, and windows among other projects. We are still working with the insurance and roofing company for repairing the roof from hail damage last year. We also have loose flashing, unrelated to the hail damage that needs to be fixed.

Reviewing the old files of paperwork is an on-going project this year, being worked on by Tom Lanman and Tom Peterson.

We are looking at estimates to upgrade the audio in the fellowship hall and sanctuary. We are also working on getting an estimate for the hanging of the ship that Hans Sandom has been working on.

The technology committee is also reviewing replacing the server that is at the end of its life. We are also looking for a company that can help us with technical issues.

We are also looking for another volunteer for the recording of services on Sunday.

One of the projects Terry Parker has been working on is setting up the network for the cameras and smoke alarms that were installed this spring.

A new building attendant, Kelsi Lindstrom, has just been hired.

We are also looking to replace/add signage in the parking lot and the outside of the church.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Olson, Trustee Chair

NOW HIRING ORGANIST

We are currently hiring for the position of organist. There are two services a Sunday, one in English and one in Norwegian, except for the last Sunday of the month when there is one bilingual service. This position also includes accompanying the choir during services and choir practice (Thursday evenings 7:00-8:30 p.m., Sept.-May). In addition to regular Sundays, the organist is expected to play for the regular High Holy days of the year. Occasional funerals and weddings are negotiated and invoiced separately. Annual Compensation starts at \$20,577.

Please contact: Pastor Gunnar Kristiansen, 1gunnarkristiansen@gmail.com



Mindekirken's Salmer

In 2024, Mindekirken is connecting with hymns like never before. We are learning, listening, singing ... and nominating hymns to become one of Mindekirken's Favorite Hymns. If you would like to nominate a hymn, please contact Erik Pratt at hymns@mindekirken.org. To listen to all of our currently-nominated hymns, please use this QR code to access our YouTube playlist "Mindekirken's Favorite Hymns – 2024 Nominations".



< You can listen to all of our nominated hymns on our dedicated YouTube playlist. Please use this QR code to access "Mindekirken's Favorite Hymns – 2024 Nominations".



< You can also listen to all of the hymns in the Norsk Salmebok with this QR code

NORWAY HOUSE EXHIBITS



The Norwegian American Presents: The Democracy Center

Fri, May 3, 2024, 10:00 AM - Sun, Jul 28, 2024, 3:00 PM

Norway House's newspaper, The Norwegian American, created a new gallery exhibit in the Joan and Walter Mondale Galleri.

The exhibit's inspiration stems from our Editor-in-Chief, Lori Ann Reinhall's impressions from a recent visit to Norway's Constitution Museum at Eidsvoll. Together, adults and children learn about the history of the 1814 Norwegian Constitution, which was largely inspired by the U.S. Constitution.

Thanks to the support of donors and the Ventura Village Neighborhood Association, the exhibit features a children's activity corner at Norway House to create a similar experience for visitors of all ages.

The exhibit is presented to the public free of charge.

Perceptions of Norway — Portraits of Contemporary Norwegians by Nancy Bundt

Tue, Mar 12, 2024, 12:00 PM - Sat, Aug 31, 2024, 4:00 PM

In celebration of its 20th Anniversary, Norway House is proud to present a special encore showing of Nancy Bundt's Perceptions of Norway exhibit on the walls of the K.A.H.R. Innovation + Culture Center. This hit show was last displayed in the Galleri at Norway House in 2018.

Perceptions of Norway seeks to expand common perceptions of Norwegians and their culture. Through the eyes of a fellow American, photographer Nancy Bundt — an expat residing in Norway for 25 years — guests to the exhibit will be able to witness the stories of a diverse group of Norwegians. These stories will allow guests to consider their own relationships with Norway while also discovering a renewed excitement for the culture by connecting their own stories with those of Norwegians today.



ARTS & EXHIBITS COMMITTEE



In June a new exhibit was installed in the Annex and hallway to the sanctuary area. The Seven Summers: Paintings from Boverdalen by Arna Rennan. We are sharing the exhibit with Norway House. The exhibit first opened in Duluth, the hometown of the artist. It went from there to Vesterheim Museum in Decorah, Iowa.

Arna has returned to the source of her inspiration as a plein air painter in Bøverdalen, a valley in Northern Gudbrandsdalen where she spent seven summers working at the traditional Hotel Roisheim. During this time, Arna listened eagerly to stories of local history, folklore, folk music and learned to dance. The surroundings held a sense of timelessness with the powerful presence of unchanging mountains, farms dating back to the middle-ages, continuity of culture and lifestyle. But first and foremost, the dense, rich, ever-changing colors and atmospheric effects on the familiar faces of the mountains in this valley have inspired Arna's desire to capture the nuances to her canvas.

Arna Rennan is a painter who is in direct contact with nature with her easel outdoors, on location. She has painted in this manner for over thirty years. This began when she returned to her home town of Duluth Minnesota after many years in the arts community in Oslo Norway. It is her way of reuniting and becoming a part of her environment. She

currently resides in Lom where she enjoys the challenge of painting the subject matter that has called her for many years in her minds eye.

The following is a link that you may hear her narration of her story behind the pictures.
(<https://youtu.be/zxx0mdP7a60>)

The exhibit will run until the end of October. Her art is for sale after the exhibit, you may contact her directly if you are interested in purchasing – arnarennan@gmail.com.






Mindekirken Norwegian Language & Culture Program

VIL DU LÆRE NORSK?

With more than 100 students from across fifteen states, MNLCP is committed to creating community and fostering Norwegian language learning for students of all ages, with an emphasis on speaking and listening. Whether you are just beginning your journey or hoping to take your language skills to the next level, we hope to be part of our language learning adventure.

Connect with us, learn more about our program and register for classes at <http://www.mnlcp.org>
Registration for our fall session opens on **August 1st** and classes are set to begin **September 9th**.

 <h3>LANGUAGE</h3> <p>Norwegian language classes are the heart of our program. Each trimester, we offer a range of classes for beginning learners to those that are more advanced. Classes meet weekly for two-hour sessions.</p>	 <h3>LITERATURE</h3> <p>Through a variety of literary genres, students build vocabulary, practice grammar and develop their conversational Norwegian skills. Classes meet weekly for two-hour sessions.</p>	 <h3>KVINNEKOR</h3> <p>We are excited to share that after a brief hiatus MNLCP's <i>Kvinnekor</i> will resume rehearsals in fall 2024! <i>Kvinnekor</i> draws together women who share an interest in Norway and choral music.</p>
 <p>Mindekirken norskeklubben is a Norwegian language and culture group for kids around ages 5 to 12 that explores the theme <i>sanger og fortellinger</i> (songs and stories). With an informal structure, activities may include games, songs, art projects, and dramatic play. Registration is required, but it is FREE to attend. Norskeklubben meets twice a month on Sundays from 10:00 am - 11:30 am.</p>		
<p>Fall Dates September 15th September 29th October 13th October 27th December 15th</p>	<p>Winter Dates January 12th January 26th February 11th February 25th March 9th</p>	<p>Spring Dates March 23rd April 6th May 4th</p>



Velkommen til oss!



HAPPENINGS AT MINDEKIRKEN



We welcomed an Icelandair Norway group of Norway Tour Operators and a Journalist to promote the 2025 200th Bicentennial Anniversary of Norwegian emigration to the US. Thank you to Bloomington Minnesota Travel and Tourism, along with their partners Explore Minnesota, Meet Minneapolis, and Visit Saint Paul for hosting them!



When tourism member realizes the «super helpful» Nancy O was at church so she could thank her again for hospitality last time visiting from Norway.



Congratulations to Laurie and Tom Lanman who were married at Mindekirken on June 24th; they also serve on the Mindekirken Church Council!



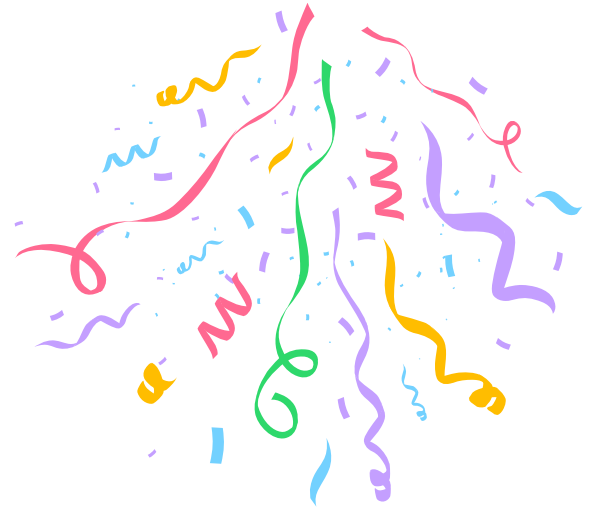
On June 30 we had a special kirkekaffe honoring Senna Starr and Jeffrey Kobus who are expecting a baby boy in early August. Lynndelle and Erik Pratt are the excited grandparents!



HAPPENINGS ON THE NORWAY BLOCK



Photos from Norway House's Annual Midtsommer Gala, this year celebrating their 20th anniversary.



Below: A rendering of the upcoming Norway House Kaffebar remodel



Right: Rebecca Jorgenson Sundquist with Marilyn Sorenson. Rebecca is wearing a miniature version of the world's largest Sølje, now on display at Norway House.



KJØKKENHJØRNET

During the summer months of July and August kirkekafe will consist of coffee, fruit, and cookies.



- Charlotte Breivik
and Mary Martin
Kitchen Committee

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

We are excited to announce that Bicentennial events begin on October 6 with the unveiling of Hans Sandom's kirkeskip, a replica of the Restauration, the ship the first emigrants from Norway took to America in 1825. We are hoping to have a new collection of hymns to sing at the unveiling as we launch the year.



MINDEKIRKEN WEEKLY



Want more Mindekirken? Scan the QR code or contact the office to sign up for our weekly emails and stay up to date!

Sign up can also be found on the front page of our website: "Mindekirken Email Signup"



On June 9, we celebrated the 80th birthday of our volunteer extraordinaire, Mary Martin, with a special kirkekafe.

SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

Interested in volunteering during a Sunday worship service? Please visit tinyurl.com/mindekirkensunday or scan the QR code on the right to sign up for a slot.



MINDEKIRKEN STAFF

PASTOR

Gunnar Kristiansen
pastor@mindekirken.org

MUSIC STAFF

John De Haan: Choir/Music Director
dehaa006@umn.edu

Steven Liening: Organist
organist@mindekirken.org

PROGRAMS

Krista Schweppe: MNLCP Administrator
norsk@mnlcp.org

Marilyn Sorensen: Tuesday Open House Coordinator
tuesdayopenhouse@mindekirken.org

Charlotte Breivik: Husmor (Kitchen Coordinator)
charlotte@mindekirken.org

OFFICE STAFF

Maggie Burr: Office Administrator
office@mindekirken.org

Terry Parker: Facility Coordinator
terry@mindekirken.org

Curt Aaseng: Bookkeeper
bookkeeper@mindekirken.org

Synneva Bratland: Volunteer Coordinator & Program Developer
volunteercoord@mindekirken.org

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Email office@mindekirken.org for more information.

William K. Wangenstein ATTORNEY AT LAW

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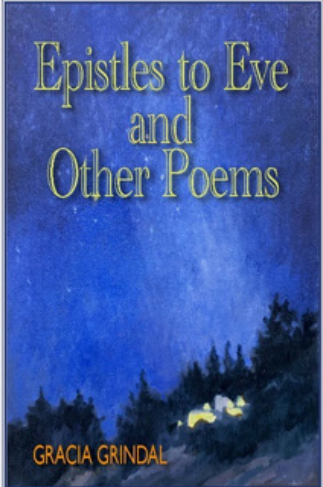


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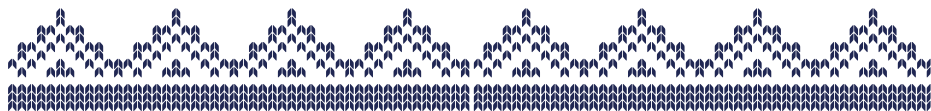
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HOSTFEST 2024 ... join the Daughters of Norway Pauline Fjelde Lodge #51 for a fun four-day coach tour Sept. 25-28. 3 nights hotel, transportation, breakfast, two lunches, stops at Hjemkomst & Runestone Museum. Contact Susan Anderson at 952-393-8707 or susondrew@yahoo.com. \$830-\$610 depending upon number of travelers.

Mindekirken 2024 Congregational Council

Executive Committee

Kirsti Grodahl, *President*
Gracia Grindal, *Vice President*
Jennifer Thue, *Secretary*

Treasurer

Nancy Sand Olson, *Trustees Chair*
Nancy Watkins, *Deacons Chair*

Trustees

Toby Hillmann
Tom Lanman
Tom Peterson
Doug Watkins

Deacons

Laurie Agrimson
Erik Pratt
Lynndelle Pratt
Wendi Storhoff

July/August 2024

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JULY/AUGUST WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- July 7 -
10 am Bilingual Service
*Special kirkekaffe at Norway House
with the President of Norwegian
Parliament*

- July 14 -
10 am Bilingual Service with
Communion

- July 21 -
10 am Bilingual Service with
Communion

- July 28 -
10 am Bilingual Service

- August 4 -
10 am Bilingual Service with
Communion

- August 11 -
10 am Bilingual Service

- August 18 -
10 am Bilingual Service with
Communion

- August 25 -
10 am Bilingual Service

SUNDAYS AT 9

- July 14 & August 11 -

Mindekirken Tour for Everyone: Please join us on our monthly scheduled tour of Mindekirken. The tour covers church history, the building and artwork. Visitors, guests and long-time members will all find this enjoyable and informative. (Tours are provided on the second Sunday of each month.)

Sundays at 10 programming will return in September

**In July & August, we will
have only one service
(bilingual) at 10 am**

COMMUNICATOR MAILING

If you would like to receive an emailed copy of the Communicator in lieu of the mailed paper edition, please contact office@mindekirken.org. The Communicator is also available on our website, along with past editions.

Please also contact office@mindekirken.org or call (612) 874-0716 for any address changes or requests.