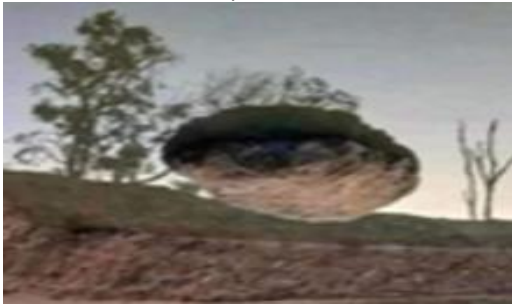


Sumner Center UMC Newsletter

September 2022



Pastors' notes... This photo is real and was not edited.
The stone is real, the trees are real, the soil is real and the sky is real.



Now, the only thing you have to do is change your point of view. Look at the photo, upside down!

I came across this photo experiment while scrolling through my Facebook page the other day. What a simple message. It got me thinking - have we, as a society, become a culture of people who are so set in our own views that we have selectively chosen not to explore every angle of interpretation and understanding any longer? Have we gotten so caught up in our own perceptions we have lost sight of the whole picture? Hmm? If so is there any hope of changing the narrative of this narrow minded cycle of thought that has mesmerized a whole community, country, and world? I believe the answer is Yes. One steppingstone at a time.

I believe the more important questions we need to be asking ourselves are these-
Are you ready to turn your world upside down and take the risk of changing your point of view?
Are you up for exploring new possibilities that might rock your world?

If so, then the Lord can make that happen! He has invited you to come to His house and take on the adventure of a lifetime!
Come and be a part of something that will not only flip you over but will raise you to new levels of hope, happiness and love like you have never experienced before.

Just take His hand, he will guide your way.



**Worship:
Sundays
In Sanctuary at 11:00am
&
Sumner Center UMC Facebook
Page**

Pastor Bridget Sheely

Cell: 507-923-6247

bridget@countrywidecarriers.com

Visit our Church Website at:

<http://www.sumnercenter.com>

**Donations may be sent to our mailing
address:**

**25378 151st Ave
Spring Valley, Mn 55975**

Grace and Peace in the name of Jesus Christ:

If you have items you would like to be published in the newsletter, please contact Pastor Bridget, by the 3rd Thursday of the preceding month by emailing your information to (bridget@countrywidecarriers.com) Or by bringing your information to Worship on Sunday mornings)



**The light of God remains
to shine bright in the
community of Sumner Center
UMC, only by your generous
giving heart!**

**Thank you for your dedication
and love!**

Calendar of Events

(Subject to change and/or be added to as the need arises)

September 2022

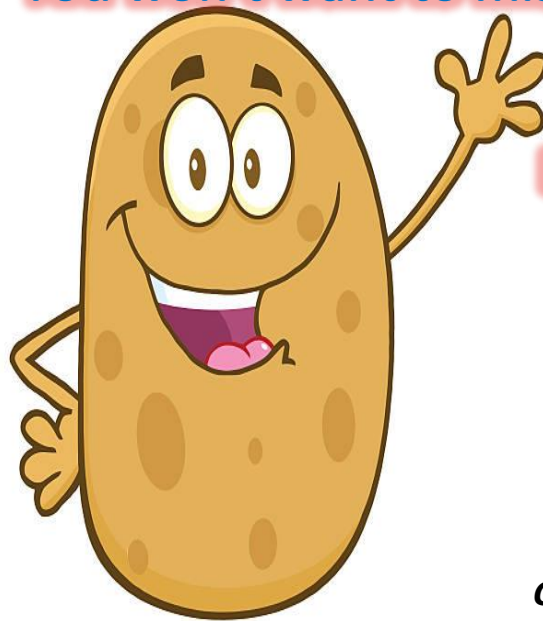
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:30 Book Study Via Zoom	2	3
4 Worship 11:00am 	5 	6	7 1 pm Book Study	8 6:30 Book Study Via Zoom	9	10
11 Worship 11:00 am 	12	13	14 1 pm Book Study	15 6:30 Book Study Via Zoom	16	17  Selichot
18  Worship 11:00am	19 Ahoy Matie's, it's...  INTERNATIONAL TALK LIKE A PIRATE DAY	20	21 1 pm Book Study  International Day of Peace	22 6:30 Book Study Via Zoom 	23	24
25  Happy Rosh Hashanah!	26	27	28	29	30	

Rosh Hashana History - Rosh Hashanah (Hebrew: ראש השנה) is the Jewish New Year. Rosh Hashanah literally translates to the Head of the Year. It is a two day festival. In the Bible, it is called Yom Ha-Zikaron, the day of remembrance or Yom Teruah the day of the sounding of the shofar (Leviticus 23:24-25). Jews start Rosh Hashanah festivals with lighting of the candles and synagogue prayers. On the eve of Rosh Hashanah, Jews eat an apple dipped in honey to signify a sweet new year to come. They also place a fishes head at the table to commemorate 'being a head and not a tail'.

Selichot History - Selichot (Hebrew: סליחות) means sorry/forgiveness prayers. Selichot are recited from the Sunday before the Jewish New Year until the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur). Selichot are aimed for both the individual and communities to atone their sins between man and God. They are intended for Jews to reflect on their actions of the past year and to refrain from committing the same sins in the next New Year.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

You won't want to miss this Year's Wykoff



Fall Fest!

September 23rd – 25th
Parade Saturday, Sept 24th
Beginning @ 11am

Wykoff UMC
German Dinner September 25th

11:00 am – 3:00pm

Menu to include

Our World-Famous Potato Salad
Pulled Pork Sandwiches

Homemade Pie - Beverages

What's In Your Closet!

Wykoff Community Clothing Drive



October 22nd & 29th are right around the corner!

Don't hesitate, start filling those boxes now.

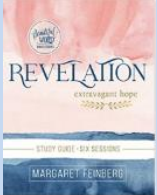
And what better way to re-purpose those outfits, then to donate them to

The 2022 Clothing Drive!

YOU MAY DROP OFF YOUR DONATIONS AT THE WYKOFF UMC OR RACINE UMC BY OCTOBER 16TH

Summer Book Study
(Final sessions in September)

In person or zoom!



Zoom scheduled Thursdays

Sep 1, 2022, 06:30

Sep 8, 2022, 06:30

Sep 15, 2022, 06:30

Sept 22, 2022, 6:30

Meeting ID:12 9103 9103

In Person Scheduled

Sept 7, 2022, 1:00 pm

Sept 14, 2022, 1:00

Sept 21, 2022, 1:00

Weekly Session Topics:

How to Overcome the Enemy

When All Hell Breaks Loose

The Promises of Heaven

Mark Your Calendars!
Call your neighbors!
**THIS IS AN EVENT YOU WILL NOT
WANT TO MISS!!**

SUMNER CENTER UMC

WILL BE HOSTING AN ALL COMMUNITY



Where Everyone Brings Something To The Table

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2022 @ 11 AM

IN LEIU OF A TRADITIONAL SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
WE WILL GATHER IN THE NAME OF THE LORD TO SHARE IN OUR FAITH
THROUGH THE NOURISHMENT OF:

FOOD FOR OUR BODIES
FELLOWSHIP FOR OUR MINDS
WITH

FRIENDS AND FAMILY FOR OUR SOULS

Spread the word, bring your favorite dish to pass, make this event a priority on your calendar.

We need you here to help make this **ALL COMMUNITY** gathering a success!

PLATES, SILVERWARE, NAPKINS & DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED!



News From the:

Minnesota Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

NCJ recommendation:
Return to 9 bishops, 1
shared by DK-MN
August 08, 2022

Over the past two years, Minnesota and the Dakotas have each been served by an interim bishop. Both of these bishops also serve and reside in other annual conferences: Bishop David Bard in Michigan, and Bishop Laurie Haller in Iowa. Delegates to the Special Called North Central Jurisdictional Conference (NCJ) in 2021 voted to reduce the number of active bishops from nine to eight. But the NCJ Committee on the Episcopacy is now recommending returning to nine active bishops in 2023 and going back to having the Dakotas and Minnesota served by one bishop as part of the same episcopal area, which NCJ delegates will be asked to vote on when they meet in November. The following press release provides background and explains the reasoning behind the recommendation:

The North Central Jurisdiction (NCJ) will convene in Fort Wayne, Indiana, November 2-5, 2022 with the theme *We Press On*. This Jurisdictional Conference will gather delegates (lay and clergy) from across Illinois (Northern Illinois, Illinois Great Rivers), Indiana, Iowa, Ohio (East Ohio and West Ohio), Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin for a momentous time filled with worship and collective discernment regarding the election of episcopal leadership and receiving episcopal assignments.

During the Special Called NCJ Conference in 2021, the delegates affirmed the recommendation from the Committee on Episcopacy to reduce the number of active bishops in the North Central Jurisdiction from nine to eight. This recommendation came from the NCJ Committee on Episcopacy, who, with the NCJ College of Bishops, had determined the prudence of anticipating a GCFA-announced reduction ahead of the 2020 General Conference. The recommendation was made prayerfully and proactively, using the data and information we had at that time.

However, as the NCJ has attempted to live out the experiment of reduced episcopal leadership, with Bishop Laurie Haller and Bishop David Bard assuming oversight of additional annual conferences for what has become a 24-month "interim," multiple medical leaves among our bishops, the uncertainty triggered by the pre-General Conference launch of the Global Methodist Church, etc., we are finding such a reduction impractical at the present moment. We acknowledge that such a reduction will likely be both necessary and inevitable following the transitions facing the UMC in 2024. But for the present moment of transition and uncertainty, we believe this approved reduction will not now help our jurisdiction "press on" into the future.

We have been offered flexibility by the recent Judicial Council ruling and GCFA affirmation: "Absent General Conference action, the formula and number of bishops for each jurisdiction approved by the 2016 General Conference remain legally binding and effective until replaced by a new formula."

Therefore, the NCJ Committee on the Episcopacy, after consultation with the NCJ College of Bishops, proposes the following:

1) The North Central Jurisdiction will reverse the decision of NCJ 2021, thereby returning the total number to nine active bishops, beginning January 1, 2023, until the next General Conference declares otherwise.

2) Additionally, the NCJ will be asked to reaffirm the Dakotas and Minnesota returning to a single episcopal area, being served by one (1) bishop.

These proposals are presented for the short-term, in order to help us navigate the uncertainty of the present time. We anticipate that the Jurisdictional Conference Session of 2024 may bring new developments and circumstances, including several mandatory episcopal retirements. We anticipate that a return to nine active bishops for the interim will provide greater "breathing room" to help prepare for those decisions at that time.

More information will be found after September 1 in the Advance. We encourage delegations to begin conversation regarding this important legislative recommendation. We encourage all United Methodists across the North Central Jurisdiction to begin praying for the conference, the delegates, and the important decisions that will be made in November.

Transitional Table begins work, identifies 5 key areas

August 18, 2022 By: Rev. Cindy Gregorson

The 14 members of the Transitional Table were named and introduced at the 2022 Annual Conference in St. Cloud.

Thinking about the future is exhilarating and exhausting! After two days of immersing themselves in the current reality of the Minnesota Annual Conference, and seeking to build some initial consensus on where God might be calling us in the next 10 years, there was a palpable sense at this inaugural meeting of the Transitional Table that its members were engaged in holy work. They left mentally tired and yet excited to see what was emerging.

In June, the Transitional Table was named by Bishop David Bard from a slate of over 50 nominees. It was challenging to narrow down the group to just 14! These leaders, from all over our annual conference, have committed themselves to a year of listening, discerning, and researching in order to consider how to best position the Minnesota Conference for the future in terms of staffing, structure, and resources. They will meet four times over the next year as a full group and engage in work teams between sessions. We have contracted with [Laura Johansson](#) to design and facilitate our process; I provide staff support to the Transitional Table and work with the consultant on shaping the design of the process.

At our first meeting, we spent time building community and naming our guiding values for our work together, such as making room for diverse voices, turning conflict into shared exploration, and engaging in ongoing evaluation of our work, to name a few. Each team member had conducted five interviews with a variety of stakeholders in the Minnesota Conference before arriving at the meeting, asking each one about our strengths, our opportunities, what they value, their thoughts about the role of the district superintendent, and where we invest ourselves in staffing and resourcing clergy and congregations.

From that listening, we did a deep dive into the current reality of the Minnesota Conference, naming what we would like to keep and build on, what we would like to keep but needs re-imagining, and what we are ready to let go of. We had strong agreement about our [2019 vision and the values named within that vision](#): rooted in Jesus, grounded in Wesleyan theology, inclusive of all persons, and engaged in the work of justice and reconciliation. We want to keep and build on our annual conference session gathering. While we value superintending, the appointment system, and our work in church planting, it seems there is an opportunity to re-imagine these to carry us into the future. We wondered about how we outsource non-central work. We value our staff and there is recognition that staff need to lead our ministry initiatives while having more robust

teams to partner in ministry areas that represent diverse voices across the state. We acknowledged there were big questions about the role of laity as that seems to be an area in which we need to grow.

In order to have a solid proposal about staffing and structure, we need to know where we want to go. Therefore, it was time to consider the future. We asked ourselves: What is changing about how people are finding their spiritual home these days?



What are the cultural and societal trends that we need to respond to if we are going to be relevant? And we considered what we would like to see in the Minnesota Conference in 2032 if we are faithful to our mission and God's calling. Through lots of conversation and consensus work, we named five areas that we would like to commit to building and putting in place in the next five to 10 years: Better equipped to resource Gen Z and Gen Alpha through life changes

Defined roles and responsibilities that support mission-shaped structure

Collaborative models of ministry

Have engaged in the work of confession, repentance, and repair toward becoming the beloved community, with particular attention to racial and LGBTQI justice

Accountable, relevant, iterative ministries based in Wesleyan practice

These are just beginning glimmers, and those five areas have many ideas beneath each one. We formed two work teams to go out and field test these ideas. One team, the stakeholder team, is creating a list of people from which to gather input about these ideas. Are we on track? What else should we consider? What would be important to know as we seek to move forward in these initiatives? Meanwhile, another team, the research team, is exploring: Who else is working in this space? What can we learn from them?

When we gather on Nov. 9, we will take that data and refine our vision of the future, asking ourselves: Is this clear and aimed in the right direction so that we can now explore the question, "How do we staff and organize ourselves to move into that future?"

We value your perspective as we continue our work. We're asking you to respond to a [brief survey](#) to share your input on what has been developed so far. And you can always speak directly to any member of the Transitional Table (I am not a member but provide staff support):

Go to the Minnesota Annual Conference Website at:

www.minnesotaucmc.org

choose the article: Transitional Table begins work, identifies 5 key areas

Scroll to bottom and click on the survey button to participate in the survey

Outreach & Mission



Learn about the mission and outreach efforts that the Minnesota Conference is involved in. We encourage you to get involved too.

OC Ministries: OC Ministries is a mission arm of the United Methodist Church in Minnesota. The organization works in partnership with children and their families in developing countries. Mission focuses include churches, classrooms, curriculum, clinics, crops, clean water, clear vision, cut & sew, and connection.

Hands-on: Learn about Volunteers in Mission (VIM) and find opportunities to serve locally, nationally, and internationally.

Disaster Response: When a disaster occurs—such as a tornado, flood or fire—the Minnesota United Methodist Early Disaster Response Team is ready to respond! Learn how to get trained to be part of this team, or make a financial donation.

Financial Support: Find a list of Conference Advances—Advance projects that have specific ties to Minnesota.

Missionaries: The Minnesota Conference has direct relationships with UMC missionaries across the world. Learn how you can support a missionary through a covenant relationships with your local church.

Special Sundays: The UMC has six special denominational Sunday offerings each year. They are received for various ministries and recommended for certain times of the year, although they can be received at any time.

Advocacy: These ministries and organizations, many of which are affiliated with the United Methodist Church, work toward public support or recommendation of a particular cause or policy.

Labor Day Word Search - Free Printable Wordsearch

V B Y T F K W W I I Z I Q I A K K N Y A X E S P K N F L I N P N
L G C K F N Q X B X Y R D E G O K O V N O D Y P U D B U N I T E
R N O B H S Y U S C H U Z P U E R H Q A V W B J C B U P Q T D B
Y M Q G U S E M P L O Y E R J Q C J L R L E O I M O L Y A M J M
A R B I T R A T E K M M Y P S E C M S S H U T N I U D I M J B C
A C T I V I T Y J Q T O L B E I C P E C A K E K O H B V C A E S
L B G D Q O B X S N T V N S Q U A L M R O N Q E D J F A E I N O
O W I O J G J R V I D A E E F U U X V F G M H J V Q Q I M T E R
J R R X Q D E X K M U B Z C Y I K M W E F W P K S R I X E D F E
I X K O D K A C C O U N T I N G U N W S S R O E K T E Y W J I T
R Y C R R Y L I N T E R V I E W C K R Q Z B L R N X S O K F T I
C C N O C A A L N Q R O L E W V M D T Q E G N O K S A F Y A V R
K C W T U D D S F S B T F Z B T R A D E U N I O N H A Q C T Q E
N U V N L S X P S U T N V H P C W V Y L U J I D X C O T W N J E
M U N V I S X A O E L I U V Y V L V C J F A L L A C Y U I S O F
K A P R E M G Y B N M L T J X K L A B O R D A Y B H U H S O I O
D G O Z F E N M G L H B T U I N T Y O U I J T C Z E J C M E N R
G I X W C Z V E U B T T L I T Y I W W N O P R K K C W A W H T G
G C L G F Q X N T Y G S W Y M I W U W W Z E E S K B C G Q T Y A
F D L K B B L T T U F O C J U E O J W R B A A L P H P S Z T A N
D D Y X G E P H Z C T C W Q J R X N W H N S S D L L F J I O B I
M S T R I K E W F C G I O C C O N T R A C T U P U T E U H T B Z
K J X V K T F M J J U E P D O A P T U L T L R G V S Q D D V L A
O I X Y X K E N F K S T I K V U U Y G K U P E A C E K V G A K T
G E L C K N S A L A R Y A P A R T T I M E J R C P T F J I E Y I
M E R I T A Z B Y K P Q F A U C L S F F W D F O A S U C R O V O
M V N H L P R G J V I R K J E X E E X Q V C B K E M I A P J K N
E M D T Y F G X V G C F O Y J Y H F G O G B F Q A F F A F G L W
Q K O D E H V U T A L L C F Z P C A U A R F H D F L W B O U U N
I Z T V C F T Z O H V H W R I F V W O J L M Z O E F W I O V N J
C I J I V X I T L N V M R D O T D M A W D D Z W E N O P K H B D
K W A O M D Q P O T O D V P J O Y C Z I S W I P Q Z T G B D V N

ORGANIZATION
COMPENSATION
INSTITUTION
TRADE UNION
ACCOUNTING
INTERVIEW
PART TIME
TREASURER
ARBITRATE
FULL TIME

WORKHOUSE
OFFICIAL
CONTRACT
LABORDAY
ASSEMBLY
ACTIVITY
EMPLOYER
BENEFIT
RETIREE
PAYMENT

BESECH
SOCIETY
WELFARE
FALLACY
WORKERS
PROFIT
EQUITY
STRIKE
PUBLIC
ANNUAL

PLEDGE
SALARY
LEGAL
JOINT
UNITE
VALUE
MONEY
QUALM
MERIT
ROLE
FUND