



Mindekirken

No. 167

COMMUNICATOR

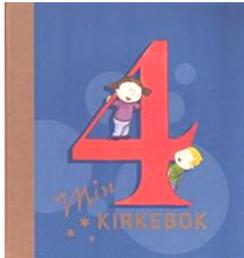
January 2018

Newsletter of the Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church - ELCA

Book and Bible Presentation Day at Mindekirken Sunday, Feb.11, 2018

Mindekirken is adopting a tradition of the Church of Norway by presenting a book called *Min Kirkebok* (My Church) to the children of the congregation (4 to 9 years old) and a Norwegian Bible to the youth (10 years old and older).

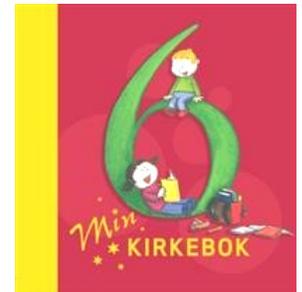
This presentation will be on Sun, Feb. 11, 2018, at the 11:00 A.M. Norwegian service. This is the Sunday before Ash Wednesday, also called *fastelavnssøndag*.



In order to receive the book or the Bible, please sign up in advance with Sheldon Christenson, the congregation's *kateket*, or to contact the church office. Each book and Bible will be personalized with the recipient's name. The church wants to present these to whoever is interested in receiving them:

- ◆ Members or associate members of Mindekirken
- ◆ Friends of Mindekirken
- ◆ Youth participating in Santa Lucia
- ◆ Children who were baptized at Mindekirken
- ◆ Children of relatives or other friends

To participate contact: Sheldon Christenson:



shel@mindekirken.org

Church Office:

office@mindekirken.org or (612) 874-0716

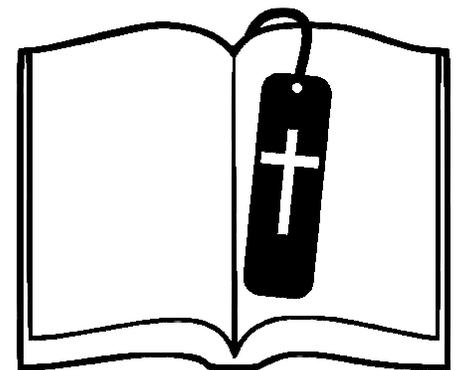
Every Sunday at Mindekirken We invite our children to begin their time at church with their parents in worship – either the 9:00 A.M. English service or the 11:00 A.M. Norwegian service. Following the Children's Time, they are invited to go to Sunday School classes taught by our *kateket* Sheldon Christenson.

Tubfrim – A Mindekirken Mission Project

This past year, Mindekirken collected 12 pounds of cancelled stamps. Please continue bringing in your used stamps and phone cards to Mindekirken and drop them off in the marked collection basket on the lower level near the elevator. Tubfrim, a charitable organization in Nesbyen, Norway will give them a new value. Tubfrim collects and sells used stamps and phone cards and uses the profits to help handicapped children and youth in Norway, and supports tuberculosis research. Cut stamps off the envelope, leaving a half-inch margin.



Damaged stamps are worthless and are thrown away. Tubfrim cannot use bulk mail stamps/non-profit org./presorted stamps.



From the Pastor: *Invite others to come and hear the message*

Happy New Year!

I would like to congratulate the congregation on the calling of Anne Brit Aasland to be Mindekirken's next pastor! I hope everything will work out to make that a reality!

My wife Donadee and I started a software company in 1995. I have been tri-vocational, working as a software developer, a National Guard Chaplain, and as a parish pastor. We currently have three employees – our son Nathan, Donadee, and myself. Of those three Nathan is working full-time, Donadee handles the administration, and I am too busy working for the church to spend much time thinking about computers. Our business has focused in the field of Microsoft Business Intelligence. If any of you are curious about what that means you can find more information at my very out-of-date blog at

timpetersonbi.wordpress.com

One of the things I have learned as a software entrepreneur was the importance of experimentation – of always looking for new

possibilities – and trying out crazy ideas. We have tried a lot of them in the past 22 years – and most of them did not work! But some of the crazy ideas turned out to be very successful.

I have been thinking about that as I have been preparing to start presenting the Gospel of Mark from memory in Sunday worship from January 7 through Easter Sunday, April 1. I have presented large portions of the Gospel of Mark from memory many (maybe 50?) times in both English and Norwegian. I have presented the entire Gospel of Mark two times – in the Bragernes Church in Drammen in March 2015 and at Norkirken in Drammen in September 2016.

The Gospel of Mark is short enough that it is possible to present it in a little more than two hours — a length of time that makes it possible for people to hear the entire Gospel in a single gathering. I think there is a tremendous blessing to hear the entire Gospel at one time.

But I have been wondering for the past few years if it would also be possible to give an effective presentation of the entire Gospel of Mark at Sunday morning worship – stretched out over 2-3 months – with about 10-15 minutes presented each time. I see this as being an experiment. I don't know how well it will work. If it is successful I am hoping that it can become a ministry that I can repeat in other congregations – both in the United States and in Norway.

I want to tell about Jesus and I am hoping this will be an effective way of doing that. I hope that you will be motivated to come and have a greater motivation than usual to invite others to come and hear the message. Please pray that it will be successful. (*cont. p. 3*)



Tim Peterson

From the President: *The New Year Begun*

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

The festivities of the Christmas season are now almost over and the New Year begun. The first hymn in the Landstad hymnal *I Jesu Navn skal al vår gjerning skje* (In Jesus shall all our work be done) was the hymn with which many of our predecessors began each New Year. It is a fitting saying for us as well.

We look forward to Pastor Peterson's focus on the Gospel of Mark through to Easter,



Gracia Grindal

and also to our annual meeting on January 28 and the coming of a new pastor, Anne Brit Aasland.

The congregation is also looking forward to celebrating its centennial in 2022. To that end, a committee will begin to meet this month to begin laying out plans to celebrate Mindekirken's 100 years. If you have any interest or suggestions please forward them to Kaia Knutson in the church office.

Our Bible study continues its focus on Moses and the

Exodus. The conversations around the nature of faith, the connections between the Old and New Testaments in conjunction with the mosaics in the Viborg Cathedral in Denmark keep growing deeper and more edifying. Come and join us the first and third Wednesdays at 6:45 in *kirkestua* each month. (Jan. 3 & 17).

We praise the Lord for continuing to sustain our congregation. Please remember to pray for the congregation especially as it prepares for its annual meeting the last Sunday of January.

Blessings in Jesus' name.
Gracia Grindal, President

Pastor: cont. from p. 2

Here are the passages I will be presenting in January:

January 7 – Chapter 1 –

John the Baptist, Jesus's Baptism, Calling First Four Disciples, First Preaching, First Demon Deliverance, First Healings

January 14 – Chapters 2 and 3 –

Healing the Paralyzed Man, Calling Levi, Conflict Begins with Pharisees, Teaching the Crowds, Choosing the 12 Disciples, Jesus's True Family

January 21 - Chapters 4 and 5 –

Parable of the Sower, Parables of the Kingdom of God, Calming the Sea, The Demons and the Pigs, the Woman Touching Jesus's Clothes, Raising the Girl Who Died

January 28 - Chapters 6 and 7 –

Rejection at Nazareth, Sending Out Disciples, Death of John the Baptist, Feeding the Crowd, Walking on Water, More Intense Conflict, External or Internal Purity, The Woman Who Would Not Give Up, Healing the Deaf

Mange takk! Godt Nytt År!

Pastor Tim Peterson

Mission of the Month Community Emergency Services



Twelve dollars. How easily this small amount of cash passes through our hands for snacks or drinks. For our neighborhood food shelf, however, \$12 pays for two seniors to get a hot delivered Meals on Wheels meal. Executive Director of Community Emergency Service Mike Lloyd reports that seventy percent of their clients are seniors living below the poverty line. There has been a dramatic increase in the number of seniors served in the past five years at CES. The most efficient way in which the Mindekirken congregation can support CES is through financial donations.

With each \$12 donation collected, two more needy seniors will be fed. How many neighbors can we feed by our Contributions during our January Mission of the Month? The food shelves at CES may be depleted after a busy holiday season, so your donations of canned and boxed foods are also welcome. There are crates in the entryway and outside of the sanctuary for groceries. *"The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor."* Proverbs 22:9

A special thank you for the outpouring of generosity inspired by November 26th guest, Pastor Michael Stadie, Program Director of Lutheran Disaster Response, who updated us about hurricane relief efforts. Our November Mission of the Month gift to Lutheran Disaster Response was \$1,200.

On Dec., 3, 2017, members of Mindekirken attending a special meeting of the congregation listened to the call committee's recommendation, then unanimously voted to extend a call to Pr. Anne Brit Aasland of Bærum, Norway to come be the next pastor. The call is pending her official acceptance.

From the Treasurer

Thank you to everyone who supported Mindekirken through their tithes, donations and volunteer time in 2017. Our ministry is possible because of the



Erik Pratt

ongoing support of our members and friends. We look forward to 2018 and hope you will all continue to be a part of our ministry this year.

For the next three months we will be encouraging Thrivent members to call to direct your **Thrivent Choice dollars** to Mindekirken. This is a program in which Thrivent allocates some of its profits to each member so that you - the member- can direct them to a charity of your choice. The Thrivent Choice program has been a steady stream of support for Mindekirken over the years, and we appreciate the extra effort everyone has made to make this happen. Now, from January through March, you can direct all of your accrued 2017 Thrivent Choice dollars to Mindekirken. Once April arrives those dollars will no longer be available and your allocation starts over with your 2018 dollars. Please call 1-800-847-4836 to support Mindekirken with this easy no-cost-to-you way of increasing your donations.

Welcome to Tuesday Open House in January

11—11:30 a.m. Fellowship and Lunch 11:45 a.m. Devotions and Announcements 12 noon—1 p.m. Cultural Program
A suggested donation of \$7.00 is received at the door (elevator access from north parking lot entrance)

Jan. 9 Robert Torkelson: Retired Ford Motor Executive

Bob Torkelson was born and raised on a farm near Luverne, Minn. of Norwegian immigrant parents.. He attended a one room country school for 8 years, Luverne High School, and the University of South Dakota.

Upon college graduation, he was hired by Ford Motor Company in their college graduate training program. After 10 years

in Finance, he was promoted to Marketing Manager at Lincoln-Mercury Division. He then led several car product programs concluding his 35 years at Ford by heading their design Centers around the world during the 1980's.

After retirement in 1991, he returned to Minnesota and enjoys his many volunteer activities.



Jan. 16 Gracia Grindal: Synod History Leading up to Mindekirken's Founding



Gracia Grindal

When most of the Norwegian American Lutheran churches merged into the Norwegian Lutheran Church in America in 1917, great rejoicing broke out among Norwegian Americans. Now with their unified strength, they could accomplish much.

Mindekirken was built by this merged and energized group who still remembered with

thanksgiving their mutual roots in the Norwegian church. This lecture will tell the story of the merger and how the people founding Mindekirken came from all three merging synods.

Gracia Grindal is Prof. Emerita of Rhetoric at Luther Seminary, Saint Paul, Minn. She is also the current President of the Congregation at Mindekirken.

Jan. 23 Dr. David Cherwien: National Lutheran Choir Sings Reformation

THE NATIONAL
LUTHERAN CHOIR



The National Lutheran Choir has been singing Reformation during this 500th Anniversary of the beginning of the Lutheran Reformation. David Cherwien is the Artistic Director of this Choir. We will learn of the Choir's nationwide activities and concerts during 2017, including the world premier in Washington D.C. of the "Holy Spirit Mass: Together in Hope," composed by contemporary Norwegian Kim André Arnesen (b 1980). David will share the

vision the choir has for its ministry in the years ahead as proponent of Lutheran choral music.

David Cherwien is Cantor at Mt Olive Lutheran Church (Minneapolis) and a nationally known conductor, composer, organist and contributor to the field of church music and liturgy. He is in demand as a clinician and hymn festival leader across the country. For the National Lutheran Choir alone, Cherwien has composed at least 24 new works during his tenure with the Choral Director.

Jan 30 John Nelson: Recovering Kinship: The Nesje Family from Blue Earth, MN to Stryn, Norway



John Nelson

There is a lot of trauma beneath Norwegian immigration stories.

Suffering and desperation led families to leave their beloved

homeland. They then made the difficult journey across the Atlantic and a foreign land, all the while grieving the loss of family relationships. Over time even the language and culture were lost.

John Nelson grew up on a family farm in Southern Minnesota settled in the early 1870s by his great-great-grandfather, John Nelson, but knew nothing of this deeper history. He will share how he began to uncover immigration stories, and reflect on the painful breaks in the family he discovered. He will also reflect on his journey of beginning to restore family ties that broke five generations ago, and the effects this is having within the family. He will end with broader reflections on what trauma and healing might look like for Norwegian immigrant families.

John is a fifth-generation Norwegian-American. He grew up on the family farm near Blue Earth, MN, and attended Dell Lutheran Church, the Norwegian immigrant congregation of his ancestors. He has his M.Div. from Bethel Seminary and a M.Th. from Luther Seminary, and is an ordained pastor in the Presbyterian Church (USA). He is married to Seulgee Lee Nelson, who works around the Twin Cities as a collaborative pianist, music teacher, and harpsichordist.

Upcoming TOH Programs

February 2018

- 6 Mary Lahammer—
The Capitol, and her Norwegian Heritage
- 13 Siri Undlin folk music
- 20 Doug Ohman—MN from the Road (photos)
- 27 Jim Peterson—Politics then and now

Tuesday Open House 2018 Birthday Gift to Mindekirken

Mindekirken was founded on Jan. 9, 1922. We will celebrate the 96th Anniversary at Tuesday Open House on Tues., Jan. 16 with a cake, and a history lesson by Gracia Grindal.

Many take this opportunity to honor Mindekirken's founding by donating to the "Birthday Fund" The 2018 TOH Birthday Gift Fund will be used to upgrade the flooring in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to add to the funds that will be donated by the people who come to TOH. Thank you for your gifts!



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The Communicator is posted in full color on the church website www.mindekirken.org (News & Media tab)

Sign up on-line to receive a weekly schedule and updates by e-mail, for free.



Click on this image on our website for Tues. Open House info.

Bible Play Plans for Feb.

Mindekirken is sponsoring another Bible play, to be performed the Sunday after Easter, April 8. *Det var i soloppgangen (it was at sunrise)* is one of the family services written by Britt G. Hallqvist with music composed by Egil Hovland. It tells the Easter story with hymns, readings, and pantomime, all to be acted by children. It is a great way to teach the bible story and the Norwegian language to your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews or other children you know.

Rehearsals will start at the end of February. Watch for further announcements..

We thank you for your sponsoring support:

WILLIAM K. WANGENSTEEN

ATTORNEY AT LAW

900 EAST WAYZATA BOULEVARD • SUITE 110
WAYZATA, MINNESOTA 55391

Estate Planning, Wills, Trusts, Probate, Real Estate
Telephone (952) 473-0130 FAX (952) 473-3219
EMAIL: wangen900@qwestoffice.net



Vil du lære norsk? Learn more about our program and register online for classes at <http://www.mnlcp.org>

Liker du MNLCP og det vi står for? Become our fan on Facebook. We always welcome new students regardless of your prior knowledge or experiences.

LANGUAGE CLASSES

Our language classes are the heart of our program. Each trimester, we offer a range of Norwegian classes for beginning learners to those that are more advanced. **Cost: \$165 for ten, two-hour sessions**

LITERATURE CLASSES

Through literature, students build vocabulary, practice grammar and develop their conversational Norwegian skills. Featured authors and genres this term include Ingvar Ambjørnsen (*roman*), Jørn Lier Horst (*krimroman*), Heidi Linde (*roman*) and more! **Cost: \$165 for ten, two-hour sessions**

CULTURAL CLASSES & EVENTS

Kvinnekor is a choir designed to draw together women who share an interest in Norway and music. **Cost: \$30 for 10-week membership fee or \$75 for annual membership fee**

Norwegian Hymnody Seminars

Instructor: Gracia Grindal
Cost: \$50 for three, three-hour seminars, **\$20** for individual sessions

Seminar 1: Danish Hymnody in Norwegian Hymnals

Because the kingdoms of Norway and Denmark were under the same king until 1814, they shared the same hymnal. This meant the hymns Norwegians sang after the Reformation were in Danish. In this seminar we will study and sing hymns by Thomas Hansen Kingo (1634- 1703), Hans Adolph Brorson (1694- 1764), and N. F. S. Grundtvig (1783- 1872) and other Danish hymn writers.

Saturday, January 13th
9:00 am- 12:00 pm

Seminar 2: Swedish Hymnody in Norwegian Hymnals

In 1814, after the Napoleonic Wars, Norway lost its official connection to Denmark and became part of the Swedish regime. Pastor M. B. Landstad (1802- 1880) was asked by the Swedish government to prepare a hymnal for the Norwegian church. Published in 1869, his hymnal was the first Norwegian hymnal, even though it included Swedish hymn writers. This seminar will sing and discuss a variety of hymns in Norwegian translation by Swedish hymn writers such as Anders Frostenson, Britt G. Hallqvist, Ylva Eggehorn and Per Härling.

Saturday, February 10th
9:00 am- 12:00 pm

Seminar 3: Contemporary Norwegian Hymnody and the Global Church

In 2013 the Norwegian church produced, after long years of discussion and debate, a new hymnal. The hymnals committee looked not only to some new Norwegian writers and composers, but also to hymns from around the world. The seminar will look at the new hymns by Norwegians and also at the global hymns in Norwegian.

Saturday, March 10th
9:00 am- 12:00 pm

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Spring Session 2018:
March 24th- June 4th

Velkommen skal du være!
Krista Marie Schweppe
Program Administration
norsk@mnlcp.org

Julebord



Klubb 500 Hosts the 9th Annual Julebord on Fri., Jan. 5, 2018.
To inquire about possible remaining reservations, please contact the church office immediately.

This event is a fundraiser for Mindekirken Foundation, "securing Mindekirken's financial future." \$100 per person, (\$50 of which is a tax deductible donation) *Julebord* is a traditional Norwegian holiday buffet, along with a program of festive music. Reservations required.

Memorial Service for Former Consul General Thor Johansen at Mindekirken on Friday, January 19, at 11:00 A.M.

Please join us as we say farewell from Minnesota to Former Consul General for Norway, Thor Johansen, who peacefully passed away at his home in southern Sweden on October 31, 2017. His wife Kerstin with their daughter, Christina Carleton will be present at this memorial service.

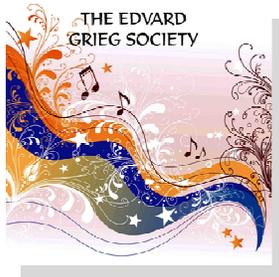
Thor was stationed in Minneapolis from 2001 - 2005 as his last posting before retire-

ment. Everyone is welcome to attend. Following the service at Mindekirken, attendees will be invited to join the Johansen family at Norway House (across the parking lot from Mindekirken) for some coffee and cookies.



Edvard Grieg Society News: A Norwegian Musical Extravaganza & Voice Competition

Edvard Grieg Society's "A Norwegian Musical Extravaganza!" A number of tickets are still available for the The Edvard Grieg Society of Minnesota's annual fundraiser, "A Norwegian Musical Extravaganza!", **Sat., Jan. 13** from 2:00-4:00 pm at Norway House. Tickets are \$100 and help support the EGSMN's 2018 Voice Competition. Join performers from the MN Orchestra along with Augsburg faculty member Sonja Thompson in an afternoon of music, champagne, and sweets. To purchase tickets call Jim Lewis at 651-402-4836 or email to lewis006@umn.edu.



Edvard Grieg Society of Minn. 2018 Voice Competition

Do you have a talented singer in your life? If so, please share with them the EGSMN is accepting applications for its 2018 Voice Competition! The competition is designed to help singers explore the rich and colorful repertoire of Grieg and Nordic composers. Finalists in the Young Artist (ages 18-23) and Advanced (ages 24-34) divisions will compete for prizes in Minneapolis on June 9, including the top prize in each division of \$1500 and a performance opportunity on the EGSMN's 2018-2019 calendar. Applications are due March 1, 2018 and complete details are at <http://norwayhouse.org/edvard-grieg-society-of-minnesota.com>. Please help share the message if you know of someone who would benefit from this exciting opportunity!

Please join the Edvard Grieg Society, Saturday, January 13, from 2:00-4:00 pm at Norway House for its second annual fundraiser, "A Norwegian Musical Extravaganza!" The event will include memorable musical performances along with a champagne and dessert reception.

Performing works of John Svendsen, Edvard Grieg, and Johan Halvorsen, will be the Minnesota Orchestra's Associate Concertmaster Roger Frisch, Co-principal Violist Richard Marshall, and Augsburg Faculty member and pianist, Sonja Thompson.

Tickets are \$100 and help support the Edvard Grieg Society of Minnesota's 2018 Vocal Competition for young artists. Tickets can be purchased by calling Jim Lewis at 651-402-4836 or emailing lewis006@umn.edu.

Den Norske Lutherske Mindekirke, ELCA 924 E 21st St., Mpls MN 55404-2952

(Located 1 block south of E. Franklin & 10th Ave. S.)

office phone: (612) 874-0716 E-mail: office@mindekirken.org Web page: www.mindekirken.org

Interim Pastor: Pr. Tim Peterson
timpeterson@mindekirken.org

Office Secretary: Kaia Knutson
office@mindekirken.org
Open Office hours: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Tues - Fri

Bookkeeper: Herb Nelson
bookkeeper@mindekirken.org

Choir Director: John De Haan
choirdirector@mindekirken.org

Organist: Jessica Schroeder
organist@mindekirken.org

Faith Formation Director: Sheldon Christenson
shel@mindekirken.org

Kitchen Coordinator: Terry Parker
kitchen@mindekirken.org

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

Communicator Staff: Kaia Knutson

Deadline: 15th of Jan. for the February issue
No subscription fee - suggested \$25 per year supported by your donations.

Executive Committee 2017:

President: Gracia Grindal
Vice President: Jeannette Henriksen
Secretary: Mandi Kay Berndt
Treasurer: Erik Pratt

Chair of Deacons: Eldbjørg Skare
Chair of Trustees: Bob Worrall

Interim Pastor: Tim Peterson

January 2018

Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church
MINDEKIRKEN
924 E 21st St
Minneapolis, MN 55404-2952



2018 Worship schedule—Everyone is welcome!

English transcripts provided for the Norwegian service

Sunday School is offered during both services

Sun., Jan. 7 *Baptism of Our Lord*

9:00 a.m. English Worship with Holy Communion
11:00 a.m. Norwegian Worship Service with Holy Communion

Sun., Jan. 14 *2 Epiphany*

9:00 a.m. English Worship
11:00 a.m. Norwegian Worship Service

Sun. Jan. 21 *3 Epiphany*

9:00 a.m. English Worship with Holy Communion
11:00 a.m. Norwegian Service with Holy Communion

Sun., Jan. 28 *4 Epiphany*

9:00 a.m. English Worship
11:00 a.m. Norwegian Worship Service (shortened service)
11:45 a.m. *Kirkekaffe*

12:15 p.m. Annual Meeting of the Congregation

All members please plan to attend!

Volunteer opportunities are available in many facets of church life: There is a current need for someone to take care of stocking the cards and brochures in the pew pockets—twice a month. Please contact the church office or a council member if you can help.

Other Meetings

Annual Meeting of the Congregation:
Sun., Jan. 28 at 12:15 p.m.

2nd Tuesday— Jan. 9

6:00 p.m. Deacons / Trustees
7:10 p.m. Congregation Council

Tuesday Open House — p. 4-5

Norwegian Language & Culture Classes www.mnlcp.org p. 6

Newsletter Assembly (tentative)

by volunteers **Thurs., Jan. 25** at 10 a.m. — Please call to confirm this date when the time is closer. Volunteers are appreciated!

*Join us for an hour or two to help fold and label the **February** mailing. Coffee served—you may bring your lunch. Thanks!*

The Mindekirken Choir rehearses on Thursdays, 7—8:30 p.m.

New members welcome any time!

Velkommen!