



Mindekirken

No. 170

COMMUNICATOR

April 2018

Newsletter of the Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church - ELCA

Annual Meeting of Mindekirken Foundation Sunday, April 22 at 12:15

All members of the Foundation are encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting.

Foundation members are defined as full and associate members of the Mindekirken congregation and all donors who have contributed \$500 or more to the Mindekirken Foundation.

At the meeting in the Fellowship Hall, grant awards will be announced and financial information made available and other updates will be given on Foundation activities.

Bible Play “*Han lever i dag*” Sun., April 8, 11 a.m.



Han lever i dag (He Lives Today) will be performed as part of the Norwegian worship service. Text by Britt G. Hallqvist,

music composed by Egil Hovland, telling the Easter story with hymns, readings, and pantomime, all acted by children. It is a great way to teach the bible story and the Norwegian language to young ones!



Mindekirkens Venner A new way to be celebrated as a supporting friend of Mindekirken

We invite you to attend:

A Mindekirkens Venner Dinner—two seating times offered
Friday, April 20, 5:30-7:00 P.M. (before the concert, see p. 7)
Saturday, April 21, 1:00-2:30 P.M.

Reservation is required by April 16. (phone or e-mail to church office)

Menu includes meatballs with gravy, vegetables and dessert

Cost: Free to you—These dinners are being paid for by the congregation.

Purpose: To celebrate the ministry of Mindekirken and encourage people in their support of the congregation. Seating is limited.

Who is invited:

- ◆ Everyone receiving the Communicator
- ◆ Everyone who attends Tuesday Open House
- ◆ Everyone who is involved with the Mindekirken Norwegian Language and Culture Program
- ◆ Members and Associate Members of Mindekirken
- ◆ Our friends at Norway House and in the greater Norwegian-American community
- ◆ Friends and family members that you think might be interested

HOLY WEEK 2018 — All Are Welcome!

March 25 *Palmesøndag*—Palm Sunday

9:00 English Worship and 11:00 Norwegian Worship

March 27 *Tuesday Open House* (\$7) 11:00 a.m. Lunch

12:00 Presentation the Gospel of Mark in English
(Chapters 1-4,8-9A,14-16)

March 29 *Skjærtorsdag*—Holy Thursday

5:30 p.m. Holy Thursday Worship With Communion
(Primarily English with some Norwegian)

6:30 p.m. Seder - (reservation requested by Mar. 27)

March 30 *Langfredag* — Good Friday

Presentation of the entire Gospel of Mark in Norwegian

1:00-2:00 p.m. - Mark Chapters 1-8

2:15-3:15 p.m. - Mark Chapters 9-16

April 1 *Påskesøndag*- Celebration of the Resurrection

9:00 a.m. English worship with Holy Communion

10-10:45 a.m. Easter breakfast in Fellowship Hall

\$10 per adult, children eat free

11:00 a.m. Norwegian worship with Holy Communion

From the Pastor: *We Want You All to Be Involved at Mindekirken!*

I am thankful that I have had the opportunity to hear the story of Jesus – and especially to hear about Good Friday and Easter. May God help us all to hear that message now in Holy Week – and throughout the rest of the year!

I hope you will join us for the *Mindekirkens Venner* dinners we will be having on Friday, April 20, 5:30 P.M., and Saturday, April 21, 1:00 P.M. Please sign up soon for one or the other of these meals, so that we can get them planned properly. The congregation is providing these meals at no cost to participants.

These are special dinners to celebrate Mindekirken and encourage people in their support of the congregation. This is a special time in the life of the congregation in many ways:

- We are preparing to welcome our new Norwegian pastor, Anne Brit Aasland (in Sept.)
- With the growth of Norway House there is increased visibility and interest in our congregation
- We are preparing to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the congregation in 2022
- We are looking forward to the next 100 years in the life of the congregation

Mindekirken has many friends and people who support the congregation in so many ways! From the very beginning of the congregation in the 1920's many people supported Mindekirken who were members of other congregations. Mindekirken was the Memorial Church, the central place for celebrating the Norwegian immigrants that came to the United States. It was the place that would keep the Norwegian tradition alive – with Norwegian worship, hymns, traditions, food, and language. Many people saw Mindekirken as their second congregation. And so the pastor at Mindekirken was able to travel around Minnesota and North and South Dakota asking for support. The whole Norwegian-American community made this congregation possible.

About 20 years ago this history of non-members supporting the church was revived by Larry Hauge and Klubb 500, with many people outside the congregation giving generously to start an endowment fund for the congregation. Their amazing efforts have helped provide a solid financial basis for this congregation's ministry. ↗

Now with the approaching of its 100th Anniversary, the congregation is again trying to broaden its base of support.



The congregation council has set a goal of reaching a total of 1,000 friends – *Mindekirkens Venner* – by the time of the anniversary in 2022. We invite you to consider being a part of this group of one thousand friends.

We have decided to define the group of *Mindekirkens Venner* like this: It will include everybody who has given \$250 to the congregation during the current year. Gifts of \$250 to the congregation, the Mindekirken Foundation, and special funds like the organ fund will all be included. In addition to people who contribute financially, we will also include as members of this group everyone who is contributing significant volunteer time to the congregation. We have many faithful workers – people who sing in the choir, people who serve at Tuesday Open House, and others who help in many other ways.



Many of these people are not members of the congregation, but they are all friends – and will be counted as part of our 1,000 *Mindekirkens Venner*. And all full members of the congregation will be included as *Mindekirkens Venner*. We want you all to be involved at Mindekirken in as many ways as you can:

- Coming regularly or coming occasionally
- Coming to 11:00 Norwegian language worship (with English translation) or our 9:00 Norwegian worship in English
- Coming to Tuesday Open House or coming to learn Norwegian
- Coming to the lutefisk dinner or the rømmegrøt luncheons
- Coming to concerts and other events
- Helping to keep all these activities going

We ask you to help us support this very special congregation that keeps our Norwegian Christian heritage alive in America! May the Holy Spirit help us to hear the message of Jesus – and believe!

Pastor Tim Peterson

You are invited to attend a special Church Coffee on Sun., April 15 at 12:15 p.m., in honor of Kaia Knutson for her 30 years as Mindekirken's secretary

The Deacons are hosting this *Kirkekaffe* to celebrate Kaia's contribution to the life of our church. Please feel free to bring a card, and/or other signs of appreciation for Kaia. (Kaia will direct any cash gifts to Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity) Your participation is greatly appreciated

From the President: *We Thank God for Our Many Friends*

Greeting in the name of the Risen Lord!

The activities of Holy Week and Easter are coming and we invite you all to remember the passion of our Lord and his resurrection by attending many of the events the congregation has planned for these high holy days. Maundy Thursday we will have the regular Lord's Supper at 5:30 p.m. in the sanctuary, followed by the Seder in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m. On Good Friday Pastor Tim Peterson will present the entire gospel of Mark in Norwegian—The presentation takes about 2 hours and 15 minutes, including a short break in the middle. To hear the entire gospel through is a special blessing and we thank Pastor Tim for giving us this opportunity.

On Easter Sunday we will host the usual Easter Breakfast between services. The following Sunday, April 8, our children will present the story of the resurrection, *Han lever i dag*, in hymns, poems and pantomime.

All of these events will help deepen your understanding of the central event in the Christian faith: the death and resurrection of our Lord!

We are also looking toward the centennial of our congregation in 2022. We have chosen to begin the celebration on Sunday January 9, 2022, exactly one

hundred years after the first meeting of the group that founded the congregation. The high point will be the weekend of *Olsok*, July 29-31, 2022 when the Norwegian church remembers the work of Saint Olaf whose life and death were the occasion for the Christianization of Norway. There will be many other events of remembrance and hope during the year.

In preparation for the centennial, Pastor Tim has suggested forming a group which will be called *Mindekirken's Venner*, of supporting friends of the congregation who will be honored at two dinners April 20 and 21.

This will be something of an informal kickoff of the centennial celebrations and we invite you to sign up for the time you can attend. We thank God for our many friends, who have from the beginning supported our congregation so that it has been able to flourish over the century.

Finally, I want to honor Kaia Knutson for thirty years of faithful work as Mindekirken's church office secretary. We are having a special church coffee for her on Sunday, April 15 at noon. Secretary is hardly a big enough title to describe all that she has done for us over the years! Her years with us have made her a repository of information about the life and work of our congregation. It is hardly possible to thank her enough for her work with us. Thank you, Kaia!

In Christ,
Gracia Grindal



Gracia Grindal

Kaia Knutson: 30 Years in the Church Office

Who amongst us can say that we have faithfully done the same job for 3 decades? Kaia Knutson, a member of Mindekirken, is celebrating her 30th year as our church secretary.

Kaia is uniquely qualified to be Mindekirken's secretary. Her Norwegian language background includes a year of *folkehøgskole* (folk high school) in Telemark, Norway, and a degree in Norwegian from Augsburg College. She was hired to staff the church office part-time in March 1988, and has since worked alongside more than 10 pastors, with the workload growing to full-time. Kaia draws on her bilingual abilities as she manages the busy schedule of worship services, building uses, welcoming visitors, and communications.

Kaia began her involvement at Mindekirken in 1978 by joining the choir, then teaching Sunday School. Her three children have grown up involved in Mindekirken's Sunday school and confirmation.

In addition to her office job at Mindekirken, since 2010 Kaia has worked as a certified massage therapist on evenings and weekends. She also plays bassoon in a community orchestra.



Kaia with grandchildren Eli & Ava

Kaia arrives at work by bicycle. She thrives on the exercise, time outdoors, and freedom from

Cont. on p. 7 "Kaia"

Welcome to Tuesday Open House in April

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)

April 3 Nancy Bundt, photographer: “Norwegians Today” exhibit at Norway House

*Perceptions of Norway:
A Photographic Exhibit on the
Identity of Norwegians Today
at Norway House, Apr. 6-June 10*

Nancy Bundt is a professional photojournalist from Minneapolis. She has been publishing her work in newspapers, magazines, in books and for companies for 50 years. Among other places, her work has been published in TIME, LIFE, National Geographic Traveler. Her exhibits have been at the National Museum for Women in the Arts in Washington D.C. and the Weisman Museum at the U of M. She has worked on assignment in over 85 countries, and she says Norway chose her.

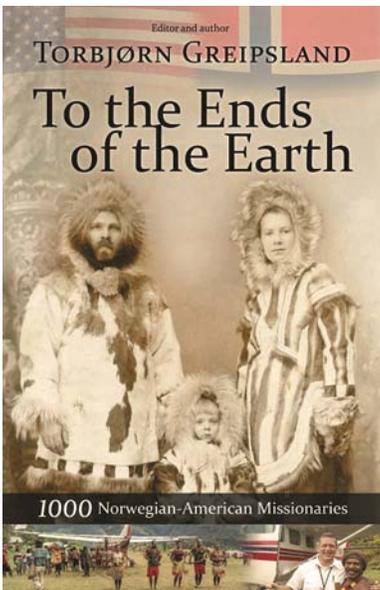
“I had planned to move to the Caribbean in 1992, but visiting those islands in the North of Norway looking Caribbean with turquoise water and mountains that summer, I stayed. My sister-in-law’s relatives there introduced me to Jørn Hoelstad Pettersen, a teacher, and that was that. The real love of my life! I moved back and forth from Minneapolis to that island in Vesterålen, above the Arctic Circle for 3 years and then we married. Now we live near Oslo, Norway right on the beach on the Oslo Fjord.”

“The light near the top of the world is a photographer’s dream. I feel particularly at home in Norway, in part because the people are like Minnesotans if Minnesotans were Europeans. It’s kind of indescribably familiar.”



This photo series of Norwegians in their environments showcases some of the range of modern Norwegians.

April 10 Rev. James Olson: *To the Ends of the Earth: 1000*



Rev. James B. Olson, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota will introduce historian Torbjørn Greipsland’s new book, *To The Ends of the Earth*. Olson is the distributor for Greipsland’s book which fills a void in Norwegian-American history.

Norw.-American Missionaries

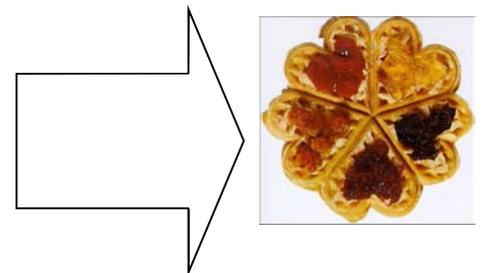
Greipsland’s research indicates that more than 1,000 Norwegian American missionaries responded to the call, and yet the extensive missionary commitment has not been given importance in the general history books about Norwegian America.

This book contains interviews and articles that show that the call to missionary service was preached and many young Norwegian Americans answered the call. Countless people said yes and were willing to face even persecution, kidnapping, and murder in the face of life and health.

Olson will introduce men and women who went to Madagascar, China, India, South Africa, and even Alaska, to share the gospel. He will tell about individuals such as Lars Olsen Skrefsrud, whose zeal for preaching captivated large numbers of men and women.

Upcoming TOH Programs in May

- May 1** Susan Cherwien--
Writing Words for Hymns
8 President of Augustana
University, Sioux Falls SD
Stephanie Herseth Sandlin
15 Michael Rogness—
Women in the Bible
22 David Jones —
Prohibition Era
(29 No program —
TOH volunteer lunch)



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

Tuesday Open House: Lunch at 11, Program at 12:00 p.m.

April 17 Roger Hellesvig: *Ole Oleson's Trunk*

A third generation American of Norwegian descent, Roger R. Hellesvig, aka Ole Oleson, was born and raised in Minneapolis. He completed a BA in Elementary Education at Concordia University in St. Paul, Minn., and taught in both public and parochial schools in Minnesota and Chicago from 1977-2000. In 1987 he began volunteering at a local museum, Murphy's Landing. During these years he developed his character, Ole Oleson, the name of his great grandfather who immigrat-

ed to America. Hellesvig developed two educational programs at the Landing: 19th Century School Days and a Summer Immersion Program. He presented workshops on persona development.

In 2001 he assisted in fulfilling a grant on persona development at the Dakota County, a museum in Farmington, MN researching



individuals from Dakota County's past and preparing volunteers to fill these character roles.

Since 1987, Hellesvig has been traveling around the United States giving programs on 19th Century Norwegian Immigration, 19TH Century School Days and

performing in character at various events.

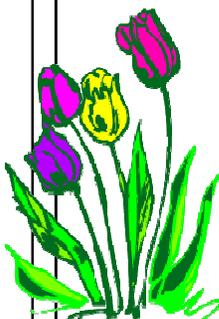


April 24 Norwegian Glee Club of Minneapolis, directed by Carsten Slostad

The Norwegian Glee Club was formed on August 7, 1912, by the remaining members of two other choruses: the Norwegian Good Templar Singing Society and the Hugnad Male Chorus. The original roster consisted of 26 members. Since both prior choruses had been members of the Norwegian Singers Society and had attended the 1912 National Sangerfest in Fargo, ND, the Glee Club immediately joined the Society and attended the next Sangerfest in 1914. The Club has been active in every Sangerfest since then. National Sangerfests have been held in many cities. The Glee Club has been the host city at several of these events and recently was the host in 2014. The 2018 Sangerfest will be held on May 31 – June 2, in Decorah, Iowa.

The Norwegian Glee Club of Minneapolis is a Member Chorus of the Norwegian Singers Association of America. Our purpose shall be to bring together men of Norwegian birth or ancestry, or others who are interested in choral singing, for their enjoyment and the enjoyment of others; To provide concerts when and where requested, bringing Scandinavian musical treasures to the public; And to promote a feeling of good-will among its members.

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.



Spring Rømmegrøt Luncheon — Sat. April 28 at noon

Rømmegrøt is a rich cream porridge served warm with a drizzle of clear butter. (Cinnamon & sugar served on the side.) It is a traditional treat for special occasions. Includes: Simple open-face sandwiches, cookies & coffee, served by *Alle Kvinner Mission* group. **Donation per ticket \$15** (Children 7-12 for \$7; 6 & under free) Tickets available in the church office or by mail order (send by April 20) After April 20, order tickets by phone or pick up in person – while supply lasts. Mail check, payable to "Mindekirken", with self-addressed stamped envelope to address in the box on bottom of p. 1 to Mindekirken - Attn: Rømmegrøt.



Vil du lære norsk?

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

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 the more advanced.

Cost: \$165 for ten, two-hour sessions



We thank you for your sponsoring support:

GS INVESTMENTS
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LITERATURE CLASSES

Through literature, students build vocabulary, practice grammar and develop their conversational Norwegian skills.

Cost: \$165 for ten, two-hour sessions

Syttende mai Volunteers Needed!

Norway's Constitution Day, *Syttende mai*, will be celebrated at Mindekirken on Sunday, May 20. It takes a big team of volunteers to put on this festival for the large turnout. Contact the church office if you would like to lend a hand that weekend. *Tusen takk!*

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Summer

Samtalestund 2018:

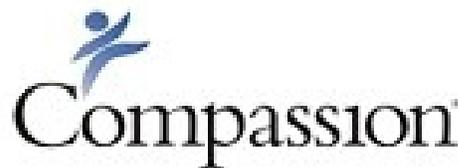
July 11, July 25
August 8, & August 22

Fall Session: Sept.8- Nov. 20

Liker du MNLCP og det vi står for? Become our fan on

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

April's Mission of the Month Compassion International



Compassion International is a child sponsorship organization for holistic child development.

In April, for every increment of \$40 collected, we will donate chickens to a needy family. A gift of chickens for a family in poverty ensures that a child will have a steady source of protein, and plenty of eggs to sell in the market.

By providing a gift of live chickens:

- ◆ You can help families become self-sufficient, which leads to healthier children.
- ◆ Families can sell the eggs and also hatch more chickens to sell to generate income.

Thank you for your support!

Tusen takk to those who gave in February to raise \$295 for Feed My Starving Children.

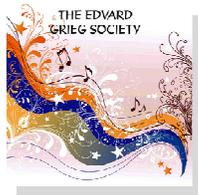
Grieg Society Concert
Fri., April 20 at 7:30 p.m.
 Quartetto Testosterone—String Ensemble



The Edvard Grieg Society of Minnesota is pleased to announce the performance of the Oslo-based Norwegian string quartet, *Quartetto Testosterone*. The group has performed in notable venues across Norway and appeared in festivals such as the Oslo Quartet Series, Risør Chamber Music Festival, and the Harnos Festival in Portugal. They won first prize in the Norwegian National Youth Music competition.

These vibrant, talented musicians will perform Edvard Grieg's String Quartets number 2 in F Major and number 1 in G minor, along with composer Magnar Åm's work, "*Er også me borne*" (*we are also carried*). Violinist Daniel Lyngstad says of the Magnar Åm piece, "this will be a more contemplative Norwegian contemporary piece that we believe will be a great contrast to the two Grieg quartets."

The concert is at Mindekirken with a champagne "meet and greet" following at the nearby Norway House. There will be a free-will offering at the concert to help support Edvard Grieg Society of Minnesota initiatives. Please join us!



Cont. from p. 3 "Kaia"

car payments and car problems. She has put her love of cycling into raising funds for Habitat for Humanity by joining in on two of Habitat's annual 500-mile rides. Habitat is her charity of choice, since Habitat linked her family with an affordable home during those years of raising a family and working for church wages. It is in this same Minneapolis home that her two little grandchildren (Eli & Ava) can now grow up (along with son Ivan and his wife Brittney).

Cycle touring is also her choice for vacations. In 2012 she was able to return to Norway for a family reunion, after 34 years of wishing to go back there for a visit. She made sure that she got to spend time on a bike, participating in a 60 mile race along the southwest coast, near her grandparent's island of origin.

Included in Kaia's approach to good health is a focus on organic and local foods. Biking to the farmers' markets and food co-ops is a joyful routine. Come greet Kaia, and join us for a wholesome salad and coffee hour on Sunday, April 15 at 12:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, hosted by the Board of Deacons.

Alle Kvinner Mission,

All women are invited to meet on April 14, 10 a.m.—12 p.m. Bring a knitting/handwork project, or we can help you get started on one!



Job Opening

Building attendants are needed to staff the church during evening and weekend events. P.T. flexible hours for a responsible, independent, and friendly person. Background check required. Contact the church office.

April 15 from 2 to 4 pm *Fjell og fjord rehearsal* (youth Norwegian folk dancing) practice at Mindekirken Youth from 5 to 18 years are welcome to join.

Wednesday Bible Study

April 4 & 18 at 6:45 p.m.

This group, led by Gracia Grindal, continues its study of Exodus and the life of Moses. The conversation is always rich with biblical insights and observations by the group, all are welcome. People gather at 6:45 for coffee and sharing in the *Kirkestua*.

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

Kitchen Coordinator: Terry Parker
kitchen@mindekirken.org

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

Communicator Staff: Kaia Knutson

Deadline: 15th of April for the May issue (in color!)
 No subscription fee – suggested \$25 per year supported by your donations.

Executive Committee 2018:

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

Chair of Deacons: Sharon Aaseng
Chair of Trustees: Curt Aaseng

Interim Pastor: Tim Peterson

April 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 at 11 a.m.

Sun., April 1 *Påskesøndag*—Easter Sunday

9:00 a.m. English Worship with Holy Communion
10:00 a.m. Easter breakfast available in the Fellowship Hall
11:00 a.m. Norwegian Worship Service with Holy Communion
Mindekirken Choir

Sun., April 8 *2 Easter*

9:00 a.m. English Worship
11:00 a.m. Norwegian Worship Service with Bible play
Han lever idag — He Lives Today

Sun. April 15 *3 Easter*

9:00 a.m. English Worship with Holy Communion
11:00 a.m. Norwegian Service with Holy Communion/ Mdkn Choir
12:15 p.m. *Kirkekaffe* in honor of Kaia Knutson's 30 years on staff

Sun., April 22 *4 Easter*

9:00 a.m. English Worship
11:00 a.m. Norwegian Worship Service / Mindekirken Choir
12:15 p.m. Mindekirken Foundation Annual Meeting

Sun., April 29 *5 Easter*

9:00 a.m. English Worship
11:00 a.m. Norwegian Worship / Mindekirken Choir

Other Meetings

2nd Tuesday— April 10

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

Tuesday Open House — p. 4-5
Program Committee meets 1st Tues.
April 3, 9:15 a.m.

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

Newsletter Assembly (tentative)
by volunteers **Wed., April 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 **May** mailing. Coffee
served—you may bring your lunch.
Thanks!*

The Mindekirken Choir rehearsals on
Thursdays, 7—8:30 p.m.
(except April 5)
Easter rehearsal: Sat., Mar. 31
at 11:15 a.m.
New members welcome any time!

Velkommen!