



# Mindekirken COMMUNICATOR

2026 April  
Issue 261#

A Monthly Newsletter of the Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church - ELCA

## Lapskaus Luncheon

Saturday April 25, 2026

12 pm

\$19 (\$8 ages 7-12, free ages 6 & under)

Tickets & more info at [mindekirken.org](http://mindekirken.org)

No internet? Call the office (612) 874-0716

and press 8 for the reservation line



## Hans Nielsen Hauge Lecture

Saturday April 25, 2026

1:30 pm - Free, no reservations required

***The Inspiration Hans Nielsen Hauge Can Bring to Us Now***

**Presented by Pastor Tim Peterson**

*Since his time with us as Interim Pastor previously (2017-18), Tim Peterson has studied the life and works of Hauge and helped us establish a connection with the Hauge Museum in Norway. Tim has long cherished his Norwegian heritage and has memorized the Gospel of Mark in Norwegian and English and spent some time presenting that in Norway as well as in America. Last year he led a tour to Norway's religious sites, exploring the long tradition of Christianity there. The Hauge lecture was established by those who wanted to honor the three figures in the south stained glass window in the sanctuary of Mindekirken: St. Olaf, Martin Luther and Hans Nielsen Hauge.*



## Holy Week at Mindekirken

- Thursday April 2 -

Maundy Thursday Service, 7 pm

- Friday April 3 -

Good Friday Service, 7 pm

- Sunday April 5 -

Easter Sunday Service, 11 am

**Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church**  
924 East 21st St., Minneapolis MN 55404-2952  
612-874-0716 | [mindekirken.org](http://mindekirken.org)  
Office Hours: 9 am - 2 pm Sunday - Thursday

# PASTOR'S HILSEN



A Blessed Holy Week and Easter to you all!  
Han er oppstanden!  
Halleluja!  
Christ Is Risen!  
Alleluia!  
Every Sunday is a day to celebrate the Resurrection of our

Lord Jesus! Every Sunday is a day to remember our sin, hear the message of forgiveness through the death of Jesus, and rise to a New Life in Christ!

But it's always good to have this special time of year to think about what our Lord Jesus has done for us.

Please note that on both Palm Sunday and Easter there will only be one service – a bilingual service at 11 AM.

- On Palm Sunday, March 29, 11 AM – We celebrate the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. We also focus on the suffering and death of Jesus, being thankful for what He has done for us.

- On Holy Thursday, April 2, 7 PM – Remembering the Last Supper.

- On Good Friday, April 3, 7 PM – Remembering the suffering and death of Jesus.

- On Easter Sunday, April 5, 11 AM – The Resurrection!

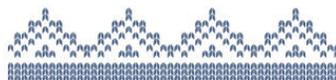
It is an honor for me to be the speaker again at this year's Hans Nielsen Hauge lecture on April 25, being held together with the Lapskaus Luncheon. I think Hauge's ministry is an inspiration for us today, as it is an important part of our Norwegian Christian heritage.

Looking ahead to Syttende Mai – in addition to our annual celebration of Norwegian Constitution Day, we will also be celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the groundbreaking for our church. Mindekirken was founded in 1922, but the groundbreaking for the building did not take place until May of 1926.

We hope to see you on Sunday mornings, in Holy Week, on Tuesdays for the Open House, for the Lapskaus/Hauge day, and we hope to see you all for Syttende Mai!

Thanks be to God for all that He has done for us! I thank God for you all!

- Pastor Tim Peterson



## 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 Tim Peterson [pastor@mindekirken.org](mailto:pastor@mindekirken.org) or call the church office at 612-874-0716 (option 4) if you are hospitalized, having surgery, or are in need of pastoral support.

## Have a Prayer Request?

Prayer requests can be emailed to: [pastor@mindekirken.org](mailto:pastor@mindekirken.org)  
All requests will remain confidential.

## Hymn Blog by Gracia Grindal

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

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Generally, the Communicator deadline is earlier than when we have the previous month's financials ready for review. This month I can report on where we are financially for the first two months of the year. Unfortunately, the expenses exceeded our income by \$14,268. This is consistent with the pattern of losses over the last number of years. What has covered these losses in the past years has been large gifts from estates. While they are greatly appreciated, this is not sustainable.

Under the leadership of Pastor Tim Peterson, we will be evaluating the giving patterns to begin an outreach campaign. Our church will not survive if we do not have a plan to carry us into the future. Please consider if you can increase your giving to ensure the future of the church.

- Nancy Sand Olson, Treasurer

## MISSION OF THE MONTH



**The April Mission of the Month is Peace House Community.** Peace House Community on Portland Ave. is a place of safety and respite from the streets. PHC nourishes its members' bodies and souls by providing a safe space for everyone. They provide coffee, meals, haircuts, and conversation to those in need- no questions asked.

# FROM THE PRESIDENT



Hello! Now is the time to start thinking about spring in earnest, when the snow starts to melt away and we begin to hear birds singing! If you're like me, you love spring!

We also know there is work to do, first for Easter, then Lapskaus luncheon and the Hauge lecture (April 25<sup>th</sup>), then Syttende Mai, May 17<sup>th</sup>, the biggest celebration of the year. It is worth noting that during World War II when Norway was occupied by the Nazi's, the Norwegians were forbidden from celebrating with processions, or to even use the colors of the Norwegian flag in clothing. We can be grateful this is not the case today.

We would like to continue making our Syttende Mai celebration special, and sharing our love of our church and culture. You can help us! There are many ways you can volunteer, such as helping to serve food, taking money, being part of the flag procession, or helping with the clean up. There are many small tasks that we could match you with! Our goals are to make sure we are successful, and for everyone to have fun.

If you are willing to assist in the celebration, please email [2bitfarm@gmail.com](mailto:2bitfarm@gmail.com) or [president@mindekirken.org](mailto:president@mindekirken.org).

Do you have ideas about how we can help you, or perhaps how you might be willing to help us? As a member of your council, I would like to know what motivates you, and what would make you feel excited to come worship with us? We are a small group of loving people, and are here for you, whatever your issues might be. Please feel free to respond to [president@mindekirken.org](mailto:president@mindekirken.org).

In the meantime, thank you to all of you who continue to support Mindekirken. We appreciate your involvement, whether it is in time, talent, or treasure! So whatever you do, may God bless you and your families today, tomorrow, and in the days to come.

Yours in Christ,  
Laurie Agrimson



## IN MEMORIAM



**Odd Osland**  
**August 6, 1941–**  
**March 3, 2026**

At 84, Odd Osland of Apple Valley passed away from a fierce battle with cancer. Odd was born on August 6th of 1941 on a farm in Bue, Norway, the oldest of six. Odd lived a life that was devoted to his friends and family across the globe.

Outside of his more than 35-year professional career (in mechanical design mostly at 3M), he filled his time with world travel, photography and social groups (such as Kontakt).



**Kathy Sandom**  
**September 27, 1944 -**  
**February 20, 2026**

Kathy met and married her husband Hans in 1969. From early on, she embraced Hans' Norwegian heritage-traveling to Norway on multiple occasions, learning to speak the language and baking all of the traditional Norwegian cookies and cakes for family and friends. Kathy and

Hans were actively involved in multiple Norwegian clubs and organizations over the years, volunteering at lutefisk dinners, bake sales and church functions. Kathy was also a wonderful seamstress and craft artist. **A service will be held at Mindekirken at 11 am on Saturday, April 11.**

# ORGAN COMMITTEE REPORT: THE END OF AN ERA



Our Wurlitzer organ's almost 100 years of service comes to an end after our Easter service. The Century Organ Company will be removing the entire organ which includes the console, pipes and the air compressor which has its own room in the basement. If the removal proceeds without difficulty, the Allen organ technicians will have an opportunity to begin the installation of our new organ which is expected to be ready for service the following week. Volunteer "gophers" to assist with this transition would be appreciated by both companies.

I have been asked by several members if there was a possibility of selling the Wurlitzer. To prepare the organ to a marketable condition is a challenge. The organ's keys use electrical contacts and outmoded electrical relays to control the flow of air to the pipes are badly worn. They would require expensive re-silvering of worn key

contacts and installation of an expensive computerized controller for the keyboard inputs and outputs to the pipes. Due to the recent wave of church closures there is a glut of organs on the market. The trend for many churches to move towards contemporary music has further dampened the market for used organs. Paying over \$50,000 for the organ's careful removal, needed upgrades and indefinite storage in hope of finding a buyer is not a gamble worth taking.

The Century Organ Company has agreed to remove our organ at no cost in exchange for the right to salvage components they find of use. The company plans to store the organ and make the necessary upgrades. They hope to recover their investment when they find a buyer. In fact they may already have a buyer located in the Milwaukee area.



The Wurlitzer has been witness to many different eras and diverse organists. It has been a faithful (if at times temperamental) servant for nearly 100 years. I'm sure there will be a mixture of emotions within the congregation upon its removal. But if the Century Organ is able to complete the sale the organ will have a new life which will provide a happy outcome for all.

## TUESDAY OPEN HOUSE SUMMER SEMINAR

### Forged in Fire: How Mining Shaped the History of Norway

The story of mining in Norway entails a long history of extracting minerals from bogs and also from deep underground. The story involves Royalty, Sami, imported Germans, the Statue of Liberty, harsh conditions, and warfare in a land rich with mineral deposits. The earliest evidence of mining in Norway began in the Stone Age when greenstone found along the Western coast was used to make adze and other tools. In the Iron Age, bog iron was smelted and formed to make household items, agricultural implements, weapons, and armor. Use of bog iron continued into the Viking Age to build light, flexible, and seaworthy ships. The vast quantities of copper that were found in Røros in the Early Modern Era were mined for 333 years, while the 80-plus silver mines in pre-industrial Kongsberg made up the largest mining area in Norway. In the 21st-century, Norway's potential for exploration of deep-sea mining is highly controversial. What will the future hold for Norway, one of the wealthiest countries in the world?



- Tuesday, June 2nd, 2026
- 8:30 AM Coffee and sweet treats
- 9:00 AM to 11:45 AM Presentations
- 11:45 AM Lunch
- 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM Presentations

Place: Fellowship Hall at Mindekirken The Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church  
924 E 21st St, Minneapolis MN 55404  
**Tickets \$40 (\$45 if purchased after May 15) - purchase at [mindekirken.org](http://mindekirken.org)**

# TUESDAY OPEN HOUSE

## Schedule

10:30 a.m.	Doors open
11-11:30	Lunch served
11:45	Announcements & Brief Devotion
12-1	Program

*Arrive early to find a seat, enjoy coffee, and socialize before lunch starts. A donation of \$15 is requested at the entrance to the Fellowship Hall.*

**RESERVATIONS**  
To make a reservation, please send an email to [reservations@mindekirken.org](mailto:reservations@mindekirken.org) or call (612) 874-0716 option 8

**WEATHER CANCELLATION:** In case of a snow event, check [www.mindekirken.org](http://www.mindekirken.org) or call the office for updates before coming



## April 7

### Rogfast - The Longest Deepest Undersea Road Tunnel in the World

**Presenter: Anne Britt Moen**

Norway began building the Rogfast Tunnel in 2018. Anne Brit Moen is an engineer for the multi-billion kroner mega-structure. The tunnel is scheduled for completion in 2033. Anne will present live from Norway.

## April 14

### The Tenor Who Plays Tenor

**Presenter: Håkon Kornstad**

As a preview of his concert hosted by the Edvard Grieg Society of Minnesota that very evening, Norwegian saxophonist, Håkon Kornstad will share his unique story as a performing and creative artist. While already possessing an international reputation as a jazz saxophonist, Mr. Kornstad discovered opera and found his voice as an opera singer. He combined these talents and created a sensation in his native Norway. This is, quite literally, a tenor battle, with Kornstad singing opera arias and Neapolitan songs and accompanying himself on the tenor saxophone. Caruso meets Coltrane! In addition, he uses instrumental skill, live looping, and his imagination to become a one-man orchestra, creating minimalist grooves, freeform elegies, eastern mysticism, and jazz balladry. Adding his newly trained operatic tenor voice, he brings forth an unprecedented sound, merging jazz improvisation with the grandeur of opera. He is the tenor who plays tenor.



## April 21

### From Norway to Minnesota: A Living Faith with Global Reach

**Presenter: Ed Brown**

Faith and responsibility have shaped Norwegian Christianity for generations, from Norway to Minnesota. Drawing on Stefanus Alliance's work, this presentation reflects on how congregations like Mindekirken stand in a living tradition—connecting local faith, global solidarity, and the defense of persecuted believers worldwide.

## April 28

### How The Bakken Museum Keeps Pace with Earl

**Presenter: Ethan Huelskamp**

Earl Bakken built his legacy on curiosity, creativity, and collaboration. The innovative nature of Earl led him to invent the first battery-powered, wearable pacemaker, establish a collection of early electrical therapeutic devices, co-found Medtronic, and found The Bakken Museum. Housed in the historic West Winds mansion overlooking Bde Maka Ska, The Bakken recently celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> birthday and throughout that time, the museum has continually honored Earl's Promethean spirit through expansions of the facilities, exhibits, and programs. Being a small institution allows us to nimbly adapt to the rapidly changing needs of communities while staying true to our mission of inspiring a passion for innovation to transform curiosity into possibility. We will share a Bakken family heirloom which they transported via boat when emigrating from Norway several generations ago.



# APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Please join us in celebrating our member's birthdays! If you have a birthday that's not listed, please notify the office so we can acknowledge your birthday.

4/3 Leif Larsen  
4/3 Eric Brodden  
4/5 Serina Peterson  
4/5 Rebecca Wood  
4/6 Gesele Freels  
4/7 Jennifer Thue  
4/11 Kristiane Alhdad  
4/13 Jerry Ugland  
4/17 Michael Harty

4/18 David Johnson  
4/19 John Lind  
4/21 Paul Sandve  
4/22 Erik Mitchell  
4/22 Kay Cook  
4/22 Ralph Carlson  
4/24 Diana Olson  
4/24 Frank Brathen  
4/29 Piers Rimmereide



The Leif Eriksson International Festival Committee announces the theme for this coming Fall Festival

**Immigration/Assimilation**  
what we keep and what we lose

October 4  
to  
October 18

**LEIF 2026**

## MINDEKIRKEN MUSIC

**The Mindekirken Choir invites new members.** Shortly before Jim Reilly became our Interim Music Director, the Choir voted to no longer have mid-week evening rehearsals. The new rehearsal schedule is a bit complicated, but it makes it possible to sing in the choir without making an extra trip to the church just to rehearse:

**On Sundays when there are two services:**

The choir will rehearse before church at 10:30, sing for the 11:00 service, and then meet again after coffee at 12:45-1:15 to rehearse for the next week.

**On Sundays when there is only one service:**

The choir will meet at 10:00 to rehearse future music, 10:30 to rehearse the anthem for that Sunday, sing for the service, and then not meet again after coffee.

Jim will also send out short rehearsal recordings during the week, so that if you miss a rehearsal and want to review the music at home you can do so.

**The only requirement is that if you want to sing on any given Sunday, you must show up for the 10:30 rehearsal that day.** Jim maintains an email list of "adjunct" choir members (people who cannot come all the time) so that adjunct members will always know what the upcoming anthem is, what time to be there, and have the rehearsal recording. If you're not already on the list, please let Jim know and he'll be glad to add you to the list.

## CHOCOLATE SALE

With the impending arrival of Easter, please consider filling those Easter baskets with a few chocolate bars now available for purchase in the Fellowship Hall. Proceeds from the sale of our remaining stock will be directed to the church's various missions of the month.



## MINDEKIRKEN FOUNDATION

### Give to the Mindekirken Foundation

The Foundation provides a permanent source of giving to fund special building projects (i.e., roof, lighting or carpet), many of which typically do not receive



financial support from the church budget. Use the QR code to give! Your generosity is appreciated!

[mindekirkenfoundation.org/donate](http://mindekirkenfoundation.org/donate)

## EGS PRESENTS: HÅKON KORNSTAD

The Norwegian jazz artist Håkon Kornstad presents a concert at Mindekirken featuring his jazz stylings as singer and saxophonist.

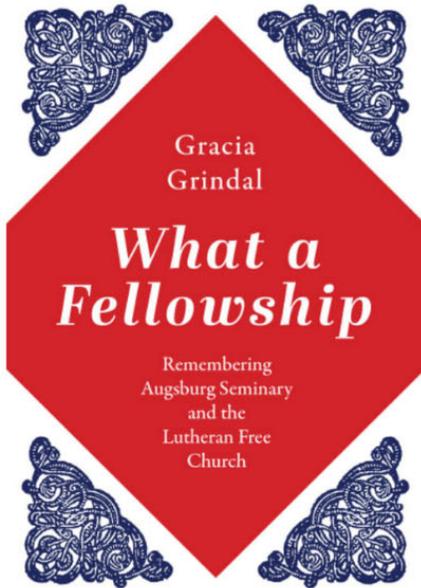
The solo concerts, as at Mindekirken, are performed with solo saxophone, flute, flutonet, voice, and live looping.

**Tuesday, April 14 at 7:00 pm**  
**Suggested ticket price: \$20**

Tickets and more info at [egsmn.org](http://egsmn.org)



# SPONSORS

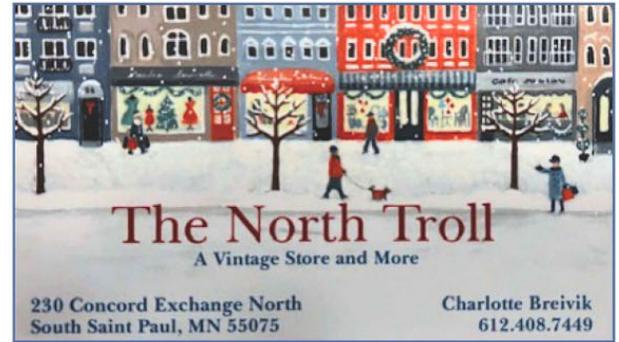


Poet, historian, and hymn writer Gracia Grindal weaves personal memoir and the history of Norwegian Lutheranism in the United States into a lively and insightful account of the Lutheran Free Church and its seminary.



**Gracia Grindal**

Available on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, FortressPress.



**William K. Wangensteen**  
**ATTORNEY AT LAW**

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Email [office@mindekirken.org](mailto:office@mindekirken.org) for more information.

## THE NORWEGIAN AMERICAN

Powered by Norway House

Check out *Mindekirken's* monthly column in the *Norwegian American* [norwegianamerican.com](http://norwegianamerican.com)

## MINDEKIRKEN STAFF

### PASTOR

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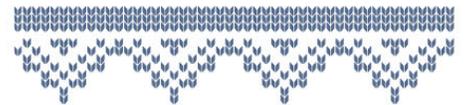
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Sandra Bestland: Tuesday Open House Coordinator  
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## Mindekirken 2026 Congregational Council

### Executive Committee

Laurie Agrimson, *President*  
 Doug Watkins, *Vice President*  
 Jennifer Thue, *Secretary*  
 Tim Peterson, *Pastor*

Nancy Olson, *Treasurer*  
 Nancy Watkins, *Deacons Chair*  
 Toby Hillmann, *Trustees Chair*

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Scott Hawley  
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 Tom Peterson  
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### Deacons

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# April 2026

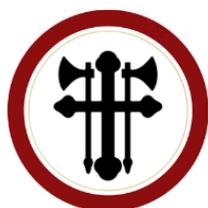
The Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church  
MINDEKIRKEN COMMUNICATOR  
924 E 21st St  
Minneapolis, MN 55404-2952

**Return Service Requested**

## MINDEKIRKEN WEEKLY

Want even 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 bottom of all pages at [mindekirken.org](http://mindekirken.org)



## APRIL SUNDAY SCHEDULE

**- April 5 -**

*No 9 am service*

11 am Easter Sunday Bilingual Service

**- April 12 -**

9 am English Service

11 am Norwegian Service

**- April 19 -**

9 am English Service with Communion

11 am Norwegian Service with Communion

**- April 26 -**

10 am Mindekirken Tour

11 am Bilingual Service

### 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](mailto:office@mindekirken.org).

The Communicator is also available on our website, along with past editions.  
Please also contact the office for any address changes or requests.