Per Inge and Karin Vik to Visit Mindekirken on Sunday, Sept. 30

The Vik family in front of their house in Skodje on August 5th, celebrating the baptism of their 3rd grandchild, Jenny Oliva. Front left, Per Inge, Inger Elisabeth, Karin, Johannes (4), Martinus (Karin’s father), Maria (Lars Martin’s wife), Sigve (1) on the arm of his father Lars Martin, Andreas, Kristian and Henriette with the baptismal child Jenny Oliva.

Per Inge and Karin will present a photo show following noon Kirkekaffe. All are invited to stay to hear their story, “What Has Happened to the Viks after Mindekirken?” beginning at 1 p.m.

Rally Day for Sunday School

Children are invited to attend the 11 am Norwegian Worship Service, then they are dismissed to the Sunday School room (Oslo/Bergen Room) during the hymn before the sermon. Jenna Lind is the Sunday School teacher at Mindekirken. Taught in English.
It is getting towards the end of August. The Minnesota State Fair is beginning and after a few slower summer months most of us are ready to get back to our regular activities & events. It is fun to take trips, be at the lake, visit relatives and get away from everyday life as we know it, but then it feels good to come home and settle into a daily routine. A Norwegian idiom says “borte bra, men hjemme best” which may be translated like there is no place like home.

Mindekirken is like a second home to many of us and throughout this year we have been celebrating its 90th anniversary. We want to continue celebrating this anniversary as we are proud of our history, but we are in no way stuck in the past and we are looking boldly towards the future. These are some of the ways you can see evidence of this: there will soon be a thorough repair of the outer main steps leading into the sanctuary; a feasibility study is underway to determine the support of a campaign to secure a new organ for the sanctuary; we have entered into an exciting partnership with Norway House to establish a Norwegian Center close to Mindekirken; The Mindekirken Norwegian Language & Culture Program is doing well and is expanding its programs; &The Mindekirken Choir grew last spring under the leadership of John De Haan and the choir is now even more an integral part of the 11 am Norwegian Worship Service experience.

You can also be part of the exciting things happening at Mindekirken in the 90th anniversary year and beyond. The English worship service at 9 am, the Norwegian worship service at 11 am, and the 11 am bilingual worship service on the last Sunday of the month are the foundation of all that happens at Mindekirken. All our events and programs flow from the blessing and strength we receive through worshipping God. I first and foremost encourage you to participate regularly in worship, and then in the many activities offered through the church. Pray about the contributions you can make in our life together as a congregation. We have many volunteer opportunities coming up this fall and please let us know where you see yourself fitting in. The church is a place for all of us as we strive to use the gifts and talents given us by God. I am happy to be your pastor at Mindekirken and I am looking forward to an exciting fall.

Mindekirken established the Leiv Eriksson International Festival 25 years ago with this mission:

Mindekirken’s Leiv Eriksson International Festival (LEIF) will bring together leading artists, educators, government leaders and theologians to explore modern values in Norway and in the American Midwest – both contemporary societies with a common heritage.

In 1989 in keeping with the mission of LEIF the festival organizers planned a symposium titled “Women in Modern Society” and invited as their featured guest from Norway, Tove Strand, Minister of Health and Social Affairs. Ann Wynia, Minnesota Commissioner of Human Services was invited as Minister Strand’s USA counterpart.

Today Tove Strand is the Chairperson of the Board for the Oslo Center for Peace and Human Rights in Oslo, Norway founded and led by former Prime Minister of Norway, Kjell Magne Bondevik. The Oslo Center’s Strategic Plan (from 2009) includes the statement, “Gender equality and thereby strengthening women’s rights shall be part of Oslo Center’s core values. I believe that this is a universal “core value”.

The Leiv Eriksson International Festival will partner this year with the Oslo Center for Peace and Human Rights - U.S. Foundation for a two-day seminar titled “Dignity and Empowerment: Women as the Keys to Global Food Security,” and will take place on October 11 and 12, 2012 at the Humphrey School for Public Affairs, University of Minnesota.

The Nordic countries have all achieved near gender-parity in education, economics, business and commerce and in governance in their countries. They all have also included gender engagement/parity in their outreach programs in the developing world.

The USA, while still lagging behind the Nordic countries, has also increased gender engagement domestically and has countless such initiatives in the developing world – consider US Secretary of State Clinton’s work in this regard. By working in concert with the Nordic countries
SUMMER 2012
This summer MNLCP piloted Norwegian Boot Camp, an intensive summer program with two separate learning levels (beginning and intermediate/advanced). While the beginning level reviewed skills and concepts taught in the first three chapters of our beginning text, *Sett i gang*, the students in the intermediate/advanced level vigorously read Erlend Loe’s *Kurt koker hodet* (a wonderful piece of Norwegian ungdomslitteratur that is 138 pages long!) We were thrilled to have 13 participants sign up for this challenge, and commit themselves to six hours of instruction designed to polish and enhance their speaking, reading, writing, and listening skills på norsk. Each boot camp participant identified learning goals that they wanted to work toward throughout the duration of boot camp, and they wrapped up their session with a celebratory potluck. *Tusen takk til alle dere som gjorde dette til en suksess*!

FALL 2012
*Vil du lære norsk?* MNLCP kicks off our fall term *Monday, September 10th*. We invite you to check out the classes, events, and activities that are part of our fall line-up.

LANGUAGE CLASSES
Our language classes are in many ways the heart of our program. It doesn’t matter if you are considering taking up norsk for the first time or are interested in jumping back in; we have a class for you. Our beginning and intermediate classes are designed to provide you with a deeper understanding of Norwegian language and culture. This fall our more advanced classes will provide you with opportunities to extend your learning through literature written by authors such as Vidar Sundstøl, Jostein Gaarder, and Klaus Hagerup.

CULTURAL CLASSES

GENEALOGY SEMINAR
Build and extend your knowledge and expertise of themes related to genealogy by attending a half-day seminar arranged in collaboration between the Norwegian-American Genealogical Association (N-AGA) and MNLCP. Seminars are held once a trimester, in the fall, winter, and spring.

The theme this fall is *Learning about your Immigrant Ancestor* and we will look at sources used to learn more about the immigrant family. Family history research requires detective techniques to find clues for solving many puzzles. Techniques will be discussed of how to establish a paper trail to discover clues about the life of your immigrant ancestor.

Saturday, October 20th
Registration opens at 8:30 a.m.
Seminar runs from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Cost: $20 if you pre-register by October 15th
$25 for same day registration

If you would like to attend, please email norsk@mnlcp.org to reserve a spot.

FISKEBOLLER LUNCHEON & LECTURE
University of Minnesota’s Osher Life-long Learning Institute’s (OLLI) Norsk Special Interest Group and Mindekirken’s Norwegian Language and Culture Program (MNLCP) invite you to join us for a *fiskeboller* luncheon event featuring *fiskeboller i hvit saus* and other Norwegian treats.

Join us in September as we bring this year’s theme *Norwegian Identity: What Makes Norway Unique?* to life. Our speaker, Tor Dahl, President of Tor Dahl & Associates, is an economist, consultant, and adjunct professor in public health at the University of Minnesota. Tor’s talk, titled “*Vot? Norway Is Not a Socialist Country?*” will decode the real Norway and explain what is true, and what is not. How can so many Americans be so wrong about Norway? The Norway maybe even you never knew.

Thursday, September 20 at 11:45 a.m.
Cost: $18

If you would like to attend, please make reservations at http://www.mnlcp.org or email norsk@mnlcp.org by September 14th

Save the date for our next *fiskeboller* luncheon!
Thursday, November 15th at 11:45

Fall classes will kick off on Monday, September 10th, 2012. To learn more about our program or to register online for classes visit us at http://www.mnlcp.org. Liker du MNLCP og det vi står for? Become our fan on Facebook.

Vennlig hilsen
Krista Marie Schwegge
Program Administrator
norsk@mnlcp.org
http://www.mnlcp.org
Choir Rehearsals Start on Thursday, Sept. 6

Mindekirken Choir’s first rehearsal of the new season is set for Thursday, Sept. 6 at 7 p.m. I am so excited to see and greet all of last year’s members, but am even more eager to welcome the new people who have expressed a desire to serve our community in such a special way. As many of you know Pastor Kristin and I spent a week in Oslo reviewing Norwegian choral literature for inclusion in our Mindekirken library. I brought back twelve anthems (in my luggage!) and we have a list of well over a hundred terrific titles from which we can order at any time. What a wonderful mission it was to search out this beautiful and compelling music for inclusion in our services!

I am extending a special invitation to any and all of you who are looking for a way to serve the Mindekirken family. Please consider joining the choir! I am mindful of the fact that we all have very busy lives, but we in the choir tend to look at our Thursday evening rehearsals as an oasis in our week. Plus, we DO have a great time and there is a special feeling one receives when we finish our anthem on Sunday knowing we did well.

No audition necessary! Childcare is provided by appt. See you soon!

John De Haan, Director of Choirs

President: continued from p.2

even more can be done. Minnesota is a leader in nurturing fairness and equality in the USA and is an ideal place to begin.

Minnesota corporations, non-governmental organizations and foundations are also leaders in increasing global food security. Land O’Lakes, Cargill and General Mills are some of the best examples of these. Food security and political stability, the primary project area for Oslo Center, are mutually reinforcing, so that an increase in food security will lead to an increase in political stability and versa.

Two of the components in building food security are the empowerment of women and the dissemination of knowledge that supports the creation of sustainable food systems. The Oslo Center and the Oslo Center-US Foundation are well placed in terms of drawing in expertise in both of these areas from their respective locations, which in turn supports the democracy-building efforts taking place in Kenya, Sudan and Somalia.

I am proud that this year, Mindekirken’s Leiv Eriksson International Festival is returning to embrace Pastor John Mauritzen’s vision for social engagement when he established LEIF 25 years ago — “…..bringing together leading artists, educators, government leaders and theologians to explore modern values ….”. Gender equality, global food security and support for fragile democracies are certainly modern values important to us all.

Sincerely,
Orlyn Kringstad,
Congregation President

Thank your Sunday Kirkekaffe volunteers!
Somebody signs up and comes early each Sunday to do the extra work of putting on the coffee and serving a treat. It takes people taking turns, for us all to enjoy this hospitality. Tusen takk!

FILMAFTEN Friday Sept. 21 at 7 p.m.

Enjoy an evening of Norwegian film! FilmAften happens at kl. 19.00 the last Friday of every month. All the films are på norsk with English subtitles and viewer discretion is advised. Read the Communicator to learn more about our monthly films.

Den Lille Traktoren Gråtass - Hemmeligheten på Gården.
(The Little Tractor Gråtass - The Secret on the Farm.)

Gråtass must help his new friends when Goggen inherits an old and dilapidated farm after his Uncle George. The farm hides a valuable and well-hidden secret. It turns out that there are more people who knows about the secret, and not all have are playing fair. Gråtass discovers that Goggen is about to be duped, and it looks like all is lost. Will he manage to stop the bad guys before it’s too late?

Norwegian Sound
English subtitles
Running time 90 min

Mark your calendar!
Fall Schedule
Friday, Sept. 21, 7:00 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 26, 7:00 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 23, 7:00 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 28, 7:00 p.m.

October 2012 Tuesday Open House Programs
2 Rod Oppegard— Churches in North Dakota
9 Presiding Bishop Helga Haugland Byfuglien— The Church of Norway
16 Janet Martin— Those Lutheran Ladies and other books
23 Bill Halverson— Composer Kjell Habbestad’s The Count of Monte Cristo
30 Arland Hultgren— Paul’s Letter to the Romans
Welcome to Tuesday Open House in September

11—11:30 a.m. Fellowship and Lunch
A suggested donation of $7.00 is received at the door (elevator access from parking lot entrance)

11:45 a.m. Devotions and Announcements

12 noon—1 p.m. Cultural Program
tuesdayopenhouse@mindekirken.org

Join us on Tuesdays, beginning September 11th for fellowship, lunch, devotions and a cultural program. This event is managed by scores of volunteers who are appreciated very much. Should you wish to help in anyway, please contact us at tuesdayopenhouse@mindekirken.org. The TOH committee has exciting programs in store for you. Looking forward to seeing you on September 11th.

(Sept. 4—NO OPEN HOUSE)

Tues., Sept. 11 Beautiful Savior
Jørgen Kjærgaard and Gracia Grindal

Every St. Olaf College Christmas program ends with the singing of F. Melius Christiansen’s arrangement of Beautiful Savior. But where does it come from? It has been called the Crusader hymn, and associated with pilgrimages and the time of the crusades. For Scandinavians it is the tune for one of the most beloved of all Christmas carols, “Deilig er jorden.” Our speaker Jørgen Kjærgaard, the writer of the two volume handbook for Danish hymnody, consultant for the Aalborg Diocese on Hymnody and Liturgy, assoc. professor of Hymnody and Liturgy at Vestervig School of Church Music, and the President of the International Hymn Society (IAH) has found the source for the tune and will present it along with Gracia Grindal who will wonder if Christiansen made Beautiful Savior into an American Christmas carol because of its association in Norway and Denmark with the favorite Christmas carol.

Tues., Sept. 18 Piano—Violin Concert
Michael & Shirley Santoro

This talented husband and wife duo will be performing works of Grieg, Sibelius, Kvandal, and others.

Shirley Santoro, Violin
Shirley Lillehaugen Santoro attended St. Olaf College and graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Minnesota. In 1989, she received the “Teacher of the Year” award from the Minnesota chapter of the American String Teachers Association. She recently retired as the concertmaster of the Civic Orchestra of Minneapolis.

Michael Santoro, Piano
Mr. Santoro is a native of Cincinnati where he studied with his Uncle, Edward Santoro, and Dorothy Payne at the Cincinnati College of Music. Professionally trained in Chemistry and Environmental Engineering, Michael held a position in environmental management at 3M. The Santoros have produced a CD “Soul of Scandinavian,” music for violin and piano.

Sept. 25 — NAHA
Jackie Henry

Jackie Henry has served as director of the Norwegian-American Historical Association located on the campus of St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. As director she is responsible for membership, public relations and fundraising for the organization. She earned a masters in library and information science from the Dominican University. She is a member of Hadeland, Trønderlag, Sigdalslag and Nordlandslag to name a few.

A hearty thank you to all for the cards, phone calls and prayers for me due to my accident and resulting surgery recently. It’s made rehab a lot nicer. Tusen, tusen takk.
Sincerely, Thelma Joy
- TOH Kitchen Coordinator
Thanks to these Communicator SPONSORS

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Gail Beckman 612-209-4840
gailbeckman@msn.com

The Mindekirken Communicator is mailed in print to approx. 1200 addresses, with another 500 delivered by e-mail, and it is available world wide on www.mindekirken.org (in full color!)
This is a great way to show your support of Mindekirken specifically to the readers in the Scandinavian American community.

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Powers of Attorney, Real Estate, Church Corporations

To have your business card displayed here,
contact the church office
office@mindekirken.org

Saint Clair Sunday Evenings
Celtic & Nordic Contemplative Worship
2nd & 4th Sundays at 6:51 pm
Celtic Contemplative Communion
Sept. 9, 6:51 pm – The Call to Behold
Nordic Contemplative Evening Prayer
Sept. 23, 8:51 pm – When All My Shards Have Fallen
Musical Guests – Kaivama (Finnish-American folk)

Rev. Carol Tomer, Lead Pastor
1935 St. Clair Avenue at Prior, St. Paul
www.pilgrimsbpaul.org • 651-996-6886
Sunday Worship 9:30 am & 11 am (Sept. 10–May 19)
Santa Lucia Pageant at Mindekirken  
Dec. 9, 2012

We invite girls & boys, age 6 through college age to join the Santa Lucia Pageant. Rehearsal Schedule: Sundays 1-3 pm
- October 28
- November 4, 11 18
- December 2
Dress Rehearsal:
- Dec. 8 Saturday 10 am -1 pm
1 to 2 additional performances
Musical Leader: John De Haan
Please contact Church Office (612)874-0716

Interested in being CONFIRMED at Mindekirken?

A confirmation class will be offered this fall.

Please contact Pastor Sundt at (612) 874-0716 or e-mail kristin@mindekirken.org

Gracia Grindal will lead a Bible Study on the bible stories and church symbols hidden in the beautiful windows of Mindekirken

First gathering: Wed., Sept. 19, 2012 in the Sanctuary at Mindekirken
Coffee served at 6:45 pm.
Class will be taught from 7 – 8 pm

The following classes will be held at Pastor Sundt’s nearby apartment building in the Community Room.

Please call the church office for directions.
The study will continue on these Wednesdays throughout the fall.
- October 3 & 17
- November 7 & 28
- December 5 & 19

Join the Deacons at our next mission event on Sept. 5. Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) provides life-saving meals to people who need them most all over the world. FMSC meals are distributed in nearly 70 countries through missionary partnerships at orphanages, schools, clinics, refugee camps and malnourishment centers.

During the event, volunteers package a special food mixture and prepare it for shipment. It is a nutritional meal that was originally designed to save the lives of severely malnourished and starving children. The ingredients also improve the health, growth and physical well-being of children who are no longer in immediate danger of starvation. A single bag of food—which provides highly nutritious meals for six children—costs around $0.22 for each meal, and 92 percent of all donations to FMSC goes directly toward the food program.

This is a simple way to help out children all over the world. Anyone can volunteer. Please join us on Wed., Sept. 5, 2012 from 6-7:30 p.m. at the FMSC facility in Eagan, 990 Lone Oak Road, Suite 160.
For more information see www.fmsc.org.
Contact the church office for questions or to sign up 612-874-0716.

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For more information see www.fmsc.org.
Contact the church office for questions or to sign up 612-874-0716.
Worship schedule—Everyone is welcome! English transcripts provided for the Norwegian service

Sunday, Sept. 2  14th Sunday after Pentecost
  9:00 a.m. English service / Holy Communion
  11:00 a.m. Norwegian service with Holy Communion

Sunday, Sept. 9  15th Sunday after Pentecost  RALLY DAY
  9:00 a.m. English service
  11:00 a.m. Norwegian service / Sun. school

Sunday, Sept. 16  16th Sunday after Pentecost
  9:00 a.m. English service / Holy Communion
  11:00 a.m. Norwegian service with Holy Communion/Sun. school
      Jørgen Kjærgaard (Denmark) will preach in English
      Visitors from DIS Norge

Sunday, Sept. 23  17th Sunday after Pentecost
  9:00 a.m. English service
  11:00 a.m. Norwegian service / Sun. school

Sunday, Sept. 30  18th Sunday after Pentecost
  11:00 a.m. Bilingual Family Worship
      1:00 p.m. Photo show by Per Inge & Karin Vik from Norway

Featured Fall events:
October 7—14, 2012  Leiv Eriksson International Festival (see insert)
Sat., Nov. 3  10 a.m.—3 p.m. Treasure Chest Christmas Sale
Sat., Nov. 17  Lutefisk & Meatball Dinners (2, 4, 6 p.m.)
Sa.t Dec. 1  Christmas Cookie Bake Sale & Rømmegrot Café

Other Meetings
2nd Tuesday—Sept. 14
  6:00 p.m. Deacons / Trustees
  7:30 p.m. Congregation Council

Tuesday Open House resumes on Sept. 11—see p. 5
Norwegian Language & Culture Classes resume on Sept 10
www.mnlcp.org

Filmaften—Norw. Film Night
Fri., Sept. 21 at 7 pm

Newsletter Assembly
by volunteers  Tues. Sept. 25 at 10 a.m. (may come at 9 or 1 if you’d like) — Please call to confirm this date when the time is closer. Volunteers are very much appreciated!

Join us for an hour or two to help fold and label the October mailing. Coffee served—you may bring your lunch or eat at Tues. Open House at 11. Thanks!

Read the Communicator on-line in color! www.mindekirken.org
Welcome to the 25th Annual
Leiv Eriksson International Festival
Explore — Discover — Celebrate
October 5 - 14, 2012
To build a cultural bridge between the modern
Nordic countries and the United States

Church of Norway’s Presiding Bishop
Helga Haugland Byfuglien
Opens LEIF Ceremonies
at 11 a.m. Norwegian Worship Service on Sunday, Oct. 7

The Leiv Eriksson International Festival (LEIF) is pleased to welcome the Church of Norway’s first permanent presiding bishop, Helga Haugland Byfuglien, who opens the 25th Annual Festival on Oct. 7 at the 11:00 a.m. Norwegian worship service at Mindekirken, the Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church in Minneapolis.

“It is a privilege to visit Mindekirken and participate in the 25th Leiv Eriksson International Festival,” said Bishop Byfuglien. “I look forward to learning more about the work of Mindekirken, its congregational life, and the challenges it faces.”

“For generations Norway has enjoyed a close cultural and political connection to the United States in large part due to the Norwegian immigration of the 19th Century,” continued Bishop Byfuglien. “Today we see the fruit of the immigrants as evidenced in Norwegian-American communities. For me, visiting these areas will personally bring me great moments of learning, and I hope to further encourage the bond between our two nations.”

Bishop Byfuglien, a Bergen native, received her Master of Divinity from the Norwegian School of Theology in Oslo. Prior to her appointment as presiding bishop, she was the Bishop of Borg, which includes Østfold and Akershus Counties, and a parish pastor in the Borg and Nidaros Dioceses. In July 2010, she was elected Lutheran World Federation vice president for the Nordic Region and is currently a member of the LWF Executive Committee.

While in Minnesota, Bishop Byfuglien also will visit Luther Seminary and participate in Mindekirken’s Tuesday Open House on Oct. 9. She will then meet with Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, in Chicago, before continuing on to visit the United Nations and the Norwegian Seamen’s Church in New York City.

Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012   11:00 a.m.
25th Annual LEIF Opening
Norwegian Worship Service with Communion
at Mindekirken

The service opens with the festival’s traditional procession of the Nordic flags. Presiding Bishop of the Church of Norway Helga Haugland Byfuglien will offer the sermon in English. Pr. Kristin Sundt of Mindekirken will lead the worship. English translations of the service are provided in the service bulletin.

Directed by John De Haan, The Mindekirken Choir will sing, with Dean Billmeyer at the organ. An enticing Nordic-inspired coffee hour follows at noon. A $5 donation is suggested.

Mindekirken—924 E 21st Street in Minneapolis
www.mindekirken.org
Leiv Eriksson International Festival Events

Friday, Oct. 5, 2012, 6:00 p.m.
Annual Icelandic Cod Dinner – Bloomington - $30 per person
Fresh cod dinner with a program: presented by Robert Johnson discussing his book, “The Last Kings of Norse America.”
The dinner is at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1114 American Blvd. W., Bloomington.
For tickets and more information, contact Steingrimur (Stoney) Steinolfson 952. 881.3326.

Friday, Oct. 5, 2012, 7:30 p.m.,
Minneapolis Norwegian Glee Club Celebrates 100 Years with Special Nordic Guests, Mindekirken
$10 donation requested, including reception
The Norwegian Glee Club of Minneapolis will celebrate its 100th anniversary singing one hundred years of music with special Nordic guests on Oct. 5, 2012, 7:30 p.m. Performing with the Glee Club are the American Swedish Institute Male Chorus, the St. Paul Swedish Male Chorus and special talent from Norway. A $10 donation is requested, and a reception follows.

The first guest musician is Kai Robert Johansen, Sarpsborg, Norway. Well known in the Midwest, Kai Robert has been a trumpeter for nearly 40 years. Several of his 46 records made the top ten lists in Norway, and three have honored the Norwegian Royal Family. A versatile artist, Johansen also writes music and lyrics. His credits include performances in European countries from Russia to Iceland, where his recordings have achieved gold record status. In addition, he has hosted many children’s TV programs. When not performing, Johansen is a special education teacher and vice-principal at a public school in Sarpsborg.

The Glee Club’s other special guests are sisters Haldis and Åslaug Hegstad from Oslo. Haldis is working on her bachelor’s degree in folk music at the Norwegian Academy of Music. She plays the violin, viola and Hardanger fiddle, an instrument she inherited from her grandfather. Åslaug, a pianist and organist, received her bachelor’s degree from the Norwegian Academy of Music. After a year at Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst in Vienna, Austria she is now completing her master degree at the Norwegian Academy of Music.

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. Twenty-six enthusiastic singers gave their first concert Nov. 10, 1912. The organization is a member of the Norwegian Singers Association of America and will host the 60th national biennial Sangerfest in 2014.

The Glee Club also takes time to entertain at Sons of Norway lodges, retirement homes, dinner meetings, patriotic celebrations, Norwegian and American, and hosts two lutefisk dinners each year. The next lutefisk and meatball dinner will be held Saturday, Oct. 20, 2012 at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Edina. Tickets must be purchased in advance by contacting http://www.norwegiangleeclub.org/lutefisk_dinner/lutefisk_dinner.htm
Tuesday, Oct. 9, 2012, Tuesday Open House, 11:00 a.m., lunch 12:00 -1:00 p.m., program; $7 per person In Mindekirken’s Fellowship Hall
Presiding Bishop of Norway Helga Haugland Byfuglien will present “The Church of Norway Today” in an informal setting at Mindekirken. A light lunch is available from 11 to 11:30 with the program following at noon. There will be time for questions.

Thursday and Friday, Oct. 11 & 12, 2012, 10:00 a.m.
International Seminar – Dignity and Empowerment: Women as the Keys to Global Food Security
Humphrey Institute, University of Minnesota - free to the public, but registration is required

The Oslo Center-U.S. Foundation in partnership with the fourth World Conference on Remedies to Racial and Ethnic Economic Inequality presents a two-day international seminar, “Dignity and Empowerment: Women as the Keys to Global Food Security.” As part of the Leiv Eriksen International Festival, the seminar will launch a movement to build new relationships among corporate and humanitarian leaders, promote new ideas and real-world solutions to food scarcity, and inform policy makers and the public about the need to empower women, who play the most important role in food production in the developing world.

The international panel includes Vigdis Vevstad and Ingrid Stange from Norway. Also invited are Mary Rono and Fatuma Osman from Kenya; Jeff Dykstra, founding executive director of Partners in Food Solutions, USA; Jon Halverson, vice president of the International Development Division of Land O’Lakes; Mara Russell, Land O’Lakes Food Security and Livelihoods Practice manager; and others.

The Seminar will begin at 10:00 am on Thursday, Oct. 11, 2012, at the Humphrey Institute at the University of Minnesota, 301 19th Ave. S, Minneapolis. For more information, go to www.oslocenter.us or www.mindekirken.org. For specific details, e-mail Orlyn Kringstad at orlyn.kringstad@oslocenter.us or Jana Aune Deach at jadeach@msn.com.

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2012, Nordmanns Forbundet Dinner and Annual Meeting, 6:00 p.m., social hour, 7:00 p.m., dinner —Bloomington—
Hanne Aaberg, secretary general, Nordmanns Forbundet, Oslo, is the keynoter, and exceptional musical talent is promised.
$50 per person, reservations required;
Minnesota Valley Country Club, 6400 Auto Club Road, Bloomington
For reservations, call 952.925.4500.

The Nordmanns Forbundet/Norwegians Worldwide annual meeting and dinner has the distinction of introducing Hanne Aaberg, the new secretary general of the international organization headquartered in Oslo; she is also executive director of The Norway-American Association. Ms. Aaberg was educated at BI Norwegian Business School, the University of Oslo, the University of California at San Diego, and IMD, the International Institute for Management Development. She previously served as senior vice president for Statkraft and Norske Skog.

The evening also promises excellent musical talent. Loryce Sivertson, a talented pianist and well known in the Midwest Scandinavian community, will entertain during the social hour. Loryce has been the accompanist for the Minneapolis Norwegian Glee Club, organist and pianist at Hillcrest Methodist Church, and she created a fun show entitled “Lori’s Silly Hat Show.”

Also on the program are husband and wife duo Antonia and Stan Felix. Antonia, a native of Minneapolis, finds that her Swedish and Norwegian ancestry is the inspiration for her specialization in Scandinavian art song. Stanford Felix, bass-baritone, has been singing on operatic, concert and musical theater stages across the country for 25 years. Originally from South Dakota, he currently works as Executive Director of Minnesota Concert Opera based at the Cowles Center in downtown Minneapolis.
Saturday, Oct. 13, 2012, 7:30 p.m., Ensemble Arctica – Our Nordic Heritage in Music and Poetry
$15 for adults, $10 for students, including reception at Mindekirken
Ensemble Arctica of Norway joins the LEIF Festival this year with a uniquely designed concert exploring Nordic heritage through poetry and music. Four highly acclaimed Norwegian artists, Bente Eggum Johannessen, soprano; Henrik Engelsviken, tenor; Emma Rowena Hansen, pianist; and Nicolay Lange-Nielsen, actor, scriptwriter and director, take their audience through the valleys, fjords and landscapes of Scandinavia and infuse the listeners’ souls with the Nordic spirit.

Ensemble Arctica’s style is reminiscent of singer Eva Nansen, Norwegian Explorer Fridtjof Nansen’s wife, and her dear friend and famous pianist Agathe Backer-Grøndahl. They performed for commoners during an era of national rebuilding in Norway, which occurred around 1905, when Norway was finally free from foreign rule. Their music helped their fellow countrymen rediscover their cultural identity. Today, Ensemble Arctica achieves a similar goal. In our ever-changing world, people still seek out their roots.

Ensemble Arctica soprano Bente Eggum Johannessen studied at the Music Conservatory and the State Academy of Opera in Oslo. Henrik Engelsviken, tenor, studied at the Norwegian Academy of Music and the State Academy of Opera in Oslo. He has been the Norwegian Opera’s lead tenor since 2007. Pianist Emma Rowena Hansen studied at the Music Conservatory in Trondheim and at the Norwegian Academy of Music. She has been an accompanist for some of Norway’s greatest vocalists and is currently focusing her efforts on creating an opera with Bente and Nicolay in one of Norway’s most remote towns – Finse. Finally, Nicolay Lange-Nielsen is an actor, scriptwriter and director who studied at the Norwegian Academy of Dramatic Art and at the University in Oslo. He rose to fame in the popular Norwegian TV drama Hotel Caesar. Currently he is enjoying great success with his own production Ulv og Engel – an encounter with Leonard Cohen.

Sunday, Oct. 14, 2012, 11:00 a.m.
Worship Service and Closing Ceremony – Mindekirken
The Leiv Eriksson International Festival officially closes with a Nordic-inspired worship service with Rev. Eygló Bjarnadóttir as guest preacher. She will preach in English. A native of Iceland, in 2002 she graduated from the University of Iceland with a divinity degree in theology and came to the United States with her family. Rev. Bjarnadóttir was ordained into ministry in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Saint Paul Synod, and she is a spiritual care professional with the Hazelden Foundation. An inviting coffee hour follows the service at noon with food from all the Nordic countries. A $5 donation is suggested.

About the Festival
The Leiv Eriksson International Festival was formed in 1987 under the leadership of Pastor John Mauritzon, Mindekirken (The Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church in Minneapolis) and members of the Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish communities to establish an annual festival to celebrate Nordic cultural roots in the United States. Over the years, the events have brought top-ranked Nordic talent to the Festival. This helps us all explore the values and goals of today’s Nordic countries and share them with other Nordic Americans. It also gives the Nordic community an opportunity to share its heritage with all citizens.

The Leiv Eriksson International Festival is brought to you, in part, by the following Nordic organizations: American Swedish Institute, Danish American Center, The Edvard Grieg Society/Norway House, Finlandia Foundation, Icelandic American Association of Minnesota, Mindekirken, Nordmanns Forbundet/Norwegians Worldwide, Oslo Center-US Foundation, Sons of Norway and by private donations.