

The Messenger

February 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I would like to thank you for leading and supporting the Worship Service while my family was not in Minden for one week. I am refreshed and refilled with a new energy in the Holy Spirit. It was a good opportunity to learn how other UMC Churches do a Worship Service. We also had a significant time of recognition and blessing of leaders in the church for 2019 on January 20. We held an Administrative Council meeting on January 22. We have been called by God and chosen by the people of God, which means we are blessed with a serious responsibility and obligation to lead our ministry and community. We are the disciples of Jesus Christ to serve our God and feed the people of God with our whole heart. We are ready to go forward to fulfill the vision for 2019, **“The Lord will renew and strengthen us like eagles.”** We look forward to achieving the kingdom of God in the community of Minden as well as in the Heaven.

I am so honored to have led a Confirmation Class with eight students and eight mentors for 12 weeks, since October 2018. This is my first class and I recognize some mistakes and deficiencies, although the curriculum is excellent. I think it is my lack of skills. However, I find a hope for the future with these eight kids and eight mentors for our church. They helped with Holy Communion, the Worship Service, with Greeting, Ushering, Offering, and lighting the candles. They visited Bethany Home with a gift during the Christmas season. I recognize they had important experiences while they were serving the church. We may start our youth group soon. We don't know whether it will take hold at first or not because it is not easy to light the extinct fire. I am afraid of not planting seeds. Nevertheless, we only rely on the Holy Spirit because the fire of the Holy Spirit touches and changes our body, mind and soul eternally. I believe it is possible with Him.

One of my major goals is to find places in the church for people to use their talents. I am proud of finding Bobbie Heitman and Joyce Will. We still need more people to play with the Bell Choir and sing with the Easter Choir. We still need Sunday School and Youth Group teachers. We still need helpers for the worship service. We still need warriors of prayer. If you decide to step in, our church will be revitalized and renewed with the Lord. Amen.

Peter Choi

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Address Service Requested

*Worship Time:
9:45 AM
Sunday School
9:00 AM*

Minden United Methodist Church

*Vision: The Lord will renew and
strengthen us like eagles.*

Isaiah 40:31

*“Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength,
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not
grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”*

Office Hours:

Pastor Peter: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
and Saturday 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM
Monday Pastor Peter will not be in the office.

Aleda Younkin: Office Manager
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday:
8:30-12:00 PM—1:00—3:00 PM
Friday: 8:30 AM-11:30 AM

Pastor: Peter Choi
Office Manager: Aleda Younkin
Minden Custodian: Debra Overleese
Prayer Chain: Joan Fries

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Confirmation Class Greeting & Ushering

Zach Froid Reading Scripture

Special Music
by the
Confirmation Class



Removing the Christmas Decoration for another year

What's Love Got To Do With It?... Love. A small word that has an immensely big emotion tied to it as well as being highly complex. A word that is defined differently by everyone. Books, movies, television, theatre, music, Hallmark all try their best to explain what love is and what part it plays throughout our lives. More importantly, the Bible tells us that "God so loved the world," and that "God is love", and that when it comes to love, nobody exemplifies it better than Jesus. When we read the word in our Bibles, depending on the translation, the word "love" can appear as much as over 500-700 times. In the New Testament book of 1 John, the word "love" occurs more than in any other book of the Bible and 2 John follows closely behind. When it comes to the L-word, no book in the Bible tops 1 John. For every 50 words you read in this book, one of them is "love". But the first time the word "love" is used in the Bible is in Genesis 22:2 when God tells Abraham "Take with you your only son - yes, Isaac whom you love so much - and go to the land of Moriah and sacrifice him there as a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I'll point out to you!" In John 3:16 we read that "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life" - that He, like Abraham, was willing to sacrifice His beloved Son, all because of love. John 3:16 is one of those verses that most of us remember memorizing in Sunday School and/or Vacation Bible School but I doubt that many of us when we were young children really understood or appreciated what that verse meant. For most young children, they understand what love is through the actions and words of their parents, grandparents, plus other important people in their lives and if they go to Sunday School and church, they will learn about it there too. But when do we really get a grasp as to what love is and what does love have to do in our lives as Christians? I don't think there is a specific age when we can truly and fully grasp what that word really truly means in our lives. If we read the Bible, we know that that book talks a lot about love. Most of the time what we read there is about God's love for His people - that's you and me. It is found both in the Old and the New Testament books of the Bible, where we find good examples of His love for us and how we are to show love to others throughout the scriptures. Most of all it simply tells us in 1 John 4:8 that "God is love". Just as simple as that - God is love. So what's love got to do with it? Pretty much everything! We are called to mirror that love throughout our lives and to love one another as He loves us - to our children, to our spouses, to our friends, to our neighbors and yes, even to our enemies. Is it sometimes hard to follow His love for others? At times you bet it is. But know this, God is a friend who knows all about us and yet He still loves us. God loves us more in a moment than anyone could in a lifetime. That's incredible! What's more incredible is that He sent His Son Jesus to us so that we might have eternal life! And that's what love has to do with it. Joyce Will♥

Confirmation Sunday, February 10th...

Confirmation refers to the decision a person makes to respond to God’s grace with intentional commitment, publicly reaffirming his or her baptismal vows before the congregation. Most confirmands are youth between the ages of eleven and fourteen, who have been nurtured in the church since their baptism as an infant or young child.

We offer a deliberate time of preparation before this service. Our classes began in October and will end on Confirmation Sunday, February 10th. During confirmation class, confirmands learn about the meaning of Christian faith, the history and teachings and the United Methodist Church and an explanation of the baptismal and membership vows they will be professing.

Confirmation is not just becoming a member of the church. Baptism already celebrated that! Confirmation is a person’s first public affirmation of the faith of the church as being his or her own faith. In other words, the confirmand is taking responsibility for living as a member of the body of Christ and for fulfilling God’s purposes.

On Sunday, February 10th we have the pleasure of welcoming eight new members to our church: Marah Dornhoff, Gracie Fries, Avery Froid, Mikaela Froid, Zachary Froid, Emma Grube, Braxton Janda, and Jessica Tunnell.

Boy Scout Sunday Is February 3rd...

Do you remember merit badges, outdoor adventures and gooey s’mores? If so, you were likely a Boy Scout or Girl Scout. When you camped, volunteered in the community, collected recyclables and planted trees, you learned positivity, adaptability, the importance of physical activity and ways to get involved in life.

Today, The United Methodist Church supports thousands of Scouts who relate to our congregations. We thank parents who use scouting to teach Christian living, pastors who endorse scouting as a church ministry and Scout leaders and youth directors who encourage youth.

Scouting Ministries Sunday in The United Methodist Church brings attention to the importance of an outreach ministry United Methodist churches offer to more than 550,000 youth. Surveys show that 50 percent of these kids come from unchurched families. Attending a Scout meeting may be the first time a young person walks through a church door. That welcome is a teachable moment that churches can use to help a boy or girl explore faith and begin a spiritual journey.

This Sunday, please share appreciation to Scouts living their pledge and to the leaders who guide them.



Ginger leading Children’s Time

Blessing & Recognition of Church Leaders for 2019



Special Worship Service with Kevin & Heidi Cheng



UMW January Meeting



Kim, Lonna and Dan ready to lead the songs

February 2019



Members and Friends of Minden and Upland

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|----------|
| | | | | | 1 6:00 pm Boy Scouts | 2 |
| 3 9:00 am Sunday School 9:30 am Prayer Time 9:45 am Worship Adult SS after Worship 12:00 pm Confirmation | 4 7:00 pm Boy Scouts | 5 7:00 pm Girl Scouts | 6 6:00 pm Mom's United 6:00 pm Choir Practice | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Confirmation Sunday 9:00 am Sunday School 9:30 am Prayer Time 9:45 am Worship Adult SS after Worship | 11 8 am-3:30 pm WIC 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Cub Scouts | 12 7:00 pm Finance Mtg. | 13 6:00 pm Choir Practice | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 9:00 am Sunday School 9:30 am Prayer Time 9:45 am Worship Adult SS after Worship | 18 7:00 pm Cub Scouts | 19 7:00 pm Girl Scouts | 20 6:00 pm Mom's United 6:00 pm Choir Practice | 21 7:00 pm Boy Scouts | 22 | 23 |
| 24 9:00 am Sunday School 9:30 am Prayer Time 9:45 am Worship Adult SS after Worship | 25 7:00 pm Boy Scouts | 26 6:30 pm Girl Scouts | 27 6:00 pm Choir Practice | 28 | If you or your family has a prayer request you would like put on the Prayer Chain for prayers please call Joan Fries at 1-402-756-0857. | |
| Financial Report... | | February Refreshment Hosts... | | Life in Our Church Families... | | |
| General Giving in January: \$17,794 General Fund Giving to Date: \$17,794 General Expenses in January: \$14,727 General Fund Expenses to Date: \$14,727 | | Feb. 3 rd : Mike & MaryJo Froid & Family Feb. 10 th : Phyllis Burnham & Val Kauk Feb. 17 th : Mike & Jodi Boudreau & Family Feb. 24 th : Tony & Julie Ratka | | <i>Deaths: Our heartfelt sympathy to the family of: Ross Wright who passed away on Jan. 10th. Ginger Frizane whose mother passed away.</i> Known Hospitalizations & Prayer List: Elger & Maxine Grams | | |

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|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 st Jeremy Johnson | 17 th Jean Liebers |
| 2 nd Tim Burke | Roxanna Johnson |
| 3 rd Richard Swartz | 18 th Sarah Maulsby |
| 4 th Mark Loseke | Caryn Petersen |
| Gracelyn Bradley | Marlene Macklin |
| 6 th Dale Space | 20 th Melvin Reiss |
| 7 th Brent Harsin | 21 st Jeff Hanson |
| 10 th Mick Jameson | 22 nd James Wilkinson |
| John Mullin | 23 rd Larry Tatum |
| Kara Suchsland | 24 th Merlin Beahm |
| 12 th Tyler Anderson | Greg Jorgensen |
| 14 th Val Schuster | Curt Wegner |
| Dayln Sherwood | Daniel Grams |
| 15 th Todd Jensen | Sonya Chappell |
| Lee Ann Lux | 25 th Ed Rowse |
| Nicholas Pearson | 26 th Jim Lynn |

- February Greeters & Ushers...**
- Feb. 3rd: Elta Kern & Bobbie Heitman
Bob & Cindy Peterson
- Feb. 10th: Tony & Julie Ratka
Jaime & Jason Sinsel
- Feb. 17th: Jack Hultquist & Jan Marlatt
Lori Conyers & Bobbie Heitman
- Feb. 24th: Larry & Nancy Evans
Dave & Jane Craig

- February Scripture Readers...**
- Feb. 3rd: Cindy Peterson
- Feb. 10th: Julie Ratka
- Feb. 17th: Jodi Boudreau
- Feb. 24th: Larry Evans

