

A Publication of The United Methodist Church  
Minden, Nebraska

# The Messenger

May 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,  
Finally, the world is wearing the color of green, which signifies revival of life, as Jesus Christ was resurrected from the grave on Easter. Children have started to go out to play in the warm weather. Farmers have started to plant seeds in their fields. I also plan to plant some vegetables in my back yard. It is literally a planting and growing season. Now, our church is planting its seeds in anticipation of the revival. Excitingly more people are getting involved in our church ministry. It was meaningful that congregants participated in the Maundy and Good Friday services with a play. We followed what Jesus did in his ministry. On April 28, our congregation will have a Children's Worship Service. We have never tried this kind of worship service before, but we never stop trying new adventures because we have an expectancy that the fruit will be plentiful. Pastor Peter Choi

## A Fierce Mother-Love! By Joyce Will

There are many women in the Bible who are examples of a mother's sacrifice, a mother's love. But the one that stands out the most for me, and maybe for you too is Mary, Jesus' mother. Do you ever stop to think who Mary was as that mother, the sacrifices she made and the fierce mother-love she had for her Son throughout His entire life? If you'll remember, Mary was a young teen when she gave birth to Jesus. She was not from a prominent nor prestigious Jewish family but rather she was just a poor girl from a humble family and from an insignificant village. Before learning that she would give birth to Jesus, she had no expectation that her life was going to be any different than that of her neighbors and friends. But that all changed when the angel came to her to tell her that she - of all the young women in the entire world - would be the mother of God's Son. Young Mary showed great courage and we know that without a doubt, Mary loved God and wanted to serve Him with all her heart and with that, we see a glimpse of that fierce mother-love.

In Luke 1:38 we see what Mary's answer is when the angel came to her - " 'I am the Lord's servant,' Mary answered, 'may your word to me be fulfilled.' Then the angel left her." Can you even fathom what that dear young girl must have thought? Have felt? In those days, a girl in her position without being married, could have been stoned to death. Even though she says "I am the Lord's servant" we know that being only human, she must of had just a snippet of fear when she finds out she is going to have a baby but is not married and

## 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  
Pastor Peter will not be in the office on Mondays.

Alveda Younkin: Office Manager

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

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

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

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then when Joseph, her husband-to-be, found out of this baby, he no longer wanted to be betrothed to her. But we know that Mary had great faith, great courage and great strength. In Luke 1:30 the angel says to her "Do not be afraid" and in verse 42 "blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you bear". Young Mary accepted God's plan for her life and she was no longer afraid.

Affirmations from God to enforce that fierce mother-love young Mary was already feeling for her unborn baby, we see that she was already the Savior's devoted believer. From a Christmas song "You're Here" that I enjoy so much, the lyrics speak of Mary, who was that first true follower of Jesus from the moment of His birth: "You're here, I'm holding you so near. I'm starring into the face of my Savior, King and Creator. You could've left us on our own, but you're here; Don't know how long I'm gonna have you for, but I'll be watching when you change the world; I look at your hands, they're still so small. Someday you're

going to stretch them out and save us all; Noel, Noel, God with us Emmanuel". A beautiful song with words that speak about this baby boy who's mother, Mary, already knows that while she is present for His first breath, she will also be present when He takes His last breath. Mary comforted Jesus as He entered this world and also as He left it to return to His Father. She devoted herself to being there for her Son – through birth until His death.

While there are really no stories in the Bible of Jesus as He was a wee boy, we can imagine that their family was like others of that time. His earthly father was a carpenter and we are told He had siblings. So we can imagine there were the usual childhood bickering between siblings, the usual skinned knees, and splinters in fingers while trying to mimic His carpenter father Joseph while His mother cooked, washed clothing, and kept her family taken care of. As Jesus becomes an adult and begins His ministry, His mother Mary is often found by His side or if not directly by His side she is found in the crowd with Him in the many stories in the Bible that follow Him through His teachings, His parables, His miracles, His life, His crucifixion. At His death on the cross, His mother stays when the rest of the world chooses to walk away. Mary is a rich tapestry of a real mother-love.

My friends, there is nothing more beautiful, stronger or more fierce than a mother's love. Mothers think about their children day and night and will love them with a fierceness few people will totally understand. Her love can be as tender as a rose but as fierce as a thunderstorm! Consider the priceless value of her. Do you have a mother, grandmother, aunt, sister, good friend, or someone who is a mother figure in your life? Then be sure to thank her for her unending support, her humor, her advice, her patience, her sacrifice, her faith, her hope, and her fierce mother-love she has for you, and then praise God for her and thank Him for sending her into your life. A mother's love is so powerful that even God recognizes it and uses it as a metaphor for His love for us in Isaiah 66:13 - "As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you". Jw♥



Making Baptismal Banners



Cub Scouts Cleaning The Nursery



April UMW Meeting



Easter Cantata



Maundy Thursday-Hand Washing



April Youth Meeting



Easter Sunday-Christ Is Risen Indeed!



Lighting The Candles Easter Sunday



Good Friday-Nailing Our Sins to The Cross



Good Friday-Burning Our Sins



Just Imagine



**Honoring Our Graduates...**

On Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, we will honor our High School graduates. This year's class includes:

Alexandra Bauer, Leah Boudreau, Ryleigh Hanson and Anna Sinsel

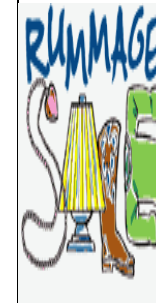


**Mother's Day Roses:**

The Mission Committee will be selling roses for Mother's Day before and after the Worship service on May 5<sup>th</sup>. This is your opportunity to buy roses in Honor of or in Memory of your Mother or Grandmother or any other special woman in your life. Then any woman honored with a rose may pick up her rose after worship service on Mother's Day, May 12<sup>th</sup>.



You are invited!  
Leah Boudreau,  
MHS Class of 2019  
Please join us to celebrate  
Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm  
517 South Logan



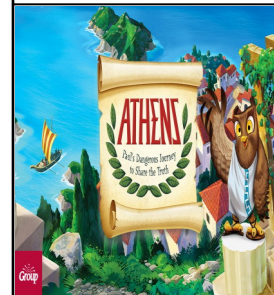
Yes there will be a Rummage Sale this summer. The dates has been set for July 31<sup>st</sup>, August 1<sup>st</sup>, and August 2<sup>nd</sup>. You can start bringing your clean and gently used items after July 1<sup>st</sup>. Any question contact Joyce Bender at: 830-1053



**CHURCH  
WORKDAY**

**Spring Clean-Up...**

Help the Trustee's spruce up the church and the parsonage on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. We'll begin at 9:00 am and work until we get done. Projects will include working outside and inside. Please bring any cleaning items that you feel we might need. We will also need rakes and garbage cans to put the trash in. Come help as long as you can. All help will be greatly appreciate.



**Vacation Bible School 2019...**

Our VBS will be held on July 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 in the evenings. The theme is the *Apostle Paul's Missionary Trip*. Helpers are needed for this ministry of our church. It is an opportunity for evangelism and Christian growth for our young people. There will story time, games, crafts, snack time, and lots of fun learning. No experience necessary! Please contact, Dan, Ginger or Pastor Peter.

# May 2019



## Members and Friends of Minden and Upland

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1  6:00 pm Mom's United	2	3	4 9:00 am Spring Clean Up At the Church
5 9:00 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship Adult Sunday School after Worship Youth Meeting after Worship	6	7  7:00 pm Girl Scouts	8 9:00 am UMW General Meeting	9	10	11 7:00 am-9:00 pm Girl Scouts
12 9:00 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship Adult Sunday School after Worship 	13 9:00 am-4:00 pm WIC  7:00 pm Cub Scouts	14  7:00 pm Finance 7:00 pm Girl Scouts	15	16	17	18
19 NO Sunday School 9:45 am Worship Adult Sunday School after Worship	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 NO Sunday School 9:45 am Worship Adult Sunday School after Worship	27  MEMORIAL DAY	28  7:00 pm Girl Scouts	29	30		

4 <sup>th</sup> Delaine Maxon Tony Ratka	19 <sup>th</sup> Keene Cunningham 21 <sup>st</sup> Michael Froid Anita Gleason
5 <sup>th</sup> Jaime Sinsel Gracie Fries	22 <sup>nd</sup> Wade Melroy
6 <sup>th</sup> Scott Maxon Bailee Schuster	23 <sup>rd</sup> Beverly Seyler Shirley Quadhamer
10 <sup>th</sup> Emma Steinkruger	Jessica Tunnell
11 <sup>th</sup> Ray Havens	24 <sup>th</sup> Brent Sherwood Gage Fries
12 <sup>th</sup> Donlyn Space	James Steinkruger
13 <sup>th</sup> Samuel Tunnell	25 <sup>th</sup> Jacey Smidt
14 <sup>th</sup> Gabriella Froid	26 <sup>th</sup> Braxton Janda
15 <sup>th</sup> Robert Ayres	Stacey Stubbs
17 <sup>th</sup> Melanie Remmenga	Brody Sexton
18 <sup>th</sup> Sarah Hawthorne	28 <sup>th</sup> Janessa Sherwood
19 <sup>th</sup> Jane Albers Alexandra Bauer Dave Craig	29 <sup>th</sup> Thelma Jensen



If you or your family has a prayer request you would like put on the Prayer Chain for prayers please call Joan Fries 1-402-756-0257

Financial Report For April...	Life in Our Church Families...	Scripture Readers for May...	Refreshment Hosts For May...	Greeters and Ushers for May...
General Giving in April: \$17,985 General Fund Giving to Date: \$62,297 General Expenses in April: \$15,575 General Fund Expenses to Date: \$67,145 <i>This report does not include the final Sunday in April.</i>	<b>Deaths:</b> Our heartfelt sympathy to the family of: Julie Ratka whose Grandfather passed away. <b>Baptisms:</b> Welcome to the family of God, Landon Anders Favinger son of Kurt & Carrie Please call the office when you know of any illness or hospitalization among your friends or family members. Thank you.	May 5 <sup>th</sup> : Kay Lyn McBride May 12 <sup>th</sup> : Cindy Peterson May 19 <sup>th</sup> : Lynette Beahm May 28 <sup>th</sup> : Joyce Will	May 5 <sup>th</sup> : The Loseke Family May 12 <sup>th</sup> : Jaime Sinsel & Family May 19 <sup>th</sup> : Tony & Julie Ratka May 28 <sup>th</sup> : The Boudreau Family	May 5 <sup>th</sup> : Dick & Kay Lyn McBride Fred & Joyce Will May 12 <sup>th</sup> : Gordon & Linda Amstuz Larry & Laurain Tatum May 19 <sup>th</sup> : James & Jeanette Wilkinson Tony & Julie Ratka May 28 <sup>th</sup> : Dave & Jane Craig Bobbie Heitman & Marlys Farm