

# Christmas Eve Service

Christmas Eve Service will be held at 7:00 pm.

## Senior Life Solutions

Senior Life Solutions is a free program designed to help with loneliness, depression, grief and loss, decreased energy, anxiety, crying, life transitions, and low self-confidence. Kearney County Health Services Senior Life Solutions program is an intensive outpatient group counseling program. It is designed to meet the unique needs of older adults over the age of 65 struggling with symptoms of depression and anxiety often related to aging. If you have questions about this program please call 308-832-3400.

## Joyful Walking

3 days left to Walk. Let us fill a log sheet. Everyone come walk for 10 minutes or more. Joyfully walk to wait and prepare for both the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas and the return of Jesus at the Second Coming. This will give you the opportunity to set aside time to spend with God.

## Time of Prayer with Pastor Peter

Pastor Peter will be praying for the congregation in the Sanctuary 9:30~10:30 am every Tuesday and Thursday. You can bring any prayer request to Joan Fries or Pastor Peter.

**"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." 1 Peter 5:7**

## Pastoral Visits

Pastor Peter will visit anyone on request. If pastoral care is needed around you especially during the Holiday Season, please contact Pastor Peter via phone 201-888-8430 or e-mail [peterchoiminden@gmail.com](mailto:peterchoiminden@gmail.com).

**"For I am the Lord, who heals you." Exodus 15:26**

### This Week's Calendar...

Today, Dec 22 9:00am Sunday School  
9:30am Prayer in Prayer Room  
**9:45am Worship Service**  
Adult Sunday School after Worship

Tuesday, Dec 24 **7:00pm Christmas Eve Service**

Wednesday, Dec 25 Merry Christmas—office closed



Sunday, Dec 29 9:00am Sunday School  
9:30am Prayer in Prayer Room  
**9:45am Worship Service**  
Adult Sunday School after Worship

### Prayer List...

*Please call the office when you know of someone in the hospital. Thank you!*

### Information from last week...

Worship Service Attendance..... 101  
Sunday's Worship Offering .....\$3,950.29

### Please have this week's birthday people in your prayer.

Jade Melroy Sam Martin Brian Linder  
Emma Grube

Clavinova/Piano/Organ: Lena Choi  
Projection: Tony Ratka, Larry Snavely, Alaina Suchsland  
Greeters and Ushers: Dick & KayLyn McBride  
Refreshment Hosts: Fred & Joyce Will  
Church Prayer Chain: Joan Fries

There is a fully equipped Nursery for children in the Southeast wing. A changing table located in the Nursery.  
**Quiet Bags** for young children are available in the lobby.  
**Restrooms** are located in both the East and West hallways.  
**The Upper Room** Booklets for Jan/Feb are in the lobby.

# Minden United Methodist Church

**2019 Vision:  
The Lord will renew and strengthen us like eagles.**



**340 North Newell Ave.  
Minden, NE  
308-832-1995**

**Pastor: Rev. Peter Choi  
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[www.facebook.com/MindenUMC](http://www.facebook.com/MindenUMC)  
[www.mindenumc.org](http://www.mindenumc.org)**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing #240 This great hymn by Charles Wesley is loaded with Methodist theology; read it and consider: the virgin birth, the deity of Jesus Christ, His incarnation, salvation for all, He lays aside His glory, and offers to all a "second birth" which is the coming of the Christmas child into our hearts! It is all here! In the last stanza we all join in with the angels with our "hails."

O Little Town of Bethlehem #230 Written by an American pastor who contemplated a quiet night spent on a hillside overlooking Bethlehem, this is an unusual hymn in that it is addressed not to God or other fellow believers, but to a place, a city named Bethlehem. We read of its historical importance. But in the last stanza, it is addressed to the "holy Child of Bethlehem," asking Him to come and be "born in us today!" This makes the familiar hymn very personal, where we identify with this town of old and the event that happened there.

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear #218 This fine hymn traces the history of the Church through the song of the Angels. First, we sing of their song to the shepherd on the hillside near Bethlehem. Next, we read of the continuous offer of salvation to all who will call upon the Christ child in simple faith. Over the confusing sounds (Babel) of the world today, the call of the angels is still valid and offered to all. In stanza three their hope in this song, and we are invited to "rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing." And in the triumphant conclusion, the Kingdom Age appears where Christ returns the second time to establish His everlasting reign of peace and joy. And at the time the whole world (when "every knee will bow and tongue will confess the Jesus Christ is Lord", Phil. 2:11), and the whole world joins in ("sends back") with the old song the angels sang at the first Christmas long ago!

Joy to the World #246 While we all know this as a Christmas hymn, it was actually written with Christ's second coming in mind. It is a paraphrase of Ps. 98, a reference to the coming ruler Jesus Christ. Look at the hymn: "the Savior reigns", hardly true today, He is sovereign but sadly He does not reign in today's world; "nor thorns infest the ground", farmers: wouldn't it be nice if this was true today!; He rules the world, sadly,, not today! However, it is still a joyous hymn and appropriate for both of His Advents, the past and the one in the future when He returns.

## Scriptures...

### Isaiah 7:10-16

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, "Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights."

But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test."

Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. He will be eating curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, for before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste.

### Matthew 1:18-25

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"(which means "God with us").

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

## Order of Worship December 22, 2019, 4th Sunday of Advent

Bringing in the Light of Christ      The Acolytes

Welcome and Announcements      Kim Snavely

\*Opening Hymns

    "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"      UMH 240

    "O Little Town of Bethlehem"      UMH 230

\*Call to Worship

Lightening of the

Advent Candle

Klabunde Family

    "Like a Child" verse 1

FWS #2092

\*Opening Prayer

\*Silent Prayer of Confession

\*Greetings of Peace

Joys and Concerns

    Pastoral Prayer - Lord's Prayer

Children's Time

Pastor Peter Choi

Scriptures    Isaiah 7:10-16

Emma Grube

    Matthew 1: 18-25

Message

Pastor Peter Choi

    "Emmanuel, God is with us!"

Hymn

UMH 218

    "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

Giving Our Gifts

\*Doxology

UMH 94

\*Offertory Prayer

\*Closing Hymn    "Joy to the World"      UMH 246

\*Benediction