

# The Messenger

February 2020

Dear Minden Methodist Family and Friends,

Thank you for submitting prayer requests. It was my privilege to bless you and your family in the name of Christ. I will lift up your prayer requests to God whenever I have a time of pastoral prayer for this whole year.

Sometimes, I experience pain like losing part of my body, when a member of our congregation passes away; especially those who are close to me. In December and January, we lost our loved friends, Blake, Elger and Phil. The family is also struggling with the loss of their loved one. Please continue to pray for recovery of their family. I love the term, “RESILIENCE” which means in vocabulary, the capacity to recover from difficulties, hardship and toughness. It has been hard to recover myself to normal condition for a few days. I am going back to my normal cycle, as you also pray for me. We, Christians, may grieve for losing our loved one but should not be afraid of that because death is not the end. We can again meet each other in heaven. Your loved ones are now in a much better place. More, when God is with us, we have the capacity to recover to our normal cycle.

I had a time to share our new vision and goals with an order for the installation of Church leaders for 2020. I would like to thank all church leaders for accepting your position and obligation. I will keep praying for your position and ability to lead your committee. As we decided the new vision, “Extend Hospitality to Strangers! (Romans 12:12 NRSV),” please “open your hearts, open minds, and open doors to transform the lives of others.” God’s grace is available to all people, no matter where they are from, what they look like, or what they have done.

With a new year, I am working with updating our webpage, [mindenumc.org](http://mindenumc.org). I have made changes to front pages, our pastor, our church leaders, and pictures. If you want to add to or edit the web page, just let me know. Moreover, we are planning a Kid’s Night Out, programs for the season of Lent, and Confirmation Class soon. I am excited with our new committee, Hospitality team. I am looking forward to seeing how God leads our church with our committee members. Please hold your hands together with us and walk together for the glory of God. May God bless you!

In Christ, your pastor. *Peter Choi*

United Methodist Church  
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Sunday School  
9:00 AM  
Worship Time  
9:45 AM



Address/Service Requested

## Vision: Extend Hospitality to Strangers

“Share with the Lord’s people who are in need. Practice Hospitality.”  
(Romans 12:13)



### Office Hours:

**Pastor Peter Choi**

Please call for appointment 201-888-8430

Tuesday-Saturday 9:30am to 5:00pm

**Jaime Sinsel, Office Manager**

Monday –Friday 8am-Noon

Pastor	Peter Choi
Office Manager	Jaime Sinsel
Custodian	Tony & Julie Ratka
Prayer Chain	Joan Fries

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### God's Love by Joyce Will

There's this thing that's called love. Songs talk about it. Poets write about it. Movies try to depict it. Hallmark makes money from it. The Bible is overflowing with it. And did you know that on every page, in every chapter and in every book of His Word, God tells you He loves you? From Genesis to Revelations you can hear God tell us the words we all long to hear - "I love you". In Romans 8:37-39 we read: "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." 1 John 4:16 tells us: "And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them." And why do we love? 1 John 4:19 tells us exactly why: "We love because He first loved us." Simple as that, my friends. God is love and He loves us. God's love is perfect, it's faithful, forgiving, pure, everlasting, redeeming, strong, hope-filled and so much more. His love letter to each of us is the Bible where we can believe the truth He speaks over and over to us in the scriptures we read. God's love is powerful. He didn't merely create the world with us in it and then step away. No, He longs to build a relationship with each of us. God's love is never failing. He will never let us go once we have Him in our hearts. His thoughts of us outnumber all of the sand on the earth. Our names are tattooed on the palm of His hand, we are always in His thoughts. God's love for us is unconditional. My friends, that simply means that He loves us no matter what. He loves us all without any hesitation. God's love is constant. When others - family/friends - may and will forsake us, God will be steadfast at our side, ever ready to shower us with His love. Because we all have days when we aren't okay with who we are, it's great to know that God still loves us, messed up and all. Just let Him love you, just like you are. While our lives are beyond perfect, His love is. God loves us so much, that He sent His Son to die on the cross for us, so that we can have eternal life. I'd say that's a love that is almost unable to grasp with our minds, but my friends, it is not beyond our ability to experience with our hearts. Jw♥



Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Romans 12:1-13



Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.



Romans 12:14-16







Do not be overcome by evil,  
but overcome evil with good.  
Romans 12:21



### Kid's Night Out

Coming March 4th  
mark your calendar.  
Details to follow.



### Kevin & Heidi Cheng

They have played piano and violin with a combined total of 7 symphonies and orchestras since their high school years. If you have enjoyed their music here at our church please go see them again at the Minden Opera House February 21 at 7:30pm. Call the Opera House to reserve your tickets.

### Ash Wednesday Services

**February 26, 7:00pm**



**Ash Wednesday** is a Christian holy day of prayer and fasting. It is preceded by Shrove Tuesday and falls on the first day of Lent, the six weeks of penitence before Easter. Ash Wednesday is traditionally observed by Western Christians. Most Latin Rite Roman Catholics observe it, as do some Protestants like Anglicans, Lutherans, Methodists, Nazarenes and Independent Catholics. As it is the first day of Lent, some Christians begin Ash Wednesday by marking a Lenten calendar, praying a Lenten daily devotional, and abstaining from a luxury that they will not partake of until Eastertide arrives.

Ash Wednesday derives its name from the placing of repentance ashes on the foreheads of participants to either the words "Repent, and believe in the Gospel" or the dictum "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." The ashes are prepared by burning palm leaves from the previous year's Palm Sunday celebrations. (from wikipedia)

### Transcribe the Books of Luke and John

Beginning February 26, Ash Wednesday, we as a congregation will begin transcribing the books of Luke and John. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the west hallway. The Church is open 8am-8pm, please come whenever is convenient for you. The books will be located in the lounge behind the sanctuary.

### Life in Our Church Families...

**Elger Grams 8/6/1931—1/7/2020**

**Phil Fahrlander 12/20/1934—1/15/2020**

Please call the office when you know of any illness, hospitalization, new babies, marriages, joyous or sad news among your friends or family members.

If you or your family has a prayer request you would like to put on the Prayer Chain call Joan Fries at 402-756-0257.

# February 2020



**Happy Birthday! Members & Friends**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:00 am Sunday School 9:30 Prayer Time <b>9:45 am Worship</b> Adult SS after Worship 1:00pm Confirmation Meeting	3	4 Girl Scout Cookie Distribution in Fellowship hall— all day 6:30pm Girl Scouts	5 6pm Choir Practice	6 7:00 pm Boy Scout Lock-In (all night)	7	8
9 9:00 am Sunday School 9:30 Prayer Time <b>9:45 am Worship</b> Adult SS after Worship 3:00 Confirmation 4:30 pm Hospitality Team Mtg.	10 7pm Cub Scouts	11 5:30pm Headstart Family Night	12 9 am UMW 6pm Choir Practice 7pm Finance Mtg	13	14 	15
16 9:00 am Sunday School 9:30 Prayer Time <b>9:45 am Worship</b> Adult SS after Worship 3:00 Confirmation	17	18 6:30pm Girl Scouts	19 6pm Choir Practice	20	21 8:30am-4:00pm WIC 5pm Cub Scouts	22
23 9:00 am Sunday School 9:30 Prayer Time <b>9:45 am Worship</b> Adult SS after Worship 3:00 Confirmation	24	25	26 11:45am Lenten Lunch @ Bethany Lutheran 6pm Choir Practice 7pm Ash Wednesday Service	27	28	29

- |                                 |                                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Jeremy Johnson  | 17 <sup>th</sup> Jean Liebers    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tim Burke       | Roxanna Johnson                  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dick Swartz     | 18 <sup>th</sup> Caryn Petersen  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Mark Loseke     | Sarah Maulsby                    |
| Gracelyn Bradley                | Marlene Macklin                  |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> Dale Space      | 20 <sup>th</sup> Melvin Reiss    |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Brent Harsin    | 21 <sup>st</sup> Jeff Hanson     |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> Kara Suchsland | 22 <sup>nd</sup> James Wilkinson |
| John Mullin                     | 23 <sup>rd</sup> Larry Tatum     |
| Mick Jameson                    | 24 <sup>th</sup> Merlin Beahm    |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> Val Schuster   | 25 <sup>th</sup> Clark Bauer     |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> Todd Jensen    | Ed Rowse                         |
| Lee Ann Lux                     | 26 <sup>th</sup> Jim Lynn        |
| Nicholas Pearson                |                                  |



## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!

- |       |                        |          |
|-------|------------------------|----------|
| 02/04 | Dick & Kay Lyn McBride | 53 years |
| 02/07 | Boyd & Caryn Petersen  | 39 years |
| 02/16 | Jason & Jaime Sinsel   | 13 years |
| 02/17 | Donlyn & Sandra Space  | 46 years |
| 02/23 | Bill & Kathy Hunter    | 51 years |



The Grocery cart is back. Keep filling it to help those in need. Some items of need are toilet paper, hygiene products, laundry detergent, and dish soap.

### Greeters and Ushers for February:

- February 2: Jack Hultquist  
Gene Lundeen  
February 9: James & Jeanette Wilkinson  
February 16: Jan Marlatt  
Bobbie Heitman  
February 23: Keven & Kathi Schutz

### Scripture Readers for February:

- February 2: Joyce Will  
February 9: Dawn Moyer  
February 16: Aiden Sinsel  
February 23:

(Please call 832-1995 or email [managerumcminden@msn.com](mailto:managerumcminden@msn.com) if you are available for any of the open dates)

### Refreshment Hosts for February:

- February 2: Dick and Kaylyn McBride  
February 9: Larry & Kim Snavely  
February 16: Sinsel Family  
February 23:

### January Financial Report...

General Giving in January:	\$18,078
General Fund Giving to Date:	\$18,078
General Expenses in January	\$15,629
General Fund Expenses to Date:	\$15,629

(This report does not include the final days in January.)