

The Messenger

April 2020

Dear Minden Methodist Family,
It is a frightening time. We are in the midst of a worldwide pandemic. Some areas in Nebraska have been already affected by Covid-19. As Minden public schools have decided to close the school buildings until May 1st, we are not sure of when our church starts over in-person worship service again. I assume that some of us feel fear of uncertainty, invisibility and infection with overwhelming dread and panic.

You are not powerless to COVID-19. You don't need to feel too much fear of COVID-19. Be cautious with awareness to this. With the cases of China and South Korea, you can see how flattening the curve is effective. That's why Social distance and self-quarantine are critically important to slow the spread of coronavirus. You stay informed, particularly about what is happening in our community and our state. Also focus on what you can control, not too much obsession to the mass and social media.

I am struggling with learning about new technology. Lena is also learning about on-line studies for Chloe and Hailey. Every day we learn new things. We spend more times with kids. It is good to know what they learn at their school. I am glad that our school provides lunch for kids. I am so thankful for the great medical staff in our town. I can feel there are so many people around us who have warm hearts. Please remember you are not alone! I am always at the church or around the church for you and the ministry. If you need anything, just contact to the church office or text, call, or email to me.

We are connected to each other in God. We believe in God who walks with us through the darkest valley. Focus on God's messages for you with holding hope. Consider how you support the elderly in our town. If so, we can overcome this pandemic in love of Christ.



“The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold (Psalm 13:2).”

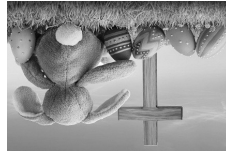
Love in Christ,
Pastor. Peter Choi



United Methodist Church
340 N. Newell Ave
Minden, NE 68959-2415

Church Office: (308) 832-1995
Pastor's Cell: 201-888-8430
Parsonage: (308) 832-2215
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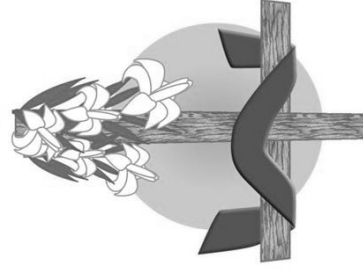
Sunday School
9:00 AM
Worship Time
9:45 AM



Address/Service Requested

Vision: Extend Hospitality to Strangers

“Share with the
Lord's people who
are in need. Prac-
tice 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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The Gift of Christmas . . . Easter by Joyce Will

We've shared the joy at Christmas a few months ago when Jesus came to us as a gift in the form of a newborn baby. The happiness and hope for that baby was tremendous. Jesus was the promised Messiah, the Savior of the world. Years go by and before we know it, that baby is no longer a wee one but a grown man, sent by God His Father to live among the people to show everyone perfect love. Jesus roamed to and through the villages, teaching as he went, loving the outcasts and the sinners. He offered hope and healing and so much more during His short life here on earth. He always told the truth and He offered forgiveness to those who sinned and who even betrayed Him. Many followed Him and were in awe at the miracles He performed, but there were many who didn't much care for someone preaching His messages to crowds upon crowds that often gathered to see Him, to touch Him and to feel His love. The empire that reigned at that time grew on power and wealth, might and fear but Jesus' teachings challenged all of that. On Palm Sunday, Jesus made His triumphal entry into Jerusalem as Savior and King. The festive atmosphere filled the multitudes of people that had gathered and they laid palm branches and their coats across the road, put coats on the back of the donkey that Jesus was to ride on, giving Him royal treatment. As He passed by them, the thousands of people shouted "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" - Matthew 21:9. Even though this triumphal day was filled with joy, this was His first step towards His death. The Bible says that Jesus wept in the midst of the praise of Palm Sunday, He knew in His heart that it wouldn't be long that these same people would turn their back on Him, betray Him and crucify Him. (Luke 19:41-42). Authorities schemed to kill Jesus in an attempt to silence His messages. Jesus was betrayed, arrested, tortured and hung on a cross on Good Friday. After He died, His body was taken off the cross by His loving followers and buried in a cave of rock where the entrance was covered with an enormous stone. His tomb was guarded so that no one could steal His body. We then enter Easter Sunday, the most important event in the Christian year and everything is changed. On Easter Sunday, many churches are often decorated with white lilies and there are joyous singing of hymns and songs of praise.



Dr. Peter Choi and Chloe



Hospitality Team



Confirmation Mentors



Joe giving a short background on Peter



Kid's Night Out - Silly Rabbit Easter Is For Jesus



Sunday School Music



Acolytes



Greeters



The Martin Family



Kid's Night Out - Silly Rabbit Easter Is For Jesus



The air feels alive and people greet each other with smiles. Families gather for festive meals, often eating ham, then hunting for egg candies and jelly beans that are always a highlight of Easter customs. But let's go to that first Easter, over 2000 years ago, when God raised His Son from the dead. Early on Easter morning, some women visited His grave and found that the stone had been moved and the tomb was empty. They began to cry as they were certain someone had taken Jesus' body from the tomb. While looking into the tomb they saw the angels and the clothing and strips of cloth from His body. The angels asked the women why there were crying and who they were looking for. But then they heard a familiar voice and the risen Jesus was standing behind them. What a wonderful remarkable story the Easter story is! While Christmas is also a favored and beautiful story, Easter is a little like how the fairy tale story book ends - "and they lived happily ever after". We know for certain that these events are not even close to fairy tales, but in a way the ending is because we do get to live happily ever after. My friends, when we have Jesus living in our hearts when we die, our happily ever after will be better than anything we can ever comprehend. In the end, powerful people today, like in Jesus' time, have and will continue to try to silence God's love. They can try all they want, but the Bible tells us this, in John 11:25-26: "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die." If you celebrate Easter, you are celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ. But you are also celebrating God's great love for us, a love strong enough to defeat death itself. Rejoice in the gift that God granted to us on Christmas, that newborn baby named Jesus, and when Easter is celebrated, know that that gift has been totally fulfilled. Jw♥

Life in Our Church Families...



Congratulation to Emily Cohen and Travis Dowling on the birth of their baby girl, MaKenzie Rae born March 2, 2020.

Take a moment and say a prayer for Angie Taylor (Corey Smidt's mother-pancreatic cancer), Joe Hultquist, Larry Tatum's sister-in-law, Donna Boudreau (Mike Boudreau's mother-breast cancer), Marjorie Madsen (adjusting to new home at Brookstone Gardens), Maxine Grams and all those who need a prayer. There is power in prayer especially during this time of uncertainty.

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.

April 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 5pm Confirmation on Zoom	2	3	4
5 PALM SUNDAY 9:45 am Worship on www.youtube.com	6	7	8 5pm Confirmation on Zoom	9 Holy Thursday	10 Good Friday	11 Holy Saturday
12 EASTER 9:45 am Worship on www.youtube.com	13	14	15 5pm Confirmation on Zoom	16	17	18
19 9:45 am Worship on www.youtube.com	20	21	22 Post Prom Plant Sale in fellowship hall 5pm Confirmation on Zoom	23 Post Prom Plant Sale in fellowship hall	24	25
26 9:45 am Worship on www.youtube.com	27	28	29 5pm Confirmation on Zoom	30		

Online Service Information

www.youtube.com
 search: Minden United Methodist Church in Nebraska
Bulletin's are located on the Website, Mindenumc.org, under announcements.
 facebook.com/mindenumc



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|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 - Tammy Burke | 19 - Lilly Cohen |
| 3 - Joan Fries | Carolynn Hendrickson |
| 5 - Kerri Harsin | 20 - Jeanette Wilkinson |
| 7 - John Albers | Wade Lux |
| 9 - Douglas Grams | 23 - Savannah Kahle |
| 13 - Valerie Kauk | 24 - Ethel White |
| 15 - Bailee Fries | Norma Rasmussen |
| Phyllis Burnham | 25 - Joyce Bender |
| 16 - Euella Johnson | Riley Ratka |
| 17 - Libby Williams | 29 - Marjorie Hultquist |
| 18 - Lyra Johnson | Valarie Jameson |
| Cade Harsin | 30 - Josh Binder |
| | Ryleigh Hanson |
| | Suzanne Hayes |



April 12	Rhodell & Joyce Jameson	66 years
April 29	Doug & Shirley Fellers	19 years

March Financial Report...

General Giving in March:	\$8,199
General Fund Giving to Date:	\$39,104
General Expenses in March	\$8,122
General Fund Expenses to Date:	\$46,815

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

E-mail!

With all that is going on in the World today we have realized that we do not have a current email address for everyone. Please send a good email address for one or all persons in each household to managerumcminden@msn.com. This is a good way to communicate changes and updates to everyone at once.



A date will be announced later for the 50th Anniversary of this Church Building. Please look through your photographs and share with us any photos you have of this church and any memories you have from the church being built, to youth group meetings, baptisms, weddings, funerals, vacation bible school, etc.... You can scan and email them to managerumcminden@msn.com or bring them when we choose a date.