

The Messenger



February 2021

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I greet you in the precious name of the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! With your support and prayer, my family had a recharging time at the beginning of this year. Although we stayed in a hotel most of the time, we enjoyed the family hours. My family talked and listened to each other. We played games and exercised together. We enjoyed Korean dishes.

While my family was on vacation, I attended the worship online. That was my first experience online. While the worship leaders were leading the worship service, I could feel that the Holy Spirit was anointing our church. Moreover, I could feel connected to the church at a remote distance. I could get more energies to live for one week with the service. When you are out of town or cannot attend worship on time, you can still participate in the worship.

Our church vision is "Overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit!" It is all about RESTORATION. The first step to restoring our church is to attend worship every Sunday. It does not matter whether you participate online or in-person. That is the essential task of Christians. That can hold your faith in Christ. We can see our hope and vision through worship. Without worship, we cannot tell we are Christians. So I strongly urge you to attend the worship every Sunday.

The pandemic makes our church delayed or stopped. The pandemic has changed our whole lifestyles so quickly. We are in uncertainty because we have never experienced this before. I heard, from a historian, that we might not return to our previous era. That means we need to be ready for coming impacts! We need to find ways promptly. The online setting was a great choice that we move forward!

I am NOT telling you that we have to change everything! Our Lord is never changed! Jesus Christ is still our Savior of the world. The essence of Christianity is always the same. We have a mission to preach the good news of Christ and make disciples. I can even feel that we keep the importance of the essential parts in ministry. Proclaim the good news! Caring for the congregation! Participation of Sacrament! Now we have to see how we perform these in a new era!

The destination is still the same! What we need is to step together with the trend. There will be more ways to reach out if we work together for the restoration of the church. The Holy Spirit will still spire us for the transformation of the world. The crisis of the pandemic will change us to hope for our future.

Peace be with you,
Pastor Peter Choi

Online Service Information

[facebook.com/mindenumc](https://www.facebook.com/mindenumc)

www.youtube.com

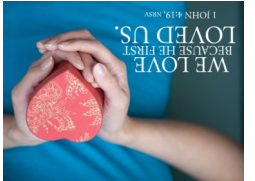
search: **Minden United Methodist Church in Nebraska**



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

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Pastor's Cell: 201-888-8430
Parsonage: (308) 832-2215
Email: peterchoiminden@gmail.com
Office: managerumcminden@msn.com

Worship Time
9:45 am



Address/Service Requested

Vision: Overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace, as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
(Romans 15: 13 NIV)



Office Hours:
Pastor Peter Choi
Please call for appointment 201-888-8430
Tuesday-Saturday 10:00am to 5:00pm
Jaime Sinsel, Office Manager
Monday-Friday 8am-Noon
Tony & Julie Ratka, Custodian
Joan Fries, Prayer Chain

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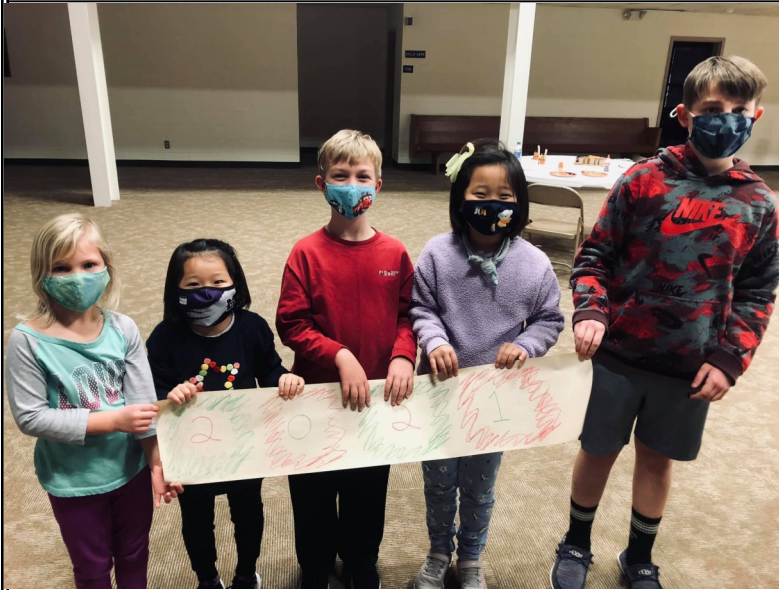
Excuse Me, But You Have Dirt on Your Forehead! by Joyce Will

February may be the shortest month of the year, but it's packed with some notable days. From Groundhog's day, to Valentine's day, to Mardi Gras and to a handful of birthdays of past presidents. But the most significant day this February is Ash Wednesday, the day when Lent begins. The start of 40 days, not counting Sundays, that leads us up to Easter Sunday. The day when



many people around the world go to their places of worship to receive ashes placed on their forehead. Dirty ashes seem like an odd item to place on our faces, but in Genesis 3:19 we read: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Typically, the Palm branches from the previous year are burned to make ashes to be placed on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday, but also as a reminder that we were created from dust, and when we die, our bodies will once again return to dust. During Lent we have several significant days: Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and then Easter, our Saviors' rising from the dead. But did you know that Ash Wednesday is never actually mentioned in the Bible nor is there mention of Lent. So did these important days just happen because someone said they should? Why is the Christmas Story written in the Bible not once but twice, was prophesied in scripture many years before and then we learn that Lent and Ash Wednesday are not words found in scripture? But wait, what **IS** in the scriptures, is a time of worship and devotion, of prayer and fasting, which is the reality of Lent that is woven throughout the scriptures. Lent is a time of preparation, but a different sort of preparation. It's a time when we can open the doors of our hearts a bit wider and it's a time to understand our Lord a bit deeper, so that when Maundy Thursday and Good Friday and eventually Easter arrives, it is not just another day for us, but a wonderful opportunity to receive that amazing grace God has to offer each of us. Lent is a time when we remember the suffering, and the sacrifice of Jesus. Most of all is it a time to prepare ourselves for the sheer joy of Easter morning when we hear the remarkable story of the Risen Christ once again! My friends, we are so incredibly loved by God that unselfishly He gave us His Son. Let your hearts smile big when someone says, "excuse me, but you have dirt on your forehead!" Jw♥





January Financial Report...

General Giving in January	\$26,365
General Fund Giving to Date	\$26,365
General Expenses in January	\$50,689
General Fund Expenses to Date	\$50,689
(This report does not include the final days in January.)	

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
FEBRUARY 10TH AT 9:30AM**



If you have updated your phone number please let us know. If you are on the prayer chain or a member on UMW update your number with Jeanette (402) 756-0772 and/or Joan (402) 756-0257.

Time of Blessing

Please write what you wish for in 2021 on a piece of paper and mail or email to Pastor Peter at peterchoiminden@gmail.com. Pastor Peter will pray for each family with blessings of prayer.

**Communion will be served
February 7th by the west entrance from
10:45-11:15.**



The Library is open to anyone wanting to borrow a book. Please come any time and find a new book to read. We have many titles to choose from and would like them to be used.

Life in Our Church Families...


Take a moment and say a prayer for Denny Lange, Carolyn Olsen, Marjorie Hultquist, Maxine Grams, Lori Conyers's parents. Pray for all those who need God's guidance.

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 and you would like to put on the Prayer Chain call Joan Fries at 402-756-0257.



Minden Food Pantry Donations

The Pantry is located in The Closet at 341 E 4th Street. The hours are Tuesday 10-5 and Wednesday 9-4. Please call if you want to make sure they are open before going 832-1221. We would like to encourage you at this time to take your food donations directly to the closet. Thank You.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>February 2021</p> <p>HB Happy Birthday HA Happy Anniversary</p>	<p>1</p> <p>HB Jeremy Johnson</p> <p>7pm Cub Scouts</p>	<p>2</p> <p>HB Tim Burke</p> <p>6:30pm Girl Scouts</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3:30pm Sunday School</p>	<p>4</p> <p>HA Dick & Kay Lyn McBride, 54 years HB Mark Loseke HB Gracelyn Bradley</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>HB Dale Space</p>
<p>7 9:45 am Worship Drive Up Communion following Worship</p> <p>HB Brent Harsin</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7pm Cub Scouts</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:30 pm Girl Scouts</p>	<p>10</p> <p>HB Mick Jameson HB John Mullin HB Kara Suchsland</p> <p>9:30am UMW 3:30pm Sunday School 7:00pm Finance Meeting</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>HB Tyler Anderson</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14 9:45 am Worship</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>HB LeeAnn Lux HB Nicholas Pearson</p>	<p>16</p> <p>HA Jason & Jaime Sinsel, 14 years</p> <p>6:30 pm Girl Scouts</p>	<p>17</p> <p>HA Donlyn & Sandra Space, 47 years HB Roxanna Johnson HB Jean Liebers</p> <p>3:30 Sunday School</p>	<p>18</p> <p>HB Marlene Macklin HB Sarah Maulsby HB Caryn Petersen</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>HB Melvin Reiss</p>
<p>21 9:45 am Worship</p> <p>HB Jeff Hanson</p> <p>3pm Cub Scouts</p>	<p>22</p> <p>HB James Wilksinson</p> <p>7pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>23</p> <p>HA Bill & Kathy Hunter, 52 years HB Larry Tatum</p> <p>6:30 pm Girl Scouts</p>	<p>24</p> <p>HB Merlin Beahm</p> <p>3:30 Sunday School</p>	<p>25</p> <p>HB Clark Bauer HB Ed Rowse</p>	<p>26</p> <p>HB Jim Lynn</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28 9:45 am Worship</p>	<p>March 1</p>	<p>March 2</p>	<p>March 3</p> <p>3:30 Sunday School</p>	<p>March 4</p>	<p>March 5</p>	<p>March 6</p>