

Joys and Concerns

Prayer List: Gary Smidt and Linda Amstuz.

Happy Birthday to Virginia Madsen, Aubree Kring, Brecklyn Delaney, Stetson Heath, Ethan Hanson, Randy Nolan, Aiden Sinsel, Linda Amstuz, and Carter Yelken.

Happy Anniversary to Mark & Roxanna Johnson—32 years.

Pastoral Prayer—Lord's Prayer

“Doxology “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH#94

Offertory Prayer

Receive now these gifts, O Lord. Use them to bring comfort and hope to those who struggle. Use these gifts to promote worship and prayer. Use these gifts to extend your kingdom in this world. Amen.

Closing Hymn “The Battle Hymn of the Republic” UHM#717

Sending Forth

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Minden United Methodist Church

Vision for 2021:

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)

**6th Sunday after Pentecost
Order of Worship
July 4, 2021**

Welcome and Announcements

1. Wilderness Escape Vacation Bible School will be held from 5:30 -8:00pm from July 18 until July 22. We need volunteers. If you are interested, please contact the church office.
2. Pastor Peter will be home this week, but if you need a pastor on call for a funeral or pastoral care before his return, please contact Larry Evans or the office.
3. Please join us for coffee and cookies following worship.
4. Last week we received offerings of \$2,996. Thank you for the offerings and prayers.

Call to Worship

L: Come! Listen to the word of the Lord!

P: Help us to receive God's word and direction for our lives.

L: Proclaim the goodness of God's love!

P: Let our voices and our actions be filled with love.

L: Come, now is the time to worship.

P: Open our eyes, our hearts and our spirits this day, Lord.

AMEN.

Opening Prayer

Gracious God,

you have made all of the peoples of the earth for your glory. You invite us to serve you in freedom and in peace. Give to the people of our nation a zeal for justice and the strength for forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will. We ask this on a day of celebration, a day of hope for a nation made free. We ask this in the name of the one who welcomes all to be free indeed. Inspire us to live and worship in your freedom and for the sake of your kingdom. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Opening Hymn

"America the Beautiful"

UMH#696

Children's Time

Ginger Frizane

Pledge to the American Flag

Scriptures

Psalm 33:6-12 (NIV)

By the word of the Lord the heavens were made,
their starry host by the breath of his mouth.

He gathers the waters of the sea into jars;
he puts the deep into storehouses.

Let all the earth fear the Lord;

let all the people of the world revere him.

For he spoke, and it came to be;

he commanded, and it stood firm.

The Lord foils the plans of the nations;

he thwarts the purposes of the peoples.

But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever,

the purposes of his heart through all generations.

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord,

the people he chose for his inheritance.

Acts 12:1-17 (NIV)

It was about this time that King Herod arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them. He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword. When he saw that this met with approval among the Jews, he proceeded to seize Peter also. This happened during the Festival of Unleavened Bread. After arresting him, he put him in prison, handing him over to be guarded by four squads of four soldiers each. Herod intended to bring him out for public trial after the Passover.

So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him.

The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. "Quick, get up!" he said, and the chains fell off Peter's wrists.

Then the angel said to him, "Put on your clothes and sandals." And Peter did so. "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me," the angel told him. Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed the first and second guards and came to the iron gate leading to the city. It opened for them by itself, and they went through it. When they had walked the length of one street, suddenly the angel left him.

Then Peter came to himself and said, "Now I know without a doubt that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from Herod's clutches and from everything the Jewish people were hoping would happen."

When this had dawned on him, he went to the house of Mary the mother of John, also called Mark, where many people had gathered and were praying. Peter knocked at the outer entrance, and a servant named Rhoda came to answer the door. When she recognized Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed she ran back without opening it and exclaimed, "Peter is at the door!"

"You're out of your mind," they told her. When she kept insisting that it was so, they said, "It must be his angel."

But Peter kept on knocking, and when they opened the door and saw him, they were astonished. Peter motioned with his hand for them to be quiet and described how the Lord had brought him out of prison. "Tell James and the other brothers and sisters about this," he said, and then he left for another place.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Message

Pledge to the Christian Flag

2 Corinthians 3:17

Hymn

"America"

UHM#697

Dan Frizane

Message
The Spirit of the Lord is,
there is freedom.