

A Publication of The United Methodist Church
Minden, Nebraska

The Messenger



February 2022

Greetings Minden UMC,

I shared our church vision, goals, and strategies for this year on January 16. Let me write what I shared during that time.

I have served this church for over three years. And I realize we need to spend more time and energy on the Scripture because the Word of God in the Bible provides the power to live with faith. It is alive and active in our lives. That's the reason I set the church vision, "Expand our boundaries through the Word of God."

The church always needs disciples of Jesus to sustain and strengthen its ministry. One of the best ways to be his disciples is to live with the Word of God. And Bible study can be the first step to be his disciples. I will ask you again for the Bible study around April. If the number of participants is enough, I can lead the Bible study again.

Especially I encourage all church leaders to take the Bible study. Let me share our goals for this year. In the first half of 2021, the average worship attendance of our church was 35 people in person and 30 people online. So total numbers are 65. And the second half of 2021 went up to 48 in-person and 30 people online. The total numbers were 78. The offerings in 2021 were \$168,317, and in 2020 were \$167,585.

The reality that our church encounters is that much of our congregation is old. Many members have passed away since I moved to this church. Some members have moved to nursing homes or are home-bound. Some members have declined. So we must step up now in ministry.

We set a goal for the average worship attendance up to 60s in person and 40s online. We need 12 people more in person and ten more online. Then our average attendance will reach out to 100. The numbers are challenging but not impossible if we follow our strategies.

First, more church meetings are needed. We have good committee members for this year. I recommend church leaders to meet at least once every other month. We can share our gifts along with the meetings.

Second, we should invest more energy and time for young people, especially children's and youth's programs.

Third, more people, especially church leaders, should take the Bible study.

Fourth, come more often to the worship. We have enough numbers to make 60 people in-person worship. If you come one time a month, come two times a month. If you come two times a month, come three times a month.

Fifth, let us make our normalcy. We should choose the way we live together with covid-19. We encourage more congregations to return to in-person worship. We try to bring a return to our services and programs.

Sixth, we will consider a community dinner at least once a month. We can host the people of the community. It will be an excellent program to connect us with the community.

The Holy Spirit be with us as we go forward with these strategies in 2022.

Blessings,

Your Pastor Peter Choi

Love Others As I The Lord Have Loved You by Joyce Will

In the old testament we find 10 commands that we are expected to live out as Christians. Not just 1, but all 10. I don't know about you, but when I hear that I'm expected to do 10 things to please God, I'm shaking my head knowing that I will never be able to follow through on all of them. Now I will try, but as with most people, we fall short. We humans are far from perfect. And so to expect that we can completely without any doubt say we've followed all 10 commands all the time, well, I'd say you were either telling a tale or you are God.

You see, as humans, we are just about the most imperfect creation in the world. When God created man from the dust and breathed life into him, then a bit later made his female companion, I don't have any doubt that God thought He had made 2 magnificent things He put names to, male and female. I love reading the first 2 chapters of Genesis when God was creating everything. Each day after He created something He said, "this is good". But what makes me smile the most is

when He was at the end of the day after creating Adam and Eve and He said "this is very good". So He created us to be good people to take care of this earth He created. What's more, the Bible is overflowing with directions on how we are to live to be Christians. The 10 commandments are just one

example. So when Jesus was asked what was the greatest commandment, He interestingly didn't choose one of the 10. No, He said this: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. The second most important is similar; Love your neighbor as much as you love yourself" - Matthew 22:37-39. He also went on to say: "Keep only these and you will find that you are obeying all the others" - Matthew 22:40. Simple as that - follow only those 2 commands and all the others will be obeyed. Profound? Without a doubt, yes! My friends, our loving God created us to be good, good people whom He trusted to care for His earth and all the living things that He

My command is this:

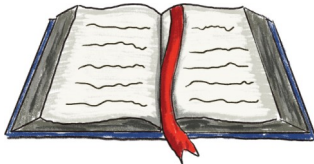
**LOVE EACH
OTHER AS
I HAVE LOVED
YOU.**



(continued from page 3)

made. Is being a good person and following the rules set before us from God hard? Of course it is. We are constantly tempted by everything that is bad. We are constantly mixed up in a world that hate seems to be more prevalent than love. We are constantly tested every day by life. But the thing is this; God loves us. God loves us even when we are at our worst, when we break every rule He gave to us. Even then, God loves us. And by that example, God so desires us to show love to others. Hard again? Yes! But when we Love the Lord with our entire being, it is easy my friends then to pass that love on, only when we love others as I the Lord have loved you.

Jw♥



**Adult Sunday School
following worship (10:45am)
every Sunday**

Life in Our Church Families...

Take a moment and say a prayer for:

Kurt Muller

Gary Smidt

Merlin Beahm

Fred Will

Jan Hofferber (Kathi Schutz's mother)

The Family and Friends of Don Johnson

The Family and Friends of Casey Sinsel

The Family and Friends of Kevin Eaton



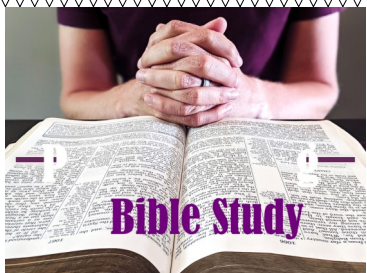
Please call the office when you know of any illness, hospitalization, new babies, marriages, joyous or sad news among your friends or family members. If you or your family has a prayer request and you would like to put on the Prayer Chain call Joan Fries at 402-756-0257.




"The few! The proud! The.....choir?? Well, we were the few, and I hope we can change that! And for those 6 folks to get up and present a whole cantata which we did before Christmas, that took being proud! (And they did very well I may add.) Now we begin work on our


lenten cantata; I sure hope more can join us. We sing unison meaning that all sing the melody. Our cantata is titled "God hath provided a Lamb" and refers back to when God provided a sacrificial lamb for Abraham to use so as to not offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice for his sins. Isaac was a type of Christ, who took our place and offered Himself as the sin sacrifice for our salvation. There are several good hymns and some you may already know. I know you will enjoy it, and it is an opportunity to lead in worship as we present it on Sunday morning, April 10, Palm Sunday. The children will join us, waving palm branches, and singing and playing their bells. It will be a special service of musical praise. First practice is this Wednesday, February 2, at 6pm at the church. You will have your own book to borrow and take with you. Can't sing? I bet you can! Come and try. We will all sing together. Let's be the CROWD, the proud, the choir! Dan Frizane

We will be keeping the church locked when no one is here. If you would like a key fob to be able to enter the church when it is locked please contact the office. During the cold winter months please come and use the church to walk and get some exercise.



Bible Study
"Threading the Bible"
with Pastor Peter Choi
Every Tuesday
at 10:00am and 5:00pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
		<p>1</p> <p>10am Bible Study 5pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Girl Scouts</p>
<p>6 9:00 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 5th Sunday after the Epiphany 10:45 am Adult Sunday School</p> <p>HB Dale Space</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10am Bible Study 5pm Bible Study 7pm Cub Scouts</p>
<p>13 9:00 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship w/Communion 6th Sunday after the Epiphany 10:45 am Adult Sunday School SPRC Meeting following worship</p>	<p>14</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>10am Bible Study 5pm Bible Study 6:30pm Girl Scouts HB Lee Ann Lux HB Nicholas Pearson</p>
<p>20 9:00 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 7th Sunday after the Epiphany 10:45 am Adult Sunday School</p>	<p>21</p> <p>HB Jeff Hanson</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10am Bible Study 5pm Bible Study 7pm Cub Scouts</p> <p>HB James Wilkinson</p>
<p>27 9:00 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship Transfiguration Sunday 10:45 am Adult Sunday School</p>	<p>28</p>	

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>2</p> <p>3:30pm After School Sunday School 6:30pm Youth Group 7:00pm Praise Team Practice</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>HA Dick & Kay Lyn McBride—55 years HB Mark Loseke</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>9</p> <p>3:30pm After School Sunday School 9:30am UMW 7:00pm Finance Mtg</p>	<p>10</p> <p>HB Kara Suchsland HB Mick Jameson HB John Mullin</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>16</p> <p>3:30pm After School Sunday School 6:30pm Youth Group 7:00pm Praise Team Practice HA Jason & Jaime</p>	<p>17</p> <p>HB Jean Liebers HA Donlyn & Sandra Space—48 years</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>23</p> <p>3:30pm After School Sunday School HA Bill & Kathy Hunter—53 years HB Larry Tatum</p>	<p>24</p> <p>HB Merlin Beahm</p>	<p>25</p> <p>HB Clark Bauer HB Ed Rowse</p>	<p>26</p> <p>HB Jim Lynn</p>
<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <h1 style="color: red; margin: 0;">February 2022</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">HB Happy Birthday HA Happy Anniversary</p>  </div>			





January Financial Report...

General Giving in January	\$17,972
General Fund Giving to Date	\$17,972
General Expenses in January	\$27,699
General Fund Expenses to Date	\$27,699

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

Scripture Readers for February & March:

February 6:	Loneta Nolan
February 13:	Jessie Tunnell
February 20:	Doug Hammer
February 27:	Lori Conyers
March 6:	Madeline Kring
March 13:	Larry Evans
March 20:	
March 27:	

Refreshment Hosts for February & March:

February 6:	Smidt Family
February 13:	Tunnell Family
February 20:	Sandy Johnson
February 27:	Frizanes
March 6:	Jack Hultquist
March 13:	The Choi Family
March 20:	James & Jeanette Wilkinson
March 27:	Lyra Johnson

Please Call (308) 832-1995 if you can fill one of the open dates or email managerumcminden@msn.com.

Newsletter Change

We are asking you to please pick up your newsletter at the Church. Our goal will be to have them by the entrance the Friday before the 1st of each month. We will still be mailing them to members if they do not get picked up or request them to be mailed. Please let the office know if you would like the Newsletter emailed. Send a note to managerumcminden@msn.com from the email address you currently use. It is posted every month on our website, mindenumc.org.

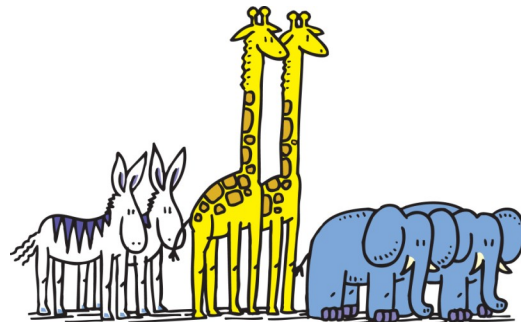


**Youth Group February 2 & 16, 2022 at 6:30 pm.
Meal and drinks will be provided.**

Kids Church School
is every

Wednesday 3:30pm-5:00pm.

Once a month during Sunday
worship the children will sing a song
or play a song on the bells!



AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

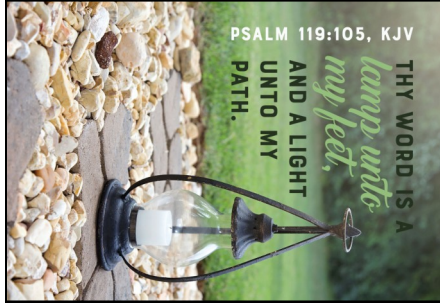
**HOW CAN WE
PRAY FOR YOU?**

Please write down your prayer requests for 2022. Text them to Pastor Peter at 201-888-8430 or email them to him at peterchoiminden@gmail.com or send them to 340 N Newell Ave, Minden, NE 68959.

2022 Vision:

Expand Our Boundaries
Through the Word of God.

“Your word is a lamp for my feet,
a light on my path”
(Psalm 119:105)



Staff Information:
Pastor Peter Choi

Please call for appointment 201-888-8430
Jaime Sinsel, Office Manager, 308-830-2867
Monday–Friday 8am-Noon
Joan Fries, Prayer Chain, 402-756-0257

Address/Service Requested



Sunday Worship 9:45am
Adult Sunday School 10:45am

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
Email: peterchoiminden@gmail.com
Office: managerumcminden@msn.com

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