



The Messenger

June 2023

Dear Beloved Minden Methodist Church Family,
Grace and peace be multiplied to you as we enter the growing season of summer! With the warmth of the sun and the beauty of nature surrounding us, it is a perfect time to reflect on God's abundant blessings and the love God pours upon us each day. As we go into the exciting activities and celebrations, I want to share some updates with you.

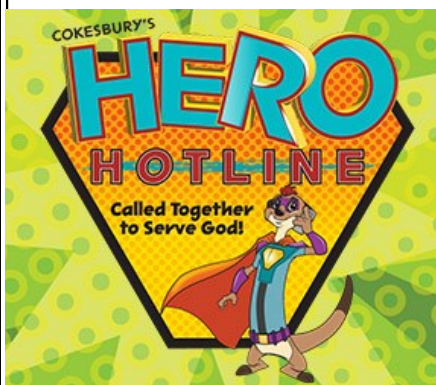
May 28, Pentecost Sunday, is when we mark the end of the Easter Season. Following Pentecost, the UMC observes a series of Sundays known as "Ordinary Time." It will continue until the beginning of the Advent season. During ordinary times, the liturgical color is typically green symbolizing growth and discipleship. It is a season of continued spiritual growth and reflection as the Church focuses on the teachings of Jesus and the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers. I believe the Holy Spirit still comes from heaven and fills the house of worship with His grace and love. Through this season, let us rejoice with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and dive into the hearts of Jesus Christ. One person cannot do many, but we can do many beautiful things together. We can work for God and our neighbors.

Vacation Bible School will be from June 25 (Sunday) to June 29 (Thursday), beginning at 5:30pm. The title of VBS is Super-Hero Hotline. VBS is a time of joy, growth, and discovery for our children. We can embark on a thrilling adventure together. With engaging lessons, creative crafts, energizing games, and heartfelt music, our children will encounter the transformative power of God's Word and His endless love. And it is an excellent opportunity to invite our neighbors and children. Please don't be hesitant to ask them. We invite, but the Holy will work. Let us come together to support and encourage our little ones as they grow in faith and build lifelong friendships.

Lastly, let us not forget the importance of pausing, reflecting, and drawing closer to God amidst the flurry of summer and vacations. This summer season allows us to find solace in nature's beauty and deepen our connection with our Creator. I encourage each of you to carve out moments for quiet prayer, meditate on Scripture, and seek God's presence in the stillness. Let us allow this season to be one of spiritual renewal and personal growth.

May the Holy Spirit guide and empower us as we embark on this summer adventure together. Let us be a beacon of light, reflecting God's love to all those around us.

In Christ's Unfailing Love
Your Pastor Peter Choi



Okay! Here we go! SuperHero Hotline is coming....we are called together to serve God! Join us beginning the evening of June 25th at 5:30 PM for a super hero supper, then Super Hero Happenings! Our hero, God, has called us to join in the fun and learn how his love becomes our inspiration to serve! June 25-29, 2023, 5:30-7:30 pm at the United Methodist Church of Minden Nebraska Ages K-5th grades Kids are encouraged to wear the favorite superhero outfit on June 29th for our family program! You will not want to miss the fun!

This Is Our Father's World by Joyce Will

This place we live in, this world that we sometimes think is entirely ours, was created eons ago by our Father. Now when He was creating this perfect world, I often wonder if He questioned that that perfect place of creation would continue throughout the ages to retain that perfection. At the end of each day when He had completed some part of the world, the Bible tells us this: "And God saw that it was good", until the very last day when He created humankind, "God saw all that He had made, and it was very good". Very good, my friends. Did you catch that after all the other creations, He saw that it was good, but then at the end, He felt that it was worthy of a very good. That just makes my heart smile! But then what He created, have we honored His world or have we treated this world and all that is in it with less than giving our all? I'm afraid we have failed terribly to continue this world like what He had created. I enjoy that old hymn, "This Is My Father's World" and from time to time I can be found humming the tune to it while I putter around in my flowers or even taking a walk. I find

so much to be grateful for when I'm in those places; just a wee tiny bit of the world He created. I love the lyrics to the song and what a joyful song it is. Upon a bit of research regarding this song, I found that it was first a poem titled "My Father's World" written by a minister who lived in New York. His inspiration for the poem was from taking walks when he would tell his wife that he was "going out to see the Father's world." The music came from a



friend of his that inserted portions of the poem into a folk song that he found. That was in the early 1900's, so many, many years ago, but still as prevalent today as it was then. What parts of this song speak to your heart? I especially enjoy "and to my listening ears all nature sings", "of rocks and trees, of skies and seas - His hand the wonders wrought", "the birds their carols raise, the morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise", "in the rustling grass, I hear Him pass, He speaks to me everywhere", "why should my heart be sad? The Lord is King: let the heavens ring! God reigns; let earth be glad!". Also we find that "This is my Father's world" several times in the lyrics. So understanding this song, we know that this world we live in is indeed our Father's. Should we ever question that? I'm pretty sure that most times while we go about our daily tasks, we really don't think about this world we live in, who placed us here at this time and who created EVERYTHING. He created EVERYTHING! Mind blowing? Yes! Now skeptics will try to tell us the scientific evidence of how this world we live in was started, yet I wonder if He ever thought that some people would believe the science part of creation over God's part - His entire part. As I've said before, we have to have a heaping amount of faith and courage and understanding to read the creation story in the Bible and believe it all. We find the creation story in Genesis 1:1-31 and believe in our hearts that this was how our world was created in the beginning. I love to read this over and over again and try to imagine what God was thinking when He began creating everything. I mean He thought of everything! From nothingness, to day and night, to sunshine, moon and stars, to seas and land, to every living thing from plants, trees, animals, birds and every living creature on this earth. Then He created us. Genesis 1:26 - "Then God said, 'Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that

move along the ground' ". He made all of this and then said we are to take care of it. He trusted us that much, my friends! Genesis 1:29-30 - "Then God said, 'I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground - everything that has the breath of life in it - I give every green plant for food.' And it was so." He trusts us to take care of everything He made. That my friends, is a big, a huge, a gigantic issue of trust. I'm afraid we've not done a very good job of taking care of all that He made. We find the climate is changing, we find heaps of liter in our landfills and our oceans, we find water that isn't safe to drink; we find so much wrong now but what was once a perfect world, sorely maimed. Maimed I'm afraid by us, the very beings that God our Father entrusted His earth with. We can do better and we should encourage others to do better in caring for what gift God gave us. The world is on loan to us, we are here for only a very short amount of time and yet we just don't take care of it the best we can. Let's all make an effort to take better care of this beautiful world that God created and know in our hearts that it's really not our world, but a loaned gift to us, that this is our Father's world. Jw♥

May Financial Report...

| | |
|---|----------|
| General Giving in May | \$11,607 |
| General Fund Giving to Date | \$64,496 |
| General Expenses in May | \$6,882 |
| General Fund Expenses to Date | \$89,575 |
| (This report does not include the final days in May.) | |

Scripture Readers:

- June 4:** Julie Ratka
- June 11:** ?
- June 18:** Jodi Boudreau
- June 25:** ?



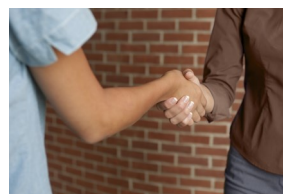
Refreshment Hosts:

- June 4:** Sandy Johnson
- June 11:** ?
- June 18:** Jodi Boudreau
- June 25:** James & Jeanette Wilkinson

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

Greeters/Ushers:

- June 4:** Tony & Julie Ratka
- June 11:** ?
- June 18:** ?
- June 25:** ?



June 4: Communion Steward: Tony & Julie Ratka

Communion Servers: Tony Ratka, Julie Ratka, Shirley Fellers, ? _____.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Anniversaries

- 8—Brad & Natalie Janda—21 years
9—Larry & Nancy Evans—50 years
 Brodie & Amy Kring—5 years
14—James & Jeanette Wilkinson—27 years
21—John & Jane Albers—54 years
 Denny & Fran Lange—48 years
22—Jeff & Loree Johnson—29 years
28—Al & LeeAnn Lux—48 years
29—Keven & Kathi Schutz—21 years

Life in Our Church Family...

Take a moment and say a prayer for: Marjorie Hultquist, Fred Will, Larry Anderson, Merlin Beahm, and Jan Hofferber (Kathi Schutz's mother).

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 Jeanette Wilkinson at 402-756-0772.

Birthdays

- 2—Sheila Anderson
5—Shawn Heath
9—Allyson Jameson
 Jayla Olsen
10—Marian Johnson
13—Jackson Froid
16—Larry Anderson
23—Dan Frizane
24—MaryJo Froid
 Elizabeth Merrill
28—Gordon Amstuz
29—Nancy Evans

June 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

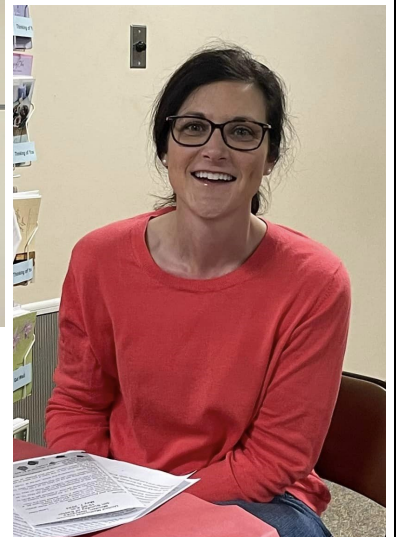
Thu

Fri

Sat

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|--|-----------|----|--|---|----|--|
| | | | | 4 9:30am Prayer Time 10am Bible Study | 2 | 3 |
| 4 10am Worship Trinity Sunday 11am Adult Sunday School | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 Pioneer Village 70th Anniversary |
| 2023 Great Plains Annual Conference at LaVista, Nebraska | | | | | | |
| 11 10am Worship 2nd Sunday after Pentecost 11am Adult Sunday School | 12 | 13 | 14 9:30am UMW 5:30pm Confirmation | 15 9:30am Prayer Time 10am Bible Study | 16 | 17 |
| 18 10am Worship 3rd Sunday after Pentecost 11am Adult Sunday School | 19 WIC | 20 | 21 5:30pm Confirmation | 22 9:30am Prayer Time 10am Bible Study | 23 | 24 |
| 25 10am Worship 4th Sunday after Pentecost 11am Adult Sunday School | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 9:30am Prayer Time 10am Bible Study | 30 | |
| Vacation Bible School—Meal 5:30—VBS stations 6pm-7:30pm | | | | | | |





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

**Sunday
Worship
10:00am**

**VBS
June 25-29
5:30pm-
7:30pm**



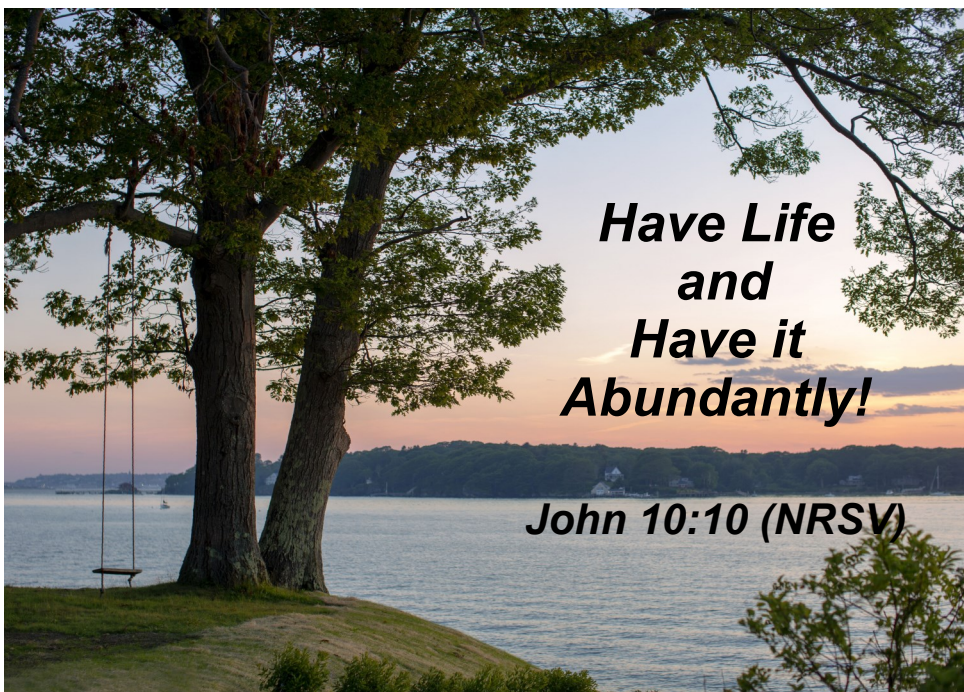
We are in need of beach towels for Vacation Bible School. If you would be willing to donate a beach towel (new or used) please drop them off at the church.

**Church Information:
Church office: 308-832-1995
Parsonage: 308-832-2215**

**Pastor Peter Choi:
201-888-8430
Please call or text for
appointment or email
peterchoiminden@gmail.com**

**Jaime Sinsel, Office Manager:
308-830-2867
managerumcminden@msn.com
Monday–Thursday 8am-Noon**

**Jeanette Wilkinson,
Prayer Chain: 402-756-0772**



***Have Life
and
Have it
Abundantly!***

John 10:10 (NRSV)