



The Messenger

September 2023

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord, Jesus Christ,

Gracefully, and finally, we received three inches of rain! We had been longing desperately for the rain for several reasons, one of which was the state of the lawn around the church and parsonage. Despite my efforts to water the parsonage lawn three times a week, it wasn't sufficient to provide the necessary moisture, as it would dry up quickly under intense sunlight.

However, with this single instance of rain, the color is gradually turning green again. The life of the lawn is being revitalized. Additionally, I am thoroughly enjoying this lovely weather that followed the rain. I've also noticed that Nebraska is getting ready for the upcoming fall season.

Over the past 40 days, I have officiated five funerals: for Roberts Harms, Rhodell Jameson, Dale Space, Libby Williams, and Larry Newcomb. These funerals serve as a reminder of my existence in this world. Leading these funerals humbles me deeply.

Some individuals have lived a full life, spanning many years. Others have passed away prematurely. Regardless of their ages and circumstances, each life is unique, precious, and significant. While scientific advancements can postpone death, it remains an inevitable part of life. Indeed, we are all headed towards this destination.

Investing excessive time in pursuing success, wealth, and fame is unnecessary, as these achievements cannot be carried with us when we pass away. Life is shorter than our expectations, and the uncertainty of tomorrow is a reality we face. In contrast, nurturing relationships holds greater importance. Strong relationships lead to cherished memories that continue to impact the lives of family and friends even after one's passing. Therefore, dedicating time and energy to our loved ones is essential.

God, too, values relationships. As mentioned at the outset, we require God. Despite my best efforts with the lawn, they proved insufficient when faced with the intense sun. Rain was the crucial element needed to restore the lawn. Similarly, while we should take action to secure our future's well-being, we must primarily seek God's assistance. Without a relationship with God, our future remains uncertain.

Our time in this world is temporary, and our ultimate destination is the eternal realm. Faith makes this journey possible. It's not about academic or intellectual comprehension; what we need is Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

The church serves as a significant space to encounter God and spread His love to others. Embrace change and do not fear failure, for through Christ, failure transforms into a path. Let us embark on this journey with unwavering faith. Together, let us contribute to the establishment of God's kingdom through our church. God's immense blessings will be bestowed upon us. Thanks be to God. Amen.

In Christ,

Your Pastor Peter Choi

The Wind Beneath Our Wings by Joyce Will

I've enjoyed the secular song for many years most often sung by Bette Midler titled: "The Wind Beneath My Wings". We may have heard it played/sung for funerals and even at graduations. It's a older song from the 1980's, so younger people may not have heard it. But it's one of those songs that really doesn't age, it can still be sung these days and still have great meaning. While the song is considered a secular song, I believe it can have meaning to Christians as well. Who is the wind beneath our wings? Well, if you are not a Christian,



you may believe this song to be talking about those special people in your lives that are a constant source of encouragement; special teachers, some friends and maybe even parents or other relatives. That's all good and well as we need those people in our lives to offer us love and encouragement. While those people are truly wonderful and hold special places in our hearts, none of them can give us the strength and promises that God gives us. Does God give us the wind to keep us strong and so much more, day after day? You bet He does. I enjoy watching birds and butterflies; don't they make flying seem so effortless?

They just spread their wings and away they go, swooping and soaring around the sky. Wouldn't that be great if we could do the same? Well in a way we can. You see, God provides us with what wind provides those birds and butterflies. Every sunrise, God gives us hope, He gives us strength, He gives us grace and mercy. And every sunset we can think of our blessings from the day and the love of our God that never ever leaves us as we close our eyes to sleep overnight. Isaiah 40:30-31 tells us "Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." My friends, let us forever give thanks that our hope at all times is in the Lord, for He is and always will be the wind beneath our wings. Jw♥



Attention:

Wednesday September 6 at 7:00pm, there will be an education team meeting. Come help us plan out the year. If you would be willing to help teach the children about God please attend the meeting.

As soon as we have materials and teachers lined up for the Wednesday after school programs we will let everyone know the start date.



Scripture Readers:

September 3: Dawn Moyer
September 10: KayLyn McBride
September 17: Ed Rowse
September 24: Jane Craig

Refreshment Hosts:

September 3: Joyce Bender & Linda Duffey
September 10: ?
September 17: James & Jeanette Wilkinson
September 24: Sandy Johnson

Greeters/Ushers:

September 3: Dawn Moyer
September 10: ?
September 17: ?
September 24: Dave & Jane Craig

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

September 3: Communion Steward: Joyce Bender
Servers: Lori Conyers, Dave Jameson, Allyson Jameson, & Dawn Moyer.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



Anniversaries

- 2—Tim & Susan Tunnell
- 10—Dudley & Michelle Scharff

Birthdays

- 1—Lonna Rowse
- 3—Cozette Sinsel
- 7—Chloe Choi
- 7—Colton Greving
- 7—Lori Loseke
- 8—Lori Conyers
- 9—Michael Swartz
- 9—Bill Hunter
- 9—Aleda Younkin
- 11—Larry Snavely
- 11—Time Tunnell
- 15—Elaine Curren
- 17—Debra Smidt
- 19—Fred Will
- 20—Rod Duffey
- 21—Marlys Farm
- 23—Jeff Johnson
- 26—Avery Froid
- 28—Jenae Boudreau

**September 13
6:30pm**



Life in Our Church Family...

Take a moment and say a prayer for: Family and Friends of Larry Newcomb, Libby Williams, and Dale Space. Continued thoughts, prayers and heartfelt sympathy.

Pray for healing and comfort for Marjorie Hultquist, Larry Anderson, Merlin Beahm, Kent Verbeck, and Jan Hofferber (Kathi'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.

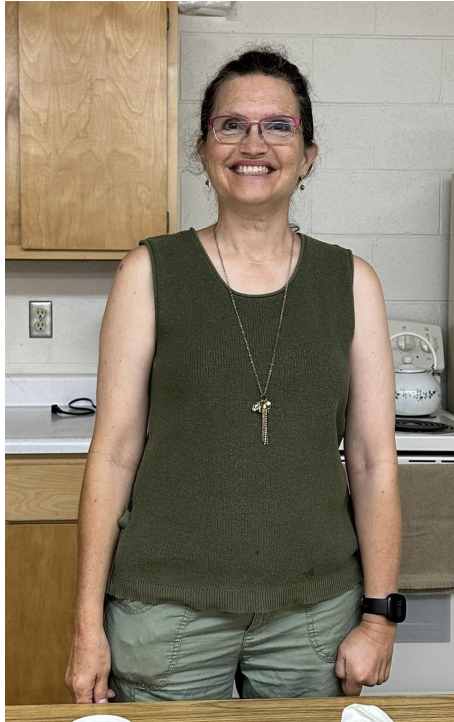
If you or your family has a prayer request and you would like to put on the Prayer Chain call Jeanette Wilkinson at 402-756-0772.

September 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

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3 10am Worship 14th Sunday after Pentecost 11am Adult Sunday School	4 Labor Day	5 6:30pm Girl Scouts	6 7pm Education Mtg	7 9:30am Prayer Time 10am Bible Study	8	9
10 10am Worship 15th Sunday after Pentecost 11am Adult Sunday School	11	12	13 9:30am UMW 6:30pm Youth Group 7pm Finance Mtg	14 9:30am Prayer Time 10am Bible Study	15	16
17 10am Worship 16th Sunday after Pentecost 11am Adult Sunday School	18 WIC	19 6:30pm Girl Scouts	20	21 9:30am Prayer Time 10am Bible Study	22	23
24 10am Worship 17th Sunday after Pentecost 11am Adult Sunday School	25	26	27	28 9:30am Prayer Time 10am Bible Study	29	30 8am-4pm Gateway District Fall Meeting





August Financial Report...

General Giving in August	\$12,753
General Fund Giving to Date	\$109,372
General Expenses in August	\$13,907
General Fund Expenses to Date	\$143,932
(This report does not include the final days in August.)	

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

**Sunday
Worship
10:00am**

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)