Dear Minden UMC,

May the pouring grace and peace of our Lord Jesus enrich your lives throughout the Lenten season.

As the weather warms up, observing people exercising around the church and children playing and running nearby, I feel spring has truly arrived. Of course, it's too early to make definitive conclusions given Nebraska's frequently changing weather, but still, seeing the buds sprouting on the trees warms my heart.

I believe one of the reasons our lives are valuable is change. Without change in our lives, the world would seem no fun. While our physical bodies may weaken with age, our knowledge and hearts can become stronger and more mature, adding value to our lives.

During our last youth meeting, I asked Larry and Nancy Evans how their lives have changed as they have gotten older. They shared that they had strong desires for success and reaching higher goals while they were younger. However, as they aged, they came to realize the importance of family. They also expressed a desire to dedicate more time to communicating with God, even amidst life's busyness.

As Lent passes, I've had time to reflect on my life. Since God called me to ministry, I've had a sincere desire to follow Jesus wholeheartedly. However, I realize that I am still a sinner and that there are times when I prioritize my own desires over God's will. I reflect on whether I have truly lived a life that pleases God.

I encourage each of you to reflect on the suffering and death that Jesus endured on the cross and consider what it means to you personally. Why did the Son of God, Jesus, choose to die even though He didn't have to? I hope you will engage in deep contemplation on this matter. Furthermore, as you journey through this time of reflection, I encourage you to contemplate the significance of Easter, which falls on March 31st.

Surely, deep within your hearts, you will feel a gentle stirring, realizing

how much Jesus loves you. Above all else, God loves each and every one of you. The greatest evidence of this is the death on the cross, where Jesus willingly sacrificed Himself for you. May Lent be a time overflowing with the love of Jesus.

Blessings and peace, Pastor Peter Choi



March 2024

# March 2024

| Sun  | Mon   | Tue  | Wed   | Thu   | Fri  | Sat  |
|--|---|--|---|---|--|--|
|  |   |  |   |   | <b>1</b><br>World Day<br>of Prayer   | 2  |
| <b>3</b><br>10:00am Worship<br>3rd Sunday in Lent<br>11:00am Adult<br>Sunday School<br>3pm Cub Scouts                    | <b>4</b><br>7pm Girl Scouts<br>7:15pm Boy<br>Scouts             | <b>5</b><br><b>10:00am Group Study</b><br>7pm Girl Scouts  | 6<br>Lenten Lunch at<br>Westminster United<br>Presbyterian Church<br>3:30pm Kid's Church<br>School<br>6:30pm Youth Group  | <b>7</b><br>9:30am<br>Prayer<br>Time                      | 8  | 9  |
| <b>10</b><br>10:00am Worship<br>4th Sunday in Lent<br>11:00am Adult<br>Sunday School<br>Day Light Savings<br>Time Begins | 11  | <b>12</b><br>10:00am Group Study                           | 13<br>9:30am UMW<br>Lenten Lunch at<br>Westminster United<br>Presbyterian Church<br>3:30pm Kid's Church<br>School         | <b>14</b><br>9:30am<br>Prayer<br>Time                     | 15   | <b>16</b><br>6:05pm<br>Faith &<br>Family<br>Storm<br>Hockey<br>Game @<br>Kearney |
| 17<br>St. Patricks's Day<br>10:00am Worship<br>5th Sunday in Lent<br>11:00am Adult<br>Sunday School                      | <b>18</b><br>8-4 WIC<br>7pm Girl Scouts<br>7:15pm Boy<br>Scouts | <b>19</b><br><b>10:00am Group Study</b><br>7pm Girl Scouts | 20<br>Lenten Lunch at<br>Westminster United<br>Presbyterian Church<br>3:30pm Kid's Church<br>School<br>6:30pm Youth Group | 21<br>9:30am<br>Prayer<br>Time                            | <b>22</b><br>Mobile Food<br>Pantry   | 23   |
| 24<br>10:00am Worship<br>Palm Sunday<br>11:00am Adult<br>Sunday School   | <b>25</b><br>Holy Week<br>7:15pm Boy<br>Scouts                  | 26<br>Holy Week<br>10:00am Group Study<br>7pm Cub Scouts   | 27<br>Holy Week<br>Lenten Lunch at<br>Westminster United<br>Presbyterian Church<br>3:30pm Kid's Church<br>School          | <b>28</b><br>Holy<br>Thursday<br>9:30am<br>Prayer<br>Time | <b>29</b><br>Good<br>Friday<br>7pm Service<br>10am Boy<br>Scout Church<br>Clean up | <b>30</b><br>Holy<br>Saturday  |
| <b>31</b><br>10:00am Worship<br>Easter Day<br>11:00am Adult<br>Sunday School   | HE IS N!  |  |   |   |  |  |

# **Scripture Readers:**

| March 3 : | Lori Conyers      |
|-----------|-------------------|
| March 10: | Marilyn Rasmussen |
| March 17: | ?                 |
| March 24: | Larry Evans       |
| March 31: | Josie Graham      |
|           |                   |

# **Refreshment Hosts:**

March 3 : March 10: Jason & Corey Smidt March 17:

Larry & Nancy Evans March 24:

**March 31:** The Graham's Family

# **Greeters/Ushers:**

| March 3 : | Glenda Blauch       |
|-----------|---------------------|
| March 10: | Marilyn Rasmussen   |
| March 17: | ?                   |
| March 24: | Larry & Nancy Evans |
| March 31: | ?                   |

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

March 3: Communion Steward: ?

, ? Servers: Lori Conyers, ? ?

# Life in Our Church Family...

Take a moment and say a prayer for: Dan & Ginger Frizane, Marjorie Hultguist, Larry Anderson, Merlin Beahm, and Jan Hofferber (Kathi's mother).

Luke White & Justiss Hinkle had a baby boy, Greyson Eldas, on February 7th. He weighed 8lbs, 3 ozs. Congratulation!!

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

# February Financial Report...

General Giving in January \$10,238 General Fund Giving to Date \$23,273 General Expenses in January \$11,912 General Fund Expenses to Date \$24.719 (This report does not include the final days in February)



\$7 Lenten Lunches will by at Westminster United Presbyterian Church Wednesdays at 11:45am.



# Happy Birthday 1—Sirena Havens 2—Shirley Fellers 3—Tom Taylor 4—Joe Hultquist 5—Janell Shelton 6—Larry Evans 6—Vivian Bunger 6—Payden Havens 8—Jane Craig 9—Roxanne Sorensen 11—Roma Anderson 12—Isabelle Martin **19—Ginger Frizane** 20—Sandy Johnson 20—Russ Olsen 20—Amy Kring 22—Laci Loseke 23—Lisa Maulsby 24—Dr. John Finkner 28—Dave Olsen 31—Gene Lundeen

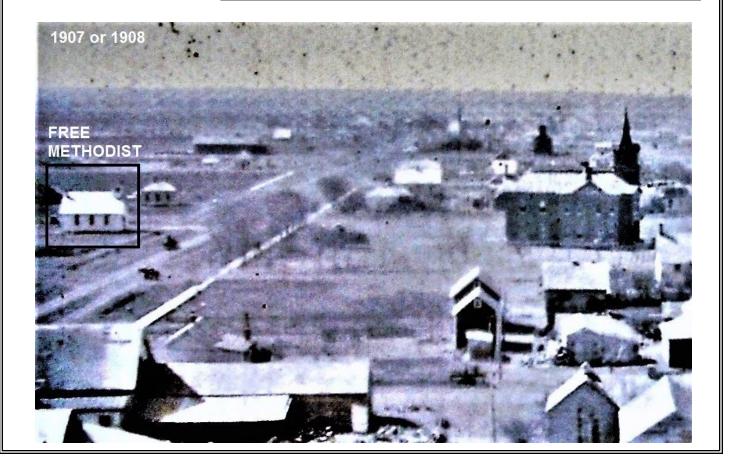


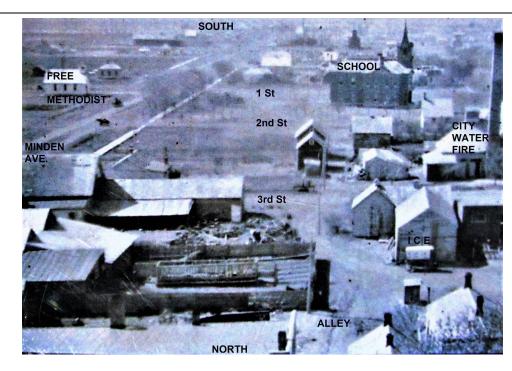
<u>Happy Anniversary</u> 2—Merlin & Lynette Beahm—49 years 13—Jason & Corey Smidt—20 years 20—Russ & Carolyn Olsen—10 years 24—Ray & Karli Havens—17 years 28—Lonnie & Marsha Granger—37 years



We would like to send out a big Thank You to all who have helped provide us meals. With busy schedules, you help make it possible for us to get together.

Thank You, The Methodist Youth Group





Is this photo only Minden history or part of our church history? This ca 1907 Free Methodist Church was located at approximately 110 N. Minden Ave. The church did have a bell and was around for three or more years. This photo was taken looking south from the top of the new courthouse. This church may be part of our church history because a M. E. (Methodist) Church member who was a child when the large 1903 brick church was built told me (ca 1972) there were church members who were quite dissatisfied when the 1903 church was built. The question is was this Free Methodist Church an expression of their dissatisfaction? As you look at the complete photo you may notice one building that still exists today mostly as was and it is made of lumber. Also if you orient yourself properly you will see to the right of the standpipe the United Presbyterian Church in its original form.



### Page 6

VING Vance

MB



We are blessed to have young people in our church learning about God.







Preparing the survey to find out what we love and what we need from our church.





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



# Good Friday Service 7:00pm, March 29 Easter Service 10:00am, March 31



Church Contact Information: Church office: 308-832-1995 managerumcminden@msn.com 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 Mon-Wed 8am-Noon, Thurs. 8-10:30am

Jeanette Wilkinson, Prayer Chain: 402-756-0772

Randy Nolan, Custodian: 308-830-3973