



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

Time flies so quickly. I truly experience how time seems to accelerate as we age. It feels like the school year just ended yesterday, but the three-month summer vacation is almost over, and we are getting ready to return to school.

It has been six years since I began my ministry at Minden United Methodist Church, and I am now stepping into my seventh year. I was in my late 30s when I first arrived, but now I find myself in my mid-40s. Chloe, who started kindergarten here, is now a sixth grader, and Hailey, who was at East Elementary School, is moving up to C.L. Jones Middle School.

In the Old Testament, the seventh year holds significant meaning. In Leviticus 25:1-7, God commands the Israelites to observe a Sabbath year every seventh year. During this time, they are not to sow seeds or harvest crops. The land is allowed to rest for a year, which helps ensure it continues to produce abundant fruit in the following years.

Another important practice related to the seventh year is the release of debts, as mentioned in Deuteronomy 15:1-2. At the end of the seventh year, all debts are to be forgiven. While this concept may seem different from modern economic systems, it aims to restore economic balance and prevent perpetual indebtedness.

Lastly, Exodus 21:2 states that Hebrew servants were to be released in the seventh year. This practice ensured that individuals serving as servants would regain their freedom and contribute to social justice and fairness.

The Biblical concept of the Sabbath Year might seem incompatible with today's economic conditions. One might question who would be motivated to work if there were no need to repay debts. For those who have diligently repaid their debts, it might also seem unfair. Nevertheless, Israel observed this practice because sovereignty over everything belongs to God.

We may wish our lives could be reset. As our bodies age or suffer from illness, we sometimes long to return to the health we had in our youth. When societal inequities deepen, we may yearn for a reset that would allow everyone to live equally and fairly. When our lives fall apart and relationships with family and friends are damaged, we might wish for a reset button to restore things to how they once were.

Sometimes, I think about an all-powerful God completely resetting all existing systems and making our bodies perfectly healthy. However, God does not desire such a complete overhaul. What God wants is not a radical overturning of everything. If such a reset were to occur, the world could become even more chaotic. People might live irresponsibly without concern for their bodies, and their reliance on God could weaken. Instead, God desires transformation within our current lives. As Christians, we are called to live with the hope that tomorrow will be better and to maintain our faith in the Lord even when circumstances worsen. We believe that through it all, Jesus is interceding on our behalf.

As we transition from the summer break into a new school year, I encourage you to start with the hope that our children will grow and our church will continue to flourish. Sometimes, things may not function as smoothly as we hope, but remember that the Holy Spirit is always with us, guiding and leading us. With this faith, may you embrace each day with confidence and trust.

May God's grace and peace be with you all.

In Christ's Unfailing Love,
Your Pastor Peter Choi

AUGUST 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 9:30am Prayer Time	2	3
4 10:00am Worship 11th Sunday after Pentecost 11:00am Adult Sunday School	5	6	7	8 9:30am District Superintendent, Rev. Ron Harris here for a visit. 9:30am Prayer Time	9	10
11 10:00am Worship "Blessing of the Backpacks" 12th Sunday after Pentecost 11:00am Adult Sunday School Rummage Sale Set up	12 8am-4pm WIC Rummage Sale Set up	13 Public School Begins Rummage Sale 9am-7pm	14 Rummage Sale 9am-7pm Goodwill Truck Here	15 9:30am Prayer Time Rummage Sale 9am-1pm Goodwill Truck Here	16 Goodwill Truck Here	17 Goodwill Truck Here
18 10:00am Worship 13th Sunday after Pentecost 11:00am Adult Sunday School Goodwill Truck Here	19 Goodwill Truck Here	20 Goodwill Truck Here	21  Movie Night 6:30pm "Beyond Utopia"	22 9:30am Prayer Time	23	24
25 10:00am Worship 14th Sunday after Pentecost 11:00am Adult Sunday School	26	27	28	29 9:30am Prayer Time	30	31

Scripture Readers:

August 4: Marilyn Rasmussen
August 11: Nadine Fahrlander
August 18: KayLyn McBride
August 25: Leanna Warner

Refreshment Hosts:

August 4: ?
August 11: Boudreaus (Fellowship hall)
August 18: Linda & Joyce
August 25: ?

Greeters/Ushers:

August 4: ?
August 11: Nadine Fahrlander
August 18: ?
August 25: ?

Please Call (308) 832-1995 if you
 can fill one of the open dates or
 email

August: Communion Steward: Shirley
 Servers: ? , ? ,? & ?

United Methodist Women Annual Rummage Sale

Please bring clean and gently used items to donate in a box, sack, or bag to room 103. No TVs, computers, baby cribs or car seats! If you have furniture, please contact Jodi Boudreau at 830-0336 to arrange a time to deliver to the church.

**August 11 - Set up after church
 Help needed!!
 August 12 – Set up & pricing**

Sale Dates

August 13 – Sale 9am-7pm
 August 14 – Sale 9am – 7pm
 August 15 – Sale 9am-1pm
 (\$3 Sack Sale)

Life in Our Church Family...

Take a moment and say a prayer for:

Dan & Ginger Frizane, Joe & Marjorie Hultquist,
 Larry Anderson, Merlin Beahm, Peggy Rasmussen
 and Kathi & Keven Schutz for the loss his mother, Jan Hofferber.

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.

July Financial Report...

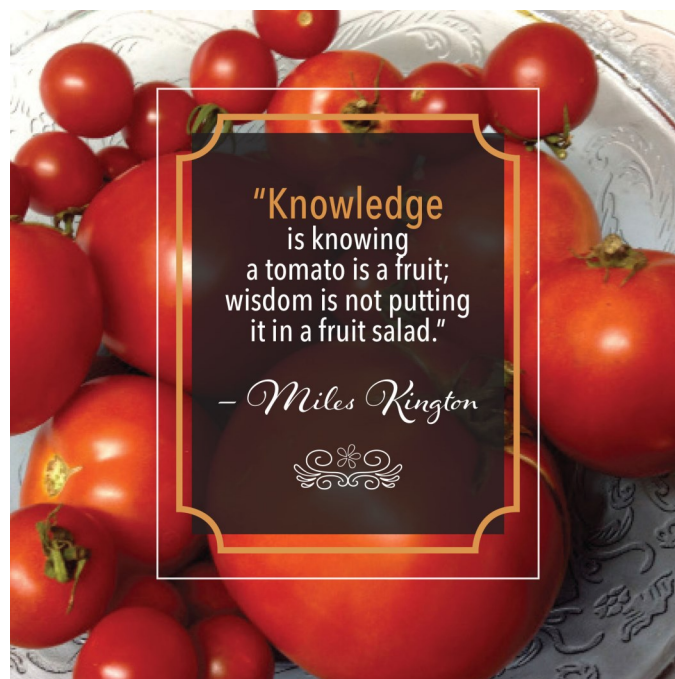
General Giving in July	\$13,054
General Fund Giving to Date	\$94,447
General Expenses in July	\$16,586
General Fund Expenses to Date	\$119,669
(This report does not include the final days in July)	

Happy Anniversary

Dan & Ginger Frizane—58 years
Colton & Brooke Greving—2 years
Dave & Jane Craig—46 years
Tony & Julie Ratka—29 years
John & Pat Mullin—58 years
Mike & Lori Conyers—33 years
Jim & Virginia Madsen—18 years
Mark & Lori Loseke—23 years

Happy Birthday

3—Pat Mullin
4—Mikaela Froid
4—Justiss Hinkle
5—Orlan Grams
5—Melissa Klabunde
5—Jerzee Smidt
6—Marcia Fries
6—Brooke Greving
6—Nathan Martin
7—Jan Marlatt
8—Kevin Smith
9—Keven Schutz
10—Braylee Kring
11—Lena Choi
11—Corey Smidt
15—Jentry Olsen
16—Jaxyn Olsen
17—Marah Dornhoff
17—Steve Maulsby
20—Terese Smith
21—Brad Janda
25—Levi Loseke
26—Marsha Granger
30—Gary Smidt





August 8th at 9:30 am.

District Superintendent,
Rev. Ron Harris will be
here to meet with our
church members.

Students and Teachers
bring your backpacks,
August 11, to 10:00am worship
to be blessed for the
upcoming school year.



August 21 @ 6:30pm

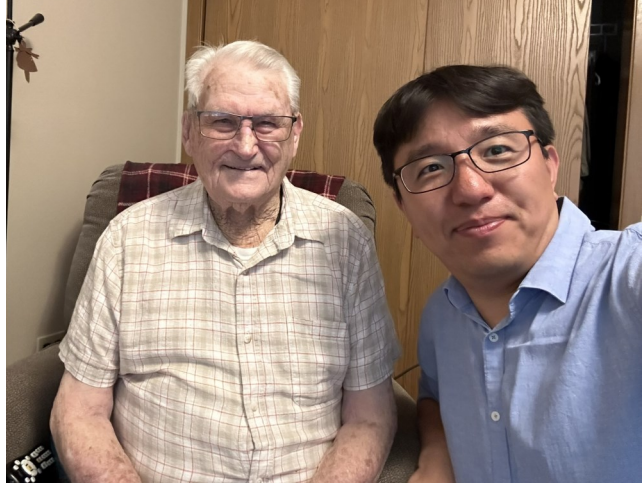


Beyond Utopia is a moving documentary that follows the journey of North Korean defectors as they risk everything to escape their harsh homeland. They face immense dangers, especially in China, where the threat of being sent back is constant.

The film highlights not only their courageous fight for freedom but also the vital support they receive. One key figure in the story is a compassionate pastor who plays a crucial role in helping these defectors. Through his efforts, he provides them with safe places and hope during their dangerous journey.

You are all invited to a very special documentary on August 21 at 6:30 PM. This film will show the human rights issues and reality of North Korea, which North Korea itself promotes as a utopia.





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

Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.



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