


<p>Vision:</p> <p>Extend Hospitality to Strangers</p> <p>“Share with the Lord’s people who are in need. Practice Hospitality.” (Romans 12:13)</p> 		<p>Office Hours: <u>Pastor Peter Choi</u></p> <p>Please call for appointment 201-888-8430 Tuesday-Saturday 9:30am to 5:00pm</p> <p><u>Jaime Sinsel, Office Manager</u> Monday –Friday 8am-Noon</p>
<p>Pastor Office Manager Custodian Prayer Chain</p>	<p>Peter Choi Jaime Sinsel Tony & Julie Ratka Joan Fries</p>	

AddressService Requested



Sunday School
9:00 AM
Worship Time
9:45 AM

United Methodist Church
340 N. Newell Ave
Minden, NE 68959-2415
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Pastor's Cell: 201-888-8430
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Minden, Nebraska

The Messenger

March 2020

Dear Minden Methodist Family,

Can you imagine spring is just around the corner? It had been hard to go for a walk for last two months. Yet my family finally enjoyed the amazing weather last weekend. I could hear the voices of kids outdoor. No more frosty ice on the road! Moreover, I saw hundreds of Sandhill Cranes flying in the sky like a big bird drawing an arch and creating elegant harmonies. I love Easter because Jesus was resurrected from the dead. It is good news for everyone. As spring comes again every year, we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ this again on April 12. However, we know that there is no resurrection without his suffering and death. With Ash Wednesday, the Lenten season will be started and it will last for 40 days. It is a time to think of Jesus and your lives deeply. “It aligns our hearts with God’s hearts as we approach Easter (rethink church).” Consider giving up something that interrupts your relationship with God. It is a time to put aside your bad habits but insert a plug into God’s words and His world. You may know that we are transcribing the gospel of Luke and John for this Lenten Season. It is an amazing opportunity to connect Jesus into your heart, as you write his birth, ministry, suffering, death and resurrection. It is an important time to connect with God spiritually. PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME ON THE SIGN-UP SHEET.

You may have realize something different during the last few weeks. Personalized Birthday and Anniversary messages on Facebook. Some of you may receive a personalized card from hospitality members. They warmly welcome visitors and new comers. They study hard about how our church creates the feelings of hospitality, how our church brings in inactive members and new comers to our church community, and how the congregation experiences love of Jesus Christ through church community. Hospitality members are now Kathi Schutz, Joe Hultquist, Mike Boudreau, Joyce Will, Mindy Heath, Susan Fries, Fran Lange, and Tim Tunnell. Please continue to pray for the team.

In Christ, your Pastor Peter Choi

Upon That Cross by Joyce Will

Lent has begun and there is one symbol that may be more prevalent than at any other time of the year. That symbol is the cross. The cross is one of the earliest and most widely used symbols in Christianity. The cross that Jesus died on tells a story with one single picture. But without Jesus, the cross means nothing, does it. There are a multitude of songs about this cross. Some are - "The Old Rugged Cross - When I Survey the Wondrous Cross - Beneath the Cross of Jesus - Near the Cross - and Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross". And when you sing these beautiful songs, do you picture that cross in your mind? About everywhere you look, you will see a cross - in pastures or on the side of the road, nearly in all places of worship, in some hospitals, in vehicles hanging from the rear-view mirror, bookmarks, necklaces, earrings, on clothing and neckties, tattoos, in cemeteries and sometimes even in the clouds. These said crosses can be beautifully constructed from almost anything - various woods, metals, gem stones, clay, paint, fabrics and threads, clouds, papers and carved from stone. I think the list could be endless in what kind of crosses we've seen. Most of these crosses are simply beautiful works of art. When I think of the cross that Jesus died on, where He was crucified upon, I almost get a sick feeling in the pit of my stomach. I mean thinking about this, I can hardly stand to picture this in my mind, can you? Crucifixion in my mind, is a horribly merciless way of death. The victim is either tied or nailed - yes, nails driven through hands/arms/feet/legs - to the cross with little if any clothing on, then, just left to hang there until the person died. This could take hours to days to happen while under the heat of the sun, the cool night, maybe rain or other weather not to mention all kinds of birds and bugs landing on the person. It was long, drawn out and painful. I can hardly fathom a death such as this, can you, and to be quite honest I find myself in tears thinking of this absolutely horrendous way Jesus died. Yet, crosses are made in beautiful forms that don't really depict at all what Jesus' death was like. Why did God choose death by crucifixion for His Son? There really is no clear answer to that other than knowing what is in the Old Testament of our Bibles. Years before Jesus' birth, it was prophesied throughout the books of the Old Testament of this Messiah who would come to take away our sins. Why couldn't He have been stoned to death like many others who were killed in Biblical times? Wouldn't that have been a less cruel way to die? Crucifixion was the Romans most severe form of execution that was used for slaves and criminals. Except, Jesus was not guilty of any crime or sin. A passage that foreshadowed the manner of Jesus' death appears in the book of Isaiah. He predicted that the coming Messiah would be pierced for our wrongdoings. We despised Him and rejected Him; He endured suffering and pain. No one would even look at Him - we ignored Him as if He were nothing. "But he endured the suffering that should have been ours, the pain that we should have borne. All the while we thought that his suffering was the punishment sent by God. But because of our sins he was wounded, beaten because of the evil we did. We are healed by the punishment he suffered, made whole by the blows he received" from Isaiah 53:3-5. Even some that were at His crucifixion





doubted who He was until something happened. Read this scripture: Matthew 27:54 - "When the army officer and the soldiers with Him who were watching Jesus saw the earthquake and everything else that happened, they were terrified and said, 'He really was the Son of God!'" And from 1 Peter 3: 18 we read this: "For Christ died for our sins once and for all, a good man on behalf of sinners, in order to lead you to God. He was put to death physically, but made alive spiritually." During these days and weeks of Lent that leads us up to the most important day of the year, the purpose of Jesus' death could not be any clearer. The message of this purpose echoes again and again throughout the Old and New Testaments. He simply died for us - for you and for me - to provide forgiveness and to pay the penalty for our sins, once and for all and because of that, the symbol of the cross is a beautiful reminder to us of what was done for us. From a wonderful praise song, "Here I Am To Worship", there is one line in the lyrics that sums it up for all of us my friends, "I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin - upon that cross". Jw♥



Kid's Night Out

March 4th

5:30-7:30pm

Meal, songs, Bible Lesson, games, and video.

Transcribe the Books of Luke and John

We have began transcribing the books of Luke and John. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the west hallway. The Church is open 8am-8pm, please come whenever is convenient for you. The books will be located in the lounge behind the sanctuary.

Life in Our Church Families...

Eleanor Maxon 7/4/1928—1/31/2020

Sayler Drew Rome was baptized 2/9/2020

Huntleigh Jalissa Ann Rome was baptized 2/9/2020

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 you would like to put on the Prayer Chain call Joan Fries at 402-756-0257.

March 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 am Sunday School 9:30 Prayer Time 9:45 am Worship Graduation Reception for Pastor Adult SS after Worship 1:00pm Confirmation Meeting	2 7pm Boys Scouts	3 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	4 Noon Lunch at Bethany Lutheran by Efree Kid's Night Out 5:30-7:30	5	6	7
8 9:00 am Sunday School 9:30 Prayer Time 9:45 am Worship Adult SS after Worship 1:00pm Confirmation Meeting	9	10	11 9am UMW Noon Lunch at Bethany Lutheran by Fredricksburg 6pm Choir Practice	12	13	14
15 9:00 am Sunday School 9:30 Prayer Time 9:45 am Worship Adult SS after Worship 1:00 Confirmation 4:30 pm Hospitality Team Mtg.	16 8am-4pm WIC 7pm Cub Scouts	17 5:30pm Headstart Family Night 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	18 Noon Lunch at Bethany Lutheran by UMC 6pm Choir Practice	19	20	21
22 9:00 am Sunday School, 9:30 Prayer Time, 9:45 am Worship , Adult SS after Worship 1:00 Confirmation 2:00 Boy Scout Church Cleanup 3:00 pm Cub Scouts	23 7pm Boy Scouts	24 6:30pm Girl Scouts	25 Noon Lunch at Bethany Lutheran by First Christian 6pm Choir Practice	26	27	28
29 9:00 am Sunday School 9:30 Prayer Time 9:45 am Worship Pancake Feed following worship Adult SS after Worship 1:00 Confirmation	30	31				

- 1 - Sirena Haven

2 - Shirley Fellers

3 - Tom Taylor

4 - Joe Hultquist

5 - Colleen Steinkruger

6 - Payden Havens

8 - Jane Craig

9 - Roxanne Sorensen

10 - LeRoy Smith

11 - Roma Anderson

12 - Isabelle Martin

15 - Maliyah Melroy
- 16 - Tami Hanson

17 - Maxine Christensen

19 - Ginger Frizane

20 - Sandy Johnson

22 - Laci Loseke

23 - Karen Smith

24 - Cindy Peterson

27 - Darin Fischer

28 - Jake Putnam

31 - Gene Lundeen



- March 2

March 9

March 13

March 24

March 28
- Merlin & Lynette Beahm

Ed & Roxanne Sorensen

Jason & Corey Smidt

Ray & Karli Havens

Lonnie & Marsha Granger
- 45 years

35 years

16 years

12 years

32 years



The Grocery cart is back. Keep filling it to help those in need. Some items of need are toilet paper, hygiene products, laundry detergent, and dish soap.

Greeters and Ushers for March:		Scripture Readers for March:		Refreshment Hosts for March:	
March 1:	Kurt & Jennifer Muller	March 1:	Marilyn Rasmussen	March 1:	Hospitality Team in Fellowship Hall
March 8:	Dave & Allyson Jameson	March 8:	Larry Evans	March 8:	
March 15:	Paul & Dawn Moyer	March 15:	Kathi Schutz	March 15:	Martin Family
March 22:	Lori Conyers	March 22:	Ginger Frizane	March 22:	Gene Lundeen
March 29:	Tony & Julie Ratka	March 29:	Julie Ratka	March 29:	Pancake Feed Following Worship

(Please call 832-1995 or email managerumcminden@msn.com if you are available for any of the open dates)

February Financial Report...	
General Giving in February:	\$12,777
General Fund Giving to Date:	\$30,905
General Expenses in February	\$23,059
General Fund Expenses to Date:	\$38,692
(This report does not include the final days in February.)	