

The Messenger



January 2021

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I greet you in the precious name of the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! As we start our journey in the new year of 2021, I hope you see the True Light of Christ at the end of the tunnel and walk toward the Promised Land through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

As you know, there are now two Covid-19 vaccines. They have been started from places in urgent need. The pandemic will be diminished this year as we slowly go to our normal. Our church must prepare for this change and find a way for all congregations to return to our church fully. So the first word that comes to my mind is RESTORATION! We need to do our best to restore the church.

The Jews prioritized rebuilding the Jerusalem temple when they returned to the land of Israel from the Babylonian exile. We also need to prioritize the restoration of the church. Our new vision for 2021 is that "Overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." This vision is based on Romans 15:13 NIV, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace, as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

The pandemic is not meaningless to me. It reminds me of the fundamental part of ministry: service, word, order, and sacraments. I realize the importance of worship and care in ministry. I am able to feel more close to the congregation through this challenging time. I will resume pastoral visitations from the middle of January if we are out of red in the number of Covid cases. We will keep focusing on the art of worship. We finally set up the camera system. You can watch everything we do for worship.

We will have a special service in the recognition and blessing of the church leaders on January 17. I will also share our visions and goals after worship. Please send me your prayer requests for 2021. I will hold your prayers for one year and pray to God as your pastor. God is the One who listens to your prayers and then answers your prayers.

I hope that we gather in the sanctuary without a mask and social distancing. We hug each other without a risk of the Covid-19. We share bread and a cup at the Lord's Table. We will have a luncheon after the Sunday worship service. I look forward to that day.

Happy New Year!

Your Pastor Peter Choi



Vision:

**Overflow with hope
by the power of
the Holy Spirit.**

May the God of hope fill you with all
joy and peace, as you trust in him, so
that you may overflow with hope by
the power of the Holy Spirit.
(Romans 15: 13 NIV)



Office Hours:

Pastor Peter Choi

Please call for appointment 201-888-8430

Tuesday-Saturday 10:00am to 5:00pm

Jaime Sinsel, Office Manager

Monday-Friday 8am-Noon

Tony & Julie Ratka, Custodian

Joan Fries, Prayer Chain

Address/Service Requested



Worship Time
9:45 am

United Methodist Church
340 N. Newell Ave
Minden, NE 68959-2415
Church Office: (308) 832-1995
Pastor's Cell: 201-888-8430
Parsonage: (308) 832-2215
Email: peterchoi@minden.org
Office: managerumcminden@msn.com

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The Great I Am by Joyce Will

When each of us were born, our parents gave us a name. Have you ever stopped to think about your name? Why did your parents give you the name you have? Was the name they chose one that they simply liked or was it a name that was handed down from generations in your family? Or did you just look like a Mary, or a Jan, or a Bob, or whatever. Many people wait to name their new baby after they have a good look at them to see if the name they have picked, fits the new little being. Many names have a meaning behind them and if you go to look up any given name, you will usually find what the meaning to your name is. Now whether your parents investigated your name or not, it still is kind of interesting to find out the meaning of each of our names. Some may be surprised what that meaning is. Some will say, oh that doesn't fit me at all. While others simply accept that the name they have is what their parents gave them. When we were expecting our first baby, we had a name picked out for a boy and a girl. Back in 1980, it was rare that an ultrasound was even done, let alone to determine if you carried a boy or a girl. At the time of birth, you were just surprised when your doctor declared, "it's a boy" or "it's a girl". My husband was visiting with one of his friends regarding the names we had picked out. One of our names the friend told my husband that we shouldn't name our baby was because it was a name of a fish. When we were picking out names, I really had not even correlated the names with their meaning. We simply liked the two names we picked out and left it at that. God tells us His name in a passage in the third chapter of Exodus. If you will remember, Moses asked God what was he to tell the Israelites was his name. "God said to Moses, 'I am who I am. This is what you are to say to them. I Am has sent me.' " - Exodus 3:14. He simply said, "I Am". God doesn't stop there, He knew that the humans he created needed to have a real live person to attach a name to. So, God became one of us through Jesus, His Son. Beyond amazing my friends! First God says His name is "I Am", then he creates Jesus for us, not just because we needed to understand that a human person is named Jesus, but He gave Him to us for another reason too. John 3:16 tells us exactly why He gave us Jesus: "For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son so that anyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." When God says who he is, he tells us this: I am the Bread of Life; I am



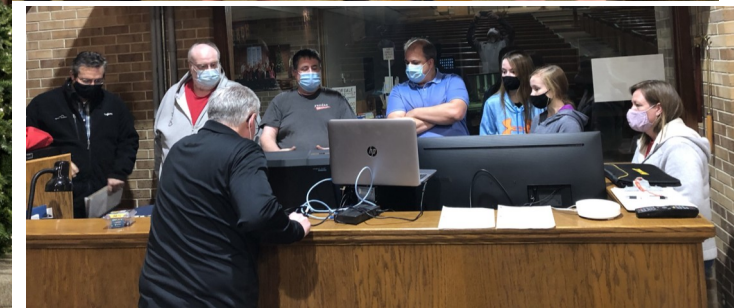
the Light of the World; I am the Good Shepherd; I am the Way and the Truth and the Life; I am the Vine; I am the Resurrection. So who am I in Christ? I am God's workmanship. I am God's child. And know this, my friends, our God will never fail us, on that we can fully depend, for He is simply, but majestically, the Great I Am. Jw♥



Confirmation 2020: Pastor Peter Choi, Aiden, Addison, Kara, Jerzee, and Madeline



Baptism of Kara



Learning the New Camera System



Sunday School Class hearing and acting the Christmas Story



If you have updated your phone number please let us know.
If you are on the prayer chain or a member on UMW update your number with Jeanette (402) 756-0772 and/or Joan (402) 756-0257.

Time of Blessing

Please write what you wish for in 2021 on a piece of paper and mail or email to Pastor Peter at peterchoiminden@gmail.com. Pastor Peter will pray for each family with blessings of prayer.

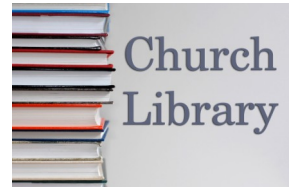
Life in Our Church Families...

Take a moment and say a prayer for Carolyn Hendrickson's Family & Friends, Schutz Family & Friends, Lon Mills Family & Friends, Marjorie Hultquist (healing), Maxine Grams (healing), Lori Conyers's parents (healing), Christy (healing from surgery), and Julie Ratka's Aunt (covid). We send our condolences to the family and friends of Carolyn Hendrickson, Jeff Schutz, and Lon Mills. Pray for all those who need God's guidance.

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 Joan Fries at 402-756-0257.



**Communion
will be served
January 10th by
the west entrance
from 10:45-11:15.**



The Library is open to anyone wanting to borrow a book. Please come any time and find a new book to read. We have many titles to choose from and would like them to be used.



- 2—Steven Fries
- 3—Dick McBride
Rita Smith
- 5—Steven Favinger
- 6—Edna Carlson
- 8—LeaAnn Runcie
- 10—Carter Harsin
Loneta Nolan
- 11—Nikki Dornhoff
Laurain Tatum
- 13—Sharon Jorgensen
- 16—Landon Yelken
- 17—Peter Choi
- 18—Kim Snavelly
- 19—Jack Hultquist
Alison Lovin
- 20—Jim Madsen
- 21—Collin Jensen
Zachary Klabunde
- 22—Reginald Cross
Reid Yelken
- 24—Makenna Dornhoff
- 25—Donald Johnson
Brook Lundeen
Ian Sinsel
- 26—Devin Jensen
Bonnie Westengaard
- 29—Dudley Scharff
- 30—Tyler Gokie
- 31—Phyllis Finkner
Denise Jensen

January 2021



January 2
Derek & LeaAnn Runcie
7 years

January 7
Mike & Jodi Boudreau
32 years

January 21
Gary & Melanie
Remmenga
9 years



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:45 am Worship	4	5 6:30pm Girl Scouts	6 3:30-5:00 Sunday School	7	8	9
10 9:45 am Worship 10:45-11:15 Drive up Communion	11	12 7:00pm Girl Scouts	13 3:30-5:00 Sunday School 7:00pm Finance mtg	14	15	16
17 9:45 am Worship	18	19 6:30pm Girl Scouts	20 3:30-5:00 Sunday School	21	22	23
24/31 9:45 am Worship	25	26 7:00pm Girl Scouts	27 3:30-5:00 Sunday School	28	29	30

Minden Food Pantry Donations

The Pantry is located in The Closet at 341 E 4th Street. The hours are Tuesday 10-5 and Wednesday 9-4. Please call if you want to make sure they are open before going 832-1221. We would like to encourage you at this time to take your food donations directly to the closet. Thank You.



*Worship
with us
from*
HOME

Online Service Information
facebook.com/mindenumc
www.youtube.com
search: Minden United Methodist
Church in Nebraska

mindenumc.org

December Financial Report...

General Giving in December	\$12,976
General Fund Giving to Date	\$160,398
General Expenses in December	\$10,365
General Fund Expenses to Date	\$189,402
(This report does not include the final days in December.)	