



THE MESSENGER—May 2026

*A Publication of The United Methodist Church
340 N Newell Ave, Minden, NE 68959*

Greetings Members and Friends of MUMC,

May is a month that feels like a deep breath after the long exhale of winter and the powerful celebration of Easter morning. The signs of new life are all around us; the grass growing greener, the trees stretching toward the sky, and the flowers beginning to bloom. I am reminded again of that familiar phrase, “April showers bring May flowers,” and how fitting it is not only for creation, but for our faith as well. Just as the earth is renewed, so too are we renewed through the resurrection of Christ.

One of the great gifts of our tradition is that Easter is not confined to a single Sunday. We continue to live in the joy of the Easter season, those 50 days in which we celebrate the risen Christ and the new life made possible for each of us. This year, we are leaning deeply into that reality through our sermon series, “Encountering the Risen Christ.” Throughout this series, we are walking alongside the disciples and others who experienced the resurrected Jesus in those first 40 days. Their stories remind us that resurrection is not just something that happened; it is something we continue to experience. My prayer is that, as we journey through this series, we too will encounter Christ in ways that challenge us, comfort us, and transform us.

As we move through May, we also approach several significant moments in the life of the Church. We will celebrate Ascension Sunday, remembering Christ’s ascension and the promise that he is still at work beyond what we can see. Soon after, we will gather for Pentecost, the day we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church; when ordinary people were empowered to do extraordinary things in God’s name. And then comes Trinity Sunday, where we reflect on the mystery and beauty of the Triune God who continues to be present and active in our lives. These are not just dates on a calendar; they are invitations to deepen our understanding of who God is and who we are called to be.

May is also full of meaningful celebrations within the life of our church and community. On May 10, we will celebrate Mother’s Day, honoring not only mothers, but all women who have nurtured, guided, and loved us along the way. Whether through biological ties, chosen family, mentorship, or spiritual care, these women reflect the nurturing and steadfast love of God. This day can hold both joy and tenderness, and we will hold space for all those emotions as we give thanks for the many ways love has been poured into our lives.

As the month continues, we look ahead to another important milestone in the life of our congregation. On May 31, we will celebrate our graduates; those who have reached significant educational achievements and are stepping into new chapters of life. This is a moment of pride, gratitude, and hope. As a church, we are called to surround them with encouragement and prayer, trusting that God will guide their steps in whatever lies ahead.

There is something sacred about this time of year. From Easter celebrations to honoring mothers, from recognizing graduates to preparing for the rhythms of summer, May invites us to pause and recognize the many ways God is at work among us. Each moment is an opportunity to rejoice, to give thanks, and to continue growing together as a community of faith.

There are so many meaningful moments unfolding in the life of our church, and I invite you to fully participate in this season. Let us continue this journey together; encountering the risen Christ, celebrating the movement of the Spirit, and stepping forward in faith.

Are you ready to continue this journey with me?

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Kayla

May 2026

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

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3 10:00am Worship 5th Sunday of Easter	4 7:00pm Girl Scouts	5	6 6:30pm Youth Group	7 National Day of Prayer Prayer Time 1:30pm	8	9
10 10:00am Worship 6th Sunday of Easter Mother's Day	11 8am-4pm WIC	12  Election Day	13 9:30am United Women in Faith	14 Ascension of the Lord Prayer Time 1:30pm	15	16 MHS Graduation 
17 10:00am Worship 7th Sunday of Easter Ascension Sunday	18 7:00pm Girl Scouts	19	20	21 Prayer Time 1:30pm	22	23
24 10:00am Worship Day of Pentecost	25  Memorial Day	26	27	28 Prayer Time 1:30pm	29	30
31 10:00am Worship Trinity Sunday Senior Recognition 						

Annual Conference at Kearney

May Birthdays

- 4—Delaine Maxon
- 4—Tony Ratka
- 5—Gracie Fries
- 5—Jaime Sinsel
- 6—Scott Maxon
- 11—Ray Havens
- 12—Donlyn Space
- 13—Sam Tunnell
- 14—Gabby Froid
- 17—Carolyn Olsen
- 17—Melanie Remmenga
- 19—Dave Craig
- 21—Mike Froid
- 22—Wade Melroy
- 23—Jessica Tunnell
- 24—Gage Fries
- 24—Doug Hammer
- 24—Breckyn Strasburg
- 25—Jacey Smidt
- 26—Braxton Janda

May Anniversaries

- 21—Mark & Melissa Klabunde—21 years
- 28—Cade & Michelle Craig—15 years
- 29—Mike & MaryJo Froid—27 years
- 29—Lary & Kim Snavely—27 years



- Val Kauk
- Gabby Froid
- Brenda Oltean
- Rod Duffey
- Orlan Grams
- Chad Fries

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.

April 2026 Financial Report...

General Giving in April	\$15,759
General Fund Giving to Date	\$56,029
General Expenses in April	\$18,117
General Fund Expenses to Date	\$71,837

(This report does not include the final days in April)



Church Staff

Pastor Kayla Mangrich—(815) 303-4808—kmangrich@greatplainsumc.org

**Jaime Sinsel—office manager—308-830-2867—managerumcminden@msn.com—
Mon-Wed 8am-Noon, Thurs. 8-10:30am**

Jeanette Wilkinson—Prayer Chain—402-756-0772

Scott & Laurie—Custodians

**Minden Food Pantry suggested items to donate are:
ramen noodles, soups, crackers (saltines, ritz, goldfish, wheat thins, etc.),
hamburger helper, ketchup.**



Confirmation Photographs



We are looking for a group photo from confirmation classes in 1962, 1965, 1967, 1980, 1987, 1988, 1992, 1993, 1996, 1999, 2005, and 2006. If you have questions on who was in the class or if you have the photo and would be willing to share them please email them to managerumcminden@msn.com or bring them by the office.

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

Scripture Reader & Call to Worship:

May 3: Shirley Fellers

May 10: Dawn Moyer

May 17:

May 24:

Refreshment Hosts:

May 3: Jodi Boudreau

May 10: Shirley Fellers

May 17:

May 24:



Great Plains Annual Conference Choir for the 2026 Ordination Service

At the request of our Bishop, a Conference Choir is being formed to offer music during this sacred service, and we are reaching out to singers and choirs in the Kearney area to take part in this meaningful occasion.

Annual Conference will gather May 27–30 at the Younes Center in Kearney, Nebraska, and the Ordination Service will be held on Saturday morning, May 30. This service stands at the heart of our shared life as a conference—a holy moment when we celebrate God’s call and the Church’s response. Our theme, “Serve Joyfully,” finds beautiful expression in song. What more fitting way to serve than by offering your voice in praise and helping lead God’s people in worship?

A rehearsal will be held on Thursday, May 28, at 6:30 p.m. (location details forthcoming), and again on Saturday morning, May 30 at 9:30 a.m. Though the time commitment is brief, the experience promises to be musically enriching and spiritually meaningful.

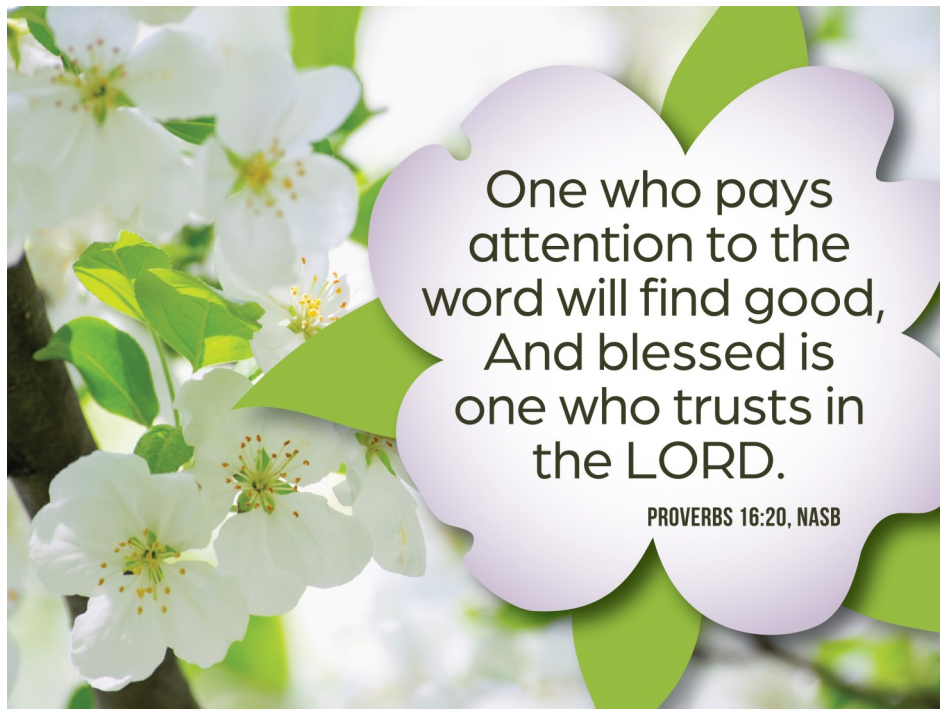
If you would like more information about this opportunity or have any questions, please contact me directly – sara@fumclawrence.org; (785)691-5341. I will be providing more information as the music and logistics are finalized. Please let me know via email by -Tuesday, March 30, if you plan on singing. If possible for everyone, we will wear robes, so please include in your response whether or not you have access to a choir robe.

Sara Wentz, Annual Conference Choir Director

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



**Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
May 6 @ 6:30pm Youth Group**



**Church Contact Info:
308-832-1995
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Mindenumc.org**