



THE MESSENGER—July 2026

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

Greetings Members and Friends of MUMC,

Can you believe it? I have already been serving with you for a year! Time certainly flies when you're having fun, and this past year has been filled with joy, growth, and countless blessings. As I reflect on these twelve months together, I find myself filled with gratitude for each of you and excited for what God has in store as we continue this journey together.

During this past year, I've had the privilege of getting to know many of you. Some through worship, others over coffee or a meal, in hospital rooms, nursing homes, at community events, around kitchen tables, and in the fellowship hall. We've laughed together, cried together, celebrated milestones, mourned losses, prayed together, and simply shared life. Those moments matter.

One of my favorite parts of ministry is being invited into someone's home simply to visit. There is something sacred about sharing a meal around a table. Hospitality creates space for friendship, and friendship creates room for Christ to be present among us. Likewise, when I visit someone in the hospital or nursing home and see family and friends gathered around a loved one, I witness the beautiful care and compassion that exists within this congregation and throughout our community. It reminds me that the Church is never simply a building. The Church is people who choose to journey together through every season of life.

As I think about these experiences, I am reminded of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's classic book *Life Together*. Bonhoeffer reminds us that Christian community is one of God's greatest gifts. We are called to live as Christ's body, each person offering their unique gifts while encouraging and strengthening one another. As we share our lives with openness, grace, forgiveness, and love, we discover that we belong; not because we are perfect, but because Christ has welcomed each of us into His family.

My heart for ministry has always been centered on walking alongside people through every chapter of life. Whether life brings celebration or sorrow, certainty or questions, my desire is to journey with you; to laugh together, pray together, serve together, and continually discover God's grace together. That desire naturally leads us into our summer worship series.

Beginning July 5 and continuing through August 30, we will begin a new series entitled *Following the Grace-Filled Way*. Throughout these nine weeks we will explore the spiritual disciplines using Richard Foster's beloved classic, *Celebration of Discipline*, as our guide.

Too often we hear the word "discipline" and immediately think of punishment or rigid rules. Foster invites us to understand something entirely different. Spiritual disciplines are not burdens to carry but gifts from God; practices that open our hearts to God's transforming grace. They are not ways to earn God's love but ways of placing ourselves where God can continue shaping us into the people He created us to be.

Together we will explore three movements of the Christian life.

1. The Inward Disciplines—meditation, prayer, fasting, and study—invite us to

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JULY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Leadership Board 6:30pm	2 Prayer Time 1:30pm	3	
5 10:00am Worship 6th Sunday after Pentecost	6	7	8 9:30am United Women in Faith	9 Prayer Time 1:30pm	10	
12 10:00am Worship 7th Sunday after Pentecost	13 8am-4pm WIC	14	15	16 Prayer Time 1:30pm	17 9:00am Mobile Food Pantry	18
19 10:00am Worship 8th Sunday after Pentecost	20	21	22 Education Meeting 6:30pm	23 Prayer Time 1:30pm	24	25
26 10:00am Worship 9th Sunday after Pentecost	27	28	29	30 Prayer Time 1:30pm	31	

(cont. from page 1)

deepen our relationship with God and allow Christ to transform us from within.

2. The Outward Disciplines—simplicity, solitude, submission, and service—teach us to live with humility, generosity, and compassion as we seek to reflect Christ in the world around us.

3. The Corporate Disciplines—confession, worship, guidance, and celebration—draw us closer together as the Body of Christ, reminding us that faith was never intended to be lived in isolation.

These practices are not about checking spiritual boxes. They are about learning to recognize God's presence in everyday life. They help us slow down, listen more carefully, love more deeply, and serve more faithfully. As Foster writes, they become pathways through which God's abundant life can flourish within us.

My hope is that this series will encourage each of us to move beyond simply believing the Christian faith and toward intentionally living it. Grace is not merely something we receive; it is something that shapes the way we think, pray, worship, serve, forgive, and love.

Thank you for welcoming me so warmly this past year. It has been one of the greatest joys of my ministry to walk alongside you. I look forward to many more years of discovering God's grace together as we continue to grow in faith, hope, and love.

Peace & Blessings,
Pastor Kayla

July Birthdays

- 1—Dawn Moyer
- 4—Virginia Madsen
- 6—Aubree Kring
- 9—Randy Nolan
- 10—Aiden Sinsel
- 12—Eponine Kring
- 13—Hailey Choi
- 13—Elta Kern
- 14—Anna Sinsel
- 16—Bobbie Heitman
- 17—Doug Fellers
- 22—Susan Tunnell
- 23—Alaina Suchsland
- 28—Leah Boudreau
- 28—Julie Ratka

July Anniversaries

- 3—Roger & Rita Jones—55 years
- 3—Wade & Kim Melroy—27 years
- 14—Scott & Delaine Maxon—24 years
- 16—Austin & Jenae Johnson—4 years
- 23—Ed & Lonna Rowse—32 years
- 24—Rod & Linda Duffey—28 years
- 28—Gary & Deb Smidt—52 years



June 2026 Financial Report...

General Giving in June	\$7,915
General Fund Giving to Date	\$86,580
General Expenses in June	\$15,667
General Fund Expenses to Date	\$101,450

(This report does not include the final days in June.)

Kearney County Fair is July 17-19, 2026

Fair board is proud to present a new addition to the fair.

On Thursday July 16th, 8:00-9:30pm

Praise and Worship Night
by Everset featuring Luke Mills.



Fair board wants to invite the whole community to join in worship and fellowship. Gather for worship at the stockyard and bring a chair or they will have chair for you.

Rummage Sale
August 11 9am-7pm
August 12 9am-7pm
August 13 9am-1pm

You may bring clean gently used items in boxes and put them in room 103. If you have larger items to donate please contact Jodi 308-830-0336.



Nominations Committee Meeting
August 16, 2026 1:00 p.m.

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



Scripture Reader & Call to Worship

- July 5: Logan Payne
- July 12:
- July 19: Dawn Moyer
- July 26:


Refreshment Hosts

- June 7: Deb & Gary Smidt
- June 14: Carolyn & Russ Olsen
- June 21: Jeanette & James Wilkinson
- June 28: Sandy Johnson

Education Meeting!

Anyone with a passion for nurturing the faith of our children and youth is invited to help shape our ministries for the coming year. Whether you have lots of ideas or simply want to lend your voice, your gifts, perspective, and presence are welcome as we plan together. We hope you'll join the conversation as we dream, collaborate, and build a meaningful year for the children and youth of our church.

Wednesday July 22 @6:30p.m. in the Library



Prayer List

Family & Friends of Roma Anderson

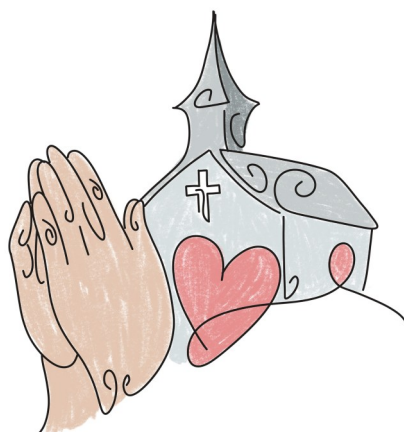
Val Kauk

Gabby Froid

Brenda Oltean

Rod Duffey

Orlan Grams



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.

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



Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.



Church Contact Info:
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