



THE MESSENGER—August 2026

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

Greetings Members and Friends of MUMC,

August brings with it the excitement of new beginnings. School supplies are appearing in stores, calendars are filling up, and another year of activities is quickly approaching. I am especially excited about the opportunities ahead for our youth!

Our youth group, open to students in sixth through twelfth grades, will be partnering with the youth of Bethany Lutheran Church for the year. Together, we will kickoff the year with a concert and take part in the Kool-Aid Days cardboard boat race. I am grateful for this partnership and for the opportunity it gives our youth to build friendships, strengthen their faith, and discover that the Church is much larger than any one congregation. Here's hoping that these gatherings include lots of laughter, music and opportunities for our youth to experience Christian community. Please pray for our young people, the leaders, and this growing partnership.

As summer continues, so does our sermon series, "Following the Grace-Filled Way." We are now learning about the outward disciplines moving towards corporate disciplines described by Richard Foster. The outward disciplines—simplicity, solitude, submission, and service—help us live our faith in our relationships and everyday choices. The corporate disciplines—confession, guidance, worship, and celebration—remind us that we do not follow Jesus alone. God forms us both through our personal practices and through our shared life as the body of Christ.

This series has been good for me personally. It has encouraged me to reset some of my own spiritual disciplines and to make time to slow down. Ministry and life can both become so busy that prayer, silence, and reflection are sometimes treated as one more thing to squeeze into an already crowded schedule. Yet these practices invite us to stop, breathe, and become aware that God is already present. How many of us regularly take time simply to stop, breathe, and spend time with God?

For the past month, I have been meditating on Nan C. Merrill's prayerful rendering of Psalm 119:33–40: Help me to know, O Teacher, the path to follow; lead the way and I will come. In your love is the power to calm the storms of adversity; show me the power of your forgiving love. O that I might learn to bless others selflessly, to be a silent benediction! Incline my heart to Love Consciousness, and not to gain! Turn my eyes from the world's temptations, and birth me into new Life. Let me enter into the realm where the aspirations of my soul may become manifest. Clothe me with compassion that I may answer the cries of those in need. Do You see how I long to serve, to co-create with you? In your mercy, hear my prayer!

These words have helped me slow down, listen, and seek God's next steps for my journey of faith. I am especially drawn to the prayer that we might "learn to bless others selflessly" and become "a silent benediction." What would it mean for each of us to become a blessing—not only through the words we speak, but through the way we listen, serve, forgive, and make room for others?

Spiritual disciplines are not punishments or another list of religious tasks to complete. They are gifts of grace that make room for God to shape our hearts. They help us become more attentive to God, more compassionate toward our neighbors, and more willing to respond to the cries of those in need.

So, as we enter August, I invite you to ask yourself: What am I willing to practice this month? Where are the spaces I noticed God? What practice might help me slow down and listen more closely? Perhaps it is prayer, meditation, worship, simplicity, service, or simply taking a few quiet breaths in God's presence. May we continue learning together, serving together, celebrating together, and becoming silent benedictions in our church and community.

Peace & Blessings,
Pastor Kayla

August 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10:00am Worship 10th Sunday after Pentecost 5:30pm Youth Group Kickoff	3	4	5	6 Prayer Time 1:30pm	7	8 “Walk His Way” Free Concert at Smith Center, KS
9 10:00am Worship 11th Sunday after Pentecost Rummage Sale setup following worship	10 Rummage Sale setup	11 Rummage 9am-7pm	12 Rummage 9am-7pm	13 Rummage 9am-1pm \$3 bag sale Prayer Time 1:30pm	14	15
Goodwill Truck will be in the Church Parking Lot						
16 10:00am Worship 12th Sunday after Pentecost 1pm Nominations Committee Mtg.	17 8am-4pm WIC	18	19 7pm Leadership Board	20 Prayer Time 1:30pm	21	22
Goodwill Truck will be in the Church Parking Lot						
23 10:00am Worship 13th Sunday after Pentecost	24	25	26	27 Prayer Time 1:30pm	28	29
30 10:00am Worship 14th Sunday after Pentecost	31					



Happy Birthday Card Shower

Jan Marlatt is celebrating her 99th Birthday on August 7th.

Shower her with cards.

Please mail cards to
436 North Hubbard Ave
Minden, NE 68959.

August Birthdays

3—Barb Detlefsen
3—Pat Mullin
4—Mikaela Froid
5—Orlan Grams
5—Melissa Klabunde
5—Jerzee Smidt
6—Marcia Fries
6—Nathan Martin
7—Jan Marlatt
8—Kevin Smith
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 Anniversaries

6—Dan & Ginger Frizane—60 years
12—Dave & Jane Craig—48 years
12—Tony & Julie Ratka—31 years
13—John & Pat Mullin—60 years
17—Lori & Mike Conyers—35 years
25—Mark & Lori Loseke—25 years



July 2026 Financial Report...

General Giving in July	\$11,598
General Fund Giving to Date	\$98,592
General Expenses in July	\$15,853
General Fund Expenses to Date	\$117,303

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

RUMMAGE SALE

 **AUGUST 11** 9am to 7pm

 **AUGUST 12** 9am to 7pm

 **AUGUST 13** 9am to 1pm
WITH **\$3 BAG SALE!** 

YOUTH GROUP

SCHEDULE

ONE YOUTH GROUP. TWO CHURCHES. ONE MISSION.

SUNDAYS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

1st & 3rd SUNDAYS
at
BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH



2nd & 4th SUNDAYS
at
MINDEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

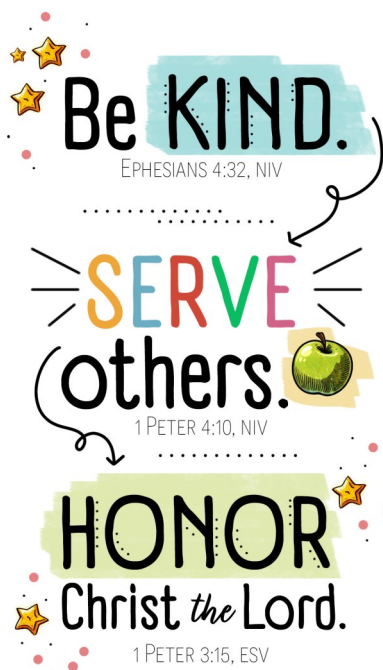


 **YOUTH GROUP MEETS EVERY SUNDAY FROM 7:00-8:00 PM UNLESS A SPECIAL EVENT IS SCHEDULED.**



Throughout the year we'll enjoy Bible study, games, service projects, special events, retreats, and plenty of fun as we grow in faith and friendship together.





Scripture Reader & Call to Worship

August 2	
August 9	Shirley Fellers
August 16	Lori Conyers
August 23	Marilyn Rasmussen
August 30	Larry Evans

Refreshment Hosts

August 2	Kim Johansen
August 9	Wilkinson
August 16	Dawn Moyer
August 23	Ginny Madsen
August 30	Evans



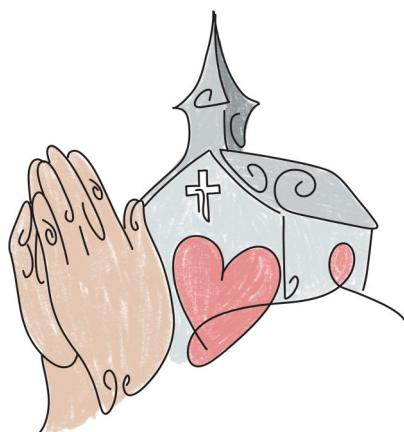
Nominations Committee Meeting

August 16, 2026 1:00 p.m.

Leadership Board: August 19, 2026 7 p.m.

Prayer List

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: 308-832-1995—managerumcminden@msn.com—Mindenumc.org



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**
