

**JUNE**

NEWSLETTER

**Pastor: Chad Christensen**

**Email: revchrste5@gmail.com**

**Cell phone: 507-517-4160**

**Pastor Chad's Office hours:**

**Tuesday & Thursday- 9:00-12 :00**

**Administrative Assistant: Janet Sinning**

**Email: secdcumc@gmail.com**

**Phone: 507-374-6885 (Office)**

**Office Hours: Monday & Thursday's  
8:00- 1:00**

**Website: [www.dodgecenterumc.org](http://www.dodgecenterumc.org)**

**Visit us and like us on Facebook!**

**Dodge Center United Methodist Church**  
PO Box 98  
20 First Street NE  
Dodge Center, MN 55927

**Worship Services 8:00 am in  
person and online on Facebook.**

**DEADLINE FOR  
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES  
May 23**

June means Juno's month. ... She was Jupiter's wife and the mother to Mars, the God who gives his name to the month of March. Juno is the goddess of marriage and it is therefore considered good luck to be married in June.

## Pastor Chad's Message...

Connecting to God: The Story of Samuel

[Excerpt from Connecting with God in a Disconnected World: A Guide for Spiritual Growth and Renewal, by Carolyn Mowchan and Damian Vraniak.]



Samuel's mother, Hannah (from the Old Testament), was torn apart in a bitter struggle. In her pain she turned to God. Her frustration about being childless led her to offer God a son, if only God would assist her. Samuel, the result of this promise, was dedicated to God and sent to the temple where priests raised him. Their lives revolved around worship and obedience to God. In this setting, Samuel learned how to prepare for God's contact and presence. An older man of faith, Eli, taught him how to understand God's communication. (Read 1 Samuel 3:1-11)

Notice that Samuel demonstrates willingness to be contacted by God and willing to be a servant. When people give up on prayer, it's because they keep asking God to serve them and God is not always willing to be our servant. But God is faithful to those who seek, ask, and knock (Luke 11:9-13), looking for opportunities to "let God be God." The journeys God asks us to take, like Samuel's, may be difficult. He was asked to deliver a message of destruction, knowing no doubt that kings often beheaded the messengers when they didn't like the message! God's work sometimes seems impossible. But God walks with, directs, strengthens, and empowers those who take up the mantle of God's work. When we pray asking God to use us in service, demonstrating our willingness to let God lead, God invariably answers those prayers. We can pray, "Speak Lord, for your servant is listening" or "Thy will, not thine be done."

Most of God's message, most of the stories we read about God's contact in the Bible, have to do with God sending servants on a mission, often terribly difficult ones. Many if not most of God's servants were reluctant to take up the task, and therefore in the process they had to trust in God's strength and not their own.

Contact with God then includes stepping aside, pausing, and inviting God to speak. The speech may be nonverbal. Communication comes in many forms and in many ways. But we are promised that those who seek God and those who respond when God seeks them out will begin to experience the presence and guidance of God. When we pray for wisdom and guidance and are willing to be parented, God is there.

May you have a rich and meaningful summer!

Yours in Christ, Pastor Chad



Colin Lepp	2
Kaylee Freerksen	3
Chris Franko	6
Linda Bowman	8
Lois Kispert	8
Craig Mussman	8
Marty Hester	15
Brandon Schmoll	17
Susan Olness	22
Bridgette Narveson	27
Terry Lepp	24



**Readers:**

<b>June 6</b>	<b>Sheila Freerksen</b>
<b>June 13</b>	<b>Lisa O'Neil</b>
<b>June 20</b>	<b>Tyler Kispert</b>
<b>June 27</b>	<b>Ralph Burtis</b>

**Counters:**

<b>June 6</b>	<b>Lisa O'Neil and Shawn Lepp</b>
<b>June 13</b>	<b>Dale and Lona Jensen</b>
<b>June 20</b>	<b>Kelly Amunrud and Kim Maquardt</b>
<b>June 27</b>	<b>Ralph Burtis and Kim Marquardt</b>

**If you are unable to do your duty on the assigned Sunday, please find a substitute.**



Grandchildren  
 Service men and women  
 Those who have no church home  
 Young adults who have left the church  
 Those who suffer from mental illness and addictions; and their families  
 Those affected by Alzheimer's and other ailments of aging  
 Traveling mercies  
 Unspoken prayers

**Can't make it to in person worship? You can view the service each Sunday on Facebook. Search United Methodist Church of Dodge Center. You don't need Facebook to view our service.**

Giving— just a friendly reminder to continue sending your giving to the church. You may mail it to  
 PO Box 98  
 Dodge Center, MN 55927



Randy & Karen Franko	6
Larry & Deb Meeker	20

**NOTE: If you have moved or changed your phone number, please let the church office know. We want to stay in touch with you.**

**DODGE CENTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2021 (Approved)**



**ATTENDANCE:** Beth Hanggi (SPRC), Chad Christensen (Pastor), Dale Jensen (Trustees), Kelly Amunrud (Trust Fund), Janet Bugarin (SPRC), Kelly Amunrud (Trust Fund), Lisa O'Neil (Ad Council Chairperson), Sheila Freerksen (Secretary Ad Council), and Tyler Kispert (Treasurer).

**MEETING:** Lisa called the meeting to order. The Vision Mission statement was read in unison. Concerns and praise reports were shared. Pastor Chad opened the meeting with a prayer.

**SECRETARY:** The March 16, 2021 Ad Council minutes were distributed. One item was updated. Motion was made to approve the updated minutes. Motion was seconded and approved.

**TREASURER:** 2021 apportionments current. Still owe 3 months in 2020 = \$2,525.34. Parsonage property tax is \$1,155 in May and October, and total is \$2,310. There is a \$475 deposit and \$3,800 with a total of \$4,275, from parsonage income. This can be used to pay the parsonage property taxes. March checking ending bank balance \$10,985.322. Memorial fund balance is \$12,458.48.

**TRUST FUND:** The balance is \$68,705.60.

**TRUSTEES:** At the parsonage, the water softener was repaired. At the parsonage, the front door needs to be repaired or replaced. There are two ceiling lights in the west side of the UMC Fellowship room that need to be repaired.

**SPRC:** We held a discussion about sending invitations inviting members back to church now that we are open. We decided to start with inviting members to the congregational meeting on Sunday, May 23, at 2:00 pm, to revisit and reboot our Church Check-Up plan. An invitation will be included in the newsletter and personal invitations will be made and sent out for this event. Tomorrow night, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 5-6pm, we will have a free meal here for our community. A list of upcoming events will be included in the take-out meal bags. The free community dinners will be the third Wednesday, of each month, at 5-6pm. We will hold these outdoors weather permitting.

**PASTOR:** See page 2 for details.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Sunday School classes are now April 25<sup>th</sup>, May 9<sup>th</sup>, and May 23<sup>rd</sup>. WWAP will be the third Friday in each month at 9:30a.m. Sale of the parsonage property was discussed. We will discuss this again next month. Our committee list is in the process of being updated. Administration Professional Day is Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. We will send flowers to our UMC secretary. We received a \$2,500 grant for promotional items. Items such as banners, bags, t-shirts, koozies, event tent, and beverage containers were ordered. In May, we'll donate Bibles to our Sunday School 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and we will celebrate our high school seniors this year (McKenna Freerksen and Summer Freerksen).

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 6:30pm.

Sheila Freerksen  
Administrative Council Secretary

## **DCUMC: Pastor Chad's report for 3/16/21 - 4/5/21**

Home/phone visits: 10 people visited

Pre-marriage/wedding planning visits: 0

Nursing home or facility visits: 0

Funerals: 0 Weddings: 0

### **Vacation granted: April 8-10**

#### Pastor Chad's Ministries & Activities:

Calling parishioners on phone to check-in

Planning Holy Week & Easter worship

Working with Janet S. on church advertising and grant and materials

Triton school Sr. class Baccalaureate service planning (meetings on Mar 24 & Apr 29—service will be on last school day of the year in the evening with students and parents attending: I am the Dodge Center clergy rep. for this service)

Finished mid-week devotions – Lenten theme “Love” using Bishop Curry book

Finished Bible/book study “Grateful”, Diana Butler Bass book

Pastor's text study with Kenyon area Lutheran and Methodist pastors (weekly)

#### UPCOMING Ministries & Activities

New Thurs devotion series coming, via FB live

Thinking about holding a Youth Lock-in event with DC UMC & Trinity youth at UMC church in Dodge Center (discuss at Ad Council)

Note of thanks from Pastor Chad: I sure appreciate the “all hands on deck” approach you took for preparing for Easter and adorning the sanctuary, such a fine day!! (I especially felt good about the Maundy Thursday and Easter Day services, as my first Easter at DCUMC). And as well, I know the Carry Out turkey meal will go well on the 21<sup>st</sup> by our dedicated church. God bless you!

#### Correspondence –

OFFICE HRS:

Trinity: Mon: 9-noon; Wed: 9-noon;

DCUMC: Tues.: 9-noon & Thurs 9-noon (w/secretary at UMC) and pastor's text study

Friday- Pastoral visitation and final prep for Sunday

Sat.: day off

## **WWAP meets**

**WWAP,(Women With a Purpose) will meet on Friday, June 18 at 9:30 a.m. at the church. All women of the church and friends are welcome to join us for an informal time of fellowship. Bring you own beverage and a snack to share if you wish.**

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NEXT Book/Bible Study – On the book Discovering Hope. This is a book that will be more driven to understanding our mission and ministry at DC UMC than it will be about learning about a specific topic, like gratefulness (our last study). The book addresses renewal and vitality in our church. Our Administrative Council is reading this book, and we'd like to have more people involved in the study. The book study begins on June 3, and every Thursday thereafter through July 1, from 6:00-7:00 pm. Offered both in-person at our church and via ZOOM. An email on this will also be coming to you. Let Pastor Chad know of your interest, and he can get the book for you—no cost to you; it is covered by the church.



# You're Invited!!

*Join us for a...*

## **Free Dinner**

**(open to anyone in the community)**

***Take Out & Curbside Pickup will be available***

## **Wednesday, June 16**

Time: 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Dodge Center United Methodist Church

*1<sup>st</sup> Street and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue; Dodge Center*

Dear Members,

We could use help with this event. If you are interested in helping out by providing food or helping set up, serve, or clean up, please sign up with this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F094CA5AC2AA1FA7-umcfree9>

Or you can email Lisa O'Neil ([peelette@yahoo.com](mailto:peelette@yahoo.com)) and she'll add you to the sign up.



# Congratulations to our graduates!

McKenna Freerksen and Summer Freerksen



“Congratulations on your **graduation** and best wishes for your next adventure!”



## HEIFER INTERNATIONAL GIVING TOTAL WAS \$735.00!

Thank-you to all who donated cash, coins, and checks to Heifer International this year during Lent and through April. A total of \$735.00 was given, an amazing amount for a pandemic year when funds were tight for everyone. We did not collect monies in 2020 and so this was the 9th year we have sent money to Heifer International.

Save your coins in the coming year as we will again collect during Lent in 2022! We are planning for the Sunday School youth to have a Noisy Offering on Palm Sunday next year. God Bless your generosity!

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders Received Bibles on May 23<sup>rd</sup>

Two of our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders, Peyton and Blake, received a Bible from the church at the end of our Sunday School year. It has long been a tradition at Dodge Center United Methodist church to give a Bible to 3<sup>rd</sup> graders.

We hope that these Bibles will continue to be a lamp and a light to these young guys throughout their lifetimes.



# JUNE 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Pastor's coffee 12:15	4	5
6 Communion	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Ad Council 6:30 pm	16 Free Community Dinner 5-6 pm	17	18	19
20 Newsletter  Father's Day	21 	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Happy birthday John Wesley (1703)	29	30			



THE NEWSLETTER  
Dodge Center United Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 98  
Dodge Center, MN 55927  
507-374-6885

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

June 2021

*While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; [a] with him I am well pleased; listen to him!"*