

# November 2021 Newsletter

United Methodist Church of Dodge Center

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**Pastor: Chad Christensen**

**Email: [revchrste5@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:secdcumc@gmail.com)**

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

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

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

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

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**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.**

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**DEADLINE FOR  
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES  
November 21**

If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.  
— Philippians 2:1-2

## Pastor Chad's Message...

A time to... improve our mental health...

When I was growing up, I would take “scouting” walks with my dad through the corn and soybean fields early on after planting. On one morning doing this, with the fullness of the crop foliage growing to a height that was covering the rows, it slowed down our walk and also made things tougher to see on the ground. When we got near a grassy fence line, a startling sight appeared in front of us. A mother badger with her little ones were there looking right up at us, with their empty den canal right behind them. My dad and I froze in place—with great fear and respect for what was nature’s protection of a mother badger for her cubs, we s-l-o-w-l-y backed away into the corn behind us and walked away unharmed.

An adult badger that is disturbed expands to what seems three times her size. Everything about seeing that transition speaks “be somewhere else.” Our human body speaks of fight or flight. The nervous system stands the hair up on the back of our neck—we know when we are threatened, just like an animal does.

Being “well” in these days seems like a tall task. We live in unsettled times... I have said this quite a bit during my time with you. Perhaps saying such in repetition does not help to settle us but keeps the anxiety near. We deal with acute situations that bring threat (like suddenly meeting a badger) or have misgivings—hardship with money or fighting with a family member, or uncertainty about our standing with a friend—to the more subtle awareness of not knowing what the holidays ahead of us will look like or laboring ourselves into tiredness. These things bear upon us their own weight. It is as if we have a badger by us, ready to strike.

Ecclesiastes 3 tells us that everything has its time, determined by God. A time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance; a time to keep and a time to throw away. Are you dealing with subtle or not-so-subtle threats or unease as we enter the end of year? Would a good session or two with a qualified counselor help you meet the days ahead, given personal, family, work, spiritual, or other issues? Good mental health is worth much. Take time for yourself and to examine where you are with your thoughts and unease. A trusted partner like a mental health professional, or myself or another member of the clergy, or a good friend can go a longways in lending an ear.

Blessings to you all in this month of autumn wonder, the transition into winter, and ... a time of caring for your mental health.

Pastor Christensen



WWAP (Women With a Purpose) will meet Friday, Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am at the church.

All women and friends of the church are invited to join us for an informal time of fellowship.

**Readers:**

- Nov. 7 Janet Bugarin**
- Nov. 14 Lisa O'Neil**
- Nov. 21 Kelly Amunrud**
- Nov. 28 Tyler Kispert**

**Counters:**

- Nov. 7 Kim Marquardt and Ralph Burtis**
- Nov.14 Dale and Lona Jensen**
- Nov. 21 Shawn Lepp and Kathy Bartz**
- Nov. 28 Lisa O'Neil and Shawn Lepp**

**Prayer Shawls**

Prayer shawls are available at church. We have received new prayer shawls that are to be given at no charge to anyone in the community. Some of the shawls are larger in size and would work well as a lap robe. Thank you to Cheryl Stowers who had donated 4 new crocheted shawls. Anyone may take a shawl to give away. See Janet Sinning or Lois Lepp if you need assistance.

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

**Adult Caregiver Support Group**

A new Adult Caregiver Support Group has been established at Dodge Center United Methodist Church .Pastor Chad leads this group every other Thursday from 6:30-7:30pm. The group time is meant for those who care for adult loved ones at home to get a bit of respite, and confidentially share about their joys and challenges in this type of caregiving. The next four Thursdays for the support group are November 4 & 18; and December 2 & 16 at 6:30pm. It is a small group; all caregivers are welcome. One need not share at the meetings; occasionally educational films on caregiving are shown.



- 2 Ana Amunrud
- 4 Naomi Flurry
- 9 Peyton Lepp
- 13 Brady Freerksen
- 19 Amelia Peck
- 19 Blake Freerksen
- 21 Terri Lepp
- 24 Sheila Freerksen

- 6 Chad and Kelly Amunrud
- 25 Larry and Carole Burtis

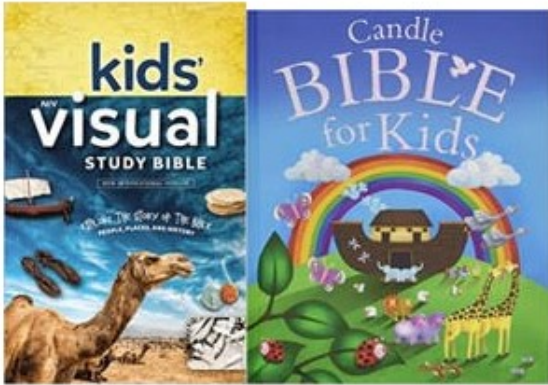
**NOTE:** If you have moved or changed your phone number or email, please let the church office know. We want to stay in touch with you.

## Giving Report for October

Needed each week \$1,637.00

Given:

|       |          |
|-------|----------|
| 10/3  | 810.00   |
| 10/10 | 3,123.00 |
| 10/17 | 90.00    |
| 10/24 | 754.00   |



November 21 – Bible Presentation Sunday  
Our church will be gifting Sunday School families with colorful children's Bibles this year. Please join us for worship this Sunday

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### Tues Morning 7 am Men's Coffee & Bible Study at Trinity Lutheran, WC

The Men of Trinity Lutheran, West Concord, discuss and solve! many of the major issues of the day, then we look into the Scriptures each Tuesday morning at Trinity at 7:00 to 8:00 am-- Coffee is served.

Pastor Chad offers rides from Dodge Center at 6:30 am and returns to DC at 8:30 am

We are currently reading: Troublesome Bible Passages by Randy Cross

Join us in-person or via Zoom (let Pastor know your email address)

Dick, Russ, Tom, Doug (& Gerry, Delmer and Pastor from Methodist Church) welcome you!!

## College Address

Mckenna Freerksen  
Northland College, CMB 1208  
1411 Ellis Avenue  
Ashland, WI 54806

Pastor Chad will be on vacation Thanksgiving Day through Nov. 28.

Please contact him on his cell phone if in need during an emergency, 507- 517-4160.

## Your help is needed

**We are now short one person on the flower committee to provide flowers for April, July, and November on a rotating basis. Any volunteers? Let Lois Lepp know if you can help.**



**Community Thanksgiving Worship at Dodge Center United Methodist Church, 6 pm, Sunday, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>, with Pastor Chad hosting and preaching. This service is for all the churches in our Triton district, including West Concord, Concord, and Claremont along with Dodge Center. Refreshments will be served after the service.**

Mid-week Advent services, hosted by Pastor Chad at Trinity Lutheran Church, West Concord this year on Wednesdays, Dec. 1, 8, and 15. More info will be coming about these services in later November.

# NOVEMBER SUNDAY SCHOOL ~ "CALLING THE DISCIPLES"

**Main Idea:** Long ago Jesus called people to be his disciples, to learn from him and to teach others. Jesus calls us today to witness to the good news that he brought and to share Jesus' story with others.

**Mark 1:17-18**



**Objectives:** Children will ...

- ~ discover the first disciples that Jesus called were ordinary fishermen;
- ~ discover Jesus calls people today to follow and be disciples;
- ~ experience ways we can follow Jesus;
- ~ discover Jesus calls people who are less than perfect to be his disciple;
- ~ experience the story of Jesus calling the first disciples;
- ~ discover different ways of sharing Jesus' story with others.

## Sunday School Schedule

There is Sunday School on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month for kids ages 3 years old through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The classes are held during worship. As in the past, the children will start in worship and then go to class, in the basement, after the children's message. The schedule for the year is below. Mark your calendars.

| Date   | Lesson                                    |
|--|---|
| November 7, 21   | Calling the Disciples (Mark 1:17-18)      |
| December 5, 19   | Christmas Around the World (Matthew 2:11) |
| January 9, 23<br><i>*Note: this is not the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday.</i> | The Boys' Lunch (John 6:9)                |
| February 6, 20   | Peer Pressure (Hebrews 10:24)             |
| March 6, 20  | Easter: Go and Tell (Matthew 28:19)       |
| April 3, 10<br><i>*April 10 Palm Sunday</i>  | People Who Made a Difference (John 4:39)  |
| April 17 (EASTER)  | NO SUNDAY SCHOOL                          |
| May 1, 15  | Pentecost (Acts 2:4)                      |

# Caregivers Support Group

Are you a family member caring for a loved one?



Dodge Center United Methodist Church is holding support group meetings

|                       |         |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Nov. 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 6:30 pm |
| Nov. 18 <sup>th</sup> | 6:30 pm |
| Dec. 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | 6:30 pm |
| Dec. 16 <sup>th</sup> | 6:30 pm |

Dodge Center United Methodist Church  
20 1<sup>st</sup> Street NE  
Dodge Center  
374-6885

Often times, caregivers say they are looking for support from people who “really understand because they’ve been there, too.”

A Caregiver Support Group offers just that—a safe place for caregivers to meet and develop a mutual support system.



United Methodist Church

## UMC Free Dinner - Wednesday, November 17, 2021; 5-6 pm

Our church is reaching out to the community by providing a free meal to ALL. It will all be take-out with curbside pick up available. Everyone in the community is welcome to pick up a meal.

Last month, we served 60+ meals which is amazing!! We could use help in furnishing food, preparing the take out meals, and set up/clean up. Please consider donating your time or food. Monetary donations are welcome too. Your help is greatly appreciated! Thank you!!

Please review the available slots below and click on the button to sign up. Thank you!



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F094CA5AC2AA1FA7-umcfree13>

### Meals-On-Wheels

November 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> Thursday and Friday are needed.  
November 22<sup>nd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday are needed  
(Thursday, Thanksgiving Day, is not needed) .

If you can help, contact Sheila Freerksen.



### All Saint's Sunday

Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup> is All Saints Sunday, when we have a ritual of remembrance and candle lighting for those who have died in the past year. Please note this special service. Families of these saints now departed will be contacted about this special day in our church life.



Saturday December 11, 2021  
9:30 to 11:00  
Women's Potluck Christmas Brunch

DODGE CENTER UNITED METHODIST  
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2021



**ATTENDANCE:** Beth Hanggi (SPRC), Chad Christensen (Pastor), Kelly Amunrud (Secretary & Trust Fund), Lisa O'Neil (Ad Council Chairperson), and Tyler Kispert (Treasurer).

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

**SECRETARY:** The August Ad Council minutes were distributed. Motion was made to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded and approved.

**TREASURER:** The ending August bank balance was \$8,889.75. The Memorial Fund August balance is \$12,973.73. We still owe \$2,181.03 for 2021 apportionments.

**TRUST FUND:** Ending July balance \$72,596.24 and ending August balance \$73,949.88.

**TRUSTEES:** Dale had previously approved the roof project at the parsonage. This will be done prior to the snow fall. The west door and front lights were noted to be dim. Dale is looking into this. Our renter is moving out Oct 1<sup>st</sup>.

**SPRC:** Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6:30 – 7:30 will be the caregiver support mtg.

**PASTOR:** (See page 2)

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration: Finalized the order of worship, Pastor Chad will send out an e-mail regarding Sunday's activities.

Pork loin supper: We handed out 209 meals and our donations were close to \$2,000.

October meal: Will be held 10/20/21. Menu will be taken care of soon.

Sunday School: Will start October 3<sup>rd</sup> and will be held the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays from October through May for ages 3-year-old through 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. (note new time)

Kelly Amunrud  
Administrative Council Secretary

# November 2021

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

1

2

3

4

Adult Care-givers  
6:30

5

6

7

Communion  
S. School

8

9

10

Confirmation  
7:30

11



12

13

14

15

16

17

Community diinner  
5-6pm  
Confirmation  
7:30

18

Adult Care-givers  
6:30

19

WWAP 9:30

20

District wide  
Charge Conference tentatively in  
Rochester

21 Bible

Presentation  
S. School  
Newsletter  
deadline

22

23

24

25



26

Pastor Chad  
gone thru  
28<sup>th</sup>

27

28

First Sunday  
of Advent

29

30

Ad Council  
6 pm



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

**November 2021**