

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



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

August 2022

July 2022
Newsletter

United Methodist Church
of Dodge Center
PO BOX 98,
20 first Street NE,
Dodge Center, MN

Pastor: Chad Christensen

Email: revchriste5@gmail.com

Cell phone: 507-517-4160

Pastor Chad's Office hours:

Tuesday & Thursday

9:00am-12 :00pm

**Administrative Assistant:
Hannah Olson**

Email: secdcumc@gmail.com

**Office Phone: 507-374-6885
(please leave a message
if we are unable to answer)**

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

**Website:
www.dodgecenterumc.org**

**Visit us and like us on Facebook!
(United Methodist Church
of Dodge Center)**

**Worship Service is
at 8:30 am on
Sunday morning
in person and
online on Facebook.**

Deadline for
the September
Newsletter is
August 23rd.

Spiritual Maturity

What comes to mind as you hear the words, "Spiritual maturity"? What exactly is that? Spiritual maturity? I think that one definite answer is to say that it is nothing more and nothing less than humility. Can we be vulnerable before our Lord God? Can we be vulnerable and trust in those near and dear to us, in faith, as we walk together spiritually?

The Scriptures reveal such vulnerability. In Exodus 17, the Israelites moaned and groaned before Moses and their God, and it was out of God's goodness that water came out of that rock for them. IN John 4, the whole meaning of the Samaritan woman at the well is not that she had multiple husbands, but rather that Jesus knows her. And the woman knew he knew her! It is the same for you and me. Our Lord knows us! In our great moments, in our less than great moments, in our joys, as well as weakness and despair, God knows us. This truth may not always be comforting to us, as if we say "Oh Lord, turn your head from me...?" It is vulnerable to be revealed so. But that is not all that we are, either. For we are also loved. Loved and cared for in our vulnerability.

The people of Israel put God to the test. But God did not leave them. Jesus did not dismiss or shun the Samaritan woman, rather, he said, "Believe...believe in me." (John 4:21, 26). In both scriptures there is thirst for water, and their thirst is quenched by God.

Humility. These people were truly before God as humble. We cannot truly walk with Jesus when we are trying to be God. When we are trying to be in control of our lives, as if that were possible. It is as simple—and as difficult—as that.

There is something about our humility, our humble nature, and it starts not when we are serving, as if kneeling before another and washing their feet or bending down to lift another up. Humility does not begin with serving. It begins with the readiness to be served.

There can be too much pride wrapped up, too much condescension in our giving. "Oh, I'll help you because you can't help yourself!! If we are true with ourselves, we may help because it makes us feel good, look good, and maybe even because it keeps the other one below.

But no. English theologian William Temple states, "humility shows itself first in the readiness to receive service from [others] and supremely from God. To accept service from [others] is to acknowledge a measure of dependence on them...and there is a vulnerability in that. But it is the service of God which we must above all be ready to accept."

Can we be so receiving? Can we be so vulnerable? It is necessary simply because there is one truth about all of us—We all thirst. We all thirst.

And what is this "service" that we are called to accept from God? Romans 5:6 states: "For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly..." Jesus' death is God's service. God's service is the free gift of forgiveness of sin, bought entirely by the precious blood of Christ Jesus on Good Friday and not by any act of our own.

And so it is with spiritual maturity, then, that we stand in humility, at the foot of the cross, claiming no merit of our own whatsoever. We stand there in honest vulnerability ready to accept the loving care of others who stand at the foot of that same cross and in the same condition. Only in such a state can we be truly open to God's purposes in the world.



August 2022

Birthdays

Deb Meeker	9
Kaylee Narveson	18
Taylor Lepp	22
Rebecca Schletty	22
Keith Bowman	28
Jacob Monson	31

Anniversaries

Phil and Cheryl Stowers	7
Steven and Shari Garness	9
Don and Rose Ella Subbert	11
Mark and Angela Freerksen	18

Thank You To All Our Volunteers!

Readers

August 7	Tyler Kispert
August 14	Janet Bugarin
August 21	Kelly Amunrud
August 28	Kathy Bartz

Counters

August 7	Kelly Amunrud and Shawn Lepp
August 14	Dale and Lona Jensen
August 21	Kelly Amunrud and Shawn Lepp
August 28	Kathy Bartz and Kim Marquardt

Communion

August 7	Linda Wallerich
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If you are unable to do your duty
on the assigned Sunday, please find a substitute.

New Schedule

Our church office hours and Pastor Chad's weekly schedule will be changing starting September 1st.

Pastor Chad:

Monday and Tuesday
at Dodge Center
9a.m. to Noon

Wednesday and Thursday
at Trinity Lutheran
9a.m. to 11a.m.

Friday
Pastoral visitations

Saturday
Day off

Sunday
Church Services



**Office/
Secretary
hours:**
Tuesday &
Wednesday
9a.m. to 2p.m.

**June 26th through
August 28th,
worship service is
moved to 8:30 AM**

The Dodge County Fair

The Dodge County Fair worship service led by our church on July 17 had 33 people attending, parishioners and fair goers alike, in addition to those watching online.

The Fair has had a worship service for a number of years now.

Next year another church in the county will lead the service.

You're Invited!!

Join us for a...

Free Dinner

(open to anyone in the community)

DINE IN and curbside available

Wednesday, August 17

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

Dodge Center United Methodist Church

1st Street and 1st Avenue; Dodge Center



Summer Picnic
Sunday, August 21

at Noon

Joint picnic with
Trinity Lutheran
Church
at West Concord
Memorial Park
(near the
swimming pool).

WWAP

Next meeting is on Saturday,
August 13 at 9:30 a.m.
at church.

Please note that this is one week
earlier than the usual meetings.

Liaison Committee Meeting

Have a question or concern??

The next Liaison Committee meeting will be on
August 10th at 7pm

DC UMC and Trinity Lutheran, West Concord have
established a committee of two representatives each to
meet and discuss the sharing of pastoral services.

Topics like worship times, mutual events, and joint
ministries will be explored. Lisa O'Neil, president, and
Beth Hanggi, Staff-Parish Relations committee chair,
represent DCUMC at these meetings.

Vacation Time

Pastor Chad
will be on vacation
August 22nd through
September 3rd.

BOOK STUDY

Open to Women and Men!

A book study on

"The Women of the Bible Speak"
will meet for one hour discussion
on Wednesday **August 10 at 6pm**

(in-person and via Zoom options provided)

We will be addressing our church's mission
through the discussion of this book.

Also, we will meet at a time (TBD)
once in Sept. and Oct.

To participate and order a book,
please email me (Pastor Chad) back.



CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

FIND A SUPPORT SYSTEM TODAY!

Build a support system with people who understand.
This caregiver support group is a safe place for ALL caregivers, family, and friends who are caring for someone with chronic illness or dementia to share their concerns, needs and feelings.

Exchange practical information on caregiving challenges and possible solutions.

Talk through issues and behaviors and find ways to cope.

DODGE CENTER

Location:

Dodge Center United Methodist Church
20 1st Street NE
Dodge Center, MN 55927

Learn about community resources.

Date/Time:

2nd and 4th Thursday
of the month.
From 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Occasional educational speakers.

Meetings are in-person.

July 28 th	Oct. 6 th
Aug. 11 th	Oct. 20 th
Aug. 25 th	Nov. 10 th
Sept. 8 th	Dec. 8 th
Sept. 22 nd	Dec. 22 nd

Feel free to contact:

Mary Sue Sandeno – 507-208-8672
Beth Hanggi – 507-261-2989
United Methodist Church – 507-374-6885
(If there is no answer,
please leave a message.)

**Dodge Center United Methodist Church
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DODGE CENTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2022 (REVISED)

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

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 May Ad Council minutes were distributed. Motion was made to approve the minutes.

Motion was seconded and approved.

TREASURER: End of May checking was \$20,951.38 (\$6,265.51 set aside for parsonage). End of May memorial was \$13,397.56. Apportionments are paid to date, balance for 2022 owed is \$3,992.04. Insurance paid up to date, balance for 2022 owed is \$4,896.

TRUST FUND: End of May balance is \$73,065.05.

TRUSTEES: No report

SPRC: The SPRC book was brought up to date with information found.

PASTOR: (See page 2)

Additions: Pastor Chad will be teaching Thurs. afternoons Sept – Dec at Luther Seminary. Motion was seconded and approved for this time away. He will change office hours to accommodate.

-Pastor Chad will be away July 3rd so a supply pastor will be requested so we can have communion.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Annual Conference Update: Lisa will give an update on Sunday 6/26/22.

Trinity Lutheran Joint Mtg (6/8): Discussed time change, DC UMC will move to 8:30 AM 6/26 – 8/28.

Next mtg will be 8/10 at 7 PM where time change will be discussed further. Requested we align end of year

forms to accommodate both churches.

Single Governing Board discussion – tabled until July.

Approved policies were printed and will be filed.

Upcoming Events:

July 13th – New book study “The Women of the Bible Speak” will start 7/13 at 6 PM. Next mtg will be 8/10 at 6 PM. Sept. and Oct. dates/times TBD. Zoom and in person options available.

July 17th – Joint Trinity Lutheran/DC UMC worship will be at the Dodge County Fair July 17th at 10:30

AM at the Township Square stage across from the 4-H bldg. No worship in Dodge Center that Sunday.

July 20th – Community Dinner at 5 PM – meal TBD

August 21st – SAVE THE DATE Joint potluck picnic with Trinity Lutheran at West Concord Memorial

Park (by the swimming pool). More info to come.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, July 19th at 5:30pm.

DCUMC: Pastor Chad's report for 6/3/22 to 7/12/22

Home/phone visits: 14

Pre-marriage/wedding planning visits: 0 Weddings: 0 Sick days: 3

Nursing home or facility visits: 2 (Fairview) Funerals: 0 Vacation days 2022: 8

Pastor Chad's Ministries & Activities:

Planning Sunday worship services

Liaison meeting between both churches, June 8

On-line devotions on Facebook, weekly, resumed in June

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

Served at Community Meal, June 15

Assisting Faith Lutheran, DC, with private baptisms as they are without a pastor

UPCOMING Ministries & Activities

Planning Bible study on mission, Women of the Bible, July 13, Aug. 10, 6pm

Planning worship for County Fair service, July 17

Aug. 10, 7pm Zoom Joint Church Liaison meeting, fall worship time

Aug 21, Noon, West Concord Memorial Park,

Joint congregation picnic with DC UMC

Request vacation for Mon., Aug. 22 – Sat., Sept. 3 (13 days)

OFFICE HRS:

TRINITY: Sun: 10:30-noon; Wed: 9-noon; Friday & Saturday taking phone calls while ministering in community, periodically checking in to office when needed.

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

Friday-Saturday: Pastoral visitation and final prep for Sunday

Mon: day off; Pastor Chad's mobile number: (call/text) **507-517-4160** --End—

AUGUST 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 8:30am Worship Communion	8	9	10 'Women of the Bible' Bible Study 6pm Joint Liaison Meeting 7pm	11 Adult Caregivers Meeting 6:30pm	12	13 WWAP 9:30am
14 8:30am Worship	15	16 Ad Council 5:30pm	17 Free Community Dinner 5-6pm	18	19	20
21 8:30am Worship Joint Picnic West Concord 12pm	22 Pastor Chad will be on vacation Aug.22–Sept.3	23	24	25 Adult Caregivers Meeting 6:30pm	26	27
28 8:30am Worship	29	30	31			