

APRIL 2024

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 7 am Men's Bible Study	3 Confirmation 6:00 PM	4	5	6
7 8:15 worship *SS		9 7 am Men's Bible Study	10 Confirmation 6:00 PM	11 Adult Caregiver Group 6-7:30 PM	12	13
14 8:15 worship *SS **Gideon Seminar after worship	15	16 Ad Council 5:30 Newsletter Deadline	17 Confirmation 6:00 PM Community Dinner 5-6 PM	18	19	20
21 8:15 Worship *SS	22	23 9:30 Worship at Fair- view	24 Confirmation 6:00 PM	25 Adult Caregiver Group 6-7:30 PM	26	27
28 8:15 Worship *SS	29	30 7 am Men's Bible Study				

April 2024
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:

Sun: After worship

Mon, Tues 9-noon

Friday- off

Sat. home visits

Other times by appt.

**Administrative Assistant:
Janet Bugarin**

Email: secdcumc@gmail.com

**Office Phone: 507-374-6885
(please leave a message)**

**Website:
www.dodgecenterumc.org**

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

**Worship Service is
at 8:15 am on
Sunday morning
in person and
online on Facebook.**

Deadline for
the May News-
letter is April 17

Pastor Chad's Ink

"Where, O death, is thy victory?"

"Where, O death, is thy sting?"

These are the apostle Paul's words—Jesus' death and his resurrection from the dead has defeated death at its own game. These words from 1 Corinthians are read at many funeral services—to comfort the bereaved,

"Where, O death, is thy victory?"

"Where, O death, is thy sting?"

These phrases express that while we suffer in the moment of great loss, death will not have the final word; it will not be victorious. Life in Christ will prevail!

Why is this? Why can we say such a bold thing—that death has lost out to life? It is bold, is it not? In the whole span of time of human existence, we have lived in the same period of time—the 20 th century—where many lives perished due to world wars and the Holocaust, famines in Africa and South America due much in part to greed, there has been ethnic cleansing in Europe, ...and now in this new century the reign of terrorism, more wars, and tensions and strife within our own republic. How can we dare say that life has conquered death? How can we believe that the sanctity of life, that which God meant for a peaceful human community, will ever win out?

Can we turn that around—can we at least make peace and good relations in our daily lives with one another? I think we can try, certainly.

And, indeed, that is what God wishes for us—that we play an active part in preserving not only life but the purpose of what we live for, to love God and our neighbor. God's will for us is stated in the apostle Paul's words again at Corinth:

"Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain" (1 Cor. 15:58).

Our labor is for peace and life—for innocence and blessedness as Luther says in his catechism. Yes! These are worthy tasks, labor that will not be done in vain when we partake in them.

Happy Easter to all of you! And rich blessings for life abundant as we see new life unfold around us in this springtime. God bless you!

Pastor Chad Christensen

One of the ministries I provide is pastoral counseling, simply listening to your story. If you have a relationship that is concerning you, I may be able to give you some guidance, or refer you to a qualified licensed counselor or other resources, with confidentiality. Let me know how I may be of aid to you.



Thank You To Our Volunteers!

Readers

April	7	Lisa O'Neil
April	14	Tyler Kispert
April	21	Kelly Amunrud
April	28	Kathy Bartz

Counters

April	7	Lisa O'Neil and Kathy Bartz
April	14	Shawn Lepp and Doris Weber
April	21	Kim Marquardt and Kelly A.
April	28	Kathy Bartz and Doris Weber

Communion

April	7	Deb Papenfus
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If you are unable to do your duty on the assigned Sunday, please find a substitute.



April 2024

Happy Birthday

Evan Schmoll	2
Jackie Schmoll	3
Dylan Freerksen	5
Andrew Narveson	5
Lyla Bowman	10
Brent Freerksen	11
Deegan O'Neil	11
Beverly Rohwer	30
Ellie Freerksen	30
Anniversaries:	
Chris and Lisa O'Neil	16



Sunday April 14 Gaylord Gossard, will be leading a seminar titled "Conversations: A Simple Approach to Sharing the Gospel." Gaylord will share briefly during worship about the Gideon's work in the world. After worship he will lead sessions that help us think some more about our witnessing to our faith through the power of story. We would like as many of our church attendees to be a part of the full morning as possible. We will have our normal coffee fellowship while we take in these seminar topics:
What is the Gospel for today's society?
Why should we share the Gospel?
Basics of sharing the Gospel—answering questions, God's role, and our role.
Tools and resources for sharing and conversation.



We are in need of volunteers for our next Community Dinner which will be held on April 17th. There is a signup sheet in the back of the church or you may signup online using the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F094CA5AC2AA1FA7-46975205-umcfree>

April Meetings Held At Church

Ad Council

The next meeting will be held Tuesday April 16th at 5:30 PM

Adult Caregivers Support Group

Will meet Thursday, April 11th and 25th from 6 - 7:30 PM

Women With A Purpose (WWAP)

WWAP will meet on **Saturday, April 20th at 9:30 AM** at church. All women are invited to join us for an informal time of fellowship. Bring a friend

*Can you help?
Wanted: Greeters*

We're looking for people interested in greeting our visitors and members. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church, or you may get a call from Janet requesting your help with this. We want to be a friendly and welcoming church.

Church Volunteers



NEW MEMBERS

Our Methodist church is seeking individuals and families interested in joining the church. Discernment on choosing a church for one's spiritual growth is a meaningful and deliberately slow process.

During New Member Sundays, we recognize those who desire to join us in ministry through the church. Let Pastor know if you have in mind someone who is open to joining our church or considering attending a church. Pastor would be happy to touch base with them. Keep the ministry of outreach and prospective member recruitment in your prayers.

Contact Pastor Chad at 507-517-4160 or the church office at 507-374-6885



Our is continuing to collect money for Heifer International through April 28. This is our 12th year that we have been collecting money to send to this wonderful

organization. Our goal has always been to raise \$1,000 or more. Last year, we collected \$1314.52. The children were able to choose a variety of animals to send to the Heifer participants. They had a great time choosing them. Let's do it again this year! Since 2012, we have donated \$10,289.75 to Heifer International. Wow!

Thank you for your continued support! . Cash and checks are also accepted.

You can make checks out to Dodge Center UMC and put "Heifer International" in the memo section. We will collect money through Sunday, April 28. There will be a table set up at church for your donations so

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

Date/Time:

2nd and 4th Thursday
of the month.
From 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

2024 Schedule:

April 11, 2024
April 24, 2024

Learn about community resources.

Occasional educational speakers.

Meetings are in-person.

Feel free to contact:

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

**Dodge Center United Methodist Church
20 1st Street NE
Dodge Center, MN 55927
(507) 374-6885**

You're Invited!!

Join us for a...

Free Community Dinner

Wednesday, April 17th

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

Menu: Sloppy Joes, pasta salad, chips and cookies

Dodge Center United Methodist Church

Corner of 1st Ave NE and 1st Street NE

Take Out Available

Donations will this month will go to Heifer International-Sun. school

April Sunday School Lessons

Daniel in the Lion's Den

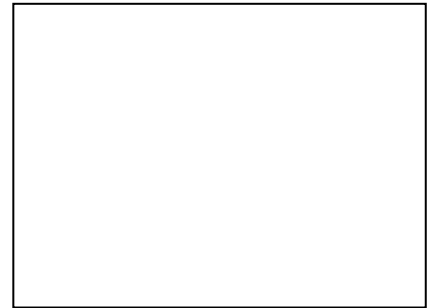
Main Idea: In Daniel we hear stories of people God called to be faithful and to stand up for God. Their stories inspire us and help us learn more about what God calls us to do and be.

Scriptures: Daniel 3 and 6.

Objectives:

Children will...

- ~ Discover biblical characters who stood up for their beliefs in God's rules.
- ~ Discuss ways to stand up for what they believe.
- ~ Experience ways God calls us to be faithful even though it may be hard to do.
- ~ Discover that by being faithful to God, we are setting an example for those who do not know God.
- ~ Discover that sometimes it takes courage to stand up for our faith in today's world.



Sunday School Schedule

There are classes offered every Sunday for kids ages 3 years old through 6th grade. The classes will be during the 8:15 am worship. As in the past, the children will start in worship and then go to class after the children's message. Mark your calendars! See now! See you soon!

April 7, 14, 21, 28	Daniel in the Lions' Den (Psalm 121:2)
May 5, 12 May 19	Jonah (Jonah 4:2) Field Trip to Cobra Country Park

DODGE CENTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
TUESDAY, February 20, 2024 (REVISED)



ATTENDANCE: Beth Hanggi (SPRC), Chad Christensen (Pastor), Kelly Amunrud (Trust Fund), Lisa 'Neil (Ad Council Chairperson), 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 January Ad Council minutes were distributed. Motion was made to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded and approved.

TREASURER: End of January balance \$31,086.77 (\$6,377.01 set aside for parsonage). Memorial fund end of January balance \$15,902.49. Kim M. is performing the audit currently.

TRUST FUND: End of January balance \$75,120.17.

TRUSTEES: All parsonage upgrades are pending.

SPRC: The 3 month secretarial performance review has been completed. A pay increase was approved.

PASTOR: (See page 2)

Pastor has requested March 5th off

OTHER BUSINESS:

Conference tables – These are due Feb. 28th . Agreed to have printed versions saved in the files.

- Dodge County Expo – This will be March 23rd from 8 am – 2 pm. There will be a sign up for help in the booth. The board needs to update, will work on that.

- Gideon presentation – The Gideon's will come and present a Conversation Workshop: A Simple Approach to Sharing the Gospel after church on April 14 th from 9:15 am – noon. The Ad Council members will provide snacks. All members are invited.

Community Dinner –March dinner (DC Food Shelf) will be: Ham, scalloped potatoes, corn, and cake.

- 2024 Holy Week/Easter Services:

Palm Sunday will be March 24th (this will also be Noisy Offering for Heifer project)

Maundy Thursday will be March 28 h at 7:00 PM (West Concord Trinity only)

Easter Sunday will be March 31st

Heifer International 2024 Kick Off date and collection times

o March 10 h Kick off by Lisa

o March 24th Palm Sunday/Noisy Offering

o Collection dates: March 10 h – April 28th

NEXT MEETING: Monday, March 19th at 5:30 PM

Kelly Amunrud, Administrative Council Secretary

DCUMC: Pastor Chad's report for 1/1/24 through 1/31/24

Home/phone visits: 5 Pre-marriage/wedding planning visits: 0 Weddings: 0
Nursing home or facility visits: 2 (Circle Manor, Fairview) Funerals: 0 Vac-
ation

days taken in January: 1 (Jan. 2) Sick days taken in January: 1

Pastor Chad's Ministries & Activities:

- Planning and leading general Sunday worship services
- Creating and sending link for Facebook devotions
- Planning and teaching confirmation
- Attended WWAP, 1/20
- Attended Community Meal, 1/17
- Researching and writing reports for Conference
- Attended DC ministerium meeting, 1/18

UPCOMING Ministries & Activities

-DC UMC members are welcome to Wed. Lenten services at 6pm at Trinity
thru Mar. 20

-We are signed up for the Dodge County Expo for Mar. 23

-Having a new member Sunday

-Confirmation class is suspended during Lent; kids are to continue sermon
notes; classes resume Wed. Apr. 3 after Easter Day.

-Planning faith sharing/story telling event on Sun, Apr. 14 (Gideon's;
Gaylord Gossard)

OFFICE HRS: TRINITY office hours: Sun: 9:45-noon; Wed. & Thurs.
9-Noon at Trinity;

Saturday: Pastoral visitation and final prep for Sunday for both churches; al-
so on Saturday taking

phone calls and ministering in community, periodically checking in to office
when needed.

DCUMC hours: Mon. & Tues.: 9-noon (w/secretary at UMC) Friday:
day off; Pastor Chad's

mobile number: (call/text) 507-517-4160 -End-

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



April 2024

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED