

August 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](http://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 September  
Newsletter is  
August 21.

Pastor Chad's Ink

August Sermon Series on "When Christians Get It Wrong"

For the Sundays in August, I will explore several themes that can be slippery slopes for Christians and pose problems for how we take truths from the scriptures and mishandle them and chase after myths that need not be chased. Certainly, the Bible conveys God's wisdom and guidance for us to live by. Yet, there are contradictory verses in the Bible, historical and contextual realities to consider, and disagreements between biblical people on the account of faith within our great multi-volume guide that is the Bible.

One of my favorite authors, Rev. Adam Hamilton, pastor the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas—a mega church—is a master at explaining difficult questions of faith in a down-to-earth fashion. My sermons in August will be based upon some of the chapters in Hamilton's book *When Christians Get It Wrong*. I hope that you will find helpful and thought provoking my reflections on Hamilton's reflections on faith and scripture when dealing with today's issues.

August 4	When Christians are UnChristian
August 11	Christians, Science, and Politics
August 18	When Speaking of Other Religions
August 25	When Bad Things Happen

I hope you are enjoying these days of summer. Make Sunday worship a part of your plans as we round out this season.

you,

God bless you and keep

Pastor Christensen



2024



11	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 8:15 Worship with Communion 	5	6	7	8 No Caregiver's Group	9	10 9:30 WWAP
11 8:15 Worship	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 8:15 Worship	19	20 5:30 Ad Council	21 5-6:00pm Community meal  Newsletter Deadline	22 No Caregiver's Group	23	24
25 8:15 Worship	26 Pastor Chad Vacation	27 Pastor Chad Vacation	28 Pastor Chad Vacation	29 Pastor Chad Vacation	30 Janet out Pastor Chad Vacation	31 Janet out Pastor Chad Vacation



August Birthdays and  
Anniversaries

Deb Meeker	9
Kaylee Narveson	13
Taylor Lepp	22
Rebecca Schletty	22
Keith Bowman	28
Jacob Monson	31

Happy Anniversary

Steven and Shati Garness	9
Don and Rose Ella Subbert	11
Mark and Angela Freerksen	18

thank  
you!

Thank You To Our Volunteers!

Readers

August 4	Janet Bugarin
August 11	Tyler Kispert
August 18	Kathy Bartz
August 25	Lisa O'Neil

Counters

August 4	Kim Marquardt and Shawn Lepp
August 11	Kelly Amunrud and Doris Weber
August 18	Kathy Bartz and Lisa O'Neil
August 25	Lisa O'Neil and Doris Weber

Communion

Linda Wallerich



**We are in need of volunteers for  
our next Community Dinner  
which will be held on August 21st.  
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/20F094CA5AC2AA1FA7-50321729-umcfree](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F094CA5AC2AA1FA7-50321729-umcfree)



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.

Financial News:

The Second Quarter Giving amount was  
\$14,607.85.

The Second Quarter expenses were \$26,417.18.





Despite the rain toward the end of the event, our July community dinner was a success! We served 45 people who ate inside and 23 who chose take out meals. As the pictures show, there was a bouncy house, cotton candy, and a petting zoo! The proceeds in the amount of \$125.00 will go to Ready, Set, Learn of Dodge County. There was someone on hand to help families register for the program as well.



## August Meetings Held At Church



### Ad Council

The next meeting will be held  
Tuesday August 20th  
at 5:30 PM



#### Punchline

A grandfather and granddaughter were sitting talking when she asked, "Did God make you, Grandpa?"

"Yes, God made me" the grandfather said.

A few minutes later, the little girl asked him "Did God make me too?"

"Yes, he did," the older man answered.

For a few minutes, the little girl seemed to be studying her grandpa, as well as her own reflection in the mirror, while her grandfather wondered what was on her mind. At last she spoke up.

"You know, Grandpa," she said, "God's doing a lot better job lately."



### Adult Caregivers Support Group

There will be no meetings  
in August. We will resume  
on September 12th.



### 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.

with them. Keep the ministry of outreach and prospective member recruitment in your prayers. Contact Pastor Chad at 507- 507-517-4160 or the church office at 507-374-6885

WWAP, Women With A Purpose will meet on August 10th . Join us for a time of fellowship with the women of our church and friends. We pray, have a devotion, and potluck snacks. Come and join us and bring a friend!







# 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.



### **Location:**

Dodge Center United Methodist Church  
20 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
Dodge Center, MN 55927

### **Normal Date/Time:**

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

- ♦ Exchange practical information on caregiving challenges and possible solutions.
- ♦ Talk through issues and behaviors and find ways to cope
- ♦ Learn about community resources.
- ♦ Occasional educational speakers.
- ♦ Meetings are in-person.

**No meetings in August.**  
**We will resume on**  
**September 12th.**

### **Feel free to contact:**

\*Mary Sue Sandeno - 507-208-8672

Beth Hanggi - 507-261-2989

United Methodist Church of  
Dodge Center  
507-374-6885

(Please leave a message if there is no answer)



# You're Invited!!

*Join us for a...*

## **Free Community Dinner**

### **Wednesday, August 21st**

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

*Menu:* **Dodge Center** United Methodist Church  
Corner of 1st Ave NE and 1st Street NE

***Take Out Available***

***Here is the link to donate food or your  
time:***

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F094CA5AC2AA1FA7-50321729-umcfree>

Donations this month will go to the Triton Backpack Program.

**Menu:**  
**A variety of salads, mac and  
cheese, chips and watermelon**

**DODGE CENTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVE  
DODGE CENTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, June 18, 2024**



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

**MEETING:** Lisa called the meeting to order. 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 balance \$24,075.41. (Set aside for parsonage \$4654.11) Memorial fund end of May balance \$16,130.42

**TRUST FUND:** End of May balance \$81,407.15

**TRUSTEES:** No report

**SPRC:** Beth will be meeting with Janet to see how things are going.

**PASTOR:** (See page 2) Pastor has requested 8/31-9/1 as vacation

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

- **Annual conference** – Beth will report back to the congregation on July 21<sup>st</sup>.
- **Community Dinner** – July 10<sup>th</sup> we will have the special carnival type meal. Brian Rohrs will play keyboard for two hours. Event runs from 3:30 – 6 PM, food from 4-6 PM. Menu will be hot dogs, chips, applesauce, cookie. We will also have a petting zoo, cotton candy, and a bounce house.
- **July event** – We confirmed music, cotton candy, bounce house, petting zoo. Planned locations and set up. Have a rain back up plan as well. Flyers will be distributed and posters hung.
- **Absences** – Kelly will be gone July 15 – Aug 11 for surgery. Coverage for Ad Council and church recordings was discussed. Janet will be away August 12 – 17, and 20 – Sept 2. Kelly will cover for her doing bulletins, etc.

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, July 16th at 5:30 PM

Kelly Amunrud, Administrative Council Secretary



DCUMC: Pastor Chad's report for 6/9/24 to 7/9/24

Home/phone visits: 4; Pre-marriage/wedding planning visits:  
0 Weddings: 0

Nursing home or facility visits: 2 (Circle Manor, Fairview)

Funerals: 0; Vacation days taken this year through 7/9: 15.5  
(including 1 Sunday) Sick days taken since Jan. 1: 4.5

Pastor Chad's Ministries and Activities:

- Planning and leading general Sunday worship services
  - Led worship service at Fairview, 6/25
  - Attended Community Meal, 6/19
  - Attended Caregiver group meeting
  - Planning July community day picnic, music with Brian Rohrs
  - Attended graduation parties of our youth
- UPCOMING Ministries & Activities
- Community Meal Festival, 7/10

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; also on Saturday taking phone calls and min-  
istering 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

July 14, 2024

Friends in Christ,

I invite you to join me in prayerful action as we respond to yesterday's shooting at former President Donald Trump's political rally. Let us be mindful of the physical, emotional, and spiritual trauma that occurred as we mourn lives lost and the normalizing of violence in our country.

As followers of Christ, we are called to be peacemakers, embodying the love and compassion that Jesus demonstrated throughout his ministry.

Violence, in any form, is antithetical to the Christian faith. Political violence, in particular, not only tears at the fabric of our democracy but also wounds the very soul of our nation. It is in these moments of crisis that we must stand firm in our commitment to non-violence, justice, mercy, and peace.

The Wesleyan tradition, rooted in the unwavering grace of God, compels us to reject all forms of violence and hatred. We are reminded of John

Wesley's call to "do no harm," is a principle that must guide our actions and our responses to the world's brokenness. Let us remember that every person, regardless of their political beliefs, is a beloved child of God.

As we navigate these turbulent times, let us pray fervently for the victims of yesterday's senseless act of violence, for their families, and for all those affected by this tragedy.

But prayer alone is not enough. We must also be active witnesses to the peace and reconciliation that God desires for all of creation. This means engaging in dialogue with those who hold differing views, advocating for policies that promote the common good, and working tirelessly to build communities where every person feels safe and valued.

May we be instruments of God's peace, sowing seeds of love where there is hatred, hope where there is despair, and light where there is darkness.

Together, let us commit to building a world where justice and peace reign, reflecting the kingdom of God here on earth.

In Christ's love and peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bishop Lanette Plambeck". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bishop Lanette Plambeck

Resident Bishop

Dakotas-Minnesota Episcopal Area of The United Methodist Church

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



August 2024

**Marty Hester**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED