

2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4  Office closed	5	6
7 8:15 Worship with Communion	8	9	10 Free Community Picnic and Family event 3:30-6:00 pm	11 6-7:30 Caregivers Group	12	13
14 8:15 Worship	15	16 5:30 Ad Council	17	18	19	20 9:30 WWAP
21 8:15 Worship	22 Newsletter Deadline	23	24	25 6-7:30 Caregivers Group	26	27
28 8:15 Worship	29	30	31			

JULY 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 August
Newsletter is
July 18.

Pastor Chad's Ink

"Stumbling in the Light"

Have you ever wondered why life seems a bit harder now to achieve the same things that you did just 5-10 years ago? It feels like we are making our way by stumbling in the light. Whether it is because of challenging economic times, like inflation, where the dollar does not go quite as far, or the body is not cooperating as much as it once did (some of our elderly members tell me, "Chad it is really hard getting old!), or it take extra work to adjust to the current time, culture, and ways that takes some more thought before navigating? Just know that you are not alone.

When Jesus had arrived on the ministry scene, after having been baptized by John, there was an inbreaking of the kingdom of God upon the people. Jesus said, right after John the Baptizer had laid the groundwork for Jesus to arrive, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent and believe in the good news" (Mark 1:15, NRSV).

There were going to be changes during Jesus' time. There would be liberation of the poor, the oppressed, and the widow. There would be freedom from the scourge attributed to tax collectors and scribes. The common days' rules would be bent toward life, and not ruling for rule's sake. The Sabbath could be a day of rest and healing. Forgiveness and salvation would be bestowed by Christ's death and resurrection, and not by following the law and commandments or traditions of the day. Change... good change... happened and continued to happen!

The scriptures aid us by giving us comfort and encouragement in times when change, whether the change is for good or for ill. Any change comes with its growing pains, because it is easy to become comfortable with the same, the status quo, the "way things have always been." Yet, God is the great re-newer, bringing belief, life and salvation in his Son's name, Jesus, because renewal and change are better for us than the stagnancy of the same.

How will God break forth newness for you this summer season? How will you work in connection with God to make such newness good, right and healthy? Whatever way it is, it is for you, and of you, and by you and through the Holy Spirit of our Lord God.

We have changes around us today, and we know there will be more to come. Thanks be to God that we have a God who understands such changes, and continues to work on us to be the people we are called to be: equipped and forgiven and loved as we are!

Blessings upon your Summertime!

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Christensen



Photo taken in 1994

Back row: Sheila Freerksen, Lisa Chiccos, pianist, David Hubmer, Keith Garvens, Beth Fahning, Andy Benjamin, Lois Lepp ,Colin Lepp, and Charleen Dostal.

Seeking to be good stewards of our choir robes that we no longer use, we donated 18 robes to the FREE table at the Minnesota Annual Conference. Within three hours of the conference opening, a church took them! We do not know which church, but we hope the choir robes, which are still in good condition, will be used (and enjoyed) by this choir to share the Good News through music.





Happy Birthday

Kinley O'Neil	7
Shawn Lepp	10
Gavin O'Neil	11
Nikol Delzer	17
Courtney Kispert	19
Karen Kranko	22
Tyler Kispert	23
Kelly Anumrud	24
Mark Freerksen	26

Happy Anniversary

Dale and Lona Jensen	10
Deb and Richard Papenfus	10

Thank You To Our Volunteers!

Readers

July 7	Tyler Kispert
July 14	Kelly Amunrud
July 21	Janet Bugarin
July 28	Lisa O'Neil

Counters

July 7	Kim Marquardt and Doris Weber
July 14	Shawn Lepp and Kelly Amunrud
July 21	Kim Marquardt and Doris Weber
July 28	Lisa O'Neil and Shawn Lepp

Communion

Deb Papenfus

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

Minnesota Annual Conference 2024 Review

For those who want to check out the review of what took place at Minnesota Annual Conference this year, click on the link below.

<https://www.minnesotaumc.org/newsdetail/2024-conference-highlights-to-share-with-your-church-18384108>

Beth Hanggi and Pastor Chad attended this years judicatory conference on May 29-30 in Bloomington, MN.

Beth will be giving a report during worship about the conference soon, most likely on Sunday, July 7. You may ask her or Pastor if you have any questions about Conference actions.



We are in need of volunteers for our next Community Dinner which will be held on July 10th.

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/20F094CA5AC2AA1FA7-50102306-umcfree>

July Meetings Held At Church

Ad Council

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

Adult Caregivers Support Group

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

WWAP, Women With A Purpose meets on the third Saturday of each month. It is a wonderful time of fellowship with the women of our church and friends who wish to join us. We pray, have potluck snacks and a devotion. Come and join us and bring a friend!

Our July meeting will be on
on the 20th at 9:30 AM.

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



Confirmation Sunday

Pictured above with Pastor Chad are
Riley Cummings
and Sawyer Deml who were

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.

Pastor Chad






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 1st Street
Dodge Center, MN 55927

Date/Time:

2nd and 4th
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.**

July 2024 Schedule:

July 11
July 25



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)



FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

Dodge Center
United Methodist Church
1st Ave. & 1st St. NE



Join us for Food and Fun!

Wednesday, July 10th

Event: 3:30 - 6:00 pm

Cotton Candy



Bounce House



Petting Zoo



Food Available: 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Menu: Hot dogs, chips, applesauce, cookie

**Free-will donations will go to the
Ready, Set, Learn Program of Dodge County**

It's hard to think that school is just around the corner with summer barely starting, but now is the perfect time to collect these items before the need is upon us. We will be collecting school supplies through the month of July.

Ready Set Learn of Dodge County

Because Every Child
Deserves A Great Start



We are collecting the following items:

1 Subject Spiral Notebooks - Wide or College

(Red, Blue, Yellow, Green, Purple or Black)

Composition Notebooks—Wide or College

Any color is accepted

Package of Filler Paper— Wide or College

Crayons(24ct), Rulers, Markers (wide or narrow), Yellow High-
lighters (wide or narrow), Colored Pencils, Pencils, Scissors
(pointed), Rulers, Erasers, Black Sharpies, Dry Erase Markers
(wide or narrow) 17 inch backpacks

We take donations year a round

Please help us with making a child smile!

**If you are in need of help.
Please reach for a application**



Questions/Contact Information

Tanya Young

Program Coordinator

316-390-5368

tyoung8550@yahoo.com

DODGE CENTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

TUESDAY, May 21, 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. Pastor Chad opened the meeting with a prayer.

SECRETARY: The April Ad Council minutes were distributed. Motion was made to approve the minutes.

Motion was seconded and approved.

TREASURER: End of April balance \$24,807.70. (Set aside for parsonage \$4229.11) Memorial fund end of April balance \$16,128.37

TRUST FUND: End of April balance \$78,863.76

TRUSTEES: We have been given a riding lawn mower to use so we will hold on replacing that. The grass patches in the yard, Colin and Shawn will patch these. The city will be fixing the boulevard and SE corner of the yard from the construction last summer.

SPRC: Beth will be attending conference next week with Pastor Chad.

PASTOR: (See page 2) Pastor has requested 6/23-28 as vacation

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Heifer International: We received \$1,233.70 in donations.
- Love offering: We discussed the check to be sent with Beth to conference.
- Community Dinner – June menu will be pulled pork sandwiches, potato salad, macaroni salad, chips, and fruit crisps (rhubarb/strawberry, cherry, apple)
- July event – We will have our picnic on July 10 th . We will finalize this event at the June meeting.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, June 18th at 5:30 PM

Kelly Amunrud, Administrative Council Secretary

DCUMC: Pastor Chad's report for 4/11/24 through 5/8/24

Home/phone visits: 18 Pre-marriage/wedding planning visits: 0 Weddings: 0

Nursing home or facility visits: 2 (Circle Manor, Fairview) Funerals: 0 Vacation days taken through May 8: 4.5 Sick days taken since beginning of the year: 3

Pastor Chad's Ministries & Activities:

- Planning and leading general Sunday worship services
- Planning and teaching confirmation through May 15 (we have Sawyer Deml and Riley Cummings being confirmed on June 2)
- Attended Community Meal, 4/17
- Attended Caregiver group, 4/25
- Training of office secretary
- Follow up on delivering the Bibles won at our EXPO table raffle
- Preparing for Graduation Recognition Sunday, May 12; and Confirmation Sunda, June 2

[This is my current list of home visit parishioners that I see or call at least once/month: Don Subbert, Glenny & Marty Franko, Lea Flurry, Barb Bennett, Carole Burtis, Gerry Fahning, and Shirley Bowman (qtrly)]

UPCOMING Ministries & Activities

- Graduation Recognition Sunday, May 12; and Confirmation Sunday, June 2
- Annual Conference with Beth at Bloomington, May 28-30
- I'm trying to get a hold of the band for July Festival Community Meal

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 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



July 2024

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED