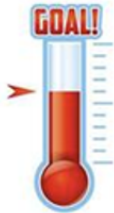


The Newsletter

September 2026

Volume 1 - Issue 9

**Help us
each our
fundraising
goal!**



Join us for our

**Annual Fundraiser
Community Dinner**

September 16, 2026
5:00 ~ 6:00 pm
serving until gone)

Sunday Worship

Dodge Center UMC
8:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

Dodge Center UMC
PO BOX 98,
20 First Street NE
Dodge Center, MN

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<https://www.dodgecenterumc.org/>



FROM THE PASTOR



Goodness! Can it be that September is here already? How did that happen so quickly? School days are upon us, the harvest is right around the corner and soon, the leaves will turn (if they are not already) and the days will grow shorter and, well you know the rest.

One of the things we realize is that time is such a precious commodity. We have not have as much time to do the things we would like to do, but we have enough time to do the things we ought to do. God has given us the amount of time we need - we just need to be good stewards of our time in discerning God's will for us.

Paul addressed the element of time in a special way by asking the community in Galatia what they have been doing with their time, in a faith-building sense. Evidently, these young followers of Christ were very zealous in their initial belief and intentions. Yet, over the course of space and time, they began to slip away from the Spirit's guiding into a more secular, if not selfish approach to living. The desires of the flesh became more important to them that following God's Spirit.

Today, from Sunday to Sunday, we experience a mini-camo of the same thing. Renewed from Sunday worship and fellowship, we start the week with the best of intentions. Yet, sometimes, we fall victim to the desires of evil at some point during the week. When that happens, we are not using our time very wisely.

The message for today is simple: let's pay attention to begin living each week - every day - with the Spirit leading us. Start a reading plan to get through the Bible in one or two years. Set aside time to meet with family members to talk and pray about life, about God, about love. Take a few moments to spend with God each morning so that you may actually know what it is that God is calling you to do this week. Only by setting aside these moments and be more intentional about our relationship with God will we be able to "start with the Spirit".

Blessings to you this September...

Rev. Dr. Daren Flinck

"Worship the Lord with gladness..." - Psalm 100:2a

September Worship: "Come Worship the Lord!"

Sunday, September 6
The 15th Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Communion
Pastor Gordon Orde, preaching

"Accountable Reimbursement"

"Pastor Gordon Orde shares the biblical perspective of discipleship."

- based on selected Deuteronomy verses

Sunday, September 13
The 16th Sunday after Pentecost

"Forgiveness Unlimited"

"Yes. forgiveness is difficult. But Jesus knows that forgiveness is good for us - body, mind and spirit - which is why he commands us to offer it to our brothers and sisters.

We cannot be forgiven unless we forgive."

- based on Matthew 18:21-35



Sunday, September 20
The 17th Sunday after Pentecost

"Quibbles and Fits"

"Today's world is filled with complaints and arguing. We need a visit to the heavenly complaint department for a dose of customer service! We need an attitude

adjustment from the Divine... a slight repair of the tear of the human heart by the heavenly surgeon... a tune up by the best Mr. GoodWrench of

heaven to prepare us for the everlasting joy about to come... so, it comes down to simply this - we need to trust that God is God after all."

- based on Matthew 20:1-16

Sunday, September 27
The 18th Sunday after Pentecost

"Heaven Bound"

"Now is always time to get right with God. It is always the right time to consider where we are in

our relationship with the one whose love simply will not let us go. It is always time to think again about serving God and then deciding to do so with true dedication and zeal.

In doing so, the answer to the question of who is bound for heaven will be granted to us."

- based on Matthew 21:23-32

Dodge Center United Methodist Church Staff

Pastor:
Administrative Assistant:

Rev. Dr. Daren Flinck
Janet Bugarin

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20 First Street NE



Meeting Minutes

*Here are the minutes from
the Dodge Center UMC
Administrative Council
Meeting held on
Tuesday, July 21, 2026*

ATTENDANCE: Darren Flinck (Pastor), Kathy Bartz (Ad Council Chairperson), Beth Hanggi (Trustees), Kelly Amunrud (Treasurer), Lisa O'Neil (Education), Tyler Kispert (Secretary), Karen Franko (SPRC), Janet Bugarin.

MEETING: Kathy called the meeting to order and Pastor Darren opened the meeting with a prayer.

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

TREASURER: End of June 2026 balance \$11,682.02. (Set aside for parsonage negative -\$356.21). Memorial fund end of June 2026 balance \$18,754.36. Payroll error in Church Windows, fixing over next 4 checks.

Motion approved for memorial funds to be used to get a new treasurer laptop as the current one has had problems for some time.

TRUST FUND: End of June 2026 balance \$73,847.06.

TRUSTEES: Beth contacted a few places about repairs for damaged pews, there are not a lot. Maybe we can fix ourselves. There was a new desk donated for the secretary office. Trying to give away the old one. We now have a working defibrillator that is not expired. Motion was approved to get child pads as well.

SPRC: Meeting will be held on 7/22 4pm. Will report back at the August meeting.

EDUCATION: n/a

PASTOR: Going to work on getting the livestream working better with enhanced sound quality. Possibly purchasing another camera that would allow picture in picture for the slideshow. Would be around \$1,000. Looking into our internet speed as well. 100/mb router, paying for 300/mb. We need a new router. Going to get a quote from KMTel to see if maybe we buy our own. Looking into getting a diagnostic on our sound board. Lisa donated the multi-stream feature for our livestreams to be able to do YouTube and Facebook and any others we may add.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

OTHER BUSINESS:

- August Dinner: cancelled to recharge for September fundraiser
- Presentation by Brooke Kono, from Subsplash: Cloud based system.
Can embed into the current website if we don't want to switch. If we do switch to subsplash, we would keep our domain (URL). With Tithely we would go to their app to find our church, with Subsplash we would have our own UMC app. There is kid check in available.
To have an app, there is a \$25 one time fee for google play and \$99/year apple that can be waived after the first year. We could use trust fund money to offset initial costs.
- \$4,098.32 for a years worth of RightNow Media, online church directory, Constant Contact and Subsplash.
- Make a decision at August meeting.
- Tables: Janet would like to purchase round tables to freshen up the upstairs meeting area. Motion was made to use memorial funds, approved.
- Procedures for motions via email: When asking for approval via email, we need a deadline for responses. We need a majority vote approval by that date. If we don't have that, we will have to reconvene in person at the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, August 17, 2026 at 5:30 PM

Tyler Kispert, Administrative Council Secretary

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
		1 	2
		Pastor Daren Office Hours 10 am-5pm	
6 Sunday Worship With Communion 8:30 a.m.	7	8 Pastor Daren Office Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm	9
13 Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.	14	15 Pastor Daren Office Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm Administrative Council Meeting 5:30	16 5:00-7:00 Ar Loin Dinner
20 Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.	21	22 Pastor Daren Office Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm	23 Pastor Dare Office Hour: 10:00 am - 5 Newsletter 5:00-7:00 Ar Loin Dinner
27 Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.	28	29 Pastor Daren Office Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm	30 Pastor Dare Office Hour: 10:00 am - 5

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	3 2026	4	5
	10 Caregiver's Meeting 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.	11	12
Annual Pork Fundraiser	17	18	19 WWAP @ Church 9:30 a.m.
n s 5:00 pm Deadline Annual Pork Fundraiser	24 Caregiver's Meeting 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.	25	26
n s 5:00 pm			



Women With A Purpose

Women With A Purpose (WWAP) WWAP will meet Saturday September 19th at 9:30 AM at the church. Feel free to bring a friend and a snack to share if you wish. Join us for an informal time of fellowship.

Caregiver Support Group



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. We invite the exchange of practical information on caregiving challenges and possible solutions; talk through issues and behaviors and find ways to cope; learn about community resources; invite occasional educational speakers; meetings are in-person. This month we will meet on the 10th and the 24th.

Location:
Dodge Center UMC
20 1st Street Dodge Center, MN

Normal Date/Time:
2nd and 4th Thurs. of the month
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Feel free to contact:

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!!



**Help us
reach our
fundraising goal!**



Join us for our
**Annual Fundraiser
Community Dinner**

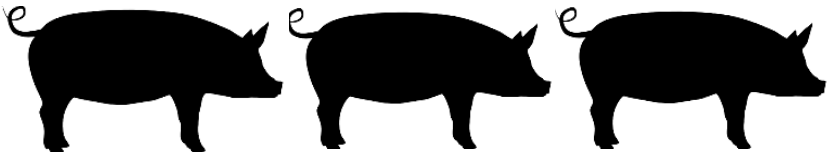
September 16
5:00-6:00 pm
(Serving until gone)

Suggested \$15 donation
(Open to all in the community)

**Pork Loin
Mashed Potatoes & gravy
Green beans & Dinner roll**

Choice of dessert: Bars

DINE IN & takeout available (no pre-sales)



**United Methodist Church
20 1st Street NE
Dodge Center, MN
September 16, 2026
5 :00 - 6:00 pm (serving until gone)**

Happy Birthday!

Doris Weber	September 4
Dale Jensen	September 8
Ralph Burtis	September 14
Irelynn Bowman	September 18
Kathy Bartz	September 21
Kim Marquardt	September 23

Happy Anniversary!

Isaac and and Hannah Olson	September 17
Shawn and Terri Lepp	September 27
Roger and Sheila Freerkesn	September 29

Our Facebook Page

We have an active Facebook page that seeks to promote the ministry of our church. Announcements, events, and sharing stories takes place on our Facebook page. We also make special announcements via our page to keep you up to date on schedule changes. Go to Facebook and search for Dodge Center United Methodist Church.

Pastor Daren's Blog

Pastor Daren has a blog that provides insights and behind the scenes reflections on our busy lives today. Here is the link to Pastor Daren's blog - subscribe to it today (no cost):

revdaren.blogspot.com



Live Streaming!

Each Sunday we live stream our worship services from Dodge Center UMC. If you are going to be out of town, you can catch the live broadcast on our church app (download to your device) or any one of four different online locations:

Dodge Center UMC YouTube Channel

Go to YouTube: Dodge Center United Methodist Church

Dodge Center UMC FaceBook

Go to FaceBook: Dodge Center United Methodist Church

Worship Servers and Counters

Here are the persons who are scheduled to help serving in worship and those who help with counting the offering:

Readers

Sunday	September 6	Janet Bugarin
Sunday	September 13	Lisa O'Neil
Sunday	September 20	Kelly Amunrud
Sunday	September 27	Janet Bugarin

Counters

Sunday	September 6	Kathy Bartz and Doris Weber
Sunday	September 13	Lisa O'Neil and Shawn Lepp
Sunday	September 20	Tyler Kispert and Doris Weber
Sunday	September 27	Kathy Bartz and Kim Marquardt

Communion

Sunday	September 6	Deb Papenfus
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☼ (Please find a sub if you are unable to do your duty on your assigned Sunday)

Please pray for:



Prayers for health concerns:

Marty Franko (in Hospice care in Hayfield)

Those struggling with addiction and mental illness...

For those who are remembering loved ones...

Care Center Residents...

Giving thanks & praying for:

Local farmers and their families...

Area businesses and their employees...

Our nation and leaders...

Our school teachers, administrators, students...

Service women & men and their families...

Local health care professionals, doctors, nurses, aides, group home, & care center workers...

Law enforcement & emergency service workers...

Area congregations...

Family and friends with difficulties in their relationships...

If you have a loved one you would like to have added to the Prayer Corner list, please contact the Church Office at 507.374.6885 or secdcumc@gmail.com - thank you!

Care Center Residents

If you have a loved one you would like to have added to the Care Center Residents list, please contact the Church Office at 507.374.6885 or secdcumc@gmail.com - thank you!