



PRAYER CORNER

Prayers for health concerns:

Elliot Noble
Steve Delzer as well as the
others involved in the
car accident earlier this
week.

For those who are
remembering loved ones...

The family of Marty Franko

Giving thanks & praying for:

Care Center Residents...

Our nation and leaders...

Our school teachers,
administrators, students...

Service women & men and
their families...

Local health care
professionals, group home,
& care center workers...

Those fighting addictions
and mental illness...

Law enforcement &
emergency workers...

Area congregations...

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



This Week

SUN September 27

8:30 am Worship

Reader: Janet B

Counters: Kathy B. and Kim
M.

9:30 am Coffee Fellowship

Tues September 29

Pastor Daren

Office hours

10:00-5:00

SUN October 4

8:30 am Worship

9:30 am Coffee Fellowship

Worship Attendance	Last Sunday
LIVE STREAM VIEWS	38
IN PERSON	23
TOTAL	61

Castaways in Heaven

Sunday, September 27, 2026

Worship - 8:30 a.m.



Full HD
1080

livestream links

Dodge Center UMC on FaceBook
Dodge Center UMC on YouTube

PASTOR:

Rev. Dr. Daren Flink

ACCOMPANIST:

Janet Bugarin

20 First Street NE, Dodge Center, MN 55927

www.dodgecenterumc.org

♦ Church Office >> secdcumc@gmail.com

♦ Phone >> (507) 374-6885

The **18th** Sunday
after
Pentecost

September 17, 2026

8:30 a.m.

Worship Leader:
Rev. Dr. Daren Flinck

Organist:
Janet Bugarin

⤴ Please stand as you are able
UMH - The United Methodist Hymnal

CENTERING WORDS ¹

As those who genuinely obey Jesus, we follow him and recognize
the authority of his word. We do not merely pretend to do so,
while actually doing something else

PRELUDE

WELCOME - ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Come to Worship God

PRAISE

UMH #405 - "Seek Ye First"

CALL TO WORSHIP ²

By what authority do we dare
to gather and call upon God's holy name?

**Not by our own merits or credentials,
but because Christ has called us first.**

It is easy to say, "I will go, Lord,"
and then stand idly by.

**Let our actions, not merely our words,
answer his call today.**

God does not look for polished excuses,
but for open and willing hearts.

**Even when we hesitate,
God's grace meets us on the path .**

Come, let us worship the God
who welcomes the repentant.

To God be the glory,

Live Streaming...

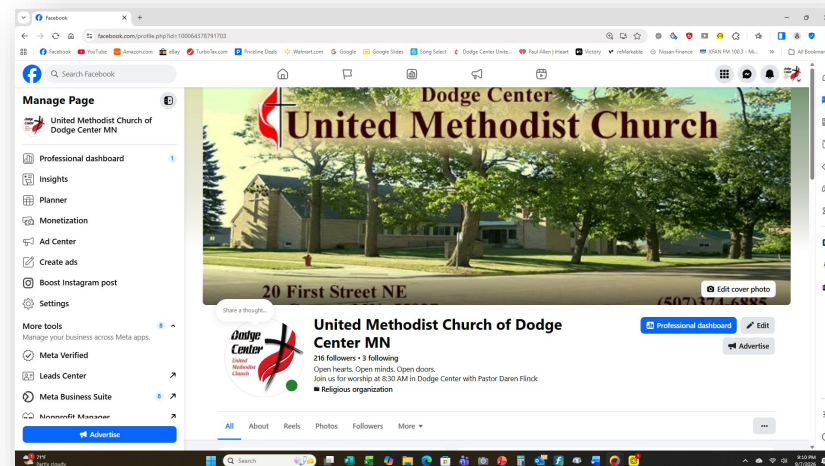
You can catch our live stream broadcast on your smartphone,
iPad, Smart TV or computer at these online locations or apps:

Dodge Center UMC Facebook Page
Dodge Center UMC YouTube Channel

Please note that all of our services can be viewed at the above
location even after the service is over. For questions, please
contact Lisa O'Neil.

Our Facebook Page

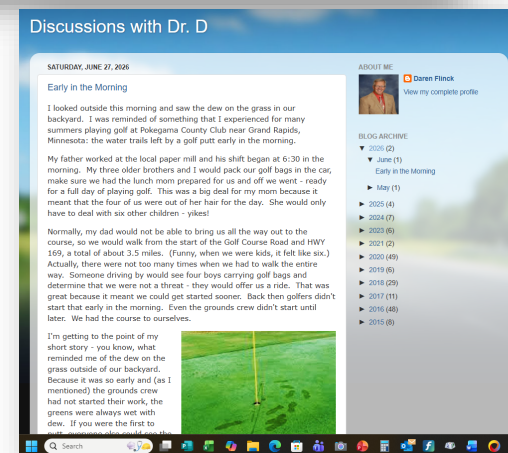
We have an active Facebook page that seeks to promote the
ministry of our church. Announcements, events, and sharing
stories takes place on our Facebook page. We also make special
announcements via our page to keep you up to date on schedule
changes. Go to Facebook and search for Dodge Center United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



Behind Today's WORSHIP Music

405 "Seek Ye First"

This text was born out of Karen Lafferty's own struggle to seek God's will for her life. In 1971, after attending a Bible study on Mt. 6:33: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God" (KJV); she returned home and picked out the simple melody to accompany the stanzas on her guitar. The song quickly became a favorite with youth and young adults and remains popular today. Lafferty describes it as "a song in which people can put God's desire for their lives above their own."

372 "How Can We Sinners Know"

This Charles Wesley text is a concise summary of Wesleyan theology. Originally titled "The Marks of Faith", the questions in stanza 1 are answered in turn with reference to God's justifying grace in stanza 3 and sanctifying grace in stanza 5. Finally, these two aspects of Wesleyan doctrine are summed up in another favorite scriptural formula: "and both the witnesses are joined, the Spirit of God with ours" (Romans 8:16).

156 "I Love to Tell the Story"

During a long illness, Katherine Hankey wrote an extensive poem about the life of Christ. At the end of the poem appear the words of the hymn "I Love to Tell the Story", which sum up her faith in Christ. She organized and taught Sunday School classes in London, wrote books of Bible lessons for Sunday School teachers, and supported foreign mission efforts. This is one of the ten most frequently used hymns in the United Methodist Church.

95 "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

This short hymn, commonly known as the Doxology, was written by English Bishop Thomas Ken around 1674. It originally served as the final stanza for three longer hymns (morning, evening, and midnight) intended for students at Winchester College. The melody is even older than the lyrics. Before the Protestant Reformation, only professional musicians were allowed to sing in church. In Germany, Martin Luther began writing new hymns (including "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God") and taught that everyone should sing praises to God. This melody is often called "Old 100th" and is usually used as the offering song.

701 "When We All Get to Heaven"

Author Eliza E. Hewitt and composer Emily D. Wilson attended Methodist Camp meetings at Ocean Grove, New Jersey, where they collaborated on this hymn, which first appeared in 1898. Perhaps their camp meeting experiences were a foretaste of the glory of heaven, when we "shall be caught up... to meet the Lord" (1 Thessalonians 4:17) "in the mansions bright and blessed [where] he'll prepare for us a place" (based on John 14:2, KJV). The hymn celebrates Christ's love and promises of eternal life, the joyous hope of the community of believers.

*These descriptions are found in the book
"The Hymns of the United Methodist Hymnal" by Diana Sanchez*

who looks into our hearts and calls us into the vineyard.

✠ PRAISE

UMH #372 - "How Can We Sinners Know"

✠ OPENING PRAYER ³

Lord God, You know how often we say "yes" to You with our lips while our actions lag behind, or how easily we get caught up in our own self-righteousness like the chief priests and elders. Forgive us for the moments we question Your authority, harden our hearts to Your truth, or fail to recognize the ways You are moving right in front of us. Amen.

PRAISE

UMH #156 - "I Love to Tell the Story"

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE - THE LORD'S PRAYER

We Hear God's Word

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION ⁴

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. **Amen.**

THE GOSPEL LESSON (Page 23 - Pew Bible)

Matthew 21:23-32

MESSAGE

"Castaways in Heaven"

We Respond to God's Word

RECOGNITION OF OFFERING

(please place your offering
in the plates as you depart worship)

✠ DOXOLOGY

UMH #95 - "Praise God From Whom"

✠ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We Go Forth to Serve God

✠ PRAISE

UMH #701 - "When We All Get to Heaven"

✠ THE BENEDICTION - ✠ POSTLUDE

¹ The Centering Words are based on or inspired by Matthew 21.

² The Call to Worship is based on or inspired by Matthew 21.

³ The Opening Prayer is based on or inspired by Matthew 21.

⁴ The Prayer for Illumination is a traditional prayer used in United Methodist worship.

All are based on [or taken from] "The Abingdon Worship Annual 2026",
edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu

Charting the Course

Sunday, September 27th, 2026

"Castaways in Heaven"

Based on Matthew 21:23-32



I. Remembering Family Members...

- a. If we have done what we have supposed to have been doing in accordance with God's Word and Will, then God will take care of our _____ into heaven.

II. The Parable of the Two Sons...

- a. If we neglect to do the will of our heavenly Father, we will find ourselves in _____ against God and will suffer the _____ of our choices.
- b. We need to keep our _____ on Jesus.
- c. If we have _____ someone, we need to make amends with that person and with God.

III. Closer Look at the Parable...

- a. The leaders of the temple were more concerned with maintaining their _____ and _____ than about helping others to have a dynamic _____ with God.
- b. Our relationship with God needs to be _____ and not something less.
- c. Our _____ will speak louder than words.

IV. Charting Our Course in Life This Week

This is how my actions will speak louder than my words:

Answers:

1a) entrance

2a) rebellion

3a) power, status, connection

2a) consequences

2b) minds

2c) offended

3b) authentic

3c) actions

GOD'S DIRECTION IS ALWAYS BEST!

Heavenly Authority

Matthew 21:23-32 NRSV

²³ When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?"

²⁴ Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?"

And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' ²⁶ But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We do not know."

And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard to-day.' ²⁹ He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?"

They said, "The first."

Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.

TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL [YOUR] HEART...

PROVERBS 3:5

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