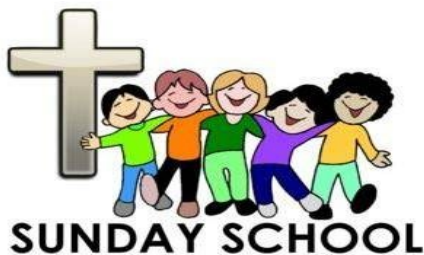




October 2026



SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are excited to offer Sunday School again this year! It will be held every first and third Sunday of the month during our worship time. **Our first day will be Sunday, October 4th.**

Every first and third Sunday of each month, the children are invited to join us for a time of learning about Jesus and his love for us, as well as other important lessons from the Bible. You will also enjoy singing and crafts. Come join in the fun! Ages 3 years old through 6th grade are welcome.

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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FROM THE PASTOR



When nature marks the changing seasons, at the very least it is a change that we can and usually do embrace. We watch for the leaves to burst forth with brilliant colors. It's a landscape that our upper Midwest area provides to us, a vista of hues that thrill our sense of sight. These changes help give us a sense that all is right with the world because we've seen them before. We know that nature will recover and after the winter months, spring will once again bring new life to the earth. We seen it before so we have no reason to fear the changing seasons.

If only this lesson would always apply to our daily life. If only we would realize that our lives are filled with a panorama of changing times, but we need not fear or be concerned about because we trust in God. We trust in God who cares for us. God who is ultimately in control. We have no reason to fear the change.

It is so because we've been taught that God will never change His position of love, care, and concern toward us. God will always be there for us, even in the moments when we are less certain of His presence than we ought to be. It can be a comforting moment when we embrace this truth and live each hour, each day, every month in the joy of a God who gives us every perfect gift.

The Book of James says it correctly: ***"Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."*** - JAMES 1:17 NRSV.

Every month, it's the gift of God's steadfastness. This month, it's also the gift of creation's colors. Enjoy it... thanks be to God!



Blessings to you this autumn
Rev. Dr. Daren Flinck

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

October Worship: "Come Worship the Lord!"

Sunday, October 4
The 19th Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Communion

"The Fall of the Harvest"

"We have been entrusted with so much. We are the inhabitants of God's incredible vineyard. No matter what time it is, it's always time to be a good steward. We've been given the gospel. We've been entrusted with the goods. May all that we've been given bear incredible fruit. It's time for the fall harvest, not the fall of the harvest!"

- based on Matthew 21:33-46

Sunday, October 11
The 20th Sunday after Pentecost

"Press One Now"

"We need to place a call to the One - the only One - who can give us peace and rejoicing in the midst of crazy and difficult lives. Dial H-E-A-V-E-N toll-free in your prayers and receive the benefits of living a life of joy and peace that allows relationships - all manner of relationships - to grow and to prosper. Please, press One on your faith phone now, so that God may bless your lives in abundance! God made us to be in relationship with Him and with others... in them, we find our true joy and crown!"

- based on Philippians 4:1-13

Sunday, October 18
The 21st Sunday after Pentecost

"Words for All Friends"

"For decades, this nation has always accepted the stranger from another land, the foreigner who is hoping to achieve the American dream.

We ought to remember that God has always done this! Whoever worships Him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

Without question, that person should be acceptable to us!"

- based on Acts 10:34-43

Sunday, October 25
The 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

"God's Timeline"

"It's interesting that wherever a mountain appears in Scripture it's a place where God's revelation takes place. Moses first met God face to face on a mountain.

We can make sure that our lives at least advance the vision - God's vision for a renewed world. Whatever happens, God is holding us and guiding us in the best possible way for us. So like Moses, let's hold the faith and be thankful!"

- based on Deuteronomy 34:1-12

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, August 17, 2026*

DODGE CENTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2026 (REVISED)

Tyler Kispert, Administrative Council Secretary

ATTENDANCE: Kathy Bartz (Ad Council Chairperson), Kelly Amunrud (Treasurer), Lisa O'Neil (Education), Tyler Kispert (Secretary), Kim Marquardt (SPRC), Karen Franko (SPRC).

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

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

SPRC: Committee made a motion to increase Janet's pay as her last increase was March 2024. Proposed to go to \$16/hr and \$75/hr for piano. Pay will be in effect for August and will carry through for 2027. Motion was approved.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Discussion of KMTelecom – Trustees are in charge of building operations, Kathy will discuss with Beth. We will hold off on discussion about getting a new router to get additional information.
- Revamp of the Agenda – focus on mission/vision instead of finance.
- Discussion of Policy when it comes to motions – no motions via email. Discussions can be had. If emergency, ad chair can call an in person or zoom meeting for motions. Because of our size, if one person brings a motion, we can just vote, do not need a second motion.
- Next Community Meal, September 16, 2026 – Pork loin/gravy – Beth. Instant potatoes, green beans, rolls – Kelly. Lisa will do a sign up for fruit bars.
- Kathy discussed looking into redoing our mission statement. Erica offers an "Innovation to Rural Ministries" class. Kathy will see if she is available for our next meeting. May change meeting date upon availability.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

PASTOR: Pastor was out sick. Motion was made to approve the media update he had brought forward. Motion was approved to do the update when our vision/mission statement is updated and if this still aligns. It was approved to request funds from Trust Fund for the first year and revisit after.

TRUST FUND: None available

TRUSTEES: N/A

TREASURER: End of July 2026 balance \$15,999.20. (Set aside for parsonage +\$208.79). Memorial fund end of July 2026 balance \$16,644.57.

EDUCATION: Proposed doing 1 st and 3 rd Sunday only starting in October as Lisa is the only teacher. Also suggested moving children's time up in the service so there is more time for the lesson. Lisa will discuss with Pastor Daren.

Suggested to do Facebook events so attendance can be monitored before putting in all the work for no children to attend.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 5:30



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDN.
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October

202

4 Sunday Worship with Communion, Sunday School 8:30 a.m.	5	6	7
11 Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.	12	13 Administrative Board 5:30 pm	14
18 Sunday Worship and Sunday School 8:30 a.m.	19	20	21 Newsletter
25 Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.	26	27	28

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
6	1	2	3
	8 Caregiver's Meeting 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.	9	10
	15	16	17 WWAP @ Church 9:30 a.m.
Deadline	22 Caregiver's Meeting 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.	23	24
	29	30	31



Women With A Purpose

Women With A Purpose (WWAP) WWAP will meet Saturday October 17th 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 8th and the 22nd.

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

Normal Days/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!!

Join us for a...

Community Dinner

Menu: Hot dish, green beans, dinner rolls and cake.

Wednesday, October 21, 2026

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

Dodge Center United Methodist Church
Corner of 1st Street and 1st Avenue NE

Free will donations accepted.

**Donations this month will go to the
Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge.**

Link to sign up to set up, donate food, serve or clean up is below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F094CA5AC2AA1FA7-66096744-umcfree>



**We raised \$2,177.00 at our Annual
Fundraiser
Community Dinner that was held on
September 16th, 2026!**

Thanks to all who worked hard to make it happen. Your donations of food, money, and time spent cooking, setting up, serving, and cleaning up are very much appreciated. There were a total of 55 meals served with 19 who dined in and 36 take outs.

Happy Birthday!

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Josslyn Freerksen | 18 Elaine Olson |
| 2 Emily Johnson | 20 Dwayne Schmoll |
| 3 Steven Garness | 21 Kevin Rohwer |
| 8 Richard Urbain | 23 Brian Chicos |
| 9 Beth Hangai | 25 Krystal Rohwer |
| 11 Jon Bowman | 30 Stephanie Chicos |
| 13 Richard Papenfus | |
| 17 Scarlett Kispert | |

Happy Anniversary!

- 2 Craig and Vickie Mussman
21 Brent and Ellie Freerksen
22 Tyler and Conner Kispert
26 Colin and Lois Lepp

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	October 4	Tyler Kispert
Sunday	October 11	Lisa O'Neil
Sunday	October 18	Kelly Amunrud
Sunday	October 25	Janet Bugarin

Counters

Sunday	October 4	Kathy Bartz and Doris Weber
Sunday	October 11	Lisa O'Neil and Shawn Lepp
Sunday	October 18	Tyler Kispert and Doris Weber
Sunday	October 25	Kathy Bartz and Kim Marquardt

Communion

Sunday	October 4	Linda Wallerich
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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:

Steve Delzer as well as the others involved in the car accident in late September.

Those struggling with addiction and mental illness...

For those who are remembering loved ones...

The family of Marty Franko

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...

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!