

Dodgeville United Methodist Church
327 North Iowa Street
Dodgeville, WI 53533

Prepared especially for...

Members & Friends of Dodgeville
United Methodist Church

Newsletter
January 2019



The Compass

A PUBLICATION OF
DODGEVILLE & RIDGEWAY GRACE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES



Feeding Friends—Building Community around the Dinner Table

My first day as pastor of both Dodgeville UMC and Grace (Ridgeway) UMC was July 15th, 2015. It was a time in which my calendar was a lot more open than it is now! ☺ My first official duty that day was to meet with Scott Carlson, the District Superintendent. The rest of the day I remember putting my office together, and that night I wanted to go and check out the *Feeding Friends* ministry I had heard a little about. I have to admit that my first experience at Feeding Friends was not necessarily the most positive experience. I felt uncomfortable. I felt as though those who were in attendance were looking at me like I was a stranger, an outsider. To be honest, I was viewing them the same way. Thankfully, I persisted in attending and volunteering, and eventually we warmed up to one another. I can remember in those first few months how volunteers to serve the meal were hard to come by, and if we got 30-40 people each week we are happy.



Since then, this ministry has grown and gained a variety of partners. We get baked goods weekly from Quality Bakery. The Ruby¢ Pantry ministry in Platteville gives us their extra food items that we are able to give away or incorporate into the weekly meals. Both the Houck and Gorgen Funeral

will give families the option of donating their leftover luncheon food. The Iowa County Food Pantry through SWCAP will sometimes donate food that they have. Many organizations and churches have agreed to help with the preparation and serving of

the meals: Plymouth UCC, Grace Lutheran, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Blackhawk Ecumenical Life Group, the LDS Church of Dodgeville, and Dodgeville Lions and Lioness, among many other regular volunteers.

The Feeding Friends ministry is now truly a community ministry!

On December 19th, Juanita Starr and I were sitting off to the side taking in the scene as the initial rush of people getting food was going on 25 minutes; we had **139** people served that particular day. We chuckled about how last week our numbers were down, only serving **108!** The ministry of Feeding Friends has grown and changed over its five year history. Instead of our church scrambling to get volunteers and cook a meal each week, it is a community ministry involving several churches and community organizations and a long list of volunteers.



There was a time in which the mission of Feeding Friends was more focused on providing a meal to those who were in need. The mission has changed! The mission of Feeding Friends, established by the Feeding Friends Steering Committee is: **“Feeding Friends is building community around the dinner table. It offers a free, hot, nutritious meal to everyone served with neighborly hospitality.”** There continues to be a perception that Feeding Friends is mostly about feeding the poor or the less fortunate. This is simply not true. That might be *part* of the mission, but it has grown. Feeding Friends is a community, and it is about building community!

Another amazing thing about Feeding Friends is that it requires *zero* funds from our church budget to host this ministry. All expenses for Feeding Friends are provided by the host churches and organizations, in addition to community monetary donations from individuals. While there is certainly a monetary cost associated with having our facility open and used on Wednesday evenings, I would hope that this is overshadowed by the wonderful community ministry that we have grown right here in our own church!

If you have not yet, I would encourage you to come on a Wednesday evening at 5:00PM and come and check it out. It is about more than just a meal. It is about relationships, friendships, and lively conversation. If you have any questions about the Feeding Friends ministry, please talk to me or Jeff and Juanita Starr directly. We would be more than happy to answer any questions or address any concerns that you have.

~ Pastor Jim

Financial Report

CURRENT MONTH November

BUDGETED ITEMS

CURRENT MONTH

Monthly Income	\$ 15,885
Monthly Expenses Paid	\$ 11,559
Net Income for month	\$ 4,326
Apportionments Paid	\$ 1,860
Unpaid Apportionments	\$ 145

YEAR TOTALS THROUGH CURRENT MONTH

Years Income	\$ 152,836
Years Expenses Paid	\$ 149,140
Net Income for Year	\$ 3,696
Apportionments Paid	\$ 20,215
Unpaid Apportionments	\$ 1,840

GIVING – Invitation

Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. (Matthew 7:7-8)

Henri Nouwen has said, Asking people for money is giving them the opportunity to put their resources at the disposal of the Kingdom.+

If God wants us to build the Kingdom of God, then he wants us to invite others to support it. This is evangelism because the good news is that God has faith in us to build the Kingdom.

There are a number of steps in the asking process and asking is a later step, not the first:

Ask God First! We must first trust in God that we can succeed in soliciting support for the missions and ministries we seek to support. We come to God in prayer to ask God for support before asking anyone else.

Love the person you are asking. We must also love the person we are asking for support, giving them the means to become a brother or sister in Christ through their support of the Kingdom. We must trust that the Spirit of Christ that is guiding us is also guiding them.

Ask on behalf of the Kingdom of God. We are asking potential donors to invest in the work of God. Whether their ability to give is great or small, what matters is that they are making their gift available to God.

Be grateful for the answer. Whether the answer is yes or no or maybe or someday, we must be grateful that the person listened and gave us an honest answer. We have offered something of great value and that is what is important to us.

Jim Wells, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation



Commission on a Way Forward

Council of Bishops



2019 SPECIAL GENERAL CONFERENCE GATHERING

The Council of Bishops has **called a Special Session** of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church to be held February 23-26, 2019 in St. Louis, Missouri. The purpose will be to receive and act on a report from the **Commission on a Way Forward** based on the recommendations of the Council of Bishops. The 32-member Commission was authorized by General Conference 2016 and appointed by the Council of Bishops to examine paragraphs in The Book of Discipline concerning **human sexuality** and exploring options to strengthen the unity of the church. — from www.umc.org

The Commission on a Way Forward, in its work over two years, developed three different plans that the church might be able to implement. The Council of Bishops has endorsed the **One Church Plan** as the best option. There are already other plans being developed and submitted, and several amends are already in the works for the three submitted plans. I am certain this will be a spirited and lively discussion.

I will admit that I have not necessarily been that vocal about this upcoming meeting because it will be the *result* of the meeting that will have the most impact on our denomination, and in turn, our church. Stay tuned for a lengthy update in the March 2019 newsletter.

~ Pastor Jim

JOIN UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The PURPOSE of the United Methodist Women:

The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Membership is open to any woman who indicates her desire to belong, to engage in mission, study, personal growth and social action; and to participate in the global mission of the church through United Methodist Women. Interestingly, you don't have to be a member of the United Methodist Church and there is no age requirement.

This year, 2019, is a special year for UMW as we celebrate 150 years as an organization. Please consider joining our local unit. Our current active membership numbers 22 very faithful women committed to the purpose of this organization. We are also very fortunate to have around 25 additional friends (men and women) whose help we very much appreciate at certain times, such as helping at funeral lunches and rummage sales and other events.

We will not meet in January but starting again in February we will meet monthly through May for prayer, study, social action, and sometimes just for fun. We do not meet in the months of June and July but in August we gather for the annual Brunch at the Barn, hosted by Martha Boyer. In March we participate in the annual World Day of Prayer event. In May we will celebrate friendship at our annual Friends Night. In September we prepare and lead the worship service for the annual UMW celebration. We have devotions at every meeting and members of our two circles volunteer to prepare and present programs related to spiritual growth and/or mission projects. We contribute to local, state, and global mission projects that directly affect the lives of women, children, and families. We also help to support our local church with contributions to the Mission Trip, Camp Scholarships, the general fund, Prayer Group Card Ministry, and other projects. We also take responsibility for the upkeep of the kitchen. We care for and support one another and for those in our church family. And, we are looking for new ideas to continue this important work.

The first unit meeting of 2019 is scheduled for Thursday, February 7, at 7:00PM in Fellowship Hall. Please join us. For more information please contact Charlene Mingst at 935-5758 or Jeanne Kapotas at 935-3808.

Church Family News

Giving/Attendance Stats

DECEMBER		
Week	Attendance	Offering
1	95	\$2,445
2	87	\$3,658
3	102	\$2,065
4	106	\$3,896
Christmas Eve	59/105	\$1,878
5	n/a	n/a

UMW FACTS

- United Methodist Women have local units in every district of The United Methodist Church
- Over 26,000 units make up United Methodist Women
- Becoming a member means joining a global community of women- nearly 800,000 strong who are committed to the same purpose
- Members gave more than \$16 million to support mission worldwide since 2008

There is no scheduled meeting for our unit of United Methodist Women in January- however we will meet February 7th at 7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. There are also no Circle meetings scheduled in January. They will resume in February.

THANK YOU

Thank you is such a small phrase to express my feelings for all the cards sent to me in the last few weeks . your notes and prayers have meant so much. Plus visits while I was in rehab. May I also add a thank you for your prayers for Scott's recovery. It helped get us through the difficult time.

*"Let us encourage one another."
Hebrews 10:25*

Mary Jean Thomas

THANK YOU

Thank you to all of the members who have expressed their sympathy at the time of Jack's passing. He was a member of the church for seventy-five years. Special thanks to the dedicated members who served the lunch.

God Bless,
The Jack Metcalf family

CHOIR NOTES

Choir rehearsal- Wednesday, January 2 at 7:00PM.
Scheduled to sing . January 6 and 20- we will rehearse at 8:15 AM on those Sundays.

Please Pray for:

John Schwartz, Marilyn Liddle,
Anna Olson, Eileen, Joyce
Aschliman, Lois Dobson, Candy,
John Hlavac, Bill Wilson, Alan
Jewell, Nicole B., John Harker, Tony
Gindt, Joyce, John Kristen, Rose
Williams, Jackie Dux, Mary Lou
Oxnem, Ann Portzen, Ron Hunter,
Jack O'Bryan, Mary Jean Thomas,
Mary Ellen Schultze, Jeff Dux, Jack
Meixelsperger, Kathy Bryant, Scott,
Katie




JANUARY

January Anniversaries

12 - Ron & Bobbi Butteris

- 2 . Laney Harman
- 4 - Lois Dobson
- 4 . Melissa Mulder
- 4 - Charlene Mingst
- 4 - Lois Wieland
- 9 - Bobbi Butteris
- 9 . Alex Harman
- 10 - Steve Colden
- 11 - Dale Mortimer
- 12 - Dacotah Starr
- 19 . Edith Hunter
- 21 - Zach Tolzman
- 22 - Penny Edwards
- 25 - Julie Udelhoven
- 28 - Judy Strutt

JANUARY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9:00 AM Dodgeville UMC Worship Service 9:15 AM Sunday School	31 11:00 AM Funeral 5:00 PM Weight Watchers	1 9:00 AM Coffee & Bible Study at Ridgeway (Grace) 2:00 PM Ridgeway Grace UMW Meeting	2 4:00 PM Free Thrift Store Open 5:00 PM Feeding Friends Community Meal 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	3 10:00 AM Prayer Ministry	4	5 4:00 AM Pasty Making at Grace UMC 5:00 PM Ridgeway Grace Worship Service
6 Communion 8:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Dodgeville UMC Worship Service 9:15 AM Sunday School	7 5:00 PM Weight Watchers 6:30 PM Trustee Meeting	8 9:00 AM Coffee & Bible Study at Ridgeway (Grace) 6:30 PM Trustee Meeting	9 4:00 PM Free Thrift Store Open 5:00 PM Feeding Friends Community Meal	10 10:00 AM Prayer Ministry	11	12 5:00 PM Ridgeway Grace Worship Service 6:30 PM Ridgeway Grace Church Council Meeting
13  8:00 AM Trustees Pancake Breakfast 9:00 AM Dodgeville UMC Worship Service 9:15 AM Sunday School	14 5:00 PM Weight Watchers	15 9:00 AM Coffee & Bible Study at Ridgeway (Grace)	16 4:00 PM Free Thrift Store Open 5:00 PM Feeding Friends Community Meal	17 10:00 AM Prayer Ministry 6:30 PM Feeding Friends Steering Committee	18	19 5:00 PM Ridgeway Grace Worship Service
20 8:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Dodgeville UMC Worship Service 9:15 AM Sunday School	21 5:00 PM Weight Watchers	22 9:00 AM Coffee & Bible Study at Ridgeway (Grace)	23 4:00 PM Free Thrift Store Open 5:00 PM Feeding Friends Community Meal	24 10:00 AM Prayer Ministry 6:30 PM Finance Meeting 7:30 PM Church Council	25	26 5:00 PM Ridgeway Grace Worship Service
27 LOOSE CHANGE 9:00 AM Dodgeville UMC Worship Service 9:15 AM Sunday School	28 5:00 PM Weight Watchers	29 9:00 AM Coffee & Bible Study at Ridgeway (Grace)	30 4:00 PM Free Thrift Store Open 5:00 PM Feeding Friends Community Meal	31 10:00 AM Prayer Ministry	1	2 4:00 AM Pasty Making at Grace UMC 5:00 PM Ridgeway Grace Worship Service

2019 SUNDAY SERVANTS

Week	DATE	Communion	Media	SS Teacher	Liturgist	Greeters	C Moment	Cafe	Accompanist
1	1-6-19	Dee D Jeanne K	Starrs	Christina/Rose	Kevin	Dona Ray J&B Oxnem M Schultze	Pastor Jim	Marie Oelklaus Bobbi Butteris	Ginny Special Music: Choir
2	1-13-19		Tom	Starrs	Peggy	Dona Ray J&B Oxnem M Schultze	Julie	Julia Harman	Al, Robin, Dylan Jeff, Christina Special Music: Jeff A
3	1-20-19		Mary	Christina/Rose	Terry	Dona Ray J&B Oxnem M Schultze	Juanita	*Julie Colden Martha Boyer	Ginny Special Music: Choir
4	1-27-19		Starrs	Harmans	Mary Ellen	Dona Ray J&B Oxnem M Schultze	Jeanne	Penny Edwards	Al, Scott, Dylan, Christina SM: Band
1	2-3-18	Dunhams	Starrs	Martha B Peggy F	Christina	C&P Forrest S&J Colden H Rideout J Halverson	Pastor Jim	Mary Aschliman Mary James	Ginny Special Music: Choir
2	2-10-18		Tom	Starrs	Julia	C&P Forrest S&J Colden H Rideout	Julie	Jan Aschliman Charlene Mingst	Al, Robin, Dylan Jeff, Christina Special Music: Jeff A
3	2-17-18		Mary	Christina/Rose	Martha	C&P Forrest S&J Colden H Rideout	Juanita	Rachel Dees Jeanne Kapotas*	Ginny Special Music: Choir
4	2-24-18		Starrs	Harmans	Jan	C&P Forrest S&J Colden H Rideout	Jeanne	Deb Short Dawn Van Epps	Al, Scott, Dylan, Christina SM: Band

JANUARY

