

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



Prepared especially for...

Members & Friends of Dodgeville and
Ridgeway United Methodist Church



The Compass

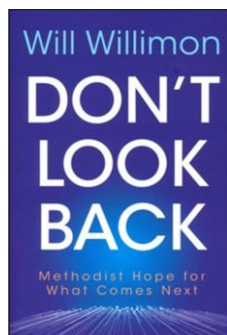
A PUBLICATION OF
DODGEVILLE & RIDGEWAY GRACE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES



April 2023: “Don’t Look Back” (Part II)

Imagine my disappointment when I arrived to the *Bishop’s Day Apart* only to find out that Bishop Jung had completely pivoted and shared a presentation that had nothing to do with the *Don’t Look Back* book. Argh! 😊 As I *did* share last month, I found the book thought-provoking and wanted to share some more insights from it.

I have also received some feedback from church members that were not pleased by the quote I shared last month about churches investing significant amounts of money in properties that they don’t need. I will admit that I wrestled for a while about whether I wanted to include it. I feel strongly about this quote and it is something for many churches, ours included, to think about. Other quotes to consider:



“Pastors are coordinators of the congregation’s care, not the sole givers of care.” (p. 88)

When I attended my first Stephen Leader Training conference in St. Louis, MO in 2014, I remember how the presenters emphasized that pastoral care within a congregation is not solely the responsibility of the pastor. All members of the congregation can have a role in providing pastoral care (congregational care). It is for this reason that I wanted to rekindle the Stephen Ministry program that we once had in Dodgeville. It is my hope that through Stephen Ministry you might increase your ability to offer pastoral care to those who are a part of your church. Unfortunately, I will not be able to be a part of that process, but Denise Deaton-Tolzman is a trained Stephen Leader 😊.

I also think growing the Wesley Fellowship Group program in the

coming years will also increase your ability to offer congregational and pastoral care to one another on your individual walks with God.

“Congregations tend to reward their pastor for not rocking the boat and punish for attempting to lead change.” (p. 109)

Not too long after I came to Dodgeville UMC, I was made aware of many of the changes that were instituted during the previous pastor’s tenure. There were some changes that were made that certainly rocked the boat. These changes were made with the hopes of creating a culture that was more welcoming and receptive to guests visiting the church. That pastor was seeking to lead change, and it certainly generated a lot of controversy. It was my hope during the time that I was here that I would lead some changes at both Dodgeville and Ridgeway. I wanted to lead the change slowly, seeking *not* to surprise folks but generate “buy in” and understanding before pursuing change. I have not been perfect.

If you are going to be a church that wants to grow, it will not be through maintaining the status quo. It will involve some risks and doing ministry and congregational life in new ways. For whoever is coming to serve as pastor of the church coming in July, I encourage you to allow them to lead some change and see the possibilities in “rocking the boat.”

“There’s no substitute for face-to-face, sacramental, bodily contact.” (p. 113)

Amanda Stein, our District Superintendent, shared a brief message with us in the morning of the Bishop’s Day Apart. She shared that in our post-COVID circumstances, opportunities for intimate in-person gatherings and making personal contact with the church and community are even more critical. While online opportunities for worship and meetings was necessary, and while they should be offered for those who are unable to attend worship for various circumstances, it is important to emphasize the importance of in-person gatherings and in-person worship. There is simply not substitute for it!

“And then the call, his summons, how we got to be Methodists in the first place, our mission, our hope, love in action, all Jesus ever wanted, don’t look back, ‘Follow me.’” (p. 169)

He concludes his book with the reminder of Jesus' call to his first disciples, "Follow me." It really *is* that simple. Is Dodgeville UMC ready? Is Grace (Ridgeway) UMC ready? The answer to church growth and church is simply about sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with others. "Follow me so that *we* can follow Jesus." Let it be so for the churches!

May you continue to have a blessed Lenten season in which you seek to grow in your relationship with God!

~ Pastor Jim

Maundy Thursday

DUMC is celebrating Maundy Thursday at Plymouth UCC. We will be bringing sandwiches to complement their soup for dinner at 5:00PM. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall to bring sandwiches.



		Attendance/Giving			
Date	In Person	Facebook	Vimeo	Average Attend	Offering
2/26	42	3	20	82	\$1,438
3/5	46	28	14	82	\$4,780
3/12	42	23	11	84	\$4,451
3/19	51	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$1,790
3/26	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Holy Week Services

- **Palm/Passion Sunday, April 2nd**

— A reading of the Passion story from the Gospel of Matthew will be shared instead of a sermon.

- **Maundy Thursday Service—**

April 6th at 6:30PM at

Plymouth UCC: At **5:00PM**, we will have a meal in the basement of the church. Plymouth will be providing soups and Dodgeville UMC are asked to bring sandwiches. Beverages and rolls will be provided.

- **Good Friday - April 7^h at 6:30PM at Dodgeville UMC in the Chapel.**

- **Easter Sunday – April 9th at 7:00AM at Ridgeway Community Center, Room 103 (203 Jarvis St); 9:00AM at Dodgeville UMC**



PLEASE PRAY:

Theresa Stewart, Pam Fingerson, Edna Dunham, Jeff & Jackie Dux, Ivy Wilson, Mary Ellen Schultze, Zach Hickman, Pastor Kristen Lowe, John Gevelinger and family, Patti Kersten

CAMPERSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR CHURCH CAMPS OR MISSION TRIP



Both the Wills and Memorials Committee and United Women in Faith (UMW) have available funds to help with the cost of church camp or a summer mission trip. Please see or call Charlene Mingst, Chair of the Wills and Memorials committee (phone # 608-935-5758) or Robin Digman at 608-341-8315, Treasurer of UWF for more information. Please leave a message if your call isn't answered.

HOSPITALITY MINISTRY



We have some open spots on our greeter and café ministry teams. If you would like to consider serving, please see Sandy Alexander before or after a service on Sunday.



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The Trustees will be offering breakfast again on Sunday, April 2nd from 8-11AM for \$10. Thank you for supporting this fundraiser!

CHOIR NOTES



The choir is scheduled to sing on Palm Sunday – April 2nd and on Easter Sunday – April 9th. We will rehearse at 8:00AM both Sundays. We welcome new and/or returning members at any time.

WILLS AND MEMORIALS COMMITTEE MEETING

The Wills and Memorials Committee will meet on Thursday, April 20th at 1:30PM in the church library.



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

United Women in Faith will meet Thursday, March 30th at 6:30PM in Fellowship Hall. Edith Hunter will serve refreshments. Please know that all women are welcome to attend our meetings. For more information about our organization please visit the website at uwfaith.org.

April events: The annual UWF - SW District Spiritual Growth Retreat is scheduled for Saturday, April 1st at the Lodi UMC. Barbara Dick, the leader for the event will speak on the theme – *I Pray and Ask, **Who is in Control?*** If you cannot attend in person, the event will be livestreamed at <https://www.facebook.com/lodiumc/>

The annual UWF - WI Conference Social Action Day (virtual) is scheduled for Saturday, April 15th, 9:00AM to Noon. The theme is “Faithful Climate Action”. Speakers and topics include: Elena Canler, Deputy Director-Faith in Place – ***“Interwoven Crises: How Climate Change and Identity Impact Maternal and Child Health”***, Rebecca Gregory, Director of Development and Outreach United Methodist Children’s Services of WI, Inc. – ***“UMCS: Working with the Community to Improve the Quality of Life for All”***, and Alexander Malchow, WI Policy Coordinator-Faith in Place – ***“The Art of Advocacy, Creating Change in the 21st Century”***. All are invited to view this event in our sanctuary. Please see Charlene Mingst or Martha Boyer if you are interested in attending.

Our annual Spring Rummage and Bake Sale is scheduled for Friday, April 21st and Saturday, April 22nd. The set-up dates are Monday, April 17th through noon Thursday, April 20th. Please see another page in this newsletter with more information regarding the hours and how to sign-up to help.

Looking ahead to May: Everyone is welcome to attend our May “Bring a guest/Friends Night” scheduled for Thursday, May 4th at 6:30PM. We have invited Julia Harman to share pictures of her family’s trip to Costa Rica. After her presentation in the sanctuary we will enjoy refreshments and a time of fellowship in Fellowship Hall.

SPRING RUMMAGE/BAKE SALE

The annual United Women in Faith's Spring Rummage/Bake Sale is scheduled for Friday, April 21st and Saturday, April 22nd. The hours for the sale are: 8:00AM – 5:00pm on Friday and 8:00AM-Noon on Saturday. The Bake Sale is to be held on Saturday morning only. The "Bag Sale" will be between the hours of 10:00AM-Noon on Saturday.

The set-up dates are Monday, April 17th through Thursday, April 20th.

Please bring items on Monday –

Wednesday between the hours of 9:00AM-4:00PM and between 9:00-

Noon on Thursday. Because storage space is very limited—if at all possible, please wait to bring your items on the planned days.



PLEASE DO NOT BRING: TVs, entertainment centers, computers, dehumidifiers, home-recorded VCR tapes or DVDs, stained or torn clothing, or inappropriate books, DVDs, or magazines. Please limit clothing donations to Spring and Summer only.

Bake Sale items should be priced and can be brought in on Friday or early Saturday. If you like to bake, please consider donating items for the bake sale. We will need many workers to help set-up and to work during the sale. Sign-up sheets will be available in Fellowship Hall starting on or about Sunday, March 26th. Please sign up for a shift or two or call Charlene Mingst at 608-935-5758. (If you have a question about an item that you would like to donate please call that same number.)

This annual fund-raiser helps the United Women in Faith meet our goals of mission on the local, state, national, and international levels, including supporting the general budget of our church. **THANK YOU TO ALL WHO WILL WORK AND ALSO TO EVERYONE WHO DONATES ITEMS.**

COMING SOON!!!

Rummage Sale

(Spring/Summer Clothing only please!!)

workers needed all days

[Sign-up sheet in fellowship hall]

Friday, April 21st 8AM - 5:00 PM

Saturday, April 22nd 8AM-12:00PM

(Bake Sale on Saturday)

Items may be brought to
the church

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM:

Monday, April 17th,

Tuesday April 18th,

Wednesday, April 19th or

Thursday, April 20th,

9:00 AM - Noon

Baked goods may be brought on

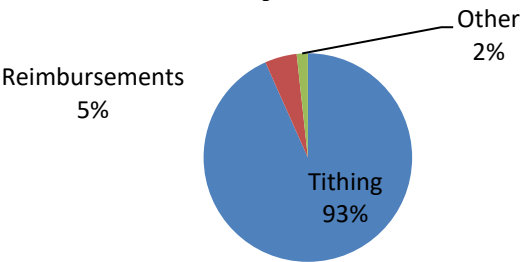
Friday or by

7:45 AM Saturday



Financial Report

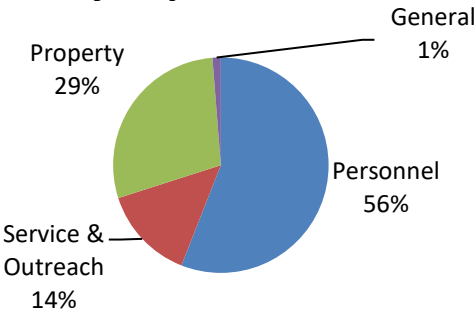
February Income = \$13,929



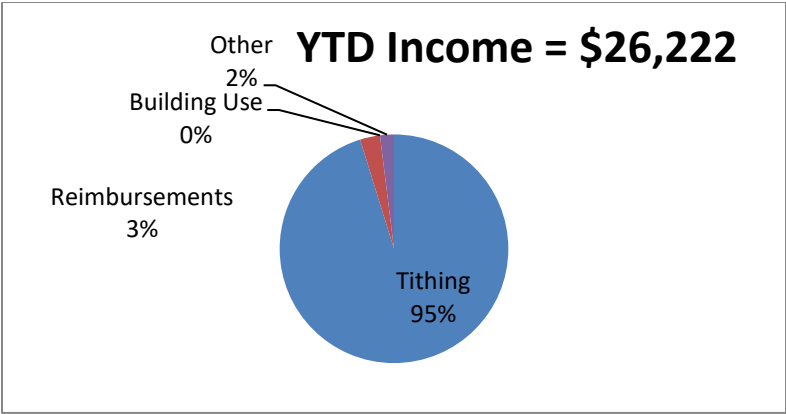
February

Tithing	\$12,999	93%
Reimbursements	\$690	5%
Other	\$240	2%
Total	\$13,929	

February Expenses = \$15,176

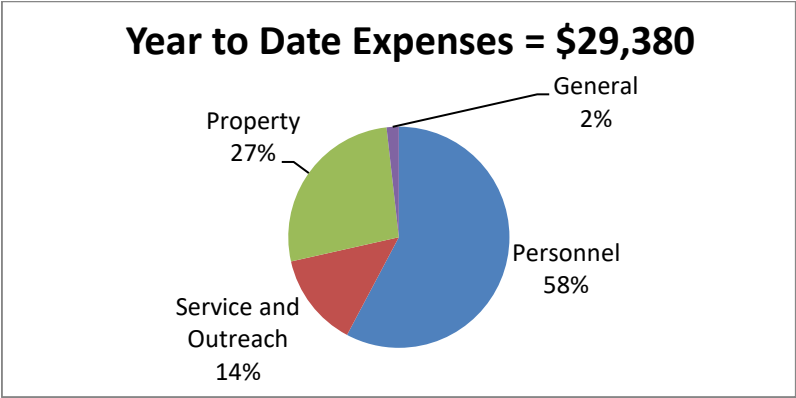


Personnel	\$8,494	56%
Service & Outreach	\$2,137	14%
Property	\$4,355	29%
General	\$189	1%
Total Expenses	\$15,176	



YTD

Tithing	\$24,966	95%
Reimbursements	\$742	3%
Building Use	\$0	0%
Other	\$515	2%
	<hr/>	
	\$26,222	



Personnel	\$16,970	58%
Service and Outreach	\$4,031	14%
Property	\$7,856	27%
General	\$523	2%
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Total Expenses	\$29,380	

STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION

Often, when the word “stewardship” is uttered in the church, we think of money, giving, and budgets. With the celebration of Earth Day, April is one of many occasions when we can remind ourselves that Christian stewardship is broader than just money. Here are just a few teachings on creation that have been passed on through the ages.

“The initial step for a soul to come to knowledge of God is contemplation of nature.” – Irenaeus (120-202)

“Nature is schoolmistress, the soul the pupil; and whatever one has taught or the other has learned has come from God – the Teacher of the teacher.” – Tertullian (160-230)

“Christ wears ‘two shoes’ in the world: Scripture and nature. Both are necessary to understand the Lord, and at no stage can creation be seen as a separation of things from God.” – John Scotus Eriugena (810-877)

“If I spend enough time with the tiniest of creature – even a caterpillar – I would never have to prepare a sermon. So full of God is every creature.” – Meister Eckhart (1260-1327)

“God writes the Gospel not in the Bible alone, but also on trees, and in the flowers and clouds and stars.” – Martin Luther (1483-1546)

“Let everyone regard himself as the steward of God in all things which he possesses. Then he will neither conduct himself dissolutely, nor corrupt by abuse those things which God requires to be preserved.” – John Calvin (1509-1564)

“I believe in my heart that faith in Jesus Christ can and will lead us beyond an exclusive concern for the well-being of other human beings to the broader concern for the well-being of the birds in our backyards, the fish in our rivers, and every living creature on the face of the earth.” – John Wesley (1701- 1791)

“The harvested fields bathed in the autumn mists speak of God and his goodness far more vividly than any human lips.” – Albert Schweitzer (1875- 1965)

continued

“To drive to extinction something He has created is wrong. He has a purpose for everything . . . We Christians have a responsibility to take the lead in caring for the earth.” – Billy Graham (1918-2018)

“God intends...our care of creation to reflect our love for the Creator.”
– John R.W. Stott (1921-2011)

“The first law of our being is that we are set in a delicate network of interdependence with our fellow human beings and with the rest of God’s creation.” – Desmond Tutu (1931-2021)

“We cannot be all that God wants us to be without caring about the earth.” – Rick Warren (1954 -)

Rev. Jason Mahnke, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

LOOSE CHANGE FOR CHANGE

April-June Loose Change for Change is designated to the Opportunity House – a place to assist those released from prison.



LOVE DODGEVILLE

Sunday, May 7, 1:00-5:00PM

QUESTIONS? Contact Brenda Crowe
brencrowe@hotmail.com or visit the Love
Dodgeville Facebook page.

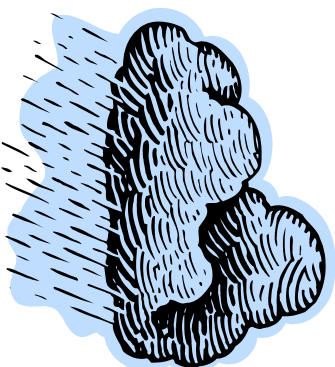
2023 SUNDAY SERVANTS

Week	DATE	Communion	Media	Liturgist	Greeters	Child Moment	Cafe	Accompanist
4	3-26-23		Juanita	Martha	Sandy & Steve Alexander	Martha	Ethan & Seirra McCracken Juanita Starr	Denise
1	4-2-23	Dee	Tom	Jan	John Aschliman, Sandy & Steve Alexander	Pastor Jim	Pancake Breakfast	Ginny
2	4-9-23	Dee	Juanita	Terry	John Aschliman, Sandy & Steve Alexander	Terry	Mary & Rich James	Ginny
3	4-16-23		Tom	Peggy	John Aschliman, Sandy & Steve Alexander	Peggy	Sarah Buroker Joanna Schindler	Praise band
4	4-23-23		Juanita	Brittany	John Aschliman, Sandy & Steve Alexander	Brittany	Jan Aschlioman Charlene Mingst Ginny Gorsline	Praise band
5	4-30-23		Tom	Julia	John Aschliman, Sandy & Steve Alexander	Pastor Jim	Dawn Van Epps Deb Short	Ginny
1	5-7-23	Dee	Juanita	Dawn	Chip & Peggy Forrest	Dawn	Peggy Forrest Nancy Mortimer	Ginny
2	5-14-23		Juanita	Martha	Chip & Peggy Forrest	Martha	Dawn Van Epps Deb Short	Praise Band
3	5-21-23		Juanita	Jan	Chip & Peggy Forrest	Jan	Kerry Beerkircher Julie James	Ginny
4	5-28-23		Juanita	Terry	Chip & Peggy Forrest	Terry	Ethan & Sierra McCracken Starr Family	Praise Band

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
26 LOOSE CHANGE FOR CHANGE - Free Clinic 9:00am Dodgeville UMC Worship Service 6:30pm Ridgeway Grace Worship Service	27 6:30pm Trustee Meeting	28 5:30pm Wesley Fellowship Group	29 5:00pm Feeding Friends Community Meal 6:30pm Lenten Study	30 5:30pm Mission Meeting 6:30pm UW in Faith Meeting	31	1 6:30pm DTC Support Group							
2 Communion 8:00am Choir Rehearsal 8:00am Trustee Pancake Breakfast 9:00am Dodgeville UMC Worship Service 6:30pm Ridgeway Grace Worship Service	3 6:30pm Trustee Meeting	4 5:30pm Wesley Fellowship Group	5 5:00pm Feeding Friends Community Meal	6 7:00am UHH Workshop 5:00pm Maundy Thursday Meal/Service at Plymouth UCC	7 6:30pm Good Friday Service	8 6:30pm DTC Support Group							
9 7:00am Ridgeway Grace Easter Worship Service 8:00am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Easter Worship Service	10	11 5:30pm Wesley Fellowship Group 6:00pm P.E.O	12 5:00pm Feeding Friends Community Meal	13 6:00pm Finance Meeting 7:00pm Church Council	14	15 9:00am United Women in Faith 6:30pm DTC Support Group							
16 9:00am Dodgeville UMC Worship Service 6:30pm Ridgeway Grace Worship Service	17 9:00am Rummage Sale Prep 7:30pm Farm Bureau	18 9:00am Rummage Sale Prep 5:30pm Wesley Fellowship Group	19 9:00am Rummage Sale Prep 5:00pm Feeding Friends Community Meal	20 9:00am Rummage Sale Prep 1:30pm Wills & Memorials Committee Meeting 6:30pm Feeding Friends Steering Committee	21 8:00am Rummage Sale	22 8:00am Rummage Sale 6:30pm DTC Support Group							
23 LOOSE CHANGE 9:00am Dodgeville UMC Worship Service 6:30pm Ridgeway Grace Worship Service	24	25 5:30pm Wesley Fellowship Group	26 Newsletter Deadline 5:00pm Feeding Friends Community Meal	27	28	29 6:30pm DTC Support Group							
30 9:00am Dodgeville UMC Worship Service 6:30pm Ridgeway Grace Worship Service	1 6:30pm Trustee Meeting	2 7:00am UHH Workshop 5:30pm Wesley Fellowship Group	3 5:00pm Feeding Friends Community Meal	4 6:30pm UW in Faith Friends Night	5 7:00am UHH Workshop	6 6:30pm DTC Support Group							

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4 – Owen Beerkircher
5 - Kevin Kirschbaum
8 - Amber Price
9 - Chip Forrest
16 – Rose Hickman
17 – Ben Berryman
17 – Lana Dobson
18 - Peggy Forrest
22 - John Houck
22 - Mike Weber
25 - Jan Kirschbaum
27 – Brittany Gevelinger
27 - Mary Ellen Schultze
27 - Scott Tolzman



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

8 - Ron & Julie Symons
11 - Doug & Robin Digman
11 – Jeff & Jackie Dux
16 - Rich & Judy Strutt

APRIL

