

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

Newsletter  
December 2023

*Prepared especially for...*

Members & Friends of  
Dodgeville United Methodist Church



# The Compass

A PUBLICATION OF  
DODGEVILLE & RIDGEWAY GRACE  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES



**December 2023:**

***"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Luke 3:4***

The "holiday season" is upon us again. Maybe we can work on being intentional about this holiday season looking a little different this year. Even among, the hustle and bustle of the season that can make us feel overwhelmed and exhausted.

What will your December look like? Even in the midst of traditions we cherish it could very easily be full of stress, demands, busyness and obligations of cultural norms. (Have you ever experienced the feeling of relief when the holidays are over?) But in this spiritual wilderness there is a voice crying, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." That is to say that there is another way.

Take a deep breath. Slow down and commit yourself to a holy and intentional Advent and Christmas.

**Here are some simple tips:**

- I will be emailing an Advent devotion daily. Nothing could be easier. Couple it with a prayer. Those few moments can make a huge difference in your day.
- Look for signs of God every day. It may be in the beauty of creation. It may be in the face or voice of a loving person. It may be in a situation. It might come from reading your Bible. To see God, you have to be open and looking for God.

- Share with those in need. Nothing can soften our hard hearts quicker. We will again have our giving tree up, and will also include items for our shut ins. In this time of inflation, any help we can provide for others, is more important than ever.
- Our offering from our Ecumenical Thanksgiving service went to the Iowa County Food Pantry. They are still seeking help for those in need this holiday season! Do you have nonperishable food you can donate? Are you feeling called to make a financial donation? Is there someone close to your heart you are feeling called to provide food for directly?

The holiday season is upon us again. But so is the holy season of Advent. What will your December look like?

Wishing you a holy and blessed Advent & Christmas,  
Pastor Lorri

## **New Christmas Tradition**

Beginning December 1st read one chapter  
of the book of Luke in the Bible each  
evening.

There are 24 chapters.

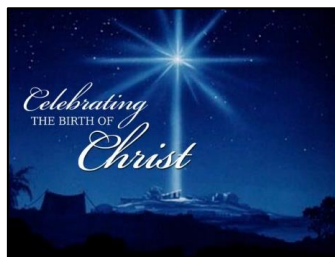
On Christmas Eve you will have read an  
entire account of Jesus's Life and wake up  
Christmas morning knowing WHO and  
WHY we celebrate!!



# Christmas Eve/Day Worship Service Schedule

## Christmas Eve (Sunday):

- Dodgeville UMC at 9:00AM
- Dodgeville UMC at 7:00PM  
Traditional service with holy communion, and candlelight singing of Silent Night
- Dodgeville UMC at 9:00PM  
Traditional service with holy communion, and candlelight singing of Silent Night with Choir



## CHOIR NOTES

The choir will sing on the following Sundays in December: December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and at the 9:00PM Christmas Eve Service. We will plan to rehearse at 8:00AM before the Sunday services and 8:15PM on Christmas Eve. We welcome new and/or returning singers at any time.

## THE FALL DINNER WAS A RESOUNDING SUCCESS!

Annually the DUMC church serves an outstanding meal in the fall. This year was no exception! We had a record number of people who volunteered in so many ways. We were happy to have some middle school and high school students help out. It was wonderful to be in the church working along side each and every one of you. Although our hands were busy, we had fun socializing and laughing with each other. We offered both a drive-thru and dine-in option. The drive-thru was the more popular option. But it was wonderful to see more people coming into the Fellowship Hall to enjoy the meal. We also delivered quite a few meals. The success of the dinner is the direct result of LOTS of people pitching in and working hard.



Thanks to YOUR efforts and donations, almost \$5,000 was raised.

THANK YOU one and all!

With much appreciation,

The Planning Committee

### PLEASE PRAY

Pam Fingerson, Edna Dunham, Jeff & Jackie Dux, Ivy Wilson, Zach Hickman, John Gevelinger and family, Patti Kersten, Theresa Stewart

### IOWA COUNTY CANCER COALITION

December 6<sup>th</sup> at Culvers

*A percentage of sales will be donated from 4-7PM*

### WILLS & MEMORIALS

The Wills and Memorials committee will meet on Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 1:30PM in Fellowship Hall.

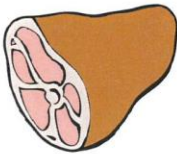
## United Women in Faith:

United Women in Faith will meet at 6PM on Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> for our annual Christmas Potluck. Please bring a dish to pass. We will also serve the Compassionate Friends dinner on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. If you have signed up to help, please come at 4:30PM.



The **Christmas Day**, Monday, December 25, 2023 Community meal at Culvers in Dodgeville is in need of volunteers.

**Delivery drivers** in Dodgeville and Mineral Point from 10:30 to about noon. Bring laundry baskets/boxes/large coolers. Must go in pairs.



**Serving line/filling to go containers** from 10:20 to 12:30.

Dishing the food into the to go containers or going through the line and filling the to go containers.

Call 608-535-7051 to volunteer

**HOLIDAY FAIR** – Saturday, December 2, Platteville UMC, Coffee & Bakery Items at 9AM, Bazaar at 9:30AM, Lunch 11AM-1PM

*Christmas Cookie & Candy Sale*  
*Faith Lutheran Church, Mineral Point*  
*Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 7:30am-*  
*12:00pm*

## “Christmas Giving Opportunities”



We are collecting gifts for the residents of local Nursing Homes. Gift ideas include: Body Lotion, Shampoo, Body Wash, Toothpaste/ Toothbrushes, Perfume/aftershave, Deodorant (men/women), Large print, large size word search books (not pocket size), Stamps, \$10 Gift cards to Walmart, Women's pen-shaped facial razors (battery operated), If you might be willing to purchase some of these items that will be presented as gifts for the residents, you can bring those items to the church (and put them under the tree). You can purchase as much as you would like. The deadline is for these gifts is **December 10<sup>th</sup>. Please do not wrap your gift.**

### Giving/Attendance Stats

Week	Attendance	Offering
November		
1	81	\$3,648
2	60	\$2,703
3	47	\$1,869
4	48	\$5,740

### DECEMBER ANNIVERSARY

31 – Art & Margaret Humbert

### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

5 - Mylee Mulder

8 - Mary Terrill

12 - Denise Tolzman

14 - James Short

17 – Ivy Wilson

19 – Holly Starr

20 – Mary Wilson

22 – Robin Digman

22 – Dawn Van Epps

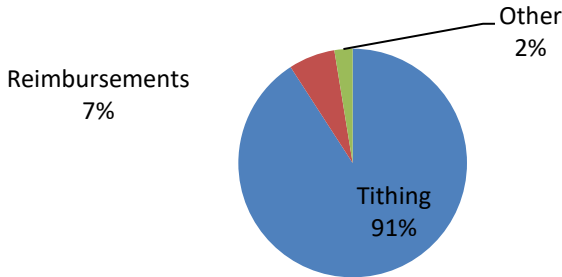
29 – Mary Lou Oxnem

# Financial

## October

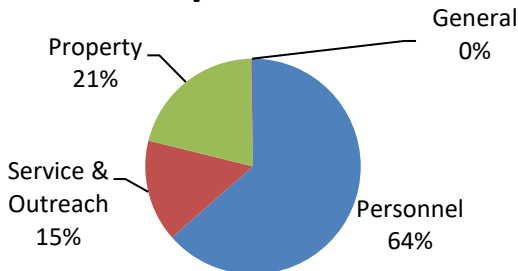
Tithing	\$8,910	91%
Reimbursements	\$645	7%
Other	<u>\$252</u>	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,807</b>	

### October Income = \$9,807



Personnel	\$9,036	64%
Service & Outreach	\$2,176	15%
Property	\$2,970	21%
General	<u>\$37</u>	0%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$14,220</b>	

### October Expenses = \$14,220





# Report

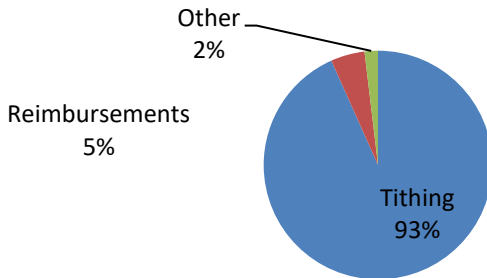
## YTD

Tithing	\$110,967	93%
Reimbursements	\$5,708	5%
Other	\$2,245	2%

## YTD

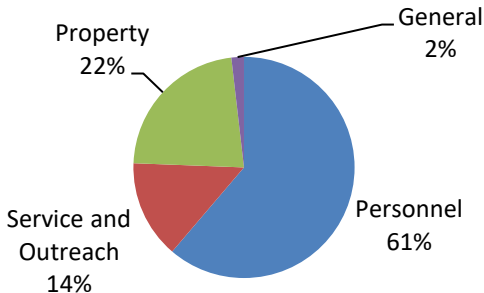
**\$118,920**

### YTD Income = \$118,920



Personnel	\$87,334	61%
Service and Outreach	\$20,472	14%
Property	\$32,170	22%
General	\$2,611	2%
Total Expenses	<u><b>\$142,587</b></u>	

### Year to Date Expenses = \$142,587



# SUNDAY SERVANTS

Dec.	S School	Counters	Media	Liturgist/Child Mom	Greeters	Cafe	Accompanist
3	Deb	Jan K Sandy A	Dee	Jan/Lorri	Sarah & Caleb B	Jody V, Penny E	Ginny
10	Peggy F	Denise Sandy A	Dee	Dawn V	Deb & Jim S	Mary & Rich J.	Jan
17	Deb S	Jan A Sandy A	Tom H	Martha B	John A, Martha B	Sarah & Caleb B, John A	Ginny
24 AM	Terry Penny E	n/a	Denise T	Terry E	Sandy & Steve A	Jan A, Charlene M, Ginny G	Jan
24 7 PM	n/a	n/a	?	Martha B	Sandy & Steve A	n/a	Ginny
24 9 PM	n/a	n/a	?	Dawn V	Sandy & Steve A	n/a	Ginny
31	Deb S	Dawn V Sandy A	Dee	Peggy F	Chip & Peggy F	Kerry B, Julie J	Ginny
Jan.	S School	Counters	Media	Liturgist/Child Mom	Greeters	Cafe	Accompanist
7	?	Denise Sandy A	Denise	Dawn V	Sarah & Caleb B	Peggy F, Nancy M	Jan
14	Deb S	Jan A Sandy A	Tom	Julia/Lorri	Deb & Jim S	Dawn V, Deb S	Ginny
21	Peggy F	Jan K Sandy A	Dee	Martha B	John A, Martha B	Kerry B, Julie J	Jan
28	Terry Penny E	Dawn V Sandy A	Tom	Terry	Sandy & Steve A	Sandy A	Ginny

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
26	LOOSE CHANGE 9:00am Dodgeville UMC Worship 11:00am Ridgeway Grace Worship	27		28	10:30am Prayer Ministry 5:30pm Wesley Fellowship Group	29	10:00am Advent Bible Study 5:00pm Feeding Friends Meal	30		1		2	4:00pm Pizza & Decorate for Christmas 6:00pm DTC Support Group
3	Communion 8:00am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Dodgeville UMC Worship 11:00am Ridgeway Grace Worship 6:00pm Advent by Candlelight	4	6:30pm Trustee Meeting	5	10:30am Prayer Ministry 5:30pm PEO 5:30pm Wesley Fellowship Group	6	10:00am Advent Bible Study 5:00pm Feeding Friends Meal	7	6:30pm UMW in Faith Christmas Gathering	8		9	9:00am Compassionate Friends Rehearsal 6:00pm DTC Support Group
10	9:00am Dodgeville UMC Worship 11:00am Ridgeway Grace Worship 6:00pm Compassionate Friends Service	11		12	10:30am Prayer Ministry 5:30pm Wesley Fellowship Group	13	10:00am Advent Bible Study 5:00pm Feeding Friends Meal	14	9:00am Lifeline Screening	15		16	6:00pm DTC Support Group
17	9:00am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Dodgeville & Ridgeway Worship 10:00am Potluck Brunch	18	7:30pm Farm Bureau	19	10:30am Prayer Ministry 5:30pm Wesley Fellowship Group	20	10:00am Advent Bible Study 5:00pm Feeding Friends Meal	21		22		23	6:00pm DTC Support Group
24	Dodgeville UMC Candlelight Service at 7:00 & 9:00 PM LOOSE CHANGE 9:00am Dodgeville UMC Worship	25		26	10:30am Prayer Ministry 5:30pm Wesley Fellowship Group	27	Newsletter Deadline 5:00pm Feeding Friends Meal	28		29		30	11:00am Edwards Family Christmas 6:00pm DTC Support Group
31	9:00am Dodgeville UMC Worship 11:00am Ridgeway Grace Worship	1		2	10:30am Prayer Ministry 5:30pm Wesley Fellowship Group	3	5:00pm Feeding Friends Meal	4		5		6	6:00pm DTC Support Group

DECEMBER

