

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

Newsletter
March 2026

Prepared especially for...

Members & Friends of DUMC



The Compass

A PUBLICATION OF
DODGEVILLE & RIDGEWAY GRACE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES

Dear Dodgeville Church Family,

With our Ash Wednesday service, we have entered the sacred season of Lent. The ashes placed upon our foreheads gently but clearly remind us: our lives are fragile, our time is limited, and our souls are often thirsty.



Many of us carry a quiet restlessness within. Beneath our routines and responsibilities, there is a deeper hunger—an ongoing spiritual thirst, anxiety, and instability. We try to hold everything together, yet we know how easily life can shift. Lent invites us to face this truth honestly: we are finite. And only when we recognize our limits can we entrust ourselves to the infinite God.

Lent is the forty-day season in the Church calendar when we prepare our hearts for Easter through repentance, prayer, self-examination, and deeper surrender to Christ. It is a spiritual journey of returning—turning away from self-reliance and turning again toward the grace of God.

The only true answer to life is surrender—placing our finite lives into the hands of our infinite God and learning to walk in obedience to Him.

Without Jesus, how empty life would be. Without the eternal life given through Jesus Christ, without the promise of resurrection, how fleeting and meaningless our present existence would feel. We must hold fast to Jesus. We must return to Him.

Lent is not merely a season of religious tradition or personal improvement. It is a holy invitation to slow down and pay attention to what is happening inside us—and to bring it honestly before God. This is a time to renew our relationship with God, to reflect on our relationship with ourselves, and to examine how we are living in relationship with others.

Lent gives us space to ask courageous, healing questions:

- How is my relationship with God right now?
- Have I drifted from intimacy with Christ?
- What habits, distractions, or attachments are shaping my heart more than Jesus?
- Am I living from fear and self-reliance, or from trust and surrender?
- Where is God calling me to obedience, reconciliation, or renewed faithfulness?

Repentance is not simply feeling guilty—it is turning around. It is returning to the arms of God. Prayer is not just speaking—it is abiding, listening, and re-centering our hearts in Christ. And surrender is not weakness—it is the doorway to freedom.

One simple practice I would like to suggest during this season is the daily, even moment-by-moment, practice of the Jesus Prayer:

“Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.”

This short prayer helps us focus our thoughts and hearts on Jesus throughout the day. It trains us to remember that we are finite beings who cannot live even a single day without the mercy and compassion of Christ. Repeating this prayer—quietly in the car, while walking, before meetings, in moments of stress—anchors our hearts in humility and grace. It gently brings us back to the truth that everything depends on Him.

As we learn to return to Jesus again and again—through worship, Scripture, prayer, fasting, acts of mercy, and daily obedience—the Holy Spirit begins to form Christ’s character within us. Love grows deeper. Joy becomes steadier. Peace becomes more real. Patience stretches further. Kindness becomes more natural. These are not self-made virtues; they are the fruit of a life that is learning to abide in Christ.

Only then do we truly experience that God is with us. Only then does life—though fragile and uncertain—become filled with meaning and purpose.

During this Lenten season, I want to ask you gently:

Is your soul well?

Are there days when simply enduring feels overwhelming?

If so, you are not alone. And you do not have to carry it all by yourself.

Let us return to Jesus.

Let us remember His love displayed on the cross.

Let us meditate, give thanks, and be moved once again by His grace.

And let us proclaim the true life promised in Him. With the certainty of resurrection and the hope of Easter before us, may we live each day with gratitude and joy—trusting that the road of Lent passes through the cross, but it leads to resurrection.

Let us walk this journey together.

In Christ,

Rev. Dr. Yohan Hong

VISIONING WORKSHOP

All Church Visioning Session is Saturday, March 7 from 9:00 to 11:30 AM. Pastor Yohan will lead us in exploring what the church is doing now and how we want our church to move forward. We want to hear what you think! **Printed copies of what will be covered at the workshop are available in the narthex to take and look over.** Everyone who participates in worship at DUMC is encouraged to attend.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

All women of the church are invited and encouraged to attend the following event.

Grace Lutheran Church will host a World Day of Prayer service on March 6 at 1:00 PM. The theme is "I will give you Rest: Come" from Matthew 11:28-30. The program is written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Nigeria. World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice.



Title: Rest for the Weary | Artist: Gift Amarachi Ottah

Hosted by the Grace Lutheran Church

Please join us and bring a friend!

Refreshments will be served after the program.

Church Family News

March Birthdays

5 – Maeve Nelson
7 – Rachel Dees
7 – Julia Harman
15 – Jonathon Butteris
25 – Byron Buroker
27 – Jesse Biddick



TRUSTEE'S PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER

March 8th, 8:00-11:00AM

Options for: Dine in, carry-out, or delivery

Adults: \$10.00 – Child 10 & Under: \$5.00

Family: \$25.00

Please Pray:

Zach Hickman, Gevelinger family, Theresa Stewart, Ron Weagle, Rod Sparling, Art Humbert, Arthur Gough, Caroline Lemire, Millie Jean, Sue Lindl

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

The United Women in Faith will meet on Thursday, March 5th at 6:30 PM in the Library. The program will be the *2026 A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial – The Future is Now: Invest in Our Children*. There will be an offering taken that will help support vulnerable children through the work of National Mission Institutions, such as Northcott House which is located in Milwaukee, WI. After the program we will have a business meeting followed by refreshments. Hope to see you there!

Everyone is invited to attend the annual World Day of Prayer Service on Friday, March 6th at 1:00PM at Grace Lutheran Church. This year's service is titled "*I Will Give You Rest: Come*", and is based on the Scripture found in Matthew 11: 28-30.

Looking ahead to April – the annual Spring Rummage and Bake Sale is scheduled for April 24th and 25th. The set-up days will be from Monday, 4/20 through Thursday, 4/23. Detailed information will appear in the April Newsletter.

WILLS & MEMORIALS SCHOLARSHIP

The Wills & Memorials Committee is pleased to offer scholarships to seniors who have a close association to the Dodgeville United Methodist Church. If you are interested in taking advantage of this opportunity, please contact the church office at 608-935-5451 to request an application.

CHOIR NOTES

The choir will sing on two Sundays in March: the third Sunday – 3/15 and Palm Sunday – 3/29. We rehearse at 8:00AM on the days that we sing. We welcome new and/or returning members at any time. Please consider joining us! If you have questions, about the choir, please contact Charlene Mingst – 608-935-5758.

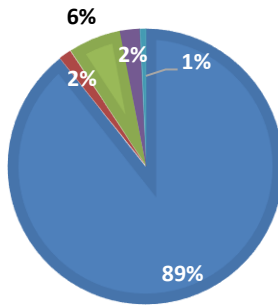
FINANCIAL REPORT

January

Tithing	\$7,897	89%
Loose Plate	\$130	1%
Building Use	\$550	6%
Apportionments	\$200	2%
Other	\$61	1%
Total	\$8,838	

JANUARY INCOME

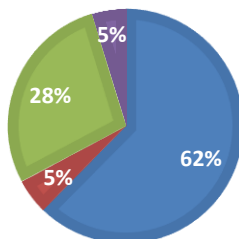
■ Tithing ■ Loose Plate ■ Building Use ■ Apportionments ■ Other



Personnel	\$6,859	62%
Service & Outreach	\$529	5%
Property	\$3,094	28%
General	\$515	5%
Total Expenses	\$10,997	

JANUARY EXPENSES

■ Personnel ■ Service & Outreach ■ Property ■ General



UW in FAITH Rummage/Bake Sale
Coming April 24-25

Date	Attendance	Offering
Feb 1	65	\$5,847
Feb 8	65	\$1,870
Feb 15	66	\$2,447
Feb 22	53	\$1,023

CHURCH RE-KEYING PROJECT

Our faithful Trustees are in the process of planning to have our building re-keyed. As part of this process, we would like to get a handle on how many keys are in circulation. If you are in possession of a key, please call the church office at 608-935-5451 to let Carla know (leaving a voicemail is fine too). Many of you have already emailed the office – thank you!

Also, if you know of someone outside of the church who has a key, please respond with that information as well.

If you have a key that you will not be using in the next 6 weeks, please drop it off in the church office, preferably with your name. Eventually, all building keys will not work so we would like to begin collecting keys. (When the building is re-keyed, your key will still enter the lock, but it will not turn the lock, so we are hoping to get the word out to avoid any keys being broken off in the lock.)

More information will be shared as we get closer to the implementation of this event. (We don't know exactly when the project will be completed yet.)

Thank you for your cooperation!

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	Communion 9:00am Dodgeville UMC Worship	2 6:30pm Trustee Meeting	3 9:00am Strong Bodies 10:30am Prayer Ministry 5:30pm Wesley Fellowship Group	4 5:00pm Feeding Friends Meal 6:30pm Bible Study	5 9:00am Strong Bodies 6:30pm UW in Faith Meeting	6 1:00pm World Day of Prayer Service at Grace Lutheran Church	7 9:00am Church Vision Workshop 6:00pm DTC Support Group
8	8:00am Trustee Pancake Breakfast 9:00am Dodgeville UMC Worship	9 Headstart Room Prep for next day	10 7:00am SWCAP Headstart 10:30am Prayer Ministry 5:30pm Wesley Fellowship Group	11 5:00pm Feeding Friends Meal 6:30pm Bible Study	12 9:00am Strong Bodies 6:00pm Finance 7:00pm Church Council Meeting	13	14 6:00pm DTC Support Group
15	8:15am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Dodgeville UMC Worship	16 5:30pm United Fund Meeting 7:30pm Farm Bureau	17 9:00am Strong Bodies 10:30am Prayer Ministry 5:30pm Wesley Fellowship Group	18 5:00pm Feeding Friends Meal	19 9:00am Strong Bodies	20	21 8:00am PEO 6:00pm DTC Support Group
22	9:00am Dodgeville UMC Worship	23	24 9:00am Strong Bodies 10:30am Prayer Ministry 5:30pm Wesley Fellowship Group	25 Newsletter Deadline 5:00pm Feeding Friends Meal	26 9:00am Strong Bodies	27	28 6:00pm DTC Support Group
29	9:00am Dodgeville UMC Worship	30	31 9:00am Strong Bodies 10:30am Prayer Ministry 5:30pm Wesley Fellowship Group	1 5:00pm Feeding Friends Meal	2 9:00am Strong Bodies 6:30pm UW in Faith Meeting	3 6:30pm Good Friday Service	4 6:00pm DTC Support Group

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Mar	Media	Liturgist/Child Mom	Sunday School	Greeters	Cafe	Accompanist
1	Dee Dochnahl	Denise Tolzman		Sarah & Caleb Buroker	Peggy Forrest	Mary Wilson
8	Tom Harman	Dawn Van Epps	Peggy Forrest	John Aschliman	Dawn Van Epps Deb Short	Jan Kirschbaum
15	Denise Tolzman	Jan Aschliman	Deb Short	Deb & Jim Short	Kerry Beerkircher Julie James	Jan Kirschbaum
22	Denise Tolzman	Terry Edwards	Terry/Penny	Sandy & Steve Alexander	Sandy Alexander	Ginny Gorsline
29	Tom Harman	Peggy Forrest		Chip & Peggy Forrest	Kerry Beerkircher Julie James	Ginny Gorsline
Apr	Media	Liturgist/Child Mom	Sunday School	Greeters	Cafe	Accompanist
5	Dee Dochnahl	Brittany Gevelinger		Sarah & Caleb Buroker	Jody Vanderloo, Penny Edwards	Mary Wilson
12	Tom Harman	Dawn Van Epps	Peggy Forrest	John Aschliman	Mary & Rich James	Jan Kirschbaum
19	Dee Dochnahl	Terry Edwards	Terry & Penny Edwards	Deb & Jim Short	John Aschliman Sarah & Caleb Buroker	Ginny Gorsline
26	Denise Tolzman	Jan Aschliman	Deb Short	Sandy & Steve Alexander	Jan Aschliman Charlene Mingst Ginny Gorsline	Jan Kirschbaum



MARCH

Spring Ahead!
Daylight
Savings
Time
Begins
Sunday,
March 8th

