

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



Prepared Especially For
Members & Friends of Dodgeville UMC

Solitude: Making Room for God This Summer



Summer often gives us a different rhythm. Some of us travel. Some of us spend time with family. Some of us enjoy gardens, lakes, cookouts, and longer evenings. Yet even in summer, our hearts can remain crowded. We may step away from regular routines, but still carry noise within us—worries, responsibilities, questions, memories, and decisions.

Many people are too busy to pause and reflect on the deeper meaning and purpose of life. We move from one thing to another, from one appointment to another, from one screen to another. But our souls need space. Our hearts need silence. Our faith needs time to breathe.

That is why solitude is a spiritual discipline we need to practice, especially in this season.

Solitude does not mean simply being alone. It does not mean escaping people or withdrawing from the world in a passive way. True Christian solitude is an active turning of our hearts toward God. It is making room for God to speak, heal, guide, and fill us again with grace.

Psalms 46:10 says, “Be still, and know that I am God” (NIV). Stillness is not emptiness. Stillness is trust. Stillness is a way of saying, “God, I do not have to control everything. I do not have to carry everything by myself. I am here with you.”

No matter what is happening in our lives, there is always a way to reconnect with God. We can grow in intimacy with God. We can spend time with God. We can listen, confess, rest, and become grounded again in faith and in God's promises.

How do we begin?

Start simply. Open Scripture and read slowly. Say a short prayer. Offer your heart honestly to God. Tell God what is really going on inside you. Confess your fears, your hopes, your weariness, your gratitude, and your desire to follow Christ more deeply.

You might pray something like this:

"Lord, I belong to you. I want to know you more. I want to love you more. I want to follow you more faithfully. Come and reign in my heart."

In solitude, we are invited to look honestly at our inner lives. What has been shaping my thoughts? What has been stealing my peace? Where do I need healing? Where do I need courage? Where do I need to surrender more fully to God?

Solitude creates space for God's love to reach the deeper places of our hearts. It reminds us that we are not defined by our productivity, our busyness, our success, or our struggles. We are God's beloved children. Before we do anything for God, we are invited to be with God.

This summer, I encourage you to practice small moments of holy solitude. Sit quietly with a cup of coffee. Take a slow walk. Read a Psalm. Turn off your phone for a few minutes.

Breathe deeply. Listen. Pray. Let God's presence become real to you again.

We do not need to wait for a perfect retreat or a long vacation. Even five quiet minutes offered to God can become sacred ground.

May this summer not only refresh our bodies, but also renew our souls. May we learn again how to be still before God. May we be filled with God's love and grace. And may our solitude with God send us back into the world with deeper peace, clearer purpose, and greater love.

**Grace and peace,
Pastor Yohan**



United Women in Faith: Our local unit of United Women in Faith does not meet in June or July but we would like to extend an invitation to all the women of the church to become a part of our organization.



United
Women
in Faith

The official Mission Statement of UWF is as follows: *United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence, and impact local and global communities.* Our local unit strives to fulfill this statement through our monthly meetings (August – May) and by participating in the life of our church and community.

We are most “visible” during our twice-yearly rummage/bake sales and when we serve funeral dinners. We use the

money that we earn to support UWF missions on the local, state, and national levels and also help to support the ministries of our church.

Please consider joining us! To learn more contact Charlene Mingst – President or Martha Boyer – Vice-President or go to the website - uwfaith.org.

The next time we meet is at the annual “Brunch at the Barn” scheduled for Thursday, August 6th at 9:30AM, hosted by Martha Boyer. There will be more information shared regarding this event later this summer.



WWW.WISCONSINUMC.ORG



WAC – Wisconsin Annual Conference

Romans 5:3-5, New Revised Standard Version

And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

This was the theme of the 2026 Wisconsin Annual Conference which was held in Madison, June 3-6, 2026. I feel fortunate to be able to attend with Pastor Yohan & see our Wisconsin United Methodist Church in action in the worship sessions along with the business of the church.

We kicked off the weekend with a performance from the Wisconsin Badger Band. Bishop Daniel Schwerin called the conference into session. Throughout the weekend we heard about the many projects that we as United Methodist Churches supports both locally, nationally & globally. These include the Youth, The United Women in Faith & Golden Cross. We heard from those from the different boards that govern our church and their projects. Pastor Jim Droste who previously served in Dodgeville received the award from the conference for his work on the church archives. Pastor Gail Ray retired & shared a message during the retirement service.

We passed the annual budget for 2027 & Bishop Schwerin shared that we continue to do the work of God with the dollars that churches provide to the Wisconsin Annual Conference. He encouraged all present to consider apportionments important in the life of the church. There is a new formula for apportionments going forward with a base of \$80 per person and then a percent of the operating budget. This should provide a cleaner formula for everyone involved.

One of the other themes throughout the weekend is the need for people to reflect on their talents. There continues to be a need for those to serve in the the lay speaker ministry program, the local licensee pastor program & for those to discern attending seminary to become pastor serving as an elder. In 2027, it appears that there will not be a candidate from Wisconsin graduating from seminary. So, the filling of pulpits will continue to be a challenge as we move forward.

I do want to thank the Dodgeville United Methodist Church for doing our part in providing dignity kits and cleaning kits for Midwest Mission. I know that Pastor Dianne shared her experience last summer with a visit to Midwest Mission & I plan to continue to update our congregations on opportunities available.

In closing, it takes all of us to continue the work of the church. We have many opportunities to show that we are a congregation that Love God, Loves People and Serve God by serving others.



Thank you,
Denise Deaton-Tolzman



June Ministry Snapshot

Date	Worship	Offering
6/7	71	\$3,480.00
6/14	73	\$1,637.39
6/21	62	\$934.00
6/28	57	\$1,151.39
Online Giving		\$1,430.00



July Birthdays

7 – Judith Halverson
10 – Eileen Gorsline
12 – James Gevelinger
14 - Wanda McCutchin
19 – Zena Weber
22 – John Gevelinger
24 – Tina Smith
25 – Sarah Buroker
27 – Emma Hathaway
28 – Chelsea Olday
31 – Caleb Buroker

Happy Birthday!

July Anniversaries

1 – Merlin & Virginia Gorsline
Married 65 years

Happy Anniversary!

PLEASE PRAY:

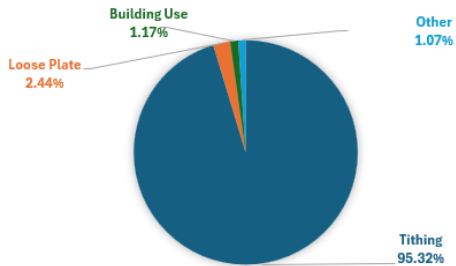
Zach Hickman, Gevelinger
family, Theresa Stewart, Ron
Weagle, Rod Sparling, Art
Humbert, Arthur Gough, Caroline
Lemire, Millie Jean, Sue Lindl,
Monte Hottman

June Financial Reports

June 2026 Monthly Income

Tithing	7,627.78
Loose Plate	195.00
Building Use	94.00
Other	85.50
Total Income	\$ 8,002.28

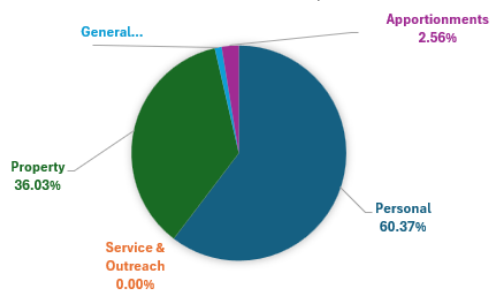
JUNE INCOME = \$8,002.28



June 2026 Monthly Expenses

Personal	7,062.84
Service & Outreach	0.00
Property	4,215.50
General	121.51
Apportionments	300.00
Total Expenses	\$11,699.85

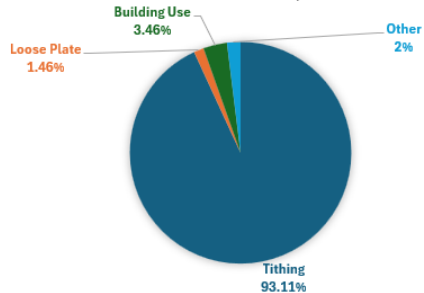
JUNE EXPENSES = \$11,699.85



Actual YTD 2026 Income

Tithing	58,928.18
Loose Plate	925.00
Building Use	2,188.00
Other	1,250.39
Total Income	\$ 63,291.57

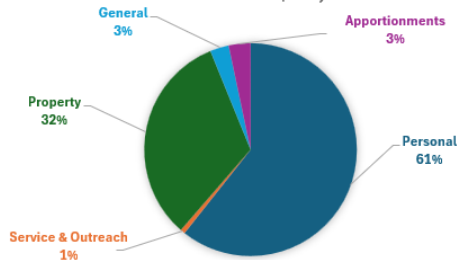
YTD INCOME = \$63,291.57



Actual YTD 2026 Expenses

Personal	40,271.97
Service & Outreach	478.77
Property	21,542.71
General	1,886.22
Apportionments	2,200.00
Total Expenses	\$ 66,379.67

YTD EXPENSES = \$ 66,379.67





WORSHIP IN THE PARK!

Ecumenical Worship at
Centennial Park in
Dodgeville, WI

Sunday, August 9th at 9AM

Everyone is Welcome!

Bring a Chair or Blanket and
find a spot to sit and worship!

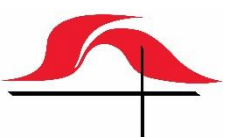
There will be a backpack
blessing for teachers and
students!

Hosted by: Grace Lutheran Dodgeville
Dodgeville United Methodist Church
Plymouth Congregational UCC Dodgeville

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:00am Worship Service	29	30 9:15am Strong Bodies 10:30am Prayer Ministry	1 5:00pm Feeding Friends Meal	2 9:15am Strong Bodies	3	4 6:00pm DTC Support Group
5 Communion 9:00am Worship Service	6 6:30pm Trustee Meeting	7 9:15am Strong Bodies 10:30am Prayer Ministry	8 Melissa Out of Office 5:00pm Feeding Friends Meal	9 9:15am Strong Bodies	10	11 6:00pm DTC Support Group
12 9:00am Worship Service	13	14 9:15am Strong Bodies 10:30am Prayer Ministry	15 5:00pm Feeding Friends Meal	16 9:15am Strong Bodies	17	18 6:00pm DTC Support Group
19 9:00am Worship Service	20 4:30pm United Fund Meeting 7:30pm Farm Bureau	21 9:15am Strong Bodies 10:30am Prayer Ministry	22 Newsletter Deadline 5:00pm Feeding Friends Meal	23 9:15am Strong Bodies	24	25 6:00pm DTC Support Group
26 9:00am Worship Service	27	28 9:15am Strong Bodies 10:30am Prayer Ministry	29 5:00pm Feeding Friends Meal	30 9:15am Strong Bodies	31	1 6:00pm DTC Support Group

SUNDAY SERVANTS

July	Media	Liturgist/Child Mom	Greeters	Cafe	Accompanist
5	Dee Dochnahl	Denise Tolzman	Sarah & Caleb Buroker	Peggy Forrest Edith Hunter	Mary Wilson
12	Tom Harman	Dawn Van Epps	John Aschliman	Dawn Van Epps Deb Short	Jan Kirschbaum
19	Denise Tolzman	Martha Boyer	Deb & Jim Short	Kerry Beerkircher Julie James	Ginny Gorsline
26	Dee Dochnahl	Jan Aschliman	Sandy & Steve Alexander	Sandy Alexander	Jan Kirschbaum
Aug	Media	Liturgist/Child Mom	Greeters	Cafe	Accompanist
2	Dee Dochnahl	Brittany Gevelinger	Sarah & Caleb Buroker	Jody Vanderloo, Penny Edwards	Mary Wilson
9	Tom Harman	Dawn Van Epps	John Aschliman	Mary & Rich James	Jan Kirschbaum
16	Denise Tolzman	Terry Edwards	Deb & Jim Short	John Aschliman Sarah & Caleb Buroker	Ginny Gorsline
23	Tom Harman	Jan Aschliman (Noisy Can)	Sandy & Steve Alexander	Jan A. Charlene M Ginny G	Jan Kirschbaum
30	Denise Tolzman	Denise Tolzman	Chip & Peggy F.	Kerry Beerkircher Julie James	Ginny Gorsline



JULY

2026