

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

Newsletter
September 2026

Prepared Especially For



Growing Together, Bearing Fruit Together

Dear Dodgeville UMC Family,

September always feels like a new beginning. Summer is coming to an end, students are going back to school, families are returning to regular routines, and our church is beginning another season of ministry together. As we enter this new season, I have been thinking and praying about one simple question: **What kind of church is God calling us to become?**



My prayer is that we will continue to grow—not only in number, but also in **spiritual maturity**. I dream of a church where people are growing deeper in their relationship with God, where new people are welcomed and connected, where children and youth are nurtured in faith, and where the character of Christ becomes more visible in all of us. Last Spring we reflected on the **fruit of the Spirit**—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. My hope is that these will not simply remain topics from a sermon series. I pray that they will increasingly become part of **who we are**. May our families, neighbors, coworkers, and community recognize something of Jesus through the way we speak, serve, forgive, encourage, and care for one another. Growth, however, rarely happens overnight. It takes **patience and consistency**. There are already many good things happening through Dodgeville UMC. Let us not become discouraged when we do not immediately see the results we hope for. Sometimes God's work is like planting seeds. We pray, serve, invite, encourage, and keep showing

up faithfully. Then we trust God for the growth. Let us keep doing the good things God has already placed before us, with patience, faithfulness, and hope.

A New Opportunity to Grow Together

This fall, I would especially like to invite you to join me for a new disciple-making small group, **Class 101: The Good and Beautiful God**, based on the book by James Bryan Smith. The purpose of this group is not simply to gain more information about God, but to grow in our relationship with God and with one another. The course will help us examine some of our false ideas about God and discover more deeply the God whom Jesus reveals to us in Scripture.

Small groups give us a place where faith can be shared, nurtured, and strengthened through Scripture, prayer, spiritual practices, and Christian fellowship. As the registration material says, spiritual formation often happens most deeply in community, and everyone is welcome—whether you are a new Christian or have followed Christ for many years.

Registration will be available **September 6–13**, and the class is tentatively planned to begin during the week of **September 13**. Depending on participants' schedules, the group may meet in the morning around **10:00 a.m.** or in the evening around **5:30 p.m.** The course will include nine weeks of learning and practical “soul training” exercises such as silence, counting our blessings, praying Psalm 23, Lectio Divina, solitude, and slowing down.

If you have been saying, “**I want to know God more deeply,**” I hope you will consider joining us—and perhaps invite someone else to come with you.

September is also a time to surround our children, youth, teachers, school staff, and families with prayer as they **go back to school**. Let us pray that our students will grow not only academically but also in wisdom, compassion, courage, and faith. Let us pray for teachers and staff who carry tremendous responsibilities. Let us pray for parents and grandparents as they encourage and support their children throughout the school year.

And let us remember those whose September may not feel like an exciting new beginning. Please continue to pray for those who are **home-bound, lonely, grieving, discouraged, or feeling powerless**. Let us notice those who may be easily forgotten and find simple ways to remind them that they are loved.

I also invite you to pray for the **transformation of lives in our community through the mission and ministry of Dodgeville UMC**. May God bring people who are searching, hurting, lonely, or spiritually hungry into relationships where they can experience grace, hope, healing, and belonging. May our church become increasingly a place where lives are changed through the love of Christ.

Let us dream together of a church that is growing **in maturity and in number**, while faithfully continuing the good ministries God has already entrusted to us. Let us plant, water, serve, invite, pray, and love with patience and consistency. And best of all, as we enter this new season, we do not walk into it alone.

God is with us.

With hope and gratitude,

Pastor Yohan

Letter from the Church Council

Dear Church Family –

In July the Church Council held a special meeting to consider revising the status of Pastor Yohan within our church. As you may remember, one year ago Pastor Yohan was appointed by the Bishop to be with us 50% of the time, shared equally with the Korean United Methodist Church in Madison. Because of financial issues with the Korean church, our church was asked by the conference to increase Pastor Yohan's time at Dodgeville to 70%. The council approved this request at the special meeting.

What this means is that Pastor Yohan will spend more time in Dodgeville, working with the congregation and community, much as full-time pastors have done in the past. What this also means is that our church will need to budget \$1,682 more per month for Pastor Yohan's compensation, equal to the amount of the 20% increase.

It was the opinion of the council that we are very fortunate to have Pastor Yohan at our church sharing his experience, education and people skills with us. To have him spend more time in Dodgeville is a blessing. With that blessing comes a big ask for all of us: That we try to budget more in our giving to cover the increase in expense. The amount we increase is up to each one of us and is a personal decision. However, we offer the following guidance as you consider this request: If each giving unit (72) in our church could give \$25 more each month, we would cover this increased expense.

Church leadership will be meeting with Pastor Yohan to develop a consistent schedule and ideas for the use of his increased time here. We ask for your prayers and support for Pastor Yohan and the ministry of this church.

Sincerely,

Terry Edwards, Church Council Chair

Jody Vanderloo, SPRC Chair

Support Feeding Friends!



We're excited to share a wonderful opportunity to support **Feeding Friends** in our community!

Wyatt's Tempting Sweets in Dodgeville is celebrating their one-year anniversary by giving back. From **September 9–12**, they will be donating the proceeds from their **ice cream scoop sales** to Feeding Friends. Customers will also have the opportunity to make an additional donation.



We encourage our church family to stop by Wyatt's Tempting Sweets during these dates, enjoy a scoop of ice cream, and help support this wonderful local organization!

September 9–12
Wyatt's Tempting Sweets
101 N Iowa Street, Dodgeville



Let's show our support and help make this fundraiser a sweet success!

Church Choir

We are excited to welcome our choir back for another season of singing and sharing our music!

The choir will sing on **Sunday, September 20**.
We rehearse at **8:00 a.m. on the Sundays when we sing**.



Our tentative October singing dates are:

- **October 11**
- **October 25**

We are always happy to welcome **new and returning choir members!** If you enjoy singing and would like to be part of our choir, we would love to have you join us.

No matter your experience level, there is a place for you!



Please consider joining us and helping make a joyful sound together.

United Women in Faith's FALL RUMMAGE/BAKE SALE 2026

 **Friday, October 16th – 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

 **Saturday, October 17th – 8:00 AM – Noon**

Saturday Bag Sale – 10:00AM till Noon

The Bake Sale is to be held on Saturday morning only.

The **set-up dates** are

 **Monday, Oct 12th – through Wednesday, Oct 14th**

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

 **Thursday, October 15th**

9:00 AM – Noon



United
Women
in Faith

Because storage space is very limited—if at all possible, please wait to bring your items on set up dates only.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING: TVs, pianos, 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 Fall and Winter 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.** There are a lot of people who look forward to buying homemade baked items.

We will need many workers to help set-up and to work during the sale.

Sign-up sheets will be available soon. 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 or need any change in drop off date/time 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 fund of our church. THANK YOU TO ALL WHO WILL WORK AND ALSO TO EVERYONE WHO DONATES ITEMS.

Save the Date! Our Annual Fall Dinner is Coming!

Saturday, October 31, 2026



This is an important event for our church, a wonderful opportunity to come together, serve our community, and enjoy some fellowship.

But, as we all know, it takes a village to make this dinner a success! There are many jobs—both big and small—and we will need everyone's help to make the evening run smoothly.



A sign-up sheet will be available in the next few weeks, but we ask that you start thinking now about how you can lend a hand.

Some of the ways you can help include:

- Helping with planning and organizing
- Working
- Cooking steaks
- Kitchen preparation
- Peeling potatoes
- Making cabbage salad
- Making apple crisp
- Serving food
- Helping with carryouts
- Working the dishwasher
- Selling tickets
- Buying tickets and inviting family and friends
- Cleaning up
- And all the other behind-the-scenes jobs that make the evening possible!



Whether you have an hour to give, a special skill to share, or simply a willingness to pitch in, there is a place for you!

Let's work together as a church family to make this year's Fall Dinner a great success. **Thank you for helping, volunteering, and supporting this important event. We truly couldn't do it without each of you!**



Saturday, October 31, 2026

Annual Fall Dinner



It takes all of us—let's make it a great one!



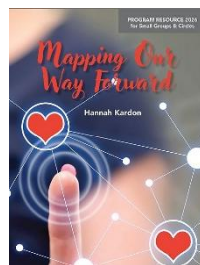
United
Women
in Faith

United Women in Faith:

The United Women in Faith will meet on Thursday, September 3rd, at 6:30PM in the Library. The program will be *Re-Orienting Ourselves*, based on scripture from Romans 12:1-3. After the program we will have a business meeting followed by refreshments. Hope to see you there!

September Events:

The annual SW District UWF Annual Gathering is scheduled for Saturday, September 12 – 9:00AM – 3:00PM. The theme is *Mapping Our Way Forward* (based on the 2026 Program Book. It will be a celebration of the ways UWF continues to be involved in Missions.



The Keynote Speaker is Rev. Kerri Parker, Wisconsin Council of Churches Executive Director. Her message – *Christian Nationalism: Facts and Faithful Response*.

Registration is due by September 2nd, the fee is \$20 – **please see Charlene Mingst (608-935-5758) if you are interested in attending.**

Sunday, September 20th is United Women in Faith Sunday. Please put this date on your calendar and plan to attend!

Meeting Notices

United Women in Faith:

Thursday September 3rd at 6:30 PM in the Library

Trustee:

Monday September 7th at 6:30 PM in the Library

Prayer Ministry:

Every Wednesday at 10:30 AM in the Library

PEO:

Tuesday September 8th at 5:30 PM

Bible Study with Carla:

Wednesdays starting September 16th at 6:30 PM

Finance:

Thursday September 17th at 6:00 PM in the Library

Church Council:

Thursday September 17th at 7:00 PM in the Library

United Women in Faith:

Thursday October 1st at 6:30 PM in the Library

Noisy Can Update

Your gifts to the Noisy Can help support mission projects that provide hope and encouragement to those in need.

Thanks to your generosity, we donated \$286.50 to the Dodgeville School District family lunch accounts from our Jul/Aug collection.

Current Mission: Sept donations will benefit the **Iowa County Health Department public vending machines.**

August Ministry Snapshot

Date	Worship	Offering
8/2	65	\$3,821.00
8/9 (Worship in the Park)	109	N/A
8/16	45	\$1,957.75
8/23	54	\$2,171.75
8/30	57	\$1,199.93
Online Giving		\$1,440.00



September Birthdays

8 – Brinley Miles
10 – Nina Buroker
13 – John Oxnem
15 – Douglas Digman
16 – Nancy Mortimer
19 – Terry Edwards
23 – Akayla Schultz
24 – Anthony Butteris
29 – Sandara Alexander
30 – Darlene Dochnahl

Happy Birthday!

September Anniversaries

7 – Charles & Peggy Forrest
Married 41 years

15 – Terry & Penny Edwards
Married 47 years

15 – John & Bonnie Oxnem

25 – Monte & Dona Muller

Happy Anniversary!

PLEASE PRAY:

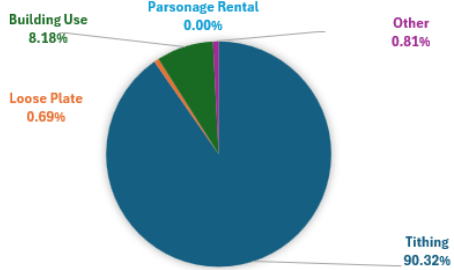
Gevelinger family, Art Humbert, Caroline Lemire, Monte Hottman,
Family of Rose, Wanda M., Judi Whitford,

July Financial Reports

Aug 2026 Monthly Income

Tithing	8,499.50
Loose Plate	65.00
Building Use	770.00
Parsonage Rental	0.00
Other	76.28
Total Income	\$ 9,410.78

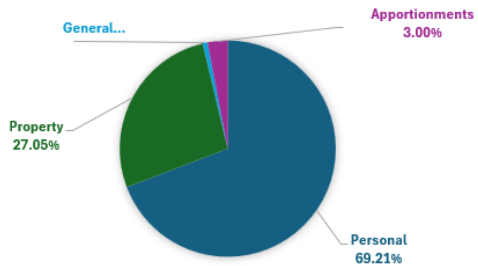
AUG INCOME = \$9,410.78



Aug 2026 Monthly Expenses

Personal	6,925.57
Service & Outreach	
Property	2,707.01
General	74.10
Apportionments	300.00
Total Expenses	\$10,006.68

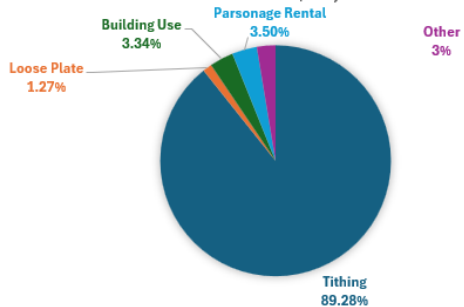
AUG EXPENSES = \$10,006.68



Actual YTD 2026 Income

Tithing	79,173.46
Loose Plate	1,128.00
Building Use	2,958.00
Parsonage Rental	3,100.00
Other	2,320.58
Total Income	\$ 88,680.04

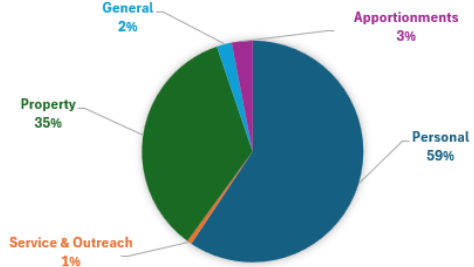
YTD INCOME = \$88,680.04



Actual YTD 2026 Expenses

Personal	54,488.85
Service & Outreach	620.27
Property	31,873.46
General	2,019.80
Apportionments	2,800.00
Total Expenses	\$ 91,802.38

YTD EXPENSES = \$ 91,802.38



SUNDAY SERVANTS

Sept	Media	Liturgist/ Child Mom	Greeters	Cafe	Accompanist	Sunday School
6	Dee Dochnahl	Brittany Gevelinger	Sarah & Caleb Buroker	Peggy Forrest Edith Hunter	Mary Wilson	
13	Tom Harman	Martha Boyer	John Aschliman & Martha Boyer	Dawn Van Epps Deb Short	Jan Kirschbaum	Peggy Forest
20	Dee Dochnahl	Brittany Gevelinger	Deb & Jim Short	Kerry Beerkircher Julie James	Ginny Gorsline	Deb Short
27	Dee Dochnahl	Peggy Forrest	Sandy & Steve Alexander	Sandy Alexander	Jan Kirschbaum	Penny Edwards
Oct	Media	Liturgist/ Child Mom	Greeters	Cafe	Accompanist	Sunday School
4	Tom Harman	Denise Tolzman	Sarah & Caleb Buroker	Jody Vanderloo & Penny Edwards	Mary Wilson	Melissa Thierfelder
11	Dee Dochnahl	Martha Boyer	John Aschliman & Martha Boyer	Mary James & Rich James	Jan Kirschbaum	Peggy Forest
18	Denise Tolzman	Jan A (Noise Can)	Deb & Jim Short	Sarah & Caleb Buroker & John A.	Ginny Gorsline	Deb Short
25	Tom Harman	Dawn Van Epps	Sandy & Steve Alexander	Jan A, Charlene M, & Ginny Gorsline	Jan Kirschbaum	Penny Edwards

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

Registration Form

Class 101: The Good and Beautiful God

Why Small Group?

It is important that we are continuously growing in our relationship with God as well as in relationships with one another. Small groups are one of the most important ways that people connect and grow in their faith together. In a small group, life is shared, nurtured, and fed by God's Word, prayers, and the loving fellowship with other Christians. Spiritual formation happens most profoundly in the context of a group. Anyone who longs for change—young or old, new Christian or mature Christian, male or female, you are invited. You can also invite others to join your small group! In this way, Dodgeville UMC can grow in number and maturity.

Invitation from the Author of *The Good and Beautiful God*

"Would you like to have abiding peace? Would you like to have a heart that is filled with love? Would you like to have the kind of faith that sees everything—even your failure and losses in light of God's governance for good? Would you like to have the kind of hope that endures in discouraging circumstances? If this is the life you most deeply desire, then this book is meant for you. A lot of people want to change and would answer yes to those questions, but many of them do not believe it is possible. After years of trying and failing, they lead a Christian life of quiet desperation, longing for change and yet certain it will never happen. So they sit in their pews each week, sighing silently, resigned to their fate.... The passion of my life has been to find the answer to this question: "How do we become like Christ?" I have come to believe that the problem is not that we do not want to change, nor is the problem that we are not trying to change. The problem is that we are not training. We have never been taught a reliable pattern of transformation... We cannot change simply saying, "I want to change." We have to examine what we think (our narratives) and how we practice (the spiritual disciplines) and who we are interacting with (our social context)" (James B. Smith, *The Good and Beautiful God*, 19-23).

Course Description and Curriculum

Do you know who God is? Do you desire to know God more deeply? In this course **101: The Good and Beautiful God**, you can experience transformation by challenging false beliefs about God by discovering the God that Jesus revealed in Scripture.

	Week	Topic	Soul Training
Week 1	September 13	<i>What Are You Seeking?</i>	Sleep
Week 2	September 20	<i>God Is Good</i>	Silence and Awareness of Creation
Week 3	September 27	<i>God Is Trustworthy</i>	Counting Your Blessings
Week 4	October 4	<i>God Is Generous</i>	Praying Psalm 23
Week 5	October 11	<i>God Is Love</i>	Lectio Divina
Week 6	October 18	<i>God Is Holy</i>	Margin
Week 7	October 25	<i>God Is Self-Sacrificing</i>	Reading the Gospel of John
Week 8	November 1	<i>God Transforms</i>	Solitude
Week 9	November 8	<i>How to Make a Pickle</i>	Slowing Down

Registration

- will be available **from September 6 to September 13**. Please fill out the registration form below and submit it to the pastor or to the church office. **Tentatively**, the class will start during the week of September 13.
- There will be one class for this course: it could be in the morning (10AM) or in the evening (5:30PM). After collecting registration forms for two weeks, the pastor will decide the date for the class and inform the participants of the details.

Textbook: Smith, James. *The Good and Beautiful God*. IL: IVP Books, 2009.

(\$17 for a new copy or a less expensive price available for used books on amazon.com)

Please return this portion to the Church Office

1. Drop off during office hours
2. Email to: office@dodgevilleumc.org
3. Mail to:
327 N. Iowa Street Dodgeville, WI 53533

Please cut here

1. Name: _____ 2. Cell Phone Number: _____
3. Email: _____ 4. How to Order A Book myself () or church ()
5. Preferred Date and Time (Please mark **EVERY** option available for you. This will help me figure out the best time and date working best for the class

<Morning Class>	<Evening Class>
_____ Tuesday morning (10:00-11:30am)	_____ Tuesday evening (5:30-7 pm)
_____ Wednesday morning (10-11:30am)	_____ Wednesday evening (5:30-7 pm)
_____ Thursday morning (10-11:30am)	_____ Thursday evening (5:30-7pm)

— ♥ —
Loving God, we place our families and local communities into Your care. Grant peace to parents and caregivers as they navigate new routines, schedules, and transitions.

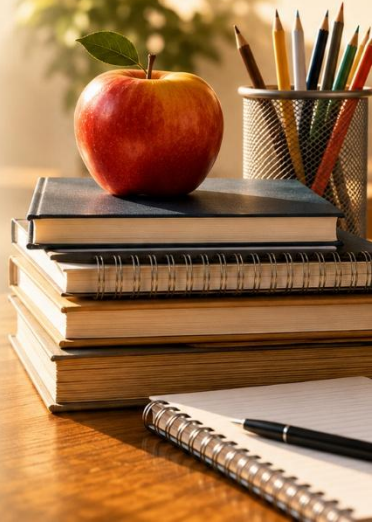
—
Protect our schools and keep them as sanctuaries of safety, dignity, respect, and learning.

—
Mobilize our churches and neighborhoods to actively support local schools through mentorship, prayer, and service.

—
May Your Holy Spirit guide us all through this upcoming academic year, that we may grow continuously in knowledge, love, and grace, working together for the common good and the transformation of the world.

In the name of Jesus Christ,
our Teacher and Redeemer, we pray.

— ♥ —



SAVE THE DATE

TRUNK OR TREAT

Hosted by: In the Beginning Child Care & Learning Center

October 24th

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Courthouse Parking Lot,
Dodgeville, WI**

Treats in Trunks, Games, Prizes,
Food Stand and So Much More:
Sponsored by Local Businesses and Organizations

**Dodgeville Annual
Trunk or Treat**
October 24th
1pm – 3PM

Businesses, if you
want to sign up,
contact Beth @ [beth
mikrut@gmail.com](mailto:bethmikrut@gmail.com).



SEPTEMBER

2026