



# Methodist Messenger

2022 Edition, Issue 9, September



## **Dent has responded to the call!**

It's that time of year again, when the Nominating Committee begins to meet and review positions of service within the church. Dent's Nominating Committee has met a couple of times already and spent considerable time this week calling and inviting people to serve. (Thank you for all your hard work... Doris Champlin, Peggy Meissner, and Ivy Mickleson,)

Calls have gone out to invite attenders of Dent's church family to support their church with not only their hearts but also their talents, gifts, life experience, and their time. People have been asked to commit themselves in significant ways to God and to their church. And many are saying YES!

It has been so encouraging! It has been, I think, noteworthy! We all need to hear and celebrate this good news, in both churches. To hear how willing people

are, how hopeful they seem, and eager even to commit themselves to God and the church. Many have expressed excitement in how God is at work in our midst in all of this. That there is even a little bit of hope, some excitement stirring within them for what our future holds.

Vergas UMC, our Nominating Committee will be meeting and revisiting positions of service beginning the first week of November. Calls will be coming soon. We hope you can be in prayer until then for ways you might step up and commit. How might God want to use your gifts, abilities, passions, and life experience to strengthen our church?

Blessings!  
Pastor Amy

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## **Two Changes in Vergas' Fellowship Schedule**

Two changes to our Fellowship Schedule in Vergas starting in November. We thought it might be a good idea to schedule a potluck for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of every month. And also designate the last Sunday of the month our day to celebrate all the birthdays in that month. Sondra Flett has graciously agreed to bake her amazing chocolate cake each month. This change will cut in half the amount of families needed to sign up, prepare food, and host.



## Bonfire Hosting Schedule

It's that time of year again, kids have headed back to school and we are watching the sun set earlier and earlier. We hope to keep kayaking for another 2 or 3 weeks, depending on the weather. The hosts for bonfires include:

- Thursday, Oct 6<sup>th</sup>** Don & Carolann Garber hosting, 35623 State Hwy 108 in Dent. Contact Don at 218-758-2121
- Thursday, Oct 13<sup>th</sup>** Rick & Margy Nelson hosting 46945 Big Owl Loop, Contact Rick or Margy at 701-527-1874
- Thursday, Oct 20<sup>th</sup>** Russ & Lisa W. hosting, 32501 Starland Shore Dr, Dent Contact Russ at 218-556-8099 or Lisa at 218-240-5645
- Thursday, Oct 27<sup>th</sup>** Ken & Doreen Schwarzrock hosting., 36773 East Rose

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**Lutefisk / Meatball Dinner** ~ If you like Lutefisk, Immanuel Lutheran Church in Osage is having a dinner on Sat, Oct 22nd from 4:30 - 7pm. Adults \$15/Students 5-12 \$7/Kids 4 & under are free

*4<sup>th</sup> Annual*  
**CHRISTMAS MARKET**  
DENT, MN

*crafts, art, antiques, food, & more!*

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2022 | 9AM-3PM**  
**FREE ADMISSION | KIDS WELCOME!**  
**DENT COMMUNITY CENTER**

*Over 30 Local Vendors & Artists*

\* PHOTOS WITH SANTA BY  
AMBER ROSE PHOTOGRAPHY  
11AM-1PM

\* FOOD AND BEVERAGES SERVED  
ALL DAY

QUESTIONS? CONTACT RACHEL LORENTZ 218-457-0293

## Trunk or Treat is Back!

On Halloween we will be celebrating Trunk or Treat again in both churches. This is an opportunity to touch our community, to reach out and connect with kids and families and let them know about our wonderful church!

**Dent's Trunk or Treat** will be from 4:00pm to 5:30pm or as long as the candy lasts. They will set up inside the foyer. And decorate some tables, hand out candy, and a flyer about Dent UMC.

**Vergas's Trunk or Treat** will be from 4:30pm to 6:30pm or as long as the candy lasts at the Vergas Community Center this year. The Lion's Club has graciously welcomed us and given us space free of charge to host our Trunk or Treat indoors. It was pretty chilly last year!

Doreen Schwarzrock is coordinating this event this year. And she could use some help. People to donate candy, others to come to the Community Center dressed in costume and ready to interact with the kids and parents the night of the event. And we cherish the prayer support of others. People to pray and hold up this event in prayer. If you know you can help please call her number at 218-234-5657.

Let's remember, there are families without a spiritual home all around us in both Dent and Vergas. This event is a wonderful opportunity to raise awareness of the existence of our church, maybe start a conversation, and encourage parents to attend church and help their children grow up with God in their lives

### DENT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Monday, October 31st  
4:00 to 5:30pm

Dent UMC  
Entry Way  
301 Main St



TRUNK  
OR  
TREAT



### VERGAS EVENT CENTER

TRUNK  
OR  
TREAT

Halloween Night  
October 31st

4:30 to 6:30pm  
or until we run out  
of Candy or Kids



VERGAS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## Prayer Chain is transitioning into a Texting



Our Prayer Chain has been a phone tree and has worked very well over the years. Nothing beats the warmth of a personal phone call and talking for a few minutes. But, making sure everyone receives a call in a timely manner takes a significant amount of time and energy. It can take a big chunk of a day or even up to two days to get the word out depending on when the request comes in and calls get out.

Our Prayer Chain has also been used to let people know if there has been a church cancellation due to bad weather, when someone has passed away, or remind people of an important event in the life of our church.

Our Prayer Chain and how we use it to communicate important events made it essential to find a way to notify people that was quicker, consistent, and far less labor-intensive. And we hope that now we have identified what will work for us.

We will experiment with using a Texting Prayer Chain. Instead of being communicated with by a phone call, we

will send a text instead. Some of us have learned the ease of texting to stay in touch. And so, this will be good news! But for those who don't have cell phones or text, we will still make sure you still get a phone call. Making this change means there is only a five or six people who need to be called. That is much more doable for one volunteer.

**In Dent** - Doris Champlin has not only identified this need regarding our current Prayer Chain, but has also determined another person needs to manage the technology. Thankfully, Ellie Lodin has agreed to be the coordinator of the Texting Prayer Chain for Dent. Please remember now to call or text Ellie at (218-457-0734) if you have a prayer request, churchwide event, news of someone passing, or an emergency that the whole church family needs to know.

**This Wednesday morning, Oct 12<sup>th</sup>**, Ellie will be sending out a test text. If you have not received a text by 1:00pm that day, please let Ellie know.

Thank you!



The Vergas Community Club is planning to host our first ever VERGAS FESTIVAL OF TREES fundraiser. The Festival of Trees will be held on Friday November 18, and Saturday November 19. The festival will have decorated trees, wreaths, and possibly other items that can be bid on via a silent auction. Friday night will include a gala event with Spanky's catering appetizers and an open cash bar. Saturday will include a family event with a walk through of the trees, a visit from the Grinch along with cookies and cocoa. Your sponsorship will help pay for trees, tree decorations, and the cost of the event up front.

The Vergas Community Club is asking each business to sponsor our first annual Festival of Trees with \$100 minimum donation. **Community members may also sponsor a tree.**

To donate, please make your check payable to the Vergas Community Club. You can either drop off or mail your check. Natalie's Serendipity/PO Box 85/Vergas Mn. 56587.

# Mission Minute

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## Vergas Local Outreach

The Local Offering of \$300 will go to Feed My Starving Children. Several members of the Vergas and Dent churches worked in Perham to assist with the project of preparing food to send to starving children around the world, this shipment to Haiti. They were busy, the time went fast, and they came away enthused about the experience and their ability to help with something big. 477,486 volunteers worked in 150 mobile sites to pack food in 2021-22. "When you see lives changed, yours will never be the same."

## Mission of the Quarter for Vergas & Dent



The Mission of the Quarter is **The Salvation Army**.

How did the Salvation Army start? Born in 1829 in Nottingham, UK, William Booth found his Christian faith early on in life and became an active Methodist, preaching and helping the poor in his local area. After some time working as a pawnbroker, he moved with his wife Catherine Mumford to the east of London. The two of them began working with a group of Christian businessmen who were concerned for the poor and disadvantaged in their community. In June 1865, William Booth preached to crowds outside the Blind Beggar pub; a new organization, The Christian Mission, was born.

Over the next few years, the movement flourished. Its focus on teaching people about the message of Jesus in a way they could relate to, meeting wherever they could – dance halls, bowling alleys and outdoors – as well as addressing some of their material needs, saw many people become Christians. Despite opposition from parts of the public who disliked some of the Booths' methods and style, many joined.

Their focus on those who had been rejected by the traditional churches was key. All were welcome – including those impoverished and disadvantaged.



Thank you for your  
continued generosity

# Church Ladies Update



The Vergas Church Ladies donated their dollars earned during Looney Days to the following charities:

Relay for Life \$500  
Firefly Fields \$500  
Hospice \$500  
Young Life \$500  
Boys and Girls Club \$400  
Samaritan's Purse \$400

It is so exciting to be able to help these organizations, but we aren't done! We are planning a "Good Stuff" sale on November 6 before and after church where we will have baked goods, crafts, and gently used items for sale. Join us for our next meeting at 1:00 pm Tuesday October 25 at the church. We would be happy to have you come to the meeting or offer any help with the donation of items. We also want you to come and shop! Thank you!

*\*All proceeds go to the charities decided by the Ladies.*

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## For Sale at Dent UMC

The family of Bonnie Swanson has given the church a crochet bedspread & tablecloth to sell.

For more information or to make an offer, call Doris C. at 218-770-6502 or Ivy M. at 218-443-6079



**68x66 White Crochet  
Tablecloth**



**96x104 White Crochet  
Bedspread**



**Dent UMC** - Liturgist & Usher lists have been put together. Ushers will have the responsibility for ushering all Sunday's in that month. If you are unable to be there on a Sunday, please find a substitute to fill in for you. Thank You!

September Ushers	October Ushers
Roger & Gretchen D.	Doris C / Peggy Me.



**Vergas Needed for Oct:**  
9th & 30th

Oct	Liturgist	Fellowship
2nd	Peggy Me.	Peggy Meissner
9th	Lyndon M.	Karen & Dick J.
16th	Gary A.	Lisa & Russ W.
23rd	Darlene H.	Virginia & Rick J.
30th	Augie A.	Ivy & Rob M.



**Vergas Needed for Oct:**  
9th, 23rd & 30th

**Vergas UMC** - Liturgist & Usher sign up sheets are in the fellowship hall. Please check the lists and see where you might be able to help. Thank you!

*\*check the weekly bulletins for reminders of who signed up or where there is still a need.*

## Breakfast Club


Dent meets at Mysteries Café (Nootzies) at 9am on the 1st Wednesday of the month

Vergas meets at the Loon's Nest at 9am on the last Friday of the month.




No one is too young or too old to join the Church Ladies. So

join us as we reorganize our Women's Group on the third Tuesday of every month, 1:00pm at the church, where a delicious dessert will be served.



**Next Meeting Tues, Oct 4th 12:30pm at the Loon's Nest**

**Book of the month is "Other Birds" by Sarah Addison Allen**



### Ad Council Meetings

Wed. Oct 19th  
3pm Dent  
6:30pm Vergas



## A Thought for The Day



### Worship Service Times:

Dent Services 9:00 am

Vergas Services 10:30am

*The Vergas service will begin the Livestream on Facebook at 10:30 am and will be posted to YouTube & the Website (if able to) shortly after the end of the service.*

**YouTube.com** Search using this text, "Dent Vergas UMC" to find our channel. **Please "Subscribe"** - once we get to 100 subscribers, we will get our own unique YouTube link.

Are there things you would like to see each month in your newsletter? Would you like to write an article? Submit photographs? Share a recipe? Please let us know and we will do our best to include it here. Also, If you want your Newsletter delivered by email. Please let Sheri Schoenberger know at [sheri.Lschoenberger@gmail.com](mailto:sheri.Lschoenberger@gmail.com) or call her at 218-329-7465

Additions to the newsletter, deadline for October is Sept 26, 2022.

We will be sending out the newsletter on the first or second Sunday of each month, if possible. To defray costs the newsletter will be offered in the following formats:

**Email - Website - In person pick up** at church - 1st or 2nd Sunday of the month.

**US Mail** - Remaining newsletters will be mailed on the 1st or 2nd Monday of the month.

**Church Secretary / Newsletter editor**  
Sheri Schoenberger  
Phone or text: 218-329-7465  
email: [sheri.Lschoenberger@gmail.com](mailto:sheri.Lschoenberger@gmail.com)

**Vergas United Methodist Church:**  
200 W Main St  
PO Box 243  
Vergas MN 56587

**Reverend Amy J Strom**  
email: [amyjstrom@gmail.com](mailto:amyjstrom@gmail.com)  
Mobile: 612-226-8905  
Parsonage: 218-334-6901







**Dent United Methodist Church**  
301 Main St  
Dent MN 56528

**Dent Vergas Website:**  
[dentvergasumc.org](http://dentvergasumc.org)

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# October / November 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Worship Times</b> 9am Dent 10:30am Vergas 10:30am Livestream						
<b>Vergas Sunday School</b> 9:30 am Adult Livestream						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Potluck Fellowship	12:30pm Book Club @ The Loon's Nest	9am Dent Breakfast Club	5pm Bonfire Don & Carolann G. hosting	5pm Bonfire Russ & Lisa W hosting		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9:30am Vergas Adult Sunday School begins					Annetta H. (V)	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Band of Faith Potluck Fellowship	1:00 pm Vergas Church Ladies Group	Steve M. (V) 	Ad Council 3pm Dent 6:30pm Vergas	5pm Bonfire Rick & Margy N. hosting		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Sheri & Jody on vacation - No Livestream	Kathy H. (V) 	Erin G. (V) 	5pm Bonfire (weather permit) Ken & Doreen S hosting	Diane M. (V) 		
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
Sheri & Jody on vacation - No Livestream	Jim H. (V) 	12:30pm Book Club @ Mysterries Café	9am Dent Breakfast Club @ Mysterries Café			

Ad Council Minutes  
Sept.28, 2022

Zoom Meeting

Those present: Jane Wasvick, Sheri Schoenberger, Tonya Johnson, Carmen Moore, Pastor Amy Strom, Faye Courneyea

Sectary Report:

Jane had 3 items to discuss:

1. She would like to investigate the cause of the organ shut down and flickering lights during our Sunday morning services. First, we should see if the power supply to the church is reliable by calling the power company with our concern. We will notify the church trustees of the need to solve this problem.
2. The Carpet in the fellowship hall needs cleaning, which is also a trustee issue.
3. The Church Ladies are planning to have a bake sale before and after church, and a potluck after church on Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>.

Pastor Amy had questions about how we should handle services for Christmas Eve on a Sat. evening with Church services on Christmas Day on a Sunday.

She wanted to know where the VBS materials and decorations were being stored so she can gift them to the Red Willow Church, which has asked about our VBS and would be pleased to receive the materials that we had used last summer.

Pastor Amy proposed for fellowship time a schedule. The first Sunday of the month could be a potluck after church and the last Sunday a birthday celebration for those who had a birthday during the previous month. Sheri suggested that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month would be better timing. It could be a way to avoid having 2 Sundays needing volunteers for fellowship foods.

Dent is looking for their missing hymnal on CD. Do we happen to have it?

On Dec 5<sup>th</sup> our church is invited to participate in a Conference for Rural churches in Mankato, where they will be teaching people to lead in the church making change happen. Pastor Amy would like the Ad Council to support that participation by paying the hotel expenses for someone who would participate (one night). Jane moved that we pay the lodging expenses for the volunteer who attends the Conference for Rural Churches, seconded by Faye, and carried.

Discussion followed on the assignments of usher and liturgist positions for such services, since there has been difficulty getting members to sign up in advance. The possibility of having a substitute list of pre-arranged members to take over the duties when there is a cancellation on the assigned lists was suggested. Starting in Jan 2023, a 2 month list of ushers and liturgists will be published; Sheri will bring the potential lists to the Ad Council for review and, perhaps to make some calls to check on availability and willingness to serve in those roles.

## Dent United Methodist Council Meeting

The regular meeting of the Dent UMC Council was held on Wednesday, August 18th at 3:00 pm with Doris Champlin calling the meeting to order. Present were Don Garber, Doris Champlin, Austin Holtz, Pastor Amy and Ivy Mickelson. We opened with a prayer by Pastor Amy.

**Minutes:** The minutes were approved by Don and seconded by Doris.

**Finance:** Ivy reported that all bills have been paid, but our funds have diminished as our income does not meet our bills, even with the fundraisers of a bake sale, rummage sale and fry bread sale. There was discussion on whether we should hold a ham supper this fall. We will have a short meeting after church so we can include Peggy Meissner in our decision. Austin made a motion to accept the report subject to audit with a second from Doris.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Amy brought up the idea of donating our VBS material to the Frazee Methodist Church, if they would like to use it. The council agreed that this would be a good idea. Pastor Amy discussed the organization of Little Treasures Ministry in Pakistan. A son of a couple from the Vergas congregation would like to speak about this ministry. We are open to him coming to speak, but have not made a financial commitment. Also, Pastor Amy did some research on raffles and found out legally we can hold them if the amount gathered is very minimal or we have borrowed the license from an organization that has one, but the Methodist religion does not morally support raffles.

**Memorial & Trust Funds:** The Memorial fund has a balance of \$2904.71. The Trust fund has a balance of \$571.99, with the Foundation account balance being at \$14,783.81.

**Community:** Vergas and Dent will pair up to support the Feed the Children program. We need to donate \$500.00 and 10 people to help pack the food. The packing will occur on September 23-24. Sheri will develop a brochure for Feed the Children so all church members can clearly understand the program. Don made a motion that whatever funds of our portion (\$250.00) isn't donated will be paid by the church. Seconded by Ivy.

**Other:** A bedspread and tablecloth were donated to the church by the Bonnie Swanson family. There was discussion on what to do with the items, tabled for a further meeting. Ivy brought up that the Dent Church has been included in the Worker's Compensation policy that Vergas has purchased, because Vergas pays Sheri and Pastor Amy and Dent then reimburses Vergas. Don made a motion to cancel our current policy as soon as possible, Austin seconded it. Ivy will contact the company about cancellation and see if we can get any premium back from our policy. Pastor Amy will talk to Renae Sonnenberg about teaming up with Austin and several others on an Active Shooter policy.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned. Motion by Austin, Seconded by Ivy. Our next meeting is September 21<sup>st</sup> and 3:00 pm.

Acting Secretary, Ivy Mickelson