



Methodist Messenger

2022 Edition, Issue 11, November



Dear Friends,

November is the month that lends itself to reflection, counting our blessings, and being grateful. A time to intentionally remember how God has been good to us. After all, we celebrate a wonderful holiday on the 25th of November called Thanksgiving.

But this can be challenging for some, it can be hard to identify and difficult to see sometimes where God has been at work. And then for others, this type of work comes more naturally. It just seems easier for some. It depends in a large part on a person's mindset and perspective. Do they see the glass as half full or half empty?

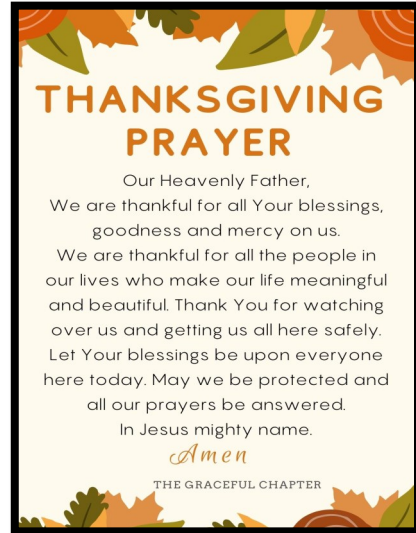
This is a good question to wrestle with. How would you answer that question for yourself?

I once heard about a farmer who was continually optimistic, seldom discouraged and never complaining. He had a neighbor who was just the opposite. Always negative and gloomy, he faced each day with a heavy sigh.

The happy optimistic farmer would see the sun coming up and shout over to his neighbor, "Look at that bright yellow sun and clear blue sky! Isn't it a beautiful day?" And with a frown, the negative neighbor would reply, "Yeah, but it will probably scorch the crops!"

So, when clouds would gather and much needed rain would start to fall, the positive neighbor would smile across the fence and say, "Isn't this great - God is giving our corn a drink today?"

Continued on Pg 2



Please join us for our annual Virtual Church Conference this Thurs, November 17th.

We will gather at 5:30 pm for pizza and some side nibbles yet to be determined. An opportunity to celebrate our two-point charge, the ways God has been faithful to us, looking back on a good year of growing in our faith and expanding our witness in our community.

The online conference will start at 6:30 pm going to 8:00pm, showing it on the BIG screen in Vergas.

Pastors Desk Continued from Pg 1

Again, the same kind of negative response came back, "Uh huh...but if it doesn't stop fore too long, it'll flood the fields and wash everything away."

One day, the optimistic farmer decided to put his negative neighbor to the ultimate test. He bought the smartest, most expensive bird dog he could find. Then he trained that dog to do things no other dog on earth could do - impossible feats that would surely astound anyone.

He then invited his neighbor to go duck hunting. They sat in the boat and waited for the ducks to come. When a flock flew over, both men fired and many ducks fell into the water. "Go get 'em!" said the optimistic farmer with a gleam in his eye. His new dog leaped over the boat and walked on the water and picked up each bird one by one. "Well, what do you think of that?!" he inquired. Unsmiling, the pessimist answered, "To bad your dog can't swim."

When our attitude in life is wrong or edgy, nothing seems right in life. Perhaps this is why

God so often stresses being intentionally and continually thankful in the Bible. It trains us to not to see the glass as half-full rather than half-empty, but rather to see in truth that our cup overflows (Ps 23:5).

Reflecting on our lives, with God in mind, helps us realize that even in the midst of disappointments, difficulties and grief there are more blessings than hardships.

What are you appreciative of, grateful for, what are some of those blessings you could list? If you are coming up a bit thin, I would just give it more time in God's Presence. God has a way of helping us remember God's goodness, faithfulness, mercy and grace. God has a way of showing us light and hope and moments of joy in our days. And if you start counting now, just imagine all the blessings you might be able to list by the time we celebrate Thanksgiving!

God bless!
Pastor Amy

Update on the Texting Prayer Chain in Dent



We have been hearing some very positive feedback on the use of the Texting Prayer Chain in Dent. It was an experiment that seems to have proven its worth. One bit of feedback, as we are still learning how to do this, **we would ask that people NOT respond to the texts when they receive it.** Even sending a smiley face or a thumb's up emoji can create a lot of "noise" or clutter on every phone in the group. We want this to remain a positive and streamlined experience for everyone. Thank you for your cooperation in this. And also, please either text or call Ellie Lodin directly (218-457-0734) with your prayer requests first and then she will send out the text on behalf of the whole church. Thank you!

Trying Out a Texting Prayer Chain in Vergas

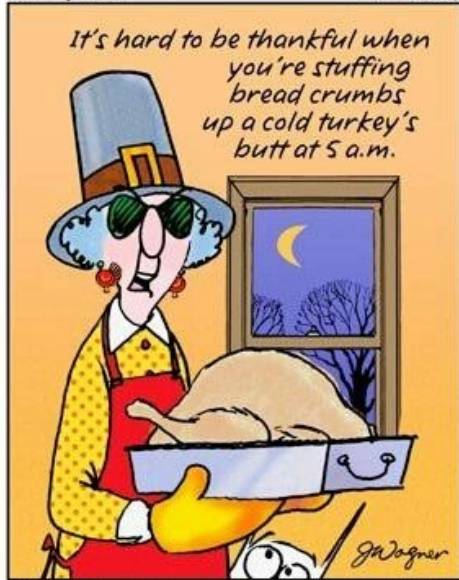
Based on the positive feedback and outcomes from the Dent church and from Ellie Loden as she has headed this up, we have launched a test of a Texting Prayer Chain in Vergas today (11.8.22). You probably already received a text on Florene Zitzow's passing and funeral details. And a prayer request for Frank Noyes.

Utilizing a phone calling Prayer Chain is a fairly labor - intensive process. Sondra Flett has done such a great job, faithfully handling this for years in Vergas. But she was also getting a bit tired of managing it. We are so grateful for her years of service! This is a welcome change.

Our Prayer Chain in both Dent and Vergas has not only been used to send on prayer requests but also to notify the church family when someone has passed/funeral details, but also to communicate bad weather/church cancellations and also when there is an important event in the life of the church. We feel creating a Texting Prayer Chain is critical to good communication as we move forward.

There is no denying crafting and sending a text is much quicker and easier than calling. But the downside... texting requires someone who is more comfortable with utilizing the technological end of things. Therefore, Sheri Schoenberger will handle the Texting Prayer Chain in Vergas.

From now on, if you have a prayer request please contact Sheri via text or call 218-329-7465. And then Sheri can send out the text and make the calls on behalf of the whole church family. Please be patient with us as we work out the bugs on this new system. Thank you!



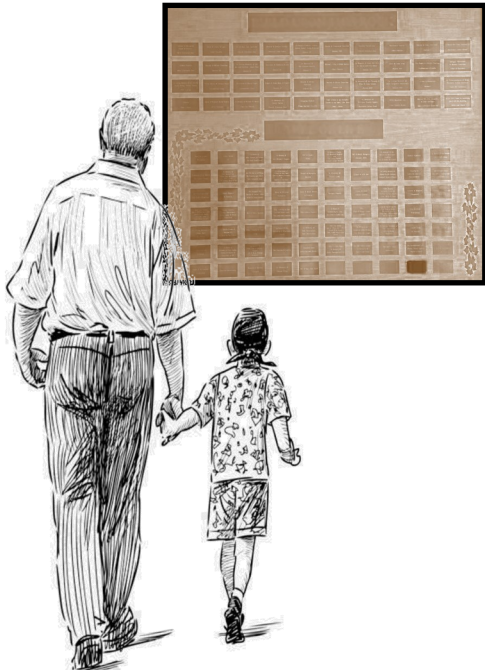
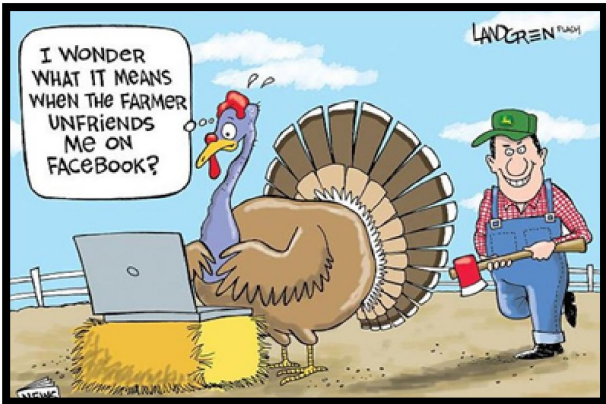
Q: How big was the world's largest pumpkin pie?

A: The largest pumpkin pie ever baked weighed 2,020 pounds and measured just over 12 feet long. It was baked on October 8, 2005 by the New Bremen Giant Pumpkin Growers in Ohio



Q: Which US President started the tradition of pardoning a live turkey before Thanksgiving?

A: It was the first Thanksgiving of President George H.W. Bush, in 1989, that a turkey was officially pardoned for the first time.

One Sunday morning, the Pastor noticed little Alex was standing in the foyer of the church staring up at a large plaque. It was covered with names and small American flags mounted on either side of it. The six year old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up, stood beside the little boy and said quietly, "Good morning Alex" "Good morning Pastor" he replied, still focused on the plaque. "Sir, what is this?" Alex asked. "Well son, these are all the people who have died in the service" replied the Pastor. Soberly, they stood together staring up at the large plaque. Little Alex's voice barely broke the silence when he asked quietly, "which one sir, the 8:30 or the 10:30?"



4th Annual
CHRISTMAS MARKET

DENT, MN

crafts, art, antiques, food, & more!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH, 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





A Gala Event

NOVEMBER 18, 2022
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
VERGAS EVENT CENTER

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TICKETS \$25

SILENT AUCTION | DOOR PRIZES  
 MUSIC | ONE FREE DRINK TICKET  
 CASH BAR & APPETIZERS BY  
 SPANKY'S STONE HEARTH  
 HOLIDAY DESSERTS BY MW PASTRIES

CHRISTMAS TREES  
 & SEASONAL  
 WREATHS  
 ON DISPLAY  
 WILL BE ON THE  
 SILENT AUCTION

ALL TREES MUST BE PICKED  
 UP ON SUNDAY NOVEMBER 20  
 BY 2:00 PM

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NOVEMBER 19, 2022
 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
 ENJOY A WALK
 THRU OF TREES
 & THE KIDS
 CAN VISIT WITH
 "THE GRINCH"
 COCOA & COOKIES
 FREE WILL DONATION
 REQUIRED



TAMMY KINSELA

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE VERGAS COMMUNITY CLUB FOR HOLIDAY DECOR & PROMOTIONS

Thank You for Supporting the Vergas Community Club!

Rudolph's Closet
 Dent United Methodist Church

Saturday,
December 3rd
9am to Noon

Kids can shop for
 gifts for their family



and we will wrap their
 selections up for them

Enjoy
 Hot Chocolate



Coffee &
 Goodies



While they shop



Oh Yeah! It's
FREE

VERGAS LOONEYS RELAY FOR LIFE
A CHRISTMAS GATHERING
 ~ ~ Concert and Bake Sale ~ ~

Enjoy an afternoon of Christmas Music
 "Something Special" Ladies Barbershop Quartet; "Tami Jensen" Harpist; "Band of Faith"

Sunday, December 4th 2pm - 4pm at the Vergas Event Center

Admission \$10 ea, \$25 family *All proceeds will go to American Cancer Society*




Mission Minute

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 going 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.”

Please let the Ad Council know if you are aware of a local need that could be funded. Thank you for your continued generosity in giving. Jane Wasvick

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



Photo Gallery



*Combined
Service with
Band of
Faith*



*Vergas Church Ladies Good Stuff Sale
made \$357 to go to a local mission*



December 24th

Dent 3:30pm

Vergas 5pm

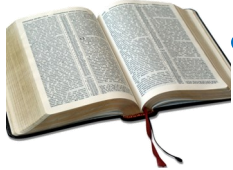


No Services on Christmas Day.

We NEED you.
Can you HELP



Liturgists
Needed



Vergas Nov
 20th & 27th

Ushers Needed
Are you willing to serve?

Vergas Nov 20th & 27th

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!

November Ushers	December Ushers
Doris C & Peggy Me.	Lyndon & Peggy M.

Nov	Liturgist	Fellowship
6th	Doris C	Kelli Ann & Augie A
13th	Peggy Me.	Darlene & Austin H
20th	Carolann G	Doris C & Rose T
27th	Lyndon M.	Toni & Lowell L.
12/4	Don G	Gretchen & Roger D

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.*

ADULT
BIBLE STUDY

9:30 am Sunday's
 in Vergas

THE WHITE
BOARD
BIBLE
 by Pastor Allen Jackson



Church Ladies Update

There will not be a meeting for the ladies in November



Next Meeting Tues,
Dec 6th 12:30pm at
Mysteries Café in Dent

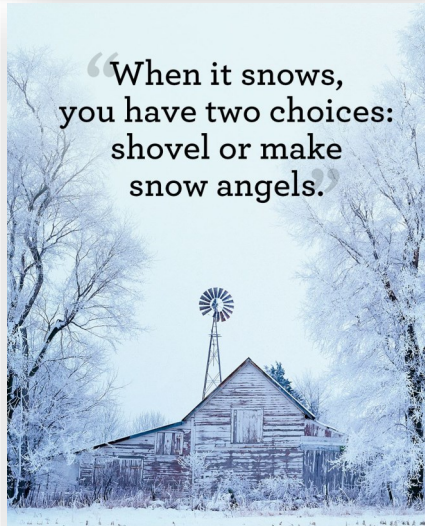
Book of the month is
"Some Luck"
by Jane Smiley



Ad Council Meetings

Wed. Nov 16th
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 or call her at 218-329-7465

Additions to the newsletter, deadline for December is Jan. 26, 2023.

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

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Reverend Amy J Strom

email: 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

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November / December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><u>Worship Times</u> 9am Dent 10:30am Vergas and Livestream</p>	<p><u>Vergas Sunday School</u> 9:30 am Adult</p>	<p>1 12:30pm Book Club @ Loon's Nest</p>	<p>2 9am Dent Breakfast Club</p>	<p>3 Don G. Trish S. (D) </p>	4	5
<p>6 Band of Faith Potluck Fellowship</p>	<p>7 Rose T. (D) </p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>14 David R. (V) </p>	<p>15 1:00 pm Vergas Church Ladies Group</p>	<p>16 Ad Council 3pm Dent 6:30pm Vergas</p>	<p>17 <u>Virtual Church Conference</u> Vergas UMC 5:30 Dinner 6:30 Conference</p>	18	19
<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 Happy Thanksgiving Day 24 </p>	<p>24</p>	25	26
<p>Eileen G. (V) </p>	<p>27 November Birthday's</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>1 2 9am-Noon Rudolph's Closet, Dent UMC</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4 2pm -4pm Relay for Life Christmas Gathering Vergas E.C.</p>	<p>5 12:30pm Book Club @ Mysterics Café</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>