



From the PASTOR'S DESK

Each year the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee in both churches, works hard to identify new leaders and invite them to serve. This has been an amazing year as both churches have responded so very positively.

Please join me in saying a BIG "THANK YOU" to all who have for years been serving; faithfully, quietly, and not expecting any fanfare.

In the following paragraphs, are listed those who are stepping down from places of faithful service. We could never pay them what they are worth and they can never be replaced!

Hopefully, this small token of simply acknowledging their service will in some small way assist them in feeling appreciated. When you see them next, could you too also let them know how much you value their efforts and their service.

Pastor Continued on Page 2

In Dent UMC, **Doris Champlin** is stepping down from serving these last 14 years as the Ad Council Chair as well as overseeing the Prayer Chain! She'll continue to serve on the Ad Council as a Member at Large and complete other tasks around the church.

Don Garber is also stepping down from serving in various roles for many years...Ad Chair, Vice Chair, Financial Secretary, and serving on the S/PPRC. He'll continue to be on the Ad Council as a Members at Large and continue to lead us in worship on Sunday mornings. **Ivy Mickleson** has stepped down from managing the Marque out front. For over a decade, she has been putting a smile on our faces with those amusing phrases she put up at least twice a month.

And now, please join me in saying a BIG "WELCOME!" to all who have made choices to step up into serving. Many are serving in new places! They are making commitments of their time and energy to serve God and help their church become healthier and grow more fully into its mission and purpose.

In Dent, **Gary Anderson** has said yes to membership recently and stepping into the Ad Chair position on the Ad Council. He is also willing to serve on the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee. **Lyndon Maasjo** has committed to serving in the Vice Chair role on the Ad Council. **Karen Johnson** is taking up the financial responsibilities that Don Garber used to carry and has also recently said a deeper yes to this church through membership. **Russ Waldorf** has

committed to serving as a Member at Large along with joining the ranks of the Trustees and the S/PPRC team. **Ellie Lodin** has also committed to being a Member at Large and has become our new Texting Prayer Chain Coordinator.

Dent has 3 new teams. The **Event Team** has formed to coordinate funerals, bake sales, Ham/Spaghetti dinners, and the like. Peggy Meisner and Doris Champlin have and will continue to lead these efforts.

The **Fellowship Decorating Team** includes **Gretchen Dorenbush, Nancy Hovey, and Peggy Meissner** have agreed to manage decorating the tables in the fellowship hall.

The **PowerPoint Team** led by **Peggy Meissner**. This team runs the PowerPoint on Sunday mornings and includes **Darlene Holtz, Peggy Maasjo, and Ivy Mickelson**.

Nancy Hovey has become part of the Communion Prep team and is willing to change out the church colors when needed.

Lisa Wrabek (along with husband Russ) has agreed to join the Trustees and help with keeping the Marque up to date!

In Vergas UMC, **Renee Sonnenberg** has stepped down as the Ad Chair in Vergas. A role she has served in for eleven years! And **Loren Menz** has decided to let go of his commitment of serving as the Chair of the Trustees for the past 6 years! **Sondra Flett** stepped down from serving as the Prayer Chain Coordinator. A role she has filled faithfully for 15 years! **Tonya Johnson** has more than fulfilled her commitment as part of the Membership team. And **Doreen Schwarzrock** has also fulfilled her commitment on the S/PPRC.

Dave Reiten said yes to serving as a Member at Large on the Ad Council. **Carla Reiten** has also said yes to joining the S/PPRC team. **Doreen Schwarzrock** said yes to serving as a Member at Large on the Ad Council and serving on the

Nominating and Leadership Development Committee. We are thrilled that **Renee Sonnenberg** and **Tonya Johnson** have both agreed to become AV Tech Backups and AV Camera Backups. These are brand new positions to support Jody and Sheri Schoenberger in the Sunday morning worship experience. **Jody Schoenberger** has agreed to join the S/PPRC team. And **Sheri Schoenberger** has agreed to oversee the Texting Prayer Chain. **Jane Wasvick** is now leading the Church Women's group.

If we have forgotten anyone in either thanking them or in welcoming them, we humbly apologize! Please let us know and we will make the necessary corrections in the next newsletter.

Pastor continued from Page 1

Dear friends, whew...as you can see we are in a new season of ministry. Laity are stepping down from key roles and new people with servant hearts and their gifts and abilities are stepping up! It all feels a bit messy and like a lot of change in a short period of time.

With God's help, I am beginning to understand, that messy often means God is at work. Mess might mean God is producing growth and health in us and in our churches, bringing good necessary change – not change just for change sake.

Please thank and pray for those who are stepping down. That they may feel a deep sense of satisfaction in serving their church, in serving God so faithfully. Pray also for those stepping up, big challenges. Please be in prayer that our challenges do not steal the joy God wants them to experience as they serve. Pray for and THANK all those who are remaining in their roles helping bring stability to our churches.

May ALL feel appreciated, supported, loved and cherished. You are all beloved sons and daughters of God, chosen and not forgotten. Called by name, adopted by God into the Forever Family.

We will need to learn how to team in ways we have never experienced before. May God grant us all we need...patience, peace, and appropriate expectations and more, to lean into the next season God has for us. We all do better when we all do better!

Pastor Amy

New Members



Sept 26, 2022
Rick & Karen Johnson
Dent UMC



Jan. 1, 2023
Gary & Judy Andersen
Dent UMC

Vergas Mission Minute



The Missions of the Quarter for 2023 will be as follows:

Jan, Feb, Mar	UMCOR
Apr, May, Jun	Relay for Life
Jul, Aug, Sep	Heifer Project
Oct, Nov, Dec	Water for Sudan

We are sad to report that the monthly budget for missions had to be decreased as our offerings were not able to meet the expenses. The total for Missions for each month will be \$350 instead of the \$500 that we have done for past few years. The Ad Council will continue to allocate the \$300 to local needs

each month and add the remaining \$150 each month to the quarterly mission.

Last year's totals for the Mission of the Quarter were:

Samaritan's Purse	\$985
Salvation Army	\$920
Relay for Life	\$780
Food Shelf	\$600

This does not include dollars that may have been given by the Church Ladies or the Men's Group. Christmas Eve Service donated \$636 to the Food Shelves in the area.



Vergas Local Outreach

The local mission dollars for January will be sent to two recipients this month:

\$150 to Carol Stratten, Carol is the daughter of Alwyn Martinson and is in Hospice with cancer.

\$150 to Stacy Moe, Stacy is the wife of Jane Moe's son and is currently at Mayo dealing with severe leg issues.

Please let the Ad Council know if you are aware of a local need that could be funded.



Vergas Mission of the Quarter



UMCOR comes alongside those who suffer from natural or human-caused disasters – be it famine, hurricane, war, flood, fire or other events—to alleviate suffering and to be a source of help and hope for those left most vulnerable. We provide relief, response and long-term recovery grants when these events overwhelm a community's ability to recover on their own.

UMCOR also provides technical support and training for partners to address emerging and ongoing issues related to disaster relief, recovery, and long-term health and development.

Global Ministries works through missionaries and partners in more than 60 countries



Thank you for your continued generosity

FEBRUARY / MARCH VOLUNTEER LISTS

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!

February Ushers
Augie & Kellie Ann A.

Feb	Liturgist	Fellowship
05	Michelle S.	Ivy & Rob M.
12	Doris C.	Carolann & Don G.
19	Lyndon M.	Kellie Ann & Augie
26	Russ W.	Doris C. & Rose T.

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!

March Ushers
Russ W / Kelvin S

Mar	Liturgist	Fellowship
05	Gary A.	Dorothy W. & Ivy M.
12	Doris C.	Toni & Lowell L.
19	Lyndon M.	Gretchen & Roger D.
26	Carolann G.	Michelle & Kelvin S.

Mission of the Quarter for Dent

The Ad Council has decided to do our mission offerings for 3 months at a time. The schedule will be:

- January, February, and March ~ The Bridge Food Pantry
- April, May, June ~ UMCORE and the Conference Love Offering
- July, August, September ~ Rudolph's Closet
- October, November, December ~ The Salvation Army.



The Bridge is a nonprofit agency that provides food to families and individuals during a time of need. We provide good quality food that has been either donated, purchased from North Country Food Bank or locally. Our goal is to meet the basic needs of our clients while improving their nutritional well-being. For us to meet our goals, we need your support.

The Bridge relies heavily on the generosity of local churches, businesses and individuals to supply food for distribution to our clients. In addition monthly shipments of USDA supplied products help supplement the pantry needs.



Volunteer Lists in Vergas

A volunteer list has been created for the year, if you find you cannot serve on the weekend selected for you, please find a replacement. We are counting on everyone doing their part to make this work better. The lists for February and March are below, please let Sheri know of any changes you make. Thank you!

Vergas UMC - Liturgist & Usher lists have been put together. If you are unable to be there on a Sunday, please find a substitute to fill in for you. Thank You!

Feb	Liturgist	Ushers	Fellowship
05	Renee S.	Steve & Carmen M.	Tonya J.
12	Bev F.	Bryan & Eileen G.	Potluck
19	Carla R.	Faye & Tonya	Connie Z.
26	Bryan G.	David & Carla R.	Birthdays Cake & Ice Cr

Mar	Liturgist	Ushers	Fellowship
05	Rick N.	Byron & Connie Z	Steve & Carmen M.
12	Faye C.	Bryan & Eileen G.	Cabin Fever Potluck
19	Bev F.	NEEDED	Renee Sonnenberg
26	Bryan G.	Rick & Margy N.	Birthdays cake & Ice Cr

A Note on Church Fellowship

Fellowship means associating with people who enjoy sharing their common interests. Our church has been doing fellowship for many years and missed it during the pandemic. We now have a schedule that has a birthday celebration time once a month with cake and ice cream provided. Then we have also scheduled a potluck once a month where we all share a dish. The rest of the Sundays are left for the congregation to share what they wish. Keep it simple. A full lunch is not necessary or expected. Provide a batch of cookies or a pan of bars. Please note that if you can't serve a Sunday that you are scheduled, please call and trade, we are all willing to help out. The time is about fellowship not food! Thank you!

A Big Thank You....

The Electric Piano at the church was sounding worse and as it was over 30 years old, it needed to be replaced. **Thanks** to the generosity of a few members and some dollars from the Memorial fund, the church was able to purchase a new Yamaha Clavinova, which was delivered before Christmas. This is a wonderful gift. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Looking for fill ins..

If you know of anyone else that would like to take a turn playing in church, please let Jane Wasvick know.

Bible Study


Sundays in Vergas 9:30am



The Church Ladies

Sadly, the Church Ladies did not have their Christmas Lunch in December as the weather did not cooperate. We did get together for lunch in January at Billy's and had a great time visiting.

We are planning that our next lunch will be March 21st, noon at Billy's in Vergas. All women in the church are invited to join us.



No meeting in Feb. Next Meeting Tues, Mar 7th 12:30pm at Mysteries

2 Books Chosen
 "The Nature of Fragile Things" by Susan Meissner
 "The Weight of Silence" by Heather Gudenkauf

Ad Council Zoom Training
 Wednesday, February 15th
 Dent 3:30
 Vergas 6:30pm



Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

FRAZEE
TASTE OF THE WILD
Family Event - Saturday, March 4th

FREE admission

FUN!
Family
Faith

3:00 PM
Doors Open

ONGOING
Speakers,
Vendor Booths
Drawings, Games

5:00 PM
Tasting Starts

6:00 PM
Keynote Speaker

At the
Frazees Event Center

HOSTED BY:

HARVEST

816 Plover Road - Plover, MN
218-334-3101
www.thebestofplover.org

Polar Fest Detroit Lakes



February 10-26
 Fireworks on the ice
 February 11 and 25

No Ice Castle for 2023

Link for Schedule of Events
<https://polarfestdl.com/schedule>

A Thought for the Day



A great attitude
becomes a great
day which becomes
a great month
which becomes
a great year
which becomes a
great life.

- Mandy Hale



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 March is Feb. 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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Dent Vergas Website:

dentvergasumc.org

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February / March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
		←————— Pastor Amy on Vacation —————→				
5 Guest Pastor Lynde Zabel	6 No Book Club meeting this month	7 9am Dent Breakfast Club	8	9	10	11
12 Potluck Fellowship	13 No Church Ladies meeting this month	14 Ad Council <u>training via Zoom</u> 3pm Dent 6:30pm Vergas	15	16 Greg D. (V)	17 	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 Mary Jane S (D)	1 	2	3	4
5	6 12:30pm Book Club @ Mysteries Café	7 Barb L. (D)	4 	5 Jan A. (D)	6 Ellie L. (D)	7 

Ad Council Minutes
January 18, 2023

Those present: Pastor Amy, Sheri Schoenberger, Jane Wasvick, Carmen Moore, Faye Courneya, Tonya Johnson, and Lisa Wrabek. Bryan Giese, guest.

Opening Prayer / Devotions: Pastor Amy opened us in prayer.

How has God worked in Your Life? Pastor Amy - going to training to help people thru crisis; Lisa W. shared a way God revealed himself; Faye commented on the number of thank you cards received from our Local missions.

Secretary Report: Corrections to Dec, 2022 minutes Approved

Treasurers Report: Faye reported some monetary gifts to the General Fund; \$500 Franklin Fence (for use of our parking lot), \$400 gift from Eloise Maneval, Anonymous gift of \$10,000. Treasurers report. Approved.

Agenda Items:

- Discussion on setting up the agenda to better manage Ad Council time and business.
- Assign responsibility & time frame, after a discussion.
- Meeting time and place was discussed, it will remain on 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm, Zoom meetings will be held when bad weather conditions prohibit travel.

Guidelines for meetings: Conference booklet on guidelines given to each board member.

- Start on time, stop on time, but allow time for us to have discussions as ad council.
- Send out Agenda, Treas. Report, and Secretary's Report to each member of the ad council one week prior to the next meeting.
- One speaker at a time. Be respectful of each other & people not at the meeting. As Christians - no blaming for something left undone.
- Be prepared at ad council meeting, have things done or a status report ready.
- Leadership structure, could be included in Ad Council training.
- The council agreed on a training from our Director of Church Vitality. She will do a training for clear understanding on "what it means to be an ad council" Training will be in lieu of our next meeting, Feb 15th at 6:30pm, Zoom meeting in the sanctuary on the big screen. Members should read the guidelines booklet before the training.

Missions:

- Four quarterly missions for the year, \$150 plus donations that are received during the month from the congregation.
- Quarterly missions set for 2023 - 1st Quarter UMCOR; 2nd Quarter Relay for Life; 3rd Quarter - Heifer Project and 4th Quarter Water for Sudan. Other special offerings during the year will be determined and provided for.
- Local missions - \$300 for a family in need that has been brought to our attention each month. If no local mission is presented the \$300 will be banked for the next month.
- Local mission for this month was decided to split the \$300 between two recipients, \$150 will go to Stacy Moe suffering from a cancer tumor in her leg and \$150 to Carol, Alywn

Martinson's daughter, who has been put on hospice for cancer. Motion made, seconded and carried.

Measurements of Success:

- Online attendance as well as in person attendance.
- We can learn what's happening online from the analytical numbers each week from the livestream.
- Discuss "why" the numbers may change.

Goals for 2023:

We should come to the next meeting with goals in mind, both concrete and spiritual.

Old Business:

Purchase of Altar Candles: It was approved in December to purchase new candles for the altar, using money from the memorial fund. Sheri is handling the order next week.

Update from Trustees:

- Regarding Furnace issues: Faye talked to Loren and he stated that the furnaces need maintenance, not replacement.
- Faye will talk to trustees about our list of improvements needed. Loren has stepped down as chair of the Trustees, but will give counsel where needed for projects.

Fellowship expenses: Some members feel that the cost of fellowship is getting to expensive with the increased prices at the grocery stores. Discussed the need to simplify the foods served, fellowship is about the people, not the food. Will communicate this thru a letter, written by Jane, to be put in the newsletter.

Active Shooter Discussion: Faye will check with Renee to see if she is willing to pursue setting up this training.

Guest or Observer Questions: Bryan G. brought up the concern of having annual meetings with members of the congregation. These meetings were held in the past, why not now?

Discussion:

- We are trying to communicate to the congregation thru the newsletter and website.
- Could we ask the congregation if an annual conference is desired?
- Other ways of communication with the congregation in areas of concern.
- The ad council is discussing the possibility of an Annual Conference this year in the fall.

Next Meeting is Feb. 15th, 2023. Zoom training

Adjournment:

Respectfully submitted by Carmen Moore