



I'm always excited by all the school supplies that start to go on sale in August or even July (much to the disappointment of children everywhere).

I find myself buying a few new mechanical pencils, markers, Post it notes, and folders for my upcoming use.

One item I can't resist buying is a new box of crayons. Whether it is the typical 24 pk, the deluxe 48 pk or even the hugely awesome 64 pk, I often think about how much potential is in one of those boxes. What kinds of future art projects will be created using them? Will they be used to draw pictures for Mom and Dad at school and at home? Posters that will be lettered to advertise events or for a school science fair. The possibilities are endless.

Our potential is also endless, if we'll just give ourselves over to God's leading and God's inspiration for our own lives and for our churches. Even though Dent & Vergas UMC's might be small in number, we are mighty in faith. We stepped out in that faith this past year with different projects to reach new people. Some were successful, some less so, but we gave them a try and maybe with some tweaking, those that didn't go great can be improved upon next year with new ideas, planning and structures.

Do we truly believe this statement by the angel Gabriel? From Luke 1:37, "For nothing will be impossible with God." We're not on this faith journey alone, friends, we've got God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit and each other to support us in our faith walk. May we trust and believe that with God we can do amazing things!

Blessings and See You In Church!

Pastor Joyce

*Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; Do not be discouraged,
for the Lord Your God will be with you wherever you go.
Joshua 1:9*



WORSHIP in SEPTEMBER



Sept 1 - "Listening Is for Lovers" Song of Solomon 2:8-13

The "Song of Songs" might be the raciest book in the Bible, but can it offer some wisdom for better relationships? Hymns: How Can We Name a Love, In Remembrance of Me, Shalom to You.

Sept 8 - "Poverty, by Jesus" James 2:1-10, 11-13, 14-17

Jesus challenges his followers to see the poor as people worthy of justice, compassion and support. Hymns: For the Healing of the Nations, Jesu, Jesu, The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve, Shalom to You.

Sept 15 - "The Chicken and the Cross" Mark 8:27-38

You can never please all of the people all of the time. Should you even try? Hymns: He Has Made Me Glad, Old Rugged Cross, Lift High the Cross, Shalom to You.

Sept 22 - "Roots" Psalm 1

Should you plant your tree by the road that sinners tread, or by the stream of the waters of baptism? It's not too late to change direction. Hymns: Marching to Zion, Come and Find the Quiet Center, I Surrender All, Shalom to You , Video: The God Who Stays – Matthew West.

Sept 29 - "Limits of Prayer" James 5:13-20

Sometimes we face problems that don't seem to have a Christian solution. Maybe there's a way to pray about them anyway. Hymns: Lord of All Hopefulness, Every Time I Feel the Spirit, Prayer Is the Soul's Sincere Desire, Shalom to You.

SWAP: Scripture Walk And Pray Beginning in October.

Wednesdays in Dent at 10:30 & in Vergas at 1:30 for 1 hour



Spiritual Focus: Learn to memorize and meditate on God's Word as we walk. Perhaps meet some of our neighbors, praying all the time for the community and what the Lord lays on our hearts. **You may also walk and pray at a time that fits your schedule – instructions will be provided.**

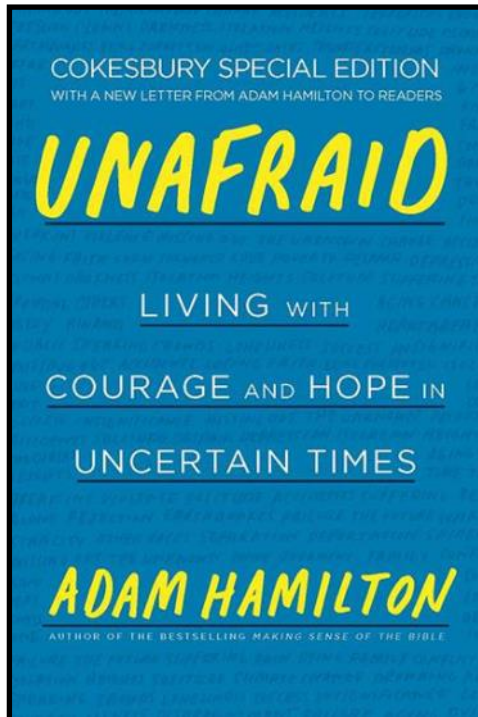
September 8th - During Worship



All children and anybody who works at a school are invited to come to church and receive a blessing for the coming school year. They will be gifted with a backpack tag with a Christian symbol to place on their backpack which reminds them that Christ is always with them on the journey of life.

NEW FALL

Bible Study



You'd be hard-pressed to overstate the extent to which fear, anxiety, and worry permeate our lives today. Fear wreaks havoc on our relationships and communities. It leads us into making bad decisions. It holds us back from the very pursuits that promise fulfillment and joy.

As the senior pastor of a large, diverse church in America's heartland, Adam Hamilton has seen the cost of fear up close. When he surveyed his congregation on how fear affects them, 2,400 people responded—and what they said was eye-opening. Eighty percent admitted to living with moderate or significant levels of fear.

Unafraid is Hamilton's insightful and impassioned response. Drawing on recent research, inspiring real-life examples, and fresh biblical insight, Hamilton uses a mixture of facts and faith to help readers understand and counter fears related to such outside perils as death and illness, as well as the everyday anxieties all of us encounter. He invites us to:

Face our fears with a bias of hope
Examine our fears in light of the facts
Attack our anxieties with action
Release our cares to God

Writing with generosity and intelligence, Hamilton shows in this 5 week study how believer and unbeliever alike can develop sustaining spiritual practices and embrace Jesus's recurring counsel: "Do not be afraid." For anyone struggling with fear or wondering how families and communities can thrive in troubled times, Unafraid offers an informed and inspiring message full of practical solutions

**Sign up on the sheets going around at fellowship time starting Sept 1.
Tuesdays @ Vergas 10:30 am & online via Zoom at 6:30 pm starting Sept 24th
Thursdays @ Dent 10:30 am starting Sept 26th**



The Vergas Church Ladies

We had a great time at the Rummage Sale during Looney Days! We raised over \$2000 for missions! We really appreciate all the items that were donated and the help during the sale as well as before and after. Start saving for next year!

The Church Ladies are busy again planning for November 10th. We will be having a Good Stuff Sale as well as a Potluck dinner after church. This will be a combined service with Dent and the Band of Faith will be providing the music. If anyone would like to donate baked goods or crafts, we would appreciate it!



**Next meeting will be Sept 17th,
12:30 pm at Vergas church.
Please join us!!**



We have a meaningful worship opportunity each week, sharing our God Moments. These are not necessarily our stories about how we became a Christian – some of us have been one all our lives, and they aren't just big event stories – most of us will never experience talking to a burning bush.

These are stories of how we have seen or experienced God during the past week either ourselves, something we observed in others or saw on t.v. or read in the paper. Be on the look out for these moments and share them during the God Moments , Joys, & Concerns time during worship. God is working daily in our world friends – we just need to look and feel for these moments!

Let's "Leaf" Cancer Behind Fashion Show and Bruch

September 14th, 10:00am - 12:00pm

Vergas Event Center

Tickets \$25

*Available at all local businesses or
call Bev at 218-234-6492*



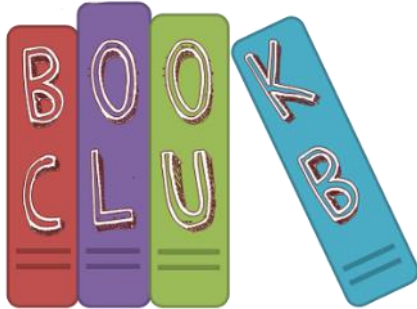
*Silent Auction, Win prizes,
Mimosas Included, Fund raiser
for American Cancer Society*

Sponsored by Vergas Looneys Relay for Life team



Meets at Mysteries
Café
9am on the 1st
Wednesday of the
month

Dent Breakfast Club



Ad Council

Wednesday, Sept 18th
Dent 3:00pm
Vergas 6:30pm

Next Meeting

Tues, Sept 3rd 12:30pm
Corner Collective Bistro
in Frazee (old FUMC)

Books:

“Anxious People” by Fredrik Beckman
and “James” by Percival Everett

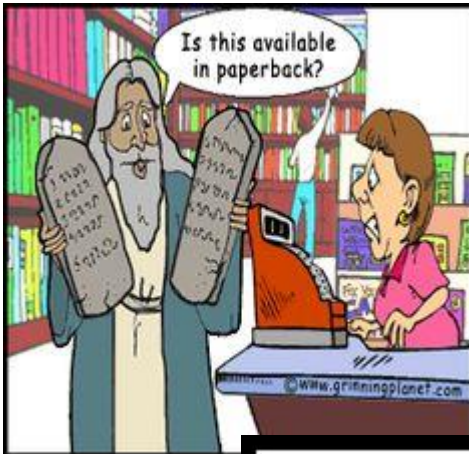
**Free, Safe, Non-scary,
Church Event - All Are Welcome**



Thursday Oct 31st

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Dent UMC & Vergas UMC



It's not too early to begin planning for this year's event. We had many children attend the event at both churches and would like to have lots and lots of decorated trunks and church members in costume (non-scary) to meet and greet parents & children. A sign-up sheet for donations of candy, \$\$, and/or providing a decorated trunk will be passed around in church. If you would like Pastor Joyce to order you a trunk decorating kit for around \$15, please let her know and she can show you options for Christian themed Halloween décor to make your trunk look extra-special! Event will be held indoors if there is inclement weather happening – too cold or snow.

Church Quarterly Mission July / August / September

Vergas Mission



The Mission of the Quarter (July, August, and September) is the Salvation Army. A statement from the website describes a service currently offered locally. The Salvation Army has been helping people in need for more than 150 years. We have seen many changes since then, but one thing remains constant: God calls us to serve those who

are most vulnerable. Today, The Salvation Army provides emergency services, including food, clothing, shelter, a safe space, and a hopeful word to everyone who needs it regardless of religion, race, gender, sexual orientation, or political affiliation. For many, making ends meet is a daily challenge, forcing people to choose between things like heating their homes and putting food on the table. We understand the stress these situations put on families and are here to help. With utility assistance, our goal is to provide resources that will help families stay in their homes. Donations from Vergas Church go to the Fergus Falls chapter.

Vergas Local Outreach

The Local Mission dollars \$500 will be sent to Churches United. This organization serves the homeless and has had financial difficulties. It was decided that it would be appropriate to send help to them.

Please let the Ad Council know of any local needs.



Dent Mission of the Quarter



This is a wonderful and special event that Dent holds every year. The community children are invited to come and shop for gifts for Christmas for their family members. They will be assisted with shopping, all gifts will be wrapped and refreshments are served.

The event is from 9 am to 12 noon on the 2nd Saturday in December. Same day as Dent's Santa Day.

Dent UMC will be collecting donations and money to help put this event together

SEPTEMBER VOLUNTEERS LISTS

September Ushers

Austin & Darlene H.

Sep Liturgist

Michelle S.

Sept	Fellowship
01	Gretchen & Roger D.
08	Toni & Lowell L.
15	Dorothy W / Ivy M
22	Michelle & Kelvin S
29	Peggy & Lyndon M

Sept	Vergas Liturgist	Vergas Ushers	Fellowship
01	Tonya J.	Rick & Margy	Eileen G.
08	Bev F.	Byron & Connie Z	Connie Z.
15	Lana J.	David & Carla R.	Margy N
22	Renee S.	Faye & Tonya	Bev F.
29	Margy N	NEEDED	NEEDED



If you are unable to be there on a Sunday, please find a substitute to fill in for you. Thank You!

Sunday,
September 8th



Vergas Birthday's

Sept 4th Margy Nelson
 Sept 12th Keith Sandau
 Sept 12th Lorna Jacobson

*Happy Anniversary Sept 12th
 Pastor Joyce & Pete Slostad*

What are Grandparents Made Of?

Hope and pride, pure joy inside
 Warm hugs and kisses, shooting star wishes
 Tickles and fun, a sprinkle of sun
 Hands to hold, hearts of gold...
That's what grandparents are made of
 Tales from the past, memories to last
 Laps for reading, "I love you" greetings
 Wisdom to teach, always in reach
 Toys galore, eyes that adore...
That's what grandparents are made of
 Patience and time, trees to climb
 Baby photos in frames, childhood games
 Bragging rights, sleep over nights
 Comforting arms, magical charms...
That's what grandparents are made of
 Kindness and care, affection to share
 Heart-to-heart talks, unhurried walks
 Faith and trust, spoiling a must
 Endless love, a gift from above...
That's what grandparents are made of

Dent Birthday's

Sept 10th Darlene Holtz

*Happy Anniversary Sept 23rd
 Lyndon & Peggy Maasjo*



A Thought for The Day



"Worship Times"

Dent UMC

8:30am Pre Fellowship
9am Worship Service

Vergas UMC

9:30am Adult Sunday School (Sep thru May)
10:30am Worship Service
11:30am Coffee Fellowship



Livestream Service begins at 10:30am on the [Vergas Facebook page](#)



Recorded Service will be posted on YouTube and [dentvergasumc.org](#)

Click on the icon or link to go to the site

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 October, is September 26, 2024.**

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

September / October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		12:30pm Book Club at Corner Collective, Frazee	Margy N. (V) 9am Dent Breakfast Club @ Mysteries Café			
8	9	10		11	12	13
Blessing of the backpacks during Worship	Darlene H.. (D)			Keith S.. (V) Lorna J. (V)		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		12:30pm Church Ladies	Ad Council 3pm Dent 6:30pm Vergas			5-7pm Dent Spaghetti dinner
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		10:30 am V Bible Study 6:30 pm on Zoom		10:30 am Dent Bible Study		
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
	V Bible Study 10:30 am 12:30pm Book Club 6:30 pm online Zoom Bible Study		9am Dent Breakfast Club @ Mysteries 10:30 - 1130 am Dent SWAP	10:30 am Dent Bible Study 1:30 - 2:30 am Vergas SWAP		
3	7	8	9	10	11	12
	V Bible Study 10:30 am 6:30 pm on Zoom		10:30 - 1130 am Dent SWAP	10:30 am Dent Bible Study 1:30 - 2:30 am Vergas SWAP Walk		



What is The Laity Collaborative?

The Laity Collaborative is a collaborative learning community focused on equipping laity and unleashing the power of the Holy Spirit throughout the Minnesota Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. The Laity Collaborative includes an opening gathering, our kick-off event, but so much more!

Your registration will give you access to:

In-person kick-off event **Saturday, October 26th 9:30am-4pm** at Hennepin Avenue UMC (lunch included)

Virtual learning opportunities for participants over the **following 4+ months**.

The Laity Collaborative Closing Session: Spirit-Based Community Development in the Methodist Way.

What are the learning opportunities as part of The Laity Collaborative?

Kick-off Session: Includes vibrant worship and continue learning by exploring the cornerstones of our United Methodist faith. We'll explore Why Wesleyan, Why Now, and how to live our Wesleyan faith. We will celebrate laity and build relationships, forming a learning community and learning cohorts for our ongoing journey while we get a taste of the learning opportunities that we can participate in over the next 4+ months.

Virtual Learning Opportunities:

Finding and Keeping Your Practices

Holy Gatherings: How To Effectively Facilitate Small Group Discussions

Scripture Circles

Spirit-Based Community Development in the Methodist Way.

Plus more virtual resources you can access anytime!

Registration Information

Cost for The Laity Collaborative is as follows:

Individual: \$75.00

Group (3 or more participants): \$50.00/participant

Registration Link: <https://mnumc-reg.brtapp.com/LaityCollaborative20242025>

For those needing overnight accommodations, the La Quinta Inn – Minnetonka is offering a rate of \$89 (including breakfast). Contact them directly at 952-541-1094. Indicate you are with the United Methodist Church. The hotel is located near the intersection of Highways 169 and 394, an easy route to the church.

For those needing overnight accommodations, the La Quinta Inn – Minnetonka is offering a rate of \$89 (including breakfast). Contact them directly at 952-541-1094. Indicate you are with the United Methodist Church. The hotel is located near the intersection of Highways 169 and 394, an easy route to the church.

DENT UMC LEADERSHIP TEAM

August 21, 2024

The regular meeting of the DUMC Leadership Team was held on Wednesday at 3:00 at the church. Members present were Doris Champlin, Austin Holtz, Karen Johnson, Ellie Lodin, Lyndon Maasjo, Peggy Meissner, Ivy Mickelson, and Pastor Joyce Slostad.

CALL TO ORDER: Lyndon called the meeting to order and Joyce opened with a scripture from Psalms 19 7-11, a reading from the Upper Room and a prayer.

MINUTES: Minutes from last meeting were reviewed and Karen made a motion to accept minutes with a second from Lyndon, motion passed.

FINANCE: Monthly statement was reviewed and Ivy had to take \$2000 from savings to cover monthly bills. The Bake sale brought in \$632 and we have received \$150 for Rudolph's Closet. Ellie made a motion to accept the report subject to audit and Peggy seconded, motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS: The parade float was a success. Lyndon and family made posters for the float and rode in the back of the truck distributing candy. Thanks to the Maasjos and family. The bake sale did well, all items were sold. The last float Wednesday will be August 28. Will do some outreach for it.

NEW BUSINESS: Garbers' 65th Anniversary party will be at the church on Saturday, August 24 from 1-4. Our office printer seems to be using up the ink fast. Discussion about getting a different printer. Austin made a motion to purchase a new printer that will handle our needs, Ellie seconded the motion, motion passed. Karen has volunteered to check into different printers. Spaghetti dinner was discussed and we will ask for donations of spaghetti sauce and pasta and bars. It is planned for September 21 5-7. We will make posters and advertise it on the community billboard. Sunday school for the kids that we have attending church was discussed. Joyce will check with Darcy about it. Ivy mentioned that the directory could use some updating. We will check with families for updated addresses and contact numbers.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Joyce would like to start a Bible study for the fall on Thursdays. She will notify us about times and the study.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: The storm door has been removed from the back. Austin has sprayed for weeds around the church, and hopefully he and Lyndon will be able to remove the bushes on the south side of the church

NEXT MEETING & ADJOURNMENT: Joyce closed the meeting with a prayer. The next scheduled meeting will be September 18.

Ad Council Minutes
Vergas United Methodist Church
August 21, 2024, 6:30 pm at the Church

Present: Jane Wasvick, David Reiten, Sheri Schoenberger, Tonya Johnson, Faye Courneya, and Doreen Schwarzrock Absent: Lisa Wrabek, Joyce Slostad

Opening Prayer

Jane opened the meeting with prayer.

Review of Church Attendance Sheri stated that attendance has remained steady.

Secretary Report The minutes from July 17th were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer Report

The Treasurer report was accepted as handed out pending audit.

- Faye reported that the interest earned on the Dakota investment (with the Conference) had earned \$628 dollars since invested earlier this year.
- Iona's estate may not be settled until the middle of October. Faye had been working with WesPath (Pastor Joyce's retirement) to see if we can add to it for her and she is having difficulty with that.
- We are done with Marco.
- Jane mentioned that the SPPRC needs to determine a salary increase for Pastor Joyce and Sheri at their October meeting. One of the things is that we are currently not paying the suggested housing allowance in full, which is \$20,000. We are currently paying \$13,000. This would be an increase for both churches. There was overall agreement that the least we should do is bring the housing amount to \$20,000. Anyone with thoughts should talk with Jane and she will bring to SPPRC as well as communicate with Dent and the District Superintendent.

Trustee Report

- The thermostats are installed. The fire system on the wall is not connected to any service. We discussed how to program the thermostats and who needs access so the temperature can be watched and changed as appropriate. Jane will work on this. Several people need access to the thermostat, i.e., Pastor Joyce, Sheri, Faye, Rick, and Jane.
- David purchased fire extinguishers from Fargo at \$48 each and we will buy 2, one for upstairs and one for downstairs. David will show the congregation how to use them after church on Sunday.
- David straightened the sign by the road.
- There was a suggestion to obtain a lawn service to weed and fertilize the lawn to improve its condition. Barefoot Lawn was a suggestion others have used to weed and feed the yard. There was general agreement.
- The windows need to be fixed and outdoor painting is on the list.

Mission

The Missions of the Quarter for the year.

1st Quarter, Relay for Life, Vergas Looneys

2nd Quarter, UMCOR

3rd Quarter, Salvation Army

4th Quarter, Local Food Shelves, Perham, Pelican Rapids, and Detroit Lakes

The Local Mission dollars of \$500 will be sent to Churches United in Fargo who are housing the homeless and are in a tough financial position. Motion by Faye, seconded by David. Jane waived her \$50 from the meal to add to this mission. There is going to be a fund raiser for Addie Danielson in the future and we may contribute to that next month.

Pastor Report:

Pastor Joyce was unable to come to the meeting as she was ill.

Looney Days

Looney Days went well with the Rummage Sale making over \$2000 and the men also making that much. The men decided that they will not do Friday night as that is too hard and not enough people were at the beach to make it worthwhile. They will continue on Friday and Saturday lunch times. We did not do a parade entry so may want to consider that next year.

Ice Cream Giveaway at Beach

Ice cream treats were finished last Wednesday. A Suggestion was to just do the month of July and do the 4 Wednesdays.

New Mission Statement

Tonya presented the revised Mission Statement in various fonts and colors to be able to make a printed copy to hang in the church. There was consensus on one copy and Tonya will follow up.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting should take place in October. Planning will be at the September meeting.

Joint Service on November 10th

We are planning a Joint Service in Vergas on November 10th which will include a potluck, the Band of Faith, and Good Stuff Sale by the Church Ladies. We just need to get this information out to the congregation.

The next meeting will be on September 18th at 6:30 at the church.