



Dorchester UMC
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Dorchester, NE 68343
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THE DORCHESTER/FRIEND UNITED METHODIST NEWSLETTER *December 2017*



Friend UMC
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Pastoral Point **“God’s precious gift”**

Luke 1:26-38

²⁶*In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." ²⁹Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God.*

³¹*You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end. ³⁴"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.*

³⁶*Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. ³⁷For nothing is impossible with God." ³⁸"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.*

In this text we see God offering his gift of salvation to all people through Mary. When delivering the good news to Mary, the angel Gabriel told her that she was precious to God (Luke 1:28-30), that she should live with purpose (Luke 1:31-33) and experience God’s mighty power (Luke 1:34-38).

The Angel Gabriel greeted Mary with this words; *“you who are highly favored, you have found favor with God”*. We are told that Mary was greatly troubled by this greeting. Why would she be greatly troubled? It may well have been because she didn’t feel particularly favored by God, she may well have felt unworthy of such an honorable greeting. To the world Mary was not worth very much and she probably believed it! To the world she was an insignificant, impoverished child. And she was a woman in a culture where men ruled supreme. But in this account we are reminded that our worth in God’s eyes doesn’t depend on our age, gender or social status, our value is not dependent upon what we have achieved with our lives nor our

value upon what has happened to us in life. The youngest, simplest and most despised according to this world’s terms can have a vital faith in God and be loved deeply by him and find the true value in knowing God. In the Psalms, we are reminded that we are *“fearfully and wonderfully made”* (Ps 139:14). To God every person is acceptable; loved; favored; approved; important; valuable; dignified; distinguished; priceless; significant and we all matter to God.

Another benefit from God’s gift of Christmas is that we are given a purpose to live by. In this passage, the angel Gabriel told Mary that she will be with a child. God’s purpose for Mary was to carry the presence of an awesome King, Jesus Christ. Today God’s purpose for us hasn’t changed which to be in God’s presence through the Holy Spirit. In Ephesians 2:22 we read: *“And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling of God in which he lives by his Spirit.”* And if the spirit of God lives in us, we will live a peaceful and joyful life.

The recipients of God’s gift experience His mighty power. The angel said to Mary, *“nothing is impossible with God”*. And Mary came to see that this was true through two miraculous births, that of John the Baptist to her ageing and supposedly infertile relative Elizabeth, and through the birth of her own son, Jesus. And the point here is this; power in the Christian life is not about the quantity of our faith, it’s about the quality of our belief. Just like Mary, our faith should be to trust in God in all circumstances. When Mary was told that she will have a baby, she asked; *“how will this be?”* The answer from God’s messenger was; *“nothing is impossible with God”*. Mary's immediate response was one of faith. *“I am the Lord’s servant; let it be to me as you have said.”* Mary gave all to God in exchange of something newer and bigger.

Remember, you too are immensely precious to your heavenly Father, He weeps over when you reject to accept the gift He brings to you through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Through Christ, God has provided our way back to him and to a whole life and a reconciled relationship with him. This is the gift and its benefits God holds out for us, not just at Christmas, but every minute of our lives.

Season’s Greetings.

Amen

December Readings

- 12/03 Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19;
1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37
- 12/10 Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13;
2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8
- 12/17 Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126;
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28
- 12/24 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Luke 1:47-55;
Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38
- 12/24 **Christmas Eve** Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96;
Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20
- 12/25 **Christmas Day** Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98;
Hebrews 1:1-4 (5-12); John 1:1-14
- 12/31 Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4-7;
Luke 2:22-40

Are you or someone you know in need of prayer?

Please indicate if you would like:

❖ Your prayer request put in the bulletin/
newsletter. There are prayer request cards located in
each church's pew or you can call the church office at
402-946-3091 or 402-947-3481 or email
um71502@windstream.net or

❖ Your prayer request to be for the Pastor only.

*Please pray for: Danyelle Schultz-Kitten;
Bob Mazour*

**Service
Time
Change**

**Dorchester United Methodist
Church
New Worship Time
starting the first Sunday
in January.**

9:30 a.m. on Sunday, January 7, 2018

The United Methodist Church of Friend will keep the
same time at 10:30 a.m.

The United Methodist Church of Friend Sunday School Program

Sunday, December 17th at 4:00 p.m. at Friend UCC.

There will be no Sunday School
on December 24th and December 31st.

Starting January 7th, Sunday School will be
back at the Methodist Church.



Dorchester United Methodist Church Sunday School Program

Sunday, December 17th at 5:30 p.m.,
followed by friends and family Soup Supper.

There will be no Sunday School on
on December 24th and December 31st.

Dear Members of the Dorchester United Methodist
Church,

I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for all
of your thoughts, prayers, and generous donations.
Your support is what keeps me going. Therapy at
Madonna is going very well. I continue to go three
times a week and I keep improving. Since I am
improving, my therapists keep adding more therapy.
Currently, I do pool therapy 3 times a week, physical
therapy 3 times a week, and they have even added a
bike with electrodes that help stimulate my nerves, and
an elliptical once a week. This month, they will start me
on the "Ekso" which is a robotic machine that helps
move my legs while walking upright without an
assistive device like a walker or cane.

When I am not in therapy, I am working at a dental
office in Seward called Seward Smiles two days a
week. It is great to get back into the work force and feel
somewhat of my normal self. I recently purchased a van
and got hand controls installed. I can now take myself
to therapy and work. It feels so great to be independent.
A part of me feels like I am 16 again and I am offering
to make Wal-Mart runs!

I started not having any movement or feeling from the
chest down. I did not feel the weight of my legs or even
nerve pain; there was nothing. Now, I can feel normal
sensation on my stomach and I can feel water
temperature. From the waist down, my legs are still
asleep. When your foot falls asleep and you get that
tingling/burning sensation, that's how my legs feel all
the time. Sounds awful, but at least I feel something. I
am still unable to feel water temperature on my legs.
My doctors originally told me 12 to 18 months'
recovery and that nerves heal a millimeter a month.
Now that I am coming up on 12 months, I am thinking
it's going to be more like 18 months or longer. I am
eager to see what all I get back. I know that there will
be some permanent nerve damage, but I am hopeful that
I will walk again without an assistive device.

Thank you again for all of your support. You are my
prayer warriors!

Sincerely,
Dani Kitten



Mark and I would like to thank all the patrons of the
Dorchester United Methodist Church for all the prayers
and support you have given our family during Mark's
fight with pancreatitis. We could not have done this
alone and are grateful for all that you have done for us.
At Mark's worse, we both felt your prayers and they
gave us comfort.

Thanks again for kindness.

Blessings,
Mark, Lisa, Jackson, and Landon Lautzenhiser

**Minutes of Administrative Council Meeting
Dorchester United Methodist Church
Monday, November 13, 2017**

Present: Steve & Judy Ottmann, Randy & Rhonda Schlick, Steve & Vicky Parks, Vera Mazour, Laura Sysel, Larry Gish, Lyle Weber, Bernice Weber, Charlie Clauss, Pastor and Carol Olson. Vera gave devotions.

Steve Ottmann called the meeting to order. The October minutes were distributed. Rhonda made a motion to accept as presented. Vicky seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report: The October treasurer's report was distributed. It was reported we received notification that we are a member of the 100 club, which signifies apportionments have been received in full. Vicky made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and file for audit. Rhonda seconded. Motion carried.

Loose Coins: It was decided loose coins would go to: Hope Crisis (1st Qtr.), Epworth Village (2nd Qtr.), Crete Cares (3rd Qtr.) and Table Grace (4th Qtr.).

Trustees: Steve Parks reported (1) the Trustee's made a recommendation to sell the west lot (66' x 130') for \$10,000. Closing costs and legal fees would be paid by the purchaser.

Action: Steve made a motion to sell the west lot to the interested party for \$10,000. Bernice seconded. Motion carried.

Spring Music Event/Fund Raiser: There was discussion about a spring/summer music event. Information, ideas and a committee will be introduced at the January meeting.

Pastor's Report: (1) Pastor reported Dorchester's Sunday service time will change to 9:30 a.m. starting January 7th. (2) The Thanksgiving service will be, Wednesday, November 22nd, 7:00 p.m. at Friend UMC. (3) Christmas Eve service will be 5:00 p.m., Sunday, December 24th.

Finance: Lyle reported there will be a finance committee meeting soon.

UMW: Rhonda reported (1) one member attended the District fall meeting. (2) World Thank Offering was collected at the November 1st meeting. (3) The next meeting will be the annual covered dish, Wednesday, Dec 6th, 6:30 p.m. The program will be presented by the Dorchester Music Department. (4) Christmas sacks will be assembled, Sunday, December 3rd. (5) Funeral Committee is instructed to contact Bernice with when to set up and for how many.

Bible Study: The current Bible Study is *Fearless*. On December 13th an Advent Study will begin.

Next Steps: Randy reported Next Step members met Tuesday, October 31st and will meet again, Tuesday, November 21st.

Outreach: Judy Ottmann (1) suggested inviting Lincoln senior living residents to some of our events for sermon, song and food. She will contact activity directors regarding and report back. Carol (2) reported thank you's were mailed to businesses and individuals who contributed to our annual auction. (3) A thank you card and check were received from an individual whom we served on our Community Service day.

Memorial: Vicky reported \$5,786.07 in the memorial checking account.

Worship: Charlie reported (1) November 26th will be Hanging of the Greens. (2) Poinsettias can be purchased by individuals or he will purchase for them if they prefer.

Farmers Market: Laura Sysel resigned as chairman of the Farmer's Market. It was suggested she talk to the Village to see if the market should continue and if so, if anyone within the community would chair or co-chair the event for its 17 week duration. (June 1st through end of September).

The next Administrative Council meeting will be, Monday, January 8th at 7:00 p.m. (No December meeting). Carol will give devotions.

Recording Secretary,
Carol J. Olson

Friend United Methodist Women

December 6, 2017

12:00 noon

Christmas Carry in Dinner



Fellowship: Christmas Carols
Committee: Officers – Linda Hanneman,
Diann McClatchey, Sylvia Stokes

We will meet in the Chapel at noon and ask our members to bring a covered dish to share. Please ask your spouse or a friend to come with you. The officers will provide dessert.

Please bring a cash donation for Epworth Village

This is an open invitation to ALL the women of the church to join our United Methodist Women group. We are all responsible for the welfare and health of our church and it takes all of us to make that happen. Please prayerfully consider becoming a part of United Methodist Women. Meetings are the first Wednesday each month, join us January 3, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. to begin the New Year.

Questions or comments
please call Linda Hanneman,
President at 1-402-947-3851.

*please
join us*

As always thank you in advance.

Dorchester United Methodist Women

The reading of the Purpose opened the Dorchester United Methodist Women's meeting, November 1, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. Five members were present.

The October minutes were read & approved.

Lois Nohavec gave the treasurer's report.

Gladys Pierce gave a card report.

Vera Mazour read from the Prayer Calendar.

Gladys Pierce gave devotions.

Vera Mazour gave a report on the District

Meeting.

Christmas sacks will be filled, Sunday, December 3rd.

Vera Mazour gave the program on World Thank Offering and a World Thank offering was collected.

The meeting was adjourned.

Hostesses:

Lois Nohavec, Maxine Filipi & Vera Mazour.

UMW Christmas Sacks – 2017

UMW will be assembling approximately 30 Christmas sacks for area community members on **Sunday, December 3, 2017** following church services at approximately 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All members are welcome to help assemble and/or deliver the sacks. If you have questions, please contact Judy Bors at 402.450.3009.

Thank you.

Dorchester United Methodist Women

DORCHESTER FARMERS MARKET

Dorchester Farmers Market is looking for a new manager or several people willing to work as a group to set day and time for market 2018, be a contact for the coalition, find vendors, put signs up on market days and be present during market times for set up and questions. Laura Sysel is willing to answer any questions you may have and even help some, but is no longer able to do it all. This is a community activity not just the church. Please ask anyone you think would be interested.

Laura 402-580-8533 or laura.sysel@gmail.com

Dorchester United Methodist Women



UMW will have their annual Christmas Carry in Dinner on Wednesday, Dec. 6th at 6:30 p.m. The program will be the Dorchester Schools music kids. We invite all women of the church and community to join us. Please bring a covered dish.

Serving Committee: Vicky Parks, Judy Schweitzer, Carol Olson, Lindsey Zoubek, Angie Pierce, Sandy Rains, Karen Sokolik



Hanging of the Greens

Sunday,
November 26,
2017

Dorchester
United
Methodist
Church



December Worship Volunteers

Greeters

12/03 (D) Rose & Shelley Bruha
(F) David & Ann Bruntz
12/10 (D) Marlene Stehlik & Lila Pribyl
(F) Harvey & Joan Weber
12/17 (D) Loren & Judy Vyhnalek
(F) Kay Stinson
12/24 **AM** (D) Alan & Nancy Slepicka
AM (F) Roger & Linda Hanneman
12/24 **PM** (D) Mark & Judy Bors
PM (F) Jill & Caitlin Sharkey
12/31 (D) Brent & Lindsey Zoubek
(F)

Ushers

12/03 (D) Steve & Judy Ottmann
(F) David & Ann Bruntz
12/10 (D) Matt & Donnetta Hoffman
(F) Harvey & Joan Weber
12/17 (D) Steve & Vicky Parks
(F) Kay Stinson
12/24 **AM** (D) Darin & Cindy Kotas
AM (F) the Baptistas
12/24 **PM** (D) Matt & Donnetta Hoffman
PM (F)
12/31 (D) Larry & Bev Gish
(F)

Scripture Reader

12/03 (D) Lois Nohavec
(F) Sherri Rohrig
12/10 (D) Steve Parks
(F) Terry O'Neel
12/17 (D) Susan Weber
(F) Liz Stutzman
12/24 **AM** (D) Randy Schlick
AM (F)
12/24 **PM** (D)
PM (F) Amanda Ellison
12/31 (D)
(F) Diane Odoski

Advent Readers

12/03 (D) Lyle & Cathy Weber
(F) Michelle Schiffert & Peg Holcomb
12/10 (D) Troy & Tricia Novak
(F) Ron, Diane, Heather Odoski
12/17 (D) Brent & Lindsey Zoubek
(F) Allen Bruntz family
12/24 **AM** (D) Darin & Cindy Kotas
AM (F) Ann Betka family & Paul Weber
12/24 **PM** (D) George & Jen Kasl
PM (F)

Children's Time

12/03 (D) Susan Weber
(F) Sherri Rohrig
12/10 (D) Rhonda Schlick
(F)
12/17 (D)
(F) Liz Stutzman
12/24 **AM** (D)
AM (F)
12/31 (D)
(F) Diane Odoski

Fellowship Hosts

12/03 (D) Shelley & Rose Bruha
(F) Sherri Rohrig
12/10 (D) Steve & Vicky Parks
(F)
12/17 (D) the Gish family
(F)
12/24 **AM** (D)
AM (F)
12/31 (D)
(F) Diane Odoski

Video Presenter

12/03 (D) Rhonda Schlick; 12/10 (D), 12/17 (D)
12/24 **AM** (D), 12/24 **PM** (D), 12/31 (D)

Acolytes

12/03 (D), (F) Charlee Stutzman; 12/10 (D), (F);
12/17 (D), (F); 12/24 **AM** (D), (F) Mason Vossler
12/24 **PM** (D), (F) Lilly Ellison; 12/31 (D), (F)

LITURGISTS VOLUNTEERS

Starting in January 2018, Liturgists are needed for each service. A liturgist is a worship leader who will fill in at the end of the Dorchester 9:30 a.m. service and for the beginning of the 10:30 a.m. service for Friend to allow Pastor time to travel for the 10:30 a.m. service in Friend. The Liturgist will be included on the starting on the January volunteer sheet.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

12-03 Matthew Hoffman
12-07 Roy Horner
Michelle Schiffert
12-10 Shelley Bresson
Allan Rohrig
12-11 Virginia Krivohlavek
Sawyer Stutzman
12-12 Rebecca Fuller
12-13 Jake Kunc
12-15 Larry Fuller
Judy Schweitzer
12-16 Marion Gropp
12-17 Kellen Vossler
12-18 Katie Kasl
12-19 Amber Kotas
Livia Schweitzer
12-21 Tori Bresson
Shane Stutzman
12-22 Amy Hansen
12-24 Lennon Kohout
12-29 Warren Weber
Lindsey Zoubek
12-30 John Palky Jr.
12-31 Oris Williams

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

12-01 Troy & Tricia Novak (16)
12-12 Larry & Pam Fuller (36)
12-14 Tex & Margaret Eberspacher (59)
12-27 Dave & Diann McClatchey (55)
12-28 Stan & Margo Houlden (21)
12-30 Bob & Marva Kasl (62)

Dorchester/Friend United Methodist

PO Box 251

Dorchester, NE 68343

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

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Permit No. 4

Car-Rt-Sort



Friend Sunday School Christmas Program

December 17th at 4 p.m. at FUCC

Dorchester Sunday School Christmas Program

December 17th at 5:30 p.m.

December 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Loose Coins: (D & F) Crete Cares					1	2
Christmas Eve Service, December 24th – DUMC 5 pm, FUMC 10 pm						
3 9 am (D) Worship 10 am (D) Fellowship/UMW filling Christmas Sacks 10:15 am (D) Sunday School (D) Fellowship Hall reserved 9:30 am (F) Sunday School 9:45 am (F) Fellowship/Choir 10:30 am (F) Worship 6 pm (F) Igniting Youth	4 10:30 am (F) Bible Study Hospital Chapel	5	6 Noon (F) Carry-in Dinner 6:30 pm (D) Carry-in Supper	7	8	9
10 9 am (D) Worship (Bring your gifts for kids/family) 10 am (D) Fellowship/Prayer Partners' meeting 10:15 am (D) Sunday School (F) Food Pantry Sunday 9:30 am (F) Sunday School 9:45 am (F) Fellowship/Choir 10:30 am (F) Worship	11 10:30 am (F) Bible Study Hospital Chapel	12	13 7 pm (D) Bible Study	14	15	16
17 9 am (D) Worship 10 am (D) Fellowship 10:15 am (D) Sunday School 12:15 pm (D) Without Partners at Marcia Beekley's 5:30 pm (D) Sunday School Christmas Program with Soup supper 9:30 am (F) Sunday School 9:45 am (F) Fellowship/Choir 10:30 am (F) Worship 4 pm (F) Sunday School Christmas Program at FUCC 6 pm (F) Igniting Youth	18 10:30 am (F) Bible Study Hospital Chapel	19 7 pm (D) Next Steps Meeting	20 7 pm (D) Bible Study	21 Winter Solstice Newsletter Articles Due	22	23
24 9 am (D) Worship 10 am (D) Fellowship 5 pm (D) Christmas Eve Service 9:45 am (F) Fellowship/Choir 10:30 am (F) Worship 10 pm (F) Christmas Eve Service	25 Christmas (D) Fellowship Hall reserved	26	27 7 pm (D) Bible Study	28 10:30 am (D) Folding the Newsletter	29	30
31 (D) Food Pantry Sunday 9 am (D) Worship 10 am (D) Fellowship 9:45 am (F) Fellowship/Choir 10:30 am (F) Worship	FUMC Sunday School Christmas Program – Sunday, December 17th, 4 pm at FUCC DUMC Sunday School Christmas Program – Sunday, December 17th, 5:30 pm, Soup Supper to follow Igniting Youth meets in Friend – December 3rd & 17th, 6 pm					