



Christmas is a time of traditions, decorating, gifts, music, food preparation or consuming...but why? What is the reason behind all of this?

This season is sometimes overshadowed by the hustle and bustle that we forget it all started with faith. Faith of a young woman and carpenter who rose above cultural norms to have God's child in the humblest of circumstances.

Jesus was born in a manger, foreshadowing the humble and servant-focused life he would live out. Jesus's birth was the beginning of God's rescue mission for His children and that is the true meaning of Christmas. He is the reason for the honey hams, the stocking stuffers and the celebration. The day that Jesus entered the Earth, the world was changed forever. That day, God blessed the world with more love and grace than we could ever understand or deserve.

During this season don't get caught up in the hustle and bustle instead remember thanksgiving infant born in a manger who came to save you and me.

*Blessings,  
Rev. April Wegehaupt*

## Christmas Open House

**Pastor April and family  
Christmas Open House**  
Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>  
1:00-4:00 p.m.  
321 Race Street, Friend

The United Methodist Church of Friend  
Sunday School Christmas Program  
Sunday, December 18, 2022  
immediately following the church service  
*Everyone is welcome to stay after church  
for the program.*

There will be no Sunday School  
December 25<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup>.



Youth group will be meeting on Dec 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. for our Christmas party at the Pastor's house 321 Race St, Friend after Pastor's open house. We will eat, play games and have a gift exchange of no more than \$20.

Also, for the Mission for Nov/Dec, we will be taking up food/snack/drink donations for our teachers, policemen and hospital staff. The congregation is welcomed and encouraged to help donate. Please have donations to the Churches by Dec 10<sup>th</sup>.

Youth, if you have food/snack/drink donations please bring them to the Christmas party Dec 4<sup>th</sup>.

The United Methodist Church  
of Dorchester  
Sunday School Christmas Program  
Sunday, December 18, 2022  
during the 9:30 a.m. worship  
service. The last day of  
Sunday School will be December 11<sup>th</sup>.  
Sunday School will resume January 8<sup>th</sup>.

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### *The Dorchester/Friend United Methodist Church Newsletter*

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**Rev. April Wegehaupt**  
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620-212-6784

**The United Methodist Church  
of Friend**  
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**The United Methodist Church  
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PO Box 251  
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search Dorchester United Methodist  
Church

Paula Creamer, Secretary  
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**December 2022**

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**Minutes of Administrative Council Meeting  
Dorchester United Methodist Church  
Monday, November 14, 2022**

**Present:** Randy & Rhonda Schlick, Judy Ottmann, Lyle Weber, Bernice Weber, Pastor April, Rebecca Steuk, Judy Bors, Chris Krivohlavek, Debbie Spanyers & Carol Olson.

Pastor April called the meeting to order. Rebecca gave devotions.

Minutes of the October meeting were distributed. *Judy O. made a motion to accept as presented. Lyle seconded. Motion carried.*

**Treasurer's report:** Bernice presented the treasurer's report. *Rhonda made a motion to accept Bernice's report subject to audit. Chris seconded. Motion carried.*

**Trustees:** Rebecca asked Chris to put up coat hooks for the afterschool kids to hang their coats & bags.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor April reported: (1) she will be looking for an Advent study. (2) Hanging of the greens will be Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup> after worship service. (3) Christmas Eve service will be at 5:00 p.m. (4) She will be having an open house at her house, Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> 1:00-4:00 p.m. (5) The 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be celebrated next fall. Look for upcoming meetings.

**Education Committee:** Rebecca reported it would be fun to have brunch following the Christmas program, Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. Carol volunteered to talk to the NOW committee regarding.

**Good of the Order:** Rhonda will put an article in the newsletter that the last mailing of the newsletter will be in December for anyone who has an e-mail address. A stack of newsletters will be in the back of the sanctuary following printing.

**Foundation Committee:** The Foundation Committee met October 26<sup>th</sup>. Decisions made were: (1) Deb will mail out scholarship letters the first week of December. (2) A donation was made to Pastor April's family. (3) A donation was made to Camp Fontenelle's Capital Campaign.

*Judy O. made a motion to set up a new Foundation account for the parsonage proceeds & the investments be made as discussed. Randy seconded. Motion carried. Lyle made a motion to also deposit Anita's gift into the same account. Rebecca seconded. Motion carried.*

**Loose Coins:** It was decided the order of 'loose coins' collection for 2023 will be (1) Hope Crisis (2) Epworth Village (3) Table Grace (4) Ministerial Assn. A slide will be created as a reminder of Loose coin giving & what organization is benefiting.

**After School Program:** A suggestion was made to create an "After School Gazette" to create more interest in volunteering for the After School Program & encourage the parents to donate towards the program.

**Worship Committee:** Rhonda reported (1) a pictorial directory will be created, photos taken at the end of January. (2) Advent readers are needed, can be families or individuals. (3) There is a need by 18 families (48 kids) for Christmas gifts.

**UWF:** Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, the UWF will host a community potluck event.

**Christmas Bags:** Following church services on December 4<sup>th</sup>, Christmas bags will be filled, a signup sheet will be passed for food donations.

**Friend United Methodist  
Ad Council Minutes  
November 21, 2022**

Friend UMC Ad Council met on Monday, November 21, 2022 with the following present: Pastor April, Gaylen Huff, Kate Vossler, Margo Houlden, Linda Hanneman, Jen Stutzman, Mary Jo Weber, Kay Stinson, Sherri Rohrig.

Pastor offered prayer before the meeting.

Gaylen moved to accept the minutes of the last meeting with Jen S seconded, motion approved.

**Reports of Committees:**

**Education:** The Sunday School Program will be on December 18<sup>th</sup> after the worship service with a starting time of 11:30. There will be no Sunday School on December 25 and January 1.

**Finance:** It was reported that the carry out soup luncheon was very successful. In order that the annual budget be met, giving would need to be approx. \$2800 each of the remaining Sundays of 2022. A letter will also be sent regarding budget needs and giving.

**Treasurer:** Sherri gave the Treasurer Report.

**UMW:** There will be a group lunch at Dorchester on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Membership:** Confirmation of 3 new members was held in November.

**Trustees:** The chairlift is needing repair and a repairman will be contacted, also, the parsonage sale is complete.

**Endowment:** Gaylen reported that a donation was made to the Nigerian orphanage. The Endowment Committee also met with Bryan Mental Health representatives on their needs and made a contribution. A donation was also given to Epworth village. Their next meeting will be in early January.

**Pastor April:** There will be a December 4 Open House at the Pastor's house from 1:00-4:00. Currently, the youth group meets once a month. The Christmas Eve service will be at 8:00 p.m. Pastor discussed a possible mission trip to a Nigerian Orphanage in 2023. Our church is currently donating to this orphanage. Pastor will be gone on January 1<sup>st</sup>, and the service will be the singing of Christmas hymns.

**Worship:** There is a sign up for Advent readers. Mary Jo moved that the meeting be adjourned with a second from Jen Stutzman.

The next meeting will be January 16, 2023.

Margo Houlden  
Ad Council Secretary



The next Administrative Council meeting will be, Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. There will not be a meeting in December. Randy will give devotions.

Recording Secretary,  
Carol J. Olson



**United Methodist Church of Dorchester  
Budgeted Financial Statement  
October, 2022**

Budgeted	\$95,244.25
10 Months income from Givings	\$59,689.54
10 Months Expense	<u>\$79,658.54</u>
Budgeted Amount Short	\$19,969.00

**After School Program**

Balance carried forward	-\$257.45
Donations	\$300.00
Expense	
35.00 x 3 for Safe Sanctuary	-\$105.00
Payroll	<u>-\$2,576.56</u>
Balance	-\$2,639.01

**United Methodist Church of Friend  
Financial Statement November 13, 2022**

	Needed each week	\$1,723.10
Budgeted to Date	\$79,263.60	
Collected to Date	\$70,842.54	
Plate	\$ 4,690.50	
Advent Candles	\$ 550.00	
Soup-to-Go	\$ 3,591.00	
Budgeted for the Year		\$89,601.13

*-Diane P. Odoski*

**FRIEND UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

**Wednesday, December 7, 2022**

**11:30 a.m. at City Slickers**

Friend UMW will have lunch December 7th at City Slickers in Dorchester at 11:30 a.m. If you would like to carpool, be at the church at 11:00 a.m. or call Linda at 402-947-3851 to be picked up. Hope to see all then and hope everyone has a very Merry Christmas.



Lillian Pracheil, Aleah Wendelin & Isaac Steuk of the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class received their bibles on Sunday, October 30, 2022 at Dorchester United Methodist Church.

Dorchester United Women in Faith  
November 2, 2022

Rhonda led the reciting of the Purpose. Nine members were in attendance plus one attended via phone.

- Jen read from the prayer calendar.
- Carol read the October minutes.
- Vera read the gifts of memory.
- Vera gave the treasurer's report.
- Vicky gave a card report.
- Jen gave a nominations report.

A "World Thank Program" was shared by Lois.

Hostesses: Donna Hansen, Jen Kasl & Angie Pierce



3<sup>rd</sup> graders, Gannon Payne, Addison Vossler & Christian Wegehaupt (not pictured) received their bibles Sunday, October 30, 2022 at Friend United Methodist Church.

**DORCHESTER UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH**

Wednesday, December 7, 2022

6:00 p.m.

**Potluck**

We will be having a potluck instead of a regular meeting on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

This is open to all women of the church or community - just bring a potluck.

**Dorchester United Women in Faith**

**Christmas Sacks**

Sunday, December 4, 2022 – 10:30 a.m.

The Dorchester United Women in Faith will be assembling approximately 26 Christmas sacks for area community members on Sunday, December 4, 2022 following church services in the Fellowship Hall. All members are welcome to help assemble and/or deliver the sacks. If you would like to donate items, there is a clipboard with a sign-up sheet at the church with items needed. Please have the items to the church by 10:30 a.m. on December 4th. If you would like to donate a monetary amount, please attach the donation to the clipboard or submit it to the church office prior on/by December 4, 2022. If you have questions, please contact Judy Bors at 402.450.3009. *Thank you, Judy*



The Dorchester UMC Worship Committee will be creating and taking photos in January, watch for details.





The Dorchester Bible Study group will be collecting gifts for 48 Dorchester youth. The list will be

emailed out. You may also contact Rhonda to pick one. You may choose a child's # or give money for someone to purchase for you. Money for purchasing gifts needs to be given to Rhonda by December 5th. Gifts need to be at the church by Wednesday, December 14th.

Please prayerfully consider participating in this important mission.

### Update on the Backpack Program at Dorchester Public School

During the current school year, the ongoing program of nutritional support for low-income families has continued to offer a meaningful gift to young students in our small, rural community. Each student qualifying for the program requires financial support of a yearly total \$250.00 per school year from individuals, businesses and organizations who mail a check in any amount and designated "Backpack Program" and mailed to:

Dorchester Public School  
506 West 6<sup>th</sup> Street, PO Box 7  
Dorchester, NE 68343

We are deeply grateful for all of the loving, generous contributions we continue to receive for the support of young families in need in our small, rural community. May God Bless your generous hearts.

*Kathy Palky*

### December Scripture

- 4<sup>th</sup> Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12
- 11<sup>th</sup> Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 1:46b-55; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11
- 18<sup>th</sup> Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25
- 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20
- 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1:1-4 (5-12); John 1:1-14

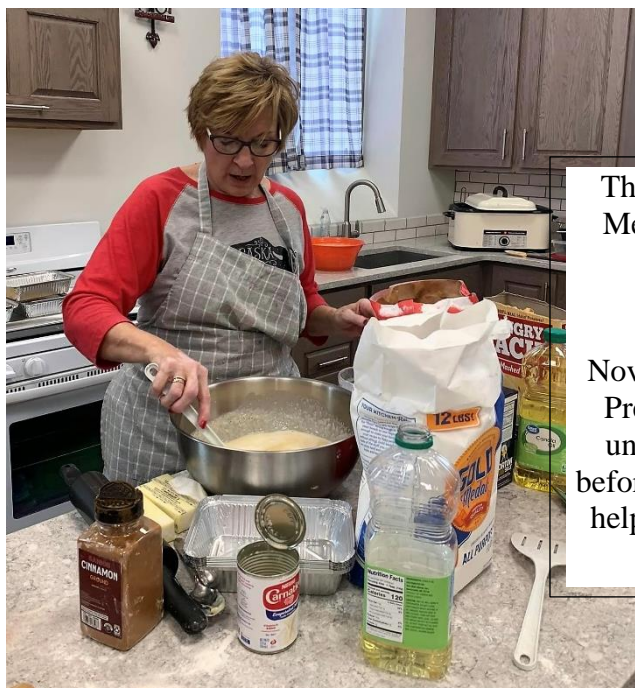


- December 3 *Matthew Hoffman*
- December 4 *Ridge Stutzman*
- December 7 *Michelle Schiffert*
- December 10 *Shelley Bresson, Allan Rohrig*
- December 11 *Virginia Krivohlavek, Elle Roth, Sawyer Stutzman*
- December 12 *Rebecca Fuller*
- December 13 *Jake Kunc*
- December 15 *Larry Fuller, Judy Schweitzer*
- December 17 *Kellen Vossler*
- December 19 *Amber Kotas, Livia Schweitzer*
- December 21 *Tori Bresson, Shane Stutzman*
- December 22 *Amy Hansen, Madison Pendleton*
- December 24 *Lennon Kohout*
- December 27 *Weston Gay*
- December 29 *Lindsey Zoubek*
- December 30 *Elsie Fuller, John Palky Jr.*

- December 1 Troy & Tricia Novak (21)*
- December 12 Larry & Pam Fuller (41)*
- December 14 Tex & Margaret Eberspacher (64)*
- December 27 Dave & Diann McClatchey (60)*
- December 28 Stan & Margo Houlden (26)*
- December 30 Bob & Marva Kasl (67)*



*Dave & Diann McClatchey will be celebrating their 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on December 27<sup>th</sup>. Their family is requesting a card shower in honor of their special day. Cards may be sent to their address of 305 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Friend, NE 68359*



The Friend United Methodist Church had their Soup-to-Go on Sunday, November 13, 2022. Preparations were underway the day before with wonderful help and leadership.



## December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Loose Coins: (F) To Be Determined; (D) Table Grace Cafe`</b>				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 9:30 am (D) Worship 10:15 am (D) Sunday School 9:30 am (F) Sunday School 10:30 am (F) Worship 1-4 pm Pastor's open house 5 pm at Pastor's house -Youth group Christmas party	<b>5</b> 9 am (D) Coffee 1 pm (F) Community Hospital Bingo	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 11:30 am (F) UMW, meal at City Slickers 6 pm (D) UWF Potluck Open to all women of the church & community	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 9:30 am (D) Worship 10:15 am (D) Sunday School <b>(F) Food Pantry Sunday</b> 9:30 am (F) Sunday School 10:30 am (F) Worship	<b>12</b> 9 am (D) Coffee 1 pm (F) Community Hospital Bingo	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 9:30 am (D) Worship/ Christmas Program 9:30 am (F) Sunday School 10:30 am (F) Worship (F) Christmas Program right after worship	<b>19</b> 9 am (D) Coffee 1 pm (F) Community Hospital Bingo	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Start of Winter (Winter Solstice)	<b>22</b> Newsletter Articles Due	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 5 pm (D) Christmas Eve Service 8 pm (F) Christmas Eve Service
<b>25</b> <sup>Christmas</sup> <b>(D) Food Pantry Sunday</b> 9:30 am (D) Worship (D) Fellowship Hall reserved 10:30 am (F) Worship	<b>26</b> 1 pm (F) Community Hospital Bingo	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 10:30 am (D) Folding Newsletter	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>



Every Monday at 1 pm at the Friend Community Hospital. Everyone is invited. Donations for prizes are welcome (monetary, food, gift cards or simple gifts).

### Greeters

4th (F)  
11th (F) Shane & Jen Stutzman  
18th (F) Allen & Amanda Bruntz  
24th (F)  
25th (F)

### Ushers

4th (D) Chris & Sandy Krivohlavek (F)  
11th (D) Kelli Hromek (F) David & Ann Bruntz  
18th (D) (F) Allen & Amanda Bruntz  
24th (D) (F) O'Neels  
25th (D) (F)

### Scripture Reader

4th (D) Tricia Novak (F)  
11th (D) Steve Parks (F) Ann Bruntz  
18th (D) (F) Jen Stutzman  
24th (D) (F) Terry O'Neel  
25th (D) (F) Diane Odoski

Christmas Eve Service  
at Dorchester United  
Methodist Church  
5:00 pm

### Advent Candle Readers

4th (D) Zoubek family (F)  
11th (D) Zurcher family (F)  
18th (D) Steuk family (F) Shane, Jen, Charlee & Sawyer Stutzman  
24th (D) George Kasl family (F)

### Children's Time

4th (D) Rhonda Schlick (F)  
11th (D) (F)  
18th (D) (F) Jen & Charlee Stutzman  
25th (D) (F) Diane Odoski

### Fellowship Hosts

4th (D) (F)  
11th (D) Steve & Vicky Parks (F)  
18th (D) Randy & Rhonda Schlick (F)  
24th (D) (F)  
25th (D) (F)

### Liturgist

4th (F)  
11th (F)  
18th (F)  
25th (F) Diane Odoski

### Acolytes

4th (D) Max Novak (F)  
11th (D) (F) Charlee & Sawyer Stutzman  
18th (D) (F) Blake & Brock Bruntz  
24th (D) (F) Addison Vossler  
25th (D) (F)

### Live Streaming

4th (D); (F)  
11th (D) (F) David Bruntz  
18th (D); (F)  
24th (D); (F)  
25th (D); (F)

### Organists

4th (D) Kathy Jezl-Wilcox (F) Charlene Huber  
11th (D) Lois Nohavec (F) Charlene Huber  
18th (D) Doris Broz-Clauss (F) Charlene Huber  
24th (D) Videos (F) Videos  
25th (D) ????? (F) Carolyn Taylor

Christmas Eve Service  
at Friend United Methodist Church  
8:00 pm



Dorchester/Friend United Methodist  
PO Box 251  
Dorchester, NE 68343

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. postage  
PAID  
Dorchester,  
NE 68343  
Permit No. 4

Car-Rt-Sort

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED



Dorchester Worship Service-9:30 am  
SS Christmas Program -December 18, 9:30 am  
Sunday School-10:15-10:45 am  
Friend Worship Service-10:30 am  
Sunday School-9:30-10:15 am  
SS Christmas Program -December 18, after 10:30 service



Confirmation Sunday at United Methodist Church of Dorchester was held November 13, 2022. Those confirmed are: Kendall Kasl, Trevin Steuk, Landon Shaw, Paxton Behrens, Thor Nerud, Max Novak, Camille Nohavec and Raina Zurcher, standing with Rev. April Wegehaupt.

Confirmation Sunday was November 13, 2022 at the United Methodist Church of Friend. Those being confirmed are: Madelyn Kenney, Kellen Vossler and Martin Wegehaupt, standing with Rev. April Wegehaupt.



Beginning with the February 2023 newsletter, the newsletter will no longer be mailed out, so it will be through email only. For those who "Do Not" have email, you will be able to pick up a paper copy located in the back of the Sanctuary. For those wanting a paper copy mailed to them, you will need to contact the church office to let me know.

If you have not been getting the emails that have been sent out, please let the office know so we can get you on the emailing list.

Email – [dorchesterfriendumc@gmail.com](mailto:dorchesterfriendumc@gmail.com)  
Phone – 402-946-3091 or 402-947-3481