

The Dorchester/Friend United Methodist Church Newsletter

September 2023

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What a Blessing!

On July 1st, 2023, I kick off another year as your Pastor under Bishop's appointment. It has been such a blessing, honor and privilege to lead two wonderful congregations: Dorchester and Friend UMC. I truly love both communities and see them as home.

As I pause and reflect on what we have done together during these past 3 years-- What a blessing! What a joy!! and What a privilege I have in Jesus Christ!!! As I start my fourth year of ministry with both wonderful congregations, I'm so excited, overjoyed, blessed, and grateful. I pray that this 4th year we will touch more people lives and spread the loving spirit of the congregations out into the communities even more than they currently do.

As I humbly walk with you all, I strongly ask the Spirit of God to fill our hearts with His love, dream, purpose and mission and also continue to use our church to lead people to the kingdom of God, to share the hope of Christ and make a huge difference in our communities. May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. - Romans 15:13 NIV

Blessings, Rev. April

I HAVE
EVERLASTING
JOY IN CHRIST

Youth Group

Igniting Youth

Starting Sunday, September 17th at Friend UMC
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with food.

Then 1st Sunday of each month at Dorchester UMC
3rd Sunday of each month at Friend UMC
6th grade through high school.



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF FRIEND

Sunday School will start up again on September 10th
9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

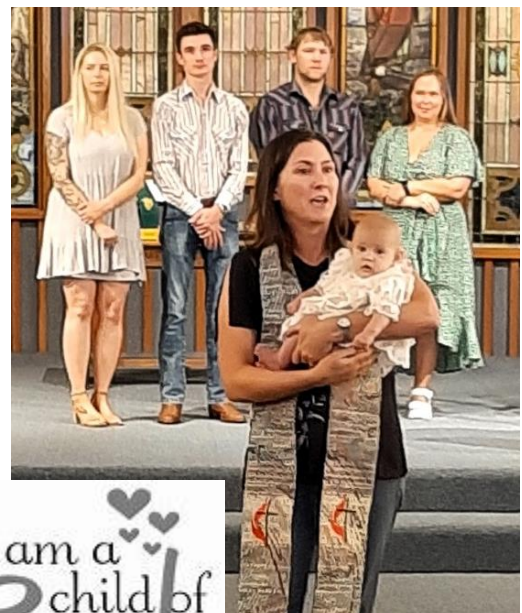
3-year-olds through 6th grade are welcome to attend.

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF DORCHESTER

Sunday School begins September 10th,
10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
for ages 4 years to 5th grade.

Ivy Ellicyn Railsback

daughter of Jacob and Hannah Railsback
was baptized Sunday, July 30, 2023
at the United Methodist Church of Dorchester



I am a
child of
God.

A HISTORY LESSON OF DORCHESTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1930-1955

During the 1930s, the congregation maintained a very active ministry even though at times they were unable to pay the pastor. During this time, there was no lay participation except for anthems by the choir and taking up of the offering.

There was caroling at Easter and Christmas times and parties at the homes of members or at the church, ice cream socials, and Christmas plays. There were 'chicken hunts' as a fund raiser- a donated chicken would pay a youth's way to camp. Camp was held at Epworth Park near Lincoln.

In 1937, there were three services offered: morning worship, Sunday school and evening worship. There was 'Ladies Aid' group that held attendance contest between the country women and town women. The women served their annual chicken pie supper for 25 cents for adults and 15 cents for children.

In 1938, a group went with members of the Friend Church and went to Turkey Creek and worked up enough wood to last the winter season. April of 1938, the ladies were asked to bring extra eggs to be sold for credit toward the apportionment for Crowell Memorial Home. The Sunday school goal was almost achieved with 176 children in attendance.

These were challenging years with the women working hard to sustain the church's ministry. Plays were held and meals served for the public to help raise funds charging 15 cents. On Easter 1939, a 12-part cantata was performed.

In 1939, there was a meeting in Kansas City about the merger of the Methodist Episcopal, Protestant Methodist Church, and Methodist Episcopal Church South concerning coming together into one denomination.

In 1944, Dorchester and Friend became on charge sharing a minister. Parsonage was in Friend and \$1000 was put into a separate fund to help with repairs. The parsonage at 806 Lincoln was sold. Membership in 1945 stood at 194.

In 1946, the Young Adult Sunday School class raised funds to purchase an electric organ for the church. It was dedicated December 7, 1947 with the celebration of the church's 75th anniversary. On the anniversary, a wonderful dinner was planned, 190 people attended an organ concert.

In 1949, Reverend Embree expressed concern on Sunday morning with low Sunday School attendance. It was recalled that the style of preaching was changing with fewer pounding on the pulpit. 1948 had 9 babies presented for baptism and 214 children enrolled in Sunday school and 50 children took part of VBS. Pastor's salary was \$800 and the annual budget was \$1,700. By 1958, membership totaled 188.



Years 1955-1980

During the 1960s, the basement of the church was remodeled by a volunteer committee. It was during this decade that the Rev. Ganzel began Children's time, and laity began participating in the worship service by reading the scripture lessons. Youth participated in camps, rallies, membership classes and participation in UNICEF. New hymnals were dedicated. Memorials helped cover new pastor's robe, altar cloths, pulpit and lectern lighting and wiring improvements.

During 1966, there were 9 baptisms, 8 weddings, and 9 funerals and made 632 calls in the community. In 1968, the Methodist Conference and the Evangelical United Brethren Conference merged becoming the United Methodists.

During the 70s, the Sunday and Vacation Bible Schools continued and there were Christmas caroling parties, 4-H clubs. In 1973, the woman's group officially became the United Methodist Women. They started to meet in the evening so that those who worked during the day could join in. Chrismons were made by a group from the church and was used to decorate the tree for many years.

In 1974, Pastor Hughes, for the first time in 40 years, had a series of evangelistic meetings "Four Nights for God".

The decade of the 1980s brought stability and growth. Membership in 1980 stood at 274. More than 100 children attended VBS, there was a summer fellowship and coffee time after Sunday worship, there were CROP walks with other denominations.

1981 was the congregation's centennial. A new heating system was installed, which included the first air-conditioning of the sanctuary. There was an old-time box social, ice cream socials, a bread fair, and quilt program and a community worship service at the Saline County Historical Museum Chapel. A quilt top that Regina Brehm Huegel pieced during the settlement years was finished by ladies from the church and put on display at the Museum. Membership grew to 296.



150th COMMEMORATIVE ORNAMENT
FOR SALE
\$15

Please make checks out to DUMC
and in the memo write ornament.

Come Celebrate with Dorchester
United Methodist Church
November 5th worship at 10:00 a.m.
Established 1873

**Minutes of Administrative Council Meeting
Dorchester United Methodist Church
Monday, August 14, 2023**

Present: Steve & Vicky Parks, Randy Schlick, Bernice Weber, Chris Krivohlavek, Nancy Slepicka, Maxine Filipi, Rebecca Steuk, Judy Bors, Pastor April & Carol Olson.

Steve called the meeting to order. Minutes of the June meeting were distributed. *Vicky made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Bernice seconded. Motion carried.*

Treasurer's Report: Bernice presented the June & July treasurer's reports. *Chris made a motion to accept the reports. Randy seconded. Motion carried.* The Parent Teacher Organization at DPS purchased a backdrop to be used for photos. Our Foundation Committee pledged \$750 toward its purchase. *Chris made a motion to pay the pledge out of the General Savings. Vicky seconded. Motion carried.* Randy turned in a bill for Rhonda for pens for the 150th anniversary (\$311.17).

Trustees: (1) Steve met with Electronic Contracting they estimated a cost of \$350 for a wireless frequency box. (2) Chris will be scheduling a worknight to clean up the church grounds in September. (3) New pads will be purchased for the defibrillator & training scheduled.

Pastor's Report: Pastor April reported (1) two girls attended camp. The church's portion is \$268.00. *Rebecca made a motion to pay the camp fees. Judy seconded. Motion carried.* (2) After school program will begin September 6th. Stacy Boyce will be the director; Crystal Moore & Hannah Railsback will be paid employees. There are 4 volunteers for snacks. (3) The Bible Study, *Half Truths*, will begin, Wednesday, September 13th in Friend. (4) It was proposed at the Visions & Goals meeting to reach every household through Christmas Caroling (hayrack). (5) Invite a friend to church will be scheduled. (6) Laity training will be scheduled. (7) Work continues on the 150th Anniversary celebration. (8) Work continues on the membership directory. (9) Pastor will have shoulder surgery September 21st & be gone two Sundays. (10) The Youth group meetings will begin, Sunday, September 17th in Friend (11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.). Then every 2 weeks, alternating between Friend & Dorchester. (11) The Youth Group plans to go to Branson at the end of March. (12) There is no need for the Shepard's Staff support. (13) Grant paperwork for the afterschool program is being completed. (14) An afterschool program meeting is Thursday, August 24 @ 4:30 p.m.

Education Committee: Rebecca reported (1) VBS was a Superhero theme & had 32-37 kids each night. She turned in a bill for supplies (\$213.34). (2) Sunday school will start September 10th.

Devotion: Judy gave devotion – *Kindness Matters*.

150th Anniversary: Nancy & Maxine reported on compiling the History of Dorchester UMC 1999-present.

Memorial: Vicky reported \$1,805.84 in the memorial checking account.

The next Administrative Council meeting will be Monday, September 11th at 7:00 p.m. Carol will give devotion.

Recording Secretary,
Carol J. Olson

**Friend United Methodist
Ad Council Minutes
August 21, 2023**

Friend UMC Ad Council met on Monday, August 21, 2023, with the following present: Galen Huff, Sherri Rohrig, Pastor April, Linda Hanneman, Kate Vossler, Diane O'Neel, Margo Houlden, Mary Jo Weber
Pastor offered prayer before the meeting.

Chairperson, Diane O'Neel opened the meeting.

Galen moved to accept the minutes of the May meeting with a second by Linda Hanneman, motion approved.

Reports of Committees

Education: The community VBS attendance averaged between 60-70 children each evening and was very successful. Sunday School will start on the 10th of September. Sunday School curriculum has been ordered.

Treasurer: Sherri presented the treasurer's report.

UMW: UMW Sunday is Oct 8th.

Trustees: Copier will need to be updated, chair lift is working and instructions have been posted for easy reference.

Endowment: The committee has met via zoom with Pastor Gideon Achi on the Nigerian Orphanage Mission, Epworth Village gave a presentation on their current services available, four college students have applied for grants, possible donations to UMCOR which focuses on disaster relief and other endowment donations.

Pastor April: A future Nigerian Orphan mission trip is uncertain due to safety. Sarah Yokel and Terry O'Neel will be filling in for the Pastor during her convalescence. Youth group will be meeting the first Sunday in Dorchester and the third Sunday in Friend from 11:30-1:00.

Silver Dollar City has a possible youth group gathering which may be considered as a group activity for our youth. Discussion was also held on Christmas caroling and Christmas Eve services. Pastor April also shared goals from the Goal Setting session held prior to the Ad Council meeting.

Kate moved that the meeting be adjourned with a second from Mary Jo, motion approved.

We will meet briefly on September 17 after church to approve the church conference report. The Annual Church Conference will be October 8th at the Beatrice UMC starting at 6:00 p.m.

November 20th will be our next regular meeting.

Margo Houlden
Ad Council Secretary

**United Methodist Church of Dorchester
Budgeted Financial Statement
July 2023**

2023 BUDGET	\$116,283.76
7 Months Income from Givings	\$38,834.28
Expense	<u>\$71,065.99</u>
Budgeted Amount Short	\$32,231.71

FRIEND UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Wednesday, September 6, 2023
2:00 p.m.

The Friend UMW will hold their regular monthly meeting on September 6 at 2:00 p.m. Diann Mc. will have the lesson and Jan V. will provide lunch. Hope to see everybody for this time of fellowship and sisterhood.



Dorchester United Women in Faith
August 2, 2023

Susan Weber gave a program on music – A tribute to Lois Nohavec

Rhonda led the reciting of the Purpose. Five members were in attendance, one attended via phone & 3 guests.

Carol read the May minutes.

Vicky read from the prayer calendar.

Vicky gave a card report.

Vera gave the treasurer’s report.

A motion was made & passed to give \$500 to the DPS Backpack Program.

Hostesses: Donna Hansen, Vicky Parks & Rhona Schlick

DORCHESTER UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Wednesday, September 6, 2023
7:00 p.m.

Devotional: Carol Olson
Prayer Calendar: Sandy Krivohlavek
Program: “Your favorite school memory”
– Rhonda Schlick
Serving Committee: Carol Olson, Donna Hansen, Doris Broz-Clauss

New Bible Study

“Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn’t Say”
by Adam Hamilton

Start Date is Wednesday, September 13th
Starting first at Friend UMC
at 5:30 p.m. with a light meal.

A 5-week study

Join Adam Hamilton in this 5-week Bible study to search for the whole truth by comparing common Christian clichés with the wisdom found in Scripture. The clichés include:

Everything happens for a reason.

God helps those who help themselves.

God won’t give you more than you can handle.

God said it, I believe it, that settles it.

Love the sinner, hate the sin.



The Dorchester United Women in Faith hosted a salad guest night on Wednesday, July 26th with about 86 in attendance from 14 different communities. A lovely and funny Program was on “the history of the bra” given by Sue McLain a.k.a. Yesterday’s lady.



Malinda Phillips and Raina Zurcher took part in camp this summer at Camp Fontanelle. Scholarships are available through the church if you would like your child to participate in any of the camps offered.

September Scripture

- 3rd Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28
- 10th Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 149 or Psalm 148; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20
- 17th Exodus 14:19-31; Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35
- 24th Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 or Psalm 78; Philemon 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

VBS

Community
VBS
July 31st-
August 2nd
at the Friend
City Park



We had over 60 children attend the community VBS this summer and many volunteers teach breakout sessions, lead the groups to each station and serve the evening meal. The kids all had a great time listening to Bible stories, singing songs, doing crafts and science experiments and playing games. Community VBS was a big hit and brainstorming has already started for next year. Thank you to all who donated time, supplies and/or money to make this such an impactful event!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

September 2	Danielle Pendleton
September 5	Kathy Spicka, Michael Weber
September 7	Rex Stewart
September 8	Charles Vossler
September 9	Nicklyn Vontz
September 12	Thor Nerud
September 13	Amanda Ellison, Raymond Sharkey
September 14	Bonnie Nerud, John Ricenbaw
September 15	Quinn Kasl
September 16	Barbara Huff
September 17	Marcia Beekley
September 19	Nicole Zurcher
September 20	George Kasl III
September 21	Dianne Corbett, Conner Shaw
September 22	Avery Beach, Mary Plouzek
September 23	Mason Vossler
September 24	Lyle Weber
September 25	Lucas Apfelbeck, Blake Hansen, Shirley Kasl, Christopher Weber
September 26	Kal Johnson, Sylvia Stokes, Charlee Stutzman
September 28	Charlie Clauss, Cindy Kotas
September 29	Garrett Nohavec, Nicole Schweitzer
September 30	Dustin Payne

If you or someone you know has a birthday or anniversary not listed or listed incorrectly, please notify the church office.

HAPPY anniversary!

September 2	Shelley & Rose Bruha (62)
September 4	Logan & Annie Kahler (2)
September 4	Tony & Judy Schweitzer (47)
September 5	Paul & Gail Gropp (54)
September 12	Jack & Nicole Schweitzer (14)
September 15	Chris & Ashley Vontz (11)
September 16	Michael & Laura Miller (28)
September 18	Leo & Sylvia Stokes (67)
September 19	Alan & Nancy Slepicka (59)
September 24	Chris & Sandy Krivohlavek (40)

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Loose Coins: (F) To Be Determined; (D) Table Grace					1	2
3 9:30 am (D) Worship 10:30 am (F) Worship	4 Labor Day	5	6 2 pm (F) UMW (D) After school program begins 7 pm (D) UWF	7	8	9
10 9:30 am (D) Worship 10:15 am (D) Sunday School (F) Food Pantry Sunday 9:30 (F) Sunday School 10:30 am (F) Worship	11 Patriot Day 9 am (D) Coffee 1 pm (F) Community Hospital Bingo 7 pm (D) Ad Council meeting	12	13 5:30 pm Bible Study begins at FUMC, light meal	14	15	16
17 9:30 am (D) Worship 10:15 am (D) Sunday School 9:30 (F) Sunday School 10:30 am (F) Worship (F) Ad Council Mtg after service to approve Charge Conf paperwork 11:30-1 pm Igniting Youth at FUMC	18 9 am (D) Coffee 1 pm (F) Community Hospital Bingo	19	20 5:30 pm (F) Bible Study, light meal	21 Newsletter Articles Due	22	23 Start of Fall (Autumnal Equinox)
24 (D) Food Pantry Sunday 9:30 am (D) Worship 10:15 am (D) Sunday School 9:30 (F) Sunday School 10:30 am (F) Worship	25 9 am (D) Coffee 1 pm (F) Community Hospital Bingo	26	27 5:30 pm (F) Bible Study, light meal	28	29	30



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

3rd (F)
10th (F) Ann & David Bruntz
17th (F) Shane Stutzman family
24th (F)

Ushers

3rd (D) Marlene Stehlik (F)
10th (D) Randy & Rhonda Schlick (F) Houldens
17th (D) Chris & Sandy Krivohlavek (F) Charlee & Jen Stutzman
24th (D) Kelli Hromek (F) Diane O'Neel

Scripture Reader

3rd (D) Randy Schlick (F) Diane Odoski
10th (D) (F) Ann Bruntz
17th (D) Randy Schlick (F) Kay Stinson
24th (D) (F) Liz Stutzman

Children's Time

3rd (D) Rhonda Schlick (F) Diane Odoski
10th (D) (F) Sherri Rohrig
17th (D) Rhonda Schlick (F) Jen Stutzman
24th (D) (F) Liz Stutzman

Fellowship Hosts

3rd (D) RJ & Nicole Zurcher (F)
10th (D) Shelley & Rose Bruha (F)
17th (D) Chris & Sandy Krivohlavek (F)
24th (D) Loren & Judy Vyhnalek (F)

Liturgist

3rd (F)
10th (F)
17th (F)
24th (F)

Acolytes

3rd (D) Zurcher children (F)
10th (D) (F)
17th (D) (F) Sawyer & Charlee Stutzman
24th (D) (F) Corbin Stutzman

Live Streaming

3rd (F)
10th (F) David Bruntz
17th (F)
24th (F)

Organists

3rd (D) Kathy Jezl Wilcox (F) Charlene Huber
10th (D) Doris Broz-Clauss (F) Charlene Huber
17th (D) Kathy Jezl Wilcox (F) Charlene Huber
24th (D) (F) Carolyn Taylor



Sunday, August 20th, the Lincoln Harmonics were the special music at Dorchester United Methodist Church.



Thank you to everyone who donated school supplies to Dorchester Public School.