

From the **PASTOR'S DESK**



An Autumn Day by Carla Largos Signes

Pumpkins in the fields,
Gold among the brown,
Leaves of rust and scarlet,
Slowly tumbling down;
Birds that travel southward,
Lovely time to play;
Nothing is as pleasant
As an autumn day!

Autumn is one of my favorite times of year, the last of the garden waiting to be shared or stored for the winter months, the smell of bonfires, and the taste of a freshly picked apple – these things are special to me.

God's word is also special – this is what Psalm 19 says:
*The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;
the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;
the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;
the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord
are true and righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.*

May we make God's word part of our daily enjoyment of life.

See you in church!
Pastor Joyce



October Worship



10/5 World Communion “Preventing Pearl Harbor” Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

As righteous people, we show our faithfulness by sharing God’s vision of peace. Hymns: Faith of Our Fathers, Let There Be Peace on Earth, My Faith Looks Up to Thee

10/12” Would You Rather ...” 2 Timothy 2:8-15

It’s a fun party game, but did you know Paul and Timothy were familiar with an early version of it? Hymns: O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing, Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus, Thy Word Video: Word of God Speak

10/19 “The Children’s Book” Luke 18:1-8

God answers our prayers in ways that advance the work of Jesus in the world. Hymns: Great Is Thy Faithfulness, Breathe on Me, Breath of God, What a Friend We Have in Jesus Video: Don’t Stop Praying (West, Pardo)

10/26 “It’s a God Thing” Joel 2:23-32

When disaster is avoided, we nod our heads and say, “It’s a God thing!” But what about the rest of the time? Hymns: I Sing the Almighty Power of God, A Mighty Fortress Is my God, How Great Thou Art Video: Hold On (Katy Nichole)



NEW FALL

Bible Study

Common Ground:

Loving Others Despite Our Differences

Tuesday’s starting Oct 7th 10am Dent-in person 6:30pm Online

Whether it is in politics, the professional world, a party, or a pew, we face conflict every day. As discussions get more heated and social media is deluged with opinion-spewing, hurt feelings, and broken relationships, we need hope and practical tools to navigate the tumultuous waters and live at peace with others.

Fortunately, the Scriptures hold the key to living at peace despite our differences. In Common Ground, a four-week Bible study, Amberly Neese combines stories of sibling rivalries from the Bible with personal experience, humor, hope, and her love of God’s Word.

Stories examined from the Old and New Testaments include:

- * Joseph and His Brothers: How to Combat Jealousy
- * Moses, Miriam, and Aaron: How to Work Together Despite Differences
- * Mary, Martha, and Lazarus: How to Appreciate the Contributions of Others
- * Rachel and Leah: Having Compassion for the Plight of Others.

These stories point us to peace and reconciliation in all our relationships, reassuring us that it is possible to find common ground with everyone—despite our differences.



Sunday November 5th
10:30am at Vergas UMC
 Band of Faith will be playing and
 DS Becky Jo Messenbrink will have a



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



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!



The Vergas Church Ladies

We continue planning for our annual "Good Stuff Sale" to be held on November 9th. This will be an exciting Sunday! This is a joint service with Dent held at Vergas at 10:30 with a potluck to follow the service.

The Band of Faith will be playing during the service, and the District Superintendent will give the message. Don't miss this Sunday!

If you are interested in donating items, baked or craft to the sale, let one of us know. We also have a Quilt for a silent auction to end during the sale. The Quilt is on display by the bookshelves (Vergas Fellowship hall) with a sheet to bid on the quilt. You do not need to be present, just be the highest bidder. The dollars from the sale of the quilt go towards the Shoebox mission.

We are also planning to participate in Operation Christmas Child again this year. We will have a donation box at church in October to start collecting items to fill the boxes. We will be filling the boxes on November 16th after church so help will be needed that Sunday.

Remember all donations raised by Church Ladies are given to charities in our area, so give generously.



**Our next
meeting will be
October 14th
12:30pm
at the church.**

Pastor Appreciation

Sunday, Oct 12th Vergas UMC
Potluck after the Service
Dent members are welcome
to join us in celebrating
Pastor Joyce



Dent Breakfast Club
Meets at The Dugout
9am on the first
Wednesday of the month



BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, October 7th
12:30 pm at Billy's in Vergas

Book:

"The Most Fun We Ever Had"
by Claire Lombardo

AD COUNCIL MEETING



Wednesday,
October 15th
Dent 3pm
Vergas 6:30pm



SPRC Follow up meeting
Sun. November 5th
Immediately after
the service

Church Missions October / November / December



Vergas - Local Food Shelves



Minnesota is a leader in agriculture. Yet every day in Minnesota, over 9,000 people visit a food shelf to get help meeting their daily food needs. Let's work together to advance solutions that tackle hunger on a large scale. Each dollar helps struggling Minnesotans. Your support helps parents with children, seniors, and working adults.

Vergas Local Outreach

Some of the September local dollars will be spent on giveaways for Trunk or Treat. The remainder will be moved forward. The Ad Council decided to do more than candy for treats. The congregation will still be asked to donate the candy. Trunk or Treat will be held on Halloween, October 31st, from 4:30-6:00 and a signup sheet will be available to volunteer cars.

Please let the Ad Council know of any local needs.



Dent Mission of the Quarter ~ Salvation Army



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.



OCTOBER VOLUNTEERS

October Ushers

Roger & Gretchen D.

Oct Liturgist

Lyndon M.

Oct	Fellowship
05	Peggy Meissner
12	Lisa Wrabek
19	Darlene & Austin H.
26	Ivy & Rob M.

Oct	Vergas Liturgist	Vergas Ushers	Fellowship
05	Rick N	Rick & Margy N	Bev Flateland
12	Tonya J.	Faye & Tonya	Potluck / P Appr.
19	Bev F.	NEEDED	XXXXXXX
26	Carla R.	David & Carla R.	XXXXXXX
			XXXXXXX



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



Oct 11th Faye & Tim Courneya
Oct 26th Carl & Connie Hoffmann

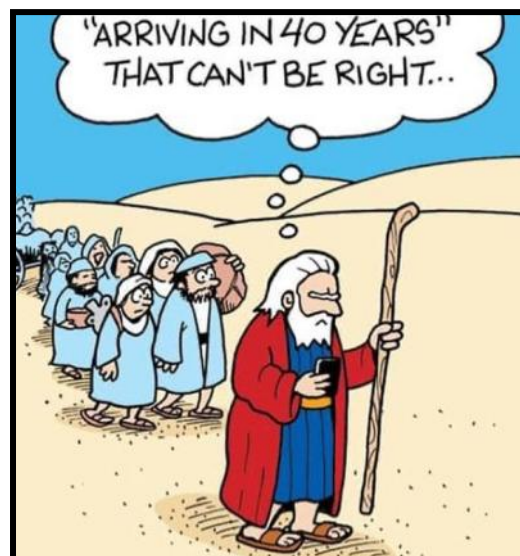
Oct 12th Doug & Nancy Hovey

Vergas Birthdays

Oct 15th Annetta Haley
Oct 24th Kathy Hillstrom
Oct 28th Diane Menz
Oct 31st Jim Hoffmann

Dent Birthdays

No Birthdays Listed for Dent



A Thought for The Day

A 10 year old little girl was asked by another classmate, "what is it like to be a Christian?". The girl replied, "it's like being a pumpkin. God picks you from the patch, brings you in, and washes all the dirt off of you. Then he cuts open the top and scoops out all of the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc., and then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside of you to shine for all the world to see."



A fallen leaf
is nothing
more than
a summer's
wave
goodbye



"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 November is October 26, 2025.**

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

October / November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			9am Dent Breakfast Club			
5	6	Bible Study 10am Dent 6:30pm online 12:30 pm Book Club at Billy's	7	8	9	10
						11
12	13	14	Annette H. (V)	15	16	17
Pastor APPRECIATION DAY		Bible Study 10am Dent 6:30pm online				18
19	20	Bible Study 10am Dent 6:30pm online 12:30pm Vergas Church Ladies	21	22	23	24
Annual Church Meeting After Service			Ad Council 3pm Dent 6:30pm Vergas		Kathy H. (V)	25
26	27	Diane M. (V)	28	29	30	31
		Bible Study 10am Dent 6:30pm online			Join Us For Trunk Treat 4:30 - 6pm	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		12:30pm Book Club	9am Dent Breakfast Club			

Dent United Methodist Leadership Meeting
September 17, 2025

The regular meeting of the DUMC Leadership Team was called to order by President Lyndon Maasjo on Wednesday, September 17 at 3:00 pm.

Members present: Pastor Joyce, Doris Champlin, Austin Holtz, Karen Johnson, Ellie Lodin, Lyndon Maasjo and Ivy Mickelson.

Devotions and a prayer were given by Pastor Joyce.

Minutes: One correction is needed in the minutes as Doris seconded the treasurer's report, not Ivy. With that change, Karen made a motion, seconded by Ivy. Approved.

Finance: Ivy reported that bills had been paid. No questions were asked. Austin made a motion to accept with a second from Ellie on both the report and that we will hold off on paying our apportionments until our CD comes due in November. Approved.

Old Business: The water sensor, as required by the insurance company, has been installed. All items from our inspection list have been completed and the report has been mailed back to the company. Lyndon, Roger and Robbie currently have the app on their phone for notification of any water backup/leakage. Austin and Pastor Joyce will look to get this set up in the future.

New Business: Pastor Joyce brought up the Halloween party that we have had past years. The number was down last year from the previous year as well as less volunteers, so discussion took place on having it. Pastor Joyce will check with a few people and let us know what she finds out for volunteers.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Joyce reported that she was asked to and will be mentoring a group of pastors in the area, her first meeting being September 18. She reported that she will be taking a Sunday off in October or November and is looking for a worship leader. The District Superintendent will preach at the joint service held in Vergas on November 9th. At this time the Band of Faith will play, as well as a potluck and the Good Stuff Bake and Craft sale. The Charge Conference will be held later that day in Detroit Lakes. Pastor will be starting a Bible Study on October 7th that will run for 4 weeks title Common Ground.

Trustees Report: Austin reported that we have the furnaces checked every other year, so it will not be done this year. Going forward, Roger will be taking the responsibility for all furnace related items. Austin reported that Roger and he will be changing furnace air filters soon, as done each fall.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ellie, seconded by Austin. Approved.

Ivy Mickelson, Acting Secretary

Ad Council Minutes Vergas United Methodist Church
September 16, 2025, 6:30 pm in person at church

Present: Jane Wasvick, Faye Courneya, David Reiten, Sheri Schoenberger, Joyce Slostad (on phone), and Renee Sonnenberg

Absent: Tonya Johnson and Doreen Schwarzrock

Jane opened the meeting with prayer.

Review of Church Attendance

Sheri reported that attendance has fluctuated but September seems to have improved in Vergas and Dent. Online remains about the same.

Secretary Report

The minutes of the August meeting were approved as distributed.

Treasurer Report

- The Treasurer report was accepted as handed out pending audit
- Faye reported paying part of the bill to Beck Landscaping with the remainder to be paid after the railing is completed.
- Do Right is working on their repairs.
- Mark Johnson has been coordinating the work.
- Sheri made a motion to accept the report, seconded by David and approved.

Trustee Report

The alarm seems to have stopped.

Pastor Report:

- At the state annual meeting, the District Superintendent asked Joyce to mentor a group of new pastors in the area who are all female. She will meet with them every other month. The first meeting is scheduled for this week.
- Joyce will start a bible study in October with sign up sheets available allowing an online and in person option. Currently 6 are signed up in person and 2 online.
- Joyce will be on vacation a Sunday in October, unsure of date.

Mission

The Missions of the Quarter for 2025.

1st Quarter, UMCOR

2nd Quarter, Relay for Life

3rd Quarter, Churches United Homeless Mission

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

The Local Mission dollars for September will be partly used for Trunk or Treat to buy some items to hand out other than candy. Donations will be asked for the candy and people to help.

Computer Upgrade

Jody purchased the computer for his station, and it is nearly completed. The office computer is being completed this week.

Spring Work

Beck Landscaping is complete except for the railing. Do Right Construction is working on the windows and painting.

Annual Meeting

The meeting will be held on October 19th after church. The agenda will be like previous years. Jane will send the minutes from last year to the members. The sections of the agenda and assignments will be:

- Pastor Report and Leadership, Joyce
- Membership and Web site, Sheri

- Financial, Faye
- Building, David
- Missions, Jane

We will finalize agenda at next Ad Council meeting.

Trunk or Treat

Trunk or Treat will happen on October 31st which is a Friday. Sheri and Joyce will work on a sign-up sheet and Flyer. Hours will be from 4:30-6:00 pm. Non-candy gifts will also be given; Renee will order gifts. There won't be games. Faye will contact the Liquor Store to put on the lighted sign on the day to advertise.

Other

There is a need for Communion Stewards; Faye will make a list of duties and a request for help will be included in the announcements and newsletter.

The next meeting will be on October 15th in person at the Church.