

From the **PASTOR'S DESK**

There is an inspirational song by Avery and Marsh called "Every Morning Is Easter Morning". It captures the truth that Christians are an Easter People. We are a new creation and meet each new day in the power of our Living Lord, Jesus Christ. Resurrection is more than an event in the long ago and the far away; it becomes a present experience in the heart of the believer that transforms all of life. You can almost feel the joy and the throb of new life as you read the words:



Ev'ry morning is Easter morning from now on!

Ev'ry day's resurrection day, the past is over and gone!

Goodbye guilt, goodbye fear, good riddance!

Hello Lord, hello sun!

I am one of the Easter People! My new life has begun!

Daily news is so bad, it seems the Good News seldom gets heard.

Get it straight from the Easter People: God's in charge! Spread the word!

Ev'ry morning is Easter morning from now on!

Yesterday I was bored and lonely; but today look and see!

I belong to the Easter People! Life's exciting to me!

Blessings and See You in Church!
Pastor Joyce <><





April Worship

4/6 "The Message of Jesus: Who Do You Say I Am?"

Hymns: Lord, I Lift Your Name on High, There's Something About That Name, Jesus, Name Above All Names, God Be With You

4/13 Palm/Passion Sunday

Hymns: Soon and Very Soon, Go to Dark Gethsemane, Grace Greater than Our Sin, Were You There, O How He Loves You and Me

4/17 Maundy Thursday Joint Service at Vergas "The Message of Jesus: Final Words"

Hymns: They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love, Fairest Lord Jesus, In Remembrance of Me, Let Us Break Bread Together, When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

4/20 Easter Sunday "The Message of Jesus: The Resurrection and the Life"

Hymns: This Is the Day, Christ the Lord Is Risen Today, Up From the Grave He Arose, He Lives, Christ Is Alive

4/27 "What Tempests Can Teach Us" Acts 5:27-32

Hymns: He Is Exalted, O God, Our Help in Ages Past, My Hope Is Built



Holy Week and Easter Services



Come Worship With Us!

April 13th – Palm/Passion Sunday @ both churches

Hear the story of the final week in the life of Jesus from the Gospel of Matthew as presented by Dramatic Reader's Theatre Storytellers.

April 17th – Maundy Thursday @ Vergas UMC 6 pm Soup Supper, 7 pm Worship

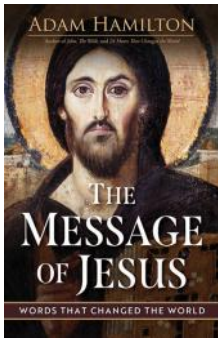
A service of reflection and sharing in The Last Supper, as celebrated by our Lord with his disciples.

April 19th – Free Easter Egg Hunt @ Dent UMC_1 pm

Children ages 3-10 can hunt for eggs inside the fellowship area, parents need to attend with their children; a child appropriate video about Holy Week & Easter will be shown.

April 20th – Easter Morning Services @ both churches

Celebrate our Lord's glorious resurrection. Enjoy wonderful music, familiar hymns, and an uplifting message.



A New Bible Study Opportunity beginning in March 2025

In this six-week study, pastor and best-selling author Adam Hamilton explores six of the most important themes in Jesus's teachings, why they matter, and how they speak to us today. The book will explore Jesus's preaching on the Kingdom of God, the Sermon on the Mount, the parables, the "I am" sayings in John, and more. Jesus' message is not only life-changing, but world-changing.

Dent – In-person on Tuesdays at 10:30 beginning March 11th
Online via Zoom Workplace – Tuesdays at 6:30 beginning March 11th



VERGAS, MN
MAPLE SYRUP
FESTIVAL
Saturday, April 12, 2025



PANCAKE FEED

7:30 am - 11:30 am • Vergas Event Center
Pancakes with Local Maple Syrup, Sausages & Beverages
Adults \$10 • Kids 10 & Under \$5 • Cash Only • Take Out Available

"The Sap is Running in Vergas" 5K Fun Run/Walk

Registration 8-8:30 am @ Summers Design Center
Race Start Time 9 am
Registration \$30 - Pre-Register by April 1
Registration includes Breakfast & Maple Syrup Coupon
Medals Awarded to Top 5 Runners



KIDS ACTIVITIES @ SUMMERS DESIGN CENTER
FREE Cookie Decorating 9 am - 11 am
by GROW Prazee Vergas Coalition and MW Pastry
Face Painting and Magic Color Pages 8 am - Noon

HORSE DRAWN WAGON RIDES BY FARM 41
9:00 am - Noon @ Vergas Methodist Church

MAPLE SYRUP DEMOS

10 am - 2 pm @ Maplewood State Park
by Friends of Maplewood State Park



Dent Community Event

April 6th at the Dent Community Center
All ages Welcome, Family Fun Event!
12pm Sloppy Joe Meal (free will offering)
1pm Bingo \$10 - 9 games - Black Out, Cash Prizes.
(Bring Dobber or purchase at the door)
Must pay in cash only.

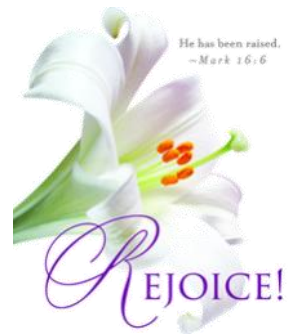


MAUNDY
Thursday
SOUP  **Supper**
6pm

April 17th at Vergas UMC

**COME AND
WORSHIP**

Combined Service 7pm



April 13th



April 20th

Easter
SUNDAY

• HE IS RISEN •



**Saturday, April 19th
1 - 3pm
at Dent UMC**

Ages 3 - 10 years old - must be
accompanied by an adult
Christian Easter Story Video
1 free activity / egg collection
bag per child
Lots of eggs to find





The Vergas Church Ladies

The Church Ladies met in March. We continue to work on new ideas to raise money for charity. We will try to work with the community events in Vergas.

All ideas and new members are always welcome!



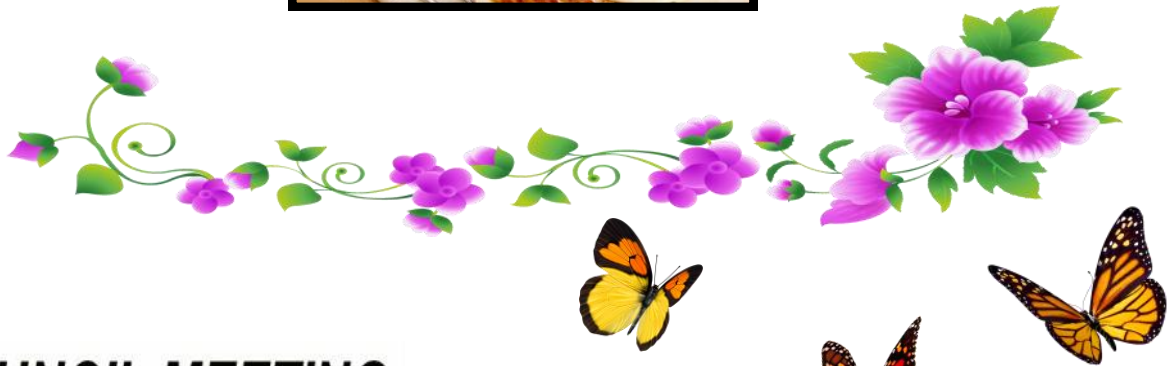
**Our next meeting will be
April 15th,
12:30pm
at the church.**



Dent Breakfast Club



Meets at Mysteries Café at 9am on the first Wednesday of the month



AD COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, April 16th



Dent 3pm

Vergas
6:30pm



Next Meeting

Tues, April 8th 12:30pm at
Billy's in Vergas

Books:

"The Boys"

by Ron & Clint Howard

"Being Henry"

By Henry Winkler





Church Missions April / May / June



Vergas 2nd Quarter Mission ~ Relay for Life

2nd Quarter (April / May / June) will be Relay for Life.

1st Quarter (January / February / March) was UMCOR. This is the United Methodist Committee on Relief helping all around the world currently working in the LA area. The Ad Council is looking to help a Methodist church damaged by the fires rebuild. Pastor Joyce has found two Methodist churches needing to be rebuilt, one in El Sedina and one in Palisades. The dollars from the Mission of the first quarter will be totaled at the end of March and added to a Mission donation from the church to help these churches.

Vergas Local Outreach

The Local Mission dollars (\$300) for February was sent to Julian Urbano, a member of the Pelican Rapids community who suffered a brain aneurysm which meant a long hospitalization and recovery. He is a kind, hardworking, and generous person who brings joy to those around him. Julian is dad to senior Yoselyn Urbano and his sons Danny and Edwardo have already graduated from PRHS.

The Local Mission dollars for March were donated to Rebecca, a mother of three who was having a difficult time buying groceries and a birthday present for one of her children. She approached Love, Inc., which has an office in Perham, and they referred her to VUMC as she lives by Vergas. Pastor Joyce took her shopping and then gave her the rest cash. She was moved to tears as she was helped by the generosity of our church.

The Local Mission dollars for April will be sent to the Food Banks in Perham and Detroit Lakes as March is double the donation month with a match.

Please let the Ad Council know of any local needs. Thank you for your continued support of missions.



Dent Mission of the Quarter



The Mission of the Quarter (April, May and June) is UMCOR. This is the United Methodist Committee on Relief helping all around the world, they are currently working in the LA area. The Ad Council is looking to help a Methodist church damaged by the fires to rebuild. Pastor Joyce has found two Methodist churches needing to be rebuilt, one in El Sedina and one in Palisades.



APRIL VOLUNTEERS LISTS



April Ushers

Richard & Karen J.

April Liturgist

Lyndon M.

Apr	Fellowship
6th	Darlene & Austin H.
13th	Ivy & Rob M.
20th	Carolann & Don G
27th	Doris C.

Apr	Vergas Liturgist	Vergas Ushers	Fellowship
6th	Rick N.	Rick & Margy N.	Margy N.
13th	Bev F.	Faye & Tonya	Faye C.
20th	Tonya J.	Neil & Donna S.	EASTER
27th	Bryan G.	Bryan & Eileen G.	Eileen G.



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

ARE WE THERE YET?



Vergas Birthdays

April 2nd Jody Schoenberger
 April 2nd Carla Reiten
 April 8th Loren Menz
 April 20th Rick Nelson

Dent Birthdays

April 19th Michelle Salathe
 April 29th Doug Hovey
 April 29th Marilyn Paulson



April 10th Rob & Ivy Mickelson
 April 28th Mike & Lynn Stanbrough

A Thought For The Day

Never Forget
nothing is
more powerful than
prayer, nothing
is stronger
than faith, and
nothing is greater
than God.
Amen!



"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 May is April 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

April / May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Bible Study 10:30 Dent 6:30pm on line	Jody S. (V) 2 Carla R. (V)	3	4	5
6 12pm - 3pm Dent Family Fun Springo Bingo Dent CC	Loren M. (V) 7 The 8th	8 12:30pm Book Club at Billy's in Vergas Bible Study 10:30 Dent 6:30pm online	9	10 Maundy Thursday Combined Sryc 6pm Soup dinner 7pm Worship	11	12 7:30am - 2pm Maple Syrup Fest Vergas EC
13 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	14	15 12:30pm Vergas Church Ladies Bible Study 10:30 Dent 6:30pm on line	16 Ad Council 3pm Dent 6:30pm Vergas	17	18 Good Friday	19 Michelle S. (D) 1 - 3pm Dent Easter Egg Hunt
20 Rick N. (V) <i>Easter</i>	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 Doug H. (D) Marilyn P. (D)	30	1	2 Bob S (D)	3
4	5	6 Sheri S. (V) 12:30pm Book Club	7 9am Dent Breakfast Club	8	9	10

Ad Council Minutes Vergas United Methodist Church
March 19, 2025, 6:30 pm on Zoom

Present: Joyce Slostad, Jane Wasvick, Sheri Schoenberger, Tonya Johnson, Faye Courneya, David Reiten, Renee Sonnenburg, and Doreen Schwarzrock

Joyce opened the meeting with prayer. Renee was welcomed to the committee to fill the Member at Large position.

Review of Church Attendance

Sheri stated that attendance has remained steady. In person has been a little low but averaging 20-23. Online is between 35-37 and seems to be increasing.

Secretary Report

The minutes of the March meeting were approved as distributed.

Treasurer Report

- The Treasurer report was accepted as handed out pending audit. The signature sheets at the Bank have been completed. The Church Ladies don't have a second person on their account and Jane will complete that.
- Faye reported that she paid a Hanson Plumbing bill. Rick said that this should have been paid by the contractor Western, but Faye can't see a check from them. They are to fix the problem that led to this bill. Faye will follow up on this issue.

Trustee Report

- The thermostats are installed. Jane called the company again and they say that the thermostats are both functioning as they should, but we are unable to get the second one to load onto the phones. Jane will contact them again.
- There was discussion about the alarm that keeps going off and it seems to interfere with the internet signal. This needs to be removed, it does not currently have a purpose. David will contact Zitzow Electric to take out the alarm. David will let Sheri know when he can come so she can show him where the equipment is.

Pastor Report:

- Pastor Joyce was approached by a young mother who needed help. She went through Love Inc. in Perham and lives closer to Vergas, so called Joyce. Joyce took her shopping and then left her with the cash left from the \$300 local mission fund for March. Rebecca was very appreciative of the help.
- Joyce asked about buying an ad for Easter, it was decided that we wouldn't do that as there is not a special service at our churches for Easter.
- Palm Sunday will be a special service in both churches.
- Maundy Thursday will be at Vergas with a combined service and soup supper at 6 pm followed by a service. We will put a signup sheet for the supper and pass around on Sundays. The following will be asked for:
- 5 Crockpots of Soup, 2 dozen Rolls, 1 Crackers and Butter, 1 Carrot/Celery, 3 Bars Sheri will put together a signup sheet and start this Sunday.
- Pastor Joyce will be off the week after Easter and Sunday, the 27th. She is asking that someone volunteer to fill the pulpit that Sunday.
- Joyce also found out about a special coupon code for ordering VBS materials. She will follow up on ordering materials. Jane moved, seconded by David to have Joyce purchase items for VBS. Motion passed.
- April 8th is Book Club at Billy's in Vergas. Shops and Hops is scheduled for June 7, Jane will take this to Church Ladies meeting.

- An evaluation for Sheri needs to be completed. Jane and Joyce will complete this March 23 after church.

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

- Joyce found two Methodist churches that were destroyed by the California fires so we will decide how we use the dollars at the April meeting. Since UMCOR is the first quarter Mission, we will see the total that is collected and then add it to the money that Iona left to the church.
- Faye mentioned that the Food Banks have a match in the month of March. David moved, seconded by Jane that we use the local mission dollars for April and send \$150 to Perham Food Bank and \$150 to the Detroit Lakes Food Bank. Motion passed. Jane reported that she had taken her daughter to the food bank and was very pleased with the service and how the people were treated there, it was a positive experience.

Day Care Use of Church

Julie Bruhn has been in discussion with a daycare supervisor and 2 mothers about the possibility of using the church basement for daycare. Jane met with these people at the church and looked at the basement as a potential use for daycare. The main issue is egress from the basement without stairs or a sprinkler system. There would also be a need to remodel the bathroom area as there is not a direct line of sight. This would disrupt the storage area with supplies. They would license the daycare for 12 with likely less than that actual. They suggested having the Fire Marshall inspect the area and tell the church exactly what is needed. There is grant money available to help with the costs and then rent for the space. Jane asked if this is a purpose that the church wants to take on. It is a nice mission and would help the community, but there are downsides as well. Opinions from the members were ambivalent with an agreement that it is a nice mission, but the downsides are big changes for the church, liability issues, how long would the area be used, loss of space for storage and just more activity in the building. Jane suggested that we have the Fire Marshall do the inspection and discuss it more after that. Julie sent Jane the form to send to the Fire Marshall with a \$50 fee to set up the inspection. There was agreement that this would be a good idea even if we decided not to do the project. Jane will complete the form and bring it to church on Sunday for Faye to send in with a check.

Computer Upgrade

The computers at the church are aging and there has been more difficulty with staying on internet. General agreement was to investigate upgrading all the computers in the church and getting someone to help set them up. Sheri and Jody have been on vacation and will have more to report in April. They did find one bad cord that needed to be replaced.

Miscellaneous

Mark will begin to look at the work that needs to be completed during the summer and give information to Tonya to report back to the committee.

Pastor Joyce closed with prayer.

The next meeting will be on April 16th in person at the Church.

DENT UMC LEADERSHIP TEAM

March 19, 2025

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, Lyndon Maasjo, Peggy Meissner, Ivy Mickelson, Pastor Joyce Slostad.

CALL TO ORDER: Lyndon called the meeting to order, Joyce talked about a family that Vergas helped thru a referral of the Love Inc of Perham. A family from the area were in need of assistance with purchasing food and other items. Then she closed with a prayer.

MINUTES: Reviewed the minutes from February meeting. Karen made a motion to accept the minutes and Ivy made a second, motion passed. The minutes will be posted at church and paper copies available to take.

FINANCE: The February finance report was reviewed. All bills have been paid to date. Peggy made a motion to accept report subject to audit and a second was made by Austin, motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS: The insurance inspector was at church and found a few things that needed fixing. He said that the fire extinguishers need to be checked by a professional not by members that have over 70 years of experience with fire departments. They have been inspected for a cost of \$500. The Easter egg hunt will be Saturday April 19 from 1-3. There were 34 kids last year. There will be posters and flyers out advertising it.

NEW BUSINESS: Joyce presented "Coins for Lent" a mission to collect coins daily during Lent for different things. It was decided to do this and use the money collected for a special local mission. There will be more information coming. Michelle Salathe asked if she could use the church for a bridal shower for Samatha on Saturday April 5. Joyce received information about putting an Easter Service ad in the paper. We discussed this and was decided not to do an ad. There will be a rummage sale and fry bread on May 10 from 8-12.

PASTOR'S REPORT: There will be a special presentation of the Easter story on Palm Sunday. It will include readers from Vergas and Dent and will be presented in both churches. Vergas will host the Maundy Thursday service with a soup dinner following the service. Joyce said she will be on vacation the week after Easter thru April 27. She will find a speaker for that Sunday.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Austin reported that the bushes on the south side of the church have been removed. A special thanks to Lyndon, Robbie, Roger, and Austin. There have been a few problems with the fellowship hall furnace which will be checked into.

OTHER: Doris offered to get the palms and Easter lilies, thank you to Doris. Lyndon will be leaving the SPPRC so we will need another representative.

NEXT MEETING & ADJOURNMENT: The next scheduled meeting will be April 16. Meeting adjourned.

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