

Epworth United Methodist Church
 680 8th Avenue SW
 Valley City, ND 58072
 www.epworthvalleycity.com

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Epworth Events

Living, Sharing, and Growing in God's Love

June 2023



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Last month, I had the privilege of peering into our denomination's history with a visit to central Pennsylvania. It's one thing to learn about historical facts and faces. It's quite another to see the sites important to that history and hear the story from people who are still living that tradition.

It was a spiritual experience that moved a Lutheran layman named Jacob Albright to form his own denomination in 1803. Albright had been attending Methodist class meetings. But he formed a German-speaking denomination with a kind of Methodist flavor. In that area at that time, the Methodist movement was represented by Francis Asbury. Asbury refused to join Albright's people with the Methodists because Asbury, a native Englishman, insisted on conducting worship and meetings in English.

So, the Methodists and the Evangelicals (or Albright's people), as they were called, continued to grow independently in the same area with much the same theology. In the same year that Asbury died (1816) and eight years after Albright's death, the Evangelicals erected their first church. I got to see that site in New Berlin, Pennsylvania. In that same small town, the Evangelicals also created a publishing house and a seminary.

In 1946, that tradition joined another German-speaking Methodist-like denomination called the United Brethren in Christ. (That also happened in Pennsylvania.) That formed the Evangelical United Brethren (EUB) denomination. There were many EUB churches in the Dakotas, especially in North Dakota. Then in 1968, that denomination merged with The Methodist Church to form our current denomination.

Impressively, that denomination was lay-driven. Lay people were expected to learn the stories of Jesus and appropriate their faith in life. As a result, many of them become hymn writers. In fact, my late paternal grandmother's favorite hymn, "When the Roll is Called up Yonder," was written in 1893 by a layman, James Milton Black, of the Evangelical tradition. He wrote it as a member of what is now Pine Street United Methodist Church in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. That church hosted the event I attended, which was a meeting of the Historical Society of The United Methodist Church.

Among the lessons I took away was an affirmation of the importance of spiritual experiences. That has been true of our denomination for more than 200 years. Perhaps a spiritual experience is awaiting you at the next worship service.

I hope to greet you in worship,
 Pastor Duane Coates

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
 DATED MATERIAL
 PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY



OPEN: Monday– Friday
 6 am-6 pm
Saturday
 8 am-4 pm



2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10am Pastor's Bible Study 4pm BIO Girls 5:30pm-8pm Vacation Bible School	2 5:30pm-8pm Vacation Bible School	3
4 10am Coffee Fellowship 10:30am Worship	5	6	7 5:30pm Church Family Supper	8 10am Pastor's Bible Study 4pm BIO Girls Annual Conference	9 Annual Conference	10 Annual Conference
11 10am Coffee Fellowship 10:30am Worship	12	13	14	15 10am Pastor's Bible Study 4pm BIO Girls	16 News Articles Due	17
18 10am Coffee Fellowship 10:30am Worship Father's Day HAPPY <i>Father's Day</i>	19	20	21	22 10am Pastor's Bible Study	23 	24
25 10am Coffee Fellowship 10:30am Worship	26	27	28	29 10am Pastor's Bible Study	30 	



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 2nd Holly Olason
- 3rd Alicia Rexin
Micah Lint
Carson Lint
- 5th Marlys Christ
Sherri Horsager
- 6th Jaxon Horsager
Susan Larson
- 8th Lilia Rexin
- 9th Wayne McKirdy
Scott Miller
- 10th Cassidy Fraedrich
- 11th Perry Roorda
Sarah Tulp
- 12th Dana Drevecky
Curt Van Dyke
- 14th Kim Hesch
- 15th Brad Knutson
- 18th Jerilyn Beckman
Paige Tulp
- 20th Katie Woehl
- 21st Carl Martineck
- 24th Melissa Miller
- 25th Jett Horsager
- 26th Ryan Kuhry
- 27th Isaac Woehl
Ted Wieser
- 30th Koye Grebel



JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 4th Heather & Nate Kvilvang
Darlene & Phil Mueller
- 9th Rose & Brad Knutson
Randi & Mike Watterson
- 10th Annette & Matt Nielson
- 13th Nikki & York Grebel
- 14th Linda & Tim Haak
- 22nd Gail & Dennis Pederson
- 28th Darlene & Marvin Bloom
- 30th Mary Lee & Steven Nielson



Your serving group provides fellowship for Sunday mornings and the comforting presence that all need following a funeral or memorial service. These are important ministries that we provide for one another within the community. It is a way to reach out to those who have not found that gift of the Holy Spirit as being real in their own lives. If the month is not a fit for you, please contact VirLyn Hoff, or leave a note in the office.

The next funeral will be served by the August serving group.

Kitchen Care—Please refer to the poster in the kitchen for care and cleanup after kitchen use.

Serving Groups

Serving for June
CO-CHAIRS—
Bev and Don Enger
 Bill Bertram
 Sandy Goeller
 Marie & Jim Leadbetter
 Virginia & John Svenningsen
 Heather & Nate Kvilvang
 Kim & Wade Hesch
 Kathy Miller

Serving for July
CHAIRS—
Virlyn Hoff
 Hayley Winkler
 Betty & Fred Jorissen
 Dawn & Brent Thomsen
 Noreen & Gene Smestad

Epworth's 2022 Leadership Team

Class of 2023
 Bonnie Ranum—Staff-Parish
 Jan McCarthy—Trustees
 Derek Woehl—Finance

Class of 2024
 Holly Neuberger—Trustees
 Bill Bertram—Staff-Parish
 Phil Mueller—Finance

Class of 2025
 Michelle Grebel—Staff-Parish
 Bruce Larson—Trustees
 Katy Van Dyke—Finance
 Pastor Duane Coates
 Bev Enger—Lay Leader
 Anita Tulp—Lay Member to AC
 Mary Lee Nielson—Treasurer
 Recording Secretary—Randi Watterson

Ministry in Review

April 21, 2023—May 22, 2023

Daily Expenses/Maintenance	\$18,751.00
Glory of God's House Campaign	\$2,357.00
Matthew 25	\$107.00
Parking Lot	\$300.00
Sunday School Offering	\$78.50
Christian Ed.	\$25.00
Memorial	\$580.00
Choir Music	\$515.00
Security System	\$2,000.00
Youth	\$200.00
Tech. Booth	\$150.00
United Women in Faith	\$375.00
Upper Room	\$5.00
Endowment	\$1,120.00
Bathroom Door Fund	\$95.00
Wesley Acres	\$100.00
Native American Sunday	\$245.00
CROP Walk	\$200.00
2019 Miracle Offering	\$50.00
Building & Maintenance	\$192.00



Sunday Worship Attendance

April 23—79	Online—15
April 30— 70	Online—0
May 7—60	Online—30
May 14—90	Online—7
May 21—68	Online—0

Sunday School Attendance

April 23—13	Adults—6
April 30— 5	Adults—11
May 7—5	Adults—13
May 14—5	Adults—8
May 21—6	Adults—8

Ways to continue your regular giving—

Gifts may be dropped off at or mailed to the church, checks addressed to Epworth UMC may be deposited in the drive-through deposit box at First Community Credit Union, or you may use the online giving option on our webpage. Go to www.epworthvalleycity.com, choose the giving tab, click on the “Donate” button and follow instructions. Our online giving is managed by PayPal, yet you do not need to have a PayPal account to support our ministries. You may also choose to set up an Electronic Funds Transfer by downloading the EFT Form on the Giving page. Fill it out, sign, and return to the church office.



Epworth is in need of a volunteer to help call members to be ushers and greeters.

As members can see, we have been asking people to help with offering during service. Bonnie Burchill did a great job finding people so this would not happen. If you have a small amount of extra time and like to talk to people, would you consider taking over this volunteer position? THANK YOU

United Women in Faith Seek to Educate Others at 2023 Mission U

This summer, the United Women in Faith invite you to do yourself a favor and attend this three-day learning adventure. Participate in one of three sessions: Southern Site: July 14-16, 2023, Dakota Wesleyan University, Mitchell, SD, [access details](#); Northern Site: July 20-22, 2023, University of Jamestown, Jamestown, ND, [access details](#); Virtual: August 10-12, 2023, on Zoom, [access details](#). (To open link, right click and click on open hyperlink.)

Meet Cassidy Fraedrich, new office administrator

Our new office administrator and newsletter editor, Cassidy Fraedrich, started on May 15. Fraedrich is a 2020 graduate of Enderlin High School and an online student of the political science department at the University of North Dakota. She replaces Anita Tulp, who left in early January to become the director of the Valley City/Barnes County Public library. In the meantime, the church has appreciated the excellent office work of Katy VanDyke as well as volunteers including Mary Lee Nielson and Bev Enger. In her free time, Fraedrich likes to spend time with friends, read, go for walks, and spend time with her two cats. Fraedrich brings with her customer-service experience at several restaurants, as a camp counselor and even with the Detroit Red Wings. She also had office experience with the University of North Dakota Philosophy Department. She impressed the interview team with her bubbly personality, her customer-service orientation, and her technical skills. Please make a point to introduce yourself to her in the office.



Miracle Offering to Prevent Suicide

Collection continues through June 4 for the Dakotas Conference Miracle Officering. The 2023 Miracle Offering recipients are Helpline of South Dakota and FirstLink of North Dakota. These organizations provide free and confidential services including listening and support, referrals to resources/help, and crisis intervention. Phone helplines are available 24/7 for anyone who is experiencing a mental health or other crisis. Programs are available to provide individuals and families with resources, support, education, and connection with needed services. Bishop Lanette Plambeck called for the miracle offering in our conference in response to the increasing numbers of suicide ideations, attempts, and completions by youth in the Dakotas. Bishop Plambeck is also concerned with the mental health crisis of our nation. More information about the organizations can be found on their websites.

Helpline SD: <https://www.helplinecenter.org>

Firstlink ND; <https://myfirstlink.org>

You may give to this offering in whatever amount you decide through your regular giving venues, such as the offering plate, electronic funds transfer, website (www.epworthvalleycity.com) or by dropping off a deposit at the church (680 Eighth Ave. SW) or First Community Credit Union (115 5th Ave. NE).

Peace with Justice Special Offering June 4

On June 4, we will take a special offering for Peace with Justice Sunday. There will be special offering envelopes and an insert in your bulletin about this special Sunday. This is one of eight conference-wide financial appeals. Peace with Justice Sunday enables The United Methodist Church to have a voice in advocating for peace and justice through a broad spectrum of global programs. The annual conference retains half of the receipts for peace-with-justice ministries in the Dakotas. The remaining half goes to peace and justice ministries of the general church. In 2022, the annual conference portion was used to support the conference Streams of Justice Award. Your donation also provided funds that support Ethnic/Minority Local Church ministries, and programs related to ministries that educate, equip, and mobilize actions in support of identified economic, health, and gender-justice priorities. You are invited to bring an offering for that cause with you when you worship or donate on June 4.



Christian Education, Hayley Winkler, Director

Hello again everyone!

We've had a busy May! We celebrated our graduates this past month and we are so proud of all of them and all they've accomplished and we'd like to wish them all the best on their next adventure!

We are currently into VBS right now so stay tuned next month for pictures of VBS this year!

Camp registration is still open so if you have a child and/or adult that would like to attend camp, please make sure to sign them up and use the church code to get the discount. 332301CA

Looking to Fall 2023!

We will be doing our Library Bible study group like normal that will be a book/video study. If you have ideas of what you'd like to do for this Bible study, please let me know so I can order books and/or study guides.

I'd also like to restart the Sunrise Room group. Since FaithLink is discontinued, I would like ideas of a study you'd like to do. We tried The Wired Word but I feel it wasn't the right fit. If you have ideas of a study you'd like to try whether it's a book again like last spring please let me know. We can spend some time to look at different books with the group to try out and see what fits.

Our kids Sunday school will start back up on August 27th! We will continue with our Celebrate Wonder Study. We are still looking for some extra Sunday School teachers. We have a few teachers as of right now but we'd love to have some more so our teachers don't get burned out. If you are able to help even 1 Sunday a month, we'd love to have you!

I will be in the office on Mondays this summer!

If you have any questions or ideas for this coming year, please reach out and let me know!

Blessings,
Hayley Winkler
Director of Christian Education

Dates to remember: Sunday School Starts August 27
No Sunday School September 3



In Memory of **Irmalee (Skolness) Funk**

—Brenda & Mike Schell, Memorial

In Memory of **Bonnie Burchill**

—Don & Bev Enger, Building Fund

—John & Stacey Monilaws, Choir

In Memory of **Tom Vagle**

—Kevin & Anita Tulp, Bathroom Door Opener

—Sheryl Hanson, Memorial

—Phil & Darlene Mueller, Memorial

—Don & Bev Enger, Building Fund

—Marlys Christ, Matthew 25

—Michelle Grebel, Matthew 25

—Mike & Randi Watterson, Choir

—Marilyn Thompsen, Memorial

—Jon & Lori Jury, Choir

In Memory of **Gary Triebold**

—Pat Triebold, Memorial

In Memory of **Betty Thompson**

—Ginny Kruger, Memorial

—Gordon & Virlyn Hoff, Endowment Foundation

—Bruce & Susan Larson, United Women in Faith

—Kathie Hay, Memorial

—Sheryl Hanson, Memorial

—Perry Roorda, Endowment Foundation

In Memory of **Dave Zeller**

—Diana Vagle, Parking Lot

—Virlyn & Gordon Hoff, Endowment Foundation

—Kathryn Cruff, Memorial

—Richard Hanson, Memorial

—Anita & Kevin Tulp, Bathroom Doors

—Kathryn & Curtis Van Dyke, Parking Lot

—Janice & George McCarthy, Memorial

—Donald & Beverly Enger, Memorial

—Marlys Christ, Parking Lot

—Marian & Lance Drevecky, Memorial

—Jonelle Kuder, Memorial

—Perry Toorda, Parking Lot

In Memory of **Mari Kay Wieser**

—Diana Vagle, Memorial

—Virlyn & Gordon Hoff, Endowment Foundation

—Richard Hanson, Glory of God's House Campaign

—Donald & Beverly Enger, Glory of God's House Campaign

Campaign

—Anita & Kevin Tulp, Bathroom Doors

—Kathryn & Curtis Van Dyke, Parking Lot

—Janice & George McCarthy, Memorial

—Marian & Lance Drevecky, Memorial

—Carol Nelson, Bathroom Doors

—Perry Roorda, Parking Lot

—Bernard & Edna Elsner, Memorial

—Marlys Christ, Matthew 25

—Donald & Beverly Enger, Glory of God's House Campaign

Campaign

—Jerome & Amy Jo Noeske, Endowment Foundation

—Michael & Randi Watterson, Matthew 25

In memory of **Becky Bartlett**

—Donald & Beverly Enger, Glory of God's House Campaign

Campaign

*Memorial gifts given to "Memorials" are undesignated funds that are used to purchase physical items used in worship, in the sanctuary, or in the church building at the discretion of our Servant Leadership Team.

Memorial gifts can be given at any time and either designated or undesignated.

*IN LOVING
Memory*

Upcoming Stewardship Drive

We will be refinancing our debt on the building in 2024

Our heating system is 50 years old so a replacement will be needed when system quits

The parking lot is partially done and needs to be finished

We are expanding our technology for worship

News for Dakotas Annual Conference

West Fargo Church Looking for Builders Club

Flame of Faith United Methodist Church in West Fargo is the recipient of the Spring 2023 Builder's Club collection. They are seeking the grant to repair and expand their current parking lot.

The congregation has been very supportive of this project and has raised nearly half of the \$400,000 needed for both parts of the project.

You may participate in this project with a gift of \$25 or more before June 30. To donate online, go to https://www.dakotasumc.org/foundation/donate?blm_aid=25432 You may also send a check to Dakotas Methodist Foundation, PO Box 460, Mitchell, SD 57301.

Special Session of Annual Conference called for Aug. 15

After consultation with the Dakotas Appointive Cabinet, Bishop Lanette Plambeck has called a special session of the Dakotas Annual Conference for August 15, 2023, beginning at 7 pm central time. The session will be entirely virtual. The purpose of the special session is to consider disaffiliating certain local churches from our conference and denomination. This will be the final special called session of annual conference for disaffiliation in 2023 before the legislation to disaffiliate under these terms expires on Dec. 31, 2023.



Hi-Liner Pantry to be open this summer

The Hi-Liner Pantry will be open on Wednesday evenings between June 7 and Aug. 2, inclusive, from 5 to 7 pm in the Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS) room of the Valley City Public High School (493 Central Ave. N.). This is to help families in need of food. To get there, enter door #W6, and it is the first classroom on the left.

If you are in need of food for lunch, supper, or snacks, please stop by the high school during those times to receive this free food. If you would like to volunteer, please come to the FACS room by 4:45 p.m. on those distribution dates. It would be ideal to get a list of volunteers in advance. So, those interested in volunteering, please see Pastor Duane. Also, the program is operating with donations of food, rather than buying it from Great Plains Food Bank. Therefore, the pantry could use items such as cans of tuna or chicken, cream soups, pastas, spaghetti sauce and cans of fruit. These items can be dropped off at the drop box located at Faith Lutheran. If you don't want to do the shopping, you could donate money to the pantry by writing a check to Faith Lutheran Church Foundation with "Bridges Backpack Program" in the memo line. And then mail to: Bridges Backpack Program, PO Box 606, Valley City, ND 58072.

Please e-mail any questions or concerns to Penny Peterson at penny.peterson@k12.nd.us.



Fourteen individuals, representing six families from Epworth will attend Youth 2023 in Daytona Beach, Florida July 25-28. Fundraising is underway for this event, which involves mission work as well as a denominational youth rally.

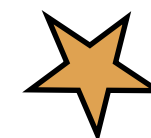
Since 2003, the event has been held every four years. It gathers United Methodist youth and their leaders from across the United States to worship together, grow as disciples through workshops and Bible studies, connect and reconnect with others on a faith journey, and remind themselves of what a blessing and challenge it is to be United Methodists.

Guiding the events will be nationally known speakers and worship leaders in addition to bishops and leaders of denominational boards and agencies.

The 14 from Epworth will be part of 96 youth from the Dakotas Conference to attend the event. The Rev. Dayne Zachrison, former Epworth pastor, is leading the Dakotas delegation for the sixth time.

In addition to the rally and a fun day at Universal Studios, the Dakotas participants will conduct mission work at Warren Willis Camp and Conference Center in Fruitland Park, Florida. To raise money for the event, a silent auction of items and adventures is ongoing through June 11. The youth are also selling T-shirts through June. Direct donations are also accepted in checks to Epworth Youth.

Epworth youth attending are: Colin Hoff, Emily Hoff, Addy Lint, Grace Lint, Shanara Lint, Charlotte Mueller, Hannah Mueller, Kailee Nielson, Skye Nielson, Alyssa Thomsen, Chesney Thomsen, and Camille Zachrison. Adult leaders are Paul Lint and Dawn Thomsen.





United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith – VirLyn Hoff, Unit President
With Mother’s Day and graduation time, I have been thinking about my mother, my years as a young mother, both the hopes and fears of a graduation. Looking backward, I can see God is in my story. Interesting to think that I am in God’s story. The theme for our circle programs is “We Are All Part of God’s Story.” All our moments/ events/ journeys have made us who we are today. Through both the good and difficult times God has been there with us.

Circles do not meet through summer. At this time, hosting a salad luncheon is on hold. We need a chair person and a theme. A produce and bake sale will be held along with the men’s corn supper. Watch for details.

Mission u is July 20 – 22, a Thursday afternoon into Saturday afternoon. The unit will cover the registration. We drive over to Jamestown each day. Let me know by July 1 if you can attend.

Reading Program reports are due August 1 to Bev Enger. Thank you, Michelle Grebel, for the program for our May 18 meeting on our reading list. One book in each of the five categories earns you a certificate. Men, women, youth can participate. Social justice books are always a challenge for me. There are very good spiritual growth reads.

One of the personal blessings of United Women in Faith is the supportive fellowship, a community of support and caring. I appreciate and learn from all of you. I thank you for being in my story.

“You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.” (Psalm 91: 1-2)



Think BAZAAR!

Four and a half months! That’s how much time we have to work on bazaar projects. Be on the lookout for great sales for items we can use in baskets. And if you spy good-sized baskets, we can use those too! Jellies and jams are good sellers along with salsa and pickled beets. So get your gardens growing and watch your favorite berry spots to get ready for our biggest mission-money-producing event! Mary Lee (840-1580).

Congregational Care Church Family Supper

Our Church Family Supper will be back to evenings for the summer months. Due to the Leadership council setting the second Wednesday of the month for its meetings, we are going to hold the church family meal on the first Wednesday which will be June 7, 2023.

Serving will begin at 5:30 pm. A free-will donation is taken to cover the cost of food. All are invited to these times of food and fellowship. Please join us.

VirLyn Hoff,
Congregational Care Coordinator



Come Celebrate!

Please come and help celebrate Gail and Dennis Pederson’s 50th Anniversary. Gail and Dennis were married June 22, 1973 at Epworth UMC. No gifts please. June 17, 1-5pm at Riverbed Farm, South of Valley City.



Church Closet Cleanup

Many items have been pulled out of closets in classrooms and they’re left sitting in the halls. For any parishioner that would know of it’s use, we can put it back in storage but it will be labeled.



Blue Spruce Planted

A Blue Spruce tree has been planted North of the church in honor of Don and Pat Malec by Jane Jensen Maas, Mark Jensen, and families.



Address Change?

If your address has changed, please notify the church office @ 845-0340 or e-mail: office@epworthvalleycity.com

Please help us keep our postage costs down by notifying the church of your address change.