


 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

October 2023

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
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TRICK OR TREAT
 5:30-7 PM
 OCTOBER 31
 JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL INDOOR TRICK OR TREAT EVENT!
EPWORTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 WEAR YOUR BEST HALLOWEEN COSTUME!



Epworth's
 HOLY GROUNDS
OPEN: Monday– Friday
 6 am-6 pm
Saturday
 8 am-4 pm



Hello
AUTUMN



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She said, "yes!" On Sunday, September 3, at Wesley Acres Camp, Cindy Heidelberg agreed to be my wife, starting on July 6, 2024.

This is an historic event for which I have long wished and prayed, but until Cindy and I started dating in August of 2021, I doubted would ever come to fruition. I think it's fair to say I am a mix of emotions. Worshippers here have been part of our relationship these past 15 months or so. Therefore, I wanted to share with you our good news, in case you hadn't heard it and tell you a little more about my future bride.

Cindy is the executive director of GroundWorks Connect, a non-profit organization she co-founded in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, more than 12 years ago while she was in seminary. The organization builds a bridge between agricultural producers and educators to teach students where their food comes from. (For instance, Cindy loves to tell 10-year-olds how soil becomes a cheese burger.) There are four components to GroundWorks Connect: 1. Cindy and her team develop and deploy ag-in-the-classroom curriculum for South Dakota fourth graders through an online presence that is seen by more than just the 95% of South Dakota's fourth-graders who register for it. This web-based curriculum is viewed even by people in other states and countries. 2. Teaching gardens at 23 locations, all of which are within a 90-minute drive of either Sioux Falls or Rapid City. 3. Youth Eating Smart (YES) camps in the summer and 4. Annual continuing-education conferences that literally connect ag-industry professionals with educators and teach them how to support each other's missions.

In addition to that, Cindy is a certified teacher with seven different endorsements; and she is a trained chaplain, having experience at Sanford Hospital in Sioux Falls.

Cindy holds two bachelor's degrees from South Dakota State University -- a Bachelor of Arts degree in speech communications studies and theatre and another in English education. She also holds a Master of Divinity degree from Sioux Falls Seminary, specializing in pastoral care and counseling.

Cindy is a candidate to be commissioned as a clergy member of the Dakotas Conference of The United Methodist Church as early as next June. Cindy is seeking to be ordained to the order of permanent deacon, which is a clergy order of equal standing with elders like me, but with a different focus.

—Continued on pg. 10



October 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9am Sunday School 10am Coffee Fellowship 10:30am Worship	2 Pastor's Day Off	3	4 7pm Choir 7pm Youth	5	6	7 10:30am Fall Bazaar
<div style="background-color: #8B4513; color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Bazaar Prep Week</div>						
8 9am Sunday School 10am Coffee Fellowship 10:30am Worship	9 Pastor's Day Off	10	11 5:30pm Church Family Supper 7pm Choir 7pm Youth	12 10am Pastor's Bible Study 7pm Cub Scouts	13	14
<div style="background-color: #8B4513; color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Pastor out of Office</div>						
15 9am Sunday School 9:45am Flu Clinic 10am Coffee Fellowship 10:30am Worship	16 Pastor's Day Off	17 3:30pm Staff Meeting	18 5:30pm SLT Meeting 7pm Choir 7pm Youth	19 10am Pastor's Bible Study 1:30pm UWF Meeting 7pm Cub Scouts	20 Newsletter Articles Due	21
22 9am Sunday School 10am Coffee Fellowship 10:30am Worship	23 Pastor's Day Off	24 Pastor at Worship-Planning Event	25 7pm Youth 2023 Recap	26 10am Pastor's Bible Study 7pm Cub Scouts	27	28
29 9am Sunday School 10am Coffee Fellowship 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Meals on Wheels	30 Pastor's Day Off	31 5:30pm Indoor Trick or Treat				



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3rd Bruce Ranum
- 4th Ellie Kvilvang
Jan McCarthy
- 5th Lily Nielson
- 6th Kevin Rohrbeck
- 7th Lisa Baasch
Tom Stoen
- 8th Randi Watterson
Marvin Bloom
Shanara Lint
- 9th Judy Elston
- 10th Mark Nielson
Don Malec
- 11th Jon Owen
- 12th Skye Nielson
Lindsey Noeske
Benjamin Kruta
- 13th Grant Young
- 14th Brenda Lint
- 15th Garrett Hoff
- 16th Alyssa Thomsen
Caysen Torbenson
- 19th Nate Kvilvang
- 20th Evan Mielke
- 22nd Anthony Cuypers
- 25th Blayze Torbenson
- 26th Kim Owen
- 31st Floyce Cummings



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 2nd Laura & Derek Bruns
- 12th Jerry & B.J. Edwardson
Jacob & Kiersten Olason
- 18th Ryan & Amy Egeberg
Riley & Gabby Wavra
- 19th Andrew & Kaylee Glaser
- 20th Dawn & Brent Thomsen



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 October CO-CHAIRS—

Tami & Dave Hanson
Richard Hanson
Holly & Dale Neuberger
Dottie & Bob Werkhoven
George & Jan McCarthy
Scott & Sheila Cummings

Serving for November CO-CHAIRS—

Gail & Dennis Pederson
Anne & Bob Bruns
Kathy & Chuck Jacobson
Della & Joel McClean
Perry Roorda
Pat Triebold
Marshall Pederson & Matt Thorson

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

August 27, 2023—September 26, 2023

Daily Expenses	\$18,412.38
Glory of God's House Campaign	\$2,532.84
Building & Maintenance	\$854.00
Endowment	\$500.00
Parking Lot	\$150.00
Study Books	\$133.50
Memorial	\$100.00
Water Heater	\$100.00
Matthew 25	\$24.00
UMCOR	\$20.00
Upper Room	\$6.50



Sunday Worship Attendance

August 27— 77	Online—28
September 3— 58	Online—13
September 10—63	Online— 39
September 17—84	Online—15
September 24— 65	Online—16

Sunday School Attendance

September 10— 9	Adults— 3
September 24— 9	Adults— 9

Youth Group Attendance

September 13— 15
September 20— 13

—Continued from pg. 1

Rather than ordering the life of the local church, Cindy's ministry will build a bridge between church and community. She will do that by living the gospel and bringing it to those on the margins of society and inviting those on the margins to the fellowship of the church.

Cindy has two sons: Xavier, 19; and Atticus, 16. Xavier lives with Cindy in a farm house about 14 miles west of Sioux Falls, SD. He worked at Wesley Acres Camp last summer. Largely because of that experience and his special interest in individuals with special needs, he is now working as a direct-support person for Lifescape, which is a non-profit providing services much like Open Door Center in Valley City. Atticus lives part-time with Cindy and part-time with his father in Lennox, SD, where he is a junior in the public school.

We do not intend to transfer Atticus from the school in which he is a good student and a starter on the football team, nor do we intend for Cindy to live 4 ½ hours away from a child in his senior year of high school. So, we are prepared to live apart, if necessary, to fulfill our calls to career and family.

I met Cindy in January of 2008 when she was the director of Christian education at Sioux Falls Asbury United Methodist Church, the church that launched us and many others into the ordained ministry.

Sometimes God's grace surprises us with a love, a career, or even a faith late in life. The parable in Matthew 20 about the workers all getting the same benefit regardless of when they started seems to suggest that it's never too late.

Peace,

Pastor Duane Coates



Epworth Supports Camps

We had a great summer at our United Methodist Camps. Thirty-seven campers associated with Epworth had 51 registrations at 11 different camps or events. (This includes 14 adults.) That means we had 10 campers who attended more than one camp. It also means that on average, for each camp attended by an Epworth camper, there were three other Epworth campers at the same event. Included in this number are 14 people who attended Youth2023 and 10 who attended Circle of Friends Camp for individuals with special needs.

I am grateful that our United Women in Faith and our United Methodist Men sponsor half the early-bird registration costs for all the camps a person attends during the summer. (That excludes the school-year youth events of Winter Connection and DAK Youth.) Camp is one of the missions supported by fundraisers such as the bazaar and the French Toast breakfast. Each year Epworth raises thousands of dollars to fund Christian camping in the Dakotas Conference where lives change at places set apart.

Our Dakotas Conference owns three camp sites, Wesley Acres, near Dazey; Storm Mountain Center near Rapid City, SD; and Lake Poinsett Camp, between Watertown and Brookings, SD. Wesley Acres is directed by the Rev. Paul and Brenda Lint, and Storm Mountain is directed by Tanner Clark, one of our professing members. Directors at both those sites are members here. Epworth campers attended events at both Wesley Acres and Lake Poinsett this year, as well as off-site events for Winter Connection and Youth2023.

In addition to that, several young adults connected to Epworth were employed as summer staff at Wesley Acres including Xavier Larson (Cindy Heidelberger's oldest child), Micah and Gideon Lint, Grace Mueller, and Camille Zachrison.

World Communion Sunday Oct. 1

We will celebrate World Communion Sunday on Sunday, Oct. 1. The observance focuses the attention of United Methodists on the universal and inclusive nature of the church. So, we will celebrate with holy communion during worship and a special offering for the denomination. This is one of the eight special offerings we take during the year set by our bishop, annual conference, or general conference.

The money for this special offering goes to scholarships. Half of the money raised supports two scholarship funds of the General Board of Global Ministries. One of those funds provides scholarships for Methodist church members seeking to obtain a post-graduate degree and then serve the church and community in some form after their studies. Another fund offers money for students seeking an undergraduate degree, post-graduate degree or are enrolled in either a professional or leadership-development program.

Successful candidates for these scholarship funds envision their work supporting one of the following four ministry foci set for the church by the Council of Bishops: 1) combating the diseases of poverty by improving health globally, 2) engaging in ministry with the poor, 3) creating new places for people and renewal of existing local churches, and 4) developing principled Christian leaders for the church and the world.

The other half of the money funds minority scholarships administered by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. This money supports small scholarships (\$500-\$900) to qualified United Methodist ethnic/racial minorities in undergraduate institutions and larger grants (up to \$2,000) for the same population enrolled in training programs for chaplaincy and/or pastoral counseling.



Christian Education, Hayley Winkler, Director

Hello everyone!

It's been a busy month. I hope everyone has been getting back into the swing of everything all right.

Our Sunday School has begun, and we've been having a lot of fun! We've been doing some pretty cool projects using our imaginations while we learn the stories about God creating the Earth.

Our Library study group has begun their book study on the book "Help is Here".

We also have some of our Sunday School kids that have learned how to acolyte for service which is great!! I will be making a schedule of acolytes each Sunday and give it to parents soon! It's looking like we will have the kids work with Craig each Sunday so he can show them how it's done and so he can help them out while they are learning. That being said it looks like one Sunday a month is when the kids will help. If there is a certain Sunday that works best for you and your family, please let me know so we can put them down for that Sunday each month.

We will have Bible Sunday Oct 8th for our 3rd graders! Letters have been sent out to those who will receive a Bible this year!

Looking at the future: I am currently looking at Christmas Program and if December 10th or 17th will work. If you know your child will be gone either of those Sundays please let me know as soon as you can so we can plan around it.

I hope everyone has had a great first month back to school and I'm looking forward to all the stories I hear every Sunday on all the amazing things they got to do each week!

Blessings

Hayley Winkler

Director of Christian Ed

christianed@epworthvalleycity.com

Dates to remember: Oct 8th Bible Sunday
Oct 31st Indoor Trick or Treat



All Saints Sunday Nov. 5

Each year, the church has a kind of liturgical memorial day in which we recognize the saints who have died in the past year. It's called All Saints Day and falls each year on Nov. 1. At Epworth, we will observe that special day on Sunday, Nov. 5. The worship service that day will include a ritual that remembers each person whose funeral or memorial service was conducted at Epworth in the past year. This includes reading their names, showing their photographs, and sounding a bell for each person.

Holy Communion will also be consecrated and distributed in the service. Please plan on attending this service, which many people find rather meaningful.

Suicide Prevention Walk Oct. 8

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention is hosting an "Out of the Darkness" walk on Sunday, Oct. 8 at 3 p.m. at the Lokken Stadium of the Valley City State University Campus (across the street south of Epworth). Check in starts at 2 p.m. The walk chair is our own Katie Woehl. You may contact her for more information at 701-845-7316 or Kathryn.woehl@vcsu.edu.

The AFSP says: "The Out of the Darkness Community Walk is a journey of remembrance, hope, and support. It unites our communities and provides an opportunity to acknowledge the ways in which suicide and mental health conditions have affected our lives and the lives of those we love and care about."

This walk also raises funds for the foundation's work at preventing suicide. For instance, every \$50 provides AFSP educational materials for 25 people. To give, you may go to <https://supporting.afsp.org/>. Of every dollar raised, 83 cents directly support four focus areas: Research, advocacy, education, and support. AFSP has an "A" rating from Charity Watch and a top rating of four stars from Charity Navigator.

The United Methodist Church has an obligation to address this issue and seeks to remove the oppressive stigma around suicide. In our latest *Book of Discipline*, the church says: "We deplore the condemnation of people who complete suicide, and we consider unjust the stigma that so often falls on surviving family and friends."



In Memory of **Jeane Lang**
—Kristi Lang, Memorial

*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.

“Turnover for Joy!” is our 2023 Bazaar Theme

October 7th is B-Day! The day for the Bazaar is coming up fast. We need baskets and goodies to make baskets. Sewn items (Fabricology) will be in the gathering space this year to make it easier for our customers. Jams, jellies, and produce are good sellers too. We made apple turnovers which will be for sale and we’ll also use them for a dessert.

Workers are needed for wrapping baskets, dining-room set up and waitressing, cashiers, setting up and running bake shop, and everyone’s favorite—clean up! We hope to have the youth and parents to run Park and Shop as in other years.

We hope you bakers are ready to go again for the Bazaar! At the last sale we had requests for angel food cake, caramel rolls, chocolate fudge or any kind of candy. Remember, if you can’t bake, you can contribute to buy lefsa and doughnuts. These are items we have made and are a good draw to our sale.

Fellowship and having fun for mission is right around the corner! God’s blessings.

Epworth UMW 2023 Suggested Bake Sale Price List		
Item	Description	Price
	*Indicates Good Sellers	
Rolls	*Caramel (6/pkg)	\$ 9.00 or 1.50
	*Sweet (6/pkg)	\$ 9.00
Buns	*Buns (1 doz-Lg)	\$ 8.00
	(1doz-Sm)	\$ 7.00
Yeast Bread	*Large Bun (6/pkg)	\$ 6.00
	Large, white or dark	\$ 6.00
	Small, white or dark (dark are good sellers)	\$ 5.00
Quick Breads	Pumpkin, Apple, Etc. (Lg)	\$ 8.00
	Lemon, Banana (Mini)	\$ 4.00
Muffins	(6/pkg)	\$ 6.00
	Large Muffin	\$1.00 each
Cake	Angel Food plain	\$ 8.00
Doughnuts	Dozen \$ 11.00	6/pkg \$ 6.00
Pies	Mini	\$ 6.00
	Any kind 8"	\$ 12.00
	Pecan 8"	\$ 14.00
	Any kind 9"	\$ 13.00
	Pecan 9"	\$ 15.00
Bars (plain)	2" Square (4/pkg)	\$ 3.00
Bars (fancy)	2" (4/pkg)	\$ 5.00
Cookies	Per Dozen \$ 10.00	Ea. \$ 1.00
Candy	Fudge 2" Square	\$2.00 each
	Divinity	\$2.00 each
Jellies	Sm 8 oz jar—reg. / specialty	\$6.00/7.00
Pickles	Qt	\$ 8.00
	Pt	\$ 5.00

Please put items on sturdy or double paper plates and use clear plastic to cover them. Pricing will be done at the church if you choose not to price your items. Please bring items to the church on Fri., Oct. 6 before 3 pm.



The year is off and going. The youth began meeting in September and have made plans, listed hopes, and caught up on each others’ lives. The addition of our new 7th graders and some friends have brought even more energy and excitement for this year.

Our core leaders continue to welcome and build up each other and the whole youth group, reminding us of the Holy Spirit's work that we have seen in so many areas with these youth. There was a delegation of 14 of Epworth Youth who attended the national youth gathering. For more information regarding our trip, we are hosting a dessert night with the youth sharing their stories and pictures. Plan on attending Wed. October 25 at 7pm.

October will see the youth having a local mission opportunity as well as times of games and learning. The youth continue to be an active part of the Epworth congregation.

We are looking for other adults who want to be on the leadership team of youth group. These adults are not in charge of planning, but are another face of the church that can continue the work of encouraging and inviting youth along their individual and group faith journeys. If you are interested in helping out, contact Paul or Brenda Lint.



**Wednesdays
@ 7pm**





United Women in Faith – VirLyn Hoff, Unit President

Bazaar Oct. 7. Mary Lee Nielson, chair of Bazaar, needs all of us to pull off our biggest fundraiser of the year to fund our mission support for ministries towards women, children and youth. As United Women in Faith we support mission institutions like hospitals, schools,

community centers. Locally, we also grant funds. Bazaar is an important activity with many different jobs! Love and Faith in Action!

Bev Enger and I attended the NW District meeting of UWF held in Devils Lake September 16. The group was small but very dedicated women in faith – bold women who believe love in action can change the world!

Our Epworth unit received recognition as a Five Star Unit for the giving of mission dollars. Reading Program Certificates were given to Bev Enger, Michelle Grebel, Jan McCarty, Anita Tulp, Randi Watterson and myself.

Bev Enger was installed as the new NW District president. Congratulations to her. She needs our support and prayers.

The Dakotas Annual Conference is Oct. 7 (our bazaar) in Bismarck at Legacy Church. Bev Enger will attend.

We met Thursday September 21 and did apple peeling for bazaar sales. Thank you to all the help. Thank you, Bill Bertram, for the apples.

Next meeting **Thursday, October 19th** at 1:30pm.

Harvest has been underway. The Autumn Equinox has turned the season into shorter days. The planting of seeds has turned to the harvest - a busy time – also a holy time. May we all see the holy in this turning of the season and the beauty of Creation along with the beauty in harvest.

“Our Father in heaven hallowed is your name ... for yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever.” (Matthew 6: 9)

Bev Enger will be the 2024 NW District president



Congregational Care Church Family Supper

Our Church Family Supper will be Wednesday Oct. 11. This month may be the last evening supper as winter moves in. I am wondering what we might like for the winter months. I don't want to be out in dark, cold weather and icy pavement anymore for myself.

For October the serving will begin at 5:30 pm. A free-will donation is taken to cover the cost of food. Volunteers to cook and serve are welcome.

All are invited to these times of food and fellowship. Please join us.

VirLyn Hoff,
Congregational Care
Coordinator



FALL BAZAAR
Turnover with Joy!
Saturday, October 7, 2023
10:30 AM - 1 PM
Epworth United Methodist Church
680 8th Ave. SW, Valley City, ND

Featuring:
Gift Baskets for All Occasions | Bountiful Harvest Goodies
Holiday Decor | Heavenly Bakery | Fabricology
Soup & Sandwich Luncheon
Serving at 11:00 am

Made possible by Epworth United Women in Faith, all proceeds support ministries local & abroad

PREPARE FOR RESPIRATORY SEASON

SUNDAY OCT 15
EPWORTH UMC
9:45 AM

GET VACCINATED!
City-County Health District is visiting your workplace for **Influenza and COVID-19** vaccinations. High-dose and conventional flu vaccine will be available for 6 months through adult.
Ask us about **R6V** vaccines for adults 60 years and older.

SIGN UP TODAY

Flu Shot Clinic
A Flu Shot Clinic will be held at Epworth on Sunday, October 15, from 9:45-10:30 am. Vaccinations will be provided by City-County Health District Nurses. Please bring your insurance card(s) with you to the office area in the church. To sign up, please call or email the church office. If you have questions, feel free to call 845-8518 or visit www.citycountyhealth.org for more info.

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.