



CORNERSTONE

WHAT IS HAPPENING AT HARTFORD UMC



Hello Church Family,

Julie and I are excited about what God is up to at Hartford UMC. It has been a pleasure getting familiar with many of you and seeing your gifts and passions on display. We know that we have only scratched the surface. It is going to be exciting to do life and ministry together with you.

One of the things that I care deeply about is the way in which Jesus forms us through the scripture. Starting the Sunday after Fall Kickoff (9/20), I will be launching an adult Bible study of Jesus' famous Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-7:29)! Are you open to taking a new step toward Jesus this year? This might be just the opportunity for you.

The group will meet in an upstairs classroom at 10:45 on Sunday mornings and will wrap up by 11:30. Together, we will consider the teaching of Jesus and discover what it looks like to pursue the kingdom life he describes. In addition, we will grow in our ability to read scripture and be formed by it in community.

Experiences like these not only open up the door for greater intimacy with Jesus but they also provide a context for us to enter into deeper relationship with each other. We are committed to wrapping up by 11:30. Come and give it a try!

Blessings to you!
Pastor Brian

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Haisley Retzlaff - Sept 1
Bob Lutter - Sept 2
Darin Johnson - Sept 3
Dianne Mathison - Sept 7
Nancy Gacke - Sept 8
Dan Prunty - Sept 8
Joy Gebhard - Sept 11
Shelly Roth - Sept 11
Rylie Mammenga - Sept 17
Arlayne Ruhaak - Sept 18
Katelyn Lueth - Sept 19
Bennett Roth - Sept 20
Lori Mentzel - Sept 22
Genie Kistler - Sept 27
Natalie Lueth - Sept 28
Rachel Stearns - Sept 28
Brian Alderson - Sept 30
Kinley Skots - Sept 30
Margaret Smidt - Sept 30

START THE PRAYER CHAIN

Lois Kaiser
605-941-1294
Nancy Gacke
605-940-7714
Pastor Julie
605-940-2213



NEWS & MINISTRIES

CONNECT, SERVE AND BELONG



THE CLOSET

A second-hand clothing ministry offering clean, gently used clothing to anyone in need. Help is currently needed with organizing supplies and the ministry space. There is also a need for **boys clothing** at this time! Contact Darin Johnson or Danielle Polley.

Introducing:



The Care Team Ministry

Life brings seasons of joy, but also times of struggle, loss, and quiet hardship. Our Care Team exists to ensure that no one in our congregation walks through these moments alone. We aim to offer emotional and spiritual support, a listening ear, and access to resources during difficult seasons. Whether meeting over coffee, making a home visit, or sending a simple note of encouragement, our goal is to walk alongside you in Jesus' name.

Our Commitment to Confidentiality

Trust is the foundation of care ministry. What you share with the Care Team stays within the Care Team. We treat every conversation as strictly confidential and share information only with your explicit permission.

Please note: The Care Team provides supportive companionship and spiritual care. We do not offer professional mental health therapy, medical advice, or home health services, but we are always glad to help connect you with professional care when needed.

FALL CONNECTIONS - Take Action Ideas!

- Share monthly mission ideas with Wild Wednesday
- Rejoin a Women's Group after summer break
- Serve or cook for the Harvest Home Supper or Wild Wednesday
- Join a Bible study with Pastor Brian (Starting 9/20)
- Attend the SAIL exercise class - resuming after a brief break on September 14th and 16th
- Bring another idea - we would love to hear it
- Read Scripture
- Usher or greet
- Light candles
- Sing or play with the Praise Team
- Share a musical offering
- Join the Chime Choir (hopefully starting again!)
- Run sound or video
- Lead the children's moment
- Bring coffee or treats

SEPTEMBER NOISY BUCKET

Lion's Club/Lion's Eye Bank

If you have extra pairs of glasses sitting around home - please bring them in and we'll get them donated!

LEADERSHIP TEAM

LEXY KLINKHAMMER - 605-201-3495
PRESIDENT/STAFF PARISH RELATIONS

DAN KISTLER - 605-940-2110
VP - TRUSTEE

LINDA BLUE - 605-214-3476
WORSHIP

LYNN MARGESON 605-321-8198
MISSIONS

ABBIE NEVINS - 605-310-3793
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

ERIN ALDERSON - 605-595-7700
FINANCE/OFFICE MANAGER

NEXT MEETING

September 28th • 6:30 pm

Everyone is welcome. Come hear ministry updates and help discern what is next.

WORSHIP & EVENTS

Women's Retreat at Lake Poinsett

Submitted by Rachel Stearns

A group of women recently gathered at the Living Waters Retreat Center on Lake Poinsett for a wonderful weekend of fellowship, learning, and service. We enjoyed time together, deepened our faith, and shared many meaningful conversations.

Some highlights from the retreat included:

- Studying Jesus' genealogy, Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba and Mary - Most of these women were foreigners, marginalized, or associated with scandalous or painful circumstances, highlighting grace over perfection. Their presence emphasizes that Christ's mission reaches all people - outsiders, the broken, and the socially overlooked.
- Taking a closer look at Mary and Elizabeth, exploring their relationship, their trust in God, and the encouragement they offered one another during a pivotal moment in biblical history.
- Serving together through deep cleaning projects in the dining room, helping prepare and care for the space so it can continue to welcome future retreat guests and ministry groups.
- Worshipping together through music - Cherie brought her harp and keyboard for everyone to enjoy.

We are grateful for everyone who participated and helped make the retreat such a meaningful and productive time. Be sure to keep it in mind if you'd like to join us next year!



WORSHIP & EVENTS

Sunny Crest Visit

Submitted by Joyce Alderson

Members of our church visited Sunny Crest on July 30, 2026. Thanks to Lavonne Dieken, who reserved the third-floor lounge, 13 people gathered for smiles, hugs, and conversation. We went around the room, shared a little about ourselves, and explained how we became connected with the church. We heard many interesting stories, especially from residents Lavonne Dieken, Ellie Sturdevant, Melvin Dieken, Marge Schonebrand, and Arlayne Ruhaak, who resides at the Inn on Westport. Melvin was in fine form, sharing jokes and historical facts. Cheri Ortman led us in song, and we enjoyed cookies and cold drinks. Everyone had a wonderful time. We were also happy to have Pastor Julie with us, and she closed our visit with prayer. Thank you to Karen Niewald, Lynn Stockwell, Rachel Stearns, Lois Kaiser, Jan Nordlund, Cheri Ortman, Darin Johnson, Joyce Alderson, and Pastor Julie for making this visit special. This has usually been a yearly event, but everyone agreed that we should visit more often!



Serving at the Banquet

Early in August, a wonderful group of the HUMC family were able to serve at the Banquet-West. They served 119 adults and 33 children. We are thankful for their giving hearts and look forward to the next time we can serve this ministry!

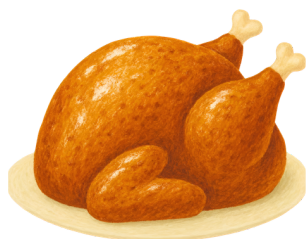


WORSHIP & EVENTS

SERVE • COOK • SHARE A TABLE

Contact Lois Kaiser or Heidi Loof (or scan the QR Code below) to volunteer at the Turkey Dinner! They're still looking for a few people to cook the turkeys (which are provided to you!)

Workers of the event are also given a discounted ticket for only \$10!



Hartford United Methodist Church

102 E. 2nd Street - Hartford, SD

AIR CONDITIONED DINING ROOM

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH

SERVING FROM 4:30 - 7:00 PM

JOIN US FOR FOOD,
FELLOWSHIP AND BAKESALE TO
CELEBRATE OUR 103RD YEAR -
WE'D LOVE TO HOST YOU!



ADULTS: \$15
YOUTH (5-12): \$10
UNDER 5: FREE

WILD WEDNESDAY

STARTING SEPTEMBER 16TH

MEAL @ 6:00
CLASS: 6:30-7:30

WE'RE ASKING ALL PARENTS TO JOIN US FOR THE FIRST NIGHT!



- WE'RE IN NEED OF CLASSROOM HELPERS! NO MORE THAN ONCE A MONTH!
- WANT TO SERVE A MEAL OR CONTRIBUTE TO THIS MINISTRY? LET ERIN, ABBEY OR DARIN KNOW!

REGISTER HERE

PLEASE REGISTER SO WE KNOW WHERE OUR NUMBERS ARE!

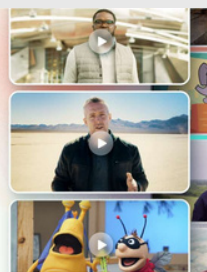


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FALL KICKOFF

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 13TH

9:30 AM SERVICE

- Grill out after service with yard games and fellowship!
- Come take a walk with us to visit the Parsonage construction!



Hartford Food Pantry Sponsor

We are asking members of Hartford UMC to consider being a food pantry sponsor of the month. If you wish to make a donation in honor of a birthday, anniversary, loved ones, etc. please list that on the form. Funds received will be utilized to purchase items of greatest need for the pantry throughout the year. Sponsors will be highlighted in the newsletter and bulletin. A full month sponsorship is \$100 and a half month is \$50. You can turn in your pledge form at the office, the offering plate, or email a copy to humcsd@gmail.com. Monthly sponsors will be assigned in the order they are received.



SPONSOR OF THE MONTH

Dave and Karen Niewald

In honor of their 56th wedding anniversary (9/18)!
Thank you for contributing to this life giving ministry!



SPONSOR A MONTH

Full month: \$100
Half month: \$50

Name: _____

In Honor Of: _____

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

SERVING TOGETHER

Thank you for making worship welcoming each week.

DATE	USHER / GREETER	FELLOWSHIP FOOD	ACOLYTE	LITURGIST
Sept 6	Alderson Family	Alderson Family	Evan/Lincoln Alderson	
Sept 13	OPEN	Nevin's Family	Nevin's Family	
Sept 20	OPEN			
Sept 27	OPEN			

COMMUNION STEWARDS - 9/6

Preparer: Linda Blue • Servers: Sarah Johnson, Adam Johnson, and William Stockwell

DATE	Wild Wednesday Meals	Volunteers
Sept 16	United Methodist Men	Pancakes/Sausage
Sept 23	United Methodist Women in Faith	Chicken & Rice
Sept 30	United Methodist Men	Pizza
Oct 7	United Methodist Women in Faith	Tatortot Hotdish

READY TO HELP?

Contact Linda Blue or Darin Johnson to join one of these teams.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 9:30am - Sunday worship	31	1	2	3 1:30pm - Faith Circle	4	5
6 9:30am - Sunday Worship	7 Labor Day	8	9	10	11	12 4:30pm - Turkey Dinner
13 Worship 10:45am - Kickoff	14 9am - SAIL	15	16 9am - SAIL 6pm - Wild Wednesday	17	18	19
20 Worship 10:45am - Bible Study	21 9am - SAIL	22	23 9am - SAIL 6pm - Wild Wednesday	24	25	26
27 9:30am - Sunday worship	28 9am - SAIL 6:30pm - Leadership	29	30 9am - SAIL 6pm - Wild Wednesday	1 1:30pm - Faith Circle	2	3