

CORNERSTONE

Here's what is happening at Hartford UMC this month!



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
 Shelbie Edberg - Sept 17
 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

Back to School Blessings

As a new school year begins, we celebrate this season of fresh starts, learning, and growth. As Proverbs 1:5 reminds us, "Let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance." I believe education is about more than knowledge, but also involves wisdom, kindness, and character. For students, teachers, and families alike, back-to-school time is an opportunity to embrace God's call to grow in both heart and mind, carrying Christ's love into classrooms, hallways, and beyond.

This fall, I want to invite our Church family to be in prayer for all who are returning to school, that they may feel encouraged, supported, and guided by God's Spirit. May this school year be filled with curiosity, perseverance, and joy, as well as opportunities to share God's light with others. Let's support our students and educators, trusting that God will bless this season of learning and growth with grace and strength.

God bless!

-Pastor Seth LaBounty



To start the Prayer chain call:

Lois Kaiser	605-941-1294
Nancy Gacke	605-940-7714
Pastor Seth	605-528-3822 or 308-641-2761



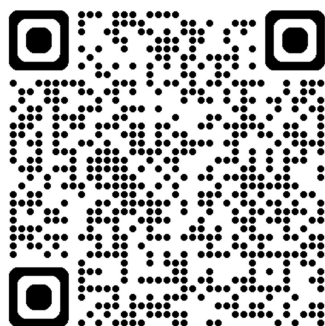
Clothes donated BY the community FOR the community

The Closet

We are proud to host "The Closet"! This is a second-hand clothing ministry which will offer clean, gently used clothing to anyone in need throughout our community.

The Closet is currently in need of items to organize the clothing and space, and would be grateful for any help they could receive! Scan the QR code below to see their Amazon Wishlist of helpful items.

To learn more about how to help or otherwise get connected, contact Darin Johnson or Danielle Polley!



News from our Connection

"There's a lot of excitement with being involved in something that's bigger than ourselves," said Abraham Perez, worship pastor for Sunnycrest United Methodist Church in Sioux Falls.

That "something" is United by Hope – an opportunity for Sioux Falls area United Methodists and friends to unite in worship, witness, food, and fellowship.

"I'm not sure who first instigated the idea, but the thought was that we should have a combined worship service to witness to our community that we're united together and trying to make an impact," said Rev. Kip Roozen, senior pastor of Asbury United Methodist Church in Sioux Falls.

"In a time when so many people are disconnecting from each other, churches, and institutions, it is a powerful statement for six churches to change their schedule, to come together to show their unity in Jesus and their commitment to serve the Sioux Falls Public Schools," said Rev. Brandon Vetter, conference superintendent for the southeast district.

A greater sense of shared purpose and unity among United Methodists across the Sioux Falls metro area is one of the hoped-for outcomes of the joint effort.

"I'm excited for United Methodists throughout Sioux Falls to come together for worship and fellowship," said Rev. Sara Nelson, senior pastor of First United Methodist Church in Sioux Falls. "In a world that is becoming increasingly divisive, it's important that we claim our connection, mission, and vision as United Methodists and invite others to join us."

As these churches unite for worship, they will also be uniting in a witness of faith in action. During the worship service, an offering will be collected for Hungry Hearts, a volunteer-run, non-profit that supports the Angel Fund for the Sioux Falls School District.



a strength, balance, and fitness class for adults 65+

We are proud to be a host site for the SAIL program!

Starting September 15th, we will be hosting the SAIL (Staying Active & Independent for Life) program on Mondays and Wednesday! This is a strength, balance, and fitness class specifically designed for adults 65+. Participants improve balance and mobility, reduce their risk of falls, and improve their quality of life while having fun meeting new people. To learn more, call Valerie Horacek at 605-261-7488

Noisy Bucket:

Lunch is Served

Our Noisy Bucket offering for the month of September will support Lunch is Served! Documentation from day labor providers in Sioux Falls confirm that, because of a lack of financial resources, many of the working poor put in full days of manual labor without the benefit of a noon meal. Since 2005, Lunch is Served has been working to provide a nutritious mid-day meal for the working poor in Sioux Falls.

WILD Wednesday starts on Sept 10!




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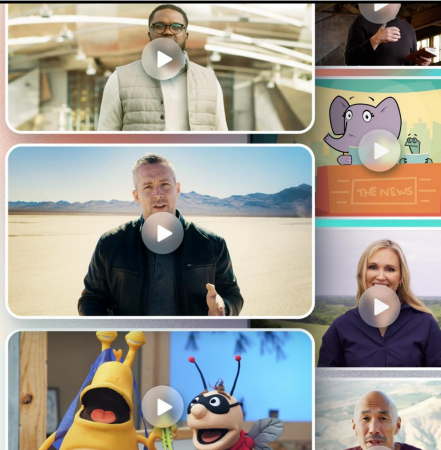
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Help with Worship!

We are always open to having more people involved with worship! If any of these opportunities interest you (or if you have other suggestions on how you'd like to make worship better), please let us know! We can offer training and other support to make any or all of these work for you and your schedule!

- Read Scripture
- Usher / Greeter
- Light candles
- Sing or play with the Praise Team
- Share a Musical Offering
- Play with the Chime Choir
- Run sound or video for the service
- Lead the Children's Moment
- Preach
- Coffee / Treats
- ...and more!

Pastoral Leave

Pastor Seth will be on parental leave for most of the month of September.

Parental Leave up to 12 weeks is granted to all clergy, and the Conference provides grant funding for up to 8 weeks to help local congregations with pastoral coverage during that time. Pastor Seth will be dividing the 8 weeks of his parental leave into two, 4-week sections as he has done in the past.

The following is an overview of who will be providing pulpit supply during this first section of leave:

- August 31: Rev. Deb Stowers
- September 7: Rev. Dr. Amber Laffey
- September 14: Rev. Dr. Joel Allen
- September 21: Rev. Dr. Joel Allen

For other pastoral care needs, please contact Scott Nordlund or Lexy Klinkhammer so that they can contact one of our on-call ministers in the area.

Harvest Home Turkey Supper

This annual fund-raising event began in 1923 and continues for its 102nd year.

Workers of the event will be \$10. Please come enjoy a meal and visit with your friends and neighbors. Thank you in advance for your support!



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 the 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, in the offering plate or email a copy to humcsd@gmail.com. Monthly sponsors will be assigned in the order they are received.



Name _____

In Honor Of: _____

Full Month \$100

Half Month \$50

Hartford Food Pantry Sponsor of the Month

Thank you to **Karen & Dave Niewald** for our Food Pantry sponsorship for the month of September! This sponsorship is in celebration of their 55th wedding anniversary!



Wild Wednesday Meal Schedule & Sign Up	Volunteer	Main Course
September 10	Johnson	Pizza
September 17	Open	xx
September 24	Open	xx

September 2025

Christian Holidays
US Holidays
humcsd@gmail.com

August 2025							September 2025							October 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1	2						1	2	3	4			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	
						31														

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:30 AM Sunday Worship	1 Labor Day 7:00 PM Evening Blessings Women's Group	2	3	4 1:30 PM Faith Circle	5	6 4:30 PM Harvest Home Supper 5:30 PM Saturday Night Worship
7 9:30 AM Sunday Worship	8	9	10 6:00 PM WILD Wednesday	11 7:30 AM DHI Meeting	12 5:30 PM Saturday Night Worship	13
14 9:30 AM Sunday Worship	15 9:00 AM SAIL	16	17 9:00 AM SAIL 6:00 PM WILD Wednesday	18	19 8:00 AM TOPS Event 5:30 PM Saturday Night Worship	20
21 9:30 AM Sunday Worship	22 9:00 AM SAIL	23 Rosh Hashanah	24 Rosh Hashanah (day 2) 9:00 AM SAIL 6:00 PM WILD Wednesday	25	26 5:30 PM Saturday Night Worship	27
28 9:30 AM Sunday Worship	29 9:00 AM SAIL 6:00 PM Leadership Team	30	1 9:00 AM SAIL 6:00 PM WILD Wednesday	2 Yom Kippur 1:30 PM Faith Circle	3 Feast of St Francis of Assisi 5:30 PM Saturday Night Worship	4

For the most up-to-date calendar, please go to humcsd.org and use the "Calendar & Newsletter" tab.