

The Hartford United Methodist Church Cornerstone, November 2021



P.S. by P.S.

Personal Statement by Pastor Seth

Grace and peace!

I'm sure you're all just dying to hear about the next part of our theological task as United Methodists! As you may recall, I've been highlighting this part of our doctrine for the last couple months to help us understand what it means to be a United Methodist. We've explored the idea that our theological task is both critical and constructive, as well as both individual and communal. This month, we'll be focusing on how our theological task is "contextual and incarnational."

This one always makes me think of Christmas, because that's what we usually think of when we see the word "incarnation." It describes the way that Jesus, being fully God, became fully flesh. The concept of an almighty God choosing to live among us as one of us is a compelling part of what we believe as Christians. And it's a concept we should apply to our own theology and ministry, too.

The Book of Discipline states that our task, "is grounded upon God's supreme mode of self-revelation — the incarnation of Jesus Christ. God's eternal Word comes to us in flesh and blood in a given time and place, and in full identification with humanity. Therefore, theological reflection is energized by our incarnational involvement in the daily life of the Church and the world, as we participate in God's liberating and saving action."

In other words, because of what Jesus did to identify with us and point us to God, we should embody that same work with others. We can take on Jesus' ministry for ourselves and reach out to those who do not look, talk, or act like we do. We can be the incarnation of God for those who need to hear the message of hope the most. To do this effectively, we have to understand the context of those we are called to serve. We need to learn about who they are, what their interests are, what their hopes and dreams are, and what their fears and trials might be.

When we begin to show others that we care by putting in that time and effort, and being the incarnation of God's love and hope, we can make a big difference in our community. With Thanksgiving and Christmas coming up soon, I hope you will begin to think through how you can be the outward, visible signs of God's love and compassion to your community. Express your gratitude and joy for what God has done in your life as you live as an extension of God's presence in the world!

God bless!

-P.S.

Pastor Seth



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Tom Kaiser
- 4 Elaine Foster
Lars Langrehr
- 7 Adam Johnson
- 10 Joyce Loof
Whitney Stockwell
- 13 Rick Ankeny
- 14 Val Grauel
- 15 Miranda Jacobsma
Kaitlin Retzlaff
T.J. Steineke
- 16 Renee Umland
- 19 Addison Jacobsma
- 20 Jen Hotchkiss
Bentley Klinkhammer
- 22 Charles Meyer
Courteney Person
- 24 Bridget Bossman
Bryon Shumaker



Church Data — October 2021

Totals for October

Attendance—

Tithes and Offerings—\$

Monthly Budget for 2021 – \$14,335.31



Thanksgiving Service

Hartford Ministerial Sponsored

At

Zion Lutheran Church

Thurs. November 21 at 6:30 pm

All are welcome!

Help Wanted:

A Part-time Custodian Position
is open for the Church

- Flexible Hours (about 10 per week).
- E-mail Carrie Severin for details
(carrie.benda@gmail.com)
or
- Stop in office for further information.

Electronic Giving is Available!

We are set-up to accept financial gifts through electronic means! If you go online to the Church's website, you'll see a new tab labeled "E-Giving." On that page you'll find a window to set up a donation either through credit/debit cards or bank account transfers. These can be set up as one-time donations, or as a recurring gift. If you would like some help signing up for this service, please contact Pastor Seth and he will walk you through the process. If you would still prefer to share your gifts through checks and/or cash, you are certainly welcome to mail those to the Church through the post office. However you choose to share your gifts, financial or otherwise, thank you for the ways you continue to support our staff, help us pay our bills, and continue our ministry in the community.

Thank you

- Thank you to the “mystery person” that decorated the east side of the church lawn with pumpkins. It looks wonderful.
- Thank you to Karen and Dave Niewald. They cut, trimmed, raked that church lawn and got it ready for winter.
- Thank you Michele and Colby for their years of service cleaning the church.

A THANKSGIVING POEM

by Paul Laurence Dunbar

Thou hast, with ever watchful eye,
Looked down on us with holy care,
And from thy storehouse in the sky
Hast scattered plenty everywhere.

Then lift we up our songs of praise
To thee, O Father, good and kind;
To thee we consecrate our days;
Be thine the temple of each mind.

With incense sweet our thanks
ascend;
Before thy works our powers pall;
Though we should strive years
without end,
We could not thank thee for
them all.

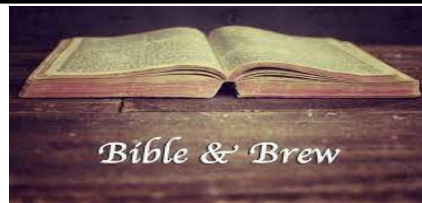
Connect with Us!

If you would like to stay up-to-date on what's going on in the Church, there are a couple ways to stay connected! The easiest way is to go to the Church's website (www.humcsd.org). Pastor Seth makes regular updates to the website to keep it up-to-date with everything that's going on in the Church. In this season of online worship, the services and Pastor's Seth sermon manuscript are also uploaded onto the website.

Another option is to follow us on Facebook! Using your smart phone/tablet use the camera to scan this QR code to find our Church's Facebook page.

If you don't have a such a device, then type this address into the browser your computer:

www.facebook.com/HartfordUnitedMethodistChurch



Bibles and Brew

A weekly Bible Study Meets

On Thursdays, at 6:30 pm

Buffalo Ridge Brew

Hartford, SD

Helpful to watch video on
RightNow Media (not required).

Everyone is welcome



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Sunday at the Movies

Come join us Sunday, Oct. 31 at 1:30 in the afternoon for MOVIE TIME. We will be showing the movie *Les Miserables* downstairs in fellowship hall.

Sometimes “Pop Culture” invites us to dive into the realms of literature, art and entertainment to explore and discover how God is working in and through us and the world around us to tell God’s great story of grace.

This is the classic story of grace and redemption set in 18th century France starring Hugh Jackman, Anne Hathaway, and Russel Crowe, among others.

The Adult class is beginning a study, *The Grace of Les Miserables*, which looks at the themes of grace, justice, poverty, love, revolution, and hope as the story unfolds. Nancy Gacke and Genie Kistler will be co-leaders of the class, and we don’t want you to miss out if you aren’t familiar with the story, or have not seen or read it in a long, long time.

The movie is for all in our church family, and we hope it will entice you to join in our adult study. Whether you have seen the movie, the Broadway play, or read the book for an English class assignment in school and are wanting a “refresher” -- or if you have never read or seen the story, we invite you to join us for the viewing.

Bring your own beverages and snacks, and popcorn will be provided.

We hope to see YOU at the movies!