

# THE DELLS-DELTON HERALD

Dells-Delton  
Methodist Church  
Wisconsin Dells  
320 Unity Dr.  
Wisconsin Dells,  
WI 53965

## WEEKLY EVENTS

- Worship Services  
10:45 AM Sunday
- Bible Studies  
10:00 AM Thursday
- Office Hours: Thursdays 9am — 1pm

## SEPTEMBER

### 2023 Newsletter

Pastor Lee Bushweiler

Office Phone: (608) 253-6511

[pastor@dellsdelton.org](mailto:pastor@dellsdelton.org)

- 2) Calendar of Events
- 3) Our Stewardship
- 5) Newsletter Changes
- 6) Denomination News
- 7) Congregational News
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The Methodist Church of

Wisconsin Dells

Dells-Delton

320 Unity Dr. Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965

[www.dellsdelton.org](http://www.dellsdelton.org)

# SEPTEMBER 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
						<i>Sue White</i>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Communion Sunday 	LABOR DAY			Office Hours 9-2 Bible Study 10am		
		<i>Gail Otte</i>				
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Outdoor Worship Leadership Council 12p				Office Hours 9-2 Bible Study 10am		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
3rd Sunday Offerings <b>Hospice House</b>				Office Hours 9-2 Bible Study 10am <b>Free Community Supper 4-6pm</b>		
		<i>Tim Stratton</i>		<i>Justin Rees</i>		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Fellowship Sunday @ Monk's <i>Darlene Zepplin</i>				Office Hours 9-2 Bible Study 10am		

Rummage Sale is October 6—7

# Our Stewardship



## Sending in Your Offerings

Thanks to those who have been giving by mail or online even when they are unable to join us in person. We know that you want to be in church and share in the offering of the church, but sometimes it just doesn't work. When that happens, you can send in your offering or check out our giving page on our website ([give.dellsdelton.org](http://give.dellsdelton.org)) or use your phone to scan this little QR code —>



You can make one-time donations to the church, and also give to third Sunday missions, our Bible trail or something else that you would like to support. Our online giving also allows you to set donations on a weekly or monthly schedule if you like automatic giving. You can even do this while you're in church on Sunday mornings.

Please do take a look and let us know if anything needs to be corrected or improved.

## Planning our Stewardship

As we move to the end of summer, it's a great time for us to plan for our continuing stewardship. There are always things to be done and check on at our campus so please do ask the Trustees if they need help with anything, and let us know if you see something broken or out of place. Stewardship is all about sharing the resources we have: time, talent and treasure, to be the church to our community.



## Thank You for Your Participation in Missions

This month, our 3rd Sunday mission offerings will be taken on **September 17th**. The congregation will be collecting for **Hospice House in Baraboo** this month. Please support these worthwhile partner ministries with your additional offering as we work together to bless and care for the communities around us and those much less fortunate.

Please continue to bring items for the Holy Cross and Dells/Delton United Methodist combined pantry donations. This month we are collecting **children's diapers** for the pantry. Please be aware that the pantry is also looking for volunteers to help them in their current need.

Be sure to check out our Facebook and Youtube pages!

[facebook.com/ddmethodist](https://facebook.com/ddmethodist) and [youtube.com/@DellsDelton](https://youtube.com/@DellsDelton)



# Our Stewardship

## Practice Makes Perfect — September 2023

In the last six minutes of the University of Kentucky's 1996 national semifinal men's basketball victory over the top-ranked University of Massachusetts, Mark Pope – Rhodes scholar candidate and senior – calmly sank all six of his free throws. Twice he stepped to the line with Kentucky clinging to a three-point lead. Pope did not miss.

Putting to rest the speculation that Kentucky would wilt in the national spotlight, Pope remarked after the game, "We go through those exact situations every day in practice. That gives us all confidence in ourselves because we have confidence in our preparation."



Just as Pope recognized that practice is the key to playing a good basketball game, we understand that the same is true in every aspect of our lives. Children are reminded to do their homework so they can do well on their tests. Youth learning to drive can practice for up to 12 months with a permit before they get their own driver's licenses and set out on their own. Speeches and presentations are reviewed and practiced, giving the deliverer the familiarity needed to speak confidently and clearly.

Christian discipleship is no different. Routine and practice are needed to give us the foundation we need to face the dilemmas we encounter in life. The habitats of worship, generosity, daily prayer, study, and the sacraments help us develop our relationship with God so that we don't find ourselves scrambling when hard times hit. While it is true that God will never abandon us in difficult times whether we have this foundation or not, it is easier to rely on our faith while the seas of life are calm instead of trying to anchor ourselves amid a storm.

*Rev. Jason Mahnke, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation*

## Why do we still have UMF articles?

You may wonder why we still have articles from the United Methodist Foundation. The short answer is that we still invest our money with them. The United Methodist Foundation is a separate entity that works with all Wesleyan congregations to be good stewards of their financial resources.

# Newsletter Changes

## Changes are Coming

You are certainly aware that the Dells-Delton Methodist Church is now separate from the United Methodist denomination. We do have a few things to complete before everything is finalized, but the process continues.



The articles from the UM News service will no longer appear but if you wish to read United Methodist news, it can be found at [umnews.org](http://umnews.org)

We have affiliated with the Global Methodist Church and will begin to publish some denominational news and information from them.

## Leadership Reports

We are hoping to have reports from more areas of our planning as we move forward. Discussions have begun about affiliation with the Global Methodist Church, which will call on us to be more focused on our local ministry. This includes our “outreach” and our “inreach” as we strengthen our congregation and our witness.



Pastor Lee has asked the leadership to plan on producing short, monthly updates for each area of our ministry. Hopefully you will receive messages from our chairs as they make plans for our ministry together. Expect reports from Outreach, Worship, Trustees and Council as they coordinate our efforts to be an effective witness in the community.

## Content

We are updating our website, Facebook, Youtube and Newsletter process for the church. If you have a little time to collect content and publish it, we can use your help. We are hoping to put useful information on these platforms each week to improve our communication with each other and the Wisconsin Dells community. Let us know if you are willing to help.

# Denomination News

## Global Methodist Church

Dells-Delton Methodist Church has applied to become a member congregation of the Global Methodist Church. This means that we will be connected to a number of area churches that have already joined, as well as churches across Wisconsin, Indiana, Michigan and northern Illinois.



Though the denomination will have no financial control over Dells-Delton, we will still be expected to participate in ministry with our sister congregations, and have clergy credentialing and support through the denomination. The denomination plans to provide congregational support for discipleship, clergy supply and training, and basic denominational practice.

## Laborers for the Harvest - Bishop Scott Jones

Jesus said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest" (Matthew 9:37-38).

God is doing a new thing in the Methodist movement by forming the Global Methodist Church. God is calling men and women to serve as laborers in the mission field. We know that disciples who follow Jesus need to belong to a local church. And we know that local churches need preachers who will proclaim the gospel, administer the sacraments, teach the faith and order the life of the church.

The apostle Paul put it clearly in Romans 10:14-15 saying, "But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'"

God is raising up and sending a new generation of clergy to participate in this Wesleyan movement. Praise the Lord!

In just eight months, I have participated in sixteen different provisional annual conference sessions this year, including the preliminary gatherings that were preparations for the formation of provisional annual conferences. Most of them have included services of ordination, and as of August 24, I have ordained or assisted in ordaining 440 women and men. And I have four more ordination services scheduled between now and the end of the year! A recent photograph from the North Alabama Annual Conference included the 68 persons I ordained and those who had transferred in from other denominations. Seeing such a crowd gives one confidence about the future leadership of the Global Methodist Church. Read more: <https://bit.ly/gmc1023>

# Congregational News

## Dells-Delton Outreach

Outreach had a very successful cook out at Wal Mart. We were able to send 500.00 to Kids Ranch! We had very good fellowship, good baked goods, and a lot of fun and interaction with the community. Thanks again to all who helped any way!

Outreach Committee



## Dells-Delton Women of Faith

Greetings,

I want to thank all the ladies that filled out and returned the survey from last Sunday.

The result from the survey determined that our new meeting date and time will be the third Sunday of each month shortly after service. Now this means that our first meeting falls on Wha Zha Wa Sunday, September 17th, 2023.

Let's go ahead and have a meeting so that we can start getting organized. We need to come up with a new mission statement and a few other items to begin with. I would like for us all to get to know one another and to see what gifts God has blessed each of us with.

Looking forward to our first meeting. In the meantime if you have any ideas or thoughts to pass onto me, I can be contacted at: (608) 844-9604 or email at [bonnie12stratton@gmail.com](mailto:bonnie12stratton@gmail.com).

Blessings, Bonnie.

## Fellowship Sunday

Dells-Delton will meet at "River's Edge" Sunday, September 24th following worship.

## Bible Trail

The Bible Trail needs to be prepared for the fall, and that will be in the works when the heat brakes. Please let Dave Kaiser know if you have tools, time and talent for helping with the upkeep of our trail so it can be enjoyed by anyone who visits.

Advertising has been placed in the informational racks throughout the Dells, so we will likely have some people visit "the only Free Attraction in the Dells."

Check out the website at [wdbibletrail.com](http://wdbibletrail.com)



# Congregational News

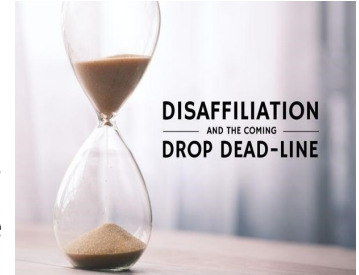
## Disaffiliation Updates

The Dells-Delton Methodist congregation has recommended affiliation with the Global Methodist denomination and our application has been approved.

Several people have worked together to collect the historical documents we are required to surrender to the UMC to complete the disaffiliation process.

We will have delivered those documents to the Conference and are completing a final statistical report.

We will determine new signage for the building, property and directional street signs in our council meeting this month. We cannot use the trademarked “Cross and Flame” or the words “United Methodist” on our advertisements, so these will need to be addressed.



**GLOBAL**  
METHODIST CHURCH  
Great Lakes

## Convening Annual Conference

The Dells-Delton Methodist congregation is invited to the convening conference of the Great Lakes Annual Conference of the Global Methodist Church. We are entitled to one voting delegate at this conference.

We will be voting on the basic initial structure, leadership, budget and operation of the Conference for the coming year. This convening conference will be held October 27-28 in Washington, IL. In addition to the conference business, Pastor Lee will be ordained as an elder along with a number of colleagues. The first regular meeting of the Great Lakes Annual Conference will be held in June of 2024.

## From the Finance Committee

When our church went from United to Global Methodist Church, we had some financial decisions to make. At Pastor's suggestion, we agreed to keep paying him the same amount that we had been paying in the past, putting him at about  $\frac{3}{4}$  time. This was done with the understanding that we would evaluate our finances at the end of the year, and hopefully get him back up to full time.

We also made a change at the United Methodist Foundation, where we had 3 funds. One is the Bowman Fund, which we can't make any changes to as this was set up to be shared with the Presbyterian Church. We receive a dividend from that account every year, which we have been using to aid women in various ways. The other two were labeled Housing and Parsonage. They have been combined into one fund and we removed any restrictions on how they can be used.

We will be preparing our budget for next year in a few weeks, so will know more at that time, but for now we thank everyone for their faithful support.



# Congregational News

## About the Dells-Delton Methodist Church Administration Council

The Dells-Delton Methodist Church Administration Council a collaboration of leadership from the different church councils to plan, set goals, and coordinate implementation of ministries that advance the mission of our church. Our leadership creates the visionary work that assesses where the congregation is, where God is calling it to be in the future, and what resources will be required to move from current reality into the desired future. Any significant change in the church's mission or in the roles of the church committees and church staff members must be discussed with and approved by the Administration Council. The Administration Council Members include the chairs of all the committees and ministries of the church, the lay leader, the pastor, the council chair, and members at large. Council meetings are open to all members of the congregation and typically occur on the second Sunday of each month.

Chair (Bob Pendleton) – Facilitates the Administration Council meeting and provides leadership to coordinate initiatives, develop our mission and purpose, and the evaluation of our ministry to fulfill the mission and vision of the church.

Treasurer (Wendy Lombard) – Maintains the financial ledger for the church. Manages distribution of financial resources to and expenses from the checking and savings accounts and reports out monthly.

Finance (Sue White) – Proposes the budget and then raises, manages, and distributes the financial resources of the congregation to support and strengthen the mission and ministry of the church.

Women of Faith (Bonnie Stratton) - Community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Outreach (Anita Copper) – Coordinates all externally facing ministries of the church. Examples include, but are not limited to, Pie Social, Brat/bake sale, Pancake supper, Rummage sale, and other mission support.

Worship Committee (Shirley Nelson) - Coordinates worship support including the bulletin, hymns, ushers, liturgists, music, audio/visual, flowers, paraments/banners, and Communion. Coordinates with the pastor and other worship leaders to make sure the congregation has the things it needs for worship each Sunday.

# Congregational News

## **Outreach:**

Next event is the Pie Social on June 17<sup>th</sup>. Otherwise, they have not met to additional report.

Tim purchased airtime on WRDB and they are going to air advertisement for the Pie Social.

Brat sale is August 12<sup>th</sup>.

Tim Hinkel recommended that the Pancake supper, this fall, is held on a Saturday night instead of a Wednesday. The Outreach Committee decided to leave the supper on a Wednesday.

## **Finance:**

Pastor Lee needs to add Sue White and Melody Hinkel on the Church credit card. He has the paperwork, just needs to get together with these ladies to complete the process.

## **Building Corporation Board:**

The Building Corporation Board met Wednesday, April 18th, 2023.

Tim Hinkel is going to recommended putting up the large monitors Pastor Lee has for the slide shows in the Sanctuary.

Tim talked to Bud Seufzer and/or the Scotts, who made some headway on the piles of brush being removed off the grounds.

Will need to remove the cross and flame off of the sign as of July 1st.

Bob would like to request from the Board to place an electronic sign on the hill so traffic from both directions can see the sign at some point in the future. JNI signs provided a quote for this type of sign. We are not able to set up an electronic sign, at this time. Bob is going to talk to Nick Schultz or someone who knows him to discuss where we can place a sign for the church.

Tim motioned to table the electric sign venture to a later date. All approved.

## **Worship Committee:**

Met on Wednesday, April 19, 2023.

Discussed when we will have the outdoor service. Shirley reports it will be June 18<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of June 25<sup>th</sup>.

Tim requested Shirley take to the Worship committee to have someone come in to play guitar for one of our services. Shirley agrees to take request to committee.

## **UWF:**

After June's UWF lunch on Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup> there will not be any meetings until fall.

## **Staff Parish Relations Council (SPRC):**

The council will have a meeting prior to the end of June. Best time Tuesday afternoon or all-day Wednesday to determine if Pastor Lee's insurance.

## **Pastor's Report:**

Davis Corner reversed their disaffiliation vote. After July 1<sup>st</sup>, Davis Corner will not longer be a sister congregation.

At the Annual Conference this coming weekend, we will be voting once on the disaffiliations and then that will be the end of it.

Global Methodist Church will be a Provisional Conference starting July 1<sup>st</sup>.

End of meeting prayer: Pastor

The meeting adjourned at 1:12 pm.

Next Meeting as the new Executive Committee for Dells-Delton Methodist Church: July 9, 2023, after service.

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# NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

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Summer is coming to a close. At least that is what the calendar says, but with 100 degree heat it is hard to believe. Often it feels the same way in our churches and with our faith. A monumental change is supposed to be happening, but we see very little changing on the surface. But it is also the season for hurricanes, and a storm can grow very quickly into something almost unimaginable. The main question is: are all the needed ingredients available?

One of the reasons I've been a proponent of the Global Methodist Church is that all of the ingredients ARE available. We have the right people. We have the right plan. We know the pitfalls we need to avoid. So, what is my main concern? I am concerned that we keep looking back.

We learn throughout our lives that mistakes are not worth repeating. Some lessons we learn quickly, while others seem to take a long time to sink in before we change. Regardless, I've also learned that one of our greatest enemies is worrying about our past mistakes. We cannot undo them and we cannot change them; we simply admit them and move on. And we choose not to repeat them. We can either do that by building in all sorts of rules and safe guards, or we can do the right things with transparency. My great fear is that we look at where we've been, and try to guard against it.

I'm not saying we don't take steps to avoid past mistakes, but I do think we need to plan and do something else to replace those mistakes. Avoidance is fine, but it is better if you pick an alternative. That is the difference between proactive and reactive behavior. If you've been listening on Sunday mornings or reading your Bible, you know that Paul reminds us in Ephesians that we behave differently. We not only leave some things behind, but we do other things instead. The focus is on our doing because that keeps us busy enough to avoid those other things.

I know a number of leaders that are worrying about potential accusations of being no better or different than what we left behind. Those accusations will come. Regardless of what we do, some will still accuse, even without any cause. The best that any of us can do is to follow God with all our strength, soul and heart. The accusations will come, just as they came for Jesus, who did it far better than we can ever hope to do. Jesus was above reproach because He did right.

My prayer is that we do our best to imitate Him. Live our lives in a way that honors and glorifies God, the one who loved us first so we would know we have life and hope. All the ingredients are there for us. We can either brace against the storm; or we can be the storm. The choice is ours.

Peace and Blessings!

*Pastor Lee*

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We would like to wish a very Happy Birthday to everyone who has a birthday this month. We hope we have all of the birthdays on the calendar. Please let us know if we've missed anyone.

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\*\*Additions, Corrections or Submissions to the newsletter can be sent to: [news@wisconsindellsumc.org](mailto:news@wisconsindellsumc.org)