

THE DELLS-DELTON HERALD



Dells-Delton
Methodist Church
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

October

2023 Newsletter

Pastor Lee Bushweiler

Office Phone: (608) 253-6511

pastor@dellsdelton.org

The Methodist Church of

Wisconsin Dells

Dells-Delton

320 Unity Dr. Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965

www.dellsdelton.org

- 2) Calendar of Events
- 3) Our Stewardship
- 5) Denomination News
- 6) Congregational News
- 10) Note From the Pastor

NOVEMBER 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Free Pancake Supper 4-7pm	2 Office Hours 9-2 Bible Study 10am	3	4
5 Communion Sunday 	6	7 <i>Jerry Decker</i>	8	9 Office Hours 9-2 Bible Study 10am	10	11
12 12pm Admin Council	13	14	15	16 Office Hours 9-2 Bible Study 10am Free Community Supper 5-7pm	17	18
19 3rd Sunday Offerings—Care Net Center 12pm Methodist Women of Faith	20	21	22	23 <i>HAPPY THANSGIVING</i> NO Office Hours NO Bible Study <i>Pam Holton</i>	24	25
26 Fellowship Sunday @ Unknown	27	28	29	30 Office Hours 9-2 Bible Study 10am		

Our Stewardship

We Depend on Your Faithful Stewardship

Sometimes, at this time of the year, many churches have a pledge drive so they can plan for the upcoming year's budget. We have not done this for several years, but it would be a good time for you to consider how long it has been since you have been giving the same amount. Every expense seems to be getting higher, and we are a one-charge church now. So, planning our budget will be a bit different this year. We want to make Pastor full time, as he is 3/4 time at the present. Pray about it!



Our church can be so thankful for its faithful members. We have many members who don't miss a Sunday or a function during the week when there is one. Others mail in their offerings when they know they will not be with us for a time. However, we know that there are Sundays that people are gone and cannot attend church. Remember that the bills still have to be paid, even if you aren't there. We count on your weekly support to meet our needs. If you cannot join us, or simply forget your offering, please remember there also are one time and automatic giving options available online at our website (give.dellsdelton.org) or by using your phone to scan this little QR code →



Thank You for Your Participation in Missions

This month, our 3rd Sunday mission offerings will be taken on **November 19th**. The congregation will be collecting for **Care Net Pregnancy Centers** 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 Methodist combined pantry donations. This month we are collecting **women's sanitary napkins** 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 and youtube.com/@DellsDelton



GMC Ministry Giving

The congregation voted to join the Global Methodist Church last month, and we will join in connectional giving with them. They are asking us to contribute 2% of our operating income (1% to the global and 1% to the regional ministry) or about \$125 per month. Next year they are expecting to double that to 4% (1% global and 3% regional) to \$250 a month, so resources can be provided to local congregations. The maximum allowed is set at 5% and they are planning to stay below that amount.



Our Stewardship

Don't Keep Silent — November 2023

I started preaching when I was just 18 years old. I was invited by my home pastor to preach, despite my age, because he knew I had a call to the ordained ministry. By the time I was 20, I had preached a whopping three sermons. With my call and this vast amount of experience behind me, I was invited to serve a small, rural congregation in Southeastern Wisconsin as their supply pastor — which basically meant I would visit the members in their homes and preach every Sunday. And so, in November of my junior year of college, I began to preach every Sunday for a congregation of 52 people. As I remember my first year there, I have fond memories of a group of faithful people who had to listen to, probably the worst sermons ever given.



Despite my inexperience, the congregation was very supportive — often offering a tip or an encouraging word. Particularly, I remember one gentleman who came up to me to give me a pat on the back one Sunday morning. After a particularly difficult sermon he said that he truly enjoyed my messages. A little surprised, I responded by simply saying, “Really?” He continued by saying, “Oh yes. You know, you stand up every Sunday and try to tell us about God’s love and grace. But what I really like is the fact that, in the whole year you’ve been preaching, you’ve never mentioned money once.”

Considering that comment, I suppose it could be seen as a bit ironic that my ministry as a part of the Foundation is helping congregations and pastors learn how to comfortably talk about money in relation to our faith (maybe even excitedly). What I’ve discovered, however, is that talking about stewardship is about focusing love and grace. It is about helping people realize all the ways we are blessed by God, that God has given to us abundantly. God has given us so much, in fact, that we have enough to give generously in love for others.

I encourage you to speak about stewardship boldly. Talk about how you have experienced God’s love, grace, and abundance. Share how generosity has transformed your life. Talk about the blessings others have experienced in your church that are made possible by your community’s generosity.

Rev. Jason Mahnke, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

Jeremiah 29:11

~ For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Denomination News

Convening Annual Conference—October 27 & 28



GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH
Great Lakes

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 and Michelle has agreed to do this since she will be present with Pastor Lee.

We will be voting on the basic initial structure, leadership, budget and operation of the Conference for the coming year. Please pray that all of the work goes smoothly, and the congregations are blessed by our new affiliation with each other across these four states (Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois and Indiana). A portion of the conference is planned to be livestreamed and a link will be here greatlakesgmc.org/live

The complete list of legislation can be viewed here: greatlakesgmc.org/legislation

In addition to the conference business, Pastor Lee will be ordained as an elder at 1:30pm on Saturday, along with a number of colleagues. The first regular meeting of the Great Lakes Annual Conference will be held in May or June of 2024.

Convening General Conference

The Commission was formed earlier this year by the GM Church's Transitional Leadership Council, the Commission includes members from Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, the Philippines, Slovakia, the United States, and Zimbabwe. Bishop Mark Webb serves on the Commission as the episcopal representative.



Recently, the Commission's work allowed the TLC, the body governing the GM Church while it is in transition, to announce that San Jose, Costa Rica, will serve as the host city for the denomination's convening General Conference that will run from September 20 – 26, 2024.

A specially designated sub-committee of the Commission has selected a number of hotels near the convention center in San Jose to house Conference delegates and a host of others who will serve in various ways at the gathering. The TLC has entered into contracts with the hotels and will provide information about booking the blocks of rooms it has secured as the Conference grows closer. The TLC will also share with all Global Methodist members ways they can attend the Conference in person or watch it online.

To stay informed about the GM Church's 2024 convening General Conference, subscribe to [Crossroads](#). You can learn more about the Global Methodist Church by [exploring its website](#).

Congregational News

Dells-Delton Outreach

Good Morning, we want to thank you all again for the wonderful job you all did on the rummage sale! we gave the food pantry a check for 1900.80! Amen! And now we are working on the free pancake supper, which is on November 1st at the church 4 to 7pm. I pray we have a wonderful fellowship and everyone enjoys the pancakes! Pray we are blessed with all the help like we had for rummage sale. May God bless you all!



Outreach Committee

Dells-Delton Women of Faith

Greetings!

We had a very busy and successful October meeting. Fifteen ladies were in attendance. Our name is actually Dells-Delton Women of Faith

Mark your calendar, on Thursday, November 30th, 2023, at 11:30 a.m. we will be setting up and decorating the Christmas trees.

I want to personally thank all the ladies for their patience, input and understanding as we continue to get our group organized.

Our next meeting will be Sunday, November 12th, 2023 at 12:00 p.m., tri-hostesses are: Barb Steinwrg (Program) and Bonnie Morton and Michelle Bushweiler (Treats).

Blessings, Bonnie.

Fellowship Sunday

Dells-Delton will meet at "Lake City Social" Sunday, November 26th following worship.

Bible Trail

We are wrapping up the season and the work on the Bible Trail for the year. Please let Dave Kaiser know if you're willing to help with any remaining winterization tasks as we close the Bible Trail for the year. We are also working on the website for the Bible Trail and want to have it ready for next season. Please check out the website later in November, and also let us know what could or should be shown there.

The website address is wdbibletrail.com

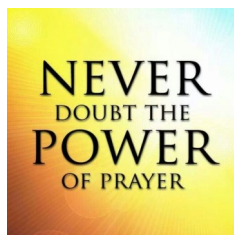
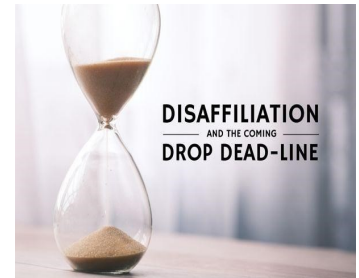


Congregational News

Disaffiliation Updates

We have submitted our final statistical report and had our final visit from the United Methodist Church to verify we have completed all of our steps, including removal of all United Methodist logos and signage.

We are in the process of updating our signage for the building, property and directional street signs. The new signs are currently being made and should be ready for installation in a few weeks. Additionally, we are working on a new informational sign that should provide added visibility for our services, events and bible trail.



Prayer Points

You should have received a prayer postcard last month as part of our focus on prayer. Each month we will be suggesting a focal point for our prayer lives and the prayer point postcards will be provided as a helpful tool. Our goal is that our church becomes more and more a “house of prayer.”

We are also trying to get a small group together on Sunday mornings to pray for our services. There is nothing formal about the group, and anyone who is present five minutes before service is encouraged to participate. The pastor is asking that we pray the worship will build our community and connection with God, that the message would be clear and understood, and that all would be prepared and refreshed for the coming week. Please help us in this effort since prayer is the foundation of our connection to God.

Content



We are looking for help to put useful information on our Facebook page and website each week to improve our communication with each other and the Wisconsin Dells community.

Let us know if you are willing to help. We will show you how easy it is to do, and how only five minutes of your time helps connect us to our neighbors. We hope to share this task among several people, so any little bit will help.

“Faith is deliberate confidence in the character of God whose ways you may not understand at the time.”—*Oswald Chambers*

Congregational News

Dells-Delton Methodist Church Administrative Council Meeting 10 September 2023, 12:00 pm

Attending: Pastor Lee, Pat Holton, Bob Pendleton-Chair, Anita Copper, Sue White, Shirley Nelson, Tim Hinkel, Pat Holton, Bonnie Stratton, and Melody Hinkel-Recorder; (Michelle Bushweiler, Joann Phillips, Barb Steinweg, and Ellie Urban, sat in as guests)

Absent: Wendy Lombard

Meeting called to order at 12:18 pm

Opening Prayer: Pastor Lee

Prior Meeting Minutes:

Moved to accept-Anita motioned to approved, Tim-seconded it; all approved.

Treasurers Report:

Wendy provided the Treasurer's Report:

Discussion took place regarding providing visual communication to all who enter the church could see those who have had donations in memory of. There would not be a dollar amount.

Sue questions what the \$2,052.00 is in the Memorial fund. It's an asset account. It was noted that it should be under a different name.

Anita motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report. Bonnie seconded it, all approved.

Old Business:

Paster Lee reports that Bylaws for the new corporation are about 2/3's done.

Pastor will reach out to his contact, Tom Reeder, for and update of the signs around town to meet compliance of the disaffiliation requirement. All agree we will include the Global Methodist Church logo on the new signs.

New Business:

Recommendation to include up-coming events in the bulletins.

Mission Statement Worksheet review (continued):

Request to have a cap on the building of the Website by Pastor Lee. A motion by Tim to make the cap at \$500.00, Anita seconded, all approved.

Outreach:

Gave \$500.00 to Kids Ranch this past month

There is a Rummage sale October 6th and 7th. They will start setting up on Thursday the 5th. Proceeds going to the Food Pantry. Need to update the sign and put it up.

Outreach committee will determine how much the church will give to the Reedsburg Christian Radio Station.

We will donate \$500.00 to People Helping People in Baraboo, WI.

Recommendation for WRDB to advertise the Rummage Sale. All agree, Tim will reach out to the radio station.

Congregational News

Dells-Delton Methodist Church Administrative Council Meeting 10 September 2023, 12:00 pm

Finance:

Sue states housing and parsonage fund has been combined to one account/fund.

Bonnie will make sure Woman of Faith's account gets moved to Dells-Delton Methodist Church.

Building Corporation Board:

Sue, Tim, Bob, and Pastor Lee need to look for a location for a sign to present to the Building Corp. Board. Thursday at 11:15 am, September 14th, the group will meet to make this determination.

Worship Committee:

Shirley will update the members' list.

The Worship committee's next meeting is in October.

UWF

Next meeting will be Sunday, September 17th. Bonnie Stratton is going to send out a survey to change the time and day of week to meet. When they meet, they will plan on determining the new name of the group,

Staff Parish Relations Council (SPRC):

No report

Pastor's Report:

Global Methodist Charge conference will be at the end of October 27th and 28th. It will be the convening conference and Pastor Lee will be ordained in Washington, Ill.

Michelle Bushweiler will represent the council/church.

He will take time off in October.

He also plans on taking some time off in September to represent Wisconsin at the International Leadership Institute in doing better in spreading the gospel.

We do have someone who will develop our website.

End of meeting prayer: n/a

The meeting adjourned at 1:37pm.

Next Meeting for Dells-Delton Methodist Church Administration Council: October 8th, 2023, after service.

One administrative note:

Pastor Lee, and the members of the Corporation Board, received a note from the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee concerning our disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church questioning if there need to be changes made to the Corporation and if they are willing to allow us to keep our interest in the facility. We are working with the Diocese to help them understand that the United Methodist Church (denomination) has transferred their interest to the local congregation in accordance to their rules and the current by-laws of the Corporation. Your prayers that we conclude this quickly are appreciated. Copies of the letter and by-laws are available from the Board.

Psalm 34:8 ~ Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him!

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

And it begins.

This week is the convening conference for the Great Lakes Annual Conference of the Global Methodist Church. We are hoping to have all of the pieces in place so that ministry happens well in all of these churches for many years to come. There is planning for care and education of clergy, maintaining and finding resources for churches to learn and serve, and encouraging leaders to serve at all levels of ministry. We are hopeful that we will begin well, and continue. But it will take diligence.

I was thinking about Jonah recently, and the time he spent alone and in the dark within that fish. It seems like we've also been there for a while as things changed in our United Methodist denomination. Things didn't happen all at once, but at some point we started going in the wrong direction and the water got really rough. We did get out, and some of us were tossed out, but there has been this long and dark season of waiting and building and praying. But now it's coming to an end.

I can't say I'm being vomited up on a beach like Jonah, but I am glad to see the pieces falling into place and it does feel like there are sunny days ahead on this beach. Almost every business event that I have had in the GMC for the last year has been more worship and less busy work. And that is how it should be. We are the church, and if we have our relationship with God correct and alive, all of the other pieces can fall and fit into place. We don't need to do things by our strength alone. I think that was part of Jonah's problem: that he wanted to decide where to spend his efforts so he could save the right people. We keep thinking about us and them, but it is God and us.

We're in ministry. That's what we do with and for our Lord. That's why we say ministers are the entire congregation, because we are all called to serve faithfully. We do that in different ways because we have differing gifts, but we all are to serve God together in everything we do. It's why we have been redeemed. And when we forget that we have to do both the enjoyable and menial things, the result is less than pleasant or even catastrophic. The UMC found that out as good and godly leaders stepped out of institutional positions and those with bureaucratic gifts stepped in. We need to be on our mission from the smallest Wesleyan band to the global Conference of the GMC if things are to go well.

For now, I think we're headed in the right direction. We have great leaders here at Dells-Delton, who are humble and wise, and who are looking to engage the congregation in our ministries. That is the one thing to remember: this family of God is in ministry together to glorify our Savior. Celebrate this season of hope that we are entering and invite others to come share with us. The best thing you can do with any good gift from God is share it with others. This month will end with Thanksgiving and there is much for us to be thankful for this year. And as we start the season of Advent, we will step out into this new adventure that God has allowed us to see.

Peace and Blessings!

Pastor Lee

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.

**Additions, Corrections or Submissions to the newsletter can be sent to: news@dellsdelton.org