



Luverne UMC

January 2024 Messenger



Merry, Merry Christmas! Luther and I wish you all the best of Holiday Celebrations! The picture above includes our grandchildren and Bennett, as well as a picture of Luther and me on our first vacation by airplane. We went down to the outer banks of Georgia, to and LLP Conference at a place called Epworth by the Sea. It was a beautiful and quaint resort where John and Charles Wesley, along with George Whitfield were known to spend time bringing Methodism to America. It was rich in tradition, history, and sites. We also crossed something off our bucket list we didn't even know we had until we got there...checking out the ocean for the first time! It was so great! This year has been full, but we have made some great memories. Mostly, we give thanks for all of you and the relationships we share! We look forward to moving into 2024 and going even deeper with Jesus and our faith. The adventure continues!

In His Service,

Dorie and Luther and family.

Be Blessed

UMC Luverne Members and Friends that live
in Special Homes:

Mary Jane Brown Home
~ Bill Holling ~ David Johnson

MN Veterans Home
~ Keith Luethje

Poplar Creek Assisted Living
~ Annabelle Frakes



The Oaks
~ Sally Cooksley

The Tuff Home - Hills
~ Ralph Watts



COMMUNION SUNDAY JANUARY 14, 2024

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## SHUT IN COMMUNION/VISITS

JANUARY 10, 2024

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JANUARY 16, 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

Chocolate Buffet and Spaghetti Feed - February 4

Ash Wednesday - February 14

Lenten Season - February 14 - March 28

Confirmation Retreat - February 18-19

FUEL Auction/MN Hotdish Meal - March 24

Easter Sunday - March 31

The Prayer Chain

Please call Jan Brandenburg @
283-4059 for specific
announcements or if you or
someone you know needs extra
prayer. We are here to help!

The Prayer Chain list for the month of January is as follows:

WEEK OF January 7, 2024 - Kim Donth, Pastor Dorie and Luther Hall Family, Colby and Cicely Crabtree Family, Madigan Flom, Laura Hollaren and for the Epiphany Season.

WEEK OF January 14, 2024 - Al and Dixie Aanenson, Paul, Jr. and Lola Donth, Ray Hankins, Jay and Bev Mann, Ian and Kristen Ruppert Family, Ralph Watts and for the FUEL Children's Ministry.

WEEK OF January 21, 2024 - Riley Anderson, Brad and Heather Petersen Family, Jon and Erika Menning Family, Beverly Ford, Christine Vonholtum, Karen Buus and Charles Brezins and for Evangelism.

WEEK OF January 28, 2024 - Adam and Amanda Breheny Family, Sue Stroh, Bryce and Ginger Schomacker family, Elwayne Petersen. Rick and Deb Ward and for the Annual Christmas Eve Dinner.

Life
is fragile handle with
Prayer



~ Sewn in Faith - Through the Eye of a Needle ~

Once upon a time, there was a lady (let's call her Elzora) who had her heart set on helping others through her talent with the sewing machine. Elzora kept her fingers nimble sewing dresses, wedding dresses, replacing zippers, and sewing clothes for her 4 children. Basically, there was no job too big for her to handle and she was always happy to help. (Yes, ladies – that includes the kitchen area). She was known far and wide and people loved what she did with needle and thread and her trustworthy sewing machine. One day God spoke to her saying 'Go forth and use your talent to make quilts for anyone who needs to stay warm and find comfort in the warmth of something to snuggle.' Elzora answered God's call and started sewing blankets and soon others wanted to help with her mission, so she started Elzora's Sewing Ladies at the Methodist Church (I don't know if that was the actual name, but I like it). Oh, the wonders of the beautiful blankets these ladies made. After making hundreds, if not thousands, of blankets, Elzora laid down her head one day, her tired hands wanted to be with her Lord. I can see her sewing angel wings in her new home with God and singing His praises. Blessed be the memory of my Aunt Elzora. Return next month for more Through the Eye of a Needle.

Our meeting dates for January are January 9 and 23, 2024

In 2023, Sewn in Faith made: 101 quilts were made, 4 quilts were donated from others, numerous stocking caps, scarves and shawls for cancer patients, clothing protectors, burpie bibs and a scapular for Pastor Dorie for Pastor Appreciation month. Most of these items were donated to the FUEL Auction, Game Plan 4 Hope in Hills, Atlas, Project Morning Star in Worthington, the Alpha Center in Sioux Falls, SHARE, child baptisms and Veterans Home and The Mary Jane Brown Home as well as to those who are home bound or very ill. A few quilts and other items were sold to individuals which helped fund our mission. In March we had a blessing of the quilts during the church service. In December we met at The Bull Pen for an appreciation get together for everyone's hard work throughout the year. I'm pretty sure everyone had a great time because there was a lot of laughter.

As we go into 2024, we will continue our mission. We meet at 1:30 on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. The 2nd Tuesday is for making/finishing quilts and the 4th Tuesday is for other projects such as making clothing protectors, etc. Anyone is welcome to join us – no experience required. Right now, we average between 7 and 12 ladies helping. Due to family activities, etc.

We do not meet during the summer months. Thank you for your continued support.



Sponsor a broadcast for \$95. The chart for 2023 is on the bulletin board by the church office. Sign up today!!!!

Here is a list of our honoree supporters for December 2023:

December 3, 2023 - This broadcast was sponsored by Derald and Linda Shaw in honor of 150 years. Congratulations! Thank you Derald and Linda for sponsoring this broadcast.

December 10, 2023 - This broadcast was sponsored in honor of the Advent season. Advent is a four-week season in the Church calendar dedicated to anticipating the arrival, or "advent," of Jesus of Nazareth, the long-awaited Messiah and King. We celebrate this time with reflections on hope, peace, love, and joy. Let us reflect on how Jesus has helped us and thank him through praise.

December 17, 2023 - This broadcast was sponsored in honor of our home touch ministry and those who go visit those who can't always get to us...it has grown so much and we are visiting so many more! A fun time is had by all on those special days! Thank you Sue, LaVonne, Christine and Pastor Dorie for all you do to bring communion and conversation to our homebound!

December 24, 2023 - This broadcast was sponsored with love and adoration of the birth of Christ our Savior. Through him all things are possible! Hark! The Herald angels sing "Glory to the Newborn King"

December 31, 2023 - This broadcast was sponsored in honor of the new year! A fresh start, a clean slate, etc. Let us make this the best year yet...follow Christ, carry him with you in your heart and let him guide you through your choices. He won't steer you wrong!!



Remember - everything you buy at the grocery store (not the gas station) is eligible for the 1% cash back that our church receives. The money collected for this goes to the Compassion Fund which helps individuals in need.

For the year 2023 (thru 12/17/23), the receipts totaled \$146,704.36 so 1% of that is \$1,467.05. This is an increase of \$141.29 over 2022 and \$563.03 over 2021 which shows that every little bit helps.

Thank you for your support!



January 2024 Silver Bucket



UMCOR comes alongside those who suffer from natural or human caused disasters - be it famine, hurricane, war, flood, fire or other events—to alleviate suffering and to be a source of help and hope for those left most vulnerable. We provide relief, response and long-term recovery grants when these events overwhelm a community's ability to recover on their own.

Silver Bucket Offering List for 2024

As you know, each month we at the Luverne UMC have a special monthly offering to a certain area or organization in need. Here is your Silver Bucket offering list for 2024...

January - UMCOR	July - Food Shelf
February - Compassion Fund	August - Suicide Walk/Hotline
March - Trustee Fund	September - Emma Norton
April - Heifer International	October - SHARE
May - Love Offering	November - REACH Literacy
June - Rock the Edge	December - Christmas/Community Meals

Trunk Ministry Offering for 2024

February - Soup-er Bowl **July** - Food Shelf **October** - Undy Sunday



Just a reminder that there are Sunshine Food cards available in the office during the week and on Sundays. They make great gifts for the holiday season!

These work just like vouchers. These cards come in \$25, \$50, and \$100 increments. If you don't use it all...that is okay...this card holds the balance over for another time! Stop in and get some today.



I would like to remind everyone to please check in at the office when you are coming in or leaving! It is so hard to know in this big building! And, also, if you are the last one out of the church, please be sure all doors are locked...thank you!



United Women in Faith

God's Circle
January 2, 2024
1:30pm



It's back!! Don't forget to mark your calendars for our monthly Pizza Ranch Take Out Fundraiser Night on the 2nd Wednesday of each month! 10% of the proceeds will come back to the church to benefit our Children and Youth Wednesday night programs!

It's easy! Call or go into Pizza Ranch and get your order to go...bring it home...ENJOY the yumminess of your meal...and BAM...10% of your order is given back to our church...

Our first Take-Out Night is
January 10, 2024



Our Prayer Warriors meet the second Sunday of every month. There is strength in numbers. Prayer Warriors are needed to help those we know personally in need and for things happening in our world today that need us to pray and stand strong together to overcome!

Our next meeting is January 14, 2024 after our service in the sanctuary!

All are welcome!



*... It's Kids Sing Sunday...
January 21, 2024*

We will be having Leadership Sunday on January 14, 2024. This will give us an opportunity to recognize and appreciate the people in leadership roles here at church. Thank you for all you do!

Faith Family Feature...

This month's Faith Family Feature is brought to you by Miss Holly Wood, ruler of this year's red carpet event...*Star Wars: A New Hope* Luverne UMC style...here's what Holly has reported to us...

"I arrived at the UMC about 5:00pm and was caught by the excitement that seemed to be brewing! The crew with Sonshine Productions had obviously worked hard to get this premiere ready for viewing! The crowd began arriving by 6:15 to be sure of a seat! I was blessed to be able to interview the lead actor and actress before the opening of the program and was intrigued by the designers they chose to wear and the silence of others as to what was soon to dazzle us!

Once the movie began those in attendance were mesmerized by what was showing before them. Truly the war between good and evil lives on! Princess Leia, Hans, and Luke worked hard to get Darth to break...and sure enough, the imperial Emperor won over the darkness as the tiny baby in the manger! **GOOD CONQUERS THE DARKNESS ONCE AGAIN!** For God so loved the world!! His love through Jesus lives on!

The crew and staff would like me to thank all of you for attending this special event with our young people, they had a lot of fun together! We are blessed!... Here are a couple pictures we were able to snap before our stars went home!! Oscars for everyone!!! Can't wait for next month's feature!



NEW ADVENTURE IS BEFORE US!

Between the God's Circle Christmas Gathering and the Sewn in Faith Dinner, we have decided that we should keep the giggling and fun going! We have decided to set aside the FIFTH TUESDAY of the month (when there is one) as a time of gathering just to be together and breathe and giggle. Pastor Dorie has agreed to plan the first one which is January 30th. Details will be shared as they develop! Other dates include April 30th, July 30th, and October 29th. We invite all those interested in joining us to do so!

**16th ANNUAL CHOCOLATE BUFFET
AND SPAGHETTI DINNER**

Luverne United Methodist Church

**Sunday, February 4, 2024
4:30pm-6:30pm
LUMC Fellowship Hall**



TREATS TO GO will be available.
Everyone welcome ~ Bring a friend ~ Free-will donation



Proceeds will go to the LUMC Compassion Fund to help those
in need locally.

Food & Fellowship
a free community meal



January 24, 2024

February 28, 2024

March 27, 2024

**Please Join Us
FREE OF CHARGE
5:30 PM**



2 - Alyssa Frakes
Oliver Connell
4 - Kathy Schadwinkel
7 - Darwin Reyne
Keela Fick
9 - Jan Brandenburg
10 - Amber Arends
11 - Phyllis Mohr
Kinley Dwire
Brad Petersen
12 - Beth Fick
13 - Wyatt Kruse

15 - Amy Kruger
Marty Rigney
16 - Yssi Entzie
Josh Crabtree
21 - Journey Dwire
Linda Reisdorfer
24 - Kim Donth
29 - Matthew Lupkes
Jeanne Bowron
Marvin Laackmann
30 - Jessamy Dwire
31 - Mike Aanenson

LUVERNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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JUST A REMINDER

If you are interested in getting in touch with any of our homebound faith family members and haven't gotten the time with all the holiday hustle and bustle...no worries just look in your December Messenger for the list of those members or contact the office for an address and phone number for any of them. All is appreciated! A kind gesture can make not only their day, but yours as well!

Worship Responsibilities

Date	Lay Reader	Hosts	Power Point	Sound	Counters	Worship Asst.	Coffee	Gift Cards
Jan. 7	Mary Gehrke	Clyde and Ginny Menning	Reegan Gabrielson	David Vis	Jack and Felicia Hanson	Jack Hanson	Bill and Maggie Paulsen	Christine VH
Jan. 14	Laura Hollaren	Brad and Heather Petersen	Jeanne Bowron	Jason Kruse	Everett and Jan Brandenburg	Lola Donth	Jeanne VandeHoef	Becky Anderson
Jan. 21	Wyatte Kruse	Bill and Maggie Paulsen	Jennifer Hilfers	Matthew Fick	Jack and Felicia Hanson	Mary Gehrke	Mary Gehrke	Karis Dwire
Jan. 28	Bill Paulsen	Christine VonHoltum	Jeanne Bowron	Luther Hall	Jay and Bev Mann	Josh Crabtree	Felicia Hanson	Sharron Betsinger

Communion	Video
Ashley and Reegan Christensen	Beth Fick

Trustee of the Week	
January 1, 2024 thru January 7, 2024	Al Aanenson
January 8, 2024 thru January 14, 2024	Roger Carlson
January 15, 2024 thru January 21, 2024	Bryce Schomacker
January 22, 2024 thru January 28, 2024	Laura Hollaren
January 29, 2024 thru February 4, 2024	Morris Fick

December Budget

General Budget Totals		
December 3, 2023 through December 17, 2023		
Envelopes	\$	8,175.00
Loose Offering	\$	458.00
Apportionments	\$	3,345.00
Rent	\$	500.00
Online Giving (November)	\$	6,640.00
Total	\$	19,118.00
Non Budget Donations		
Silver Bucket	\$	723.41
Upper Room/Flooring	\$	502.61
Total	\$	1,226.02
Bison Feed	\$	1,810.00
Totals	\$	19,118.00
	\$	1,226.02
	\$	1,810.00
Grand Total	\$	22,154.02



Our bills are paid, we have submitted ten months of our apportionments! Our end of year looks great! Keep it up! Thank you!!

