

# Sumner Center UMC Newsletter

## September 2025



OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.

Pastors Notes... I love summer and as I watch and feel the season change part of me longs to whisper to the trees "Hold on a little longer. Come on; you got this. Think green!" But the trees listen to their Maker rather than my foolish whispers. In order to flourish in the new season, the trees must let go of their decaying leaves.

But as the changes begin, I must also admit Autumn is a wonderful time to observe nature. This time of year, I am reminded that there is an important lesson for all of us. Just as the trees don't stubbornly hold on to their dead leaves, so we shouldn't hold on to any unnecessary weight in our lives. When we long to enter a new season, the old can easily inhibit the new if we allow it. God's Word reminds us to:

Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, bickering and slander, along with every form of malice. One of my favorite Biblical verses is: Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:31,32 (NIV)

To get rid of negativity in our lives, we must first identify it. How can we do this?

- By reading God's Word.
- By allowing His Spirit to show us the necessary heart changes we need.
- By being willing to shun practices that hold us captive in the negative space.
- By asking God to help us let go of the guilt from the past.

Oh, how the Lord longs to empower and strengthen us for the new season ahead! If we're not sure of the issues needing our attention for changing to become kinder and more compassionate in thought deed and spirit, He will show us when we ask. And if guilt from the past is preventing you from entering this beautiful new season, we have His promises like this one to remember from the wise words of the Prophet Isaiah 43:18,19: Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

Friends, what are you holding on to that is preventing a freshness to the season ahead? What needs to be discarded for good? Is it time for you to prioritize reaching out to the Lord in prayer? He longs to hear from you. Ask Him to shine light on any thoughts, circumstances, habits or other "decayed leaves" you might be clinging to. As you watch the leaves fall this season, my prayer is that you are reminded to let go of anything that would hinder a fresh relationship with God.

And may you find peace and grace in this new season ahead.

**Sunday Worship:  
In Sanctuary at  
11:15am**

**&  
Sumner Center UMC  
Facebook Page**

**Visit our Church  
Website at:**

<http://www.sumnercenter.com>

**Donations may be sent to our mailing  
address:**

**25378 151st Ave  
Spring Valley, Mn 55975**

**Pastoral Support Team**

**Pastor Bridget Sheely**

Email: [bridget@countrywidecarriers.com](mailto:bridget@countrywidecarriers.com)

Cell # 507-438-1352

**Pastor Jon Marburger**

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Cell #507-227-6711



**Grace and Peace in the name of  
Jesus Christ:**

If you have items you would like to be published in the newsletter, please contact Pastor Bridget by the 3rd Thursday of the preceding month by emailing your information or dropping at Church. The light of God remains to shine bright in our community only by your generous giving heart! If you would like to donate a gift, you may send donations to the address above or deliver it in person during Sunday morning worship service

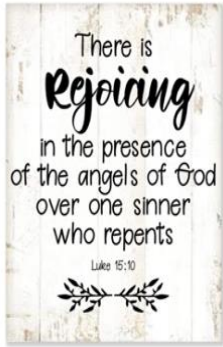
# Calendar of Events

(Subject to change and/or be added to as the need arises)

## September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 11:15 am Worship  	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 11:15 am Worship SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF 	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Real Hope for the Hungry food pack at Grand Meadow Kick off to confirmation	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 11:15 am Worship 	<b>22</b> 	<b>23</b> Meeting with DS @ 4:30pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 11:15 am Worship 	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				

# September Worship Schedule

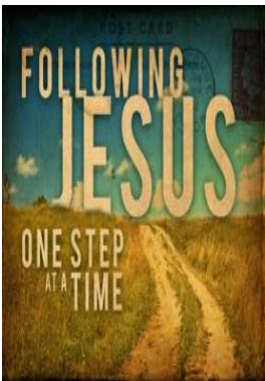


**September 7, 2025**

**Pastor Bridget**

**Leading**

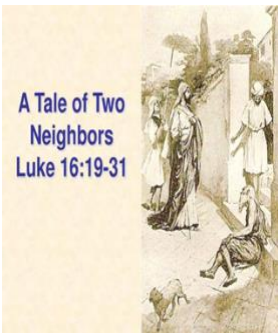
There is more to our faith than believing. As disciples we are to live out our faith each day. And we do that through evangelism. Now, the thought of Evangelism frightens many of us. Why? Because too often the focus of evangelism is that of aggressive people making others feel very uncomfortable. Reaching out to lost people was a high priority for Jesus. He declared, "For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost." We will see that clearly in today's text.



**September 14, 2025**

**Pastor Bridget Leading**

Today is the reminder that one must be faithful in small things as a prelude to faithfulness in all things. We begin worship with a call to walk in the light of the Lord, to pay attention to the choices we make each day. Furthermore, today we are called to develop and nurture friendships with the neighbors all around us, not simply to fill our pews and sustain our church, but to engage in building the kingdom through radical hospitality. We, like the Christ we follow, are to love all God's children, especially those who have no idea that they are indeed children of God.



**September 21, 2025**

**Pastor Jon Leading**

This week, we have a powerful story of reversal, the world turned upside-down. Or rather, right side up. This parable is what Mary sang about in the Magnificat way back at the beginning of Luke's Gospel. The poor are filled with good things, and the rich are sent away hungry; brought down the powerful and lifted up the lowly. Today we will read it acted out in the parable Jesus told to those who were ridiculing him because they loved money more than God's kingdom



**September 28, 2025.**

**Pastor Jon Leading**

Today we are going to take a look at Hebrews 11 which is often called the faith chapter. It describes how various people responded in faith to what God said to them. But these stories are not told as historical trivia — they encourage us to have faith in our situations, too.

One of the beautiful points of this scripture is that we do not receive all the promises of God in this life. Although we are given eternal life, we still die. But the gift is real, and the promise will be kept. We have to trust God on it. (We certainly can't bring it about on our own power!) We must look to God, not this world, for meaning and purpose in life

**Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>**



**Dexter UMC @ 7:00pm**

**Hosted by the Prairieland Parish Men's group**

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**Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Mark Your calendars!**

**Spread the word to all your friends and family!**



**Today is the start of another fun, faith filled  
year of Children's Church!!**

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**Food Pack for Real Hope for the Hungry**

**Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**

**2 Shift options for volunteers**

**6:00pm – 7:00pm or 7:00pm- 8:00pm**

**At the United Church of Grand Meadow**

**Volunteers much needed!**

**Sign up at church or contact Pastor Jon  
to volunteer.**

**Confirmation age + may participate!**





# **Brownsdale United Methodist**

Located east of intersection Hwy 56 & Pleasant Street Downtown Brownsdale

# **Community Noon Lunch**

**Monday, September 15th  
12 O'clock – Noon**

**Come One – Come All!  
Bring your friends!**

**Serving: hot dishes  
Salads - Desserts  
Beverages**

**FREE WILL DONATIONS**

Any questions you may contact the church at 507-567-2316

# Fill In The Blank - Verses - FEAR

Psalms 23:4

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, \_\_\_\_\_: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff \_\_\_\_\_.

Psalms 27:1

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?  
\_\_\_\_\_; of whom shall I be afraid?

Psalms 27:3

Though an host should encamp against me,  
\_\_\_\_\_: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.

Romans 8:15

For ye have not received the \_\_\_\_\_ again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of \_\_\_\_\_, whereby we cry,  
\_\_\_\_\_

Luke 12:4-6

And I say unto you my friends, \_\_\_\_\_ of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to \_\_\_\_\_; yea, I say unto you, \_\_\_\_\_.

Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and \_\_\_\_\_ before God?

# September word search

V S S E H A L L O W E E N L D C G H J Q L O L V  
S O X T Y O O D W D H Y W Y F F X G O M Y T V V  
L R A A L M N Q M S W E A T E R S B Q O Q W J Y  
L C W L W G K T H P D O K S D Q P L V E E Z F B  
A H P O T E P Z C C A J F W I Z A R D O F O Z W  
B G W C P Z M N Q N Q R G D D N D E R N F R E S  
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C D D T A Y R I Q I F Z L H Z P M N U K M P C O  
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P W Y A G D M F P T A S M S W S F C R U M A E H  
U G A W R T A M L D H X K R Z Q K V V U U T C E  
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F K L U K Y K N S C S I Z P L S E C I P S V O D  
S T L W L Z W C H T P V U D L E T T D A V K W F  
M N P B E B T R C I U Q Q L A Z U Q E N L C S L  
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R C E P V V B S C J J F K P R G F E W H M F V Q  
E N G Y E Y K O O P S A E M G N K U D I K M B K  
S C S C S K N H M J C J U M K G R D C Q D G Y X  
J K J A S Y O O C V U V Y T M Q N F Y A Y F M F  
G I Y E L L O W Y A W V M A R S H M A L L O W S

Hot chocolate

Scare crows

Sweaters

Leaves

Yellow

Popcorn balls

Halloween

Pumpkin

Orange

Fall

Marshmallows

Football

S'mores

Spices

Warm

Wizard of oz

Hayrides

Apples

Spooky

Red