



Methodist Minutes

August 2021

Worship Service Times—Plankinton worship @ 10:30AM
Adult summer Sunday School 9:30 AM (times changed August 1st)

Pastor's Pen

As I write this, I am preparing to officiate at the celebration of life for three-year-old Josie. I am reminded of Ecclesiastes 3:1: “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven (ESV). These musings bring to mind a question: What is our season? In the life of our church, in what season do we find ourselves?

This question brings to mind another Scripture. Lamentations 3:19-20 tell us: “The thought of my suffering ... is bitter beyond words. I will never forget this awful time, as I grieve over my loss (NLT). Whether spiritual, social, or political, many in our church are experiencing loss. When we experience loss, it is easy to get angry. This is simply because anger is easier than immense depths of sadness. And we need to know, it’s okay to be angry, but we need to work through that and actually deal with our sadness. We need to deal with our sense of loss.

I often find that we South Dakotans don’t properly lament. We don’t deal with our sadness. We “pull ourselves up by our own bootstraps.” We “buck up” and we “put on a happy face.” The meaning is clear: “Get over it—and get over it by yourself.” In short, we do not properly lament. And because we do not properly lament, we remain mired in sadness, sadness which often becomes firmly entrenched anger.

So, what is the solution? After all, we need to lament. Whenever we experience loss, we experience grief. And whenever we experience grief, we need to lament. Remember Lamentations 3:19-20 and spend some time in lament. Just don’t make that your permanent home. When Jeremiah wrote those verses, he didn’t stop at verse 20. No, he continued on: “²¹Yet I still dare to hope when I remember this: ²²The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. ²³Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning. ²⁴I say to myself, “The Lord is my inheritance; therefore, I will hope in him!”

What season are we in? We are in a season of hope. Hear that again: We are in a season of hope. We have hope—and that hope is Jesus Christ. And we not only have hope, we have purpose. Our purpose is to love God, to worship and praise God—and our purpose is to love our neighbor as ourselves. The Apostle Paul writes in Romans 13: “⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law” (8-10, ESV).

Love. Hope. If you have experienced loss, take time to lament but do not lose hope. If you find yourself angry or bitter, take time to lament but do not lose hope. If you have lost or severed relationships because of differing spiritual, social, or political beliefs, take time to lament but do not lose hope. Do not lose hope. Do not lose love. Love does no wrong to a neighbor for love is the fulfilling of the law.

Love. Hope. Join us in this season of hope. Join us in loving God and loving our neighbor. Join us in worshipping, praising and glorifying God. Join us.

Pastor Rodney

Pastor Rodney

Renuevo Special Evening

Submitted by Tara Bush

Seventy individuals from around South Eastern South Dakota gathered together on the evening of Friday, July 9th at the Plankinton United Methodist Church. They welcomed Saul & Elizabeth Sarmiento who reside in Texas but travel across the country to preach the Word of God. Pastor Herman Perez organized this special evening for the Plankinton Renuevo Ministry.



Evangelist Saul Sarmiento shared from Luke 5:1-11. The theme of his message was: Go into the deep and cast your nets; force yourself to go just a little bit more. In reading these verses you meet two important characters: 1) Jesus, our glorious Savior and 2) Peter, the leader of the first church. Jesus was teaching and there were so many people that he had to move into a boat so that he could better be heard. Jesus was having a great—prosperous—day. However Peter was not having a good day.

Saul asked the congregation to think about a job where you go and "Punch Out" to go home. You punch out frustrated that nothing has gone right, feeling like you accomplished absolutely nothing. You were expecting things to happen, you were there watching and waiting. Peter had an optimistic spirit and perhaps said "Not today, but tomorrow will be my day." There is a season and a time. God always shows up in his time. Watch the nets and wait and see what God is about to do.

In the story there were two boats. Jesus had gathered in the boat with Peter. Peter's boat had no fish; so, why did Jesus choose that boat. Jesus had an interest in that boat.

At the shore is where the ground meets the water. It is muddy and messy and things get dirty. This is where many of us want to give up. But remember, Jesus has an interest in this town, your life, this "boat".

Peter needed to hear what Jesus was calling him to do. Jesus asked Peter to move his boat out into the deep water, and let down the nets. You need to let go of your agenda and move towards God's agenda. That is when things will happen. Jesus has promised each of us that he will be with us all the days of our life. He tells us to go back to the place where we failed and cast our nets. Go back to where nothing worked but this time you are going because God is telling you to go. You are not walking in your own strength but in God's power and strength. When Peter cast the nets, as he was told, the nets broke with the weight of the overflowing abundance of fish. So breakthrough and submit yourself to the Word of God. Get on your knees and pray for God's forgiveness and blessings.

Following evangelist Saul's powerful message, he invited individuals to the altar for prayer; most in attendance accepted his invitation at the altar. It was awesome to see God at work in our community.

The evening concluded with a time of celebration and fellowship over a meal and lemonade/coffee.

If you are interested in learning more about the Renuevo Plankinton Ministry, check out the [Iglesia Renuevo](#) Facebook page and join us for services on Fridays at 7:00PM.

The Youth have been enjoying a variety of activities this summer. See below for pictures of their fun and the upcoming schedule of events!



Splash Central Water Park and Wild Water West Fun National Ice Cream Day Youth Building Activity



Youth Group Doings

Fundraiser

Plankinton/White Lake UMC YOUTH GROUP SUMMER 2021 FUNDRAISER Rada Peelers & Pairing Knife Individual (\$10) or Set (\$20). Contact Tara 605-682-8912 to purchase and Youth will deliver to you (at your Work or Home)



Proceeds will go towards the cost for Youth to Attend - Dak Youth 2021 2nd Weekend in November

Activity Schedule

- Aug 13** FREAKY FRIDAY Outdoor Movie Marathon in the Plankinton UMC parking lot (both old & new Freaky Friday movies playing) Movie Concessions will be available "For Sale" Bring lawn chairs, pillows/blankets, & bug spray #CelebratingBothFridaythe13thand KoolAideDay
- Aug 15** 7:30PM Evening to relax before school begins at the Plankinton UMC Relax / Meditate / Play Games
- Aug 21** Family Music and Worship Opportunity Fields of Grace, Arlington, SD—featuring Building 429, Cade Thompson, and Tasha Layton. Doors open at 3PM. Tickets: \$20.00
- Aug 25** Midweek Youth Worship Kickoff at White Lake UMC (leave Plankinton at 6:20pm) Contemporary worship/devotion (grades 6-12) 6:45pm Fellowship around dinner 7:15pm Contemporary Worship With Devotion 8:15pm Transport Plankinton Youth back to Plank UMC

Methodist Women Upcoming Meetings

United
Methodist



Women

United Methodist Women

We meet once per month starting in September. The first meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 29. Please watch the calendar for future meeting dates.



Queen Esther Circle

Queen Esther Circle

We meet on the first Wednesday of each month from Sept. to May. Our next meeting will be held at 9:30AM at the church on September 1st. Please feel free to join us.

Daughters of Eve

Discerning the beloved daughter you are in Christ



Daughters of Eve

Please feel free to join us the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00PM. We will begin meeting again on September 8th (one week later than regular meeting for Sept and Oct.)

WinGS



This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! ~2. Cor. 5:17 WinGS (Women in God's Service) meets every Sunday at 6:00PM. All women are invited. Study and grow in God's Word as we fellowship together!

Annual Trek to Wesley Acres enjoyed by all

We made our annual trip to Wesley Acres in Mitchell to entertain the residents on June 30th. Eight UMW members attended from our church as well as 3 more from Aurora. The evening began with coffee and cookies for all! Just like any Methodist Gathering...there were bars and cookies which were provided by the women of the church!!! Following the social time the musical group "Aurora" (accompanied by Farrah Kemp). sang several beautiful songs. This is always a highlight of the evening! Following their music, a sing-a-long was held with everyone calling out their favorite hymn. It was a great evening of fun and fellowship with the residents of Wesley Acres. Later some of the "Church Ladies" went out to dinner at a restaurant. Thanks to Aurora for providing the entertainment every year. The residents always look forward to our visit. We have been making this annual trek for many, many years (sometime in the late 60's or early 70's...we just can't remember when we started.) It is always a highlight of the missions of the women of the church.

Upcoming "Fun Days" to Celebrate...

August 24th — Plan your supper meal at a local eating establishment to celebrate [#IconicAmericanRestaurantDay](#)

August 25th — National Banana Split Day

September 6th — National Coffee Ice Cream Day

September 15th — National Double Cheeseburger Day



NEWSLETTER UPDATES — ADDRESS AND EMAIL UPDATES NEEDED

- We are implementing the newsletter once more to increase our communications to our church members and constituents. We are utilizing a variety of media in the expectation of reaching everyone.
- If you wish anything to be included in the newsletter, please submit it to Peggy at the email below or to the church office.
- Additionally, we are soliciting any financial support for the costs of the newsletter. If you wish to donate specifically to the newsletter, please note that with your donation.
- The Newsletter will be sent out in electronic form through our church communications called Breeze. This comes to your email (if we have your email address). We will also provide the Newsletter by mail for those requesting this format. It will also be available as a link on the Plankinton UMC webpage.
- Please let us know in which form you wish to receive the Newsletter. If by mail, please make certain we have your updated address. If by electronic format, please make sure we have your correct email. Please send your address changes and/or email changes to us at the church or email them to Peggy at peggysue@siouxvalley.net Any changes will also be given to Tara for the church records.

Methodist Men Group Invitation

The United Methodist Men are looking to add new members to their monthly meetings. An invitation is extended to all men to join them on the first Saturday of each month. Due to Labor Day weekend, the next meeting will be held September 11th at 9:00 am. We look forward to having you join us!

Tech Corner

Thank you to Terry Bush for his continued work in the area of technology. You will notice the new television screen in the fellowship hall which was donated through memorial money. Thank you, Terry, for getting that up and running. Also, thank you for all of the changes that you have had to make during the challenges brought on with the pandemic and with the technology changes that were required with the updates to the service! We are very blessed to have your dedication and your knowledge!!

Plans are being made to hold the Annual Fall Supper this year!!! Believe it or not, it is only two months away!!!! Enjoy the rest of your summer!!!!

School will begin August 19th. Please be watching for those young children out and about on the roads again!!! Keep all in your prayers!

Dakotas Conference 2021



Pastor Rodney Knock was Commissioned as a Work of an Elder at the Celebration of Life Service on June 10th, 2021 at the Sioux Falls Convention Center

That is Rev. Leonard Haggin, former Plankinton UMC Pastor, assisting Pastor Rodney in his robing ceremony.

-2021 Annual Conference Highlights

Theme: In a time of continual changes, God is calling United Methodists in the Dakotas to remain rooted in Christ. Drawing on our collective values of Jesus, Mission and Connection, the theme of this year's annual conference session is "**Jesus. Waymaker.**" We explored ways in which we need to step out of our comfort zone and follow the path to live like Jesus in ways beyond our imagination.

Bishop's Episcopal Address: "Where is Christ's compassion? Didn't Jesus call that woman (begging for help) a dog? A woman whose young daughter is possessed by an unclean spirit finds out about Jesus and falls at his feet," Bishop Laurie Haller stated in her first sermon, the 2021 Episcopal Address, to the Dakotas Conference of The United Methodist Church. Bishop Laurie invited all those listening to transform their hearts and minds, continuing to share the good news of Jesus, the Waymaker. "Keep on innovating. Keep on sharing the good news. And keep on discerning in humility and wisdom how God invites each of us to transform hearts and minds. Wait a minute. Didn't Jesus just call you "beloved child of God?"

Legislation: Delegates affirmed all legislation put before them during the twenty-eighth session of the Dakotas Annual Conference including: the ratification of a disaffiliation agreement allowing Prairie Winds Church in Dickinson, North Dakota, to leave The United Methodist Church; affirmation of a resolution advocating for the inclusion of all people in the life of the church; and voting yes to a resolution calling for boards and related agencies of the Dakotas Conference to begin planning for a separation of the denomination.

In other matters before the body, a 2022 budget was approved with a slight decrease in spending, four clergy were commissioned as elders, three were ordained as elders, the retirement of five clergy was celebrated, and the slate of nominations for all committees, boards and agencies was approved.

Miracle Offering: Our 2021 Miracle Offering, Feeding the Dakotas is an effort to help feed 150,000 people who face hunger daily in the Dakotas. So far, we've collected close to \$40,000. We are over half-way to the finish line. Help us reach our goal of \$75,000 to be shared with the Great Plains Food Bank in North Dakota, Feeding South Dakota, and grants to local hunger ministries.

For More Specifics on the Legislation...the summary report is available from the Church Office,

Friendship Supper Held May 12th



After a year hiatus, the Annual Friendship Supper was once again held at the church. About 80 women joined together to enjoy great food, fun and fellowship. Two Special Recognition pins were given this year. The recipients were Kristi Anderson and Shelby Higgason. These young ladies have faithfully served our church through Sunday School, Youth Group, Music Ministry, Congregational Care and Concern, We All Belong Room Development, and in so many other ways. Kristi and Shelby both graduated in May and will be pursuing higher education opportunities. A donation was made in their honor. Good luck to you both and thank you for your service to the Plankinton UMC. The entertainment for the evening began with a wonderful Puppet Ministry Skit about Mothers and Angels. The next skit was done by some of the women of the church and was a parody of a “zoom call to PLAN the Annual Supper in the midst of COVID-19”. The culmination of the evening was the gift of music provided by the trio Aurora. Thank you to everyone who attended and to those who helped to make this evening a wonderful time of celebration!!



Young Disciples Time during Outdoor service in July and Blessing of the Animals!!

"I Wonder" Theme for VBS — July 11-15



Scenes from VBS



Through Bible Stories, Crafts, Activities, Music, & Fellowship, the kids were blessed by their time at Vacation Bible School. The week also included a “change war” as they raised money for the Plankinton Community Pool Committee. A total of 438.89 was raised! Yes, the girls donated more than the boys...but there were three times more girls in attendance than boys so congratulations goes out to all!!! On Thursday evening, the children presented a fun-filled musical program with voices and actions that were all raised in praise to the Lord! Thank you to all who had any part in providing this fabulous time in Vacation Bible School for the children!!!

Dakotas Conference Camping Resumes in 2021

Camping resumed this year through the Dakotas Conference. Plankinton UMC had children and adults attend camp this summer!!! The pictures below are from Wesley Acres Camp in ND with the first two Plankinton UMC campers of the summer (Jaxon and Teagan) being highlighted in the pictures and of the group who went to camp the week of August 1st (Maryssa, Delsie, Abby, Gage)!! Thank you to the camping committee and the UMW and all others involved in getting our kids “Back To Camp!!!”



Sunday School Corner

Proverbs 22:6 Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it. (New International Version Bible)



Sunday School Children through 4th Grade Singing for Promotion Sunday

Musical Bells Selection: Grades 5th and older:



Sunday School Superintendent Peggy thanks the teachers for 2020-2021 Sunday School Year— Kristi, Shelby, Lindsey...Absent from picture: Cally and Tara

**Sunday School Promotion Sunday
Held May 23rd**

Faith Makes Things Possible — Not Easy (found

Kickoff for the 2021-22 Sunday School Year will be Sept. 12th

New Sunday School Superintendent, Lindsey Weich, has announced that the new Sunday School Year will begin with a Kick-Off Celebration on Sunday, Sept. 12th. Please bring your children to the Kickoff which will begin at 9:15 am.

This year, Sunday School will be held from 9:15-10:15 am each Sunday.

Look for more information on schedule, activities, teachers, & fun for the year!!!

The Confirmation 2021-22 Kickoff Drop-In Event is also September 12th!

We are reaching out to families that have expressed interest and/or have students in 8th grade or above that may want to be in confirmation class.

**6th-7th graders may participate with a parent present during sessions.

If you are interested, please attend the confirmation kickoff drop-in event to complete the registration paperwork and receive the schedule, expectations, journal, and other items. Completion time should be 15-20 minutes. Event hours are 7:45-8:45 in White Lake and 11:30-1:00 in Plankinton.

*If you are unable to attend the confirmation kickoff event but would still like your student in confirmation class, you must arrange a time to meet with Pastor Rodney. **Registration materials will not be sent home for completion.** Thank*



Prayer Corner

...All God's People Are Called To...

- Remember those who've been In the Hospital or have had medical concerns
- Remember those who are beginning or continuing in their Cancer Journey
- Remember those in Facilities
- Remember those who Mourn
- Give Praise For Celebrations

Each week, the joys and concerns of our congregation and community are shared in church and listed in the weekly bulletin. We invite everyone to join worship in-person or on-line each week and to join in praying for the needs and celebrations brought forth. If you are unable to join us and wish to receive a copy of the weekly bulletin, please contact the church office.

**Taken from a church
Prayer of Confession**

Children of God, blessings have been poured upon you so that you may use them to help others.

God walks with you and guides your steps as you reach out in compassion, mercy and justice to all in need. AMEN

This and That

**Check out our website/Facebook pages for further information.*

**If you have information for the weekly calendar, be sure to email items to office@plankumc.org before noon on Wednesday.*

**If you have information for the 4th quarter announcements/calendar, email them to office@plankumc.org before noon on September 20, 2021.*

Prayer Chain Requests—For any need

- The women of the church have an active prayer chain ministry. For prayer requests or to join the prayer chain call any of the following:
 - Mavis Haines —605-942-7339 (Queen Esther Circle Chair)
 - Elaine Titze—605-999-7287 (Daughters of Eve Circle Chair)
 - Church Office—942-7365
- Also, prayer requests may be added to the prayer wall in the fellowship hall or completed on prayer request forms available in the pews.

Pastor Rodney Knock

Pastor's email: pastor@plankumc.org
Church email: office@plankumc.org

Plankinton Office: 942-7365
White Lake Office: 249-2410

Pastor Rodney is in White Lake on Wednesday

(sharing an excerpt from the book,
Three Simple Rules: A Wesleyan Way of Living, by Rueben Job)

Deep within, I believe all of us do want to live that faithful and fruitful life even though we have often turned away from God's invitation to holy living. And we are not the first to struggle with faithfulness to the highest we know in Jesus Christ. The author of Colossians reminds the reader:

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. (Colossians 3: 12-14)

Job, R., (2007). Introduction, The world In which we live . In Job, R. *Three Simple Rules, A Wesleyan Way of Living*. (pg. 14) Nashville: Abingdon Press.



Plankinton UMC
PO Box 7
Plankinton, SD 57368

Address Service Requested

