

**HMC**  
**The**  
**Witness**

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE  
HOLDREGE METHODIST CHURCH

Church Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 9:30 am – 1:30 pm

Fridays – CLOSED

Office phone #: 308-995-8691

Email: holdregemethodistchurch@gmail.com



**MERRY CHRISTMAS ALL AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Do you remember when we were headed into the year 2000? We were all concerned about the computers shutting down and we would lose our investments and financial records. Now here we are 24 years later, and all is well.

Just when we think we will lose sight of the events in our life – God is there to guide us on the right path. God was ever present with Joseph and Mary as He placed them in a stable for a baby to be born and then that child becomes a King. The Christ child becomes our savior as he shares the Word of God with his disciples, and they bring the Grace of God to the world.

What are your plans for 2024? Do you believe that you have goals that will open new opportunities for you? How about the Holdrege Methodist Church? Is there a pastoral candidate that will be led to this church and congregation? Will God provide just the right pastor for the church? Are you still praying for that person to come to this church? BELIEVE! Believe in the power of prayer. God took care of Mary and Joseph. He will take care of this church. Think about how far God has brought you in the ministry of the church.

I have been thinking about what I want to accomplish in 2024! I found my Daily Walk Bible and decided to use it again. The Bible provides a pathway to read through the Bible in a year. I read through the study and then use my Bible App to listen to the scriptures read to me for the day. If I get behind, I just move on to the next lesson.

Think about the direction you want to move with your life and this church. God’s Grace, Peace and Mercy to each of you. “Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.” *Proverbs 16:3*

*Blessings to each of you, Pastor George*

**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:**

- Breakfast items, pancake syrup, juices
- Tissues, Toilet paper
- Mac 'n Cheese

**Thank you for your generous donations!**

**ATTENDANCE**

How many of you are coming to our brick-and-mortar church? We would love to start seeing you again in the church and participating in its operations if you are able.

**You can be an asset to YOUR church?**

DECEMBER ATTENDANCE:		
	8:30am	10:00am
Dec. 3	29	46
Dec. 10	37	52
Dec. 17	27	102
Dec. 24	73	
Christmas Eve	131	
Dec. 31	N/A	



**How are we doing financially?  
MONTHLY BUDGET: \$25,000.00**

DECEMBER OFFERINGS:	
Dec. 3	\$5,743.00
Dec. 10	\$3,211.00
Dec. 17	\$2,454.00
Dec. 24	\$10,139.00
Dec. 31	N/A
<b>TOTAL to date</b>	<b>\$21,547.00</b>

**Looking for an opportunity to serve the community?**

**MEALS ON WHEELS** is looking for new volunteers and this would be a great chance to give back to our community. There are three routes divided into different areas of the town, each route takes about 40 minutes to complete, and you can volunteer once a month or more if it fits into your schedule. For more information, contact Jeanne Bergsten at 308-991-1462 or email: [gjbergsten@gmail.com](mailto:gjbergsten@gmail.com).

**NO Committee meetings were held in December.**

**Meetings resume on January 22, 2024.**

**Committee Meetings: 6:30 pm  
Ad Council: 7:30 pm**

**Ad Council is open to all members, and each of you is encouraged to attend to know how and what your church is doing.**

**YOU ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF THIS CHURCH, TOO!!**

**Please keep the following persons in your prayers for their health, healing and personal issues that they are currently experiencing:**

- |                      |                              |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Joseph Marvin family | Scott Harms                  |
| Helen Wells          | Vearl Schroder               |
| Kenton Thompson      | Dan Sanchez                  |
| Marsha Ferdinand     | David Calvin                 |
| Pauline Bogart       | Mike & Brian Sisson families |
| Thelma Steinshouer   | Sandy Brewer                 |

**Prayers in our church's Pastoral search and for those with health concerns or personal issues that are on your hearts and minds.**

**Prayers for all Military members and their families:**











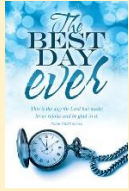
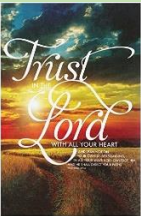
*Lord,*

*Thank you for the men and women who have stepped up to serve and protect our country. May they know the blessing of serving well. Thank you for your promise to never leave or forsake your people. We pray for the protection of our Armed Forces serving our country at home or abroad, whether in drills or in deployment. Keep from harm all those in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard. Help them to be strong and courageous and do not let them be discouraged. Help them to feel Your presence. Help them to stay morally strong and free from untoward influence. Keep them healthy and free from sickness as well as injury. Guide them, be their eyes and their ears as they move about and carry out their order and missions. Amen!*



# JANUARY



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b> 	<b>2</b> 7:30 AM Methodist Men's Breakfast @ Cozy Inn 1:30 pm Happy Hookers Crochet Group	<b>3</b> 10:00 am Prayer Group 	<b>4</b> 9:00 am Holdrege Women in Faith monthly meeting 	<b>5</b> 	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> GEORGE PROBASCO <b>COMMUNION</b> 8:30 AM Praise Café 10:00 am Traditional Service in Sanctuary	<b>8</b> 1:30 pm HMH Communion 	<b>9</b> 7:30 am Methodist Men's Breakfast @ Cozy Inn 1:30 pm Happy Hookers Crochet 1:30 pm Christian Homes Communion <b>Quilt Guild- ALL DAY EVENT</b>	<b>10</b> 9:30 am Ruth group Elizabeth group 10:00 am Prayer Group 4-5 pm Kids ROCK 7-8:30 pm Youth Group	<b>11</b> 9:30 am Naomi group 	<b>12</b> 	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> GEORGE PROBASCO 8:30 AM Praise Café 10:00 am Traditional Service in Sanctuary Special music, Mark Beam	<b>15</b> Martin Luther King Jr. 	<b>16</b> 7:30 AM Methodist Men's Breakfast @ Cozy Inn 1:30 pm Happy Hookers Crochet Group	<b>17</b> 10:00 am Prayer Group 4-5 pm Kids ROCK 7-8:30 pm Youth Group	<b>18</b> 	<b>19</b> HAVE YOU TALKED TO GOD TODAY?	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> JEAN CLAYTON 8:30 am Praise Café 10:00 am Traditional Service in Sanctuary	<b>22</b> 6:30 pm Church Committee mtgs. 7:30 pm Ad Council Mtg.	<b>23</b> 7:30 AM Methodist Men's Breakfast @ Cozy Inn 1:30 pm Happy Hookers Crochet Group	<b>24</b> 10:00 am Prayer Group 4-5 pm Kids ROCK 7-8:30 pm Youth Group	<b>25</b> 	<b>26</b> 	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> ? 8:30 AM Praise Café 10:00 am Traditional Service in Sanctuary	<b>29</b> 	<b>30</b> 7:30 AM Methodist Men's Breakfast @ Cozy Inn 1:30 pm Happy Hookers Crochet Group	<b>31</b> 10:00 am Prayer Group 4-5 pm Kids ROCK 7-8:30 pm Youth Group	<b>FEB. 1</b>	<b>FEB. 2</b>	<b>FEB. 3</b>

*As you celebrate another year of life, may God's love and favor be upon you. May His joy be your strength, and may His peace be your constant companion. Happy Birthday!*

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Brian Sisson
- 2 Jill Silver  
Marilyn Layton
- 3 Kendra Schmidt
- 4 Jeff Hueftle
- 5 Roger Johnson  
Nichole Schultz
- 7 Euna Vosburg
- 8 Josh Jones
- 10 Robin Schrock
- 12 Heather Miller  
Bonna Walker  
Jessica Dahlin  
Jessica Booe
- 13 Sue Larson
- 14 Burton Thompson  
Austin Brown
- 17 Roger Peterson  
Amanda Helms  
Holly Weaver
- 18 Lola Moseley
- 22 Bob Wells  
Lexie Luedke
- 24 Scott Wells
- 25 Sandra Calvin
- 26 Jason Nelson
- 29 Trent Anderson
- 30 Gwen Harden  
Phyllis Robinson  
JC Schemper  
Jacob Schrock



*Count your blessings - not your age in years...*

**SERVING THE CHURCH.....**

**8:30 AM PRAISE CAFÉ**

DATE	GREETERS	CAFÉ HOSTS
January 7	Wes & Tami Rademaker	JoAnn Everett Sandy Mueller
January 14	Kendall & Lola Moseley	Ruth Johnson
January 21	Bob & Cathy Woolley	OPEN
January 28	Larry Hutton/ Bill Michalski	OPEN

**10:00 AM USHERS**

January 7	TEAM 1
January 14	TEAM 2
January 21	TEAM 3
January 28	TEAM 4

**LOOKING BACK ON THE 2023 CHURCH YEAR**

**CONFIRMANDS**

**JAYLEE JONES**

**REESE HODGE**

**BAPTISMS**

Cutler Shawn Nelson - PARENTS, CLAYTON & LINDSAY NELSON

**2023 GRADUATES**

**SABRINA SCHEMPER**

**CHYENNE TIDYMAN**

**BROGAN WISE**

**MAX DUTCHER**

**CONNOR FULMER**

**AIDEN HELMS**

**NEW MEMBERS**

**JAYLEE JONES**

**REESE HODGE**

**MADISON BOWERS**

**SHEILA BOGART**

**PAULINE BOGART**

**ABBY KINNAMAN**

**EMILY JOHNSON**

**KELLY BERNT**

**HALEY BERNT**

**IN MEMORY OF THOSE THAT PASSED**

**MARIAN RABURN**

**DEE LEFF**

**LORETTA STURGIS**

**MARGARET HODGE**

**EDNA BRUNOW**

**PHYLLIS WENTLING**

**MELODIE MARVIN**

**JUNE STEINBRINK**

**DONNA HARMON**

**DELTA MAE JOHNSON**

**CAROL POUK**

**LAITY SUNDAY - 80+ YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP**

**DELORES RADEMAKER**

**ROSE ANN SWANSON**

**VEARL SCHRODER**

**ALICE RICHARDSON**

**DOROTHY SHAPLAND**

**LLOYD JOHNSON**

**VENETA JOHNSON**

**2024 ADMINISTRATIVE TEAMS & LEADERSHIP ROLES**

**2024 LAY LEADERSHIP**

**Lay Leader** Brad Ludeke  
**Church Council Chairperson** Tracie Ludeke  
**Lay Member to Annual Conference** Brad Ludeke

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES/TEAMS**

**FINANCE:**

**Chairperson:** Kathy Wilkins  
**Treasurer:** Lexie Ludeke  
**Financial Auditor:** Brad Kimberly

**MEMBERS AT LARGE:** Lay Leader, Church Council Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, Treasurer, Trustees Chairperson, SPRC Chairperson, and Finance Secretaries.

2024	2025	2026
Barb Malm	Blake Johnson	Ted Schrock
Lori Reiner	Kathy Wilkins	Lisa Hodge

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES/DISASTER RESPONSE:**

**Chairperson:** TBD  
**Disaster Response/Trustees Co-Chair** Rob Schmidt

2024	2025	2026
Corey Wiess	Brad Johnson	Mike Olson
Shane Stabenow	Rob Schmidt	Deb Kassing
	Larry Marvin	Holly Stevens

**ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE:**

**Registered Agent:** Wes Nelson  
**Trustee Representative:** TBD  
**Finance Representative:** Blake Johnson  
**Lay Leader:** Brad Ludeke

2024	2025	2026
Joe Marquardt	Colby Wohlgemuth	Jeff Johnson

**MEMORIALS:**

**Chairperson:** Linda DiGiovanni

2024	2025	2026
Linda DiGiovanni	Lola Moseley	Kendall Moseley

**STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS (SPRC)**

**Chairperson:** Brenda Johnson

<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
Euna Kay Vosburg	Joy Marquardt	Brad Luedke
Mike Sisson	Grady Johnson	Brenda Johnson

**NOMINATION COMMITTEE**

**Chairperson:** Pastor, TBD (Mark Beam, Interim)

<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
Mark Beam	Mike Peterson	Tammi Sturgis

**MISSION OUTREACH**

**Chairperson:** TBD

<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
Sharon Nelson	Janice Jordan	Janet Arford
Connie Dahlin	Sandra Calvin	Sandra Dahlgren

**EDUCATION**

**Chairperson:** Holly Johnson

<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
Stacee Stabenow	Sidney Robinson	Holly Johnson
Amie Bell	Brooke Wohlgemuth	Sheila Bogart

**MEMBERSHIP CARE**

**Co-Chairpersons:** Judy Schrock, Marilyn Layton

<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
Ruth Johnson	Marilyn Burkholder	Sue Cromer
Gayla Hunt	Mary Coffey	Marilyn Thompson
Marilyn Layton	Judy Schrock	Jean Wells
		JoAnn Everett

**WORSHIP**

**Chairperson:** Karen Philips

<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
Karen Philips	Helen Wells	Merry Johnson
Tammi Sturgis	Connie Nelson	Madison Bowers

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL DIRECTOR:** Holly Johnson



**MUSIC**

**Accompaniment:** Merry Johnson, Holly Johnson

**AUDIO/VISUAL BOOTH**

**Chairperson:** Grady Johnson

Connor Fulmer, Alex Beachler, Reese Hodge, Grady Johnson, Jett Johnson, Tracie Luedke

**Funeral Only –** Mike Layton

**COMMUNION STEWARDS**

**8:30 am Service:** Mike and Marilyn Layton  
Jean Wells and Linda DiGiovanni

**10:00 am Service:** Brad and Brenda Johnson  
Colby and Brooke Wohlgemuth

**FUNERAL COORDINATOR:** Connie Nelson

**FUNERAL GREETERS**

**Chairperson:** Mike Layton

**Greeter Team:** Joy Marquardt, Rob Schmidt, Gayla Hunt, Euna Kay Vosburg, Bob Woolley, Mark Beam, Ruth Johnson, Jean Wells, Bob Sander

**USHERS**

**Chairperson/Head Usher:** Brad Ludeke

Team 1: Mike Olson, Brian Anderson, Mark Kassing

Team 2: Mark Beam, Mike Sisson, Joe Marquardt

Team 3: Shane Stabenow, Brad Luedke, Rob Schmidt

Team 4: Sandy Dahlgren, Sandra Calvin, Helen Wells

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday: Brad Luedke and two others

Substitute: Euna Kay Vosburg

These committees are a vital part of the running and support of your church. If you want to be informed about what is happening within the walls of your church, pray about doing more by joining a committee or Women’s Circle, participating in the functions within the church when you are called and asked for your help, and attending the Ad Council meetings on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month. No one is too old, too weak, or too unqualified to be an asset to the Holdrege Methodist Church! YOU ARE WANTED AND NEEDED!

**AS YOU START YOUR NEW YEAR, REMEMBER THIS BIBLE VERSE:**

*“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:4-7*

**From the NE GMC NEWS**

This is a synopsis of our presiding elder, Shanon Williams' message to us taken from the latest GMC newsletter: Greetings, in the name of Christ. Since I wrote last, much has happened. Our convening conference in Watertown, SD was incredible. Great worship, preaching, and fun fellowship with like-minded people was very refreshing. My highlight is personal. My husband, Bill and I were both ordained as elders in the Global Methodist Church and at that moment was wonderful and grace filled. I am thankful for our friends who arrived to celebrate the moment with us. The other special moment for Bill and I is the fact that both our sending forth pastor and our clergy mentor, as well as our lay representatives were on stage with us for that moment. The presence of the Holy Spirit was palpable. After the ordination service we asked Bishop Webb how many clergy couples he has ordained as elder? He said we were the fifth couple he's had the honor to ordain. What a joy to be a part of that number and to be ordained among friends. We came home and the work of being a presiding elder began in earnest. I'm still not 100% sure what I'm doing, but I'm trusting God and fellow clergy to guide my steps and I'm learning along the way. There have been zoom meetings with GMC leaders at the state and conference level. There have been or will be in-person visits to the churches in my district without a pastor at this time, so we can come up with a plan as we move forward in the pastoral search for each of them. There have been e-mails, texts and phone calls. The words from John 1:1-18 are some of my favorite verses. I encourage you to read these verses and look for these words: Word, Light, Grace. Notice how many times they show up. Jesus is the Word. Jesus is the Light. And through Jesus, we have all the richness of God's grace. Peace to you. Shanon Williams

To become better acquainted with our denomination and conference, please check out the following areas:

**NE GMC WEBSITE:** [Nebraskagmc.org](http://Nebraskagmc.org) In the upper left-hand corner, click on the three lines. Click on 'Events'. Then at the top, click on "Upper Midwest Conference New Beginnings" slide presentation.

**NE GMC Facebook page:** Friends of the Global Methodist Church movement in Nebraska.

**GMC Joyful Discipleship (from the GMC website)**

The Global Methodist Church believes people have a deep desire to know the Truth, and to devote themselves to it wholeheartedly. Our Church believes Jesus is the Truth and He calls us to be his disciples. Through Christ's infinite grace and by the power of the Holy Spirit, we are free to walk the path of joyful obedience to God's calling on our lives.

Fortunately, we walk *together* as Jesus' disciples. And in doing so we challenge one another to give our hearts, minds, souls, and bodies to the endeavor of growing in faith. Every Global Methodist Church calls all its member—from the very young to the very old—to participate in classes to study Scripture, learn about the richness of the Christian faith, and pursue ways to winsomely share it with others.



**LOCAL NOTES OF INTEREST / NEEDS:**

The church is seeking to hire an Administrative Assistant for our church office. The office will have shortened hours until this position is filled (Monday through Thursday 9:30 am to 1:30 pm and CLOSED ON FRIDAY); if you know of someone who may be interested in this position, please contact Tracie Ludeke at 991-3138 or Brenda Johnson at 991-6014 for more details.

The Kids Rock and Youth Group meetings will start again on January 10<sup>TH</sup>. Kids ROCK from 4-5 pm and the older Youth Group meets 7-8:30 pm.

The Methodist Church crochet group, the Happy Hookers, will begin meeting again on January 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

The Education committee has requested the names of your college students for the ability to continue to stay in contact with them with letters/cards/gifts of encouragement and support. The Connection cards at church have not been utilized for this information, so they are asking for your help in contacting the church office and submitting this information there. Thank you for your assistance with this important project.

With the start of a new year, the church office would like your response to having Movie Time again. With the temporary shorter office hours, a different time would need to be chosen, but if it is a popular event, this can be worked out to make it happen again. Just let the office know!

Starting January 7, Altar flowers will be purchased from the Bertrand Cross Country Market. If you have any questions, contact Mary Olson.

*Hopefully many of you were able to attend the Holdrege Methodist Church Christmas Eve service. It was a beautiful event filled with wonderful music by talented musicians, gifted singers that almost outshined the candles, and messages from scripture delivered from the heart. It was truly a blessed event and a night filled with grace, thanksgiving, and love!*

*Thank you all that worked so hard to make this a memorable event!*



**Holdrege Methodist Church**  
**604 West Ave. PO Box 30**  
**Holdrege, NE 68949**

**CHURCH Temporary**

**Office Hours:**

Monday-Thursday  
9:30am-1:30pm

Friday: **Closed**

Church Office: 995-8691

