



Feb 2025 Newsletter

- Come join us for Worship on Sunday mornings at 9 AM and virtually at uccmedford.org/media
510 E. Broadway Ave, Medford, WI 54451 715-748-3391 (church office)
Church website: www.uccmedford.org. Online worship ([Facebook live](#)) cuccofmedford@gmail.com
“Like” us on Facebook: Community United Church of Christ, Medford, Wisconsin

CUCC Church Council Meeting Minutes from Jan. 9, 2025

Meeting called to order at 6:16 pm.

Members present were Jerry P, Mark J, Dylan H, Mark D, Scott K and Pastor Tamara. Gloria C was absent. Guest Cindy K

Dylan H gave a Prayer of Guidance

December Council Meeting Minutes were emailed to Council. No discussion, motion to approve by Jerry P, seconded by Mark J; motion approved

December Treasurer's Report was emailed to Council. No discussion, motion to approve by Mark D, seconded by Jerry P; Motion approved

Group and Committee Reports

Buildings and Grounds no work done in December, projects for 2025 include getting bids for bathroom renovation and electricity to the flower garden in the west front lawn. There may be re-paving needed for the driveway.

Five Practices working on plans for Mardi Gras dinner

Christian Ed Children's Christmas program was during the Christmas Eve Service. Reading club ends in January and Roundtables begin in February. Bible Study continues.

Candlelight Guild sponsored a drive for the Backpack Program, prepared and handed out Christmas bags for the children,, took Christmas Decorations down and are discussing plans for the church's 125th anniversary

Pastor's Report Pastor Tamara attended a zoom meeting with the Community of Practice. Music Licensing was discussed. There are options to expand our licensing. Pastor Tamara will gather more information.

New Business Council discussed and agreed to make changes to Pastor Tamara's Contract to make Pastor Expenses simpler. Council also approved an increase in Compensation. Motion to approve the new one year contract by Dylan H, seconded by Mark J; motion approved. There was discussion about being more prepared for the next contract.

Budget Process Started work on the Budget but there were differences in numbers on printed pages. Stopped the meeting and Adjourned at 8:10 pm. Motion to adjourn by Mark J seconded by Mark D; motion approved. Quicken continues to be an issue. Cindy K will get the correct pages to all Council members and we will resume next Thursday, Jan 16 at 6:15 pm.

CUCC CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES continued — 1-16-2025

Council Thursday, Jan 16, 2025

Members Present: Gloria C, Scott K, Mark J, Jerry P and Dylan H Pastor Tamara

Council resumed the Meeting working on the Annual Budget. Corrections were made and changes were made to make the Annual Budget easiest to follow

Motion to approve the Annual Budget with corrections noted was made by Gloria C, seconded by Mark J, Motion was approved

Council discussed beginning planning for the Church's 125th Anniversary and the procedure to clean up old material no longer needed at Church .

Cindy K had advised us that the church actually has no garbage service and we have been using our neighbors trash receptacles. We will follow up on options.

Motion to adjourn at 6:45 pm by Jerry P, seconded by Gloria C; motion approved

Submitted by Scott K

From Pastor Tamara:
Dear Community UCC Family,

As we step into February, I am filled with gratitude for the warmth and resilience of our congregation, especially during these colder months. Last month, due to extreme cold, we had to cancel our on-site service on January 19, 2025. I appreciate everyone who joined the live-streamed service that day. February is a time to celebrate those you love.

In 1 Corinthians 13:1-13, the Apostle Paul emphasizes the paramount importance of love in the life of a believer. He teaches that even the most extraordinary spiritual gifts or acts of faith are meaningless without love. Paul describes love as patient and kind, devoid of envy, pride, or rudeness. It is not self-seeking, easily angered, nor does it keep a record of wrongs. Love rejoices with the truth, always protects, trusts, hopes, and perseveres. Unlike prophecies, tongues, or knowledge, which will eventually cease, love never fails. Paul concludes by highlighting that among faith, hope, and love, the greatest is love.

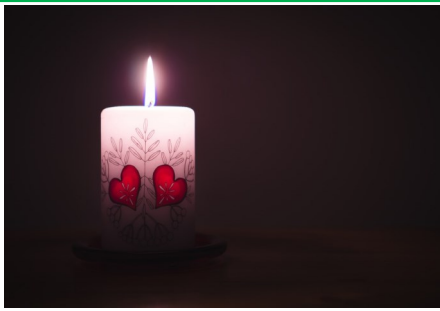
As we reflect on this passage, let us strive to embody this divine love in our daily interactions, ensuring that all our actions are rooted in genuine love for one another. And let us find new and unique ways to show our love for others this February and into the following months.

As always, our regular worship services continue every Sunday at 9:00 AM, with Sunday School offered concurrently. On the first Wednesday of each month, we stream live a Midweek Devotion with communion at 5:30 PM.

We will have a Mardi Gras meal again this year; it will take place on March 4th and all proceeds will go to Community Mission with Jesus. As we move into Lent, we will be offering Wednesday soup suppers with a short devotion afterward which will begin March 5th with Ash Wednesday. We hope you can join these devotions and time for community.

Let us continue to support one another, embracing the opportunities this season brings to deepen our faith and extend our love to the wider community.

Blessings,
Pastor Tamara



CANDLE LIGHT GUILD NEWS

The Candlelight Guild met on Tuesday January 7th with the following highlights of the meeting.

We planned to serve a funeral luncheon for the family of Clarice Brink on Friday, January 10th. Thank you to everyone for helping with this luncheon—those setting up the tables, the servers, those preparing the food, picking up the food and the clean up crew. The family was very thankful for the hard work and support given. We are working on an improved system so everyone who would like to be involved in future funeral luncheons can be involved.

We are looking into the purchase of a new clock for the sanctuary, this will replace the old one which is no longer keeping time. We also are looking at the replacement of our ranges, the oven does not heat on the gas stove and the electric oven gave out at the time of the funeral preparation.

We are looking forward to the World Day of Prayer being held on Friday, March 7th at 6:00, which will be held at St Paul's in Medford

The next meeting of the Candlelight Guild will be held on Tuesday, February 4th at 5:30. We would love to have you join us!

For the CG, Dawn



In Memoriam:

Funeral service was held at CUCC on 1-10-2025, for Clarice Brink with Pastor Tamara Cox officiating. Clarice had been a long time serving member of the church and her work supporting groups like the Candle Light Guild will always be appreciated and remembered. The CUCC congregation wishes to extend their sympathy to the Brink Family in their loss.



Dear friends,

OUR Mission Statement:

As an open-minded and inclusive community of faith,
Community United Church of Christ, Medford, WI,
welcomes everyone as Jesus would.

MISSION STATEMENT

We are the church – an open and affirming community in which diversity is celebrated as an asset and fully embraced into our life, leadership, ministry, community, worship, rites, sacraments, responsibilities, and blessings without qualification or discrimination because of ability, age, ethnicity, gender, race, or sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. It is our mission to serve, to pray, to love, and to hold true to these words:

“No matter who you are and where you are on your life’s journey, you are welcome here.”



Services at CUCC



J.A.M. (Jesus and Me Youth Group) News

We had an interesting discussion on Epiphany and the “12 days of Christmas”. We like to pick our fortune cookies that have Bible verses in them and we then write the verse down and find it in the Bible. Thanks to Lindsay for the food she made for the boys basketball team and then shared with JAM, jumbo shells and spaghetti. We felt like it was early Mardi Gras. We prayed for the California Wildfires and people that have to overcome such devastation. We put together branches of love to add a heart and take a token to remember and pray for peace and love for the month of Feb. We also took time to do a walk through church and notice and study the stained glass windows and church symbols. We reviewed the booklet the Candle Light Guild put together on the stained glass windows. We found that very interesting. For the month of Feb., we hope to refresh some of the bulletin boards. Also with lent coming up, we will be burning any leftover palms from last year, so if anyone has some, bring them to church by end of Feb and we will be preparing them for Ash Wed. Remember especially the month of Feb. to spread the love of Jesus.

Submitted by, Lori



CUCC FINANCES:

As of Jan. 24, 2025

Income \$ 2,814.00

Expenses \$ 4,778.00



SPAGHETTI DINNER

Tuesday, March 4
4 - 7 pm

All You Can Eat Spaghetti
(with or without meat)
Salad | Garlic Bread | Dessert | Drink

\$8 Single | \$15 Couple
\$5 kids 5-12 | Kids 4-and-under FREE

Community UCC – “The Red Brick Church”
510 East Broadway | Medford
Proceeds to benefit local missions





World Day of Prayer

CUCC will again participate in the **World Day of Prayer** Event on Friday, March 7.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Medford, will host this year's World Day of Prayer service on **Friday, March 7, beginning at 6:00 p.m.**

World Day of Prayer is a worldwide ecumenical movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year on the first Friday in March. Each year a different country serves as the writer of the World Day of Prayer worship service. For 2025, the World Day of Prayer Committee of the Cook Islands developed the theme, "I Made You Wonderful," from Psalm 139. A free will offering will go toward the work of World Day of Prayer.

Both men and women are invited to this ecumenical service.

LOVE IN ACTION

When disaster strikes, the United Church of Christ responds. Together, we can show God's love in action.

Thank you for standing with California's communities during this time of unreal hardship. Your generosity will make a difference.*

**100% of your donation will go directly to disaster relief efforts. Every gift matters. Please give today.*



California Wildfires Relief

Los Angeles County is grappling with a devastating wildfire crisis, as multiple fires spread rapidly across the region. Now, more than ever, you can support the most vulnerable communities during this critical time. Your compassionate action can remind our neighbors —through every step of their journey from response to recovery—that they are not alone. The Wisconsin Conference partners with Church World Service at this critical moment. CWS' Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery team provides resources to people in need, limited temporary housing, and technical assistance to organizations on the ground. Your contributions provide critical and life-saving resources to our neighbors when it's most needed and sustain that support long after the news has left headlines. Donate today by using the "Donate" button at **wcucc.org** or by **making a gift through our local congregation with "California Fire" on the memo line.**

February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
<p>2 <i>Worship with Communion 9 am Sunday School during service Pastor Tamara Dassow Cox Bible Study after service</i></p>	3	<p>4</p> <p><i>Candle Light Guild Mtg 5:30 pm</i></p>	<p>5</p> <p><i>Confirmation class 3:30 pm</i></p> <p><i>Mid week Devotion 5:30 pm</i></p>	6	7	8
<p>9 <i>Worship 9 am Sunday School during service Pastor Jill Christopherson</i></p>	10	11	<p>12</p> <p><i>JAM 3:30 pm</i></p>	<p>13</p> <p><i>Council meeting 6:15 pm</i></p>	<p>14</p> 	15
<p>16 <i>Worship 9 am Sunday School during service Pastor Tamara Dassow Cox</i></p>	<p>17</p> 	18	<p>19</p> <p><i>Confirmation class 3:30 pm</i></p>	<p>20</p> <p><i>5 Practices 6 pm</i></p>	21	22
<p>23 <i>Worship 9 am Sunday School during service Pastor Christopher Ewan</i></p>	24	25	<p>26</p> <p><i>JAM 3:30 pm</i></p>	27	28	