



Come join us for Worship on Sunday mornings at 9 AM and virtually at [uccmedford.org/media](http://uccmedford.org/media)  
 510 E. Broadway Ave, Medford, WI 54451 715-748-3391 (church office) Email: [cuccofmedford@gmail.com](mailto:cuccofmedford@gmail.com)  
 Church website: [www.uccmedford.org](http://www.uccmedford.org) Online worship ([Facebook live](#))  
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<u>ATTENDANCE &amp; Offering</u>		
12-7	38	\$1010
12-14	24	\$395
12-21	19	\$205
12-24	\$	
<b>Misc offering to Christmas fund: \$20</b>		

### CUCC Church Council Meeting Minutes from 12-11-2025

Meeting called to order at 6:15 pm by Council President Scott K

Members present: Jerry P, Gloria C, Pam P, Scott K, Pastor Tamara C

Absent: Dylan H, Mark D. Guests: none

Council recited a prayer together from the Council Agenda they agreed to use at each meeting.

Consent Agenda The Nov Council mtg minutes were emailed to Council members. No discussion or concerns. Motion to approve the Oct Council Minutes was made by Jerry P 2nd by Pam P. Motion was approved. The Nov Financial Reports were handed out at the mtg. There was a question on an insufficient funds line. This was a check written to the Church by a visitor. Motion was then made to approve the Nov Financial report by Gloria C, 2nd by Pam P, motion was approved.

### Group Reports

Buildings and Grounds Had a new contact for the Bathrooms project. He suggested adding a handicapped bathroom with a Macerating toilet, This would eliminate breaking up the floor. Group will have another mtg to seek more info & an actual bid detailing the project. Jerry P informed the Council that new furnaces filters were installed. There are caster wheels on the altar, making it easier to arrange the church decor. Thanks to Dennis/Lori G for doing this. Livingston Trees Service is preparing to take down the 2 walnut trees. Scott has contacted people about the wood & has interest. The People will be asked to give a fair donation in exchange for the wood to help offset the removal expense. A new faucet has been purchased by by The Candlelight Guild and will



be installed in the Kitchen.

Five Practices The Five Practices Group has led the Wed Advent services. There has been a small group each week but the Devotions have been wonderful. Pastor Jill sent Jerry an email about a person( Leslie M) who works on fundraising. Jerry will contact him to schedule a meeting, either in person or via Zoom.

Christian Ed Sunday School and Jam are meeting and the Christmas program was wonderful.

Candlelight Guild The Guild decorated the Church and had a potluck dinner that night. The Giving Tree is up and will support the Medford School District Backpack Program. Please take a tag from the tree and help.

Pastor's Report Pastor Tamara gave the First Wednesday Devotional for December on the Church Facebook page, Pastor Tamara led 2 Sunday worship services. She planned the Wednesday Advent Services and led the First Wednesday Advent service of December with Communion shared by those present. She is preparing the Christmas Eve Service. She will be on Vacation for the last week of the Year.

### New Business

Church Member Concerns( Open Floor Discussion) Blessing Box The family who donated the Blessing box does not want it back, a suggestion was made to turn it into a little book library. It is currently at Scott K residence & is accessible. This Project will be tabled to Spring to ensure we have someone to take charge of its upkeep. Scott K reported that there were questions on the Janitorial reimbursement. The Janitorial crew opted to receive a Scrip Card as part of their payroll. The total reimbursement remains the same for the yr. Communion for youth was discussed. Our Church asks our youth to attend Confirmation class & wait for First Communion at their Confirmation Service. Visitors to our Church may have their Youth take Communion. It is the parents' discretion. The Council decided that the Pastor will make an announcement before Communion Distribution.

Open Discussion; Discussion was about beginning to find Council members. Pam P declared she was running again. There are 5 positions available. We will be asking members to consider running for Council. Council reviewed several items brought to our attention by the office staff. These were about a handbook to help members with visiting members and about music to play if we had no one to play the piano or organ. Council decided to approve the purchase of the visiting handbook but not the Music. Motion to approve \$8.00 purchase of visiting handbook was made by Gloria C, seconded by Pam P. Motion was Approved

## CUCC CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES continued — 12-11-2025

### Open Discussion continued

The Church received an email from Pam O. She updated the Church website & was looking for feedback. She would like to meet with the Council after review to discuss any changes needed. She suggested sharing the URL with our members and the Public via the newsletter, announcements & any ads we place.

**Pastoral Contract** The subcommittee had a mtg with Tamara & proposed an increase of \$1000 for the 2026 Pastoral contract. Pastor Tamara countered with an increase of 5 % or \$1250. This makes the new annual salary \$26,250 with her expense account & pension remaining the same. We have a copy of the Compensation Guidelines and this is lower than them. Pam P made the motion to approve the contract with the increase in salary as noted, Gloria C seconded the motion. Motion was approved. The contract will be forwarded to the Association minister for his approval.

**2026 Budget Preparation and Annual meeting** Office Staff began working on the budget in Oct. The budget worksheet will be redone to separate the General Fund Expenses & the Buildings & Grounds Expenses. While receipts are submitted for expenses, the Quicken buildings & Grounds categories need to be redone to show where the expenses actually were. Last Year, a Ledger was created to show these expenses. Next month, we should have all the budget amounts to complete this process. The Annual Mtg will be Sun, Feb 1, 2026. This is a mtg for Church members only.

**125th Church Anniversary** Scott K asked the Star News if they were interested in doing a feature on the Church's 125th Anniversary. They are interested. Brian Wilson will probably be our contact. Jim P & Dawn B have agreed to help with this & will work with the Star News staff. The Council will be kept up to date & will have oversight. The official dedication of the church was in Dec, 1901. We could schedule an outdoor event, possibly in Sept, to celebrate the 125th Anniversary. Discussion was about inviting former pastors to attend an event. We will need to contact the Star News . There is an error on our Sunday School start time in the Church listing.

**Christian Ed funds:** The Christian Ed account is open at Nicolet Bank. Bldgs & Grounds also has its own account.

**Council and Church Year Planner ;** There used to be a Council Presidents handbook and Council member packets. We are in the process of creating a Church and Council Year Planner to guide us as to when certain plans and contracts are worked on and finished. A hard copy was given to all Council members for review. Council members will review the handout and revisit it in 2026.

**Gift Cards for pastors, organists, office staff and janitorial services.** After discussion by Council, Gloria C made a motion to give \$50 Scrip cards for the Holidays, Pam P seconded, motion approved. We will use the list in the office for guidance. There was a report of a gift card that had depreciated in value. We will be monitoring this in the office, labeling the cards by date?

### Old Business

**Buildings and Grounds Giving Envelope:** The First Sunday in May has a special giving envelope for the Buildings and Grounds Fund. Each Year, we see members using this envelope instead of the General Fund one. We will have to put a reminder in April and May Newsletters next year.

**Weather Closure Practices .** The church places the closure on WSAU and WAOW TV stations, along with WIGM. It is also posted on the Church website and Facebook page. It has been suggested that a group email go out to all members with email, texts go to all with cell phones and all others without email and cell phones would then be called in person. There are about ten members who would have to be called. There seems to be some doubling up of notice. It was noted that in a severe storm, these services may not work. It was also noted that in an epidemic, the County Health department may mandate closures. Work and planning continues on this .

**Facility Use Agreement:** We are still looking for a copy of this. There is a couple possibly interested in using the church for a wedding. Wedding fees for use of the church are set. Pastor Compensation is not included in the use of the church.

**Sanitation of Church ;** The Sanitation of the Church has resumed with the return of the school year.

Closed Session; No Closed Session

**Motion to Adjourn:** Gloria C made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Pam P, motion was approved. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm

Council recited the Lord's Prayer before departing  
Next Meeting Date : Thursday, Jan15th, 2026 at 6: 15 PM

On behalf of the Council  
Council Secretary Scott K

<b>CUCC FINANCES:</b> As of Dec 23, 2025 Income \$13,781 Expenses \$4,839
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### CANDLE LIGHT GUILD NEWS

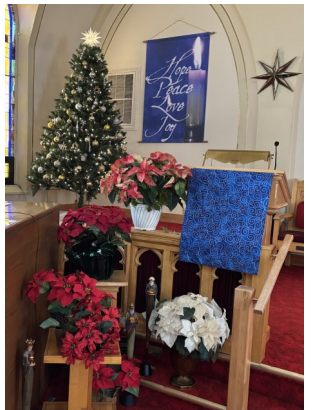
The Candlelight Guild did not have a meeting in December, but we continued to be kept busy giving treat bags to the kiddos at the Christmas program and sending out cards to Octogenarian friends and members.

The Giving Tree placed in the fellowship hall collected items for the school backpack program. Thank you for supporting the program with all the food and monetary donations. Awesome job! Our 2nd time around Christmas items at the Holiday Fair are very popular! When taking down your decorations this year any unwanted items can be brought to sell at the 2026 Holiday Fair. Thank you.

Please join us on Tuesday, January 6th at 5:30 as we join together to carry on old and make new traditions for our church.

For the CG, Dawn

### CELEBRATING THE SEASON AT CUCC



**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM AT CUCC—12-7-2025**



**Worship during this Holiday Season**



## CHRISTMAS EVE —12-24-2025



### A Short Prayer For January

Lord God, I am excited for January to get here. I am asking that this new month be so much better than this last month. While the song may say "It's the most wonderful time of the year," it was not for me. I just ask You for January to go much more smooth than December. I need to have a good month, like a lot of days in a row of positive. Please hear my prayer through Jesus, Amen.

GraceAndPrayers.com

### JAN—BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 1-3 Brayden Haynes
- 1-7 Emmagene Krause
- 1-7 Aubrey Rickaby
- 1-10 Michael Tillson
- 1-12 Tamara Dassow Cox
- 1-14 Judi Tacki
- 1-22 Bethanie Yeager
- 1-31 Jerry Brink
- 1-31 Jackie Hierlmeier

If we missed your birthday/anniversary and you would like to have it shared in future newsletters, please be sure to give Meriam your name & the date(s).

# Winter BLESSINGS

### Greetings,

We have completed the Journey through Advent and the Christmas season with its challenges and joys. I pray your journey went well.

The New Year brings so much. The Annual meeting and the celebration of our Church's 125th Anniversary. Watch for news of upcoming events.

**The Annual Meeting of our Church will be Feb 1, 2026.** This is for all members and only members to attend, vote on Council member positions, approve the Budget, reports and any other business that may come up. This will be the first year of a new format where we separate The General Fund from the Buildings and Grounds Assets. We will need your feedback to assess and improve this new concept.

We have up to **5 Council positions available.** Those who serve in these positions are responsible for the care and upkeep of our "Church": the physical Buildings and Grounds but this includes the spiritual care of our members also. We have a Buildings and Grounds Committee to oversee the Physical and various groups who help with the spiritual care of our membership. **Please consider joining the Council as we move forward into our 125th year as a Church.** Your input and opinions help shape us as a Church.

We are blessed with strong financial support from our members. Your Support through attending, giving in person or through the Vanco App, helps the Church meet its financial obligations.

**Check out our Church website (www.uccmedford.org).** Pam O updated it and we would like feedback from our members.

See you at Church and the Annual Meeting  
Scott Knoff—Council President

WELCOME  
**JANUARY**

MAY THIS NEW  
 MONTH AND NEW  
 YEAR BE FILLED WITH  
 GOD'S BLESSINGS AND  
 GOODNESS.

THINKABOUTSUCHTHINGS.COM

# Jan 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>January Sunday Fellowship sponsored by 5 Practices</i></p>				<p>1 </p>	2	3
<p>4 <i>Worship with Communion 9 am Pastor Tamara Dassow Cox</i>  <b>2nd Sunday after Christmas</b>  <i>Another Road</i></p>	5	<p>6   <i>Candle Light Guild Mtg 5:30 pm</i></p>	<p>7 <i>JAM 3:30</i>   <i>Mid week devotion 5:30 pm</i></p>	8	9	10
<p>11 <i>Worship 9 am, Sunday School during service Pastor Jill Christopherson</i>  <b>Baptism of Christ</b>  <i>Possibilities Un-</i></p>	12	13	14	15	16	17
				<p>5 Practices mtg 6 pm</p>		
<p>18 <i>Worship 9 am Sunday School during service Pastor Tamara Dassow Cox</i>  <b>2nd Sunday after Epiphany</b>  <i>All That We Are</i></p>	<p>19   <small>MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY</small>  <small>I HAVE A DREAM</small></p>	20	21	22	23	24
<p>25 <i>Worship 9 am, Sunday School during service Pastor Christopher Ewan</i>  <b>3rd Sunday after Epiphany</b>  <i>Called Together</i></p>	26	27	28	29	30	31
	<p>Deadline to turn in articles for the Newsletter (Church Chatter)</p>					<p>  <i>Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. Hebrews 13:8 kjv</i></p>