



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) (office hours: M & W 9-1, Tu 8-10)  
 Church website: [www.uccmedford.org](http://www.uccmedford.org). Online worship ([Facebook live](#)) [cuccofmedford@gmail.com](mailto:cuccofmedford@gmail.com)

“Like” us on Facebook: Community United Church of Christ, Medford, Wisconsin

### ATTENDANCE & Offering

1-4	20	\$505
1-11	17	\$200
1-18	15	\$295
1-25	15	\$380



### CUCC Church Council Meeting Minutes from 1-15-2026

Meeting called to order at 6:16 pm by Council President Scott K  
 Members present: Jerry P, Gloria C, Pam P, Scott K, Pastor Tamara C and Mark D  
 absent: Dylan H. Guests: Cindy K  
 Council recited a prayer together from the Council Agenda they agreed to use at each meeting.

#### Consent Agenda

The December Council meeting minutes were emailed to Council members. No discussion or concerns. Motion to approve the December Council Minutes was made by Gloria C, seconded by Pam P. Motion was approved. The December and 2025 Fourth Quarter Financial Reports were handed out at the meeting. Motion was then made to approve the December and 2025 Fourth Quarter Financial reports by Jerry P, seconded by Gloria C, motion was approved.

#### Group Reports

**Buildings and Grounds:** Livingston Trees Service has taken down the two walnut trees. The Church has not received a bill yet. Scott and Jerry have contacted people about the wood and have an interested person. 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 the Candlelight Guild and will be installed in the Kitchen.

**Five Practices:** The Five Practices Group led the Wednesday Advent services. Meeting next week to plan for Mardi Gras Dinner, Candlelight Guild offered to help with the dinner. 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. Pennies From Heaven Jar was cashed in and a donation was given to the Taylor County Humane Society

### CUCC FINANCES:

As of Jan 27, 2026

Income	\$3,148
Expenses	\$4,853

**Candlelight Guild** The Guild met this last Tuesday and did some planning for the coming year. Help with the Mardi Gras Dinner and will have commemorative cutting boards for ordering to celebrate the Church's 125th Anniversary.

**Pastor's Report** Pastor Tamara gave the First Wednesday Devotional for January 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 January with Communion shared by those present. She prepared the Children's Christmas Program and Christmas Eve Service. She was on Vacation for the last week of the Year. Attempted a Home visit.

### New Business

2026 Budget Preparation and Annual meeting Office Staff began working on the budget in October. The budget worksheet was redone to separate the General Fund Expenses and the Buildings and Grounds Expenses. Cindy K led the Council through the Budget guide, explaining the amounts and the changes needed. Council completed the Budget process. A motion to approve the Budget changes was made by Pam P, seconded by Gloria C, the motion was approved. The Annual Meeting will be Sunday, Feb 1, 2026. This is a meeting for Church members only. An announcement will be made and there will be a short recess to allow non members to leave.

Church Member Concerns( Open Floor Discussion) None

Open Discussion; The Visitation Handbook ordered last month has arrived

The Church received an email from Pam O. She updated the Church website and 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 and any ads we place.

Pastoral Contract and license for 2026 Pastor Tamara's contract is completed and sent to the Association Minister. Her Pastoral license to serve this Church for 2026 has also been approved

## CUCC CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES *continued* — 1-15-20256

125th Church Anniversary: Jim P and Dawn B are our official Anniversary committee. Pam P has asked to interview members to get their stories and family histories in this Church. The official dedication of the church was in Dec, 1901. We could schedule an outdoor event, possibly in September, to celebrate the 125th Anniversary. Discussion was about inviting former pastors to attend an event. We now have the contact information for most of the recent ones.

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.

Audits: The Five Practices end of year audit found a mistake. The funds were returned to the proper account.

Quiken Issues: Discussion was about how to move forward, retaining the old information and starting with a clean date and new format. No decision was made, we will explore options.

### 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: Mark D made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Jerry P, motion was approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm

Council recited the Lord's Prayer before departing

**Next Meeting Date : Thursday, Feb 12th, 2026 at 6: 15 PM**

On behalf of the Council  
Council Secretary Scott K

*Blessings* **WINTER**

### **5 Practices Annual Fat Tuesday Spaghetti Dinner**

The 5 Practices group, with the help of the Candlelight Guild, will be hosting an All You Can Eat Spaghetti dinner in the fellowship Hall on Tuesday, Feb. 17th from 4 - 7 pm. Spaghetti (with or without meat), salad, garlic bread, Dessert & drink. \$8 single/\$15 couple, \$5 kids 5-12, kids 4 & under FREE. Take out orders available upon request. Proceeds to benefit:





### CANDLE LIGHT GUILD NEWS

The Candlelight Guild met on Tuesday, January 13th after cancelling the first Tuesday of the month due to rain and icy conditions.

We will be replacing the wearing runner in the kitchen to prevent slippage and falls. A new faucet has been purchased to replace the worn leaky faucet in our main kitchen sink.

The white altar cloth and 2 pulpit scarfs are yellowed and stained so when Easter comes around take note of the replacements.

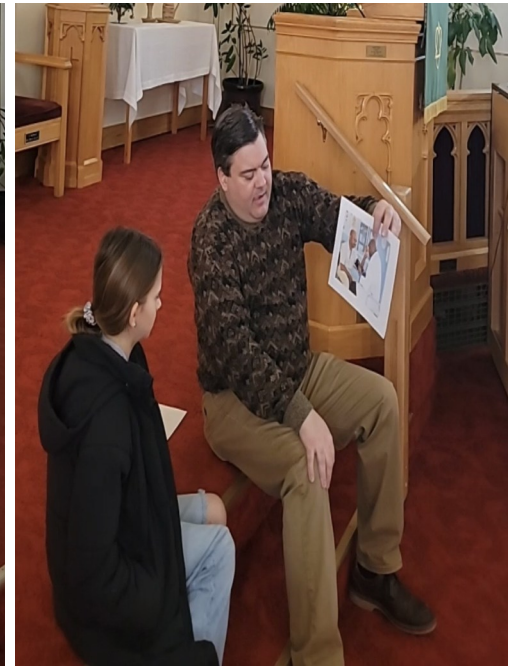
Again it is with everyone's support that we are able to fund these projects. Thank you!

Please join us on the first Tuesday of February as we gather for the next meeting of the CG.

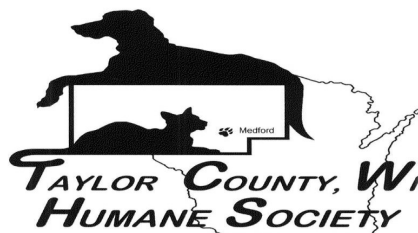
See you on Tuesday, February 3rd at 5:30.

For the CG, Dawn

### **Worship at Community United Church of Christ**



The Christian Education collection, "Pennies From Heaven", was donated to the Taylor County Humane Society on 1-15-2026. (left to right in photo: Lily Kalepp, Violet Kalepp & Humane Society Mgr. Scott Schultz)



## Love Beyond Measure

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### From the Pastor's Desk— February 2026

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the  
hum of winter's breath — as snow muffles the world and hearts grow a little tender  
longing — we find ourselves approaching February. For many, it's a season wrapped  
chocolates, hearts, and the sweet expectation of Valentine's Day. But what if this gift  
just a day... but a glimpse?

qui-

glimpse into Love itself.

Long before the poets put pen to paper and the songwriters strung melodies into our  
souls, there was a Love that spoke galaxies into existence — a Love whose heartbeat is woven through every  
sunrise and whispered over every sunset. This is the Love that calls you **beloved**, not because of what  
you do, but because of who you are: God's own, held in a tenderness that bends toward you again and  
again, even when life feels heavy with storms.

This Love — infinite, ineffable, mysterious — calls to us in gentle and surprising ways. It is not a Love we can  
contain or fully comprehend, but a Love we can safely rest in. Like the poet who senses something divine be-  
yond the words, we can trust that God's love is far wider, deeper, and more enduring than anything we've ever  
known... or deserved.

On Valentine's Day, as roses bloom and candles glow, may your heart remember this: God's love is our first  
love, our lasting love, and our guiding love — not just for a day, but for every breath of our journey.

Beloved: you are held. You are known. You are loved beyond measure.

And as we walk this season together, may we become reflections of that extravagant grace — showing kind-  
ness like sunlight breaking through clouds, offering compassion like a warm fire on a cold night, and loving  
tenderly, generously, without reservation.

May this February — and every day — be a reminder that we are embraced by a Love that never lets go.

May this month be a celebration of the greatest love story ever told — yours and God's — written in compas-  
sion, faith, and endless grace.

With grace, hope, and a heart full of love,  
**Pastor TC**



## SPAGHETTI DINNER

**Tuesday, February 17**

4 – 7 pm. Call 748-3391 for "to go" orders

**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 Community Mission With Jesus**

winter  
BLESSINGS



- FEB—BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**
- 2-1 Joyce Peterson
  - 2-7 Dawn Brink
  - 2-7 Elaine Greiner
  - 2-9 Logan Bucki
  - 2-9 Nathan Krause
  - 2-14 William Grunewald
  - 2-25 Kyle Nicks
  - 2-27 Ada Hoffmann
  - 2-28 Valerie Krause
  - 2-28 Sandy Kummer
- 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).

World Day of Prayer Event on Friday, March 6

Our Saviour’s Lutheran of Holway, will host this year’s World Day of Prayer service on Friday, March 6, 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 2026, the World Day of Prayer Committee of Nigeria developed the theme, “I Will Give You Rest: Come,” from Matthew 11:28-30. A free will offering will go toward the work of World Day of Prayer.

Both men and women are invited to this ecumenical service.



**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**

One Great Hour of Sharing is a vital special mission offering of the United Church of Christ, connecting you to disaster relief, refugee assistance, and development efforts around the globe. When disasters strike or people are displaced, OGHs ensures immediate response and ongoing recovery. Your contributions help meet urgent needs and address the root causes of vulnerability, ensuring long-term, sustainable solutions for affected communities. Giving envelopes available in the sanctuary.



*Winter's Blessing*  
 Feb Sunday Fellowship sponsored by Generous Friends

# Feb 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>1</b> Worship with Communion 9 am            Sunday School during service            Pastor Tamara Dassow Cox  <b>4th Sunday after the Epiphany</b>            The Vision Beautiful  <b>ANNUAL MTG</b>  <b>after service</b></p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Candle Light            Guild Mtg 5:30 pm</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>JAM 3:30            Mid week devotion 5:30 pm</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p>
<p><b>8</b> Worship 9 am            Sunday School during service            Pastor Jill Christopherson  <b>5th Sunday after the Epiphany</b>            Restoring Beauty</p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Council meeting 6:15 pm</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>
<p><b>15</b> Worship 9 am            Sunday School during service            Pastor Tamara Dassow Cox  <b>Transfiguration Sunday</b>            Dazzling Reign</p>	<p><b>16</b>            President's Day</p>	<p><b>17</b> 5 Practices</p> <p>Spaghetti Dinner            4 pm—6 pm</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>TASTE WEDNESDAY            Devotion 5:30 pm</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>5 Practices mtg 6 pm</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p>
<p><b>22</b> Worship 9 am            Pastor Christopher Ewan  <b>1st Sunday in Lent</b>            Abundant Grace</p>	<p><b>23</b> Martin Luther King Jr. Day</p> <p>Deadline to turn in articles for the Newsletter (Church Chatter)</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>LEN            Devotion 5:30 pm</p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>