



THE MESSENGER

JANUARY 2026

MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

3450 s 52nd St, Greenfield, WI 53219

(414) 545-2440 memorialchurchumc.org



Happy New Year! As the calendar turns to January 2026, we naturally think about making resolutions—aiming for better health, better habits, and overall improvement.

But for us as United Methodists, our annual resolutions must be rooted in something deeper: the lifelong journey toward holiness.

This January, I invite you to start the year with the ultimate goal firmly in sight: Sanctification.

John Wesley taught us that God's grace is not just about our initial forgiveness (justification), but about a continuous process of growing in love and purity (sanctification). The "end in sight" for the Christian is not just getting to heaven but becoming "perfected in love" while here on earth.

This means the goal of our life is not merely to believe in Christ, but to become more like Christ. As the Apostle Paul wrote, we are called to be "conformed to the image of his Son" (Romans 8:29). This is our high calling.

If the "end in sight" is becoming a person whose heart is filled with God's perfect love, what specific steps will you take at the start of 2026?

You are called to renew your commitment to the spiritual disciplines that allow the Holy Spirit to shape and refine you.

This year, consider these three areas of commitment:

1. Diligence in Personal Grace: You can be faithful in private prayer, studying the Scriptures daily, and intentional reflection on how God is working in your life. Sanctification starts when you make time to listen to God.
2. Growth in Corporate Grace: We can actively participate in the life of the church—in worship, Holy Communion, and especially in small groups and Bible studies. Community is where iron sharpens iron, and where we learn to practice love in messy, real-time ways.
3. Holiness in Action: Ensure your serving is not just doing good things, but doing them out of a pure heart. Whether it is service inside our church or ministry outside our walls, your actions should reflect the love and compassion of a sanctified heart.

This journey is not something you accomplish by grit alone; it is powered by God's amazing, transforming grace. But you must be a willing partner.

As we enter this New Year and the season of Epiphany (Christ being revealed), allow the Spirit to reveal to you the areas of your life that still need refinement. Press on toward the high calling of holiness in 2026, keeping our glorious, ultimate "end" constantly in sight.
May God bless your pursuit of holiness. ~~ Pastor Rob

January

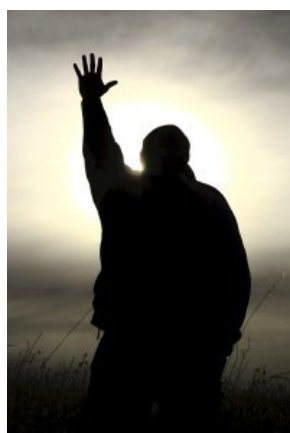
Birthdays

1/4	John Hurley
1/12	Carol Cerasoli
1/13	Kurt Klockow
1/22	Carol Klockow
1/23	Judy Miller
1/26	William Watters
1/27	David Krey

January

Anniversaries

1/17	Jean & Tom Rowe
1/24	William & Sheila Watters



Please contact Pastor Rob or the church office when members and/or friends of Memorial UMC are sick, hospitalized, having surgery, undergoing medical treatment, have special concerns, etc.

Pastor Rob will lift you up in prayer during the Sunday Worship Service.

Trustees Toolbox

Greetings from your Memorial Trustees. Well, the weather isn't cooperating so far this winter.



Snow removal has been top priority. We have some new helpers from the MOL congregation. Thanks for helping! Also with the cold, the thermostats have been a challenge to keep a regular temperature since they can be easily set.

The sanctuary TV has been a challenge to keep running. Our sound board and video personnel have been trying to rectify the situation.

Some of our stained glass windows required some weather stripping.

Finally the report on our December 18th Blood Drive will appear in our next newsletter.

Hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and Best Wishes in the New Year

Respectfully~~Memorial Trustees

Script Cards Program



The number of people using the Gift Card Program is growing. That is good news for the church, but we can still use some more people utilizing the program.

Gift Card orders are due the third Sunday of the month.

If you have any questions about the program, or want to order cards, please contact Tom Rowe at 414-331-3753.

Thank you.

MEMORIAL NEWS

MISSIONS

Mission Collections:

It's hard to believe that another year is almost over!

It has been our privilege to represent Memorial Church. It has amazed us how generous all of you have been with the numerous clothes donations, school supplies, backpacks, personal care items, glasses, used cell phones, loose coins and food. I tell all the organizations about the wonderful church family I have that make Mission such a wonderful experience.

We have chosen some new organizations for the loose coin collection starting in January 2026!

Information on each organization will continue to be included in future newsletters and weekly bulletins. In addition, information will be shared on the mission bulletin board. Take a look!

On the bulletin board, we will also be sharing pictures of past and current missions! Hope you enjoy it all!

Again, thank you for the support you have given us to make 2025 a successful Mission year!

Cyndi Eickstaedt & Philip Gruntzel



MEMORIAL UMC'S CERAMIC CLASS

The MUMC Ceramic Class meets on Mondays from 1:00 pm to 9:00pm (January 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th). Don't forget to knock on the window for entrance to the church. Knock on the window to the west of the parking lot door with the sign on it.

A new year has begun for our Soup Bowls. Bring your ideas and come paint with us. We are off to a good start on the Empty Bowl Project for 2026 with 24 completed bowls ready and packed.



The MUMC Ceramic Class is still collecting soft plastics to be recycled. The collection bin is located in the entryway by the elevator at MUMC.

We still collect items for Project Concern and support other activities within our church families.

Thank you to each and every one of you for supporting our class. Come join us, no experience necessary.

Please contact Mary Schultz at: 414-526-2715 if you would like more information about the MUMC Ceramic Class or if you have any other questions.

SASSY SOWERS AT MUMC

The Sassy Sowers Community is blessed to have donated 77 quilts (8 pounds) to the non-profit organization:

Rooted & Rising—Washing Park.

Below is part of the thank you letter we received from that wonderful organization:



Thank you for the support you give our “sowers”!

Rooted & Rising – Washington Park remains dedicated to helping families thrive by providing affordable housing and wraparound services, choice-based food access, safe and reliable childcare, and opportunities for community engagement. We are deeply committed to honoring the worth, dignity, and potential of every individual, fostering a nurturing environment where families can truly flourish, having their needs met with fewer barriers.

We are grateful for your in-kind donation of 8 lbs. of quilted blankets from the Sassy Sowers group on November 21, 2025. Your contribution serves as a meaningful investment in the families residing in the Washington Park community, helping them navigate unexpected challenges by providing essential resources such as clothing, household items, and food when needed.

On behalf of those we serve, our staff, volunteers, and community partners – we sincerely appreciate your generosity in contributing towards this vital work that we are fortunate to do.

Knit / Crochet Group

Do you love to knit or crochet?

Why not join a group to knit or crochet together?

If so, what day of the week? Time of day?

How often would you like to meet?

We could begin in January...

Contact Linda Brumm with your thoughts:

lbrumm@aol.com 414-659-1037



MEMORIAL EVENTS~JANUARY 2026

<i>SUNDAY</i>	<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>	<i>SATURDAY</i>
				1 6:30 PM Choir 7:30 PM Bells	2	3 6:00 PM Burmese Congregation
4 Adult Bible Study, 9:15AM Children's Sunday School 10:30AM Holy Communion 10:30AM Worship 2-6PM Burmese Worship	5 1-9 PM Ceramics at Memorial UMC	6	7	8 6:30 PM Choir 7:30 PM Bells	9	10 DINING OUT GROUP: 5pm at: Area 51 Sports Bar & Grill 5121 W. Howard Ave 6:00 PM Burmese Congregation
11 Adult Bible Study, 9:15AM Children's Sunday School 10:30AM 10:30AM Worship 2-6PM Burmese Worship	12 1-9 PM Ceramics at Memorial UMC	13	14	15 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast 10 AM-1 PM Sassy Sewers at Memorial UMC 6:30 PM Choir 7:30 PM Bells	16	17 6:00 PM Burmese Congregation
18 Adult Bible Study, 9:15AM Children's Sunday School 10:30AM 10:30AM Worship 2-6PM Burmese Worship	19 1-9 PM Ceramics at Memorial UMC	20 9:00 AM Women's Breakfast at Meyers	21	22	23	24 6:00 PM Burmese Congregation
25 Adult Bible Study, 9:15AM Children's Sunday School 10:30AM 10:30AM Worship 2-6PM Burmese Worship	26 1-9 PM Ceramics at Memorial UMC	27	28	29	30	31 6:00 PM Burmese Congregation



January	Liturgists	Ushers
4th	Carolyn Ettlie	To be determined
11th	Lynn Sirna	To be determined
18th	John Hurley	To be determined
25th	Connie Ziegler	To be determined

DINING OUT GROUP

January 10th at 5pm at:

Area 51 Sports Bar & Grill
5121 W. Howard Ave

We're looking forward to seeing you there!! ~~John

P.S. if money is tight this month, give me a call. I'm sure something can be worked out.

Your presence is most important. 414 687-3627



WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

The next Women's Breakfast will at 9am on **Tuesday, January 20th** at Meyers.



MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Men's Club will have their next breakfast meeting at 8:30am on **Thursday, January 15th** at Meyers.

Memorial UMC

General Information & Staff

3450 South 52nd Street, Greenfield, WI 53219

Church Phone: 414-545-2440

Church Email: mumcgreenfield@gmail.com

Pastor: Rev. Rob Odum, 414-238-8367

Pastor's Email: robododum@gmail.com

Director of Music: Sarah Brumm

Hymn Leaders: Sarah Brumm,

Summer Ketchell, Emily Bergeron

Pianist & Organist: Karen Fetzer

Live Stream Production Team:

Brad Weller, Xylia-Sophia Conn,

John Stoekl, Tom Rowe, Greg Ettlie

Office Administrator: Peggy Leonhardt

Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9am-1pm

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Sunday, 9:15am

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday, 10:30am

CERAMICS: Mondays, 1-9pm

CHANCEL CHOIR: Thursday, 6:30-7:25pm

JOYFUL BELLS: Thursday, 7:30-8:30pm

DINING OUT GROUP: January 10th at 5pm at:
Area 51 Sports Bar & Grill
5121 W. Howard Ave.

SASSY SOWERS: 1st Tuesday & 3rd ,
Thursday, 10am-1pm

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST: 3rd Tuesday, 9am at Meyers

MEN'S BREAKFAST: 3rd Thursday, 8:30am at Meyers