



# Darlington and Fayette United Methodist Churches February 2024



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United  
Women  
in Faith

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## With a Farmer's Heart

"The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it." (Genesis 2:15)

A farmer sits in his kitchen drinking coffee, staring at the empty fields. Last year's harvest has been hauled away, processed, and made ready for sale. What wasn't purchased sits in bins, stored away, waiting for planting.

As a cold February wind blows, the farmer does not stare at the bins but looks to the vacant fields. The bins are the past. The fields are the future.

In anticipation, the farmer begins to envision a harvest. In the spring, there will be plowing, planting, and praying. Over the course of the summer, the crops will be tended, nurtured, protected and more prayers will be said. Then there will be walks in the fields on hot, sticky days. Followed by a bountiful harvest.



In the farmer's mind, the future unfolds in the cold frozen ground. We, who declares the Christian faith, are farmers. We are not called to look at the past, but to the future. We look forward to the work that God is giving us to do in order that a bountiful harvest may come to all of Creation, caring for our neighbors, nurturing the young in age and in faith, caring for the earth, which gives us life and provides for our needs, reaching out to help those in need and pruning back the unproductive.

Winter is upon us, but soon spring will be here. Are you ready for planting?

leeinsun0202@gmail.com  
Office phone: 776-4114

*Pastor InSun*



**If you have a joy, concern or prayer request** we would like you to share them with Pastor InSun. Please email her at [leeinsun0202@gmail.com](mailto:leeinsun0202@gmail.com) or call her at 608-776-4114 to give them to her. Please let us know if you would like that to be shared with the congregation.



### Extra Giving from Offering Envelopes during the Month of December & January

- In Memory of Sally Gorgas given by Roger Gorgas.
- In Memory of Jean Temby given by Owen & Ruth Thompson.
- In Memory of Seth Pratt given by Tim & Vickie Pratt.
- In Memory of Vivian Allendorf given by Dick & Lori Allendorf.
- In Memory of Jordyn Shea Paulson given by Beaver & Cathy Paulson.
- In Memory of Richard Boatman given by Gloria Boatman.
- In Memory of Charlene Burkeland given by Gloria Boatman.



Add your loved ones or friends to this list by filling out your offering envelope and designating an **extra** amount to be given in Memory or in Honor of someone to celebrate a Birthday or Anniversary. It's a great way to acknowledge those special people in your life. Amounts will never be listed!

### A look at the Darlington numbers for December

Income		\$19,278.77
Expenses	-	<u>12,954.32</u>
Difference		\$6,324.45

#### YTD 2023

YTD Income	\$166,623.86
YTD Expenses	<u>152,277.24</u>
YTD	\$14,346.62

#### 2023 Apportionment Total - \$26,669

Paid YTD - \$4,380

Balance Left for 2023— 22,212

Percentage paid - 16.47%

End of year monetary giving statements have been mailed. If you did not receive one for your financial gifts or if you find an error on your statement, please leave a message for Becky at the church 776-4114.

END OF YEAR  
**GIVING**  
STATEMENTS

*Let us love one another,  
for love comes from God.*

-1 John 4:7-9



### Online Giving & Mobile Giving

Go to <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZJ3M/home> for our online giving version or download the app

in the in your Apple App or Google Play enter with church code **FS4XM7**. Thank you for your continued support to the church.



## Scholarships

Seniors and College Students and their Parents, please watch your email in February for the Scholarship information from the UWF & Foundation.

## Graduation Sunday

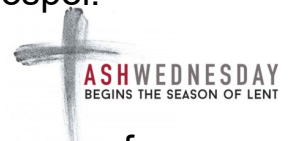
We have many students that will be Graduating this year. **We will hold Graduation Sunday on Sunday May 19.** Please join us. Thank you for supporting our students as they venture into the "real world"

## Ash Wednesday

**Ash Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>**, is the first day in the Christian Season of Lent. It is a call to reflections and repentance. It falls on a different date each year because it is dependent on the date of Easter. It can occur as early as 4 February or as late as 10 March.

Ash Wednesday gets its name from the practice of placing ashes on the foreheads of the faithful as a sign of repentance. The ashes used are from the previous year's burnt Palm Sunday branches. These ashes are mixed with olive oil. This paste is used at the service to make the sign of the cross as a sign of penance, upon each person's forehead. As it is placed, the minister recites the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return", or "Repent, and believe the Gospel."

## The Season of Lent



Lent is a season of soul-searching, repentance, and renewal. It is a season for reflection, taking stock, and starting over again.

Lent originated in the very earliest days of the Church as a preparatory time for Easter, when the faithful rededicated themselves and when converts were instructed in the faith and prepared for baptism.

By observing the forty days of Lent (Sundays are not included in this count as they are considered a day for celebrating the Resurrection), the individual Christian imitates Jesus' withdrawal into the wilderness for forty days.

All churches that have a continuous history extending before AD 1500 observe Lent. The ancient church that wrote, collected, canonized, and propagated the New Testament also observed Lent, believing it to be a commandment from the apostles. (*The Apostolic Constitutions*, Book V, Section III.)

You're invited to join us at this year's Bishop's Convocation of Laity Leadership 2024. If you belong to The United Methodist Church, you are a leader and disciple for Jesus Christ. This gathering is for you!

Connect with our Conference Leadership during this event to:

- Learn of connectional ministries within The United Methodist Church.
- Be encouraged to broaden your God given gifts and talents within the work of the church.
- Devotion and Bible study scripture during this inspiration filled event.



**Date & Time:** February 9, 2024, 6:30pm, February 10, 2024, 8:30a- 4:00pm

**Location:** West Bend: Fifth Avenue United Methodist Church (323 S 5th Avenue, West Bend, WI 53095)

**Registration:** The registration fee is \$10.00 per person. To register go to <https://na.eventscloud.com/ereg/newreg.php?eventid=779994&language=eng>



## Practice, Practice, Practice

Believe it or not, even though Christmas feels like it is just behind us, Lent is about to begin

(Ash Wednesday is February 14 this year). In the church, Lent is a period of 40 days (not including Easter) during which we re-examine our lives and our faith practices as we prepare for the coming of Easter. The practice of re-examination and recommitment dates to the very beginning of the church as new members prepared to be baptized on Easter Sunday. We may ask ourselves, however, **why is the observation of Lent important to us today?**

The reality of the situation is, if we don't take the time to re-examine what's important to us and practice the basics of faith, we run the risk of forgetting who we are, where we've come from, and what God has done in our lives. Every professional sports team gathers before the season begins and focuses on many of the things the players have done since they were small children. In baseball, they field ground balls (and coincidentally, Spring Training also begins on February 14 for many teams this year). In football, they go over tackling and blocking. In basketball they dribble and pass. These are adults who are the best players in the world, and yet their coaches start them off at the very beginning every year. Only the teams who've mastered the basics have a chance of contending for a championship.

As Lent approaches let's be encouraged to get back to the basics of faith. Come to worship regularly. Take time to become a part of a study group to grow in your faith together. Pray daily. Give generously both your time and your money. The basics aren't just for the young or inexperienced in faith. They are for everyone — from the youngest child to the champions of faith who've been an inspiration to us.

Let's take time to refocus on the basics as we begin our journey to the cross with Jesus.

*Rev. Jason Mahnke, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation*

**REMINDERS** – The *SCRIPT Program* is a great fund raiser for our Church that you can partake in all year round. You can place an order with Sheila Kelly at [kellysheila87@gmail.com](mailto:kellysheila87@gmail.com) or 608-482-1141. Thank you Sheila for your hard work directing this important fund raising program!



United  
Women  
in Faith

United Women in Faith Meeting  
February 22, 2024— Noon

Lunch will be served.



The United Methodist Men are working on getting a group together to support and assist other groups in their projects if needed. They will be set a date for a meeting in March (watch March Newsletter for date). Our goals are to have better structure in developing the Men's group, better and faster communication, get input into our fundraising projects and to meet a few times a year as necessary, maybe 3-4 times a year. Look for an announcement date soon. We hope to get a strong group so we can better serve our church family. Thank You

Fritz Fanewall



**Darlington Community Food Pantry**  
Open Tuesdays and Thursdays,  
10 am to 3 pm

The Local Food Pantry is taking donations. There is a bin in the back of the sanctuary if you feel called to help. Thank you for your support.

Second Harvest Mobile Food  
Pantry **will be Friday**  
**February 2 at the First**  
**Baptist Church in Darlington.**  
Please "pop" your trunk.



**NEW TESTAMENT BIBLE READING PLAN SCHEDULE – FEBRUARY 2024**

(Schedule-Read one chapter **each weekday** to complete the New Testament in one year.)

<u>End of Week (Saturday)</u>	<u>Chapter Completed</u>	<u>Check-off</u>
February 3	Matthew 25	_____
February 10	Mark 2	_____
February 17	Mark 7	_____
February 24	Mark 12	_____

(Progress Milestone: 40 chapters read – 15.4% of the New Testament)

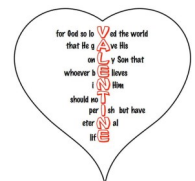
**OLD TESTAMENT SELECTED BIBLE READINGS SCHEDULE – FEBRUARY 2024**

(Read one chapter **each weekday** to complete Year 2024 Old Testament readings.)

<u>End of Week (Saturday)</u>	<u>Chapters Completed</u>	<u>Check-off</u>
February 3	Genesis 21-25	_____
February 10	Genesis 26-30	_____
February 17	Genesis 31-35	_____
February 24	Genesis 36-40	_____

Read the Bible every day. Pray every day. Don't make any decisions too harshly or too quickly, without first considering God about it. Ask Him, 'Shall I do this, Father?' Ask Him, 'Is it Your will for me to do this?' Then see what the Holy Spirit will speak to you. He might not give you a vision, but He will speak in some way to you, to let you know, if you'll be sincere and ask Him.

John 3:16



## *Darlington & Fayette United Methodist Churches*

### DAILY BIBLE READING PLAN FOR FEBRUARY 2024

___ 2/01/24	Isaiah 40:21-31	The Lord God Creator
___ 2/02/24	Psalms 147	The Lord God Creator
___ 2/03/24	I Corinthians 9:16-23	Apostle Paul – Preach the Gospel
___ 2/04/24	Mark 1:29-39	Jesus Heals and Prays in a Solitary Place
___ 2/05/24	Job 9:1-15	God - Omnipotent (“All-Powerful”) Judge
___ 2/06/24	Ecclesiastes 3:14-17	God Brings All People to Judgment
___ 2/07/24	Psalms 50:1-6	God Judges His People
___ 2/08/24	Genesis 5:21-24	Enoch Taken Up to Heaven
___ 2/09/24	II Kings 2:1-12	Elijah Taken Up to Heaven
___ 2/10/24	II Corinthians 4:3-6	Preach Jesus Christ as Lord
___ 2/11/24	Mark 9:2-9	The Transfiguration of Jesus
<b>(Transfiguration Sunday)</b>		
___ 2/12/24	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17	Return to the Lord
___ 2/13/24	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21	Giving-Treasures in Heaven
___ 2/14/24	I Timothy 6:17-19	Instructions to the Rich
<b>(Ash Wednesday)</b>		
___ 2/15/24	Genesis 9:8-17	God’s Covenant With Noah
___ 2/16/24	Psalms 25:1-10	The Lord’s Covenant Mercies
___ 2/17/24	I Peter 3:18-22	Jesus in Heaven With the Father
___ 2/18/24	Mark 1:9-15	Jesus – Baptized and Tempted
___ 2/19/24	Hebrews 11:1-3	Definition of Faith
___ 2/20/24	Hebrews 10:36-39	The Righteous Live by Faith
___ 2/21/24	Genesis 17:1-16	Covenant of Circumcision With Abraham
___ 2/22/24	Psalms 22:23-31	Revere and Praise Our Righteous Lord
___ 2/23/24	Galatians 3:19-25	Justified by Faith
___ 2/24/24	Romans 4:13-25	Righteousness Comes by Faith
___ 2/25/24	Mark 8:31-38	Jesus Predicts His Death and Resurrection
___ 2/26/24	Romans 2:1-11	God’s Righteous Judgment
___ 2/27/24	Ephesians 5:1-12	Live as Children of Light
___ 2/28/24	Psalms 19	God’s Wonderful Creation-Perfect Law
___ 2/29/24	Exodus 20:1-17	The Ten Commandments



## How to Reach & Welcome New People Seminar Building, Communicating, and Funding Vision that Connects

A church that is successfully reaching and welcoming new people knows those connections don't occur by accident. Effectively connecting with new people and changing lives happens at the intersection of God's calling, the identified needs of the community, and the passions and gifts of the church.

The Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation and the Wisconsin Conference are excited to announce this year's How to Reach & Welcome New People Seminar. This seminar will give church leaders practical tools they can use to rediscover their community's needs, their church's passions and gifts, and discern God's call to effectively make connections with their community. Workshops include:

Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

**HOW TO  
REACH &  
WELCOME  
NEW PEOPLE**

- **Reconnecting with Your Community** – Learn effective strategies for reconnecting with your church's community by utilizing demographic insights and engaging in purposeful conversations.

- **Funding Ministry: Mission, Storytelling, and the Art of the Ask** – The top reason people give to a non-profit is because they believe in its mission, which is making a difference in people's lives. This workshop will equip people to communicate the impact their church's ministry is making, with current and potential donors, to fund current and future ministry opportunities.

- **Helping Your Church Name and Claim Their Gifts, Passions and Call** – Learn how to facilitate a process that will help your church name its strengths, gifts, and passion for future ministry.

- **Creating a Culture of Hospitality in Your Church** - The #1 reason guests come back to a church for a second visit is because of the hospitality of the congregation. Gain insights into practical methods that will empower every member of your congregation to connect with guests in ways that are engaging, natural, and comfortable.

There will also be an opportunity for participants to meet with Rev. Krystal Goodger, the President of the Foundation, to discuss New Ministry Grant applications\*, how to start or maintain endowments, or hosting a Planned Giving Seminar at your church.

**Where:** Cargill United Methodist Church or on Zoom 2000 Wesley Ave. Janesville, WI 53545

**When:** February 3, 2024 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

**Cost:** \$25 per person (in-person), which includes lunch and materials. \$60 maximum per church (in-person) no matter how many people attend \$40 per church to attend virtually

**Registration Deadline:** Register by January 29 to attend in-person at Cargill United Methodist Church. Late registrations for in-person are accepted, but we will not be able to provide lunch for in-person registrations after that date.

The virtual registration deadline is February 2 at 5 p.m. CST.

Visit [www.wumf.org/upcoming-events](http://www.wumf.org/upcoming-events) to register and for the latest information.



## ***Two Conferences, One Bishop Opens New Opportunities***



Wisconsin and Northern Illinois conferences are anticipating the possibility they will share a bishop beginning in the Fall of 2024. Wisconsin's Shared Ministry Task Force membership was approved at the 2023 Annual Conference session and have begun discussions about what this would mean for United Methodists in our state.

Sharing a bishop will not be a merger of our conferences. It will be similar to a two-point charge where separate congregations are served by the same pastor.

The conferences would continue as distinct entities. One bishop would lead the two conferences, appointing clergy, presiding at annual conference sessions, and providing administrative oversight for each separate conference.

Both the Wisconsin and Northern Illinois conferences, separately and together, are thinking ahead about what sharing a bishop might require. Bishop, the Cabinet and Conference leadership will pursue more of innovative partnership and collaborations in future years.

"This is an opportunity for us to think creatively about how both conferences can positively benefit from sharing our strengths across conference lines," stated Rev. Steve Zekoff, chair of Wisconsin's Shared Ministry Task Force. "We have a common history in the early days of our annual conferences, as well as with the historical language-based annual conferences that were organized for ministry in this part of the Upper Midwest. Having our two distinct annual conferences cooperate more closely will be like family members deciding it is time to be more frequently in contact."

Cooperating as a two-annual conference episcopal area could enhance partnership opportunities. For example, churches in both conferences that minister with language minorities could collaborate and achieve more together. Each conference has its strengths, and if yoked in an episcopal area, may be able to assist each other.

Early conversations have occurred involving district superintendents and other staff from both annual conferences. The task forces from both Northern Illinois and Wisconsin will be gathering together for planning discussions this year.

A few statistical similarities and differences between the conferences:

- Both have significant rural expanses as well as urban centers
- Geographic area: Northern Illinois Conference is about 25 percent the size of Wisconsin
- Number of churches: Northern Illinois 321; Wisconsin, 400
- Disaffiliations: Northern Illinois 8; Wisconsin, 43
- Districts: Northern Illinois, 5; Wisconsin is reducing from 5 to 4

At the 2022 North Central Jurisdictional conference, delegates from Northern Illinois and Wisconsin conferences read a shared statement affirming that the two conferences were willingly considering sharing a bishop, including holding joint conversations.

**Continued** 

Over the past several years, jurisdictions have been asked to reduce bishop positions. Some other conferences around the United Methodist connection relate in this way. As United Methodist membership in the U.S. has declined since the 1968 uniting of the Evangelical United Brethren and Methodist denominations each of the five U.S. jurisdictions (multi-state regional bodies) has seen the number of bishops they could elect go down. The number that may be elected is established by a specified membership formula in The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church.

Serving on Wisconsin's task force are Rev. Steve Zekoff, Rev. Jenny Arneson, Gail Burgess, Lisa Jones and Tou Yang with staff representatives Rev. Barb Certa-Werner, Rev. Sue D'Alessio and Sarah Sneider along with Bishop Hee-Soo Jung. Northern Illinois has a counter-part task force chaired by Rev. Myron McCoy.- *By Steven Zekoff*

## With our Sympathy

We mourn with our community the loss of Charlene Burkeland

Her Sister

Gloria Boatman

731 Wells St

Darlington WI 53530



## Winter Weather

Please always do what is best for you when considering journeying out for worship or other church events during weather incidents. We will share our cancellations through email and Facebook. In addition, we will try to share with WEKZ radio in Monroe and WDMP in Mineral Point.



## February Lectionary

February 4

### 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 40:21-31

Psalms 147:1-11, 20c

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Mark 1:29-39

February 11

### Transfiguration Sunday;

### Scouting Sunday

2 Kings 2:1-12

Psalms 50:1-6

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Mark 9:2-9

February 14

### Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Psalms 51:1-17

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

February 18

### 1st Sunday of Lent

Genesis 9:8-17

Psalms 25:1-10

1 Peter 3:18-22

Mark 1:9-15

February 25

### 2nd Sunday of Lent

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Psalms 22:23-31

Romans 4:13-25

Mark 8:31-38

## Religious Ed

Classes are Wednesday's  
@ 6 p.m.— All Grades



Feb 1 Ashley Gossens  
 Feb 2 Rev. InSun Lee  
 Feb 3 Kari Gornik  
 Feb 4 Kameron Blosch  
 Feb 4 Georgina Meyers  
 Feb 5 Pat Hardyman  
 Feb 7 Julie Davis  
 Feb 9 Sheila Kelly  
 Feb 9 Chloe Havens  
 Feb 12 Chad Stephenson  
 Feb 12 Margaret Ruppert  
 Feb 12 Gloria Boatman  
 Feb 14 Roger Gorgas  
 Feb 16 Lana Bryson  
 Feb 16 Hannah McCarthy  
 Feb 16 Ryan Boatman  
 Feb 17 Gina Douglas  
 Feb 17 Gabrielle Steiner  
 Feb 18 Katie Hanewall

Feb 18 Bryan Brown  
 Feb 18 Carol Weinbrenner  
 Feb 18 Cindy Dunham  
 Feb 19 Connie Ostby  
 Feb 19 Carly Winslow  
 Feb 19 Jon King  
 Feb 20 Steve Smith  
 Feb 21 Steve Parkinson  
 Feb 21 Craig Curry  
 Feb 23 Marie Wamsley  
 Feb 23 Carter Lancaster  
 Feb 23 Xzander Bennett  
 Feb 24 Jeremy Calvert  
 Feb 24 Peter Parkinson  
 Feb 24 Trisha Douglas  
 Feb 24 Elizabeth Wiegel  
 Feb 25 Michelle Eaton  
 Feb 26 Tyler Schwoob  
 Feb 26 Matthew King  
 Feb 26 Steve Howard  
 Feb 26 Lillian Ward  
 Feb 28 Jackson Boatman



Feb 14 Vicki & Bill Whitford  
 Feb 15 Rebecca & Garth Garrison  
 Feb 24 Dan & Kori Hemming  
 Feb 25 Harold & Sandy Morrison  
 Feb 27 Christine & Howard Hill



**February Ushers**  
 Feb 4 Cathy Paulson  
 Beaver Paulson  
 Remie Nyffenegger  
 Aubrey McCarthy  
 Feb 11 Tim Pratt  
 Nick Zuberbuhler  
 Zeke Zuberbuhler  
 Lily Rithie  
 Feb 18 Brooke Douglas  
 Gracie Douglas  
 Ryder Fitzsimons  
 Dawson Douglas  
 Feb 25 Dick Allendorf  
 Holly Johnson  
 Anyka Johnson  
 Alyza Johnson

**February Liturgists**  
 Feb 4 D- Joan Thompson  
 F- Dennis Wirth  
 Feb 11 D- Judy Whalen  
 F- Lance Lansing  
 Feb 18 D- Kent McConnell  
 F- Ron Ingwell  
 Feb 25 D- Kent Miehe  
 F- Pam Gould

**February Acolytes**  
 Feb 4 Maicy Norgard  
 Ryley Burbach  
 Feb 11 Evan Komprood  
 Coby Lancaster  
 Feb 18 Rya Fitzsimons  
 Cheyenne Elzen  
 Feb 25 Evan Komprood  
 Coby Lancaster

**Sneak peak at Mar 3**  
 Liturgist: D- Joan Thompson  
 F- Dennis Wirth  
 Ushers: Beaver Paulson  
 Cathy Paulson  
 Paige Douglas  
 Dawson Douglas  
 Acolytes: Maicy Norgard  
 Ryley Burbach



**Volunteer...**

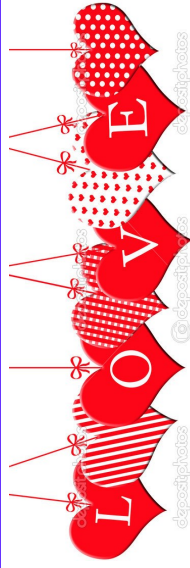
Our appreciation for you  
 and all these things you do  
 grows and grows...



# COME Worship February 2024

WITH US

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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1 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry  
2 Second Harvest Food Pantry



4 **5th Sunday After the Epiphany**  
**Communion**  
8:30 Worship in Fayette  
9:00 Choir Practice  
10:00 Worship in Darlington w/ Choir  
w/New Member Ceremony  
4:00 SPRC Training via Zoom

**Pastor InSun @ Clergy Summit**  
**February 5-6**

11 **Transfiguration Sunday**  
8:30 Worship in Fayette  
10:00 Worship in Darlington

12  
13 10:00 Pastor @ Lafayette Co Manor  
10-3 Darlington Food Pantry

14 **Ash Wednesday**  
6:00 Religious Ed  
6:00 Ash Wed Service



15 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry  
6:00 Finance mtg.  
6:30 Admin mtg.

16 Bishop Day Apart  
Pastor In Sun's Day Off

17

18 **1st Sunday in Lent**  
8:30 Worship in Fayette  
10:00 Worship in Darlington w/ Choir

19  
20 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry

21 6:00 Religious Ed  
No Junior Youth Class

22 Noon UWF Luncheon  
10-3 Darlington Food Pantry

23 Pastor In Sun's Day Off

24

**Pastor InSun @ BOOM meeting February 18-24**

25 **2nd Sunday in Lent**  
8:30 Worship in Fayette  
10:00 Worship in Darlington

26  
27 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry

28 6:00 Religious Ed

29

