

*This coming week in the life of the church*

**Today 1/25**

9am Worship

10:15am Sunday School

**Monday 1/26**

5:30pm Trustee Meeting

6pm Cub Scouts

**Tuesday 1/27**

6pm Disciple 1

7pm Boy Scouts

**Wednesday 1/28**

9am Psalm Sisters Bible Study

10:30am Ladies fitness class

3:30pm NIFB Mobile Food Pantry

5:30pm Disciple 3

6pm Disciples Forever



**Belvidere First**

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

LOVIN' JESUS  LOVIN' YOU

**January 25, 2026**



**Giving Our Tithes and Offerings to God~**

*All that we have comes from God; we are caretakers of what belongs to Him. As an act of faith, we return a portion of God's provision for the growing and continuation of His work. There is an offering plate as you enter for tithes and offerings, you can send them through our website, or they may be mailed to the church office.*

**610 Bonus Ave • Belvidere, IL 61008**

**815-544-3479 • [officeadmin@fumcbelvidere.com](mailto:officeadmin@fumcbelvidere.com)**

Find us on the web [fumcbelvidere.org](http://fumcbelvidere.org)  
After hours, emergency contact number for Pastor  
Jim Bell 847-764-6563

## Order of Worship for January 25, 2026

Prelude (song/s)

Welcome

**\*Opening Songs of Praise:** "Let the Worshipers Arise"  
"All About Grace"

**\*Responsive Reading:** From Psalm 73

Liturgist: Richard Bahling

One: Surely God is good to Israel, to those who are pure  
in heart. But as for me, my feet had almost slipped;  
I had nearly lost my foothold.

Many: Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure and have  
washed my hands in innocence. All day long I have been  
afflicted, and every morning brings new punishments.

One: If I had spoken out like that, I would have betrayed  
your children.

Many: When I tried to understand all this, it troubled me  
deeply till I entered the sanctuary of God; then  
I understood their final destiny.

One: Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand.  
You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will  
take me into glory.

Many: Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has  
nothing I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart  
may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and  
my portion forever.

One: Those who are far from you will perish;  
you destroy all who are unfaithful to you.

Many: But as for me, it is good to be near God.  
I have made the Sovereign Lord my refuge;  
I will tell of all your deeds.

**\*Scriptures:** Matthew 13: 18-23  
Hebrews 6: 1-12

Discipleship Time

**Prayer Song:** "You are so Good to Me"

**Pastoral Prayer:**

**Lord's Prayer** (in unison)

**Message:** Pastor Jim

**\*Doxology** (UMH #95)

**\*Prayer of dedication**

The longer we serve you, Lord, the sweeter you grow. You  
continue to provide our needs and shower blessings beyond  
our need.

Receive our gifts as signs of our gratitude and use them  
and us to welcome more folks to your service and to help all  
of us grow in your grace, in Jesus' name. Amen.

**\*Closing Song of Praise:** "We Fall Down, Holy, Holy, Holy"

**\*Benediction**

**\* = Stand as able**

**\*\*Headsets to assist with hearing during the service are  
available from any usher\*\***

Altar flowers given by Bud & Kim Schulze in memory of Buds  
parents, Herb & Alice.

How long have you been a Christian? \_\_\_\_\_

Destination: \_\_\_\_\_

Impossible for whom? \_\_\_\_\_

Rocky soil represents \_\_\_\_\_

Thorny soil represents \_\_\_\_\_

Together they make up \_\_\_\_\_

Modernity's wager: \_\_\_\_\_

What do you say about that? \_\_\_\_\_

Arminians believe it is possible to \_\_\_\_\_

Impossible things from the Bible: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 19 – what is impossible \_\_\_\_\_

When God remembers, God \_\_\_\_\_

Faithfulness is never \_\_\_\_\_

The call is to \_\_\_\_\_

Destination: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Hebrews 6:1-12**

**6** Therefore let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God, <sup>2</sup> instruction about cleansing rites, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. <sup>3</sup> And God permitting, we will do so. <sup>4</sup> It is impossible for those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit, <sup>5</sup> who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the coming age <sup>6</sup> and who have fallen away, to be brought back to repentance. To their loss they are crucifying the Son of God all over again and subjecting him to public disgrace. <sup>7</sup> Land that drinks in the rain often falling on it and that produces a crop useful to those for whom it is farmed receives the blessing of God. <sup>8</sup> But land that produces thorns and thistles is worthless and is in danger of being cursed. In the end it will be burned. <sup>9</sup> Even though we speak like this, dear friends, we are convinced of better things in your case—the things that have to do with salvation. <sup>10</sup> God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them. <sup>11</sup> We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, so that what you hope for may be fully realized. <sup>12</sup> We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

### **Matthew 13:18-23**

<sup>18</sup> “Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: <sup>19</sup> When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. <sup>20</sup> The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. <sup>21</sup> But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. <sup>22</sup> The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. <sup>23</sup> But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”