



August 2025

Messenger

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITED METHODIST COMMUNITY OF FAITH IN MEDFORD AND RIB LAKE WISCONSIN

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SonShine Kids

At Medford UMC, we feel that teaching our children about the love of Jesus Christ is very important. One way that we help them grow in His love is with our Children's Ministry program on Sunday mornings.

We welcome children to join us for SonShine Kids. This ministry will be restarting in the fall.

For more information about registering your child or becoming a teacher, please contact Cheryl Ketelhut at 608-485-2459.



Summertime is here!

As you enjoy your vacations, remember -- Your church does not go on vacation.

Remember to support your church the whole year through.

We hope you have a safe and enjoyable summer.



MEDFORD UMC



POTLUCK LUNCH
AUGUST 31 | AFTER SUNDAY SERVICE

Attendance

Date	Rib Lake	Medford
6/29	14	28
7/6	14	24
7/13	15	24
7/20	?	29



Upcoming Events

Thursday, August 21 - United Women in Faith leadership team meeting - Medford UMC

Saturday, September 27 - United Women in Faith district meeting - Medford UMC

Tuesday, October 21 - Red Cross Blood Drive - Medford UMC

Watch the weekly announcements and future editions of The Messenger for updates!

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I'm there with them."
 --Matthew 18:20

As a licensed local pastor, I have always felt called to serve small churches. There are times, when the attendance at an event is small, I am reminded of this verse. It comforts me to know that Jesus is among us even when the attendance is small.

In one of my past appointments, the church no longer wanted a pastor. They wanted to be a church, but wanted to do everything themselves. They found out that things do not work that way in the United Methodist Church. They were disappointed, and most of the members stopped coming to church. Attendance fell to about two or three people on a Sunday. Again, I was reminded of this verse and knew that Jesus was with us despite the circumstances.

It is summer. It is the time of vacations. I remember that, as a child, when we went on vacation, it was also a vacation from church. We didn't even have family church time. I do believe that Jesus was still with us, but this verse promises to be with us when or where we are gathered. We are assured.

Greg was in the waiting room of a cancer center surrounded by patients and caregivers. A woman came in pushing a young person in a wheelchair who looked to be her daughter. The woman took the seat next to Greg and parked the wheelchair immediately in front of him. Greg thought this was rude because he could not move his feet, but he bit his tongue and said nothing.

The young woman pulled out a daily devotional and was reading an article titled, "Get Close to God." This inspired Greg to pull out his phone and read his devotionals. The verse above was the first thing that Greg read.

Greg's mood changed. He looked around the room and thought, "Who in this room filled with patients and caregivers is not suffering?" He began to pray silently. He wondered how many others in the room might be praying. He could feel God's presence and knew that God was hearing the prayers. God will gladly join us in our prayers at any time and any place.

God is with us all the time in any place. When two or more are gathered, God's presence is amplified. Think of the things we can accomplish when we work together with Jesus.

May you experience the love of God always.

God's Blessings,

Pastor John

Home Phone: (715) 748-0477

Office Phone: (715) 748-2165

Cell Phone: (715) 560-3606

Email: pastor@medfordchargeumc.com

Office Hours: Tuesday: 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 8 a.m. - 12 noon

Thursday: 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

MEDFORD and RIB LAKE EVENTS of AUGUST 2025

3

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

3 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

(R) 9:00 am - Worship

(M) 10:30 am - Worship

(M) 2:00 pm - Oasis

4 Office closed

5

6
(M) 6:00 pm
Worship Team /
Lay Servants

7

1 Office closed

2

8 Office closed

9

10 9th Sunday after Pentecost

(R) 9:00 am - Worship

(M) 10:30 am - Worship

(M) 2:00 pm - Oasis

11 Office closed

12

13

14

15 Office closed

16

17 10th Sunday after Pentecost

(R) 9:00 am - Worship

(M) 10:30 am - Worship

(M) 2:00 pm - Oasis

18 Office closed

19
(M) 6:00 pm
Ad. Council

20
(R) 9:00 am
Food Pantry
(R) 3:30 pm
Food Pantry

21
**United Women
In Faith
Leadership
Team Meeting**

22 Office closed

23

**September
Newsletter
Pictures and
Articles Due**

24 11th Sunday after Pentecost

(R) 9:00 am - Worship

(M) 10:30 am - Worship

(M) 2:00 pm - Oasis

25 Office closed

26

27
(M) 5:00 pm
Sticker Day

28

29 Office closed

30

31 12th Sunday after Pentecost

(R) 9:00 am - Worship

(M) 10:30 am - Worship

(M) 2:00 pm - Oasis

The Event Calendar is subject to change. Watch the weekly announcements for updates.

PEOPLE SERVING, LEADING, PRAYING, LISTENING, & CELEBRATING

Weekly Volunteer Schedule

Greeters

August 3 (M) Bill & Sue Breneman
 August 10 (M) Lee & Jean Nuernberger
 August 17 (M) Shane & Crystal Ludwig
 August 24 (M) James Zajicek
 August 31 (M) Bill & Sue Breneman

Worship Leaders/Liturgists

August 3 (M) Sue Breneman	(R) Deb Lind
August 10 (M) Jean Nuernberger	(R) Karon Dallmann
August 17 (M) Crystal Ludwig	(R) Carol Punzel
August 24 (M) Cheryl Ketelhut	(R) Deb Polacek
August 31 (M) Bill Breneman	(R) Dorathy Nelson

Slideshow

August 3 (M) Cheryl Ketelhut	(R) Deb P. / Dorathy N.
August 10 (M) Crystal Ludwig	(R) Deb P. / Dorathy N.
August 17 (M) Brenda Bengtson	(R) Deb P. / Dorathy N.
August 24 (M) Crystal Ludwig	(R) Deb P. / Dorathy N.
August 31 (M) Cheryl Ketelhut	(R) Deb P. / Dorathy N.

Coffee Fellowship (sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall)

August 3 (M) **TBD**
 August 10 (M) **TBD**
 August 17 (M) Linda Murphy
 August 24 (M) **TBD**
 August 31 (M) **POTLUCK**

Altar Flowers (sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall)

August 3 (M) **TBD**
 August 10 (M) **TBD**
 August 17 (M) **TBD**
 August 24 (M) **TBD**
 August 31 (M) **TBD**

****You are responsible for finding a replacement if you are unavailable on your day.**

*****Please email Crystal or the office with any changes so the newsletter and slides are current, and so the correct people receive the worship info each week.**

Crystal: connection@medfordchargeumc.com
 715-965-4006

Office: mcumc@medfordchargeumc.com
 715-748-2165

If you would like to become a member of the Medford or Rib Lake church, please speak with Pastor John.

Prayer Requests

Health Concerns:

Marge Blair; Craig Butor; Brenda Clark; Hollie Harvey; Ray Parks; Barb Schief

Mission/Missionary/Community:

"Beds from Christ" volunteers and recipients; the Medford Charge as we reach out to our communities; government leaders

Others:

Pastor John Hazen; District Superintendent PyungAhn "Peace" Kim; Bishop Dan Schwerin

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Aug 1	(R) Chyrel Houston (B) (M) Drew Lietzow (B)
Aug 2	(R) Sheila Heiser (B)
Aug 3	(M) Peter & Diane Loniello (A)
Aug 6	(M) Glatha Smith (B)
Aug 7	(M) Cheryl Ketelhut (B)
Aug 8	(M) John & Kristi DeBruyne (A) (M) Brody Doberstein (B)
Aug 9	(M) Shawn McDonnell (B)
Aug 12	(M) Kristi DeBruyne (B) (M) Bill Breneman
Aug 13	(M) Brian & Samantha Ingersoll (A)
Aug 16	(M) Viola Downing (B)
Aug 17	(M) Robert Horenberger (B)
Aug 18	(R) James & Karon Dallmann (A) (M) Shane & Crystal Ludwig (A)
Aug 21	(M) Alexis Isola (B)
Aug 22	(M) Ellen Niemuth (B)
Aug 23	(R) James Dallmann (B)
Aug 25	(R) Judy Troyk (B)
Aug 26	(M) Diane Loniello (B)
Aug 29	(M) Scott Braun (B) (R) Gary & Debbie Polacek (A)
Aug 31	(R) Deb Lind (B)

****Please submit corrections or additions to the church office by calling 715-748-2165, or emailing mcumc@medfordchargeumc.com**

CHURCH EVENTS

RIB LAKE UMC QTRLY FINANCE REPORT

CHECKING ACCOUNT:	<u>2ND QTR.</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u> (1/1/2025)
Beg. Bal. 4/1/2025	\$ 12,183.80	\$ 18,247.86
2ND QTR. Receipts	<u>\$ 18,070.95</u>	<u>\$ 27,545.15</u>
	\$ 30,254.75	\$ 45,793.01
2ND QTR. Disbursements	<u>\$ 15,940.30</u>	<u>\$ 31,478.56</u>
End Bal. 6/30/25	\$ 14,314.45	\$ 14,314.45
Designated Funds held in checking for Food Pantry	\$ 5,784.49	
	<u>\$ -</u>	
Total available for Operations	\$ 8,529.96	
Apportionments due for 2025	\$ 5,280.00	
Apportionments paid for 2025	<u>\$ 1,080.00</u>	
Balance remaining to pay:	\$ 4,200.00	

Medford UMC - Third Quarter Mission



DOING THE MOST GOOD

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

Rib Lake UMC - Third Quarter Mission



Never
Forgotten
Honor
Flight

The Never Forgotten Honor Flight is a Not-For-Profit Organization of dedicated Volunteers providing Veterans with closure, gratitude, & respect, by flying them to Washington D.C. to visit their memorials.

Keenagers

Events for August & September

A big "thank you" to everyone who came to help clean and organize the kitchen!

We have been asked by the district United Women In Faith (formerly United Methodist Women), to have their annual meeting at our church. Two dates are important- first, they will hold their Leadership Team meeting here on Thursday, August 21st, and we have been asked to provide coffee and snacks for a free will offering. Then their District meeting will be held here on Saturday, September 27th, and we will be providing the lunch. The District offers \$7.00 per plate for compensation for the meal. The Keenagers will be coordinating both of these events. We will need help for serving and preparing foods for both events.

There has been some expressed interest in doing a Wine Glass Etching workshop at the Steeple Gallery in Dorchester. They need a 3 week notice and the cost is \$20 for the first glass and \$10 for each additional glass. We would need to reserve a date and the classes are 1-2 hours long and are in the evening, Monday-Thursday, from 5-8PM. If you want to get a group together, contact me.

Sue Breneman sebreneman@gmail.com 719-775-1443

MEDFORD AD. COUNCIL

Medford United Methodist Church

Admin Council Minutes for June 17, 2025

Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our Vision: By the grace of God, we reach out to ALL those who need hope, comfort, support, and the love of Jesus Christ.

Our Core Values: Preaching and teaching scripture, encouragement, fellowship, prayer and worship.

***Attendance:** Brenda Bengston, *Bill Breneman, Pastor John Hazen,* Dennis Jones, Linda Murphy, *Stan Schmidt, John DeBruyne, *Cheryl Kotelhut

Ad Council Chair Cheryl opened the meeting with a prayer, then called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

Cheryl gave the devotions which were centered on Isaiah 55: 1-3 and 8-13. Part of the scripture talked about clinging to God's promises and that we can be sure that God's ways are the best way. Bill volunteered to do devotions for the July 15th meeting.

Motion by Bill to approve the agenda, second by Dennis. Motion carried.

Stan moved to approve the minutes,; second by Dennis. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Finance Report was reviewed with the council by Stan. It was noted that the giving is not covering the expenses of our church as stated in the June 1st Town Hall meeting regarding the church finances. The designated fund accounts as shown on this month's report will be changed in next months report so that there will only 3 designated amounts. Those three designated amounts as approved by the Ad Council at their May 20th meeting are: Betty Jenson Flower Fund, the Beds From Christ, and the Quarterly Mission Projects. Motion by Bill to approve the Finance Report, second by Dennis. Motion carried.

Worship Committee met recently. Everything seems to be going smoothly. They will be meeting every other month for now. Cheryl and Jean will be presenting a Book Study starting in the fall. This study will be based on the Book: The Rock, the Road, and the Rabbi. They are planning on presenting Session 3 of the Chosen starting in January. There will be the Thursday morning sessions and the late afternoon sessions for both studies.

Trustees Report:

1. Sale of Church land behind the church: two bids were received for the land behind the church beginning where the mowing stops. It is about 7 acres. The Trustees reviewed the bids and recommends approving the high bid from Shane Schultz of \$13,650. The second bid was \$7,100. Motion by Bill to approve the sale of the property to the highest bidder Shane Schultz for the bid amount of \$13,650, second by Dennis. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Church and Parsonage Cleaning Schedule: Parsonage Cleaning will be after July 4th with date agreement pending with the Pastor. Cleaning will be done by the Thomas family business. A clean and reorganize the church kitchen has been set for July 9th. Cleaning of the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall and Kitchen will be after July 9th.
3. Roofing Schedule: The Sanctuary and back shed roofs will begin soon, and will probably take about 2 days to complete. The metal roof will be place over the existing shingles.

MEDFORD AD. COUNCIL (CONTINUED)

Pastor's Report:

1. On June 29th, we will be taking in a new member. Lindy Lundy is transferring in from Florence, Kentucky United Methodist Church. She has been attending our services for a while.
2. Charge Picnic: This year, the picnic is on July 27th at Lakeview Park in Rib Lake at 10:30am.
3. Women in Faith: The District Women in Faith will have their fall gathering at our church on Sept. 27. The leadership team will meet here on Aug. 21.
4. Red Cross: Next date for a blood drive will be Oct. 21.

Old Business Beds From Christ Update: Jean Flood has met with people from St. Paul's church about taking over the Beds From Christ mission. They will get back to her. Jean may also approach the Rotary Club or the Knight of Columbus.

New Business Jim Flood is the Financial Secretary and is receiving assistance from Lee Nuernberger and Kristi DeBruyne.

Next Ad Council Meeting: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at 6:00pm – Vice Chair Linda will be leading the meeting

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn at 6:50pm by Stan, second by Dennis. Motion Carried.

Minutes by Bill Breneman

Medford UMC Finance Report - June

Checking Account:

	<u>Month</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Beginning Balance 6/1/2025	\$6,174.31	\$6,057.39
June Receipts (Offering- Deposits)	<u>5,884.76</u>	<u>67,106.87</u>
	12,059.07	73,164.26
May Checks (Bills Paid)	<u>6,565.14</u>	<u>67,670.33</u>
Balance 6/30/2025	\$5,493.93	\$5,493.93

Betty Jensen Flower Fund	854.38
Beds From Christ	4,102.29
2nd Qtr Missions	247.00
Total	5,203.67

Checking account balance as of 6/30/2025	\$5,493.93
Designated funds held in checking	<u>5,203.67</u>
Total available to spend in checking:	\$290.26

Apportionments due for 2025:	\$14,436.00
Apportionments paid YTD	390.87
Apportionments paid in May	<u>128.10</u>
	390.87
Balance remaining to pay:	\$14,045.13

*\$1203 per month would meet 2025 apportionments.

**THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
287 E ALLMAN STREET
MEDFORD WI 54451-1122**

Medford Charge Office

Phone 715-748-2165

Fax 715-748-9719



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Rib Lake UMC, Sunday Worship at 9:00am

1300 Church Street

Rib Lake, WI 54470

Phone 715-427-3670

Medford UMC, Sunday Worship at 10:30am

287 E Allman Street

Medford, WI 54451

Phone 715-748-2165

John Hazen, Pastor 715-748-0477 or 715-560-3606

Crystal Ludwig, Connectional Ministry Coordinator 715-965-4006

Nancy Graun, Charge Treasurer / Office Manager

Address label



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make new disciples of Jesus
Christ for the transformation of
the world.**

By the grace of God we reach
out to all those who need hope,
comfort, support, and the love
of Jesus Christ.



August 2025



**The mission of Rib Lake UMC is to
help all people to know and grow
in Jesus.**

Our vision is to build a church
family by providing opportunities
to worship God, connect with
others, and serve the community.



If you would like to unsubscribe from our
newsletter or feel that you have received it in
error, please contact the Charge Office to be
removed from the mailing list. Thank you.

715-748-2165

mcumc@medfordchargeumc.com