

Cable UCC NEWSLETTER

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January Issue



**“MAY THE NEW YEAR BRING JOY TO YOUR SOUL
AND BLESSINGS TO YOUR LIFE.”**

~Al, Carat Lane

Thoughts for a New Year

by Maren C. Triabassi

My youngest grandson always chooses animals from the crèche – walking around with a cow tight in his small hand, or a sheep, a donkey, a dove, the camel with the funny expression. He holds them up for us to see, then turns and pets the dog who follows him because he is reliable source of much scattered food. I watch him – determined, but a little unsteady on his course around the house, and I am reminded – the beasts are friendly, and the children will lead us.

I am packing up pieces of Christmas as we turn to a New Year, wondering what I will need to hold tightly from this story on my small path through the days till advent comes again.

The joy of giving...

All the proceeds from the 2nd Chapter Christmas Sale resulted in a check for \$2,500 being presented to Missy Altmann, Superintendent of Drummond Area School District, by Lisa Arthur, representing UCC Women's Fellowship as the chairperson of the sale. The funds will be used to expand curricular resources and provide students with more hands-on learning experiences.



Jane Benson, Sue Thurn, Missy Altmann, Lisa Arthur and Nancy Schemensky.

Photo by Becky Milam



There was a wonderfully heartwarming response to the Reverse Advent Calendar this year. Twenty-five boxes were donated, all beautifully decorated. They were blessed during the Christmas Eve service, then left on the tables in Fellowship Hall for those with "limited or uncertain access to adequate food" to pick up anytime from Christmas Day until New Year's Eve.



We are blessed to have so many talented folks at UCC who are willing to share their gifts with us.





CABLE AREA FOOD SHELF UCC LITTLE FREE FOOD PANTRY

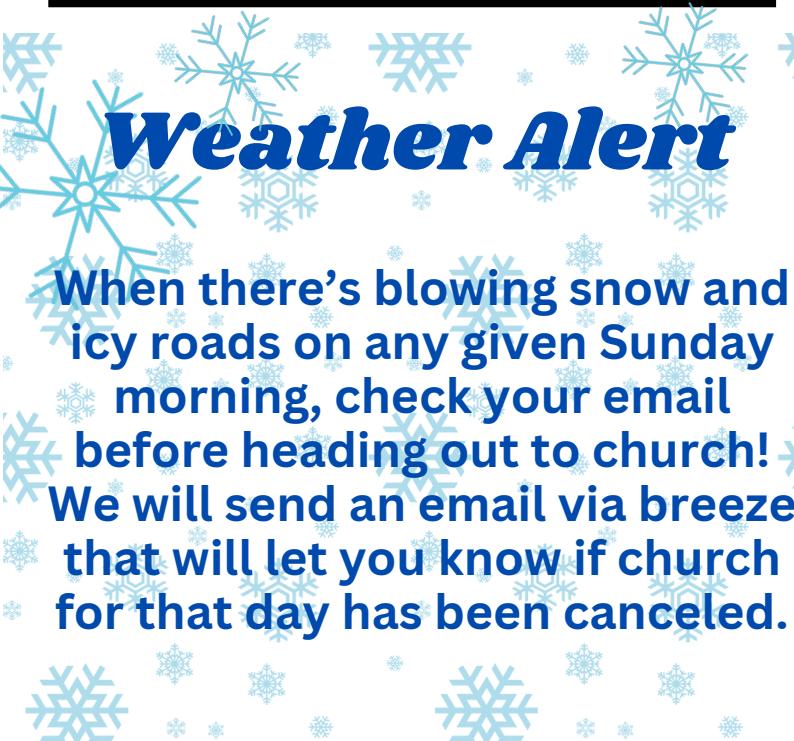
In December, the Cable Area Food Shelf was manned by the Living Hope Church. They served 32 families! Holiday meats were distributed, along with many staples.

In 2026, UCC will be in charge of the Food Shelf in April, July and October.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELP TO KEEP OUR FOOD SHELF RUNNING.

We are grateful for the many food and monetary donations that the Food Shelf has recently received. We are blessed to live in such a generous community. Thank you!

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!



When there's blowing snow and icy roads on any given Sunday morning, check your email before heading out to church! We will send an email via breeze that will let you know if church for that day has been canceled.



"It is cheerful to God when you rejoice or laugh from the bottom of your heart."

- Martin Luther King Jr.

How do you know when Santa's around?

You can always sense his presents.

What was Santa's favorite subject in school?

Chemis-tree!

Why does Santa always enter through the chimney?

Because it soots him.

Where to reindeer stop for coffee?

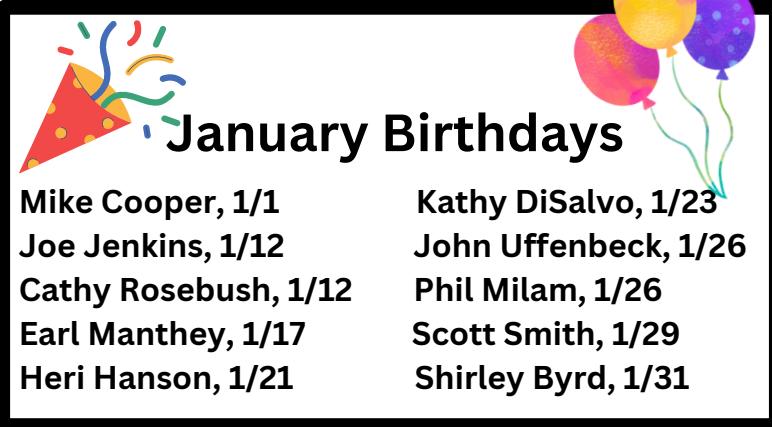
Star-bucks!

What's every elf's favorite type of music?

Wrap!

What's the difference between the Christmas alphabet and the ordinary alphabet?

The Christmas alphabet has noel.



Mike Cooper, 1/1

Joe Jenkins, 1/12

Cathy Rosebush, 1/12

Earl Manthey, 1/17

Heri Hanson, 1/21

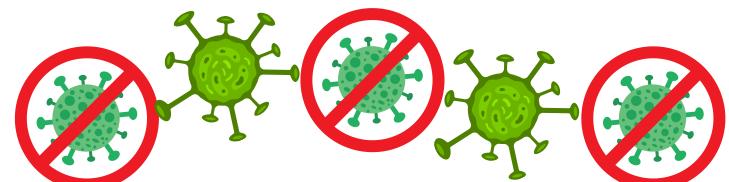
Kathy DiSalvo, 1/23

John Uffenbeck, 1/26

Phil Milam, 1/26

Scott Smith, 1/29

Shirley Byrd, 1/31



With the cold and flu season upon us, we all need to take precautions for maintaining good health. If you're not feeling well, please take care of yourself (and be considerate of others) by staying home until you're better.

Masks and hand sanitizer are available at church for anyone to use.



A Prayer for the Community

Let us draw near to God in prayer...

**Gracious God, Incarnate and Mysterious, The One who IS love Itself,
hear the longings of our hearts.**

**We lift up our prayerful intentions today,
Intentions for healing and wholeness for ourselves and for others,
for those in this community and those across the globe,
for the healing of this earth and all her creatures great and small
for the end of violence, abuse, and racism in all its forms**

**Compassionate One, We open our minds and our hearts today
so that you may guide our hands and our feet,
in service of our neighbors, all our neighbors,
those who are like us, and those who are not.**

**We pray for the courage to lift our voices
challenging the unjust systems that harm and destroy;
that demean and create an “other”**

**And finally, Living Spirit, in this New Year,
might we discover for the first time, OR rediscover once again, the true
meaning of Incarnational Living.**

**May we come to understand that YOU ARE WITH US
No matter what, no matter where we may find ourselves today.
Whether we're facing depression or addiction, apathy or fear, life or death,
may we come to embrace both the obvious and the mysterious.
May we indwell the Light that overcomes the Darkness.**

Let it be so, Amen.



- ★ Thank you to Lisa Arthur for organizing the 2nd Chapter Christmas Sale, held during Christmas in Cable on Saturday, December 6th. Thank you to the many volunteers who worked sorting and selling all the amazing donated items.
- ★ Thank you to Becky Milam for developing the Advent in Reverse project at UCC, and to all who participated in this meaningful gift-giving tradition. There were many happy folks whose prayers were answered because of it.
- ★ Thank you to the snow removal crew who have gotten off to a roaring start this winter season! We appreciate your tending to icy sidewalks and the parking lots too.
- ★ Thank you to everyone who reaches out to help someone who struggles during the winter season. By donating food, providing warm coats, delivering meals, checking up on a neighbor, or shoveling snow, your kindness and compassion are true examples of God's love in action.

Please consider volunteering for this fun community event. Sign-up sheet will be on the table in the Fellowship Hall Monday, 1/5



Pancake Supper
Fat Tuesday
February 17th

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

at

Cable UCC

County Road M, Cable, WI

Pancakes, Sausage, Ham, and Fruit Toppings

Call the Church Office @ 715-798-3066 for more information.

Your Goodwill Donation

Benefits the UCC Scholarship Fund for Drummond High School

2026

Thoughts from Pastor Phil



Lean in Toward the Light

by Rev. Phil Milam

I heard a song recently by an artist named Carrie Newcomer. The song is called “*Lean in Toward the Light*”. Here are some of the lyrics:

*Winter is the oldest season, but quietly beneath the snow,
seeds are stretching out and reaching, faithful as the morning glow.
Carry nothing but what you must, let it go, shake off the dust
Today is now, tomorrow beckons, keep practicing resurrection
The shadows of this world will say, there's no hope why try anyway?
But every kindness large or slight, shifts the balance toward the light.*

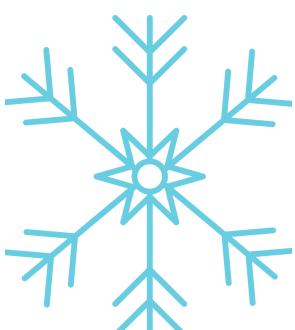
I offer these words today because sometimes the length and duration of winter can seem endless. The warmth, the light, and even the activities of summer find themselves withdrawn into a cocoon of despair or hopelessness. The cold of winter can darken even the brightest of souls.

But even within this shell of gloom, there are moments of quiet hope. Moments when we find ourselves trusting that something beautiful might be on the way, even when we cannot yet see it. And this song could be one of those moments. You see, it attempts to make sense of the winter by remembering that quietly beneath the snow, seeds are stretching out and reaching, leaning in toward the light.

Reflecting on seeds beneath the snow reminds me of God's constant presence. In life's winters—moments of grief or despair—we're never alone; God's companionship guides us. This presence appears in people, relationships, nature, and time spent outdoors. And God is within us, as the prophet Jeremiah so eloquently put it, God's desire for humanity, he said, “...is within us and written upon our hearts.”

So, if you find yourself trudging your way through the cold and snow of winter, know that a spring is forming under the snow and there are new shoots of a resurrection finding their way to the surface.

May your journey be warm as you lean in toward the light of God.
Many Blessings,
Pastor Phil





Christmas Cantata

"Serve the Lord with gladness:
come before his presence with
singing" Psalm 100:2



Scott Smith asked to have this link to the Hayward Community Choir Christmas Cantata shared. Listen and enjoy:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1X9rOSPPqmaseEr9W9ervCejj6tiX30sD/view?usp=share_link

Under Mimi Crandall's guidance, Diana Randolph, Mary Lintula and Nancy Schemensky got things looking fabulous in no time!



2nd Chapter Christmas Sale

Thank you to all who donated your gently used items for the sale.
And a huge thank you to all those who shopped at this sale.

It's heartwarming to see so many wonderful treasures find new homes.
What fun for everyone!



UCC Financial Report

submitted by Barbara Mika, Church Treasurer

Accounts	12/31/2025	2025		
		P&L	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Checking - CVB	\$15,641.66	Income	\$ 205,844.01	\$ 169,543.04
Savings - CVB	\$11,665.82	Expenses	\$ 216,613.61	\$ 169,543.04
WF Checking - CVB	\$6,531.24			
Vanguard (Fiorio)	\$63,728.70	Net	\$ (10,769.60)	\$ -
Money Market Ckg (Fiorio)	\$22,353.21			
UCC Funds Capital Reserve(860400)	\$27,016.82			
Endowment (860401)	\$297,605.20			
	\$444,542.65			

Nov numbers, statements received 2 weeks into the next month

Cash & Investment Accounts

Account Type	Percentage
Checking - CVB	67%
Savings - CVB	14%
WF Checking - CVB	1%
Vanguard (Fiorio)	14%
Money Market Ckg (Fiorio)	6%
UCC Funds Capital Reserve(860400)	5%

12/31/25 P & L

Category	Actual	Budget
Income	\$ 205,844.01	\$ 169,543.04
Expenses	\$ 216,613.61	\$ 169,543.04
Net	\$ (10,769.60)	\$ -

Cable Senior Dining Come and join us!

Site opens at 11:30 am

Lunch at 12:00 pm

- Aged 60 or older, suggested contribution of \$3.00 - \$5.00

Reservations Are Required

Please call 715-373-3396

to reserve your meal by noon on the Thursday before the Monday you plan to attend! Reservations are needed to make sure there is enough food for everyone.

Leave your name, phone number and the date you will attend.

Menu for January 5th:

Seafood & Vegetable Fettuccini
Italian Salad
Garlic Bread
Dessert

Menu for January 19th:

TALEGATE PARTY
Pork Stir-Fry
Rice
Chopped Salad
Dressing
Whole Wheat Roll
Dessert