



# Darlington and Fayette United Methodist Churches January 2026

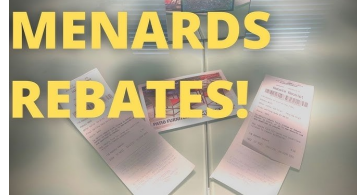


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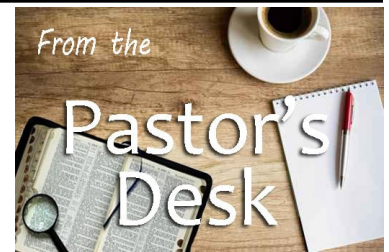


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## “Building Up Our Spiritual Health”

January invites us to think about new beginnings. Many people start the year by setting goals for a healthier life—eating better, sleeping better, and exercising more. These are important commitments, because our bodies and minds are gifts from God. Yet as people of faith, we are also called to care for something just as vital: our **spiritual health**.



Spiritual health, like physical health, does not happen automatically. It requires intention and practice. As we begin a new year, I invite you to think about spiritual health in three simple ways: **eating well, resting well, and exercising well**.

First, we need to **eat well spiritually**. Just as our bodies need daily nourishment, our souls need regular spiritual nutrition. We are fed through God’s Word, through worship and sermons, through prayer, and through faithful fellowship with one another. The Bible shapes our hearts, sermons encourage and challenge us, and our faith community reminds us that we are not alone. Spiritual nourishment is not optional. It is essential. Even small, consistent moments with Scripture and prayer each day can sustain and strengthen our faith.

Second, we need to **rest well spiritually**. Rest is critical for health, and our spirits need rest just as much as our bodies do. Spiritual rest means laying down our burdens, worries, and nonstop thoughts and placing ourselves in God’s peaceful presence. This often happens during quiet time—early in the morning, late at night, or even in the middle of a busy day. In those moments, we quiet ourselves, breathe deeply, and simply be with God. In a world filled with constant noise and busyness, our souls need stillness. In that holy calm, God renews us and gently restores our hearts. Finally, we need **spiritual exercise**. Exercise builds endurance, strength, and flexibility, and the same is true in our faith.

**Spiritual cardio** builds endurance. Through regular worship, prayer, and faithful trust—especially during difficult seasons—we learn to keep going, relying on God’s grace.

**Spiritual muscle building** strengthens us. Serving others, practicing generosity, studying Scripture, and living out our faith may stretch us, but they make us stronger and more rooted in Christ.

**Spiritual stretching** gives flexibility. When we remain open to God’s leading, listen to others, and practice humility, our faith becomes more resilient and responsive. As we begin this new year, may we commit ourselves to caring for our spiritual health. By eating well, resting deeply, and exercising faithfully, we open ourselves to God’s transforming work.

May this new year be filled with God’s peace, strength, and renewing presence for you and your loved ones. I wish you a blessed, healthy, and faith-filled New Year as we continue to walk together in Christ.

*Rev. Han Lee*

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



- In Memory of Bill McConnell given by Marcy McDonald.
- In Memory of Carol McDaniel given by John McDaniel.
- In Memory of Shirley Nethery given by Ric & Donna Douglas.
- In Honor of Her Children & Grandchildren given by Pat Steiner.

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. The amounts will never be listed!

### Online Giving & Mobile Giving

Go to <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZJ3M/home> for our online giving version or download the app in your Apple or Google Play app. Enter with church code **FS4XM7**. Thank you for your continued support to the church.



### A look at the Darlington numbers for November.

Income	\$ 16,215.90
Expenses	- 13,144.69
Difference	\$ 3,071.21

### YTD 2025

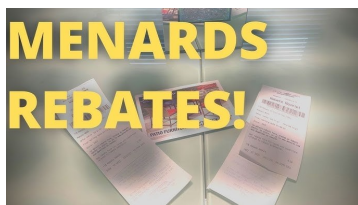
YTD Income	\$ 164,408.22
YTD Expenses	- 133,698.34
YTD	\$30,709.88

### 2025 Apportionment Total - \$28,488

Paid YTD - \$11,761  
 Balance Left for 2025- \$ 16,727  
 Percentage paid - 41.28%

### Helping the Church

Feel called to help out the church but can't figure out a way to do it..... Do you shop at Menards??? If you do then consider keeping your rebates for the church. If you don't send them in and want to donate, either send them to the Church, attention Vickie Pratt, Treasurer, or drop them in the collection plate. They can use your donated reward dollars to purchase supplies.  
**THANK YOU.**



### 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.



## Basic Lay Servant Ministry Course

Join us for the in-person **Basic Lay Servant Ministries Course**, offered over two Saturdays—January 17 and January 31, 2026—from 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM at Agape UMC in New Berlin. Led by a team of experienced instructors, this ten-hour course provides a strong foundation for those exploring lay servant ministry.

Registration is open through January 10, and participants are encouraged to obtain the course text in advance. Agape UMC is generously providing lunch and refreshments, and there is no cost to attend.



This in-person ten-hour course offering will be held over two Saturdays, with experienced instructors who bring valuable wisdom and insight to the course.

**Dates:** Saturday, January 17, 2026, and Saturday, January 31, 2026; 9:30 am - 3:00 pm

**Location:** Agape UM Ministry United Methodist Church, 3100 S. Stigler Rd., New Berlin, WI 53146

Before the start of the class, participants are asked to obtain a copy of the course text, **Lay Servant Ministries-Basic Course by Sandy Ziegler Jackson and Brian Jackson**. Books may be purchased from the Upper Room, Thriftbooks, Cokesbury, and other outlets.

Pastor Brady Henderson, Minister Mark Runke, Certified Lay Speaker Wendy Kamerling, and Certified Lay Speaker Alan Tamm will lead the class.



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## Rosie's Bags

**Rosie Bags** are back and looking for donations. Rosie Bags send a weekend snack bag home with about 40 DEMS students per week. With rising costs and growing number of students in need, our funds over time have depleted quickly. We are asking for **monetary or food donations** to help offset the cost of snacks for our needy students. Any questions, please reach out to Danielle Hardyman or Jamie Hartwig.

If you would like to donate to this program, submit donations in the offering plate or send to the church office. Please mark donations "Rosie's Bags".

Thank you for your support.





**Religious Education**

If you have a child in grades 1st-8th, please let Jamie Smith or the church office know so we can update our list. If you are willing to serve or lead, contact the office. **They meet every Wednesday from 6-7 p.m. On Winter Break from December 24-January 21 . Class Resumes January 28.**



## More Than a Resolution: Practicing Faithful Stewardship for the Long Haul

Every January, many of us start the year with good intentions. We resolve to spend less, save more, pay down debt, or finally feel less anxious about money. Some of those resolutions stick for a while. Many don't. And it's not because we lack discipline or desire.

The truth is that healthy financial stewardship is rarely achieved through willpower alone.

Getting out of debt, learning to save, practicing contentment, growing in generosity, and cultivating gratitude are not quick fixes. They are habits – formed slowly, intentionally, and often imperfectly over time. Like prayer, worship, and service, faithful stewardship is a spiritual practice that shapes us as disciples.

Scripture reminds us that transformation is ongoing work. Paul writes, “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds” (Romans 12:2). That kind of renewal does not happen because the calendar flips from December to January. It happens when we acknowledge that our relationship with money, possessions, and generosity is deeply spiritual – and that God's work in us unfolds over a lifetime.

For some, this might mean seeking help to escape cycles of debt. For others, it may mean learning to live with enough, resisting the pressure to accumulate more. For still others, it might be discovering the joy of generosity - not just financial giving, but generosity of time, skills, hospitality, and compassion.

As individuals and as churches, the invitation at the start of a new year is not simply to make resolutions, but to recommit ourselves to practices that help us grow in trust, gratitude, and faithfulness. Stewardship is not about perfection. It's about progress – taken one faithful step at a time.

*Rev. Jason Mahnke, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation*



Scrip sales cost you nothing and provide support for our church. The UMW sells Scrip cards: gift cards to over 750 retailers. These cards are sold to you at face value, costing you nothing more than you would normally spend. They are purchased through a discount, yielding a small profit for the church.

You can place an order with Sheila Kelly at [kellysheila87@gmail.com](mailto:kellysheila87@gmail.com) or 608-482-1141. You can even purchase scrip on-line for immediate arrival of your printable gift cards. Thank you Sheila for your hard work directing this important fund raising program!

## Poinsettias given in Honor or Memory of loved ones...

In Memory of Jordyn Shea Paulson	Paulson Family
In Memory of Don Eicher & Sue Eicher Shager	Barb Eicher
In Memory of Sue (Eicher) Shager & Don Eicher	Joan Thompson
In Memory of Kirk Staver	Linda Bawden
In Memory of Ralph & Margaret Whalen	Judy Whalen
In Memory of Kirk Staver	Linda Bawden
In Memory of Kent Havens	Steve & Gina Crist
In Memory of Past Choir Members &	UMC Choir
In Honor of Current Choir Members	UMC Choir
In Memory of Buck, Pauline Douglas	Sheila & Doug Kelly
In Memory of Aric & Butch Douglas	Sheila & Doug Kelly
In Memory of John Kowalski	Mary Ann & Sue Kowalski
In Memory of Walt & Frieda Leu	the Pratt Family
In Memory of Chester & Della Pratt	the Pratt Family
In Memory of Shorty & Gert Pratt	the Pratt Family
In Memory of Linda Pratt Larson & Lori Pratt Fox	the Pratt Family
In Memory of Joseph Ruppert	Gwen Ruppert
In Memory of Bill McConnell	Shirley McConnell & Family
In Memory of Marian & Glenn Gruenberg	the Bailey Family
In Memory of Jim & Janice (Sleep) Ronnerud	Suzie Hillson
In Memory of Charlie Sleep	Suzie Hillson
In Memory of Peggy & John Hanewall	Fritz & Steph Hanewall
In Memory of Floyd & Velma Craig	Fritz & Steph Hanewall
In Memory of Richard Craig	Fritz & Steph Hanewall
In Memory of Richard Craig	Ann Craig
In Memory of Joyce Kowalke & Robert Johns	Todd & Cheryl Chiaverotti
In Memory of Kent Havens	Donna Havens & Family
In Memory of John & Vivian Allendorf	Dick & Lori Allendorf
In Memory of Shirley Nethery & JoAnne Shosie	Ric & Donna Douglas
In memory of Pauline Douglas	Ric & Donna Douglas
In Memory of Jordyn Shea Paulson	Mikayla (Bugga) Jo Riley
In Memory of Sister Kristin & Uncle Charles	Kori & Dan Hemming



## *Darlington & Fayette United Methodist Churches*

### DAILY BIBLE READING PLAN FOR JANUARY 2026

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
___ 1/01/26	Ephesians 1:3-14	Spiritual Blessings in Christ
___ 1/02/26	Jeremiah 31:7-14	The Lord Will Gather His People
___ 1/03/26	John 1:1-18	The Deity of Jesus Christ
___ 1/04/26	Matthew 2:1-12 <b>( Epiphany Sunday)</b>	The Visit of the Magi
___ 1/05/26	Psalms 147:12-20	The Lord – the Lawgiver
___ 1/06/26	Psalms 72:1-14	A Prayer for the King
___ 1/07/26	Ephesians 3:1-12	Paul – Preacher to the Gentiles
___ 1/08/26	Isaiah 42:1-9	The Servant of the Lord
___ 1/09/26	Psalms 29	The Lord’s Glory and Strength
___ 1/10/26	Acts 10:34-43	Forgiveness of Sins Through Jesus
___ 1/11/26	Matthew 3:13-17	The Baptism of Jesus
___ 1/12/26	Ecclesiastes 3:1-13	A Time for Everything
___ 1/13/26	Isaiah 53:1-7	Prophecy of Jesus (“Lamb of God”)
___ 1/14/26	Isaiah 49:1-7	The Servant of the Lord
___ 1/15/26	I Corinthians 1:1-9	Thanksgiving for the Corinthians
___ 1/16/26	Psalms 40:1-11	Comfort for God’s People
___ 1/17/26	John 1:29-34	Jesus Is the “Lamb of God”
___ 1/18/26	John 1:35-42	Jesus Calls Disciples
___ 1/19/26	I Chronicles 16:7-36	David’s Song of Thanksgiving
___ 1/20/26	Deuteronomy 10:17-22	Serve Our Loving Lord
___ 1/21/26	I Corinthians 1:10-18	Divisions in the Church
___ 1/22/26	Psalms 27	The Lord – Our Light and Salvation
___ 1/23/26	Isaiah 9:1-7	Prophecy of the Messiah
___ 1/24/26	Matthew 4:12-17	Jesus Begins to Preach
___ 1/25/26	Matthew 4:18-23	The Calling of the First Disciples
___ 1/26/26	Romans 12:1-3	Our Bodies – Living Sacrifices
___ 1/27/26	Acts 6:1-7	The Choosing of the Seven
___ 1/28/26	Acts 18:23-28	Priscilla-Aquila-Apollos
___ 1/29/26	Psalms 15	Instructions for Holy Living
___ 1/30/26	Micah 6:1-8	The Lord’s Case Against Israel
___ 1/31/26	I Corinthians 1:18-31	Christ – the Wisdom and Power of God

*Darlington & Fayette United Methodist Churches*

**WOMEN OF THE BIBLE WEEKDAY READING PLAN FOR JANUARY 2026**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>SCRIPTURE</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>
__ 1/1/26	Genesis 2:18-25	Creation of Eve.
__ 1/2/26	Genesis 3:1-13	The Serpent deceives Eve.
__ 1/5/26	Genesis 3:14-24	Eve and Adam – Leave Garden of Eden.
__ 1/6/26	Genesis 4:1-2 and Genesis 4:19-26	Eve gives birth. Also, Lamech’s wives – Adah and Zillah.
__ 1/7/26	Genesis 6:9-22	Noah and his sons will build an ark which Noah’s wife, sons and their wives will board to escape the great flood.
__ 1/8/26	Genesis 8:13-22	Noah, his wife, his sons and their wives leave the ark after the flood waters dry up.
__ 1/9/26	Genesis 11:26-32	Sarai – Wife of Abram (Abraham).
__ 1/12/26	Genesis chapter 16	Sarai and Hagar.
__ 1/13/26	Genesis 17:15-22	God changes Sarai’s name to Sarah.
__ 1/14/26	Genesis 21:1-10	Sarah gives birth to Isaac.
__ 1/15/26	Genesis 23:1-9	Sarah (wife of Abraham) dies.
__ 1/16/26	Genesis 24:34-51	Abraham’s servant finds Rebekah when searching for a wife for Isaac.
__ 1/19/26	Genesis 24:52-67	Isaac meets Rebekah and marries her.
__ 1/20/26	Genesis 25:1-6	Abraham marries Keturah – they have children.
__ 1/21/26	Genesis 25:7-11	Abraham is buried beside his wife Sarah.
__ 1/22/26	Genesis 25:19-28	Rebekah has twins – Jacob and Esau.
__ 1/23/26	Genesis chapter 29	Jacob marries Leah and Rachel.
__ 1/26/26	Genesis 30:1-24	Leah and Rachel have children.
__ 1/27/26	Genesis 31:14-21 & Genesis 31:36-55	Jacob flees from Laban with Rachel, Leah and children. Laban finds them and says goodbye to them.
__ 1/28/26	Genesis 34:1-12	Shechem (Son of Hamor) defiles Dinah (Leah’s daughter) and asks to marry her.
__ 1/29/26	Genesis 34:13-31	Simeon and Levi (Dinah’s brothers) take Dinah from Shechem and plunder the city where he lives.
__ 1/30/26	Genesis 35:16-20	Death of Rachel in giving birth to Benjamin.



<b>NEW TESTAMENT BIBLE READING PLAN SCHEDULE – JANUARY 2026</b>		
(Schedule-Read one chapter <b>each weekday</b> to complete the New Testament in one year.)		
<u>End of Week (Saturday)</u>	<u>Chapters Completed</u>	<u>Check-off</u>
January 3	Matthew 2	_____
January 10	Matthew 7	_____
January 17	Matthew 12	_____
January 24	Matthew 17	_____
January 31	Matthew 22	_____

*(Progress Milestone: 22 chapters read – 8.4% of the New Testament)*

### January Lectionary

January 4  
**Epiphany Sunday**  
 Jeremiah 31:7-14  
 Psalm 147:12-20  
 Ephesians 1:3-14  
 John 1:(1-9), 10-18

January 11  
**Baptism of the Lord**  
 Isaiah 42:1-9  
 Psalm 29  
 Acts 10:34-43  
 Matthew 3:13-17

January 18  
**2nd Sunday after the Epiphany**  
 Isaiah 49:1-7  
 Psalm 40:1-11  
 1 Corinthians 1:1-9  
 John 1:29-42

January 25  
**3rd Sunday after the Epiphany**  
 Isaiah 9:1-4  
 Psalm 27:1, 4-9  
 1 Corinthians 1:10-18  
 Matthew 4:12-23

The Choir will be singing on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.

Choir practice will be on Wednesday nights at 7pm. If it is a Sunday that they sing, they will have practice at 9 a.m. to run through the songs.

**We are looking for more people to join the choir. If you are interested please contact Doug Kelly.**



### Church Use Reminder

We invite you to use our nursery room during church service. We also have rooms available in the Education Building and church, should you want to host a meeting or gathering. Please contact the office to reserve.

**As always, we ask that you kindly pick up after use and leave the rooms as you found them. Thank you**



- |                         |                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Jan. 2 Karen Curry      | Jan. 15 Abby Douglas       |
| Jan. 4 Alyza Johnson    | Jan. 17 Brooke Douglas     |
| Jan. 4 Don Osterday     | Jan. 17 Jeanette Zee       |
| Jan. 5 Wayne Thompson   | Jan. 18 Alison Goebel      |
| Jan. 6 Ava Smith        | Jan. 18 Madden Burbach     |
| Jan. 6 Brady Smith      | Jan. 19 Carson Carpenter   |
| Jan. 6 Stephanie Stover | Jan. 19 Erica Ruppert      |
| Jan. 7 Denise Lancaster | Jan. 20 Dave Bailey        |
| Jan. 10 Kara Tyson      | Jan. 21 Jack Sauer         |
| Jan. 10 Isabel Walter   | Jan. 21 Rick Fisker        |
| Jan. 12 Ryan Pratt      | Jan. 22 Jill Pratt         |
| Jan. 13 Ric Douglas     | Jan. 25 Bob Teasdale       |
| Jan. 13 Greg Halvorson  | Jan. 25 Colton Tyson       |
| Jan. 14 Kent McConnell  | Jan. 26 Carolyn Abraham    |
| Jan. 14 Chesne Fink     | Jan. 27 Ashley Parkinson   |
|                         | Jan. 27 Mary Jane McDonald |
|                         | Jan. 27 Riggs Black        |
|                         | Jan. 27 Cathy Havens       |
|                         | Jan. 28 Kim Craig          |
|                         | Jan. 30 Nolan Allendorf    |



- |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|
| Jan 5 Robert & Cathy Paulson      |
| Jan 5 Lori Neumann & Jim Sinclair |
| Jan 21 TJ & Mandi Nyffenegger     |
| Jan 22 Richard & Jean North       |
| Jan 29 Rick & Laura Fink          |



# TEAM

## worship

### Schedule

- #### January Ushers
- |        |                                        |
|--------|----------------------------------------|
| Jan 1  | Cathy Paulson<br>Beaver Paulson        |
| Jan 11 | Tim Pratt<br>Vickie Pratt              |
| Jan 18 | Tim Stover<br>Stephanie Stover         |
| Jan 25 | Todd Chiaverotti<br>Cheryl Chiaverotti |

- #### January Liturgists
- |        |                                     |
|--------|-------------------------------------|
| Jan 4  | D- Judy Whalen<br>F- Lance Lansing  |
| Jan 11 | D- Joan Thompson<br>F- Pam Gould    |
| Jan 18 | D- Kent McConnell<br>F- Ron Ingwell |
| Jan 25 | D- Kent Miehe<br>F- Dennis Wirth    |

- #### January Acolytes
- |        |                                  |
|--------|----------------------------------|
| Jan 7  | Wheeler Douglas<br>Kynrk Johnson |
| Jan 11 | Cheyenne Elzen<br>Ryley Burbach  |
| Jan 18 | Jake Fox<br>Frankie Smith        |
| Jan 25 | Chesne Fink<br>Cruz Fink         |



- #### Sneak peak at Feb 1
- Liturgist: D- Judy Whalen  
F- Lance Lansing
- Ushers: Beaver Paulson  
Cathy Paulson
- Acolytes: Rya Fitzsimons  
Piper Ritchie



# COME WITH US Worship January 2026



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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1 2 3

4 *Epiphany Sunday*  
**Communion Sunday**  
 8:30 Worship in Fayette  
 9:00 Choir Practice  
 10:00 Worship in Darlington w/Choir

11 **Baptism of the Lord**  
*New Members Presentation*  
 8:30 Worship in Fayette  
 10:00 Worship in Darlington

18 **2nd Sunday after the Epiphany**  
 8:30 Worship in Fayette  
 9:00 Choir Practice  
 10:00 Worship in Darlington w/ Choir

25 **3rd Sunday after Epiphany**  
 8:30 Worship in Fayette  
 10:00 Worship in Darlington

6 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry  
 10:30 Worship @ Manor  
 6:00 Finance mtg.  
 6:30 Admin mtg.

13 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry

20 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry

27 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry

8 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry

15 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry

22 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry

29 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry

9

16

23

30

10

17

24

31

28 **Religious Ed Returns**  
 6:00 Religious Ed

