

January 2026

Pastor Jim Cotter
Office Hours:
Monday & Thursday
Noon to 3:00 p.m.
Cell phone: 920-350-2625
Email: Jcotter356@gmail.com

Office Administrator
Kathy Raimer
Office hours:
Tuesday & Thursday 9-3 p.m.

Phone: (608) 981-2500
Email: tuparish@gmail.com



Website:
trinityunitedparish.org

Radio broadcast on
Sunday:
87.9 BUMC & MUMC

Briggsville UMC
PO Box 36
W8608 ST RD 23
Briggsville WI 53920

Moundville UMC
W5501 CO RD O
Endeavor WI 53930
Phone: 608-587-2725

Trinity United Parish

The mission of Trinity United Parish is to be a loving community of faith. Our faith in Jesus Christ is expressed through learning, growing and caring together.

From Pastor Jim:

If you are interested in making our worship more meaningful, please consider being part of a study of worship that I hope to lead early in 2026. I don't yet have a time scheduled.

You may have heard me say in worship that "worship is practice." That means that when we pray together on Sunday morning, we do it with the intention of getting better at praying the rest of the week. The words of the hymns, the spoken prayers, in fact all the parts of worship are supposed to help us love God more, forgive, love our neighbor, etc. We also practice listening for God's word to us as we read scripture.

I have recently completed a manuscript that I hope will become a book. It is titled "Worship and Our Spiritual Needs." Worship at its best meets our needs to be loved, to be known and to be part of something greater than ourselves.

I would like to "test drive" the manuscript with the help of those of you who are interested. The book is short - only 12 pages - but there is plenty of meat for discussion. Let me know if you are interested.

Pastor Jim

Moundville History Project

Calling Moundville friends - On Tuesday, January 6, at 9 a.m., all those with an interest in Moundville history are invited to the church to look through and begin to organize our historical records. If you have any historical material at home, please bring it. Everyone is welcome.



A detailed black and white line drawing of a cardinal perched on a holly branch. The cardinal is shown in profile, facing left, with its characteristic pointed beak and crest feathers. The branch is adorned with several holly leaves, which have sharp, serrated edges, and clusters of small berries. The drawing is executed in a clean, illustrative style with fine lines and some cross-hatching for shading on the bird's feathers.

Sat

Winter Retreat

1/11, 1/18, & 1/25: Kathy Thiemke & Carol Brancel

TLC Membership Task Force

Every so often, we undertake to look at our church membership roster to see if we are really connecting with all the people on our list. Usually there are a few members that who used to participate, but whose faces we now miss seeing. We intend to reach out to some of those inactive people in January, to see what we might do to make a difference for them.

If you would like to be a part of a group that expresses caring and welcoming, please talk to Pastor Jim or come to a meeting of the TLC membership task force on January 15 at 10 a.m. at Moundville.

Winter Youth Retreat at Camp Lucerne January 23-25, 2026

Winter Youth Retreat is a chance for youth to connect in community at camp while enjoying all of the winter activities (both indoor and outdoor) that camp can offer. Join us for sledding, broomball, indoor large group games, camp-style worship and faith exploration and so much more. This retreat is open to 6th-12th grade youth and their adult chaperones. Pizza buffet will be available on Friday night! To register, go to <https://wiumcamps.campbrainregistration.com/> or see Pastor Jim. We have funds set aside for youth to reimburse families when they register for camp.



Friends in the Pantry

**COOKIE
Decorating**



Lift chair for sale

Gently used

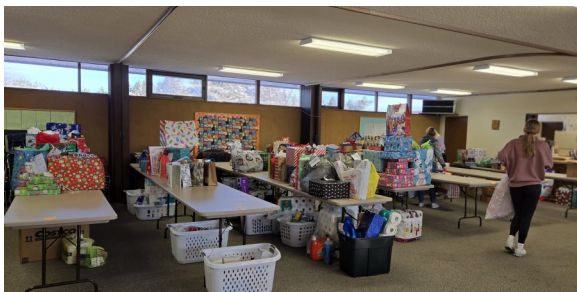
\$200

Contact:

Shirl Scherbert (608) 697-3358

Marquette County Giving Tree—A report from Linda Krueger

Thank you to everyone in our churches that filled the 10 gift tags and/or contributed household supplies for 3 households for the Marquette County Giving Tree. No doubt your generosity will brighten up those who receive these gifts. Kathy Thiemke and Linda Krueger delivered them to Trinity United Methodist Church at Montello where they will be distributed. When we delivered our gifts they had received about one third of all expected. What a tremendous undertaking! Kathy & Linda treated themselves to breakfast after their work was complete.



Jane Severing
Jan Andres
Gail Brancel
Carol Brancel
Cheri Gibeaut
Debbie Bagley
Linda Krueger
Kathy Thiemke
Jayme Roller





We had a full work day today! 3 twin size quilts were completed for Sleep in Heavenly Peace, along with 3 prayer quilts. There was also more plarn cut for mats made on a loom at Baraboo First UMC. We shared a wonderful lunch & great fellowship!



Prayerful
Stitchers



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

"JUST A LITTLE CHRISTMAS"



Four Constitutional Amendments passed.

It is rare for there to be Constitutional Amendments in the United Methodist Church. Amendments need to be approved at General Conference, with representatives from all over the world voting. Then those amendments are sent out for ratification by the Annual Conferences (Wisconsin is an Annual Conference). Four Amendments were approved through this lengthy process:

1. Regionalization

New regional conferences were created that will each have equal power to adapt portions of the Book of Discipline within their respective regions.

2. Inclusiveness of the Church

The words “gender” and “ability” were added to Paragraph 4, Article 4 of The UMC Constitution to categories that cannot be used to exclude membership in The United Methodist Church.

3. Racial Justice

Article V of The UMC Constitution was strengthened by explicitly recognizing the church’s role in combating racism, racial inequity, colonialism, white privilege, and white supremacy.

4. Educational Requirements for Clergy

Section VI, Article IV of the Constitution was amended, establishing the educational requirements for clergy members of annual or provisional conferences who are eligible to vote for clergy delegates to the General Conference.



Men's Gathering

The initial purpose of this gathering is to discuss ways the group can help our churches and our communities. Jerry Severing compared it to the Nomads on a local level. Come and find out what it's all about on **January 8 at 8:30 a.m. at Briggsville UMC.**



Christmas Potluck



Our (First Annual - probably) Christmas Potluck was a delightful time of sharing and festivity. There were 35 people present, including several neighbors. Under Diane Loveland's leadership, the food was plentiful, and the dessert table absolutely groaning with treats. Many stayed to play board games upstairs, or dart ball downstairs. Delmer Loveland taught us how to play with darts thrown underhand, and with scoring like baseball.





FRIENDS IN THE PANTRY

Bread Bake

learn to make bread
from scratch

Monday January 26

Come anytime
between 2pm -6pm

allow 4 hours to
complete the process

\$5 for three loaves.
You may bring your own pans



Moundville Church
W5501 CR-O,
Endeavor, WI, 53930



PIE CRUST WORKSHOP

BRING A PIE PAN IF YOU WISH YOU WILL TAKE HOME MADE
FROM SCRATCH CRUST - \$5 FOR THE WORKSHOP
PLEASE CALL 608-981-2500 OR EMAIL
OUTREACHTUPARISH@GMAIL.COM TO SIGN UP

WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 14TH

4:30PM
AT MOUNDVILLE CHURCH
W5501 COUNTRY ROAD O, ENDEAVOR



Pasty Making at First UM Church in Baraboo

One of the activities we are considering for our Friends in the Pantry ministry is pasty making. Pasties are a marvelous prepare-ahead meal that can be popped from the refrigerator into the oven and be ready to serve in a half hour. First UMC in Baraboo makes and sells pasties for \$5 each, with \$1 going to mission. We would probably do this differently, and host a community pasty-making where people paid for ingredients and made them together so that each could take some home. If you are interested in learning about this ministry possibility, you can come to First United Methodist Church in Baraboo on Saturday, January 31 around 9 a.m. You can lend a hand, or just observe. Help us see if this is something we would like to do ourselves!

Bishop's Convocation of Laity 2026

You're invited to join us at Bishop's Convocation of Laity!

Practicing Hope

Saturday, March 7, 2026

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Portage UMC

1804 New Pinery Road

Portage, WI 53901

If you are a member of **The United Methodist Church** and a disciple of **Jesus Christ**, this gathering is for you. Join laity from across the conference as we connect with **conference leadership** and come together in worship, learning, and fellowship around the theme "**Practicing Hope.**"

Together we will explore:

- What does it mean to practice hope?
- What did Jesus teach us about practicing hope?
- How is our Bishop calling us to live out hope today?

All of this awaits you at the **2026 Bishop's Convocation of Laity**.

Registration is **\$10 per person** and includes a spirit-lifting day at **Portage United Methodist Church**, 1804 New Pinery Road, Portage, WI, with fellowship and lunch provided.

Watch-party locations are also available at no cost, offering the opportunity to participate online alongside others in your community. We hope you will join us for this meaningful and hope-filled event.

The registration deadline is February 21, 2026, at 4:00 pm. Everyone needs to be registered.

Sponsored by the Conference Board of Laity. For questions about the event, contact Ben Brancel at brancelangus@gmail.com.

Thank you,