

APRIL 2026

Pastor Jim Cotter

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87.9 BUMC & MUMC

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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.

The Sunday after the US launched missiles against Iran, my elder son's pastor read to the congregation from the United Methodist Social Principles. The social principles are approved by the General Conference of the United Methodist Church, with representatives elected from around the world. Here is what it says:

The church deplores war and all other forms of violent conflict and urges the peaceful settlement of all disputes. We yearn for the day when there will be no more war and people will live together in peace and justice.

We reject the use of war as an instrument of foreign policy and insist that every peaceful and diplomatic means of resolution be exhausted before the start of armed conflicts. Similarly, we oppose the increasing reliance on preemptive strikes unless they can be clearly demonstrated to be proportionate in response, delimited in human casualties, and undertaken in response to clear and immediate threats to human lives. We grieve that in a world where so many live in poverty, governments continue to dedicate enormous resources to preparing for and conducting wars. We are especially distressed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons and call not only for an end to their production, but for their complete elimination.

Christians have struggled with the issue of war since the time of Jesus. Some Christians have argued historically that war and other acts of violence are never acceptable, while other believers have asserted that it is sometimes necessary to take up arms in self-defense or to defend the innocent and prevent unchecked aggression, tyranny and genocide.

We urge all United Methodists to examine their own consciences and earnestly seek God's guidance when it comes to matters of military service. We honor and offer support to those who choose military service as a result of personal conviction and urge that they perform their duties in harmony with the tenets of the Christian faith and in accordance with the laws of the Geneva Conventions.

We also honor and support the witness of pacifists whose consciences and religious convictions prevent them from serving in the military or limit them to taking noncombatant roles. The roots of such pacifist convictions are well established in the historic stances of The United Methodist church and its predecessor bodies. We oppose compulsory military service and urge governments to abolish this practice and, instead, allow those who choose not to serve in the military to complete terms of community service or to contribute in other creative ways.

As a church, we commit ourselves to support all people as they discern how best to model the nonviolent example of Jesus. The church supports and guides those who serve in the military; those who are conscientious objectors; veterans living with physical, psychological, spiritual, and moral injury; and families of people affected by military service. We urge the church to care and work for systemic justice for all people affected by war, and to advocate for peacemaking and nonviolent conflict transformation in global and local conflicts.

Pastor Jim

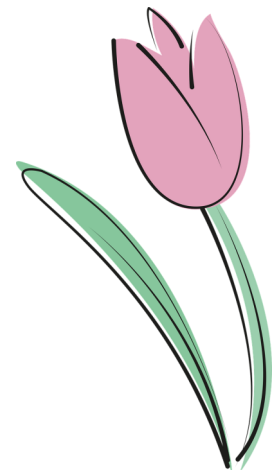


April 2026

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

EASTER SUNDAY 6:30 am MUMC worship and pancake break- fast 9 am BUMC wor- ship and Easter Egg Hunt			1 Yoga 9:30 a.m. BUMC Youth chop- ping veggies 5 pm MUMC	2 Holy Thursday MUMC 6 pm Worship & meal	3 Good Friday noon to 3 pm BUMC	4 American Le- gion Post 351 having public Easter Egg Hunt 10 am
	6 SPRC 6:30 pm BUMC	7	8 Yoga 9:30 a.m. BUMC	9 Faithful Fel- lows 8:30 am BUMC	10	11 Protestant Cemetery Clean-up 8—8:30 a.m.
12 Worship MUMC 9 am Youth Group 5:30 pm	13 Heritage House 10:30 am Budget Cook- ing 4:30 pm MUMC	14 Prayerful Stitches 1 pm Parson- age BUMC Trustees 6:30 pm	15 Yoga 9:30 a.m. BUMC Gateway Movement 6:30 BUMC	16	17	18
19 Worship MUMC 9 am	20 BUMC Finance 6:15 pm BUMC Council 7 pm	21 Dog Treats 1 pm MUMC \$5	22 Yoga 9:30 a.m. BUMC	23	24	25 Ruby's Pop-up Pantry 8:00 am Montello UMC
Pastor Jim on vacation						
26 Worship MUMC 9 am	27	28	29 Yoga 9:30 a.m. BUMC	30		
Pastor Jim on vacation						

Date	Liturgists	Greeters
April 2	Cheri Gibeaut	Debbie Bagley
April 5 (6:30 a.m.) (9:00 a.m.)	Jennifer Loveland	Jennifer and Daryl Loveland
April 12	Jen Shier	Coppernoll Family
April 19	Ava Bretsch	Bretsch Family
April 26	Lucy Ferch	Dave Ferch and Fredde Paul



Money Stewards: Jan Andres and Mark Hamburg



Friends in the Pantry
Instant Pot Workshop

We had a great time learning together about how to cook different foods in the Instant Pot. We had yogurt, oatmeal, hard boiled eggs, baked potatoes, corn beef and cabbage, Minestrone soup, Mac and Cheese and two different kinds of cheesecake for dessert! What a fun time hanging out with our neighbors learning how to make quick and easy meals in the instant pot! THANK YOU to Bev Linda and Rebecca for teaching us!

Friends in the Pantry
Tuesday April 21, 1pm
\$5 donation recommended you will make and take home treats
Homemade Dog Treats
Moundville United Methodist Church
Call 608-981-2500 or email outreachturparish@gmail.com to sign up today!

Friends in the Pantry
Cooking on a budget with Chicken
Monday April 13 at 4:30pm in Moundville
Learn how to make multiple easy chicken meals, take home recipes and taste some delightful dishes
\$5 donation recommended
Call 608-981-2500 or email outreachturparish@gmail.com to sign up today!

Friends in the Pantry

Monday April 13 cooking on a budget - chicken
4:30pm at Moundville \$5
learn how to make multiple easy meals, take home recipes and tasting!

Tuesday April 21 Homemade Dog Treats
1pm at Moundville \$5 you will make and take home some treats

Monday May 18 Bread Bake

Moundville come between 2-6pm
\$5 for three loaves you may bring your own pans

Saturday May 16 Raising Chickens

1pm visit a local farm and learn the basics about raising chickens
N1352 County Road O, Endeavor

Monday June 8 WI Potato association

Briggsville 11:30am learn from the potato professionals!
sample and cook recipes using WI potatoes FREE workshop

Sunday June 14 Strawberry Freezer Jam

1pm Moundville learn how to preserve fresh strawberries!
\$5 you will take home a jar of jam



Creating Friends thru Food
at Moundville and Briggsville
United Methodist Churches
to sign up call 608-981-2500 or
email: outreachturparish@gmail.com

Game Day

Too many hands on that Chinese checkers board? So many laughs!



Meet Our New Members

New Members at Moundville:

Ella Briggs

I am a graduating senior at UW-Madison with a degree in K-12 Music Education. I have grown up in the church, but I have recently decided to attend seminary in the fall at Garrett Evangelical-Theological Seminary in Evanston, IL. I hope to obtain a dual Master's in Divinity and Theological Arts. I am very excited for this next phase of life and am eager to see what God has in store not only for me, but through me. (Ella is the daughter of Becky and Damon Pfile.)

Kathy Brown

Kathy has been married to Mike for 54 years, all of which they lived in the Endeavor/Oxford area. They have three girls, who live in Pardeeville, Boscobel and Cambria. Kathy grew up south of Montello, and worked in a factory in Endeavor where she met Mike. After that she worked for headstart for 50 years. She likes to line dance and listen to many kinds of music. She does volunteer work with headstart in Oxford and helps with meal sites in Endeavor and Oxford.

Barb (Audiss) Casey

I lived on the Audiss farm for the first 19 years of my life. I was baptized and confirmed at Moundville church and have great memories of my Sunday school days. Bill and I have been married coming up on 50 years in April with 2 great kids and 1 grandson. My mother's beautiful singing voice was gifted to me so singing groups in the area has kept me very busy. I also make homemade cards and have a Barbie collection of 135. My heart has always belonged to the Methodist faith.

Andrea Jones

Andrea is married to Wally, who grew up in Endeavor. Andrea grew up in Portage and was confirmed in the Portage UM Church. They raised their two children, Michael and Tyler in Elkhart Lake, WI. They moved back to Moundville in retirement. Andrea taught school in the Sheboygan School District for 31 years. Andrea loves to read, shop and spend time with family.

Tim Kottka

Tim Kottka grew up in Moundville on the Hilo Game Farm, operated by his grandparents. He was confirmed in the Moundville Church. He recently moved back to Moundville from Madison. He enjoys fishing, woodworking and gardening. He is considering retiring by the end of the year.

Bryce & Stephanie Loveland

Our family is excited to officially become members of Moundville United Methodist Church. Bryce grew up attending this church, and his parents and grandparents have been part of the congregation for as long as he can remember. Both of our daughters, Charlotte and Maddie, were also baptized here, which makes this church especially meaningful to our family. We look forward to growing in faith and becoming more involved in this wonderful church community.

Tim Oemig

Tim has been married to Bobbie for 13 years, and has a stepson Travis. Travis and Koryn have a son, Layton, who brings a lot of joy to our worship and Sunday School. Tim was a farmer for 30 years, and has now worked for Gumz Farms for 15 years. He grew up in St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Marshall. He likes to fish.

John Wenzel (Andrea Jones' father)

John grew up on a large turkey farm near Garden Prairie, Illinois. He married Patricia and they moved their family to the Portage area in 1970. They had three children Andrea, Phillip and Jason. John worked as a diesel mechanic at Gross in Wisconsin Dells and later a construction company. Patricia died in 2025. John was a member of the Portage UM Church. In his free time, he loves fishing and wood turning.

(cont'd.)

New Members at Briggsville:

Emery Benson

Emery has worked in Portage all his life, including the Portage woolen mill and Blystones towing. Emery is now retired but has a radiator repair shop, and repairs radiators for all sorts of engines. He also restores cars, engines and other often complex mechanical devices. He has three daughters and five grandkids. Emery and Linda Krejchik support one another in life and faith.

Riley & Halie Hensen

My husband Riley and I have two kids, Aubrey and Charlie. Riley works as a grain manager for a farming cooperative, and I stay home with our kids while also working part time in insurance and as the township and Briggsville church treasurer. As a family we enjoy spending time outdoors, hobby farming, gardening, and traveling whenever we get the chance. We're so thankful to be part of this church and community.

Rich & Dency McFaul

Rich has lived in Briggsville area most of his life. He was in the US Navy. Dency has lived most of her life in the Endeavor/Briggsville area. They were married in June 2004 at the Gazebo in the Briggsville Park by Pastor Jeff Nicholas. Both participate and support community events. Both are active in the American Legion Briggsville where Rich is the Commander. Dency is a member of the Auxiliary. Rich enjoys his woodworking. Dency enjoys gardening her flowers and taking walks.



RETIREMENT WITH A PURPOSE

(Nomads on a Mission Active in Divine Service)

Bob and Anne Oelke spent 6 weeks this winter doing God's work with our hands and feet. We served at Church of the Good Shepherd United Methodist in Kearney, Arizona in January. As an RV based mission group, we parked along side 2 other rigs in the church parking lot (complete with full hookups) after a drive down a state highway with 4 10% grades to get to Kearney. While there the team of 6 NOMADS repaired 3 areas of drywall, cleaned the outside of the sanctuary and fellowship hall, repainted 2 bathrooms, cleared 4 truckloads of brush and branches from the walking trails and labyrinth on church property, repaired 2 foot bridges on the walking trails, rebuilt one footbridge, repainted several signs, repainted fascia on the front of the local Hand Me Up thrift store and several other small projects. Anne spent 2 weeks sewing 2 banners to cover the drywall patches in the sanctuary.

Late February/early March we spent 3 weeks at First Mercedes United Methodist Church in Mercedes, Texas in the Rio Grande Valley, not far from Brownsville. The team of 10 repainted the church secretary's office, cleaned/repaired/replaced exterior light fixtures, repaired lights illuminating stained glass windows, cleaned, sanded and varnished 23 exterior doors, pressure washed sidewalks, and replaced protective tips on folding chairs at the church. At the Jackson Ranch Church we cleaned up the cemetery and grounds, fixed plumbing to the outdoor bathroom, patched drywall, fixed the bell so it would ring again, and installed new lighting for the outdoor cross. It was a special time listening to the owner whose great great grandfather had established the church, a stop on the Underground Railroad. <https://www.utrgv.edu/civilwar-trail/civil-war-trail/hidalgo-county/jackson-ranch/index.htm>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jackson_Ranch_Church In the Mercedes community we worked on 3 different homes facilitating new electrical work in order to install a clothes dryer, plumbing hot water to a clothes washer, pruning trees, cleaning up the yards, patching holes in soffits, building a new screen for garbage cans etc. Our biggest challenge was a few days of 90+ degree heat.

We would like to thank our church family for their support and prayers. It is good to travel, worship in other churches, share fellowship with our NOMAD friends, but it is also good to come home to our local church family.



Protestant Cemetery Clean-up Day is April 11

The clean-up will begin between 8:00 and 8:30 a.m. Please bring along rakes, loppers, pitch forks and any other equipment you think will be handy. After pre-clean up, it should take about 2- 2 1/2 hours of work to finish up. The Dells Key Club always helps too. The rain date is April 18. **Help us out! Thank you in advance!**



Jordan Coppernoll making wired nail crosses for Good Friday.



Faithful Fellows

Next Meeting

April 9th

8:30 a.m.

BUMC

Church Chix



After a delicious breakfast, we worked on our costumes for the Bulldog Stomp. The theme this year is “a day in Las Vegas, one day, one cause, one step closer.”



Recently, Kathy Thiemke and Pastor Jim enjoyed a visit with Barb Wade at the assisted living community in Green Lake where she lives. She was pleased to see them and they all had a very good visit.

