



December 2025 Newsletter

Worship Service Start @ 10:45 am
Kids for Christ & Youth for Christ @ 9:30 am

Pastor Steve Scharnell

Contact Information-

Church Phone– 262-644-7901

Email– pastorstevefaithucc@gmail.com

Office Hours– Tuesdays 3:00pm-5:00pm

Thursdays 10:00am-2:00pm

Other Days & Times by Appointment

Special Dates

Jan 18 Annual Congregational Meeting

Jan 29 Book Club @ New Hope UCC

Feb 1 Roller Skate Outing

Feb 15 Newsletter Sent Out

March 15 Kids Sing in Worship

March 18 Ash Wednesday Service

“Rev’s” Review!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

A very happy 2026 to all of you! A new year. A clean calendar. What does the new year mean to you? Do you review the past year reflecting on all the highs and lows? Do you plan the upcoming year, setting various goals? Do you declare new year’s resolutions in an attempt to improve yourselves? I think most people do one or more of these things at least to a certain extent.

In this article, I’m going to do a little of this for the congregations. I think 2025 was a great year for both churches. You both took a chance on an unconventional pastor. We got to know each other. This hopefully started to build some trust. Everyone worked hard to make some changes and make some improvements. I believe these efforts by all of us have laid a very good foundation to move us into the new year. We certainly have a good thing going.

I’m not going to declare any specific goals in this article because I think it would be a little foolish. To set the goals for the congregations, we need input from the congregations. So, what I would like to do is sit down with any who would like to participate at an informal meeting just to bounce ideas around ranging from inside the building to outside the building.

My resolution for the church is fairly simple. I will do my best to make people feel at home, like they are part of something special, from the long-time member to the person walking through the door for the first time. I will do my best to preach what Jesus would preach, while the Holy Spirit calls the lost and strengthens the faith of all who hear. But at the end of the day, this isn’t about me. It’s about us, the Body of Christ with Jesus being the head. Let’s all pray for God’s blessings to continue to rain down on us. I can’t wait to see what God has planned for us in 2026!

“Rev” Pastor Steve Sharnell

Readers/Communion Usher/Altar Set Up

Jan 18—Mylie Wendorf		Annual Meeting
Jan 25—Wesley Gordon		
Feb 1—Barb Markewicz	Barb Markewicz & Karen Reinders	Christa Wendorf & Jim Sachse
Feb 8—Marilyn Nadelhoffer		
Feb 15—Sherry Burg		
Feb 18—Ash Wednesday	Altar Communion	Christa Wendorf & Jim Sachse
Feb 22—Dennis Kittel		
Mar 1—Cheryl Asmus	Dwight Mayer & Jeff Weiss	Veronica Mayer & Karen Reinders
Mar 8—Jennifer Gordon		
Mar 15—Christa Wendorf		Kids Sing in Worship
Mar 22—Nancy Schilling-Genz		



"Your talent is God's gift to you.

What you do with it is your gift back to God." ~

Leo Buscaglia

Thank you to all the members of Faith United Church of Christ,

As we look back on the past year, my heart is filled with immense gratitude for the dedication, warmth, and spirit of service that defines this congregation. Your commitment to our mission has been the cornerstone of everything we have achieved together.

Reflecting on a Year of Service

The last twelve months have been a testament to your generosity. Whether through hours spent volunteering, financial contributions, or the simple act of showing up for one another, your impact has been felt far beyond our walls. Together, we have:

- Supported 17 youths in the KFC/YFC program
- Provided a sanctuary of hope for those in need.
- Deepened our spiritual connection through shared worship and fellowship.
- Rebuilt our float for two successful parades (Hartford and West Bend) earning a 3rd place finish in Hartford.

Vision for 2026

Looking ahead to **2026**, there is a palpable sense of momentum. My prayer for the coming year is one of **intentional growth**. We are not just looking to fill pews, but to expand our family by welcoming new voices, diverse perspectives, and hearts eager to serve.

Our goal for 2026 is to foster an environment so welcoming that membership growth becomes a natural reflection of our vibrant community. We look forward to:

- **New Member Growth:** Helping newcomers find their place and purpose within our home.
- **Community Engagement:** Launching initiatives that invite our neighbors to experience the grace of our fellowship.
- **Spiritual Development:** Offering more opportunities for deep study and personal growth.

Thank you for being the hands and feet of this church. I am honored to serve alongside you and cannot wait to see what the upcoming year holds for us.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Gordon

January 12, 2026

Special Notes

Please if there is any information that you would like to be in the next newsletter contact Christa Wendorf @ tcwendorf@yahoo.com No Later then February 12!!!

Something New for members to enjoy is Bible Study happening every 2nd & 4th Monday of the month held at New Hope UCC @ 6pm, led by Paster Steve all are welcome!

Thank you everyone who helped take down Christmas Decorations on January 4th! Our Christmas Float made it to both the Hartford and West Bend Christmas Parades. Thank You to ALL who were involved to make this happen & a huge Thank You to Beth Miller to organize the new float for the church. Thank you to ALL the Kids that were a part of the float!

The Joint Book Club will resume on January 29, look for the flyer in the narthex! Looking ahead to the Easter Season Jennifer Gordon is looking for either donations of Candy, Faith trinkets or cash for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, she is planning on "stuffing eggs" on April 5 this gives plenty of time to get candy and trinkets for this event!

PLEASE NO PRE FILLED EGGS we have PLENTY!

Cemetery Committee Notes

Dan, due to his health, is again asking for a church member to take over the secretary/treasure position of the Cemetery Committee. He is willing to work with the new person to make the transition run smooth. PLEASE CONTACT Dan, JJ or a consistory member if your are interested in this position!

Happy New Year!

The 2025 Annual Report has been submitted and available with the church annual reports.

Contributions can be made all year long for the cemeteries lawn care and upkeep, please make you check payable to Faith UCC Cemetery Fund.

Cemetery Committee:

Jim "JJ" Markewicz—President

Dan Newburg—Sec/Treasurer

Mission Committee News

Thank you to EVERYONE who helped with the Christmas Mission Projects!

With the new year we are starting by again making a Joyful Noise in the back of the church! Lets FILL the COIN TOWER! If you need containers they are on the table in the back of the Sanctuary!

Thank You All So Much for the Support you have given to Our MISSIONS!

Thank You for your contributions to Faith UCC Church

We are excited to announce our new online giving platform [Tithe.ly](https://tithely.com), With this news [EasyTithe](https://www.razerright.com/c/Shop/Product/BrandAlphabeticalList) will be going away at the end of the month. Please turn off your recurring giving by the end of December and switch over to [Tithe.ly](https://tithely.com). [EasyTithe](https://www.razerright.com/c/Shop/Product/BrandAlphabeticalList) Fees are going through the roof, so we found a platform that is much cheaper. The switch will be easy, go to <https://tithely.com/give?c=6471448> and a window will appear to set up your giving and your account information. You will get 3 emails when you set yourself up for the first time. A welcome to [Tith.ly](https://tithely.com) email. An account set up email to confirm your email address. And finally a thank you for your donation email. Inside the widget at the above link you can even set yourself up for recurring donations! Also please consider covering the fees with your donation. This will help the church use your giving more efficiently.

(if you need assistance, let Paul Gordon know. Once your account is established it's easy!)

Mail your check to Faith UCC Church P.O Box 396, Slinger, WI 53086

Script

The Gift Cards that gives back to the church are still here! Jennifer Gordon will be present before & after the 1st Sunday of each month with Gift Cards for sale, you can buy and take right away! You can also special order gift cars we don't have "IN-STOCK" at the church. Let Jennifer Gordon know which you would like. Typical cards in stock include, Culver's, Walmart, Walgreens, Subway, Piggly Wiggly, Meijer, Kwik Trip & NEW Mayer's Beef Farms! We will carry more if there are common stores in your special orders. Help us fundraise, do most of your shopping with gift cards that you purchase from us or buy them ad gifts for others! If you have any questions contact Jennifer Gordon. Here is the link, <https://www.raiseright.com/c/Shop/Product/BrandAlphabeticalList>



Kids for Christ & Youth for Christ Notes

“Our Hope is not in the NEW YEAR but in the ONE who Makes ALL Things NEW”

WOW Our Kids are just AMAZING! The Christmas Program was go GREAT, the kids did a Fantastic Job from, remembering lines to all the Wonderful Solos! We Definitely have talent in our young members in our Church! Thank you to all of you who took the time to help with lines! This was definitely a program to remember! A Special Thank You to Jennifer Gordon, she worked so hard to get the kids ready with lines and the all around program! A HUGE Thank You goes out to Ms. Rita Melius our Choir Director and Organist, with out her our kids would not have sounded so Wonderful! Also to Mr. Landon Wendorf, he worked diligently on the sound so everyone could hear the great news of our Saviors Birth!

Winter Fun Family/Youth Event-Roller Skate Party February 1

This year we are changing up the winter fun family event “ROLLER SKATING”!! It will be held at Ozaukee Skateland! You are invited to join us for a light lunch after worship on Sunday February 1, provided by our Sunday School Teachers, then it’s off to Skateland for a fun filled afternoon! We will depart form church around 12:30pm and the session goes until 3:30pm. Admission is \$11.00 per skater & \$4.00 for skate rental. If the cost is a is a struggle please let Jenni Gordon know, we have youth funds to provide for this. Please RSVP for what you are able to attend-Lunch/Skating/Both no later then January 29 to jenni253@yahoo.com or reach out to 262-227-0994! We want to make sure we have an accurate count for lunch! If kids want to attend but have no ride there will be plenty of vehicles! This will be a Great time to connect and bring Families of the Faith UCC together in a FUN atmosphere!

Kids Singing in Worship March 15

Our talented kids want to express their Love for Jesus in Song, every year we would like to have this happen during worship on a Sunday during Spring, with help and direction with Ms. Rita and Teachers we make this happen. ALL kids will be practicing during Sunday School for the next weeks with Ms. Rita on songs to be presented during worship on this Sunday. Please ensure your child(ren) to attend Sunday School (of which time will be carved out for practice) and plan to attend worship that day, also mark calendars and let family members know of this event!

We are back in full string of teaching your amazing kids the good news of Jesus and God’s Holy Word, we are reflecting on Jacob and his coat of many colors for the KFC kids and the YFC have been working on the Beatitudes and the Sermon on the Mount! The next unit for the littles is Paul’s Conversion and the big kids are getting into Lent and Psalm 23 along with lessons in between! As teachers we are so very blessed to have a great group of Kids that are so willing to learn all we have to teach in Jesus’s name and through god’s word, they are willing to learn and are one of a kind! “KIND” being the main word! So VERY KIND!

Home Bound

This is the updated list for all of our members that are home bound-

Joyce Herther—Cedar Community The Willows @
Cedar Lake Assisted Living 5577 Home Dr Apt #1522
West Bend 53095

Jean Happel-Aspen @ Cedar Lake
5555 Cedar Bay Dr. West Ben WI 53095

Don & Sandy Jackson— 6657 Weis St. Allenton 53022

Marilee Lehman— 1755 N Barker Rd Room #303
Brookfield WI 53045

Darlene Endres- 1202 Ease Sumner St.
Hartford WI 53027

Please if you know of any of our other members that are “Stuck at Home” Please contact Pastor Steve or Elaine Burg Thank you!

