

## Joys and Prayers

Prayers for Marv and Rhonda Whitman's friend, Paul who was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer on February 3rd. He will be going to Mayo for treatment. May God bring strength and comfort for Paul and his family.

Prayers for healing for Grace Dixie Giese, her parents Brooke and Grant Giese, and her grandparents Steve and Sara Brantner. Baby Grace has gone home, your prayers and thoughts have been so appreciated!

Prayers for Ann Cook who fell and broke her femur and has titanium rod put in. She is doing much better and hoping to go home soon! Thank you for all your prayers!

Prayers for Kimberly Martinson who has been moved to Mayo in Menomonie, Room #2.

Prayers for Greg Kleindl's son in-law, Michael as he deals with his revolving ALS symptoms, also for Greg's wife, Cindy's who struggles with continued fatigue.

### Home Bound or in Care Centers

June Harvey, Danielle Mensing, Jane Larsen, Mary Ellen Lidgerding, Rick Jenson, Ramona Reidt, Betty Hazen, Dorothy Wreford, Loren Heffern, Barbara Laatsch, Rosella Blakley, Rose Marie Johnson.

Pastor: Wendy Slaback [pastor@menomonieumc.org](mailto:pastor@menomonieumc.org)

Administrative Assistant: Lori Owen [office@menomonieumc.org](mailto:office@menomonieumc.org)

Interim Chairman ALB: Sarah Zarbock [zarbocks@gmail.com](mailto:zarbocks@gmail.com)

Treasurer/Secretary: Lynn Klatt [finance@menomonieumc.org](mailto:finance@menomonieumc.org)

Children/Family Ministries Director: Amy Webb [cyfministry@menomonieumc.org](mailto:cyfministry@menomonieumc.org)

Youth Ministry Coordinator: Alanis Viana

Family Outreach Coordinator: Amanda Viana

Parish Nurse: Sarah Zarbock: [zarbocks@gmail.com](mailto:zarbocks@gmail.com)

Pianists: Anita Wiese, Lanna Laird Chapel Ringers Director: Tim Matthaei

Music Ministry Coordinator: Position open

Custodian: Kevin Klatt

Monday Meal Coordinator: Mary Anne Conklin



2703 Bongey Dr., Menomonie, WI 54751

715-235-0654

[www.menomonieumc.org](http://www.menomonieumc.org)

Office Hours: Mon, Wed. Thurs. 9 AM-2 PM

## Sunday Bulletin

February 22, 2026

## Welcome

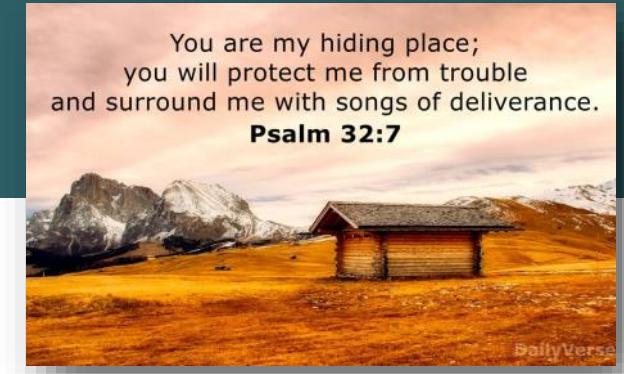
### WORSHIP WARM-UP

"We Gather Together" Hymnal #131

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" Hymnal #521

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" FWS #2153

"You Are My Hiding Place" FWS #2055



### GREETING

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Today, we follow Jesus into a wilderness full of isolation, fatigue, hunger, thirst, and temptation.

**People: We follow, trusting in God's mercy.**

Leader: We witness Jesus resist the siren calls of sensationalism, notoriety, and misuse of power for selfish gain.

**People: We recognize God's mercy at work in the face of temptation.**

Leader: We notice the angels who tend Jesus, messengers of care in a harsh and lonely place.

**People: We pay attention to God's merciful presence that did not abandon Jesus and does not abandon us now.**

Leader: We come to the wilderness together, clinging to the truth that we are not alone—God is with us.

**People: We gather to worship God, whose unfailing mercy journeys with us into the wildernesses of our lives. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, July 2025.

### \*OPENING SONG

"Jesus, Tempted in the Desert"

Faith We Sing # 2105

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious and merciful God, we confess to you our reluctance to enter the wilderness places where we are confronted with our true selves. The places where we are tempted to put worldly values before our desire for you, and when our hunger for power and wealth is greater than our hunger for seeking and doing your will: Forgive us, O God, and increase our trust in you. When we are tempted to use the gifts you give us to benefit ourselves at the expense of serving others: Forgive us, O God, and increase our trust in you. When we are tempted to use sensational means to**

increase people's faith, rather than being guided by the humility of Christ:  
Forgive us, O God, and increase our trust in you. When we are tempted to use bribery to influence and control people: Forgive us, O God, and increase our trust in you. When we are tempted to manipulate you, O God, to satisfy our own needs: Forgive us, O God, and increase our trust in you.

*A time of silence for personal confession*

**Merciful God, save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. Forgive us our sins and fill us with the joy and peace of your salvation. So strengthen us with your Spirit during this Lenten season that we put our whole trust in you as confidently as Jesus did. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen**

#### WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

As the apostle Paul wrote: "...if you confess with your lips that Jesus Christ is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." (Romans 10:9) These words contain the good news that in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Confession and Forgiveness written by Moira Laidlaw

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE READINGS      Psalm 32,    Matthew 4:1-11

MESSAGE                    "Trusting God in the Wilderness"

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns, Pastoral Prayer, The Lord's Prayer

PRAYER HYMN              "Through It All"              Hymnal # 507

#### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

\*DOXOLOGY                      Hymnal # 94

#### OFFERING PRAYER

Surprising God of Mercy, you meet us in wilderness places and walk beside us through trial and temptation. Even when we feel alone, your grace is never far, your presence never absent. In this moment of giving, we offer not just our resources, but our trust that you are already at work, shaping us through challenge, strengthening us through sacrifice, and surrounding us with unseen angels. Use these gifts to bring hope where there is hunger, healing where there is pain, and light where there is despair. May what we give reflect our desire to walk more closely with you, even in the hard places. In Christ's name we pray, **Amen**.

\*HYMN    "Be Still, My Soul"              Hymnal # 534

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE " Great Are You, Lord with Great Is Thy Name"

## Upcoming Events

February 22, 2026

**American Red Cross Blood Drive, February 23, 2026**, 12:00-6:00 p.m., Menomonie United Methodist Church, 2703 Bongey Drive, Menomonie. Rapid Pass available.

**Sarah Zarbock, our Parish Nurse to be in office most Fridays from 9:30 am-11:30** in the conference room. Feel free to stop by to meet or visit with any health or faith concerns.

**Adult Book Study on "Mere Christianity written by C.S. Lewis, Sundays, last one March 8.** 8 week study after Fellowship. Contact Sarah Zarbock for details.

**Mom's Group, 4th Sunday of the month** 10:15 am, Fireside Room, Childcare available.

**Messy Church, Join Us!** 2nd Sunday of the month 10:30-Noon

**Foot & Nail Clinic with Nurse Jacki Bruchert** 2nd Wednesday of the month 9:00-3:00 pm. Contact Jackie at 715-529-5637 to schedule appt.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry, Third Thursday of the Month,** 4:00 pm Fireside room for more information contact Margaret Hastings or Sarah Zarbock.

**GriefShare Saturdays until March 28 1:00-3:00 pm.** For info contact Sarah Zarbock.

**ALB Potluck Brunch every 3rd Sunday of the month.** Whoever can bring! 10:00 am. For more info contact Janet Mangette at 715-505-6748 or [jmangette@hotmail.com](mailto:jmangette@hotmail.com). Everyone Welcome!

**Easter Flowers will be ordered soon!** Lilies and Mums will be available, the cost is \$10 per plant. Fill out the form in the narthex or in the office.

### Monday's Meal February 23

*Menu subject to change*  
Minestrone Casserole with beef bits, vegetables and noodles, fruit, sweet treat

