



# NEWBURG

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Serving Christ | Building Community | Loving All

## JANUARY 2025 MONTHLY



Greetings in the Name of the Newborn King in this New Year:

In 2024, we introduced a new Mission Statement at Newburg:

SERVING CHRIST |  
BUILDING COMMUNITY | LOVING ALL

In 2024 we spent most of the year learning to live with it. Asking ourselves what it meant, how the current ministries at Newburg helped us to fulfill this mission, and even at times, what things we were doing that didn't support this mission. I think we have found this mission statement to be broad enough that most things we are doing at Newburg support it in some way. As new ministry ideas arise, we will continue to ask, "How does this ministry idea support our mission?" I pray this mission statement will help us serve Christ better, strengthen community, both at Newburg and the community with whom we serve, and help guide us toward doing the most loving thing always as we are blessed to engage the gifts of the diverse community God is forming at Newburg. I invite you to pray with me.

When we can meet one of the three objectives of our mission, it is a blessing. When we are able to meet all three at the same time, we are blessed to be a blessing! On Tuesday, December 17, Newburg was blessed to partner with NOAH at Central in supplying and serving a meal in its lunch program. This effort on this day was supported specifically by the Newburg Young Adult Ministries, but the work involved a number of other groups, including the students from Katy Fillion's class in the Chelsea Schools, who helped prepare the food.

Serving at NOAH helped us support all three individual components of our mission statement. Clearly, feeding the hungry is direct service to Christ. **(Read Matthew 25:31-40)** Providing a meal for those who are in need fulfills our call to feed the hungry, and at the same time fills the souls of both those who are receiving the meal and those who have the privilege of preparing and serving it. When we talk about getting a glimpse of the kingdom of God Jesus so often referred to, this is clearly one of those opportunities.

Building community happens in this kind of work in so many ways. First, partnering with NOAH at Central builds the connection we share with other United Methodists. We are a connectional church, which means that we are called to support ministries together and each other in doing so. When we can support a ministry that is not directly connected to Newburg, we are expanding our reach and strengthening God's impact in and on our communities. Secondly, the young adults who met to do this work are friends. They are doing life together in important ways. While they are supporting this important ministry, they are supporting one another, catching up on adventures, praying for one another, and always planning the next time they can be together in community. Thirdly, and I won't say lastly because there are so many more examples of community building, sharing time and space with people in need provides an opportunity to build relationships. Poverty, joblessness, and homelessness can cause isolation. Gathering people around the common need for a warm meal provides space for relationships to form.

Finally, even before Jesus's ministry began, John the Baptist urged those who were seeking repentance to be generous, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none, and whoever has food must do likewise." (Luke 3:11 NRSVUE) When we help provide basic human needs to folks for whom those things are out of reach, we are not only fulfilling our call to follow Christ, in doing so we are humanizing poverty itself. Providing food for the hungry forces us to look directly into the eyes of a person who has a name, and an identity beyond the situation in which they live. Serving a meal at NOAH, we aren't just feeding the hungry or even being part of the solution to hunger, we are loving our neighbor, acknowledging our siblings in Christ, and demonstrating love through generosity.

Read Matthew 25:31-40 again. Newburg's Mission Statement will help guide us toward being the kind of community that seeks to do all these things. I encourage you to find the ways God has called you to use your gifts to engage in loving your neighbor as yourself. And when you do, invite others to come alongside you. This is how God will continue to grow and build community at Newburg.

May you all have a happy and blessed New Year,  
Pastor Chad

# Lectioary Series

## SUNDAYS

**In-Person & Livestream Worship at 10am**  
**Coffee Hour | After Worship in Guthrie Hall**

### January 5 | Epiphany Sunday

“God Has Made Him Known” | Pastor Chad Parmalee  
*John 1:10-18*

Holy Communion

Children’s Sunday School | 10am

Sweet Spirit | 11:30am | Wesley Music Rm.

Deeper Faith | 12pm | Skype

Youth Group | 6pm | The Gathering

Hats & Mittens Drive ends

### January 12

“You Are My Son” | Pastor Chad Parmalee  
*Luke 3:15-17, 21-22*

Children’s Sunday School | 10am

Confirmation | 11:30am | Lower Education Wing

Sweet Spirit | 11:30am | Wesley Music Rm.

UNPACKED | 11:30am | Asbury Lounge

Deeper Faith | 12pm | Skype

*Honoring the Journey* | 3:30pm | Grosse Pte. UMC

Youth Group | 6pm | Lower Education Wing

### January 19

“The First of His Signs” | Pastor Chad Parmalee  
*John 2:1-11*

Children’s Sunday School | 10am

Confirmation | 11:30am | Lower Education Wing

Sweet Spirit | 11:30am | Wesley Music Rm.

UNPACKED | 11:30am | Asbury Lounge

Deeper Faith | 12pm | Skype

### January 26

“The Scripture Has Been Fulfilled” | Pastor Chad Parmalee  
*Luke 4:14-21*

Children’s Sunday School | 10am

Choir Camp Reunion | 10am

ASP Information Meeting | 11:30am | Education Wing

Confirmation | 11:30am | Lower Education Wing

Sweet Spirit | 11:30am | Wesley Music Rm.

UNPACKED | 11:30am | Asbury Lounge

Deeper Faith | 12pm | Skype

Youth Group | 6pm | Lower Education Wing

## MONDAYS

**Staff Parish | January 6 | 6:30pm | Swift Conf. Rm.**

**Finance | January 13 | 7pm | Swift Conf. Rm.**

**Trustees | January 20 | 7pm | Swift Conf. Rm.**

**Church Council | January 27 | 7pm**

Asbury Lounge

## TUESDAYS

**Forgotten Harvest | January 14**

8:30am-11:30am | St. Mary Cause of Our Joy

**Lectio Divina | Resumes Tuesday, January 7**

1pm | Asbury Lounge | Led by [Dr. Frank Dunbar](#)

**Bookmarks | Swift Conference Rm. | 7pm**

On January 21, we will be discussing “*A Calamity of Souls*” by David Baldacci. Led by [Mimi Silverman](#).

## WEDNESDAYS

**The Hangout | Wednesdays at 4pm**

**Music Ministry Rehearsals:**

Led by [Richard Lenz](#)

**Cantabile Bells | 6pm | Wesley Music Room**

**Chancel Choir | 7:10pm | Wesley Music Room**

**Sunday Preparation | 8:15pm | Sanctuary**

**Men’s Online Bible Study**

January 8 & 22 | 7:30pm | Skype

Contact [James Frederick](#) for information/Skype link.

## THURSDAYS

**UNPACKED Online | Google Meet**

12pm | Led by [Dr. Frank Dunbar](#)

**Women Connecting Through Christ | 7pm**

6:30pm for a time to connect | Asbury Lounge.

Led by [Janice Gasaway](#).

## FRIDAYS

**Winter Retreat | January 10–11**

**J.A.M. (Jesus and Me!) | January 10**

6pm-8:30pm | Upper Education Wing

## SATURDAYS

**Emergency Response Training | January 4**

9am-5pm | Chelsea UMC

**Rummage Drop Off | January 11 | 10am-12pm**

Do you have something you or your committee would like others to know? Let the Main Office know before the 20th of each month to be included!

# MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

## Children & Family Ministries

[newburgumc.org/kids](http://newburgumc.org/kids)

**J.A.M. (Jesus and Me) | Friday, January 10 | 6pm-8:30pm**  
J.A.M. (Jesus and Me!) is an event that is all about fun, faith, and fellowship! Kids will enjoy rotations filled with engaging lessons and a delicious dinner. We can't wait to see your kids at JAM! RSVP by January 8 at the [J.A.M. sign-up link](#).

**Hat & Glove Drive:** January 5 is the last day for collecting new hats and gloves for students at Rosedale Elementary. Please place your donations on the Giving Tree that is located next to the East entrance doors.

## Missions & Outreach

[newburgumc.org/missionandoutreach](http://newburgumc.org/missionandoutreach)

**Forgotten Harvest | Tuesday, January 14 | 8:30am**  
Join us to assist one of our local long-time ministry partners, St. Mary Cause of Our Joy, 8200 N. Wayne Road in Westland on the *second Tuesday of each month from 8:30am to 11am*.

**Emergency Response Training (ERT) | January 4, 2025**  
Newburg UMC will be taking part in a disaster relief mission trip to Georgia in March 2025 in response to hurricane Helene. If you are interested in attending this trip or any mission trip over the next three years, the Michigan ERT is being offered on January 4 from 9am to 5pm through the Michigan Conference of the UMC. To register, contact [rodney@newburgumc.org](mailto:rodney@newburgumc.org).

**Support Our Mission Team Traveling to Guatemala**  
In February 2024, four members of Newburg UMC—**Marshall Montgomery, Mimi Silverman, Steven Silverman, and Pastor Chad**—will travel to Guatemala to serve with **Project Salud y Paz**, a medical mission and early childhood development center in Camanchaj, Guatemala.

One way we can support their mission is by providing items that are easily accessible in the U.S. and are urgently needed by Salud y Paz. Here is their specific request list:

1. **Washable markers** (packs of 10)
2. **Elmer's glue** (white and clear)
3. **Adult and Children's Ibuprofen, Tylenol, Antacids** such as Tums, **Lansoprazole, omeprazole, or famotidine** with expiration dates after August 2025
4. **Monetary donations** to purchase items from their Amazon wish list

Please bring your donations by **Sunday, January 26** and place in the carts by the Main Office. This mission trip is another opportunity to extend Newburg's generosity and ministry beyond our local community, directly benefiting the people served by Salud y Paz. Thank you for your support and prayers for our mission team!

## Discussion Groups

[newburgumc.org/congregationallife](http://newburgumc.org/congregationallife)

**UNPACKED\ What Gospels Didn't Make It into Bible, & Why**  
Sundays at 11:30 am | Asbury Lounge  
Thursdays at 12pm: Online only study  
Google Meet Link: <https://meet.google.com/ifz-vzyo-vhg>  
Led by [Dr. Frank Dunbar](#)

**Mark your calendars!** Beginning the first week of February, we will begin the series, **"UNPACKED: What Happens After Our Death and Why It Matters Now."** *What happens after our death? What does scripture tell us about life after death? What does the church say about this? What does society tell us?"* To provide a good framework for reflecting on this topic we will use a book by Anglican Bishop N.T. Wright, **Surprised by Hope**. The book will be available at the church or you can grab one from your favorite bookseller. Should you care to reimburse the church, the cost is \$10.00. As a part of this discussion series, a funeral planning workshop will be held at the end of the study in May, so you can put what we have learned into practice!

**Deeper Faith | Sundays at 12pm | Skype**  
Led by [James Frederick](#)  
Deeper Faith is continuing with their series, **America, Columbus to the Constitution** for the first part of 2025.

**Men's Bible Study | Wednesday, January 8 & 22**  
7:30pm | Skype | Led by [James Frederick](#)  
The Men's group is continuing with their course from **Great Courses on Gnosticism** through the end of Spring 2025.

**Lectio Divina | Tuesdays at 1pm | Asbury Lounge**  
Now for the twist! Starting in January, we will use a prayer journal to help us get more out of our discussions. **On Our Knees**, a Lectio Divina designed prayer journal by Phil Wickham will be used to better document the reflections we have when encountering the scripture. The journal will be made available free of charge to all Lectio Divina participants. One of the best things about Lectio Divina is that every group meeting is a new start; nothing is carried over from week to week and there is no homework. Therefore, drop in anytime! Led by [Dr. Frank Dunbar](#)

**Women Connecting Through Christ | Thursdays at 7pm**  
Time to connect is at 6:30pm. For 2025, our next study is **"How (not) to Save the World: The Truth About Revealing God's Love to the People Right Next to You"** by Hosanna Wong. It turns out, believing lies that you're not enough, your story doesn't matter, and there's no way for you to make an impact... that's how *not* to save the world. Through faithfully studying God's Word and fumbling through her own flawed progress, Hosanna uncovered what the Bible says about revealing God's love in our everyday lives. Led by [Janice Gasaway](#)

**Winter Retreat | January 10-11 | Lake Huron Retreat Center**  
If you are interested in attending, contact [frank@newburgumc.org](mailto:frank@newburgumc.org).

# MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES & OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Music & Worship Arts

[newburgumc.org/music](http://newburgumc.org/music)

The Music & Worship Arts is open to all ages and skill levels!

**Cantabile Bells:** Wednesday's at 6pm

**Chancel Choir:** Wednesday's at 7:10pm

**Sweet Spirit:** Sunday's at 11:15am

**Sunday Preparations:** Wednesday's at 8:15pm

If interested in any of the above groups or for more information, contact [Richard Lenz](#), Choir Director or [Jen Noricks](#), Worship Leader.

## Choir Camp Reunion | Sunday, January 26

Every July, Choir Camp at Lake Louise Camp and Retreat Center brings together children and youth entering 4th grade through graduated high school seniors for a week of singing, laughter, and faith-filled growth. Campers receive a music packet upon check-in on Sunday and, after a week of joyful rehearsals, perform a Saturday morning concert for their families. On **January 26**, campers and counselors will reunite at Newburg UMC to sing together for the first time since July 2024. This special gathering is a chance to reconnect with their Choir Camp family and share the gift of music with our congregation. Choir Camp is truly a life-changing experience for the children, youth, and adult volunteers who participate. Join us to experience the joy and meaning these incredible voices will bring to worship!

## Student Ministries & Young Adults

[newburgumc.org/students](http://newburgumc.org/students)

**Confirmation Class of 2025 | Beginning January 12**

**11:30am | Lower Education Wing**

We invite all students in **7th grade and above** who haven't yet completed Confirmation to join us starting **January 12th** for this meaningful journey of faith. In the United Methodist tradition, Confirmation is when a baptized Christian publicly confirms their commitment to live out their baptismal vows, becoming a professing member of our church. If you're ready to take this next step, sign up today! We look forward to this journey with you. Contact [ali@newburgumc.org](mailto:ali@newburgumc.org) to sign up.

## Appalachia Service Project (ASP) 2025 Information Meeting

Join us in the Lower Education wing after worship on **January 26th** for our 2025 ASP info meeting, starting around 11:30 AM.

Whether you're a seasoned ASP pro or new to the mission, it's important to attend – dates and details change yearly! Thank you for being so committed to this incredible mission and the work God is doing in Appalachia! **ASP Dates: July 13th - July 19th**

**The Hangout | Wednesday's at 4pm (resumes January 8)**

**Youth Group | Sunday's at 6pm (resumes January 5)**

Do you have a student in 6th –12th Grade? Connect with our Director of Student Ministries, [Ali Belsky](#).

## Honoring the Journey

### 31<sup>ST</sup> CELEBRATION HONORING REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

The Greater Detroit District of the United Methodist Church presents, ***Honoring the Journey, the 31st Celebration Honoring Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*** Hosted by Grosse Pointe UMC. This event celebrates and supports the Greater Detroit District Rev. Dr. MLK Jr Scholarship Fund. **You're invited to attend** on Sunday, January 12, 2025 at 2:30pm Reception & 3:30pm In-person Celebration Service at Grosse Pointe UMC; 211 Moross Rd., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

### Rummage Drop-Off

**The next rummage drop-off** will be Saturday, January 11, 10am-12pm. Thank you for your donations and for dropping rummage off during the times listed, it helps us to keep things organized and optimize space in the annex!



### Newburg Blood Drive

**Sunday, February 16 | 9am-1:30pm | Gutherie Hall**

Make a difference in your community. Schedule your appointment to give blood today at [versiti.org](http://versiti.org).

\*Walk ins welcome, as schedule allows.

**The Non-Food Pantry** is faithfully serving our local community! Each month NFP is open: 3rd Tuesday from 11:30am-1:30am; 4th Tuesday from 9am-11am; and 3rd Saturday from 9am-11am.

### Flowers

The 2025 Calendar for Flowers is up on the office bulletin board. If you are interested in signing up for flowers, please remember that we can have two arrangements per Sunday. The cost is \$30 and you get to take them home after the worship service. Thank you!

Please pray for the prayer concerns for our Newburg Family & Friends!

Pray without ceasing... 1 Thessalonians 5:17

January

## ANNIVERSARIES

Dick & Janice Merry

## BIRTHDAYS

Merrill Wassell	Kathy Myers	Anton Bell
Diana Oatley	Doug Clare	Rev. Rodney Gasaway
Lauren Canary	GayLynne Nadeau	Patricia Patton
Emma Karbowski	David Weems	Gayle Landrum
Vickie Rooda	Betsy Everett	Miriam Bennett
Tammy Mansour	Katie Stevenson	Andree Garrett
Rick Ratcliffe	Virginia Klein	Ethan Mutch
Rev. Sarah Alexander	Kim Saylor	Ragan Chick
Katy Fillion	Zach Noricks	Clayton Ford
Mary Gillespie	Marie Bowles	Rick Nicholas
Max Karbowski	Keith Garvey	

### With Deepest Sympathies, Thoughts, & Prayers . . .

We offer our deepest condolences to the family of **Karen Patterson**, who passed away Monday, November 18, 2024

### Thank You, Newburg!

We are thrilled to share the incredible impact of our efforts this Christmas season. This year, 100 children received gifts through our congregation's partnership with St. Frances and other community partners in Northwest Detroit. For the **sixth year**, we have served as a distribution partner with **Toys 4 Tots / Goodfellows** and coordinated the pick-up and distribution of toys to **Calvary UMC** and **Joy-Southfield CDC** in Detroit for **120 children**. We also assisted in the transfer of **three truckloads of donated new toys to Toys 4 Tots of Livingston County**, which experienced a shortfall this year. *Thank you, Newburg*, for sharing Christ's love through your generosity and dedication to serving others. Together, we've made a difference in so many lives this

If you have a Prayer Request, need help or can help others, please contact Dr. Frank Dunbar at (734) 355-3793 or the main office at (734) 422-0149 or [Frank's email](#), or [Judy's email](#).

# Prayer Requests

## Newburg Members...

Nancy Boyd	Janice Gasaway	GayLynne Nadeau
Lois Breen	Wayne Golden	Pat Patton
Alice Crosby	Mary Griffin	Linda Potestio
Amanda Curtright	Mark Hallgath	Rick Ratcliffe
Ed & Judy Dobson	Sandy Hill	Terry Spaw
Tom Eland	Cheryl Johnson	Carol Sundell
Wayne Garrett	Don Lobb	Carroll Wheeker

## Newburg Family & Friends...

Ray Walker, neighbor of Terry Spaw  
Carolyn Smeggil  
Marge Hebestreit, friend of Wayne & Margaret Garrett  
Ruth Baisch, friend of Sandy Hill  
Grace, Sarah Mutch's cousin  
Chuck Applegate, Sarah Mutch's cousin  
Mackenzie Behnke, Priscilla Behnke's granddaughter  
Linden McGowan, Priscilla Behnke's granddaughter  
Willie Henderson, friend of Mike Gorzen  
Dennis Urbanski, Ralph Kontry & Ron Simpson; friends of Paula Genta  
Claudia Crawford & Alissia Riling, friends of Priscilla Behnke  
Denise Lucas, friend of April Wolters  
Beth Erickson, Barb Erickson's daughter  
Ali Culpepper, friend of Rick & Bev Ratcliffe  
Jimmie Kelly, friend of Pastor Chad  
Gigi Wheaton, friend of April Wolters  
Paul & Pat O'Mara, Julie Albaugh's uncle & wife  
Kayla and her dad, Ken, friends of Lauren Canary  
Mike & Amy Davidson, friends of Katie Stevenson  
Andre Fraczek & Joan Lamborn, friends of Gayle Landrum  
Alvin & Nadine White, friends of Betsy Everett  
Gary Sundell, brother of Carol Sundell  
Jim Kelly, friend of Roschenne Parmalee  
Tom Parkinson, friend of Tom & Pat Eland  
Ron & Cindy Locke, friends of Mary Edgerton  
Richard Dille, Michelle Hartmann's father-in-law  
Cheryl Murdock, Julie Albaugh's cousin  
Carolyn Brown & Marian Haynes, Alice Crosby's sisters  
Kathy Jobbutt, Lou & Dawn Minehart's neighbor  
John McFadden, friend of Paula Genta  
Richard & Sue Lenz  
Abbi Ledford, Rick & Bev Ratcliffe's granddaughter  
Rev. Ron Barton, Bill Reeder's cousin



# NEWBURG

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

36500 Ann Arbor Trail  
Livonia, Michigan, 48150



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## Meet the friendly Staff at Newburg UMC!

<b>Pastor</b> .....	Rev. Chad Parmalee
<b>Ministers</b> .....	All Members
<b>Children &amp; Family Ministries Coordinator</b> .....	Jamie Baxter
<b>Director of Student Ministries, Young Adults &amp; Communications</b> .....	Ali Belsky
<b>Kitchen Coordinator</b> .....	Ayesha Browning
<b>Administrative Assistant</b> .....	Judy Cash
<b>Nursery</b> .....	Ragan Chick
<b>Minister of Congregational Life</b> .....	Dr. Frank Dunbar
<b>Custodian</b> .....	Sandra Fillion
<b>Deacon, Adult Education, Program &amp; Outreach Ministries</b> .....	Rev. Rodney Gasaway
<b>Chancel, Sweet Spirit &amp; Cantabile Choirs</b> .....	Richard Lenz
<b>Worship Leader</b> .....	Jen Noricks
<b>Tech Intern</b> .....	Zach Noricks
<b>Organist</b> .....	Beverly Ratcliffe

*“Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.” - John Wesley*