

# The Messenger

A newsletter of Manor Memorial United Methodist Church



February-March 2026

## IN THIS ISSUE

- Pastor's Article
- Food Pantry
- Mercy & Outreach Article
- United Methodist Men
- United Women in Faith
- Birthdays
- Shut In List
- Worship Servers
- Calendar
- Hymns and Sermons

**Manor Memorial United Methodist Church**  
9320 North Congress Street  
New Market, VA 22844  
540-740-8959

Pastor.....Stephen Creech  
Lay Leader.....Rick Hassler  
Governing Board Chair.....  
..... Doug Loman  
Administrative Assistant.....Debbie Creech  
Director of Music Ministries...  
..... Gillian Saunders  
Accompanist.....Enzo Abarquez  
Superintendent of the  
Shenandoah River District...  
..... Kyungsuk Cho  
Bishop of the Virginia Conference  
..... Sue Haupert-Johnson

EMAILS:  
[StephenCreech@vaumc.org](mailto:StephenCreech@vaumc.org)  
[manormemorial@gmail.com](mailto:manormemorial@gmail.com)

WEBSITE:  
[www.manormemorialumc.org](http://www.manormemorialumc.org)

FACEBOOK:  
[www.facebook.com/ManorMemorialUMC](https://www.facebook.com/ManorMemorialUMC)

SUNDAY WORSHIP:  
8:45 a.m. & 11 a.m.  
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.

Holy Communion on the first  
Sunday of each month

Church Office Hours:  
Monday – Thursday,  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



## A SEASON OF LIFE!

**Rev. Stephen Creech**

*"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace. What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with."* (Ecclesiastes 3:1-10)

As one season transitions to the next, we witness an array of changes in our environment—ranging from the warmth of summer to the coolness of autumn, the chill of winter, and the renewal of spring. The characteristics of each season may vary depending on geographic location.

Similarly, life is marked by distinct stages, including infancy, adolescence, adulthood, and old age, each accompanied by its own set of transformations. Throughout these phases, individuals encounter both challenges and moments of joy, observing families develop and grow over time. Often, there is hesitation or resistance to change; while youth is eagerly anticipated, aging is less welcome. The notion that we are not alone in facing life's transitions is reassuring. "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with."

As we appreciate the beauty of winter, let it serve as a reminder of the ongoing changes within our lives, and encourage us to recognize and embrace the presence of God during these times. May we allow God to guide us through periods of transition.



## FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

On Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup> with a frigid high temperature of 23 degrees, our food pantry volunteers braved the cold temperatures to serve a total of **55 households (families)** for a total of **146 individuals** in need of food assistance. If you would like to donate to this worthy mission, please make checks payable to: **Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry** or **MMUMC Food Pantry**. Thank you for your continued support, both volunteers and patrons. It is much appreciated!

## FOOD PANTRY BAD WEATHER POLICY

As a reminder, our normal open hours are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month from 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. However, during the winter months the food pantry will close at 4:30 pm. During times of bad weather (snow, ice, etc.) if Shenandoah County schools are closed the Food Pantry will be closed also. We will reopen the next day (Fri) from 1 – 4:30 pm. If schools are closed Friday, we will be open the next day school is open. Also, if schools open one to two hours late, we will be open from 1 – 4:30 pm. If in doubt, please call the church to make sure we are open. 540-740-8959 Thank you! This institution is an equal opportunity provider

## MERCY AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Mercy and Outreach Committee participated in the Life Care adopt a Grandparent program for Christmas. We took Christmas gifts to 7 Life Care residents.



We enjoyed making Christmas boxes as a gift to the congregation.

Now we are holding our annual fundraiser of selling Turner ham sandwiches. An order form is in Farrow Hall or in the sanctuary. You can order **country ham, roast beef or grilled tenderloin sandwiches for \$7 each, which includes chips and a cookie**. Please make your check out to "MMUMC", memo line "Mercy Fund." The order deadline is Sunday, February 1.

Pick up is Super Bowl Sunday, February 8, after each church service. Please give your order form to Elizabeth Sawyer or place in the offering plate. Thank you for your help with our fundraiser!

We appreciate your participation in this fundraiser so we can help those in need. Thank you!



Report by Tom Schaeffer, President

#### UMM Activities for February and March

**February 2<sup>nd</sup> – Monday** - UMM/UWF Monthly Meeting - 6pm Farrow Hall

**February 17<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday (Shrove Tuesday)** – UMM provide Pancake & Sausage dinner - 6pm Farrow Hall

**February 28<sup>th</sup> – Saturday** - Pancake & Sausage Breakfast - 8am to 10am Farrow Hall - Free Will Offering

**March 2<sup>nd</sup> – Monday** – Manor Memorial UMM will be hosting the UM Men of the Shenandoah River District to a dinner and rally program. This special event is titled "Connecting Together Again". The event will be held at Manor Memorial UM Church's Farrow Hall starting at 6pm. All district men groups are invited and requested to register no later than February 19th in order to have a meal count. Registrations may be completed using this link:

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/VAUMC/UMMMensDinnerandMeeting>

**March 28<sup>th</sup> – Saturday** - Pancake & Sausage Breakfast - 8am to 10am Farrow Hall - Free Will Offering

The United Methodist Men meet the first Monday of each month at 6 pm in Farrow Hall.

**2026 Chicken Barbeque Schedule: April 25**  
May 23  
June 27  
July 25  
August 22  
September 26

**2026 UMM Officers**  
President: Tom Schaeffer  
Vice President: Monty Cox  
Secretary: Jay Munnikhuysen  
Treasurer: Doug Loman  
Board: Les Warr, Jim Douglas, Virgil Trent



United Women in Faith

Report by Donna Myers - President

Many thanks to the ladies who braved the extremely cold temperatures to come out and lend a helping hand at the UMM's Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, January 24! The next Pancake Breakfast will be Saturday, February 28, from 8-10 am. Look for a reminder asking you to help with this fundraiser next month. The UMM will share the proceeds of the Pancake Breakfasts with us.

**February 2 – 6 pm** Joint dinner with UMM. The UMM will provide the meal. At 7 pm we separate into our respective meetings. Our treasurer, Debbie Creech, will present the UWF Pledge Service. You will have an opportunity to make a pledge to UWF. I will also explain the How and Why of UWF's 6 Channels of Giving.

**February 8 – "Souper Bowl"** The UWF will be selling a variety of soup following both worship services to complement your Turner Ham Sandwich orders. **16 oz. containers will cost \$5 each.** There will be no pre-orders; first come, first served. The following soups will be available:

**Vegetable**  
Broccoli Cheddar  
Ham & Bean  
White Chicken Chili  
Loaded Baked Potato

**February 28 – 8-10 am** Assist with UMM's Pancake Breakfast

**March 2 – 6 pm** The UWF are invited to attend the District UMM's dinner meeting held at Manor Memorial. We will enjoy a meal provided by the UMM and then have our monthly meeting. The program is the Prayer & Self-Denial Service. An offering will be collected.

We meet monthly in Farrow Hall at 6 pm for a joint meal with UMM. Following the meal, we gather in Manor Hall for our meeting. I look forward to sharing information about the Purpose and Programs of UWF with you and welcome all women of faith. Please join us!

**2026 UWF Officers**  
President: Donna Myers  
Vice President: Lana Cox  
Secretary: Clara Chambliss  
Treasurer: Debbie Creech

# Birthdays

## FEBRUARY

02-01 Morgan Hughes  
02-02 Henry Buhl  
02-05 Doug Purdham  
02-04 Linda Williams  
02-07 Donna Abernathy  
02-08 Lana Cox  
02-08 Rachel Tan  
02-10 Rhonda Bowen  
02-11 Debbie Kile  
02-11 Debra Kibler  
02-15 Enzo Abarquez  
02-15 Chris McKinney  
02-16 Shelley Duffus  
02-17 Mike Fink  
02-17 David Hughes  
02-17 Judi Moomaw  
02-18 Tom Estep  
02-20 Kayden Freeze  
02-23 Blair Dellinger  
02-28 Brownie Ritenour

## MARCH

03-01 Doug Loman  
03-03 Phyllis Shifflett  
03-05 Clara Conant  
03-15 Connie Thornton  
03-16 Carolyn Armstrong  
03-16 Glenn Ogle  
03-17 Nancy Martz  
03-17 Richard Williams  
03-18 Caroline Fink  
03-19 Elizabeth Estep  
03-20 Stacy Proctor  
03-21 Thomas Proctor  
03-24 Clark Myers  
03-27 Madisen Hughes  
03-27 Leonard Poling  
03-30 Janet Kagey  
03-31 Robin Schrum

## VISIT, CALL OR SEND A NOTE TO OUR SHUT-INS

Pat Brumback  
Shenandoah Place  
50 Burkholder Lane  
New Market, VA 22844

Nancy Cotton  
Shenandoah Place  
50 Burkholder Lane  
New Market, VA 22844

Vivian Myers  
Shenandoah Place  
50 Burkholder Lane  
New Market, VA 22844

Imogene Poland  
VMRC  
1316 Woodland Park Circle  
Harrisonburg, VA 22802



# WORSHIP SERVER SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY- MARCH 2026

## **Liturgists**

February - Rick Hassler and Monty Cox  
March - Jim Douglas

## **Ushers:**

February - George Kagey March

## **Greeters:**

February Dave and Dee White March - Susan Grandfield

## **Counters:**

February 1st - Janet Kagey and Bonnie Good

February 8th - Janet Kagey  
and Bonnie Good

February 15th - Carolyn Armstrong and Donna Myers

February 22nd - Carolyn Armstrong and Donna Myers

March 1st - Carolyn Armstrong and Donna Myers

March 8th - Monty Cox  
and Jim Douglas

March 15th - Monty Cox  
and Jim Douglas

March 22nd - Monty Cox  
and Jim Douglas

March 29th - Cherryl Hassler  
and Clark Myers

## **CALENDAR - FEBRUARY 2026**

Sunday, February 1st - Deadline for Turner Ham Sandwich Fundraiser

Sunday, February 1st - Holy Communion

**Monday, February 2nd - 6:00 p.m. - UMM and UWF Dinner with meetings**

Saturday, February 7th - 9:00 a.m. - Mercy and Outreach Committee meet to assemble Turner Sandwiches - Farrow Hall

**Sunday, February 8th - Turner Ham Sandwich Sale & Souper Bowl Sale (UWF)**

**Tuesday, February 17th - 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. - SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE**

**SUPPER**

**Wednesday, February 18th - 7:00 p.m. - ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**

**Saturday, February 28th - 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. - UMM PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

## **CALENDAR - MARCH 2026**

**Sunday, March 1st - Holy Communion**

**Thursday, March 19th - 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. - FOOD PANTRY**

**Sunday, March 29th - PALM SUNDAY**

## **WEEKLY EVENTS**

Yoga meets in Farrow Hall on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.

**Choir meets every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

AA Meets in Manor Hall on Tuesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and on Fridays, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

# SERMONS, SCRIPTURES AND HYMN SELECTIONS FOR FEBRUARY-MARCH 2026

<b>Sunday, February 1, 2026</b>	<b>4th Sunday after the Epiphany</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>LITURGICAL COLOR: GREEN</b>	SERMON: The Rules of Engagement Speaker: Rev. Gordon Meriwether UMH 576 Rise Up, O Men of God UMH 593 Here I Am, Lord	Jeremiah 29: 7,11 Matthew 22: 35-24 HYMN HYMN
<b>Sunday, February 8, 2026</b>	<b>5th Sunday after the Epiphany</b>	<b>Scouting Sunday</b>
<b>LITURGICAL COLOR: GREEN</b>	SERMON: What Are You? UMH 400 Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing UMH 369 Blessed Assurance UMH 557 Blessed Be the Tie that Binds 1, 2, 4	Matthew 5:13-20 HYMN HYMN HYMN
<b>Sunday, February 15, 2026</b>	<b>Transfiguration Sunday</b>	
<b>LITURGICAL COLOR: WHITE</b>	SERMON: Transformed or Transfigured UMH 64 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty 1, 2, 4 UMH 73 O Worship the King UMH 139 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty	2 Peter 1:16-21 Matthew 17:1-9 HYMN HYMN HYMN
<b>Wednesday, February 18, 2026</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	
<b>LITURGICAL COLOR: PURPLE</b>	SERMON: Fixed UMH 472 Near to the Heart of God UMH 655 Fix Me Jesus UMH 322 Up from the Grave He Arose	Psalm 51:1-17 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 HYMN HYMN HYMN
<b>Sunday, February 22, 2026</b>	<b>1st Sunday in Lent</b>	
<b>LITURGICAL COLOR: PURPLE</b>	SERMON: It Was You UMH 62 All Creatures of Our God and King 1, 3, 5 UMH 480 O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go UMH 377 It Is Well With My Soul	Romans 5:12-19 HYMN HYMN HYMN
<b>Sunday, March 1, 2026</b>	<b>2nd Sunday in Lent</b>	
<b>LITURGICAL COLOR: PURPLE</b>	SERMON: Do You Believe Jesus? UMH 624 Bread of the World UMH 618 Let Us Break Bread Together	Genesis 12:1-4a John 3:1-17 HYMN HYMN
<b>Sunday, March 8, 2026</b>	<b>Third Sunday in Lent</b>	
<b>LITURGICAL COLOR: PURPLE</b>	SERMON: Bad Source UMH 641 Fill My Cup, Lord UMH 731 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken UMH 122 6	John 4:5-42 HYMN HYMN HYMN
<b>Sunday, March 15, 2026</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday in Lent</b>	
<b>LITURGICAL COLOR: PURPLE</b>	SERMON: Can't Believe a Blind Man UMH 451 Be Thou My Vision UMH 504 The Old Rugged Cross UMH 378 Amazing Grace 1, 2, 4, 6	John 9:1-41 HYMN HYMN HYMN
<b>Saturday, March 22, 2025</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday in Lent</b>	
<b>LITURGICAL COLOR: PURPLE</b>	SERMON: Can Bones Live UMH 420 Breathe on Me, Breath of God UMH 707 Hymn of Promise TFWS 2158 Just a Closer Walk with Thee	Ezekiel 37:1-14 John 11:1-45 HYMN HYMN HYMN
<b>Sunday, March 29, 2026</b>	<b>Palm Sunday</b>	
<b>LITURGICAL COLOR: PURPLE</b>	SERMON: Is He Dead UMH 189 Fairest Lord Jesus UMH 278 Hosanna Loud Hosanna UMH 364 Because He Lives	Matthew 27:45-66 HYMN HYMN HYMN



Congratulations to Branson and Faith Estep, married on December 31st.

Congrats, also to Mom and Dad, Matt and Elizabeth Estep, brothers Garrett, Evan and Luke and Grandma, Lynda!

