

## Congregational Concerns

If you have a prayer concern, please write the information below and place it in the offering basket. You may also fill out the Prayer Request form on our website or you can email it to: Prayers@UnionIrmo.org. Share with:

- ☐ Pastors  
☐ Prayer Team

Prayer Requests...

Name (optional)

## GIFTS

**Week 48, Ending 11/30/2025**

Operating Fund	Last Week	2025 Year to Date
Required Giving	\$35,712	\$1,714,184
Actual Giving	\$21,729	\$1,569,966
Over / (Under) Required Giving	(\$13,983)	(\$144,218)
Building Fund	\$5,567	\$353,361

As faithful stewards, we promise to support the Church with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.

### CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

**As of December 3**

### IN MEMORIAM

We extend our sympathy to the following families on the loss of their loved one

**William "Bill" Lewis McElveen**

**September 7, 1940 - November 26, 2025**

**Jeanette McGee Coulter**

**August 8, 1940 - November 25, 2025**

*Your pastors want to give you care and be in prayer for you. If you or someone in your family is in the hospital or having surgery, please let us know.*

## PRESENCE

<b>Worship Update</b>	<b>Nov. 30</b>
Worship:	398
On-line views:	140
Sunday School:	301

### **UNION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

A Stephen Ministry Congregation  
7582 Woodrow Street  
P.O. Box 705 Irmo, SC 29063  
803.781.3013

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



KNOW Christ,

SHARE Faith,

SHOW Grace

Second Sunday in Advent

December 7, 2025

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

## "Joy in our Diversity"

Welcome & Prayer

Music

Announcements

Ministry Moment: Chrismons for Kids

Advent Reading - Lighting the Candle of Peace

Offertory Prayer

Music & Offertory

Scripture: Romans 15: 1-13

Sermon: "Joy in our Diversity"

Rev. Stephen Taylor

Communion

*\*Gluten Free Station is set up to the far left of the Sanctuary\**

Music

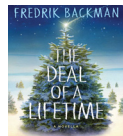
Benediction

## ANNOUNCEMENTS for December 7, 2025

- **Annual Chrismons for our children!** Today, December 7, during both worship services, we will be giving a Chrismon ornament to our children during Kids Talk. Thank you to the Banner Babes for making these for our children to hang on their Christmas trees at home. What a wonderful gift to help remind our kids who we celebrate.



- **Children and Family Devotional** – Are you looking for a way for your family to slow down and focus this season? We have an Advent Devotional just for you, 25 Days of Christmas. It can be found on the 2nd floor of Education Building near the Sunday School classes. There are stories, questions, activities and crafts to do as a family. We hope this will be a great resource for you.



- **The Wilson Circle Book Club** will meet Tuesday, December 9, at the Lakeview Retirement Home at 2134 N. Lake Drive, Columbia following the Wilson Circle's luncheon at 11:30 a.m. We will be discussing *The Deal of a Lifetime* by Fredrik Backman. While this book is not on the UWF approved Reading List, it was chosen because of its Christmas

theme. There are 2 copies of the book in the UWF Collection in the Church Library. This is a short book; so, if you check it out, please return it to the Library quickly so others can read it.

If you are attending the Book Club meeting, you are invited to attend the luncheon as well. The cost is \$12 cash to be paid upon arrival. Please contact Harriet Simpson at 803-530-5060 by today, December 7, if you plan to attend the luncheon and the Book Club meeting. If you are not attending the luncheon, plan to join the group in the lobby about 12:45 p.m.

**- PEP! Christmas Lights Excursion – December 11** - Join PEP! on Thursday, December 11, for a Christmas excursion to enjoy neighborhood Christmas lights from the comfort of our church bus! We will meet at the bus parking area at 4:45PM and depart at 5:15PM. We'll ride through area neighborhoods to view the lights, with an optional stop at Lizard's Thicket for supper (on your own). Participants may: Stay for supper and continue viewing lights afterward, or Return to the church after supper, or Be dropped off at the church instead of going to supper.

There is no charge for the excursion. Riders are simply asked to contribute toward refilling the bus gas at the end of the trip. Sign-up deadline: Today, December 7 (or earlier if the bus fills). Sign-up sheets will be in the classrooms. For more information, contact Faye Bailey at 803-331-4349 or faye-bailey424@gmail.com.

**- SonZone** is off today. We hope you participate in TLCS tonight! Join us next Sunday, **December 14** for our Christmas Party from 4-5:15pm. This will be our wrap up for the year and hope you can join us. Kids are asked to bring a wrapped ornament to share in our exchange.

**- Youth of Union Christmas Party**- Join us on Sunday, **December 14**, from 5-7:15pm for our annual Christmas Party in the FMC Gym! We will have games, a gingerbread house competition, and our small group gift exchange! Gift limit is \$10 and no gag gifts. You do not want to miss out on this!

**- Jan's Van** - Mark your calendars, Jan's Van (Lexington Medical Center's Mobile Mammography Van) will be at Union UMC on Monday and Tuesday, **January 19-20, 2026**, from 9am-4pm. Stop by the table in the narthex to learn more and to sign up for your spot today.



**- Union Basketball:** Game schedules for all 8 Union teams are available at the Welcome Desk in the Narthex. Grab one today and come and cheer on our teams!



**- The Endowment Fund** has some great news to share during this season of giving thanks! Our fund has done well so far this year, thanks to steady earnings growth and congregational donations. We are pleased to announce that we anticipate having funds available for 2026 projects and missions. Thanks to your continued support, we will be able to invest in programs that make a difference to our church and our community. The official announcement and exact funding amount will be made in early 2026. Applications are now being accepted for consideration in advance of the announcement. Happy Holidays from the Endowment Committee!

**- The 2026 altar flower calendar is out!** Sign up for flowers and recognize a special Sunday in your life by stopping by the table in the Narthex. The cost is \$58.00 per vase.

#### **Important 2025 Year End Giving Reminders**

- All contributions for 2025 must be received by Wednesday, December 31 to be recorded on your 2025 giving statement. If you are mailing a year-end contribution, please be sure to mail it in time that we receive it prior to December 31st. Any contributions received after December 31, will be included on your 2026 giving statement.
- If you are considering a stock gift for 2025, please consider starting the process now. It can take a week or more for these transactions to be processed by the brokerages. If you are making a stock gift, please make sure you use our correct account at Fidelity for us to receive the gift. Laura in the finance office can provide this information to you. (laura@unionirmo.org) Also, please let Laura know that a gift is being sent so that we can be sure to credit it to the correct donor.
- If your address has changed during 2025, please make sure the church has your correct address as we prepare your year-end giving statements.
- All expense reimbursements that relate to 2025 should be turned into the church office by Decem-

ber 31st. Any reimbursements requests related to 2025 received after December 31st may be applied to the 2026 budget rather than the 2025 budget.

**- Parking Reminder:** Kindly avoid parking on the sidewalks in front of the chapel and sanctuary. Let's be considerate of our neighbors and ensure the sidewalks remain clear for pedestrians. Thank you!



Preparing  
for the  
Harvest

Union UMC  
Stewardship Campaign  
for 2026 Budget

### **Operating Budget Commitment for 2026:**

I/We believe in the future of our church and want to be a part of its success.

I/We will endeavor to give to the Operating Budget in the following way:

**Amount:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Per:** (circle one) Week Month Year

**One Year Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Mortgage & Major Maintenance Commitment for 2026:**

I/We will give to the Union UMC Mortgage & Major Maintenance Fund in the following way:

**Amount:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Per:** (circle one) Week Month Year

**One Year Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

*These are a statement of intent and may be altered as circumstances warrant.*

### **Name & Contact Information Full Name:**

**Address:**

**Email:**

**Thank you for contributing to our  
Preparing for the Harvest  
Stewardship Campaign!**



Use your phone to scan the QR code to access the commitment form online

### **Upcoming Schedule for Children and Youth Choir**

Sunday, December 7 - No rehearsal - TLCS  
Saturday, December 13 - 9:30-10:15am -  
Combined dress rehearsal in the Sanctuary  
Sunday, December 14 - Youth and Children  
sing for Lessons and Carols  
Sunday, December 14- Combined Rehearsal  
with children and youth - 5:15-6:00 pm  
Wednesday, December 24 - Youth and  
Children sing for the Contemporary Worship  
Service at 4pm  
Sunday, December 28 - No rehearsal