


# Weekly Update

Thank you so much for your generosity poured into the life of  
Downs UMC-It takes ALL of us!  
**PLEASE SUBMIT YEAR END GIVING TODAY, or by**   
12/31 ON-LINE Thank you!

**Info as of 12/21**

## CONTINUE THE MIRACLE CAMPAIGN



PLEDGES FOR 2024-2026	\$278,918
<i>Amounts Received</i>	<u>\$255,638</u>
<i>Remaining</i>	\$ 23,280

*Thank you everyone for your commitment to this project.  
Pledge cards are still being accepted. Please send any pledge  
updates to [dumcfinancial@gmail.com](mailto:dumcfinancial@gmail.com)*

Last Sunday's in person attendance	184
4 Week average giving as of 12/21	\$4,122
Weekly Need in 2025	\$4,616

*Year to date giving is ahead by \$3,423 as of 12/21.  
Thank you to everyone's generosity!*

**WAYS TO GIVE: [www.downsumc.org](http://www.downsumc.org)**

**--Our drop box on Pillar outside the front door  
or mail to: Downs UMC  
205 S Highway Ave  
Downs, IL 61736**

**Reminder: Giving on line doesn't go on vacation**

**You may not see everyone putting tithes and offerings in  
the offering plate due to several people giving on line.**



**DOWNS**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*December 28, 2025*



**SUNDAY MORNING IN PERSON AT 9:30AM  
ONLINE SERVICE BY WEDNESDAY**

**309-378-2651  
[www.downsumc.org](http://www.downsumc.org)**

**Reverend Allen Miller  
[pastor@downsumc.org](mailto:pastor@downsumc.org)**

# Welcome

to



***We are so glad***

***you are worshiping with us!***

***We would love to know who has joined us, so please sign in on the attendance pads that will be passed in each row.***

**Nursery:** is located to the right as you exit the sanctuary through the double doors. It is at the far end of the fellowship hall.

**Restrooms:** Can be reached by exiting the sanctuary through the back left door as you face the stage. They are right by the Nursery.



Busy Bags are available at the entrance to the Worship Center for the children to use during the worship service. There are stickers, crayons, lacing items, etc. Please return the bags to the tote by the Worship Center Entrance after the service.



Children's Church is designed for K-3<sup>rd</sup> Graders. We will meet in Classroom #1 or the Youth Room. They will meet a volunteer at the front of the Worship Center and head out after the Doxology (so they'll meet during the Scripture Reading, Sermon and Up Next). Children will return to the worship service for the closing song.

***Communion Sundays they will not meet. No Children's Church today.***

## Today & This Week



Sun 12/28 9:30am Worship/Youth Worship & Children's Church  
10:45am Swap Room  
10:45am Fellowship  
4:00pm Bible Study

Mon 12/29 6:00pm Boy Scouts in YR

Thur 1/1 HAPPY NEW YEAR

Fri 1/2 Timber-lee Group leaves

Sun 1/4 8:30am Adult Sunday School in YR  
9:30am Worship  
10:45am Swap Room  
10:45am Fellowship  
4:00pm Bible Study

**ALL meetings and groups using the facility need to schedule through the office at [office@downsumc.org](mailto:office@downsumc.org) or 309-378-2651.**

**Please don't assume meeting space will be available, or that verbal okays from anyone else will guarantee your spot. Thank you in advance for your help with this.**

***Should plans change and your ministry doesn't meet please let the office know.***





**Tuesday morning** Bible Study meets in the Youth Room and are on Zoom 10am. They are taking a break and will resume on January 6th.

**Sunday night** Bible Study will meet at 4pm in the Chapel.

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**Adult Sunday School** meets at 8:30am in the Youth Room each Sunday.

The class is using the videos "That the World May Know". Filming is done in Israel and the study brings the Bible to life.



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The Swap Room located in the building West of the church building is open on Sundays 10:45am until noon. Proceeds all go to the Downs UMC General Fund. *In 2025 the Swap Room has brought in over \$6300 to the General Fund.* Thank you to the organizers of this ministry along with the shoppers and those making donations.



Please come browse as the items will change each week. You can also drop items off at this time. Have questions, use the following email address: [swaproom@downsumc.org](mailto:swaproom@downsumc.org)



### **NEW DATE AND TIME FOR SEWING GROUP**

The sewing group will meet on Thursdays starting January 8th **from 9-12**. No need to stay the whole time, just whatever fits your schedule. Sewing not required. We need people to cut, iron and do light hand-sewing like buttons as well as full sewing. We have machines for your use or bring your own. Come join us and help continue this worthwhile mission. Also invite your friends!

You can follow us on Facebook by requesting to join group 'DUMC Sew Love'.

## **December 28, 2025**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship: *For Unto Us A Child Is Born***  
***Infant Holy, infant Lowly***  
***How Great Our Joy***  
***O Come All Ye Faithful***

***"What Child"***

**John 20:19-23**

***Breathe on Me, Breath of God #259***

**The Lord's Prayer**  
**Pastoral Prayer**  
**Offertory: *"Breath of Heaven"***  
**Doxology**

**John 20:24-31**

**Message by Rev Allen Miller**  
***Believe***

**Up Next**

***Only Believe***

**Benediction**





We have an active prayer chain at Downs UMC and we believe in the power of prayer. If you would like your name added to the prayer list or the prayer chain please follow the instructions below. God hears us when we pray, and blesses us with His answers to prayer.

To be a member of the prayer chain and be notified of a prayer

request, please let the office know that you would like to be included in that group email.

**To be added to the prayer list (for ongoing requests) please send information to [prayerrequest@downsumc.org](mailto:prayerrequest@downsumc.org) or call the office at 378-2651. Please be sure to mention if permission has been granted to publish each individual's name.**

**To be added to the prayer chain (for urgent or time-sensitive requests) please send an email to [office@downsumc.org](mailto:office@downsumc.org).**

#### **CURRENT REQUESTS**

**HEALTH & HEALING:** Ron Terven; Axel Riordan; Ruth Christmas; Lori Roland; Sandy Courson, Dawn Belmar, Ellen Bricker; Jimmy Roach; Beverly Hamblin and Family; Cameron Jones; Guy Campbell; Abby Miller; Patrick Moran; Jonathan Thompson; Kathie Foster; Jim Jordine; Pat Sowerby; Mary Iliff Engelbrecht; Jim Finch; Sheila Young; Angel Fender

**WISDOM:** Colby & Lexi Riordan Family; Deb Bricker; Cameron Jones

**LONG TERM CARE:** Pastor Curt Rush

**MILITARY:** Blaise McNeese, Matthew Kelly, Michael Allen

**PEACE & COMFORT:** Pam Rush



Keep an eye out next week for a new SignUpGenius for snow removal of the sidewalks and under the canopy. Trustees are asking that people sign up for a week at a time. Needs will be dependent on the weather. Thank you to all those making the efforts to clear the ice and snow so we can be safe.



Next Gen is our student ministry. Wednesday evenings it is for Kindergarten through 8th Grade. Sr High meets on Sundays after the worship service.

They will take a break and return on Wednesday, January 7th.

#### **NEXT GEN YOUTH WORSHIP**

**meets Sunday mornings in the Youth Room at 9:30am and is designed for 4th grade students and up. The service is tailored to engage our youth audience.**

Choir practices on Wednesday nights at 6pm in the chapel. Make it a family night! Bring the children at 5:30 for a meal and while they attend Next Gen, come sing with the choir. No children? Come anyway for a meal and fellowship.

Next practice is January 7th. Try something new in 2026!



**Just a reminder that not all of the lights in the building are automatic. Please turn lights off as you leave an area.**

**Thank you.**