

# WEEKLY UPDATE



## NOEL: A FAMILIAR GLOW, YEAR AFTER YEAR

Every December, a familiar word appears in Jack and Marijke Brown's yard in Greenfield, glowing softly against the winter night: NOEL. The word Noel comes from the French Noël, meaning Christmas, with roots in the Latin natalis, or birth. At its heart, it speaks to arrival, to light, to hope, and to something new. Perhaps that is why it has endured so powerfully in our collective memory. For many adults, the Browns' display brings a wave of nostalgia. Decades ago, this same NOEL hung over the highway, welcoming people to town during the Christmas season. Seeing it lit again each year stirs memories of a different time, when holiday decorations were fewer, simpler, and somehow felt larger than life. For today's younger generation, it is something else entirely: a core childhood memory, formed simply by driving down Iowa Street and seeing those letters glow. What began decades ago as a simple holiday decoration has become a thread connecting past and present. That continuity, the sense that some things remain steady, is deeply reassuring. In a season that often moves too fast, this familiar glow reminds us that traditions matter not because they are grand, but because they return, year after year, grounding us in who we are and where we belong. The past nineteen months have been a defining time for Greenfield. They have not been easy. But we pushed through together, as one community that cares deeply for each resident. NOEL reminds us of what has always carried us forward: hope, renewal, and the quiet strength of standing together. The future is bright, and we are embracing it, together.





# WEEKLY UPDATE

COMMUNITY UPDATES

## Community Conversations

*You're Invited!* *Bring a Friend or a Neighbor!*

Yes, You!

with a light supper

6:00pm, Sunday, December 21

Greenfield United Methodist Church

Fellowship Hall

108 SW 5th Street



Come to listen.  
Come to speak.  
Hear & be heard.

This is another opportunity to come together with space to eat, talk, and learn, as we give and receive care. December's theme is holiday blues. Let's face it, sometimes we don't feel like this season is the happiest time of the year. The days are often overcast and the nights are long. Additionally, grief and sadness know no season. Happily, hope knows no season either, so on Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>, the longest night of the year, we will name our blues and share how we cope to find hope even when we don't feel like it. Let's learn and share together! *By Adair County Healthy Connections, NVHS Personal Wellness and Leadership Class, and Greenfield UMC.*

ADAIR COUNTY HEALTHY CONNECTIONS

## Holiday Blues

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS  
OPEN TO EVERYONE!

Sunday, December 21

6:00 PM

Greenfield United Methodist Church

108 SW Fifth St

A meal will be available!

### ABOUT

This is another opportunity to come together with a space to eat, talk and learn as we give and receive care.

December's theme is holiday sadness, a gentle space to acknowledge and support the emotions that surface during this time of year. *By Adair County Healthy Connections with help from NV Personal Wellness & Leadership class.*



Search "Adair County Healthy Connections"  
or go to [facebook.com/GreenfieldUMC](https://facebook.com/GreenfieldUMC)

## BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE AND COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

In a season often filled with expectations and mixed emotions, this Sunday offers something different: space to pause, to be honest, and to feel supported. This Sunday, December 21, join friends and neighbors in an opportunity to slow down and care for one another through two connected gatherings at the Greenfield United Methodist Church.

At 5:00 p.m., a Blue Christmas Service will be held in the sanctuary. This quiet, reflective service is designed for anyone who may not feel particularly cheerful this season, offering space for contemplation, music, and prayer, and acknowledging that light can still be found in difficult moments.

Following the service, Community Conversations will continue at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall with a shared meal and open discussion centered on holiday sadness. Hosted by Adair County Healthy Connections, with support from the NVHS Personal Wellness & Leadership Class and Greenfield UMC, the evening invites participants to listen, share, and learn together in a supportive, welcoming environment.

These gatherings are open to everyone. Whether you come to speak, to listen, or simply to sit alongside others, you are encouraged to come as you are. The purpose is not to fix or rush past difficult feelings, but to acknowledge them and remind one another that connection, compassion, and hope remain present—even when they are quiet.

You are invited to

## Blue Christmas

A worship service  
for people who  
don't feel merry  
and bright.



The light of Jesus  
shines in the  
darkest of places,  
on the longest of  
nights.

5:00pm on Sunday, December 21

at Greenfield United Methodist Church

108 SW 5th St. or LIVE @ [youtube.com/GreenfieldIowaUMC](https://youtube.com/GreenfieldIowaUMC)

Soup Supper &amp; Community Conversations afterward.



# WEEKLY UPDATE

COMMUNITY UPDATES

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION



## REDUCE HOLIDAY STRESS TIPS FOR A JOYFUL SEASON



The holiday season should be a time of joy and celebration, but it can also bring stress and anxiety. Follow these tips to keep your holiday stress in check and enjoy the festivities to the fullest! Here are a few tips to help reduce holiday stress.

### Set Realistic Expectations

- Prioritize: Focus on what truly matters and let go of perfection.
- Delegate: Share the responsibilities and involve family members in preparations.
- Simplify: Choose quality over quantity in gifts, decorations, and events.

### Maintain Healthy Routines

- Stay Active: Incorporate regular physical activity to boost your mood and energy.
- Eat Well: Enjoy holiday treats in moderation and maintain a balanced diet.
- Sleep: Ensure you get enough rest to keep your energy levels up.

### Practice Self-Care

- Take Breaks: Schedule time for relaxation and activities you enjoy.
- Mindfulness: Practice deep breathing, meditation, or yoga to reduce stress.
- Stay Hydrated: Drink plenty of water to stay hydrated and alert.

Remember, the holidays are about love, joy, and togetherness. By reducing stress and taking care of yourself, you can create a more enjoyable and meaningful holiday season.

## WE CAN HELP.

Our hospital-based outpatient program is designed to meet the unique needs of older adults experiencing depression and/or anxiety related to life changes that are often associated with aging or a chronic diagnosis. Anyone can make a referral to our program, including self-referrals, provider referrals, or community consultations.

**Call us today at 641.743.7202**



# WEEKLY UPDATE

COMMUNITY UPDATES



December 2025

## PANTRY HOURS

### Gathering Methodist Place Church

Hours:  
Tues 3-5 pm  
Wed 10-11 am  
Thurs 5-6 pm  
or by  
appointment

Hours:  
Tuesdays,  
4:00 - 5:30 pm

### Matura

Hours:  
Monday, Wednesday,  
Thursday and Friday  
8:30 am -  
11:30 am,  
and 1:00 -  
3:00 pm  
or by  
appointment





# WEEKLY UPDATE

THIS WEEKEND

## FIFTH QUARTER

AFTER THE GAME  
FRIDAY  
DEC. 19TH

AT THE  
GATHERING  
PLACE

MIDDLE SCHOOL

9:00 - 10:30 PM

HIGH SCHOOL

9:00 - 11:30 PM

HOSTED BY THE NODAWAY VALLEY  
MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

GRAND  
Theatre  
AND VIDEO

NOW SHOWING:

AVATAR  
FIRE AND ASH

Avatar Fire and Ash

Doors open 1 hour before the start of the movie.

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday Evening movies start at 7 PM

Saturday Special Needs Movie at 4 PM,

(everyone is welcome at this showing but must be tolerant of the audience).

Sunday Matinee movie starts at 2 PM.

## The Circle of Control

Whether or not  
family members  
get along

Family  
dynamics  
& drama

Differing  
opinions

How others  
react to their  
gifts

Out of my control

In my control

My boundaries

My self-care routine

My budget & spending

What holiday events I attend

My traditions & celebrations

Where I spend my energy

My time & schedule

How I treat  
myself

How others  
spend their  
holiday

Actions &  
behaviors  
of others

Shipping &  
delivery  
times

Unexpected  
weather or  
cancelled plans

Travel  
cancellations/  
delays



# WEEKLY UPDATE

THIS WEEKEND



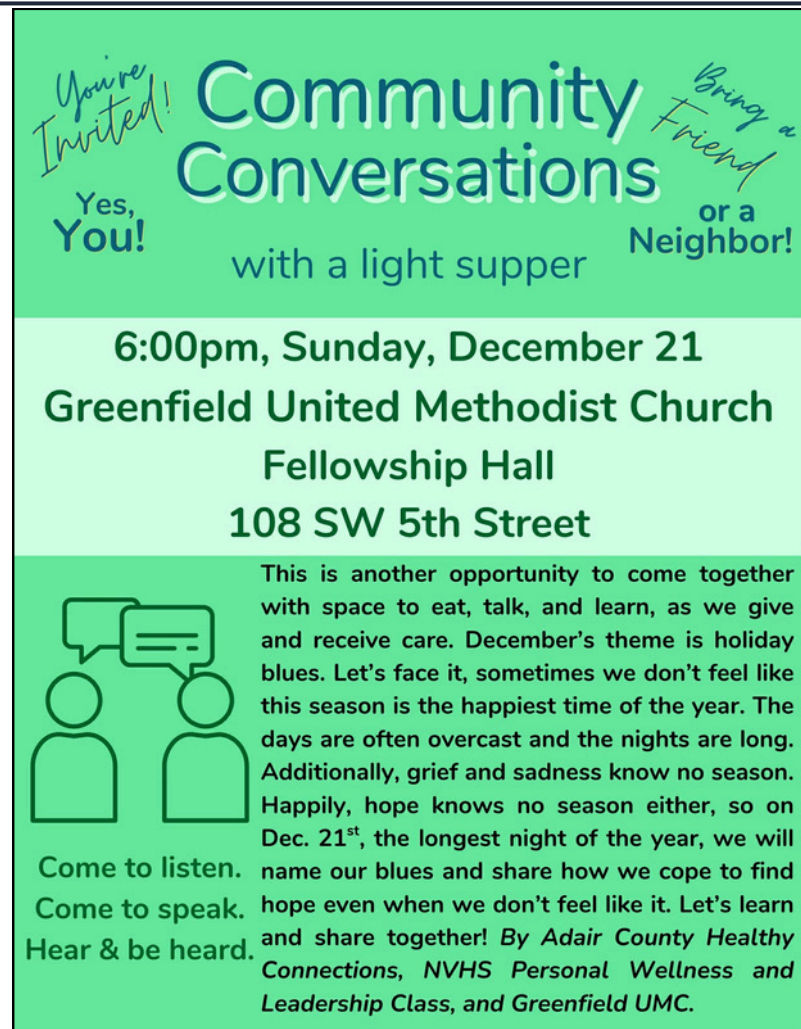
**Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest!!!**

Greenfield Bowl  
Greenfield, Ia.

Saturday  
December 20  
7pm - 10pm

**Boondock Bill**

Cooperated content



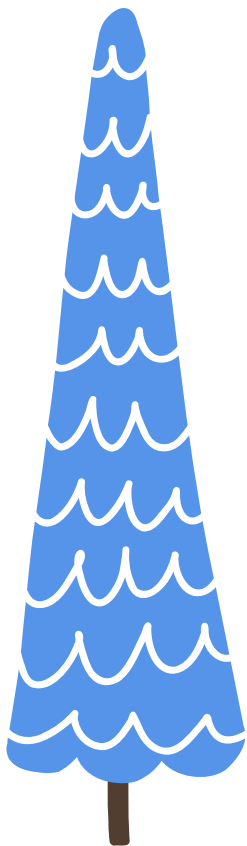
*You're Invited!* **Community Conversations** *Bring a Friend or a Neighbor!*

Yes, You! with a light supper

6:00pm, Sunday, December 21  
Greenfield United Methodist Church  
Fellowship Hall  
108 SW 5th Street

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*A worship service for people who don't feel merry and bright.*



*The light of Jesus shines in the darkest of places, on the longest of nights.*

5:00pm on Sunday, December 21  
at Greenfield United Methodist Church  
108 SW 5th St. or LIVE @ [youtube.com/GreenfieldIowaUMC](https://youtube.com/GreenfieldIowaUMC)  
Soup Supper & Community Conversations afterward.





# WEEKLY UPDATE

DECEMBER 22-26

## STEM DAYS

AT THE GREENFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

**DECEMBER 23 @2:30-4:30 Cardboard Construction**

Children and teens are invited to join us to put there building skills and imagination to work with cardboard construction! With cardboard, Makedo sets, and a Chompsaw see what you can create.

**DECEMBER 30 @3:30-4:30 Bristlebots**

Children 10 and older can get hands-on engineering experience as they build a simple circuit with a battery, pager motor, and the detached head of a toothbrush. Then they get creative by decorating their Bristlebots with colorful pipe cleaners and googly eyes. Children will be challenged to see what they can make their Bristlebots do!

**JANUARY 2 @3:30-4:30 Bee Bots**

All of the library's Bee Bots will be out buzzing around! Children will be challenged to create a BeetBot obstacle course and code their bee out of the course.

## No Matter What

108 SW 5<sup>th</sup> St  
Greenfield, IA

“ use back entrance “

**Come Join us on Monday nights at 7pm**

Greenfield Public Library's

## K-POP PARTY

MONDAY DECEMBER 22  
4:30-5:30PM

Our K-Pop party is going to be GOLDEN! Grab your Soda Pop and come show us how it's done-done-done with games, crafts, and our favorite K-Pop hits.



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23

## GREENFIELD CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Greenfield City Council meets the Second and Fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the City Hall building.





# WEEKLY UPDATE

DECEMBER 22-26

NON-DENOMINATIONAL  
COMMUNITY  
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE  
DECEMBER 24TH  
3 PM  
@ THE GATHERING PLACE  
ALL ARE WELCOME

GOODY BAGS FOR THE KIDS



Greenfield  
MEDICAL CLINIC

## New Patients Welcome!

(641) 743-6529

Demi O'Brien,  
MD




## Christmas Eve SOUP SUPPER

FREE WILL DONATION

### 5PM

CHILI  
POTATO  
OYSTER STEW  
VEGETABLE BEEF





## OLIVE BRANCH

FAMILY RESTAURANT

108 E IOWA ST  
GREENFIELD

HOURS:

MONDAY TO THURSDAY:  
11 AM – 2 PM,  
4:30 PM – 9 PM

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY:  
11 AM – 2 PM,  
4:30 PM – 9:30 PM

SUNDAY: CLOSED

641-743-8300





# WEEKLY UPDATE

DECEMBER 22-26

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

### ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

*Father Philip Bempong*

**CHRISTMAS EVE MASS, 7:00 PM**

**CHRISTMAS DAY MASS, 8:30 AM**

**All are welcome!**

**GREENFIELD, IOWA**

JOIN US FOR

## CHRISTMAS DINNER

DECEMBER 25TH  
12:00 NOON

Greenfield United Methodist Church  
108 SW 5<sup>th</sup> Street

Meal to include: turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, green bean casserole, dinner roll, and pie.

PLEASE REGISTER BY PHONE  
641-743-2715

Take out and delivery also available.

**Friday, December 26 at 3:45 pm**

Greenfield Public Library

## KIDS MOVIE AFTERNOON

Popcorn provided, bring your own covered drink

**Dogman (PG, 2025)**

Popcorn and M&Ms provided, bring your own covered drink.

CHRISTMAS DAY  
5:30 PM  
FAMILY FRIENDLY  
POTLUCK  
FREE WILL DONATION  
GAMES . CARDS . PUZZLE . LRC . POOL

Holiday Potluck + Festive Cocktails  
Bring a Dish, Donate What You Wish

Rustic Tap hours 3pm-10pm

### Your Hometown Providers Here for You This Holiday Season

Establish care with one of our primary care providers. New patients welcome, appointments available.

#### CONTACT US:

641-743-6189 - Greenfield Clinic  
515-523-2513 - Stuart Clinic

609 SE Kent St. - Greenfield Clinic  
303 SW 7th Street - Stuart Clinic





# WEEKLY UPDATE

DECEMBER 29-31

## MARIO KART TOURNAMENT

Monday, December 29th

@3:30pm-5:30pm

Children and teens can compete to be the Mario Kart champion in a double elimination tournament! We activities to enjoy while you are waiting for turns.

CHILDREN'S  
NOON YEAR'S

Eve Party

2026

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31

11:00AM-12:30PM

Welcome in the new year at the Greenfield Public Library! Families and children of all ages are invited to the Library to celebrate the start of 2026 with crafts, games, and countdown to noon.

DEC 31

FONTANELLE LIBRARY

## NOON YEAR'S PARTY!

LET'S BOOGIE  
WITH A NOON SHOWING OF  
TROLLS!

SNACKS PROVIDED / ALL KIDS WELCOME!

DOORS OPEN AT 11:30

Share the Spirit of the Season

# GIVE BLOOD

## Greenfield Community Blood Drive

TEXT lifeserve to 999-777 | CALL 800.287.4903 | VISIT [lifeservebloodcenter.org](https://lifeservebloodcenter.org)FREE EXCLUSIVE HOLIDAY  
"UGLY SWEATER" SHIRT

Tuesday, December 30th

2:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Greenfield United Methodist Church  
108 SW 5th St. Greenfield, IA 50849



SCAN CODE TO SCHEDULE

WALK INS WELCOME

LifeServe  
BLOOD CENTER

YOUR BLOOD. YOUR HOSPITAL. YOUR NEIGHBORS.





WRECKERS OR CHECKERS

## NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

"GREASE" THEME

12.31.25

WRECKERS OR CHECKERS Bar

RUSTIC TAP

## NEW YEAR'S EVE Party

WEDNESDAY  
DECEMBER 31

Live Music with **KYLE**

9:00 PM - 1:00 AM



# TIGER DRIVE IN

DINE IN OR TAKE AWAY

OPEN DAILY: 11 AM - 8 PM

Open Everyday

Order online or call (641) 743-6123





# WEEKLY UPDATE

2026



## Greenfield Lions



at The Gathering Place (basement)  
102 SW Kent Street, Greenfield Iowa

*\* 2026 Schedule \**

Sunday, Jan. 25 • 4:30 PM  
Sunday, Feb. 22 • 4:30 PM  
Sunday, March 22 • 4:30 PM  
Sunday, April 26 • 4:30 PM  
Sunday, May 24 • 4:30 PM  
Sunday, June 28 • 4:30 PM

Free will meal provided

## Upcoming Good News Concerts!

At "The Gathering Place" 102 SW Kent, Greenfield



January 4, 2026

5 pm

Jeff Boston\*



February 1

5 pm

SALT LIGHT Music\*\*



March 1, 2026

5 pm

Higher Power Gospel Quartet



March 29, 2026

5 pm

True Love Gospel Quartet

April 5 – The Formans

May 3 – Harbour Lights Gospel Quartet

May 31 – Sounds of Inspiration

June 7 – Phil Hague

July 5 – Liberty Bells

August 2 – Hillsong Ministry

Goodnewsconcerts@FaceBook, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Each Month! 5 pm

\* New Singer for us from Lebanon, MO

\*\* New Group for us from Waterloo/Cedar Falls, IA



MONDAY - THURSDAY: 11:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.

FRIDAY - SATURDAY: 11:00 A.M. - 10:00 P.M.

SUNDAY: 11:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.



# WEEKLY UPDATE

2026



## TODDLER TIME

Join us for stories, songs, and a short craft followed by free play with library toys.

Library Junior Room  
Wednesdays at 10:15am

Targeted age group is toddlers, but siblings are welcome to join!



GREENFIELD MERCANTILE Presents:

## Heritage Farm's Cheese Making Workshop

Roberta Kauffman of  
Heritage Farms will teach us  
a traditional Mennonite  
method of cheese making

JANUARY 10- 11 AM

226 Public Square  
Greenfield, IA, 50849

Register here:

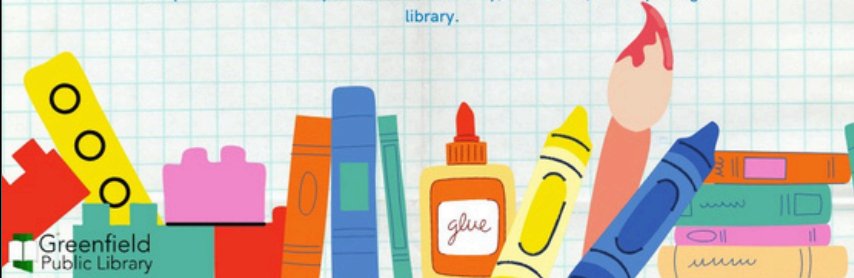


Or at <https://forms.gle/G8ku3IoFs6GhZRir8>

## After School Crew

Wednesdays 2:30-4:00

Join us for some afterschool fun! Children ages 7-12 can drop in from 2:30pm to 4:00pm each Wednesday for an STEAM activity, short craft, and exploring the library.



## Intro to Cameras and Photo Composition

January 11, 2026

226 Public Square  
Greenfield, IA 50849

Register Here:



<https://forms.gle/YbK9t3LM5JbZekS98>

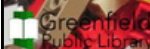


New challenge  
each month!

## BUILDER'S LAB

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month  
4:30-5:30

Drop in to free build with library's building materials (Keva planks, K'nex, Lego, marble runs and more) and complete the monthly building challenge.







# WEEKLY UPDATE

2026

## Touching Our Grief Support Group

*Free and open to anyone needing support*

**You are invited** to "Touching Our Grief," an ongoing support group for adults who have suffered the loss of a family member or friend and are seeking support and education.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Monday Every Month**  
**4pm – 5:30p.m.**  
**Lounge/BlueRoom**

**Greenfield United Methodist Church**  
**108 SW 5th Street**  
**Greenfield, IA 50849**

**For more information, please contact:**

**Joshua Binns**, Bereavement Counselor

[jbinns@everystep.org](mailto:jbinns@everystep.org)

(641) 414-4887

**EveryStep**   
 Grief & Loss Services  
[everystep.org](http://everystep.org)



It is never too late or too early to seek support after the loss of a loved one.

Our free group sessions are led by our expert bereavement counselors, and offer a safe place to give and receive support from others.

**Everyone is welcome to** join at any time to talk about their grief, or to just listen as others share their stories of coping with grief.





GREENFIELD MERCANTILE Presents:

## DIY Laundry Soap Workshop

With  Oak Grove Farms  
Goat milk soap & more

**FEB 22 @ 3PM**



**SHRIMP BOIL**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2026**  
6:00 PM

**ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Save the Date for our  
**5th Annual**

*Many Hats* WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

**"Dream BIG!"**  
Sunday, March 8, 2026  
2-5pm, Greenfield Iowa

Local speakers  
Door prizes  
Food, fun, friends  
and more!

Virtual Keynote Speaker Dottie Metcalf-Lindenburger  
"The Many Hats of An Astronaut, Mom, Educator, and Geologist"

INSPIRE • IGNITE • IMPACT



# WOLVERINE Gala

**MARCH 28, 2026**  
SIXTEEN OAKS | 6:00PM - 10:00PM  
CASH BAR, DINNER, SILENT AUCTION,  
LIVE BAND

MAXIMIZE YOUR YEAR-END TAX BENEFITS - DONATE  
OR PURCHASE YOUR TABLE TODAY

✦ \$400 PER TABLE - SEATS 8

✦ \$650 VIP TABLE - SEATS 8, 16 DRINK  
TICKETS, EARLY ACCESS WITH  
CHARCUTERIE & PRIVATE VIEWING OF  
AUCTION ITEMS

DONATE TODAY  
MONETARY DONATIONS  
SILENT OR LIVE AUCTION ITEMS

**WHERE: SENIOR LIFE SOLUTIONS  
BUILDING 601 SE KENT GREENFIELD**

**WHEN: 2<sup>ND</sup> THURSDAY  
OF THE MONTH  
BEGINNING IN 2026**

**COME & GO: 09:00 - 10:30**

**COFFEE & CONVERSATIONS**

