



Co-op Chronicle

January/February 2026

Board Member Candidate Qualifications:

Learn more on our website under "About UDWI"
<https://www.udwiremc.com/about-udwi/board-of-directors/>

As a member-owned cooperative, UDWI REMC is governed by a board of directors that represent the membership in individual districts, being member's voices in setting the cooperative policies, bylaws, and regulations. Directors are elected by the membership at the annual meeting and serve on the board for three-year terms. At the 2026 annual meeting, board positions for **districts 1, 5, and 7 will be up for election.**

If you are interested in being a UDWI REMC Board Member candidate, you must contact the UDWI office to receive a petition packet. **Completed petition packets must be turned in by January 22, 2026.**

To be eligible to become a director of the REMC, a person must meet the following qualifications:

1. Must be a member of the cooperative
2. Must be a bona fide resident in the district which he/she is to represent
3. Must not be in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or business selling electric energy or supplies to the REMC, or a business primarily engaged in selling electrical or plumbing appliances, fixtures or supplies to members of the cooperative
4. Must not be a close relative of an incumbent director or an employee of the REMC

Community Fund Spotlight: Meal Buddies Program

Read full story on UDWI REMC website



Meal Buddies, an outreach initiative of Sylvania Wesleyan Church that addresses food insecurity in Greene County and the surrounding areas, was selected as a recipient of a UDWI REMC Community Fund, Inc. grant this month. With the \$4,000 grant, made possible by the generous donations of UDWI REMC members, Meal Buddies is equipped to address increases in food requests and explore additional avenues to assist community members.

The idea for the Meal Buddies program came about in the fall of 2024 after church members realized the need for additional food resources for children in Greene County. After almost a year of pulling together resources, Sylvania Wesleyan Church partnered with Eastern Greene schools. Together, they officially launched the Meal Buddies program, distributing meals to students at Eastern Greene schools during winter of 2025. By partnering with the local school system, the program can better identify and support students who can benefit from additional resources, recognizing that some individuals may be hesitant to ask for help on their own. With a mission to combat food insecurity among children, Meal Buddies provides weekly take-home meals to children throughout the school year.

"When students arrive at school hungry, uncertain about their food security, it can impede their ability to focus on learning," said Sylvania Wesleyan Church Pastor, Andy Richmond. "We want children to be able to fully concentrate on learning and engage in their education. As a Christian organization, we are committed to serving others and addressing the needs of those facing food insecurity. Through the Meal Buddies program, we pray that we can positively influence not only the lives of children, but also their entire families."

Happy New Year!

We look forward to serving our members throughout this next year.



SAVE THE DATE: ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS
April 22, 2026 | 6:00 PM

Energy Assistance Program

The Energy Assistance Program (EAP) is a federal program that can help you keep your utilities on during the winter. Indiana's EAP assists you in paying for your energy bills by providing a one-time benefit assistance payment. You don't need to have fallen behind on your heating or electric bills to qualify. These benefits are paid directly to the utility vendor to help cover your heating and electric costs. If you don't have utility bills because your utilities are included in rent, you may still qualify for EAP.

We encourage all UDWI members to contact their local energy assistance offices to see if they qualify for assistance, especially those with significant past due balances. In most cases, the income guidelines, how to apply, as well as many other details on other services and programs can be found on the website of your local energy assistance office.

Find out more, including how to contact your local energy assistance office at <https://www.udwiremc.com/my-account/energy-assistance-programs/>



Meter Testing Continues:

UDWI meter technicians continue with routine meter tests in our entire service territory. Employees will be driving a white utility van with our logo placard.

Be sure to identify these items before approaching any vehicle that may be in your area. Report suspicious behavior to your local law enforcement office.

SPACE HEATER SAFETY

Always plug directly into a wall outlet
Never leave unattended while you sleep
Keep at least 3 feet away from all combustable materials

ELECTRIC BLANKET SAFETY

Let blanket cool down before storing
Loosely roll and store in a cool, dry area
Look out for frayed fabric or wiring and replace if blanket is old/worn

UDWI REMC App:

Download today in the IOS App Store or Google Play Store. Easily view your electric usage, pay your bill online, enroll in autopay, and even report outages, all on the UDWI REMC App!



COMMUNITY FUND:

The UDWI REMC Community Fund, Inc. is a non-profit organization that provides members with an avenue to make a difference in their communities. The program allows members to round up their energy bills to the next whole dollar to create the funds. Then, the community fund board awards the amount collected to local organizations.

Thank you to participating members for their generosity in giving back and making the Community Fund a reality.

Interested? Call our office to enroll in the round-up program!



Community Fund, Inc. December Recipients:

Bloomfield School District
Linton-Stockton School Corporation
Meal Buddies Program
Pregnancy Choices
Rebuilt Recovery & Discipleship Corporation
Teachers Warehouse, Inc.
Worthington Lions Club