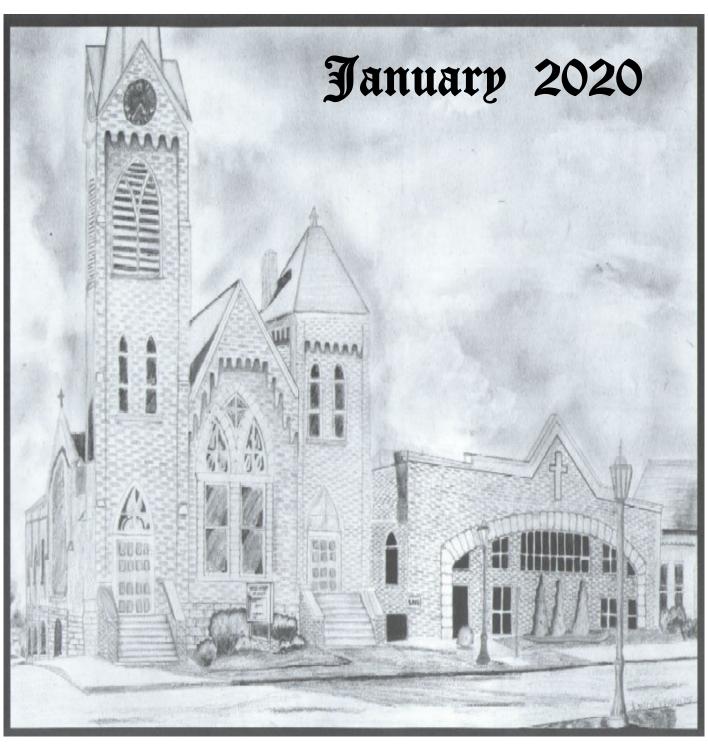
The Tidings

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*Christ Centered *Biblical *Compassionate 101 N. Oak, California, MO 65018

Phone: 573-796-4885



First Steps

"If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin." I John 1:6,7

In January we will look at the letter of I John through the sermon series "First Steps." I always worried when my children started taking their first steps because they were unsteady and would fall several times. I worried they might fall down steps, hit the corner of a coffee table, or trip over a curb which our middle daughter Kelly did and has the scar on her forehead to prove it.

John wrote this letter to Christians very close to him. He refers to them as his "dear children" or "dear friends" several times in his three letters. He was worried they might fall while walking in the faith. In these five chapters, he gives us what we need to walk confidently and faithfully in our relationship with Jesus.

Read these five chapters several times over the month of January to see which spiritual areas of your life need to be strengthened and firmed up. No better time than the first of a new year to make sure we are doing everything necessary to be spiritually strong for the upcoming year.

I want to give a big thank you to everyone that worked on our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day programs. They were wonderful. Our youth did such a great job. We are so blessed with youth of all ages. I know it is a lot of hard work but it makes a difference. Thank you again. I appreciate what each one of you do for the church and God's kingdom.

Betty and I want to say thank you to both churches and everyone that sent us cards, food, and gifts these last few weeks. It is greatly appreciated. So many beautiful cards. We are very thankful for a generous and appreciative church. Thank you all again for your kindness.

I pray that God has blessed you and your family with His peace and love this holiday season.

Happy New Year to everyone as we serve Christ together in 2020.

Russ

The Annual
Congregational Meeting
of the United Church of Christ
of California
will be January 26, 2020 following a
luncheon served by the Youth Fellowship.

United Church of Christ California December 9, 2019 – Consistory Meeting Highlights

The UCC Consistory met for its regular monthly meeting on December 9, 2019. Pastor Cobb opened the meeting with prayer.

We reviewed and approved the regular reports: Treasurer's Report, Financial Secretary's Report, Stewardship Snapshot and Local Benevolence Report.

It was announced our next communion is December 25, 2019, by intinction.

Reports were given by several committees.

We reviewed activities of various organizations of our congregation. The Brotherhood did a great job decorating the church for Christmas. The Sunday School is focusing on the Christmas Eve Program. Youth Fellowship delivered 54 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child, prepared Buddy Packs at Moniteau Christian Ministries Center and sorted and delivered gifts for the Middle School Giving Tree.

Pastor Cobb reported on the activities and duties he performed in the month of November: 4 worship services – California; 4 worship services – Salem; 1 Sunday School meeting; 13 home visits/communion; 25 days at office; 1 UCC of California consistory meeting; 2 group Communion (California Care Center & Moniteau Care); 4 recordings of Time of Hope; 1 prayer at City Council meeting; 4 middle school basketball games attended; 5 office visits; 1 funeral/visitation (Mary Goode); 1 helped with Buddy Packs at food pantry; 3 high school youth group meetings; 3 prayer cell meetings; 4 signing and sending birthday cards with Kathy Grant; 1 Ministerial Alliance meeting; 2 Brotherhood meetings; 1 UCC Polity class in Raytown, MO; 2 nursing home services (CCC and MC); 1 high school play/Lady Pinto dinner; 3 hospital visits; 1 hosted group dinner at our house; 1 Ministerial Alliance Thanksgiving service.

In old business, status reports were given on the pictorial directory and gym floor cleaning. New business was to set the annual meeting date for January 26, 2020, finalize the annual meeting agenda, and review the nominating committee's list of candidates to be presented for election. Also discussed was a new proposed church projects procedure and handicap door access for the downstairs foyer.

Respectfully submitted, Lexi Hall, Secretary

STEWARDSHIP SNAPSHOT						
Stewardship Snapshot						
November 2019 November 2018						
General Fund						
Balance Brought Forward	\$ 61,111.82	\$ 82,382.82				
Receipts	+ 19,218.57	+ 19,242,84				
Disbursements	<u>- 26,598.59</u>	<u>- 27,850.47</u>				
Balance – <i>November 30</i>	\$ 53,732.80	\$ 73,775.19				
<u>As of November 30, 2019</u>						
Building Fund Balance	\$ 8,276.62	\$ 23,141.75				
Local Benevolence Fund	\$ 12,247.44	\$ 14,653.33				
Memorial Fund Balance	\$ 11,821.86	\$ 11,525.29				
Schnuck Endowment Checking	\$ 10,674.56	\$ 1,992.10				
Scholarship Fund Balance	\$ 6,066.80	\$ 3,816.36				
Youth Fellowship Fund	\$ 2,853.27	\$ 1,589.00				
Total OCWM Received	\$ 9,062.05	\$ 5,570.85				
Other Benevolent Offerings	\$19,607.80	\$ 11,925.81				

Special Benevolence—January

One Great Hour of Sharing

During the month of January, the Stewardship focus is the One Great Hour of Sharing fund. With our congregation's gifts to this fund, the United Church of Christ offers hope and well-being to people around the world. Working with international ministry partners and with the domestic UCC disaster network, the offering is used to help people make vital basic improvements in their lives. In cooperation with Church World Service, nine Christian churches support One Great Hour of Sharing - a life-giving tradition that began in 1949. By giving to One Great Hour of Sharing, you connect with communities suffering from poverty, illiteracy, illness, and the dangers of wars and disasters. Together we make a world of difference! Through the work and mission of One Great Hour of Sharing, we are reminded that our neighbor is not just the family next door, but any where around the world where people are in need. One way we can show love for our neighbor is through offerings to One Great Hour of Sharing.

Please consider a gift to this important mission of our church. Make checks payable to UCC of California and put One Great Hour of Sharing on the memo line.

Do you need help with Medicare / Medicaid forms?

Darrell Hendrickson works with the State Health Insurance
Assistance Program CLAIM. He can be reached at 573-690-4987.

You can also call: 800-390-3330 Darrell would also be willing to help with any other questions about government assistance.

Please give him a call.

There is an Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meeting at the Annunciation Catholic Church, 414 Patrick St., on Mondays at 8 p.m.

Contact number: 660-621-2271.

Special Benevolence—January

GIDEONS

For several years, the last Sunday in January has been designated as Gideon Sunday and all loose plate offering has been sent to the Gideon Ministry.

Over 100 years ago, three men formed an organization whose only aim was to provide Bibles to be placed in hotel rooms. Since that beginning, millions of new and old testaments and other religious tracts have been distributed to men, women, children, hotels, motels, doctors' offices, prisons, army personnel, colleges, schools, and other groups. Many people have had their first encounter with Jesus Christ through a Bible or testament handed to them by a Gideon or Auxiliary member. Gideon members are nominated for membership by the local Gideon camp and approved by their local pastor and they pledge to help distribute God's word whenever and wherever they can through the world.

More than 175 countries in the world have Gideon camps with thousands of members helping to spread God's message every day.

rightnow MEDIA

To get access to Right Now Media for you and your family use the link or text to the number listed below.

Custom Registration Link - https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/ Invite/CALUCC

A Calendar of Special Benevolent Giving for 2020

January

Gideons (Last Sunday)
One Great Hour of Sharing

February

Local Benevolence (Lent Services) California Ministerial Alliance

March

UCC Scholarship

April

Habitat for Humanity

May

Strengthen the Church

June

Pilgrim UCC Soup Kitchen

July

Rape & Abuse Crisis Service

August

Moniteau Christian Ministries Center

September

Church World Service Blanket Fund

October

Salvation Army

November

Buddy Packs

December

Christmas Fund (Veterans of the Cross) Sunday School Camps & VBS

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS & OFFICERS MEETING

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

The Sunday School Teachers and Officers meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Those present were VanDee Miller, Laura Burger, Brett Hall, Pastor Russ, Cinda Scheidt, Gerri Howard, Steve Burger, and Lanny Ash.

Steve opened the meeting with a prayer.

The minutes and Treasurer's Report from the November meeting were reviewed and approved.

Old Business

Roberta Spieler will be the Sunday school teacher for the 1st-3rd grades. We are still looking for a back-up for this class.

Beth Dampf will continue teaching the 4th/5th grade class and VanDee will be the back-up.

A teacher has been found for the new Young adult Sunday school class, but we are still looking for a co-teacher.

New Business

The Sunday school Christmas Eve Program is being directed by Lisa Robertson and Staci Nichols. Beth Dampf, Connie Bestgen, and Ellen Ash are helping with music. Practices are scheduled for Wednesday evenings during the regular ROK time. The high school youth group is on board to do the welcome, ushering, song selections, and some narration. Pastor Cobb will do the closing.

Christmas treat sacks will be prepared for the children at the Christmas Eve Program. Cinda has volunteered to put those together. The Women's Guild will be donating a couple of pencils per sack.

The Cradle Roll was reviewed. Ways of keeping it current were discussed. Cradle Roll babies ages 0-2 will be recognized during the Christmas Eve Program.

Cookies and Carols will be held on December 22nd during the Sunday school hour.

The next meeting date will be Tuesday, Jan. 7th.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Lanny Ash

SUNDAY SCHOOL
IS IN THE
MINISTRY OF
TRANSFORMING
LIVES

R.O.K. / GOD'S SINGERS

Our fall session of R.O.K. / God's Singers was an awesome experience. We are looking forward to the Winter/Spring session beginning on January 8th where we will pick up "The Story of Jesus". Our sessions are so appropriate as we move toward the season of Lent and Easter. Our first two session are on "The Hour of Darkness". As we move through our sessions, we will continue with a time of Bible Exploration, God's Singers and Crafts.

Thank you for sending your child/grandchild to R.O.K. and God's Singers. We are so happy that they are participating and learning about Jesus. We look forward to seeing them again soon. If your child/grandchild was unable to participate this past fall, we would love to have them join us this winter. All children in $1^{st} - 7^{th}$ grade are welcome to participate.

Sunday School is in the business of Transforming Lives

Men's Brotherhood Monday, December 16, 2019

The UCC Men's Brotherhood went Christmas caroling on their regular meeting night, Monday, December 16, 2019. Twenty-five brotherhood members and guests began the evening caroling at California Care Center, then on to Valley Park West Retirement Center followed by stops at three residences. The group had a great time singing and visiting with folks along the way. After caroling, a wonderful supper of chili and the fixins was enjoyed by everyone.

Norman Rohrbach, Secretary

2020 R.O.K. AND GOD'S SINGERS WINTER/SPRING SCHEDULE

Jan. 8th	The Hour of Darkness	God's Singers	Activity or Craft
Jan. 15th	God's Singers Practice	Activity or Craft	Activity or Craft
JAN. 19TH	God's Singers Perform during Worship at 10:30 a.m.	Worship at 10:30 a.m.	
Jan. 22nd	The Hour of Darkness	God's Singers	Activity or Craft
Jan. 29th	The Resurrection	God's Singers	Activity or Craft
Feb. 5th	The Resurrection	God's Singers	Activity or Craft
Feb. 12th	New Beginnings Part 1	God's Singers	Activity or Craft
Feb. 19th	God's Singers Practice	Activity or Craft	Activity or Craft

Feb. 26th	God's Singers Practice
Mar. 4th	God's Singers Practice
Mar. 11th	God's Singers Practice
Mar. 18th	God's Singers Practice
Mar 22nd	God's Singers Perform during Worship at 10:30 a.m.

God's Singers Perform during Worship at 10:30 a.m.

FEB. 23RD

God's Singers Practice God's Singers Perform during Worship at 10:30 a SPRING BREAK God's Singers Practice God's Singers Practice	Mar. 18th Mar. 22nd Mar. 25th Apr. 01st
---	--

God's Singers Practice	EASTER	God's Singers Practice
Apr. 08th	APRIL 12TH	Apr. 15th

oril 19th	God's Singers Perform during Worship at 10:30 a.m.
- ((

GOG'S SINGERS Practice	God's Singers Practice	God's Singers Practice	God's Singers Practice
Apr. 22nd	Apr. 29th	May 06th	May 13th

God's Singers Perform during Worship at 10:30 a.m.

MAY 17TH

United Church of Christ

Sunday		Church of Christ
Suluay	Monday	Tuesday
9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship (Epiphany) Holy Communion	6	9:00 AM Prayer Cell 7:00 PM Sunday School Teachers & Officers
9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	13 6:00 PM Consistory	14 9:00 AM Prayer Cell
19 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	20	9:00 AM Prayer Cell 10:00 AM Communion at California Care Center
9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	27 7:30 PM Brotherhood	28 9:00 AM Prayer Cell
California UCC Annual Meeting following lunch served by the Youth Fellowship		

January 2020

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
NEW YEAR'S DAY All evening activities canceled.	2	3	4
5:45 PM Fellowship Meal 6:20 PM ROK/God's Singers 6:30 PM Bell Choir / High School Youth Group 6:30 PM Stewardship Committee Meeting 7:30 PM Sr. Choir	9	10	11
1:00 PM Women's Guild 5:45 PM Fellowship Meal 6:20 PM ROK/God's Singers 6:30 PM Bell Choir / High School Youth Group 7:30 PM Sr. Choir	10:30 AM Communion at Moniteau Care Center	17	18
 22 5:45 PM Fellowship Meal 6:20 PM ROK/God's Singers 6:30 PM Bell Choir / High School Youth Group 7:30 PM Sr. Choir 	23	24	25
 29 5:45 PM Fellowship Meal 6:20 PM ROK/God's Singers 6:30 PM Bell Choir / High School Youth Group 7:30 PM Sr. Choir 	30	31	

Women's Guild

The Women's Guild met December 18, 2019 in the Fellowship Hall with 17 Ladies present. The day started with a Luncheon of soup, sandwiches and desserts hosted by the Officers. Thanks to all who helped clean-up and wash dishes.

Joyce Rohrbach opened the meeting with our Bible verse: "For to us a Child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders and he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6 NIV

Carole Barbour led our Bible study of the Birth of Jesus Christ.

Our thought for the day was given by Carole Barbour, a poem: "Outwitted" and thoughts of Circles that take us all in.

Our mission this month is to call and invite someone to attend Women's Guild in 2020.

An offering was received. The minutes of the November 20, 2019 meeting was read and approved. The financial report was given and accepted as read.

Committee #1 served the celebration of life meal for Family and Friends of Bobby Howard. Committee #2 will serve next celebration of life meal.

Best choice labels we have 1225 labels toward our goal of 5000.

Joyce Rohrbach thanked everyone that prepared pies and provided brown sugar and marshmallows and helped getting hams delivered for the Community Thanksgiving dinner.

Mary Burger and Pamela Hill have mailed Christmas Cards and will deliver gifts to shut-ins after Guild meeting.

A motion was made to donate \$100 each to the following charities: Salvation Army, Rape and Abuse Crisis Center, Moniteau Christians Ministries Center, Every Child's Hope (formerly known as Evangelical Children's Home) and California Ministerial Alliance. Motion carried.

Status of Handicap Door opener for the back doors, this was brought to Consistory but was decided they need more information about this before a decision can be made.

Joyce Rohrbach is working on getting World Day of Prayer information. Joyce Rohrbach and Mary Burger will work together to get this setup.

Mary Oesterly thanked everyone for donations to Angel Tree. Thanks to Carole Barbour for leading our Bible Study on the Evangelical Catechism this past year.

Thanks to Joyce Rohrbach and Carole Barbour for serving as our President and Vice-President for the last two years and also thanks to Linda Schnieders and Pamela Hill for agreeing to serve the next two years.

Guild Booklets for 2020 were passed out.

Joys and concerns regarding our Church Family: Bill Schacht is getting closer to being able to have his surgery. December Birthdays are Mary Keil December 2nd, Dorothy Kirchoff December 5th and Patty Bruce December 18th.

Submitted by: Mary Lee Brizendine; Secretary





Thank you to Pastor Russell Cobb for officiating, to the Women's Guild for the wonderful meal and to each of you for all you have done in some form or another in memory of Bobby Vernon Howard. It is greatly appreciated from all of us. Thank you also for the beautiful yellow flower arrangement!

~~ Harley, Deb, Steve, Barb, Kris, Ciarra, Clint and Susan

Read the Bible on your phone. <u>YouVersion</u> <u>Bible</u> app. You can download this app for free at the app store





January
05 Sr. Choir
12 Sr. Choir
19 God's Singers
26 Bell Choir

February
02 Sr. Choir
09 Sr. Choir
16 Bell Choir
23 God's Singers

March 01 Sr. Choir 08 Sr. Choir 15 Bell Choir 22 God's Singers 29 Sr. Choir

<u>April</u>

05 Sr. Choir (Palm Sunday)

09 Sr. Choir (Maundy Thursday)

12 Special Music (Early Easter Service)

Sr. Choir (Easter—10:30 a.m.)

19 God's Singers

26 Bell Choir

May

03 Sr. Choir

10 Sr. Choir

17 God's Singers

24 Bell Choir

31 Sr. Choir

WEDNESDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP MEALS

4 Ways to Sign Up For Wednesday Evening Meals

Sign up on the clip board Sunday at the office window. Sign the card in the pew rack & <u>put it in the offering plate</u>. or **By 4:00 Monday:**

Call the church office (796-4885) / Email Renee': renee@calmo-ucc.org

NO STANDING RESERVATIONS
YOU MUST SIGN UP EACH WEEK. THANK YOU

Recipe for a Happy New Year

Take twelve whole months. Clean them thoroughly of all bitterness, hate and jealously. Make them just as fresh and clean as possible.

Now cut each month into twenty-eight, thirty, or thirty-one different parts, but don't make up the whole batch at once. Prepare it one day at a time out of the ingredients.

Mix well into each day one part of faith, one part of patience, one part of courage, and one part of work. Add to each day one part of hope, faithfulness, generosity, and kindness. Blend with one part prayer, one part meditation, and one good deed. Season with a dash of good spirits, a sprinkle of fun, a pinch of play, and a cupful of good humor.

Pour all of this into a vessel of love. Cook thoroughly over radiant joy, garnish with a smile, and serve with quietness, unselfishness, and cheerfulness. You're bound to have a happy new year.



Directory Update

Mr. Chris Lewis
1555 Riviera Ave.
Apt. 615
Walnut Creek, CA

MONITEAU CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES CENTER

Please save your extra plastic shopping bags to use at the MCMC Food Bank. Drop your bags off at the church.

Thanks for your support!

Notes & News

A Time of Hope

8:15 a.m. Sunday KRLL Radio ~1420 AM



CHECK OUT OUR

Prayer Cell meets to pray together every Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.



Please continue to save the Best Choice label bar codes for the SHAREFEST Gathering in September If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary on a particular Sunday during 2020, please notify Renée in the church office (796-4885).

USED TONER/INK CARTRIDGES

Because of the great response we've had from folks turning in their used toner cartridges, the supply on hand is pretty huge. Only 20 cartridges per month can be turned in to Staples for credit. Due to limited storage, the office will not be accepting used cartridges for a few months. There will be an announcement in The Tidings when the cartridges can be dropped off here again.

Thanks again to everyone who has helped with this project in recent years!

January Birthdays

Happy Birthday

- 01 Justin Selk
- 03 Beth Chambers
- 04 Tracy Cary
- 05 Dolores Burger
- 05 Susan Burger
- 05 Lisa Kendrick
- 05 Hannah Clutter
- 07 Aaron Nelson
- 08 Sharon Hess
- 08 Rebecca Zuidervaart
- 08 Michelle Ajtaji
- 10 John Martin
- 10 Taylor Ratcliff
- 11 Rylan Robertson
- 13 Jerry Coale
- 13 Paul Schacht
- 13 Bridget Clifford
- 14 Mary Lee Brizendine
- 14 Mary Bueker
- 14 Emma Bestgen
- 15 Sue Porter
- 15 Cara Stassel
- 16 Melanie Fisher
- 16 Barbara Shaw
- 16 Tammy Brandes
- 17 Tom Steinhauer
- 17 Priscella Saldana
- 17 Landon Leonard
- 17 Doug Hill

- 18 John Hammonds
- 19 Logan Milligan
- 19 Meredith Wolford
- 20 Darles Vernon-Walters
- 21 Terry Meisenheimer
- 21 Alexx Lewis
- 22 Bobby Bryant
- 23 Raymond Bieri
- 23 Connie Bestgen
- 23 Justin Kilmer
- 24 Joan Stauffer
- 25 Madison Ratcliff
- 27 Anita Keil
- 27 Katie Young
- 29 Diedra Volkart
- 29 Preston Kelly
- 30 Harley McDaniel
- 30 Maximus Sedgwick
- 31 Robert Barbour
- 31 Griffin Bolinger
- 31 Lisa Porter



Melanie Adams—Jan. 7, 1973
Doug Ash—Jan. 30, 1966
Dylan Ash—Jan. 11, 1998
Lanny Ash—Jan. 25, 1992
Alisha Burger—Jan. 9, 2000
Betty Cobb—Jan. 9, 1979
Rhonda Elliott—Jan. 30, 1966
Royce Everett—Jan. 13, 2013
Gerri Howard—Jan. 2, 1972
Mary Keil—Jan. 12, 1933
Hayden Kilmer—Jan. 13, 2008
Calen Kruger—Jan. 21, 2018
Colin Kruger—Jan. 21, 2018



January Baptisms



Stacey McNay—Jan. 21, 1996 Trey Meyer—Jan. 15, 2006 Logan Milligan—Jan. 13, 2013 Ella Spieler—Jan. 13, 2013 Aaron Spieler—Jan. 17, 1982





Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, we have been received into the family of Jesus Christ through the sacrament of Baptism.

Death

Our thoughts & prayers are with the family & friends of **Bobby Howard**To passed away November 30, 2019

who passed away November 30, 2019.

May God bless those who mourn in these days.



Acolytes

- 05 Brooks Volkart & Hunter Hall
- 12 Brenyn Robertson & Hazel Wolford
- 19 Hayden Kilmer & Jess Medlin
- 26 Ella Burger & Emily Burger



Greeters

Mary Lee Brizendine & Katie Schlup

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2020

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Youth Ushers

- 05 Lauren Friedrich
- 12 Ross Deeken
- 19 Grace Dampf
- 26 DJ Schneider





Nursery

- 05 Courtney Cassil
- 12 Amanda Trimble
- 19 Julie Medlin
- 26 Mary Beth Deeken



S

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12

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26

 \mathbf{M}

JANUARY

6

13

20

27

Lay Reader

7

14

21

28

- 05 Brad Friedrich
- 12 Allan Mortenson
- 19 Judy burger
- 26 Carla Clennin







Children's Time

- 05 Carla Clennin
- 12 Pastor Russ
- 19 The Puppets
- 26 Kendra Hall

The Tidings

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST OF CALIFORNIA 101 N. Oak Street, California, MO 65018

(573)796-4885 Church Office (573)796-3804 Pastor's Study Rev. Russell Cobb, Pastor rev.cobb@calmo-ucc.org

Renee` Clifford, Office Manager renee@calmo-ucc.org
Barbara Weis, Editor

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. & 1:30 - 4:00 p.m.

WEBSITE: calmo-ucc.org

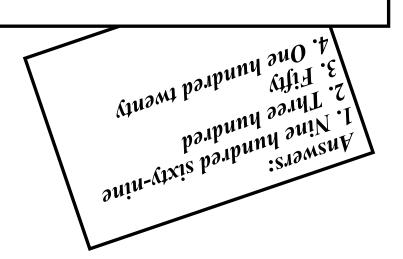
Sunday: Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

WHAT BOOK DOES IT COME FROM?

- 1. Methuselah lived _____ years.
- 2. Noah's ark was thirty cubits high, fifty cubits wide, and _____ cubits long.



- 3. How many men were sent to fetch Elijah?
- 4. When Moses died he was _____ years old.



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 101 North Oak Street California, MO 65018—1744

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