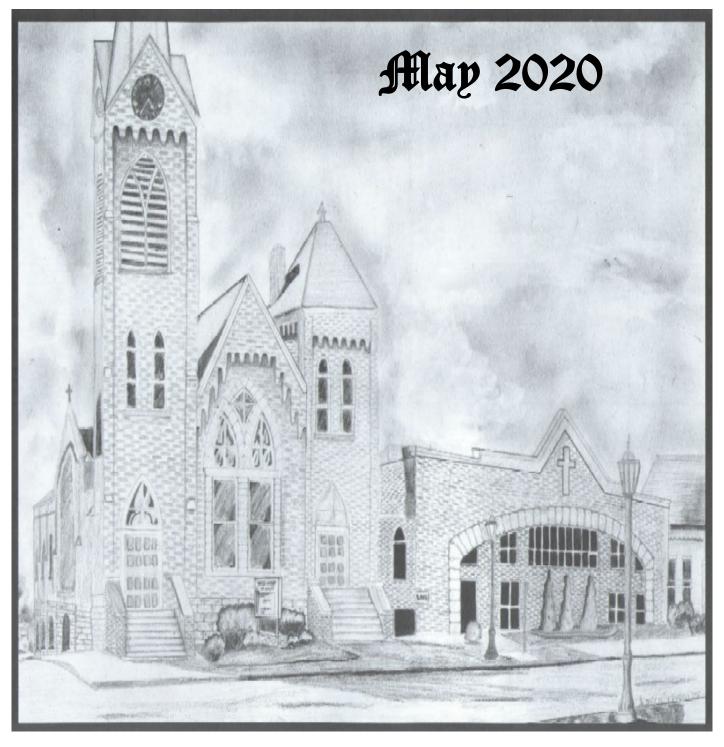
The Tidings

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST *Christ Centered *Biblical *Compassionate 101 N. Oak, California, MO 65018 Phone: 573-796-4885



Nothing New Under the Sun

"What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again; there is nothing new under the sun." Eccl 1:9

We have started a new sermon series for May called "Can't Get No Satisfaction" that will be looking at the book of Ecclesiastes. The book is written by Solomon. He is looking back at his life and everything he had accomplished and telling us, it was all meaningless and chasing after the wind. The only thing that makes this life enjoyable, according to Solomon is found in Eccl 2:24, 25 "A person can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in their own toil. This too, I see, is from the hand of God, for without him, who can eat or find enjoyment?"

I encourage you to read through Ecclesiastes a couple of times this month and see what it has to say about endless pursuit to find enjoyment, pleasure, and meaning without God at the center of your world. He gives us his final conclusion in chapter 12:13, 14 of what our lives are all about:

"Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear Gold and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind. For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil."

Those verses are the basic theme throughout all of the Bible. From the 10 Commandments, to the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 25, and finally Revelation 20. We will be held accountable for the life we have lived with or without God. Heed Solomon's warnings and don't chase the wind. Find meaning by chasing after God and living for him. The Consistory has begun planning on when and how to open the church back up for worship. We are watching closely the data from the County Health Department as well as the state to see how the re-opening of the state goes over the month of May. We have tentatively set a June 7th date for our first worship service. We are still working on the details. Please continue to pray for your leadership as they work making church safe and welcoming for everyone. We will still continue to offer online worship services even after we open up again so if you feel uncomfortable being around large groups of people, you will still be able to watch our live stream each Sunday.

This month we will also celebrate our 2020 high school graduates. We have ordered a banner that will be displayed in front of the church in support of our high school graduates. Scholarships have been awarded to all four graduates. I'll have a special message for them on Sunday May 17th. I would like for all the families of the graduates to submit a video or videos congratulating their graduate. It can be from parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and other friends and family. We will show them on Sunday May 17th during the worship service.

It has almost been two months since we last met for worship as one family. It will probably end up being three months before we worship together again but Jesus reminds us in John 4:24 that we don't need a building or a place to meet, "God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth." May God bless you all with his Spirit and his peace while we are apart but don't forget we are united by the Holy Spirit.

In Christ, Russ

United Church of Christ California April 6, 2020 – Consistory Meeting Highlights

The UCC Consistory met for its regular monthly meeting on April 6, 2020 via ZOOM due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Pastor Cobb opened the meeting with scripture and 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 dates are April 9, Maundy Thursday and April 12, Easter. Pre-packaged communion cups (juice and wafer) were purchased and distributed to members so all could partake together during on-line services.

Reports and updates were given by several committees. Due to COVID-19 committee meetings and organization meetings were cancelled with plans to resume once we are back in church.

Pastor Cobb Pastor Cobb gave a verbal report. He has been focused on adapting to a new way of doing things due to COVID-19. He has been working with Andy Burger and Ronnie Kissick to live stream the Sunday and Wednesday Lenten services. This has worked well and he appreciates those who have participated in the services. He is keeping in contact with local nursing homes and delivering CDs. He is also trying to keep in touch with membership. He suggested other groups within the church – Sunday School, Brotherhood, Women's Guild – may want to try ZOOM. He has been working on the new member materials and brochures.

In ongoing projects and old business, status reports were given on egiving, church roof replacement, handicap accessible door entry, and updating the website. New business discussed was current st ate of giving and outlook, continuing video streaming of services, senior recognition Sunday and scholarships and approving staff to work from home during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Prayers and blessings for our church family during this very unusual and difficult time.

Respectfully submitted, Lexi Hall, Secretary

Special Benevolence— May

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH

Once a year, congregations across the United Church of Christ receive the *Strengthen the Church* offering. Joining with those churches, our Stewardship focus is upon that offering. The offering will provide funding both in our Missouri Mid-South Conference and nationally in the U.C.C. to help fund new church starts as well as invigorating existing congregations. It will also be directed toward nurturing lay and pastoral leadership, and building youth and young adult ministries. Please consider a gift to this important mission of our church. An envelope is attached for your offering. **Please make checks payable to the UCC of California and write Strengthen the Church on the memo line.**

STEWARDSHIP SNAPSHOT

General Fund	March 2020	March 2019
Balance Brought Forward	\$ 60,036.80	\$ 68,109.28
Receipts	+23,757.87	+ 37,382.51
Disbursements	- 24,610.40	<u>- 28,669.09</u>
Balance - March 31, 2020	\$ 59,184.27	\$ 76,882.70
As of March 31, 2020		
Building Fund Balance	\$ 11,946.86	\$ 16,107.11
Memorial Fund Balance	\$ 11,303.00	\$ 12,554.00
Schnuck Endowment Fund Balance	\$ 15,386.06	\$ 6,250.73
Scholarship Fund Balance	\$ 6,966.28	\$ 4,596.98
Local Benevolence Fund Balance	\$ 12,115.13	\$ 15,426.33
Youth Group Fund Balance	\$ 4,007.84	\$ 3, 464.74
Total OCWM Received	\$ 1,295.51	\$ 1,965.11
Other Benevolent Offerings	\$ 4,224.00	\$ 11,273.80

NOTE:

Please check your address listing & phone numbers in the new pictorial directory. If any corrections need to be made, please contact the office. We will compile a list of corrections at a later date for everyone to add to their directories.

Corrected Directory Information for Russ & Betty Cobb -Betty: 573-489-7890; Russ: 573-489-7891

> To Watch the California UCC Worship Services Online:

Go to http://www.calmo-ucc.org. Scroll down and click on the "Online Services" link. (The bulletin is also available)

Or:

Go to youtube.com and search California United Church of Christ.

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



CONSISTORY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Consistory along with staff and group leaders from our Sunday School and choirs met via zoom Sunday night at 6:00. These are the decisions that have been made at this time:

The tentative date for our first in person worship will be Sunday June 7th.

We are still working on the details of what worship will look like starting June 7th. More details will be released at a later date.

The Consistory is meeting again Monday May 11th to work on those details.

The Live Streaming of worship services will continue to be available when we open up for worship again on June 7th.

During the month of June, only the worship areas for Sunday and the office area through the week will be open to the public. No outside practices or meetings will be held at the church during the month of June.

Sunday School Teachers & Officers meeting

A Zoom Meeting was held April 20th for the Sunday School Teachers & Officers. Those present were: Brett Hall, Lanny Ash, Courtney Cassil, Pastor Russ, Larry Rohrbach, Steve & Laura Burger, & Judy Burger

Summer curriculum was discussed. The Bible In Life will be used for the adult classes. Gospel Light will be used in PreK-K class, & a curriculum will be determined later for the Middle School-High School combination class.

We agreed that the Sunday School will pay the one-half fee for campers this summer. We will look at the decision of the camps in May, who will determine whether camps will be held or not.

Brett announced that Norman & Joyce Rohrbach have graciously offered their farm to be the location of the Fall Sunday School Party in October.

Zoom Sunday School classes will be offered starting April 26th for the Kingdom Builder & Young Adult class, & Middle School class. Other Zoom meetings will be offered later. The Adult classes will happen at 9 am & Middle School at 9:40 am.

Should Vacation Bible School be offered in July, the dates set for it are July 13-17. Should we not be able to have VBS, packets will be sent to those who participated last year. The theme for this year is "Concrete & Cranes". (Building on the Love of Jesus.)

Our next Zoom meeting is May 5th at 7 pm. Respectfully submitted, Judy Burger

From Brett Hall ~

With the current health situation that our Church and community are experiencing, the Sunday School is evaluating how to move forward with continuing our mission through guidance and safety protocol from our Church leadership and local Health Department. We are looking at options on how to provide lessons and curriculum to all of our members even though we're not meeting in person at this time. Although we don't know yet when we'll meet again or what Sunday School classes may look like when we go back, we look forward to seeing everybody. We pray that God blesses you and your family with health and safety, and appreciate your patience during these trying times.



Please continue to save the Best Choice label bar codes for the SHAREFEST Gathering in September



Giving made Easy Online giving is available! No longer write checks? Forgot to bring cash? \ No worries!

Follow the E-Giving link on our website: calmo-ucc.org to give today or set recurring gifts

Congratulations to the 2020 High School Senior Graduates!!



Katie Adams Daughter of Brett & Melanie Adams

Christopher Cassil

Son of Johnny & Courtney Cassil

Kueffer Koestner Son of Travis Koestner & Christine Koestner

Alyssa Sabartinelli Daughter of Aaron Sabartinelli & Krystal Davis

We are proud of you!!

Senior Parents/Grandparents

Please submit a video message to your graduate. This is an opportunity to recognize their academics and extracurricular activities upon their graduation. We would like to play the messages on Sunday, May 17.

Here's your chance to wish your mother a special Happy Mother's Day.

Please submit your video greeting for your mom for Sunday, May 10. We will play these greetings during the Welcome and Announcements. This is your opportunity to let your love show for all the moms.

Blessed Mothers

Blessed are the mothers who love God, for their children shall not be ignorant of their Creator and His plans concerning them.

Blessed are the mothers who love the word of God, for their children shall know of the way, the truth and the life.

Blessed are the mothers who love the house of God, for their children shall enter there and sit with them in the presence of God.

Blessed are the mothers who love to pray, for their children shall feel the power of prayer and many shall find salvation.

Blessed are the mothers who love the family altar for they shall have their reward in this world and the world to come.

Blessed are the mothers who love to speak kind words to their neighbor's children, for thereby they shall win other boys and girls besides their own to Jesus Christ.

Blessed are the mothers who love to be companions to their children, for they shall be called understanding mothers.

Blessed are the mothers who love to fight life's battles bravely with a strong and steadfast faith in God, for their children will know where to find strength in times of need.



Blessed are the mothers, who when they are old and gray, can look back on memory's wall with no regrets and can say, "I brought my children up in the fear of the Lord." Theirs are the mansions in glory.

(Author Unknown)

Women's Guild

The Greatest Commandment - "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second of these is this: love you neighbor as yourself." Mark 12:30, 31. These are the words we gather by! The challenge has been to reach out and call your neighbors, family, and old friends! When the time comes that we gather together in person we invite all the ladies of the church to join us! Maybe you weren't sure if you wanted to "join" another group, we know we would love for you come join us!

We are currently studying the Apostles! Our intent is to strengthen our own spiritual life! We pray together, learn together, and enjoy fellowship!

Submitted by Linda Schnieders, Guild President

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.

Laíd to Rest

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Family & Friends Of **Billy Schlup** who passed away April 16, 2020. *May God comfort those who mourn in these days.*



To the Church Family ~ Thank you for the beautiful flower arrangement. Your kindness and support are appreciated. ~ Katie, Bob, Lisa, & Family



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

From Church Bulletin Bits #2 Sentence Sermons

WISE PEOPLE: We all admire the wisdom of those people who come to us for advice.

IF AT FIRST: If at first you don't succeed, you'll get plenty of advice!

May Birthdays

02 Morris Burger **03 Elaine Proctor** 03 Lisa Wilson 03 Betty Cobb 03 Chris Graves 04 Royce Everett 06 Bryson Coale 07 Robert Gannon 07 Shane Marrett 08 Roger Kirchoff 09 Courtland Gerhart 10 Fred Barry 10 Aidan Bolinger 11 Brooks Nichols 12 Robin Ratcliff 12 Taylor Porter 13 Merle Thompson 13 Jacob Kueffer 14 Bob Burger 14 Jo Ann Cantriel 14 Barbara Pearson 15 Loryn Reed 15 Carleigh Lutz 16 Gerri Howard 17 Caitlin Deeken Phoenix 17 Kalyn Carlock 17 Brenyn Robertson 17 Ronnie Kissick 18 Kermit Rohrbach 18 David Burger 19 Diane Jobe

- 20 Amelia Motley
- 20 Steven McDaniel
- 20 Jay Bestgen
- 21 Carrie Marrett
- 22 Leslie Markovchick
- 22 Blake Howard
- 24 Jessica Hayes
- 24 Kimberly Hanauer
- **25** Courtney Hees
- 25 Allee Koestner

Birthday

- 27 Ashton Bolinger
- 28 Calhan Smith
- 28 David Barry
- 28 Kevin Liebi
- 28 Emelia Reed
- 28 Maddie Sedgwick
- 28 Weston Peters
- 29 Rosa Wilder
- 30 Janice Anderson
- 30 Norman Rohrbach
- 31 Pamela Hill

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



Janice Anderson—May, 1959 Judy Barbour—May 11, 1941 Sarah Bryant—May 10, 1998 Jackson Cassil—May 15, 2005 Hannah Clutter—May 12, 1996 Bill Crane—May 14, 1950 Melanie Fisher—May 5, 1990 Andrew Graves—May 6, 1961 Kent Hees—May 18, 1980 Cathy Hickman—May, 1975 Kueffer Koestner—May 12, 2002

Sue Latham—May 25, 1947 Alexx Lewis—May 26, 1996 Jacqueline Lynch—May 3, 1936 Harley McDaniel—May 6, 1934 Bruce Miller—May 1, 2016 D.J. Schneider—May 29, 2005



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.

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

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