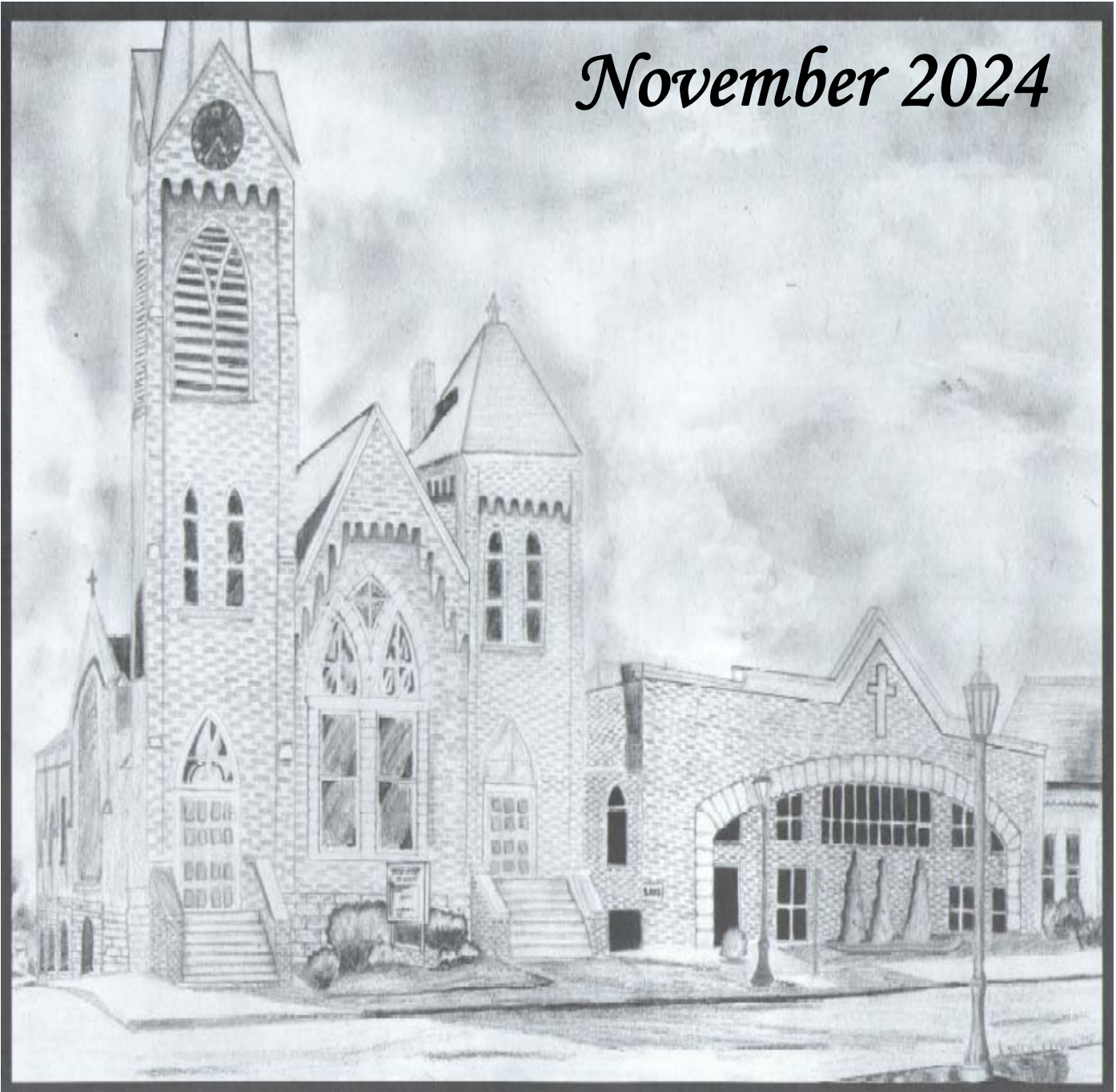


# *The Tidings*

*November 2024*



## **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

*\*Christ Centered \*Biblical \*Compassionate*

101 N. Oak, California, MO 65018

Phone: 573-796-4885

## Bible Words

*“Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.” (Romans 10:17)*

I took four years of Spanish in high school as well as two years of Greek in college. I’m not fluent in either language, but I can ask where the bathroom is if I’m ever in Mexico, (Donde esta el cuarto de bano?) that’s pretty important in my opinion. It can be uncomfortable if you are with a group of people speaking another language and you don’t know what they are saying or how to communicate with them. Misunderstandings happen that way. Frustration can take place as well.

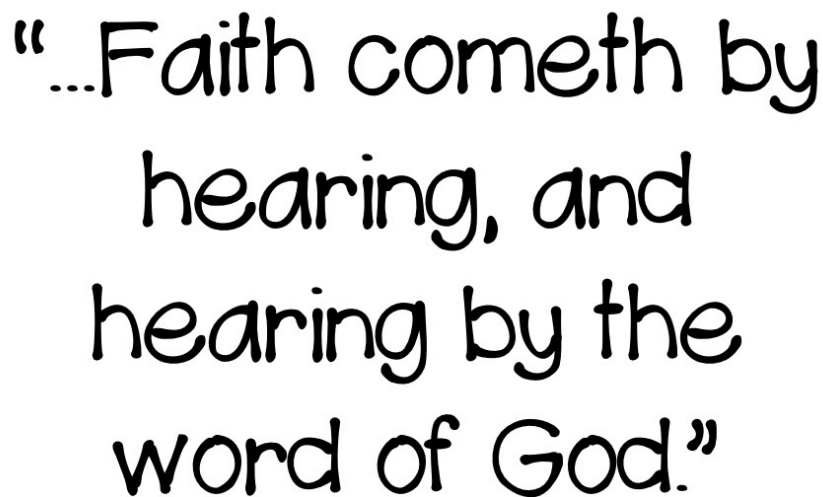
I think that happens with the church many times when guests and visitors attend. For many of us who have attended most of our lives, we know the language of the church and we know how to converse. We might even use an older translation of the Bible like the King James that makes it even harder to understand exactly what is being said and done by our guests. In November we’ll do a short sermon series called “Church Words.” We’ll focus on a few of those church words that we might not all understand completely. Words like redemption, grace, covenant, salvation, sacraments, mercy, and sanctification. I look forward to exploring some of those church words we use all the time.

In November, we will have several special services and times of fellowship. On November 17<sup>th</sup> the Brotherhood will host a family night filled with food, singing, fellowship, and games. On Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> we will have our special Totenfest service where we remember all of our members that have passed away in the last year.

Later that evening, the California Ministerial Alliance (CMA) Thanksgiving service will take place at the Annunciation Catholic Church. On Thanksgiving Day, the CMA will host their annual Thanksgiving Day meal at the Nutrition Center. Lots of opportunities for the family of God to serve, fellowship, and worship in November.

November will mark my six year anniversary here in California. Hard to believe six years has gone by so fast. We have gone through a lot together and I feel that both churches are stronger and doing very well. I look forward to continuing my ministry here in California. I hope you find time this month to thank God for his blessings.

Serving Christ Together,  
Russ



“...Faith cometh by  
hearing, and  
hearing by the  
word of God.”

Romans 10:17



## **California United Church of Christ**

### **October 14, 2024 – Consistory Meeting Highlights**

The October meeting of the California United Church of Christ Consistory was called to order at 5:59 p.m. by Alan Chambers, President. Reverend Cobb opened the meeting with prayer. A quorum was established. Ellen Ash, Carole Barbour, Jay Bestgen, Holly Bieri, Alan Chambers, VanDee Miller, and Larry Schoeneberg were present. Jim Deeken was absent.

Minutes of the September meeting, Treasurer, Ellen Ash's report, Financial Secretary Larry Schoeneberg's reports--the General Funds Church Financial Statement that included a comparison with prior years as well as the Statement of Financial Position and two CDs matured and the funds were reinvested. All reports and actions were approved as was the Stewardship Snapshot.

Holly Bieri reported there was no activity in the Local Benevolence account this month.

A review of worship statistics showed that average Worship attendance in September was 154 plus 73 On-line views.

Building Use Request was approved.

#### **Committee Reports**

**Building and Grounds/Safe Church** - Jay Bestgen and Jim Deeken  
**Elevator Valve Replacement/Phone in elevator**

A new pan is being made for the oil reservoir. When the pan is delivered, the valve can be replaced and the phone issue dealt with.

**Church Mutual Up Date and Worker's Compensation**

Church Mutual continues to be unresponsive to calls. Alan Chambers, Jay Bestgen, and Jim Deeken conferenced with Insurance Board, a brokerage firm. As of November 1, 2024 there will be a new insurance carrier. Details at the Annual Meeting.

**Stewardship**-Larry Schoeneberg

Meeting scheduled for November 12, 2024

**Worship**-VanDee Miller

Planning special music for Christmas

Beginning in January Toni Kueffer will Chair the Worship Committee

## **Old Business**

EasyTithe migration to Amplify - This will happen in November  
Put information in Tidings that no action is required on participant's part, it is a name change only.

SWC Key Fobs—84 of the first 100 have been distributed. It was a unanimous decision to order more fobs.

Nelson Library—Jay Bestgen will measure for shelves

Church Directory- On hold until after the new year

Personnel Policy- The Consistory discussed possible areas that might need to be reworded, clarified, or deleted and will be voted on at the Consistory meeting in November.

Nominating Committee Update- Holly Bieri reported that there was only one spot left to fill to complete the slate for 2025. Thank you for serving. You are a blessing and called by God's Spirit to the position you have accepted.

Financial Review Committee Member update—Four individuals have agreed to serve on the committee.

Annual Meeting Format Discussion Follow-Up -Promote with reminders to save the date and “teasers” of items to be discussed in the Tidings and Sunday Bulletins. We really want to see each of you at the Annual Meeting!!!!

## **New Business**

Approval of Bueker's Snow Removal Contract—After Consistory review of the contract, the contract was approved.

Quote from BeeSeen Signs for an electronic sign in front of the church  
Alan Chambers reported that the quote was \$38,850 from BeeSeen. There was also a quote from Impact for \$23,000. No action was taken. This could possibly be an Annual Meeting item.

Appointment of Salary Committee—Ellen Ash, Carole Barbour, Larry Schoeneberg, and Jim Deeken were appointed to serve.

Review of Custodians Contract—Jay Bestgen has agreed to do that.

## **Upcoming Communion Dates**

November 3, 2024 is All Saints Sunday

Carole Barbour, Secretary



## STEWARDSHIP SNAPSHOT

	<u>September 2024</u>	<u>September 2023</u>
<b><u>General Fund</u></b>		
Balance Brought Forward	\$ 48,640.36	\$ 92,457.35
Receipts	+ 25,937.81	+ 28,576.10
Disbursements	<u>- 27,268.86</u>	<u>- 36,051.17</u>
Balance – September 30, 2024	\$ 47,309.31	\$ 84,982.28
 <b><u>As of September 30, 2024</u></b>		
Building Fund Balance	\$ 91,304.73	\$ 60,069.04
Local Benevolence	\$ 11,226.58	\$ 8,806.89
Memorial Fund Balance	\$ 16,940.05	\$ 4,740.20
Schnuck Endowment Checking	*\$ 11,286.37	** \$ 35,795.28
Scholarship Fund Balance	\$ 11,692.39	\$ 10,067.56
Youth Fellowship Fund Balance	\$ 2,561.86	\$ 3,998.48
Total OCWM Received	\$ 2,221.76	\$ 2,090.00
Other Benevolent Offerings	\$ 13,705.80	\$ 13,702.99

### **Note on 2024 Snapshot regarding Schnuck Endowment**

*\*The C. Schnuck Endowment Checking Fund balance of \$11,286.37 includes \$166.49 that is part of the original restricted gift and is unable to be expended. \$11,119.88 of the fund balance may be expended.*

### **Note on 2023 Snapshot regarding Schnuck Endowment**

*\*\*The C. Schnuck Endowment Checking Fund balance of \$35,795.28 includes \$166.49 that is part of the original restricted gift and is unable to be expended. \$35,628.79 of the fund balance may be expended.*

## **GRIEFSHARE – SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS**

The Holiday Season is just around the corner and for many this is the first holiday after the loss of a loved one or it might be the second, third or more. During this season you may be facing some tough emotions during family events, social parties, yearly traditions and these can blindsides you. You can lessen these by knowing what to expect and being prepared. Join us for “Surviving the Holidays” on **November 25 6:30 pm**. Please let JoAnn Cantriel or contact the church office. This will allow us to have enough survival guides on hand.

## Special Benevolence— November



Samaritan's Purse is a nondenominational Evangelical Christian organization providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world. Since 1970, Samaritan's Purse has helped meet needs of people who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine with the purpose of sharing God's love through His Son, Jesus Christ. The organization serves the Church worldwide to promote the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Your gift equips Samaritan's Purse with the resources— including personnel, materials, supporting services, buildings, and equipment— to fulfill our mission of relief and evangelism worldwide.



**Daylight Savings Time  
ends Sunday,  
Nov. 3, 2024**



## ***UCC Brotherhood Minutes – Monday, October 28, 2024***

**Meal** – The meeting began at 7:00 p.m. with a delicious meal prepared by Joyce and Lashley Rohrbach, Betty and Russell Cobb and Ellen Ash.

**Devotion** – At 7:40 p.m., Larry Schoeneberg presented a devotion centered on maintaining a “Healthy Soul”. He referenced a scripture from 3<sup>rd</sup> John 1, verse 2 and 3, “Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health, and that all may go well with you, even as our soul is getting along well. It gave me great joy when some believers came and testified about your faithfulness to the truth, telling how you continue to walk in it.” Larry gave a couple examples of how people that experienced great tragedies and difficulties in their lives, maintained strength in their faith and continued to walk with God and Christ, ending their lives with healthy souls and great inner happiness.

**Business Meeting** – Dave Meyer called the business meeting to order at 7:50 p.m. He thanked Rob Barbour and all who helped with a successful prison ministry in September.

Plans were then completed for the Brotherhood sponsored church carry-in dinner scheduled for Sunday, November 17. We’ll set up tables and chairs at 5 p.m., then eat at 6 p.m. Bob Kueffer agreed to coordinate the drinks. We’ll use paper plates and real silverware for the meal. The group agreed by general consensus to sponsor \$150 in bingo prizes.

Dave Meyer will identify someone to coordinate our Brotherhood Christmas Caroling event on Monday, December 16.

We will plan to decorate the church for Christmas at our next regular meeting on Monday, November 25. Steve Burger volunteered to grill hamburgers for a meal that evening.

**Program** – The program for the evening was provided by Richard and Iva Presberry and Lacey Pratt, representing the mission, “Hope for Caribbean Kids”. The Presberry’s were called to start this mission for children in Haiti in 1999. They traveled to Haiti in 1999 and every year after until 2018 working with a group of children needing education and food in a mountainous area called Marre Blanche. They started by building a school and providing support for teachers and supplies. Through the years, the school has expanded and improved offerings for the kids living there. The families there are mostly agrarian and are in need of many basic things. They have not traveled personally to Haiti since 2018 since the government is pretty much non-existent and gangs have taken over the cities. They, however have been able to continue to get funding to the school and orphanage they now support on a regular basis. The Presberry’s have directed this ministry from their home on a volunteer basis for nearly 25 years and are now needing to retire and turn the ministry over to a permanent staff. They have hired Lacey Pratt as the mission’s financial development coordinator. They are in the process of raising enough funding to provide continuing support for future projects. They very much appreciate any type of help people are willing and able to provide.



# Cradle Roll

*Addy Applegate  
Elliott Baker  
Baylor Coale  
Lincoln Gratz  
Hana Hill  
Oakleigh Imhoff  
Weston Lohse  
Hattie Mouse  
Kwincy Opie*

*Myles Ratcliff  
Karsyn Rowles  
Raelynn Rowles  
Sophie Schoeneberg  
Kyler Simmons*



The Cradle Roll consists of members of our church with a baby from birth to 2 years of age. They will be recognized at the Christmas Eve program on Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2024. If you know of someone missing, please let the church office know or Gerri Howard, Cradle Roll Coordinator



## **What is Totenfest?**

Throughout Christian history, the church has and continues to remember and celebrate the lives of faithful people who have died. Totenfest is a distinctive practice that grows out of the Evangelical tradition of the United Church of Christ. Although the name Totenfest is unknown to many in the UCC, its importance as a special time of remembrance continues not only in our Evangelical heritage, but for all. It is a way of remaining related to deceased loved ones, as the process of grieving and remembering are vital to our spiritual health. To this day, Eden Theological Seminary, with Evangelical roots, has a memorial service to remember friends, faculty and students of the seminary, who have died in the previous year.

### **What is the Tradition of Totenfest?**

Totenfest is a German word that means “Feast of the Dead” or “Festival for the Dead.” It was established in 1816 by Prussian Emperor Fredrick William III as a day to remember that nation’s soldiers who had died in the recently concluded Prussian War. Obviously it became an important observance in the Evangelical Church in Prussia (established by the same emperor in 1817) as a day to remember not only the war dead, but also church members who had died in the previous year. It was observed on the last Sunday of the church year, right before Advent began. This was also the time of clearing gardens and fields of the summer’s growth in preparation for winter. To this day, Totenfest in parts of Germany is the day families visit the graves of loved ones to clean off the summer flowers and cover the graves with evergreen boughs for the winter.



## October 7, 2024 Sunday School Teachers & Officers

Carla Clennin called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. Those present were Carla Clennin, Carole Barbour, Cressida Gattermeir, Dave Gattermeir, Pastor Russell Cobb, Ronda Mortenson, Beth Chambers, and Austin Chambers. Cressida opened the meeting with a prayer.

The September 2024 meeting minutes were approved. The September Treasurer's Report was not available.

Carla discussed switching the October Benevolence Operation Christmas Child/Shoe box to November and the November Benevolence Rape & Abuse Crisis Center to October to allow Sunday School to pay for the shipping for Operation Shoe Box as they are due in November. It was agreed to make this change permanent for 2025.



### **Old Business:**

Cressida provided a brief update on the Fall Party. Austin volunteered to work the drink table. Ronda will be doing games and crafts. Ronda will also be doing a cupcake walk. Beth volunteered to assist Ronda.

Letters have been sent out for the Christmas Eve Program to be returned to the church office or Carla by October 27. Carla discussed ideas for the Christmas Eve Program. Adult volunteers are still needed.

Carla announced that Lisa Robertson will assume the role of 3<sup>rd</sup> Superintendent position for Sunday School beginning January 2025. Lisa also agreed to assist with the Christmas Eve Program.

Kendra Hall provided an update via e-mail for Wednesday night R.O.K. Kendra reported that there has been between 15-20 children attending R.O.K. Enough items were collected in September to fill 6 Family Food Boxes for the Festival of Sharing. For October, R.O.K. is collecting items for Operation Christmas Child and will be filling shoe boxes the last Wednesday of October. Kendra said that R.O.K. would be using the leftover craft kits from the Sunday School craft closet and will be placing them in the shoe boxes. Kendra also mentioned that kids are enjoying the acts of service.

Kendra also provided an update for the college class and that they would be starting The Chosen series in October.

Carla provided an update from Dyan Ingram stating that The Chosen series was going well with the Sr. High class.

Pastor Russ mentioned that it would be a good idea to have another laptop, as there is currently only one available and it is being shared by multiple classes. A motion was made to purchase a laptop (under \$500) by Beth, seconded by Ronda, motioned passed. Austin was assigned to research and purchase the new laptop.

**New Business:**

Russ was asked by staff at Valley Park about the need for personal hygiene items. A discussion was had concerning the Angel Tree and Carole brought up the Community Action Committee providing items to nursing homes and how more needs to be done to help. Further discussion on the matter would continue at November's meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Next meeting will be Monday, November 4 at 7 pm

Respectfully submitted, Austin Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Superintendent

**Congratulations to our Sunday School 3<sup>RD</sup> Quarter  
Perfect Attendance**

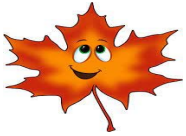
Judy Burger, Sue Cashion, Carla Clennin, Cressida Gattermeir, Dave Gattermeir, Dyan Ingram, Harvey Kilmer, Judy Kilmer, Bob Kueffer, Peggy Liebi, Lola McCarty, and Elaine Proctor

Please join us for **Sunday School** – will your name be added for 4th quarter (October - December)

**Sunday School with one absentee for 3<sup>RD</sup> Quarter**

**Adult classes:** Jay Bestgen, Mary Burger, Courtney Cassil, Carmen Ferris, Kent Howard, Kris Ingram, and Phyllis Miller

**Student classes:** Caleb Howard



# UCC Women's Guild

## Minutes of the October 16, 2024 Meeting

### Opening Procedures

13 people were in attendance as Lexi H. led the opening prayer. Carole B. led the lesson, "Sabbath and Justice" based on Isaiah 58. The discussion expanded on the message that Sabbath values of love, generosity, and humanity are meant to extend over the whole week, no matter what day a person celebrates as their own Sabbath. Thank you, Carole. Linda S. gave the Thought for the Day, "Six Little Stories", which were very succinct definitions of life and wisdom. Thank you, Linda and Lexi. Members were reminded of their benevolence opportunities this month, Operation Shoe Box and Salvation Army. An offering was accepted for Women's Guild projects and activities.



### Business Meeting

- Motion by Linda S., second by Brenda O. to accept the September minutes as presented. Motion Carried.
- Treasurer Judy B. reported the Guild's check to Sharefest was \$1100 which included an extra \$20 above the total donation collected. Motion by Phyllis M., second by Carole B. to approve the extra funds. Motion Carried. Motion by Brenda O., second by Phyllis M. to accept the financial report as presented. Motion Carried. A copy of the financial report is attached to the secretary's copy of the minutes.
- Committee #1 is still up for the next Celebration of Life dinner.
- Mary B. reported 3000 Best Choice Labels were taken to Sharefest as part of UCC Guild's contribution to Sharefest. We currently have 680 labels in hand for next year.
- Judy B. reported 30 cards were sent out last month. This month 29 cards are in the process of collecting signatures. No correspondence was reported.

## **Old Business**

- Mary B. gave a summary of the Sharefest Report which will be available in the upcoming Tidings and she spoke about how much she enjoyed the day. She and many others participated in the activities inside the Tipton United Methodist Church where people were sorting and packing boxes, sorting seed packets, and making blankets among other things. The total value of items and cash contributed by California UCC members was \$3991. Lexi H. thanked Mary for her leadership and constant attention to this project throughout the year.
- Lexi reported that the Prison Ministry Meal served 21 people, a very quiet group who seemed to enjoy and appreciate the meal.

## **New Business**

- We have no details yet on the Community Thanksgiving Meal. We will plan for that event in November.
- The Nominating Committee will be searching for a secretary and treasurer for the next 2-year term.
- Plans for the Christmas Dinner are under way. Yes, we will plan to do the cookie bags again this year.
- The Bible Study materials for 2025 are already in hand: "What My Grandmother Taught Me." The material is from the Presbyterian Women Press.
- Carla's report on the Mid-South Conference meeting will appear in the next Tidings.
- Sincere Birthday Congratulations were offered to Mary Ann Kueffer and Joyce Rohrbach.
- Lexi H. offered the closing prayer.

While enjoying signature autumnal refreshments (Barb's famous pumpkin dessert and Laura's decadent spiced apples over ice cream), members had time to catch up on the adventures of Guild members, delight in Carole's recent revival (or interpretation) of Jane Spieler's Harlequin Beans (see the green UCC Cookbook), and the surprising availability and use of outdoor facilities in Moniteau County. Join us in November!

Clarice Nelson, Secretary

**Reminder: Next UCC Guild meeting is November 20, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.**




# United Church of Christ

Sunday



Monday

Tuesday



<p>3</p> <p>Communion</p> <p><b>FALL BACK</b> Daylight Savings Time</p>  <p><b>ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY</b></p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:30 PM GriefShare 7:00 PM Sunday School Teachers and Officers</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:00 AM Prayer Cell</p> 
<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:00 PM Consistory 6:30 PM GriefShare</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00 AM Prayer Cell</p>
<p>17</p> <p>Brotherhood Family Night</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:30 PM GriefShare</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:00 AM Prayer Cell</p>
<p>24</p> <p>7:00 PM California Ministerial Alliance Thanksgiving Service at Annunciation Catholic Church</p> 	<p>25</p> <p>6:30 PM GriefShare -Holiday Special 7:00 PM Men's Brotherhood</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:00 AM Prayer Cell</p>

# November 2024

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> 6:00 AM Men's Bible Study at the Crossroads 	<b>2</b>
<b>6</b> 6:00 PM Fellowship Meal 6:30 PM R.O.K./God's Singers, Confirmation and Bell Choir 7:30 PM Sr. Choir	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>13</b> 6:00 PM Fellowship Meal 6:30 PM R.O.K./God's Singers, Confirmation and Bell Choir 7:30 PM Sr. Choir	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>20</b> 1:00 PM Women's Guild 6:00 PM Fellowship Meal 6:30 PM R.O.K./God's Singers, Confirmation and Bell Choir 7:30 PM Sr. Choir	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>27</b> NO SCHOOL- Wed.night activities are canceled.	<b>28</b> CMA Thanksgiving Dinner at Nutrition Center 	<b>29</b> Church Office closed	<b>30</b>

# Festival of Sharing Report

The Sharefest for the Central Region was held Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at the Tipton United Methodist Church. Because of the generosity of our congregation, we were able to deliver the following:

Donations of \$1,200 were given to “where needed most”:

(\$100 was the September Benevolence from the Women’s Guild)

1 Box of Ethnic Hygiene items	\$30
14 Family Food Packs	\$364
7 Paper Product Packs	\$147
8 Personal Hygiene Packs	\$240
61 Quilts of Love for Backpacks	\$1,830
3000 Best Choice Labels	\$180



**The total of our gifts this year was \$3,991.**

A special thank-you to the children who come to R.O.K. and their leaders, Kendra Hall, Amy Howard and Brittney Medlin. During the month of September, they were encouraged to bring a food item each week for a Family Food Pack. I am proud to say they filled six boxes. Great job kids!!!

Also, a special “thanks” to Judy Burger and Clarice Nelson, who every year piece and put together beautiful 36”x 45” quilts to be used in Backpacks of Love for children in distress. Judy donated sixteen quilts and mentioned that some of her sewing friends helped with this project.

Clarice made forty-five quilts. As in 2022 and 2023, the resources for the quilts still came from the fabric collections and/or estates of Bettie Hall, Mrs. Kelsay, Barb Wehmeyer’s mother, my relatives and friends, and from my own basement. LaVerne Cook contributed batting for more than 30 quilts and Donna Sterling contributed Bible verse blocks. In 2024, Mary Burger and Kevin and Julie Steinhauer contributed batting for a total of at least 36 quilts. Kevin and Julie also donated a hand pieced quilt top from his late grandmother which became six little Quilts of Love. A wide range of folks stepped in for photographs for the annual “Parade of the Little Quilts with Feet”. Many thanks to such a group of friends. Thank you both for sharing your special talents with others.

The Festival of Sharing 2024 online Quilt Auction is Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> beginning at 10 am and ends November 9<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. The funds raised go to the Church World Service Blanket program. For more information go to [www.festivalofsharing.org/quilts](http://www.festivalofsharing.org/quilts).

Please continue to save your Best Choice Labels for next year.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Festival of Sharing and thank you for your continued support. It was a great year!

## Church Offering Envelopes

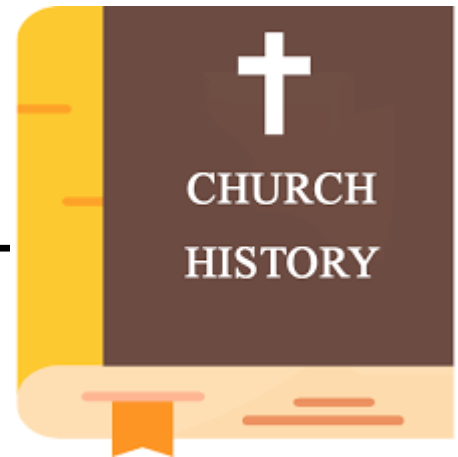
If you no longer prefer to use your church offering envelopes for 2025 due to online giving or some other payment option, please let the church office know. Or if you don't have envelopes and would like to have them, let us know as well. Thanks.



796-4885

Rhonda@calmo-ucc.org

## California UCC Historical Highlight



Looking back on the life of the Church, 100 years ago...

On December 15, 1924, Rev. F.P. Umbeck resigned from California to serve as the pastor of the Nazareth Evangelical Church of Chicago. Also, that year, changes were made to where German services were limited to only once per month.

Brought to you by your California UCC Historical Committee

## Missouri Mid-South Conference Update

The Missouri Mid-South Conference Annual Gathering (CAG) was held totally on-line October 18 & 19 with the theme "Love is Greater Than Fear". Prior to CAG were Town Hall meetings on Budget (10/9), Meet the Candidate (10/15) and By-laws (10/16) delegates and clergy could attend via zoom.

At the Meet the Candidate, Town Hall attendees were to get to know Transitional Conference Minister Rev. Mary Nelson, as voting to make her our Settled Conference Minister was the major agenda item for the business meeting.

The first question for Rev. Nelson (asked by Carla Clennin) was whether she planned to move to Missouri if called to be our conference minister? She responded that she lives in Massachusetts with her partner Brian, but talked about moving here within a couple of years. Her partner has a work contract that makes it difficult to move sooner. She works from her home in Massachusetts and in Missouri also. In accord with a job description for the position, she would move her church membership to one of the churches within the conference.

In an interesting twist, approving the agenda was the first item when the business meeting convened on Saturday morning. An objection was raised that the conference by-laws were not properly followed in nominating Rev. Nelson, so that action was removed from the agenda. After this objection was raised the Conference Lawyer was called and we went into a break for thirty minutes. An objection was also raised that the by-laws were not followed in nominating new members on the Board of Directors so that item was removed from the agenda. When discussing the By-law changes proposed, there was concern raised that they removed a requirement for notice prior to the annual meeting of who is being nominated for the conference board, so a motion was approved to move that item to a special meeting to be called to complete action on the other items removed from the agenda.

The only significant business item completed was to approve the budget for 2025. Totaling about \$860,000 for operations and another \$700,000 plus for camping operations, the budget is predicted to be in the red, as it is thus far this year. However, the conference is not in debt because of the sale of land and other reserve funds.

Completing the major items of business left undone is “up in the air”, but it was assumed a special meeting will be called. In her conference minister’s report, Rev. Nelson’s closing comments were why she felt called to assume her position on a permanent basis. One reason was that she would be more free to speak to us and for us publicly. She has emphasized the covenant between our churches numerous times, but speaking for us publicly on social issues of the day could be divisive rather than bringing us together. It will be interesting to see how the Board of Directors move forward.

Conference meetings are more than just business.

Rev. Nelson’s message during the opening worship was lifting up the theme “Love is Greater Than Fear”. Her scripture was Isaiah 43: 1-2, which includes

*“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have summoned you by name; you are mine.  
When you pass through the waters,  
I will be with you;  
and when you pass through the rivers,  
they will not sweep over you.”*



Of note during the opening worship was remembering five congregations that either closed or left the conference during the past year. One new church start was mentioned: All in UCC. This new church, in the St. Louis area, is quite non-traditional as they meet on Thursday evenings in a brewery. Three congregations were approved as Open and Affirming (ONA) during the past year making a total of 31 churches that have completed the process.

The speaker for the closing worship was Rev. Michael Neuroth. He is the director of the UCC Office of Public Policy and Advocacy in Washington, D.C. He lifted up the theme of “Love is Greater than Fear” also. He said he had fears about the upcoming election, mentioning two or three concerns often mentioned by political progressives, but encouraged us to vote with love. Voting with love has been a theme of our denomination in looking forward to the election.

If anyone would like more information don’t hesitate to ask. To view all the documents for the CAG go to <https://missourimidsouth.org/cag-2024>

Submitted by,  
Larry Rohrbach and Carla Clennin  
Missouri Mid-South Conference Delegates

## *Wednesday Evening Activities*

**6:00 p.m.—Fellowship Meal**

**6:30 p.m.—Confirmation, Bell Choir  
ROK & God's Singers**

**7:30 p.m.—Sr. Choir**



**Mark your Calendars!**

## **California UCC Annual Meeting ~ January 26, 2025**

The Consistory is making plans for the next annual meeting. The meeting will be held downstairs in the Friendship Hall in conjunction with the lunch. Watch for more information and agenda items in the bulletin in the next few months.



# R.O.K. and God's Singers Schedule

November 06	R.O.K. / God's Singers	6:30 p.m to 7:20 p.m.
November 13	R.O.K. / God's Singers	6:30 p.m to 7:20 p.m.
November 20	R.O.K. / God's Singers	6:30 p.m to 7:20 p.m.
November 24	<b>SING DURING WORSHIP</b>	<b>10:30 A.M.</b>
November 27	<b>No School / No R.O.K. - No God's Singers</b>	<b>Happy Thanksgiving</b>
December 04	God's Singers	6:30 p.m to 7:20 p.m.
December 08	<b>SING DURING WORSHIP</b>	<b>10:30 A.M.</b>
December 11	God's Singers	6:30 p.m to 7:20 p.m.
December 18	God's Singers	6:30 p.m to 7:20 p.m.
December 24	Christmas Eve Program	<b>7:00 P.M.</b>
December 25	<b>No School / No R.O.K. - No God's Singers</b>	<b>Merry Christmas</b>

## **NOTE: CANCELLATIONS**

**Wednesday, Nov. 27 and Dec. 25 –No School**

**No Meal, Confirmation Class**

**ROK / God's Singers / Sr. Choir/Bell Choir**

**Check Sunday bulletins for other cancellations**



The California United Church of Christ Christmas Eve Program will be on Tuesday, December 24, 2024 at 7 p.m. in the Church Sanctuary. First Grade to Adult classes will participate in the “Christmas Nativity Play”. The 2-3 year olds and Pre-K/ Kindergarten class will have their own special part in the program. A candlelight service will follow the program.

If you would like to be a part of the program or help out, please let Carla Clennin know at [ckclennc@yahoo.com](mailto:ckclennc@yahoo.com) or (573) 694-0257



## Family Night

Sponsored by Brotherhood

**Sunday, November 17th at 6 p.m.**

God's Singers will perform after carry-in dinner.

Bingo to follow!

All are Welcome!!!



## November Choir Schedule

03 Senior Choir  
10 Senior Choir  
17 Bells  
24 God's Singers



## Nursery Attendant

Reagan Cain

# NOVEMBER

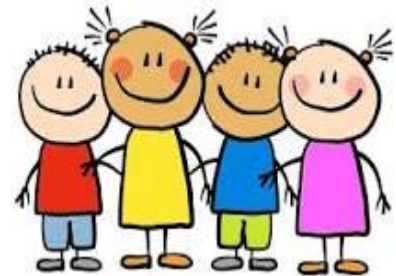


## Children's Time

03 Kendra Hall  
10 Ginnie Medlin  
17 JoAnn Cantriel  
24 Puppets

## Acolytes

03 Camden & Sutton Lawson  
10 Meredith & Nora Wolford  
17 Megan Carlock & Charley Medlin  
24 Georjie Peck & Brynna Hall



## Lay Readers

03 Carole Barbour  
10 Becky Schneider  
17 Susan Burger  
24 Judy Burger

## Thank you to all who attended the Sunday School Fall Party



Over 50 people were in attendance. Thanks to Ronda Mortenson and Beth Chambers for all the games and crafts. Special thanks to Steven Burger for arranging the hay wagons. Thanks to Dave and Cressida Gattermeir for overseeing the Fall Party. Thanks to everyone that contributed with Pulled Pork, Grilled Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chili, side dishes and to the Distinguished adult class for providing desserts.



Carla Clennin, Sunday School Superintendent



**Thanksgiving Day, November 28<sup>th</sup>**, the CMA will sponsor a drive thru and carry out Thanksgiving meal from 11:00-1:00 at the California Nutrition Center. If you have a neighbor or family member that would like a delicious Thanksgiving meal, please invite them to partake.



# Did You Know?

## **O.C.W.M.**

O.C.W.M. stands for Our Church's Wider Mission. When you contribute to O.C.W.M. do you ever wonder where your money goes? The O.C.W.M. dollars are split up as 20% going to the National setting, 7.5% goes to Camp MoVal, 5.98% goes to Camp Shannondale and 67% remains at the Conference Office.

Here are the donations from our church in past 5 years.

2020 \$9,207.27

2021 \$6,803.66

2022 \$4,527.00

2023 \$2,835.00

2024 \$2,426.76 as of 10-31-24

The ministry of the Missouri Mid-South Conference is made possible by your support of OCWM--Our Church's Wider Mission Basic Support. THANK YOU!

## **Community Thanksgiving Worship**

At the Annunciation Catholic Church

**Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m.**

# 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>

Text Registration Code – UCOC to 49775

*Read the Bible on your phone.  
YouVersion Bible app. You can  
download this app for free*



*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.*

## **Giving Made Easy**

Online giving is available for both Church and  
Sunday School!

Follow the E-Giving link on our website:  
[calmo-ucc.org](http://calmo-ucc.org) to give today or set recurring gifts

**For your viewing and listening opportunities** of the weekly worship services, there are two ways of being part of the weekly services. You may request a cd or dvd from the church office. Please let Rhonda know if you are interested in obtaining one of these versions of the worship service. (796-4885)

## Notes & News

**A Time of Hope**  
8:15 a.m. Sunday  
KRLI Radio ~1420 AM

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



[www.calmo-ucc.org](http://www.calmo-ucc.org)



### MONTEAU CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES CENTER

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

## USED TONER & INK CARTRIDGES

Please save all of your used toner and ink cartridges! The church office collects used toner and ink cartridges in order to get a \$2 In-store credit per cartridge at Staples toward purchases of office supplies. Please turn in your cartridges to the church office. Thanks!

### To Watch 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](http://youtube.com) & search



# November Birthdays



02 Judy Kilmer  
03 Krystal Davis  
03 Hazel Wolford  
04 Donald Clutter  
04 David Meyer  
04 Travis Peck  
04 Callie Simmons  
05 Clyde Dummermuth  
05 Calen Kruger  
07 David Ratcliff  
08 Hana Hill  
08 Kevin Gillilan  
09 Jenine Baker  
10 Lincoln Gratz  
10 Brenda Hofstetter  
11 Camden Lawson  
11 Kevin Steinhauer  
12 Harriet Bryant  
12 Larry Rohrbach  
12 Renee Elliott  
13 Carla Clennin  
15 Charley Medlin  
16 Macie Trimble  
17 Patty Hartman  
17 Jaelea Hall  
17 Rynley Gatlin  
18 Mandy Burger  
19 Spenser Deeken  
20 Javan Grover

22 Lanny Ash  
22 Stephen Hill  
22 Julie Steinhauer  
23 LeEtta Dampf  
23 Carolyn Twardowski  
24 Duane Barbour  
24 Judy Silver  
24 David Hall  
24 Julie Thomas  
24 Luke Tuttle  
25 Earl Medlin  
25 Lisa Robertson  
26 Ethan Hughes  
27 Lou Howard  
29 Becky Elliott  
29 Todd Gabert  
29 Kimberly Robertson  
29 Walker Borghardt  
30 Doug Dampf  
30 Robert Weis



# November Baptisms

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

David Cook—November, 1971  
Shyla Cornwell—Nov. 16, 2014  
Grace Dampf—November 28, 2004  
Peter Dampf—November 28, 2004  
Seth Everett—November 18, 2012  
Craig Hall—November 13, 1983  
Adler Koestner—November 18, 2007  
Austin Mouse—November 3, 1991  
Collin Mouse—November 3, 1991  
Travis Peck—Nov. 16, 2014  
Kya Peck—Nov. 16, 2014  
Preston Peters—November 23, 1997  
Sandra Ratcliff—Nov. 13, 1949  
Brock Wilson—November 3, 1991  
Lisa Wilson—November 6, 1966



## *The Tidings*

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST OF CALIFORNIA

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

8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Fridays

**WEBSITE:** [calmo-ucc.org](http://calmo-ucc.org)

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