

The Tidings

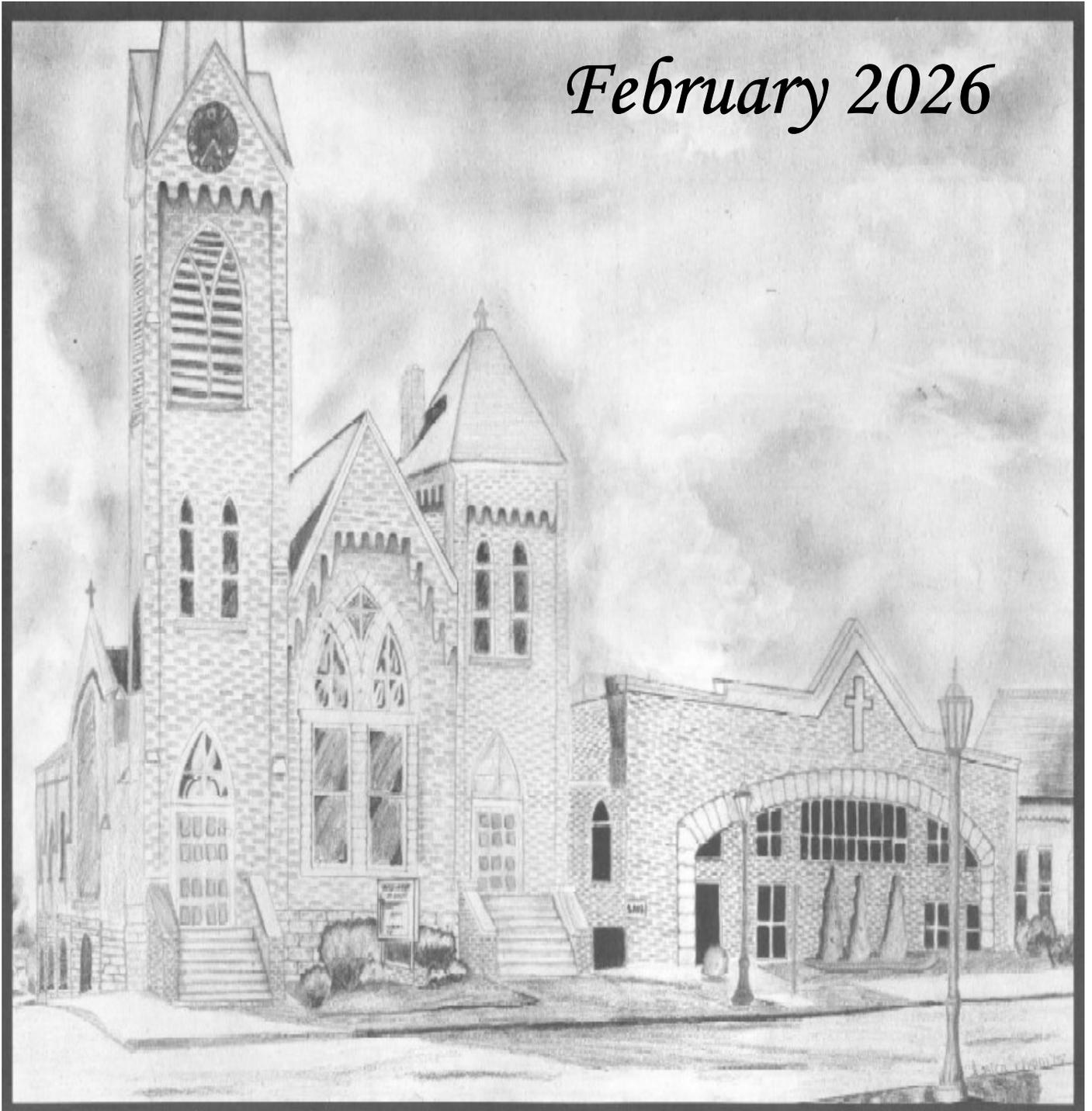
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Christ Centered *Biblical *Compassionate*

101 N. Oak, California, MO 65018

Phone: 573-796-4885

February 2026



Lenten Season begins with Ash Wednesday– February 18th

We are approaching a very sacred and Holy time of the year. It is a time when we see traditions and rituals happen that we don't understand, but we do them anyway, and the closer we come to the cross the more rituals and traditions we will see and hear. One of the most important traditions of this Church is that the kids in confirmation class read their Statements of Faith during Lent. This is a power event in these young people's life that will make a difference the rest of their lives. On Ash Wednesday, we have the tradition of the imposition of ashes on your forehead or your hand if you are comfortable. It is a reminder that "From dust you were made and to dust you will return."

During the Wednesdays of Lent we will be doing a group of the **I Am's of Lent**

I AM the Bread of Life (John 6:35)

Jesus sustains us in our hunger –
physical, spiritual and emotional

I AM the Light of the World (John 8:12)

Light in the Darkness

I AM the Gate for the Sheep (John 10:7-9)

Protection and belonging

I AM the Good Shepherd (John 10:11)

Care, guidance, and sacrifice

I AM the Resurrection and the Life (John 11:25)

Hope in suffering

I AM the Way the Truth and the Life (John 14:6)

The journey of discipleship

I AM the True Vine (John 15:1-5)

Abiding love

Please join us as we set the stage as we journey toward the Cross on Wednesdays.

Blessings,
Pastor Eddy

*The
Season
of
Lent*



California UCC Search Committee Update

The search committee has been working diligently in the pursuit of a new pastor. Over the last few weeks we have accomplished several things that had to be done to move our search forward. These items include:

- Completed a Pastoral Invitation document
- Updated the church profile
- Identify trusted sources where the opening can be posted
- Completed a congregation survey and identified what is most important to our congregation in pastor traits-qualifications
- Spoken with the Conference minister for conference input if needed
- Prayed continually for God's guidance

The committee has been working and praying for guidance. We also believe, it is the responsibility of the congregation to join us in these prayers. We must work together to move forward in a united fashion to become aware of the person God will be sending us.

The significant of 40 days in the Bible is what has led us to ask that over the next 40 days that you and your family actively join the search committee in prayer.

In the Bible 40 days represents:

Spiritual Renewal: Forty days often marks a divinely appointed season for renewal, reflection, and deeper submission to God.

Obedience Through Trial: The accounts show that faithfulness within these time spans leads to blessing or transformation.

Preparation for New Beginnings: Each 40-day period concludes with a momentous event-teaching the believer that trials can precede spiritual breakthroughs.

Testament to God's Sovereignty: Repeated usage in Scripture.



Please Join the Search Committee with your Prayers for our Church

These scriptures for 40 days of prayers were found on line. We have adapted them to our situation with minor changes that more perfectly reflects our church's needs as identified through the Congregational Survey.

Day 1 - Jeremiah 29:13, James 4:8 — Pray the pastor search period will be a time the church learns to seek God Himself more than just a new pastor. “Lord, teach us to draw closer to Jesus and trust Him as the true head of the church.”

Day 2 - Psalm 139:23-24 — Pray for a powerful move of congregational cleansing and renewal. “Father, please cause this to be a time of deep cleansing and renewal in our church. May we always be the church You have called us to be. It is all about You and not us.”

Day 3 - Revelation 2:1-4 — Pray for strong consistency and focus on the present ministry of the church. “Please grant great power to our interim pastors and to our staff. Protect us from any spirit of being lukewarm. Protect us from the evil one and remind us that we serve Jesus, not a pastor.”

Day 4 - John 13:34, John 17:21 — Pray for a miraculous sense of love and unity among all members of the church. “Help us surrender all bitterness, division, and anger within our church family. Lord, empower us to love one another with a patient, forgiving love.”

Day 5 - 1 Corinthians 1:10 — Pray for great unity in calling our new pastor. “Lord, help us to receive the pastor and family with deep love and renewed commitment. Grant us a powerful sense of revival and spiritual awakening as we move into the future.” Pray for grace, guidance, and strength for the church from which our new pastor comes.

Day 6 - Ephesians 4:1-6 — Pray that we be prepared to make the necessary changes to embrace a new day of ministry. “Lord, we understand that a new pastor always means changes. Help us to be prepared to change and grow with graciousness and unity so we can be the church You have called us to be.”

Day 7 - Hebrews 6:12 — Pray that we will patiently await God's timing and settle for nothing less than His perfect will. Ask God for His mercy in giving us a true person of God and a great leader.

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Day 8 - Philippians 2:3-11 — Pray that the Pastor Search Committee and all church members will set aside individual expectations for the new pastor and decide in unity who God is calling to lead us to be the church God has called us to be.

Day 9 - Isaiah 42:9 — Some churches struggle with wanting a pastor who is like their previous pastor. Others wish someone who is just the opposite. Pray that all would be receptive to God showing us new things in the congregation and accept His perfect will above our own desires.

Day 10 - Hebrews 13:17 — Pray that the church would trust the Pastor Search Committee through the process of finding a new pastor. Pray that the congregation would trust that the Pastor Search Committee is being led by the Spirit as they search for the pastor God is bringing to us and there would be no division.

Day 11 - John 15:9-15 — Pray that the church members will abide in the love of Christ and love one another with the love of Christ. Pray for God to bond the church and future pastor together in love.

Day 12 - Jeremiah 33:3 — Pray that a burden for deep and urgent prayer permeates the church not only as we seek God's will for a pastor, but also as you seek God's vision for the church.

Day 13 - Revelation 3:14-22 — Pray for the church to fight against lukewarm spirituality. Pray church members repent of a lukewarm spirituality and become filled with a zeal for Jesus and His Kingdom work.

Day 14 - John 15:1-8 — Pray for church members to continually abide in Christ and produce much fruit that glorifies the Father during the interim period.

Day 15 - James 4:1-12 — Pray for the church to humble themselves before the Lord and seek His cleansing power for revival to come.

Daily Prayers for the next Pastor:

Day 16 - 2 Timothy 4:1-5 — Pray that God would increase our next pastor's passion for preaching the Word of God and would boldly proclaim the truth.

Day 17 - Philippians 1:3-11 — Pray that God would give our next pastor a love for our church and strength to leave their current position. Pray that God would make His will be known to the new pastor and their family.

Day 18 - Colossians 1:9-12 — Pray for our next pastor's family. Of course, the new pastor may be married or single, may have children or not. God knows all of that. Pray that God, who knows who they are, would strengthen and guide the new pastor's family as they are led toward ministry at our church. Give them peace in knowing God's will.

Day 19 - Romans 12:9-13 — Pray that God would prepare our pastor to always have great zeal and passion for serving the Lord in his ministry. Pray for God's strength in his weakness and may be faithful in prayer.

Day 20 - Romans 12:1-2, Ephesians 6:16 — Pray for the future pastor and family to have absolute certainty in their sense of call to our church. They must know God's direction. Pray also for protection from the evil one and for our future pastor and family.

Day 21 - 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 — Pray for God's strength and guidance in the pastor's former church. Pray that those with whom they are currently ministering would trust God's plan in leading them to a new location of ministry.

Day 22 - Amos 4:13 — Pray that the new pastor will have a clear vision for how to minister to the people of the church and the surrounding community. Pray that many will come to know Jesus through our church.

Day 23 - Luke 12:22-31 — Pray that the new pastor and family if one, will be able to smoothly transition to our church. This would include the needs of the spouse and children in making new friends. Also involved would be physical needs such as housing, schooling, etc., that must be settled upon when moving to a new area. Pray that they will feel they have always been with us.

Day 24 - Psalm 133 — Pray that our new pastor would be able to work effectively with the church staff, consistory, committees, and others that are already serving the church.

Day 25 - Joshua 1:8-9 — Pray that God would protect the new pastor's heart as they prepare to leave their current ministry and move to a new ministry. Pray that the stresses of moving, meeting new people, maintaining relationships, etc., would not interfere with their need to continually develop their relationship with God. Pray that God would give them and the family peace knowing they are in God's will.



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Day 26 - Colossians 3:12-17 — Above all, pray that God's will would be done through the entire process of finding a new pastor. Pray that the Holy Spirit will give everyone involved in this process wisdom and peace. Pray that God will show us whom He is calling.

Day 27 - Romans 10:15, Matthew 28:19-20 — Pray that our pastor will be committed to personal evangelism and the equipping of our congregation to seek the lost.

Day 28 - 1 Corinthians 9:27, Romans 15:18-19 — Pray for a fresh divine anointing on the pastor's ministry as they continues God's work at our church.

Day 29 - Hebrews 13:17 — Pray for our future pastor to faithfully shepherd the church and for members of the church to place themselves willingly and joyfully under their servant leadership.

Day 30 - 2 Timothy 4:1-5 — Pray for our future pastor to faithfully preach the Word of God. Pray the Lord gives the church a hunger for the Word of God and receptivity to the sermons that are preached by the new pastor.

Daily Prayers for the Pastor Search Committee:

Day 31 - Psalm 66:18-19, John 15:5, Ephesians 5:18 — Pray for deep spiritual cleansing and fullness of the Holy Spirit in each committee member.

Day 32 - Colossians 1:9 — Pray for God to fill the committee with knowledge of His will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding, and for strength.

Day 33 - Amos 3:3, Matthew 18:19, Ephesians 4:2-3 — Pray for powerful unity and oneness in spirit within the committee and congregation.

Day 34 - Isaiah 55:8-9 — Pray for God's clear direction in how resumes are examined, and interviews conducted. Ask God to bring the right person to the attention of the committee.



Day 35 - 1 Corinthians 2:10-16 — Pray for the committee to have God's wisdom in all the questions and information they share with the prospective pastor. Spirit-led thoroughness is essential.

Day 36 - James 1:5-6 — Pray for the committee to have wisdom and discernment as to the unique characteristics and traits most needed for our church in a pastor.

Day 37 - Ephesians 5:17 — Pray for the committee to have no timetable, but God's. They must be determined to find God's perfect will in God's perfect time.

Day 38 - Ephesians 6:10-12 — Pray for the prevention of Satan's influence in misleading or rushing the committee (one of Satan's tactics is deception). Pray for a powerful hedge of protection around the committee and their families.

Day 39 - 1 Corinthians 1:10, Acts 2:1 — Pray for God's guidance in how the future pastor is presented to the church. Pray that there would be no division among the committee or the congregation – only unity.

Day 40 - Philippians 2:3-11 — Pray that the committee will seek God's will for the church above their own desires.

Search Committee:

Darles Vernon

Ken Wolken

Toni Kueffer

Morgan Opie

Larry Rohrbach

Tammy Kilmer

Steven Burger



California United Church of Christ

January 12, 2026 – Consistory Meeting Highlights

The January meeting of the United Church of Christ of California was called to order at 6:03pm and opened with thoughtful prayer by Rev. Lina Eddy. A quorum was established with Jim Deeken, Jay Bestgen, Holly Bieri, Larry Schoeneberg, Carole Barbour, Kris Ingram, Anny Roll and Ellen Ash present. Reverend Lina Eddy was also present for the meeting.

Treasurer, Ellen Ash presented the Treasurer's Report and the Stewardship Snapshot Report. The balance brought forward in the General Fund was \$33,495.03. There were \$30,299.36 in receipts and \$31,359.29 in disbursements leaving a balance of \$32,435.10. There were two checks noted: Check #16931 to Michael Butterworth in the amount of \$520 for piano tuning. Check #16937 to Insurance Board in the amount of \$5,671.75 for the first quarter insurance payment. The appreciation gifts were also included in the check detail for the month of December.

Financial Secretary, Larry Schoeneberg presented the Financial Secretary Report. December income year-to-date for 2025 was \$251,839.56 compared to December income year-to-date for 2024 which was \$301,610.01. December expenses year-to-date for 2025 were \$298,275.67 compared to December expenses year-to-date for 2024 which were \$283,096.57.

Larry Schoeneberg also gave an update on current CD activity. The Kaiser Scholarship matured on January 2, 2026 and was reinvested for 12 months at a rate of 3.55%. The Sperber Scholarship also matured on January 7, 2026 and was reinvested for 12 months at a rate of 3.55%.

For Correspondence there were thank you notes received for appreciation gifts from Rhonda, Stacy, Cinda, and Mary. Thank you notes were also received from Nathan Riley and Renita Purnell for the help the church has provided to them. An invitation was received from The California Chamber of Commerce for the Annual Dinner on January 24th.

Rev. Lina Eddy provided the group with her sermon series ideas for Lent. She will be featuring an "I Am" series. Lina Eddy also agreed to handle the Ministerial Alliance duties on behalf of the California UCC. Rev. Eddy is currently taking an online UCC course.

Committee Reports

Building and Grounds/Safe Church – Jay Bestgen, Jim Deeken, and Kris Ingram

Stain Glass Window Project – Brady's Window and Glass continues to work on the window improvements. They should finish up sometime in February.

Fellowship Hall Leak - A leak was discovered on the north wall in Fellowship Hall. The boiler will need to be taken down to repair it. Repairs will be made soon.

Magnetic Door Sensors - There has been an issue with the magnetic door sensors energizing correctly. The roof top units will be checked to see if the issue is there and if the units need to be replaced.

Stewardship – Larry Schoeneberg

Steven Burger will conclude his service on the Stewardship Committee and Larry Rohrbach will begin his service. It was suggested that only one Consistory Member be appointed to the committee with an additional congregational member added to the committee.

Old Business

Sound Booth- Emma Kissick and Khloe Mortenson continue to train with Ronnie and are doing a wonderful job. Jess Medlin also plans to be trained.

Custodial Contract – Contract has been completed and is waiting to be signed.

Exit Interview – Carole Barbour will contact Rick to get the exit interview scheduled.

New Business

Church Membership – Discussion was had about putting together a New Member Class for individuals who are interested in joining the church. Rev. Lina Eddy agreed to lead a 2-3 session class for new members. We will also plan a new member lunch prior to the new member classes starting.

Annual Meeting – January 25th – The Youth Groups will provide the meal during the annual meeting. Middle School and Senior High Youth Groups will split the proceeds.

Reorganization Meeting will follow the Annual Meeting.

Offering Boxes for 2027 – The group agreed that it would be appropriate to go ahead and order 100 boxes again for 2027.

Communications Committee – At the Annual Meeting the Consistory will present the congregation with a new communication committee and seek volunteers to increase the presence on social media to attract younger members and to keep them informed of events at the church.

Upcoming Communion Dates

February 18th – Ash Wednesday

March 1st – 1st Sunday of the Month

April 2nd – Maundy Thursday

April 5th – Easter Sunday & 1st Sunday of the Month

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13pm.

The Lord's Prayer

The meeting was concluded with The Lord's Prayer prayed in unison.



Stewardship Snapshot

	<u>December 2025</u>	<u>December 2024</u>
General Fund		
Balance Brought Forward	\$ 33,495.03	\$ 51,164.35
Receipts	+ 30,299.36	+ 38,597.57
Disbursements	<u>- 31,359.29</u>	<u>- 35,403.88</u>
Balance – <i>December 31</i>	\$ 32,435.10	\$ 54,358.04
 <u>As of December 31, 2025</u>		
Building Fund Balance	\$ 100,090.52	\$ 105,337.45
Local Benevolence Fund	\$ 10,049.49	\$ 9,541.58
Memorial Fund Balance	\$ 20,549.42	\$ 18,854.57
Schnuck Endowment Checking**	\$ 27,710.64	*\$ 13,039.67
Scholarship Fund Balance	\$ 14,785.63	\$ 15,096.40
Youth Fellowship Fund	\$ 12,012.41	\$ 3,786.86
 Total OCWM Received	 \$ 2,210.00	 \$ 2,961.76
Other Benevolent Offerings	\$ 13,746.26	\$ 16,762.27

Note on 2025 Snapshot regarding Schnuck Endowment

***The C. Schnuck Endowment Checking Fund balance of \$27,710.64 includes \$166.49 that is part of the original restricted gift and is unable to be expended. \$27,544.15 of the fund balance may be expended.*

Note on 2024 Snapshot regarding Schnuck Endowment

**The C. Schnuck Endowment Checking Fund balance of \$13,039.67 includes \$166.49 that is part of the original restricted gift and is unable to be expended. \$12,873.18 of the fund balance may be expended.*

Special Benevolence— February

Local Benevolence Fund

The **Local Benevolence Fund** is used to assist our church members and those in the community with special needs for temporary assistance. Such assistance might be for those who have suffered from a serious illness, accident or loss from a fire or other family crisis. The minister directs the spending of these funds in consultation with the Consistory. Please consider contributing to this worthy cause for our local church and community.



Food Pantry Items Needed

Each month the Food Pantry is requesting a different food item. For the **month of February, Soup** is the food item requested. There is a box in the downstairs foyer at California UCC to place your food items.

Dear Members UCC,

I would like to thank all UCC members for my 90th Birthday cards for my 90th Birthday. They were so special. UCC has always had a special place in my heart.

God Bless Always, Paula Selk



January 5, 2026 Sunday School Teachers & Officers Meeting

Austin Chambers called the meeting to order at 6:30PM. The meeting began with a prayer led by Austin. Those present were Austin Chambers, Brittney Medlin, Cressida Gattermeir, Carole Barbour, Lauren Lawson, Peggy Liebi, and Kayla Baker.

Austin made a motion to approve the December 2025 meeting minutes. Cressida seconded the motion. Motion passed. Lauren motioned to approve the December 2025 Treasurer's report. Carole seconded motion. Motion passed. We will continue to keep an eye on expenses.

2025 Annual meeting treasurer's report- is down 2,000 dollars from last year. Carole motioned to approve the 2025 Annual Meeting Treasurer's Report. Lauren seconded. Motion passed.

Signature cards for Brittney and Kayla

Our January Benevolence is the Samaritan Center. The Samaritan Center is a home-town charity serving those in need locally without discrimination. This center ministers to those in need with a welcoming hand offered with dignity and allows the person in need to cope and pass through a difficult time and ministers to those in need by demonstrating that God relieves their pain and transforms lives. Austin called for discussion for any changes to be made to the 2026 monthly benevolence schedule. Discussion was had to possibly change the month of July benevolence to the Food Market Program at California Elementary. More research will be done on this to ensure any potential new organizations do not conflict with organizations in which the church already has relationship. Cressida made a motion. Motion passed.

Sunday School Officers for 2026

Superintendents: 1st Austin Chambers, 2nd Brittney Medlin, 3rd Kayla Baker

Treasurer: Cinda Scheidt

Secretary: Kayla Baker

Recorders: Tony Barry, Doug Dampf, and Kent Howard

Cradle Roll Coordinator: Gerri Howard

Carole made a motion to approve officers for 2026. Brittney seconded. Motion passed.

Discussion was had about the High school class, as the Ingram's would like to step down. We would like to keep this class going if at all possible. More discussion was had about potential candidates to take over this class.

Also, discussion was had about reaching out to parents who would be willing to fill in for Sunday school classes or potentially coming up with a sub list for classes so teachers are able to have a break.

Key Dates for 2026

Veggie Tales' event in January – TBD?

February 22, 2026- Family Game Night/Soup and Chili Cook-off

Palm Sunday- March 29th

Camp Schedule TBD- Cinda will coordinate for 2026? Carole to promote during SS and church

Bible School date TBD – Meeting in January?

Rally Sunday- August ?

Sunday School Fall party- Set for October 11th at Sweet Water

Giving Tree- Sunday, November 29th (1st Sunday of Advent)

Christmas Eve Program is Thursday December 24th, 2026- Committee will be organized for this

Cookies and Carols- December 13th or 20th

Teachers and Officers meetings will be held the 1st Monday of the month except for Labor Day in which the meeting will be held on September 7th.

Special music for openings: God singers, Brandon Embry (second week of every month), others?

Sunday School Opening Schedule

Austin- January, April, July and October

Brittney- February, May, August and November

Kayla- March, June, September and December

Old Business:

Christmas Eve program- A lot of good compliments on this!

New Business:

Discussion was had about ROK on Wednesdays. We will need new volunteers for 2026 as Amy and Kendra would like to step down.

Discussion was had on a new potential class for the age group of 20-30 year olds.

Books and curriculum are ready to be used at the church. More discussion on this to come

Cressida made a motion to adjourn, Carole seconded, meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Kayla Baker, 3rd Superintendent.

United Church of Christ

Sunday

Monday

1

Annual Meeting and Youth
Chili/Soup lunch

2



6:30 PM Sunday School Teacher
and Officer Meeting

3

9:00 A

8

R.O. K. Sunday

9

6:00 PM Consistory

10

9:00 A

15

16



17

9:00 A

22

23

7:00 PM Men's Brotherhood

24

9:00 A

~~February 2016~~

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	
M Prayer Cell	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 PM Wed. Night Meal 6:30 PM R.O.K./God's Singers/Bell Choir 7:30 PM Sr. Choir</p>	5	6
M Prayer Cell	<p style="text-align: center;">11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 PM Wed. Night Meal 6:30 PM R.O.K./God's Singers/Bell Choir 7:30 PM Sr. Choir</p>	12	13
M Prayer Cell	<p style="text-align: center;">18</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1:00 PM Women's Guild 5:45 PM Wed. Night Meal 6:20 PM Bell Choir/God's Singers 7:00 PM Ash Wed. Service 8:00 PM Sr. Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">19</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>	20
M Prayer Cell	<p style="text-align: center;">25</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5:45 PM Wed. Night Meal 6:20 PM Bell Choir/God's Singers 7:00 PM Lenten Service 8:00 PM Sr. Choir</p>	26	27



EMERGENCY PLAN

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST OF CALIFORNIA FIRE AND EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCESS

1. In the event of a fire or other emergency evacuation, infants and toddlers in the church nursery will be taken by the nursery attendant, nursery volunteer, and designated Consistory usher member to the south parking lot between the United Church of Christ of California and the United Methodist Church. Parents of the nursery children should meet their children in this parking lot.
2. If the nursery is being used for special events, the nursery attendant(s) will take the children to the south parking lot between the United Church of Christ of California and the United Methodist Church. Parents of the nursery children should meet their children in this parking lot.
3. In the event of an emergency evacuation, all other children who are not with their parents, and not in the nursery, will be escorted out of the building by the volunteers or church staff who are currently in charge of them. They will be escorted to the south parking lot between the United Church of Christ of California and the United Methodist Church. Parents of the children should meet their children in this parking lot.
4. All others in the church facility need to leave in an orderly fashion and gather in the south parking lot between the United Church of Christ of California and the United Methodist Church.
5. If an individual is in a wheelchair and they are not on the main floor in the case of an emergency evacuation, **DO NOT USE** the elevator. All adults in the area who are capable of moving the individual and wheelchair outside or to the main floor need to assist immediately.

TORNADO SIREN PROCEDURE

The following areas have been designated as places to go in the case of a tornado siren. All individuals who are physically able should kneel down with their faces looking at the floor and their arms over their heads.

- *Friendship Hall bathrooms and the hallway between the bathrooms.
- *Sunday School classroom next to ball closet in Friendship Hall.
- *Ball Closets on the east end of Friendship Hall.
- *Storage room on the north wall of Friendship Hall.
- *Hallway between the library and the meeting room.
- *Hallway between the church offices and the Friendship Hall bathrooms.
- *Hallway off the foyer that leads to Fellowship Hall
- *Library
- *Sound Room in the Friendship Hall
- *North wall in the Fellowship Hall

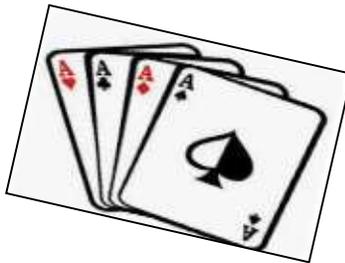
*All individuals should stay in these places until the
"All Clear" siren is sounded.*



Sunday R.O.K. (Reaching Our Kids)

Sunday R.O.K. takes place the **second Sunday of each month** after children's time until the end of the worship service. All kids are invited to come down to the Fellowship Hall with Ronda Mortenson. You can pick up your child in the Fellowship Hall at the end of the worship service.

Sunday School is sponsoring



When: Sunday, February 22, 2026
Come Join the Fun!

UCC Brotherhood Minutes

Monday January 26, 2026

Refreshments – Lashley and Larry Rohrbach provided Pizza to begin the meeting, and the Doxology was sung as a blessing over the meal.

Following the meal, President Larry Rohrbach called the business meeting to order at 7:38 PM. Nineteen members and guests braved the frosty weather. Thanks to Lanny Ash and Ted Beuker for their excellent work clearing the snow from the church parking lot and walks.

Treasurer Tony Barry reported that the Brotherhood account balance was at \$2,738.22 at the September 2025 meeting, and \$182 in offering was collected. The current account balance is \$2,668.24 after purchasing fish for Vacation Bible School fish fry and for the Inmate Ministry at a cost of \$251.98.

A \$50 donation was received from Dorothy Kirchoff in memory her late husband Roger.

Correspondence included fundraising literature from Hope for Caribbean Kids, the Central Missouri Food Bank, and The Salvation Army. A brief discussion was held regarding the church's outdoor Christmas decorations, which are 35 years old and are beginning to show some wear and tear. It was decided that while they are still in reasonably good condition, replacing the colored fabric should be explored before they become too worn.

The Brotherhood Christmas caroling in December was discussed. The event was considered a success with a great turnout and excellent food afterward. A thank you note with a handwritten note from each resident of Bristol Manor for their caroling visit was circulated.

Possible future programs were discussed, which included a representative from Camp Aurora, the church's graduating high school seniors (which has become an annual favorite), Brandon Embry speaking on the California Fire Department, a representative of Room at the Inn (a homeless shelter in Jefferson City), and Missouri Attorney General Catherine Hanaway. A presentation given at the Moniteau County Historical Society on a historic mill being moved from Cotton, MO to Booneville was also mentioned.

Steven Burger volunteered to give the devotion for the February meeting. A volunteer for refreshments will be found at a later date.

The business meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Following the business meeting, Past President Rohrbach gave a devotion on persistence as mentioned in Galatians 6:9 "And let us not grow weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap if we faint not." Remembering the patience required to grow a crop of clover and encouraging us to "faint not".

Brotherhood continued next page...

Program – Church member Becky Schneider spoke on her work in clinical research at the University of Missouri. She has worked for the University for 20 years and has spent the last 15 in the Department of Otolaryngology and Head and Neck Research. In her department, she helps conduct clinical research, mainly for pharmaceuticals. Clinical research changes quickly and takes many twists and turns along the way. One example is GLP-1 class medications, which are currently getting a lot of attention as weight-loss aids, but have been known for 30 years as diabetes medications. The majority of drugs Becky studies are biologics – antibodies that specifically target diseases while leaving healthy organs and tissue undisturbed.

There are 3 phases of clinical research. Phase 1 involves small numbers of subjects (~20 per study) and looks mainly at the safety of the medication. Phase 2 looks at larger numbers of subjects (~100 to 200) and studies efficacy and absorption and metabolism the medication (also known as “pharmacokinetics”) as well as safety. Phase 3 looks at large numbers of subjects (hundreds to thousands), and these studies are used to prove safety and efficacy to the US FDA and other worldwide regulatory agencies. Most clinical studies must be conducted both to the standards of the US FDA to those of Europe, which can sometimes be very different. Becky’s department mainly conducts Phase 2 and some Phase 3 studies and is currently working on studies in nasal polyps and perennial (year-round) allergies.

There are a number of myths around clinical research that Becky would like to bust:

Clinical study subjects are not “lab rats”. The medications being tested in humans have already undergone extensive laboratory and animal testing and have been cleared by regulatory agencies and ethics committees as safe to test in humans.

Most medications do not cause nearly as many side effects as the public is led to believe in advertising. The side effects described often only occur in a handful of study subjects, and commonly occur in less than 1 in 1000.

Subjects in clinical studies often actually receive better care than they would receive with their own doctor. The health of study subjects is very closely monitored and they receive treatment that they may not get with their regular doctor.

Becky would like to encourage anyone who has the opportunity to be involved in clinical studies to do so. They give the opportunity to receive ground-breaking new medications that may work better and more safely and advance scientific discovery.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted – Dave Gattermeir, Secretary





California UCC Women's Guild January 21, 2026 Minutes

The January meeting of the UCC Women's Guild was held on January 21st with 16 members present. Cheryl opened the meeting with a prayer. Carole led the Bible Study featuring the Ten Commandments. We focused on the words from the 1st Commandment. "I am your God; you shall not have any others." The Ten Commandments are a marriage contract between God and us. We are to honor it. Also the statement from Jesus that "the greatest commandment is to love God and our neighbor."

Laura gave a devotion titled "Everyday Gifts". Those are gentleness and kindness. When we have these qualities, they ripple like a pebble in water to spread goodness.

Our benevolence opportunities for January are Moniteau Christian Ministries Center-Food Pantry, Gideons, and the Samaritan Center.

Motion was made by Linda and seconded by Brenda to approve the Secretary minutes.

Lexi motioned to accept the financial report, which was seconded by Phyllis. Both motions passed.

Committee # 1 is up for the next Celebration of Life dinner.

Mary reported that we have 665 Best Choice Labels collected so far. Keep saving those labels!!

Judy reported sending out 26 cards. More cards were signed for sending out in February. Keep signing your name!

New Business

We had discussions on World Day of Prayer which will be held on March 6th. The program will center on Nigeria this year. Volunteers requested help with food, decorations, registration, and promotion. We will be sending invites to area churches and ministers through the Ministerial Alliance to encourage participation.

Carla gave an update on Conference happenings. A website is being launched so there will be more communication between members.

Birthdays this month were Brenda and Darles. We welcomed a new member to our Guild...Roberta! Welcome!

Lexi gave a closing prayer. A social time was enjoyed by the group. Hostesses for this month were Ronda and Judy.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Burger, Secretary

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER-Nigeria

At California UCC

Friday, March 6, 2026 ~ 1:00 p.m.

All women of the church are invited!

“I will give you rest, come”



FEBRUARY

Lay Readers

- 1 Carole Barbour
- 8 Becky Schneider
- 15 Susan Burger
- 22 Kris Ingram

Acolytes

- 1 Amelia Howard & Max Robertson
- 8 Camden & Sutton Lawson
- 15 Nora Wolford & Lee Bieri
- 22 Sophie & Bruce Miller



Children's Time

- 1 Holly Bieri
- 8 JoAnn Cantriel
- 15 Ginnie Medlin
- 22 The Puppets

Nursery Attendant

Emma Bestgen

February Choirs

- 1 Sr. Choir
- 8 Sr. Choir
- 15 Bell Choir
- 18 Sr. Choir –Ash Wed.
- 22 God's Singers
- 25 Special Music





2026 R.O.K. / GOD'S SINGERS SCHEDULE

February 4th: R.O.K. / God's Singers at 6:30

February 11th: R.O.K. / God's Singers at 6:30

February 18th: NO R.O.K. / God's Singers at 6:20

February 22nd: Sing in Worship

February 25th: NO R.O.K. / God's Singers at 6:20

GOD'S SINGERS ONLY SPRING SCHEDULE

March 4th: God's Singers 6:20 to 6:45 pm

March 11th: God's Singers 6:20 to 6:45 pm

March 18th: God's Singers 6:20 to 6:45 pm

March 29th: Sing in Worship

April 1st: God's Singers 6:20 to 6:45 pm

April 8th: God's Singers 6:20 to 6:45 pm

April 15th: God's Singers 6:20 to 6:45 pm

April 22nd: God's Singers 6:20 to 6:45 pm

April 26th ***Sing in Worship***

May 6th God's Singers 6:20 p.m.

May 10th Mother's Day: Sing in Worship



*“Blessed are the pure
in heart,
for they shall see
God.”*

~ Matthew 5:8

*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 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



www.calmo-ucc.org



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



MONITEAU 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

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 & search



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

01 Abby Spieler
01 Hattie Mouse
02 Judy Barbour
02 Dennis Hall
02 Lexi Hall
02 Janie Howard
02 Stephen Stauffer
02 Harvey Kilmer
03 Caleb Howard
03 Martin Kilmer
04 Kelly Bueker
04 Austin Chambers
05 Johnny Miller
06 Bill Hess
07 Chris Peters
09 Avery Bolinger
09 Sarah Troutman
09 Martha Decker
09 Mary Beth Deeken
10 Brett Adams
10 Kenny Howard
10 Kylee Rowles
11 Bradley Connelly
11 Ernie Pearson
11 Shane Baker
11 Robert Zuidervaart
12 Beth Rohrbach
14 Adam Brockes
14 Kyler Simmons

15 Kris Bieri
15 Allison Kruger
15 Randy Pruitt
15 Cash Murphy
16 Conner Brockes
16 Myles Ratcliff
17 Callan Troutman
18 Maggie Morris
18 Taylor Ratcliff
19 Kendra Hall
21 Kenny Bryant
21 Matthew Gerhart
22 Isaac Ash
22 Jackson Cassil

24 Katie Schlup
26 Alissa Kendrick
27 Lisa Clutter
27 Lennon Lawson
28 Alec Ramsdell



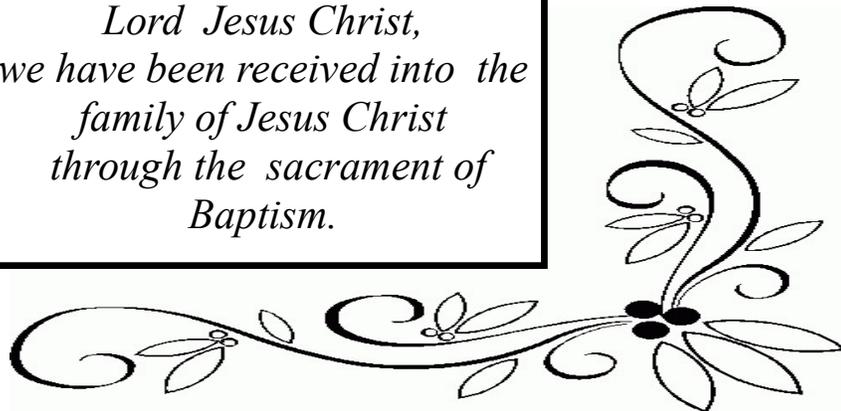
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

February Baptisms

Brooke Bell – Feb. 28, 1982
Kaleb Borghardt – Feb. 28, 2007
Ruth Brizendine – Feb. 25, 1940
Garrett Burger – Feb. 16, 2003
Luke Burger – Feb. 11, 1996
Jimmy Ford – Feb. 17, 1971
Brad Friedrich – Feb. 29, 1976
Courtland Gerhart – Feb. 19, 2006
Travis Gerlach – Feb. 24, 1992
Lincoln Gratz – Feb. 11, 2024
Javan Grover – Feb. 8, 1987

Jessica Hayes – Feb. 20, 2002
Andrea Lutz – Feb. 4, 1988
Ginnie Medlin – Feb. 10, 1989
Trisha Meisenheimer – Feb. 24, 1992
Kaitlyn Mouse – Feb. 27, 1994
Brooks Nichols – Feb. 4, 2024
Dylan Ratcliff – Feb. 22, 1998
Larry Rohrbach – Feb. 2, 1947
Lauren Schlup – Feb. 12, 2017
Quinten Wilson – Feb. 13, 1994

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



The Tidings

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST OF CALIFORNIA

101 N. Oak Street, California, MO 65018

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Rhonda Elliott, Office Manager rhonda@calmo-ucc.org

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. & 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. M-Th
Friday-closed at 1:00 pm.

WEBSITE: calmo-ucc.org

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