

# *The Tidings*

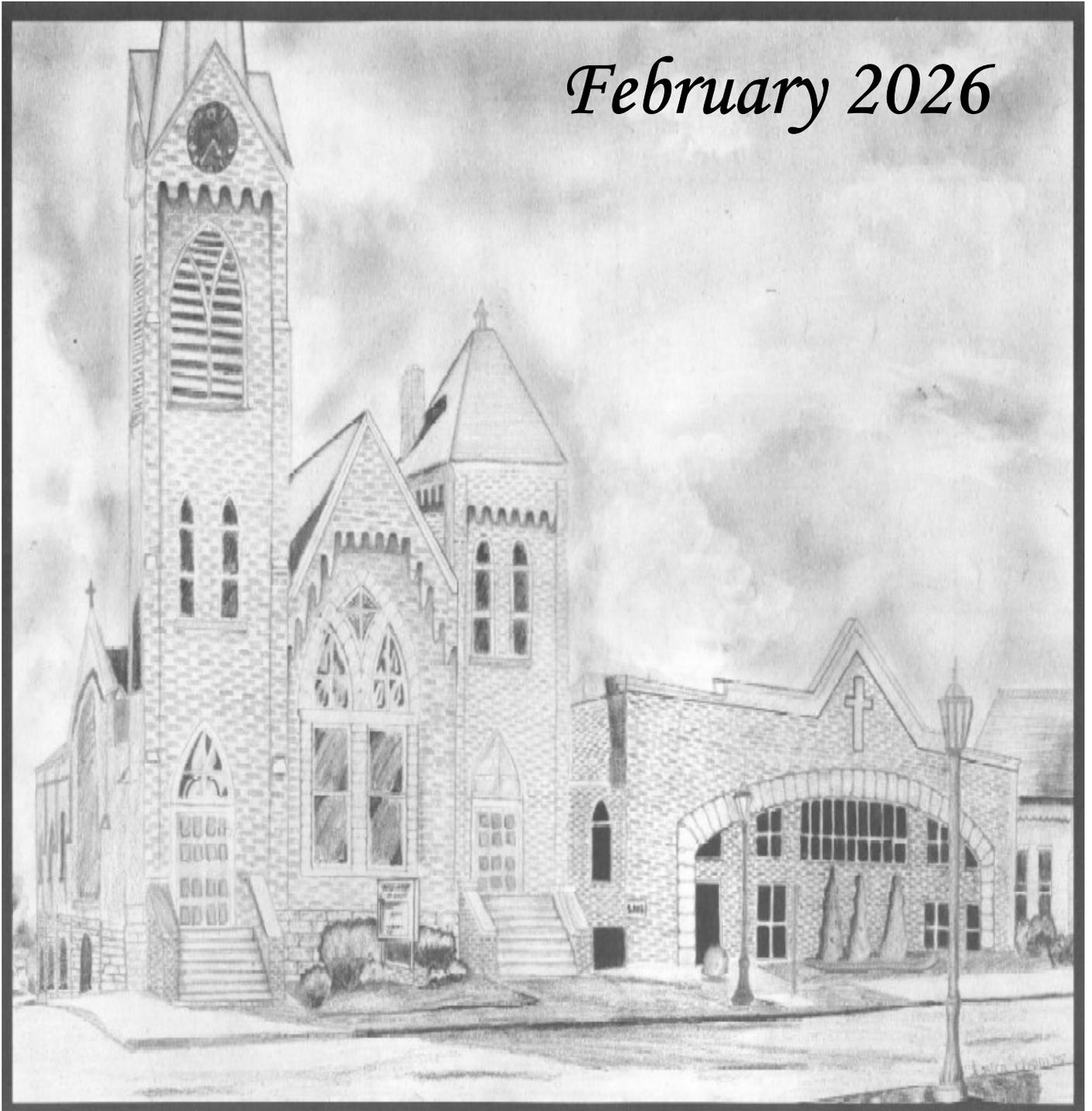
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*\*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, Kris Ingram, Anny Roll and Ellen Ash present. Reverend Lina Eddy presided over the meeting.

Treasurer, Ellen Ash presented the Treasurer's Report. The balance brought forward in the General Fund was \$30,299.36 in receipts and \$31,359.29 in disbursements. 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 \$298,275.67 compared to December 2024 which was \$283,096.57. Member income year-to-date for 2025 which were \$298,275.67 compared to December 2024 which were \$283,096.57.

Larry Schoeneberg also gave an update on the Sperber Scholarship which matured on January 2, 2026 and was awarded to a student at a rate of 3.55%. The Sperber Scholarship also matured 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 24<sup>th</sup>.

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 25<sup>th</sup> – 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 18<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday

March 1<sup>st</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month

April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Maundy Thursday

April 5<sup>th</sup> – Easter Sunday & 1<sup>st</sup> 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.	
Disbursements	<u>- 31,359.</u>	
Balance – December 31	\$ 32,435.	

## As of December 31, 2025

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		
Youth Fellowship Fund		

Total OCWM Received  
Other Benevolent Offerings



### **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, 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 report. Lauren seconded the motion. Motion passed. Lauren made a motion 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 Lauren.

Our January Benevolence is the first of the month. It is a home-center and allows us to reach out to those in need by demonstrating that God is with us. 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: 1<sup>st</sup> Austin Chambers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brittney Medlin, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. We would like to keep this closed. Discussion was had about potential candidates to



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 29<sup>th</sup>

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 11<sup>th</sup> at Sweet Water

Giving Tree- Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent)

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

Cookies and Carols- December 13<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup>

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

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, 3<sup>rd</sup> Superintendent.

United Church of Christ

Sunday	Monday	
<p>1</p> <p>Annual Meeting and Youth Chili/Soup lunch</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>6:30 PM Sunday School Teacher and Officer Meeting</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00 A</p>
<p>8</p> <p>R.O. K. Sunday</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:00 PM Consistory</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:00 A</p>
<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>  <p>PRESIDENTS DAY</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:00 A</p>
<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00 PM Men's Brotherhood</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00 A</p>



~~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 education, all children will be taken to the south parking lot between the United Church 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 should be escorted to the south parking lot between the United Church of California and the United Methodist Church.
5. If an individual is in a wheelchair, **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.

Appreciation Strategy  
 Commitment Responsibility  
**Leadership**  
 Integrity Honest Communication  
 Values Purpose Determination

### 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*

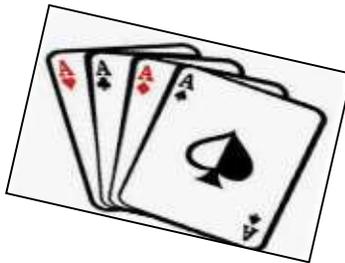
**"All Clear" siren is sounded.**



## 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 21<sup>st</sup> with 16 members present. The meeting began with a prayer. Carole led the reading of the Ten Commandments. We focused on the first Commandment. "I am your God; you shall not have other gods before me." 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 "Gentleness and kindness ripple like a pebble in water." Our benevolence opportunities include the Christian Ministries Center, the Samaritan Center, 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 6<sup>th</sup>. 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 Duggan

## Acolytes

- 1 Amelia Howard & Max Roberts
- 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





## **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 25th: 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 Alcho  
Annunciation (C  
on Mondays at 8 p.*

Appreciation Strategy Hi  
Commitment Responsibility  
**Leadership**  
Integrity Honest Communication 2271.  
Values Purpose Determination

## **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 [unclear] know if you are interested in worship service. (796-4885)**



## Notes & News

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



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



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



### 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

### 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



# 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 Kr  
15 Randy Pri  
15 Cash Mur  
16 Conner B  
16 Myles Ratcliff  
17 Callan Troutman  
18 Maggie Morris  
18 Taylor Ratcliff  
19 Kendra Hall  
28 Alec Ramsdell

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**Leadership**  
Honest Communication  
Values Purpose Determination

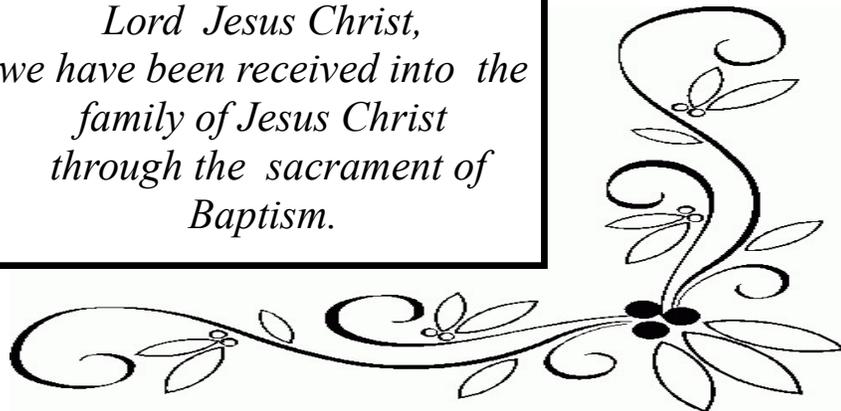


# February Baptisms

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

(573)796-4885 Church Office      (573)796-3804 Pastor's Study

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

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Friday-closed at 1:00 pm.

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

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