

# *The Tidings*

*April 2026*



## **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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

101 N. Oak, California, MO 65018

Phone: 573-796-4885



# Pastoral Search Com *Updates*

## *Update from Your Pastor Search Committee*

*March 20, 2026*

*Your Pastor Search Committee continues to work prayerfully and diligently as we seek the right pastor for our congregation. We have received several applications through the Conference, as well as from other websites where our pastoral opening has been posted.*

*As we review these applications, we are carefully considering the valuable feedback and priorities shared through the congregational surveys. We understand that no single candidate will reflect every hope expressed, but we are doing our best to discern a pastor who is a strong fit for the needs, values, and ministry of our church.*

*We ask that you continue to keep this process in your prayers, trusting that God will lead us to the person who is well-suited to serve alongside our congregation in the next chapter of our life together.*

Dear Friends,

Blessings to you on this most scared of Holy weeks in the church year. There have been times, that as part of our journey we would begin by reading the Passion story on Psalm Sunday, and that would set the stage for the week of that was to come. If you would like to read the Passion story you can find it: Matthew 26-27, Mark 14-15, Luke 22-23, and John 18-19. The congregation that I was with, I would read the whole Passion story on Psalm Sunday. We would hear the story as we are walking the journey that Christ experienced. The week started with Psalm Sunday and the celebration, the waving of the psalms, and continue thru the whole story of the crucifixion and resurrection. This is a week of ups and downs, and of joys and sorrows. I invite you to join the journey with Christ. I invite you to spend some time in prayer with him, some time in conversation with Him, just some time in his presence.

My hope is that this season of Lent has not been a season of just giving something up, like broccoli or chocolate. My prayer is that during these 40 days of lent you spent some time turning around and changing something, that you changed something spiritually in your life, read your Bible 10 minutes more a day, or prayed 10 minutes more a day it really won't hurt. In fact, it will help center you even more.

Finally, my dear friend and sociology professor Dr. Anthony Campolo, would preach a sermon to teenagers that was so profound to listen to what he would say, "You have to make it through the Fridays to experience the Sundays. Make it through the Friday with me so we can celebrate the Sunday." He use to say the Friday's won't be easy in fact they will be hard, and they will hurt, but if you walk through the Friday's in your life you will celebrate even more the Sunday's in your life.

A Blessed Easter to You All,

*Pastor Lina Eddy*



# California United Church of Christ

## March 9, 2026 – Consistory Meeting Highlights

The March Meeting was called to order at 6:04pm by President Jim Deeken. A quorum was established with Jay Bestgen, Jim Deeken, Larry Schoeneberg, Holly Bieri, Doug Dampf, and Tara Mesienheimer present. Anny Roll and Kris Ingram were absent.

Treasurer, Tara Meisenheimer presented the Treasurer's Report and the Stewardship Snapshot Report. The balance brought forward in the General Fund was \$40,227.67. There were \$44,632.20 in receipts and \$22,488.61 in disbursements leaving a balance of \$62,371.26. The Carmen Schnuck Endowment Committee agreed to reimburse the Building Fund for the Stain Glass Window Restoration Project done by Brady's Window and Glass as well as fund any other building projects in the range of \$15,000. A motion was made and seconded to approve the reimbursement for the Stain Glass Window Project from the Carmen Schnuck Endowment. The group will also identify any other building projects in the \$15,000 range for The Carmen Schnuck Endowment to fund.

Financial Secretary, Larry Schoeneberg presented the Financial Secretary Report. The total income YTD was \$60,853.24 compared to the same time last year, which was \$46,183.04. The increase in year-to-date income is due in large part to an increase in church offering. The total expenses YTD was \$31,452.39 compared to the same time last year, which was \$48,753.66. The decrease in year-to-date expenses is due to the lack of a full-time minister.

Larry Schoeneberg also gave an update on current CD activity. There was no current activity.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Building and Grounds/Safe Church – Jay Bestgen, Doug Dampf, and Kris Ingram**

Freezer - The freezer in the gym kitchen, which was purchased by The Brotherhood in 2010, was not working properly. The freezer needs a fan replacement, which will be completed tomorrow (3/10/26) for approximately \$200. The replacement cost for the freezer would be \$2,700 - \$3,000.

Tile at Back Entrance - Jay Bestgen has been in contact with Dutchers regarding the back entrance flooring. There are two options:

Option #1 is a combination of Epoxy Flooring (for only the main entrance walk way) and Tile which would cost approximately \$5,000.

Option #2 would be replacing the current tile at the main entrance in front of the office and towards the gym with all Epoxy Flooring.

Jay will get a firm bid for the Epoxy Flooring (option #2) and start planning the project timeline which would begin after school is out for summer.

Fire Alarm - Brandon Less came to look at the fire alarm system. A new sensor is needed for the system which has been ordered and will be installed.

Gym Lights - Jay will look into replacing the lights (with fans) in the gym to help reduce noise.

### **Memorial Committee – Jim Deeken**

Ellen Ash and Stacy Friedrich are pricing a keyboard for the sanctuary.

The Memorial Committee will look into purchasing a new coffee maker for the kitchen.

### **Old Business**

Church Membership – The New Member Lunch will be advertised in the bulletin and is set for April 19<sup>th</sup>. New Member classes, being led by Rev. Lina Eddy, are scheduled to begin April 26<sup>th</sup>.

Cabinet Meeting – The Cabinet Meeting is scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup> 2-3:30pm. The group will discuss how to keep membership attendance up during our time of transition.

Easter Breakfast – Easter Breakfast will be held following Sunrise Services (7:45/8am)

### **New Business**

Bueker Lawn Mowing Contract – Was approved at the February Meeting and signed by Jim Deeken.

Project Graduation – Tara Meisenheimer made a motion to match the donation made last year, up to \$200. Jay Bestgen seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Fire Extinguisher Annual Inspection was completed for \$189.88.

Tenebrae Services – The Tenebrae Service will be April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Practice for the service will be held April 1<sup>st</sup> at 7pm with Consistory Members, Rev. Lina Eddy, and the Choir Members present.

Wednesday Evening Meals – There will be no Wednesday Evening Meal on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

2026 Confirmation Class – A motion was made by Larry Schoeneberg to approve Lena Bieri, Megan Carlock, Royce Everett, Logan Milligan, and Meredith Wolford as Members of The California United Church of Christ. The motion was seconded by Tara Meisenheimer and the motion passed.

Jim Deeken will provide the welcome during the Rite of Confirmation on Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.

Senior Scholarship – The group agreed to offer a \$500 scholarship for our Senior Members to apply for. An announcement will be put in the bulletin for Senior Members interested in applying for the Senior Scholarship to pick an application up from Rhonda in the church office.

Preacher Schedule – The group reviewed the preacher schedule for the Sundays following Easter and suggestions were made for possible fill-ins.

Playschool Health Inspection – A health inspection was preformed and found that the base of the toilets in both restrooms needs to be caulked. Jay Bestgen will complete the repairs.

Baseball/Softball Banner – Doug Dampf made a motion to approve \$350 for the renewal and purchase of a new banner. Jay Bestgen seconded the motion and the motion passed.

California Fire Department – Jay Bestgen made a motion to approve the \$400 request from the California Fire Department to purchase educational materials for local youth. Larry Schoeneberg seconded the motion and the motion passed.

**Upcoming Communion Dates** April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Maundy Thursday

April 5<sup>th</sup> – Easter Sunday & 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month – Sunrise: Intinction  
The meeting was adjourned at 8:44pm. The meeting was concluded with The Lord's Prayer prayed in unison.

# Stewardship Snapshot

	<u>February 2026</u>	<u>February 2025</u>
General Fund		
Balance Brought Forward	\$ 40,227.67	\$ 44,193.47
Receipts	+ 44,632.20	+ 35,673.36
Disbursements	<u>- 22,488.61</u>	<u>- 28,243.58</u>
Balance – February 28, 2026	\$ 62,371.26	\$ 51,623.25
 <i>As of February 28, 2026</i>		
Building Fund Balance	\$ 114,250.32	\$ 107,342.80
Local Benevolence Fund Balance	\$ 10,049.49	\$ 9,541.58
Memorial Fund Balance	\$ 20,576.40	\$ 18,885.71
Schnuck Endowment Fund	* \$ 28,098.36 **	\$ 14,234.23
Scholarship Fund Balance	\$ 18,613.72	\$ 16,432.29
Youth Fellowship Fund Balance	\$ 12,123.36	\$ 4,216.69
Total OCWM Received	\$ 300.00	\$ 340.00
Other Benevolent Offerings	\$ 3,244.25	\$ 1,208.33

## Note on 2026 Snapshot regarding Schnuck Endowment

*\*The C. Schnuck Endowment Checking Fund balance of \$28,098.36 includes \$166.49 that is part of the original restricted gift and is unable to be expended. \$27,931.87 of the fund balance may be expended.*

## Note on 2025 Snapshot regarding Schnuck Endowment

*\*\*The C. Schnuck Endowment Checking Fund balance of \$14,234.23 includes \$166.49 that is part of the original restricted gift and is unable to be expended. \$14,067.74 of the fund balance may be expended.*

*Special Benevolence— April*

## ***River City Habitat for Humanity***



Our special stewardship offering for April is the River City Habitat for Humanity Chapter in Jefferson City, which is one of over forty affiliates in Missouri. Funds and building materials are donated by individuals, churches, businesses and other organizations. Construction labor and support of the organization is provided by volunteers. Upon completion of a house, a percentage of the cost of each house is sent to Habitat for Humanity International as a tithe to be used to help build houses in another country. No government funds are used to build the houses. *If you would like to contribute to this important mission, make checks payable to the UCC of California and write Habitat for Humanity on the memo line. Thank you for your support.*



## **Camp Aurora**

### **Summer 2026 Dates**

- Senior High Camp (grades 9-12) July 5-11**
- Junior High Camp (grades 6-8) July 12-17**
- Junior Camp (grades 4-5) July 19-24**
- Primary Camp (grades 1-3) July 26-29**

**Sunday School will pay 1/2 of EARLY  
registration Fee for Member and One Friend.**

**Sign up before May 24!**

*Easter Envelope (found in your offering envelope box)*

### **Emmaus Homes - Easter Sunday Benevolence**

Emmaus Homes was founded in 1893 in Marthasville, Missouri, by our antecedent denomination (The Evangelical Synod) when they decided to use their vacated seminary buildings to serve individuals with developmental disabilities. As a reflection of their Christian faith, the founders of Emmaus attempted to care for those in need, while recognizing each person's worth and unique qualities and by creating a spirit of community. In 1901, Emmaus opened its St Charles campus to meet the vast need for services to people with developmental disabilities closer to St. Louis. Today, while some individuals still reside on the Emmaus campuses, many now live in homes in the community. Emmaus serves clients in nearly 50 homes throughout the St. Charles, St. Louis, Warren and Franklin counties and St. Louis City. Emmaus works with each client to help them live as independently as possible.

Arising from faith in Jesus Christ, the mission of Emmaus Homes is to enhance the quality of life for adults of all beliefs who have cognitive, intellectual, and other developmental disabilities. The individual's mental, physical, and social abilities are assessed to determine the living situation best suited to their needs, including on campus housing, group homes and individual supported living residences. Some homes have 24-hour supervision, while others provide part-time supervision and assistance.

At Emmaus, an individual's spiritual life is an important part of one's journey to fulfillment and independence. Emmaus takes pride in their faith-based heritage, and strives to help each of their clients participate in the faith community of their choice. Ordained ministers and seminary students help guide and encourage their clients of all beliefs in their spiritual pursuits. A variety of spiritual care services are provided to clients, family members, and staff.



## UCC Women's Guild Meeting ~ March 18, 2026

The March meeting of the UCC Women's Guild was held on March 18th 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 4th Commandment. "Honor the Sabbath". The Sabbath is a gift to us to re-focus our attentions on God and rest in our lives.

Judy gave a devotion reminding us to read God's word to keep our hearts charged up to meet any difficulty that may arise. Our benevolence opportunities for March are World Day of Prayer, UCC Scholarship Fund, and California Nutrition Center.

Motion was made by Laura and seconded by Phyllis to approve the Secretary minutes. Lexi motioned to accept the financial report, which was seconded by Brenda. Both motions passed. Committee # 1 is up for the next Celebration of Life dinner. Mary reported that we have 1060 Best Choice labels. Thank you for saving those labels!

Judy reported sending out 26 cards. More cards were signed for sending out in April. Recipients love receiving these cards, so keep signing!!

A Food Pantry report showed that our congregation gave 87 pounds of soup and crackers during January, and 113 pounds of macaroni and cheese boxes during February. Thank you!!

## Old Business

We had a recap of World Day of Prayer. Sixty-Six persons attended the event, with sixteen churches present. The donations for Nigeria totaled \$1377.

Confirmation reception will be held on March 25<sup>th</sup>. Members are to bring 2 dozen cookies.

Carla gave an update on Conference happenings. The conference has selected Reverend Phil Hodson who has the title of Intentional Interim Conference Minister.

Darles gave an update on the new minister's search. The committee is viewing the church services of prospective ministers.

Barb's birthday was recognized this month.

Lexi gave a closing prayer.

A social time was enjoyed by the group.

Hostesses for this month were Mary Ann and Carmen. They provided Key Lime Pie, Coconut cake, and fresh fruit.

Yummy!!!

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Burger



# Wednesday Night Meals

NO Meal on Wednesday, April 1

Wednesday, April 8th - Taco Dinner hosted by Youth

**Last Wednesday Night Meal for Spring** will be Wednesday, April 15th

## Cabinet Meeting

April 26th at 2:00 pm  
Watch for more details

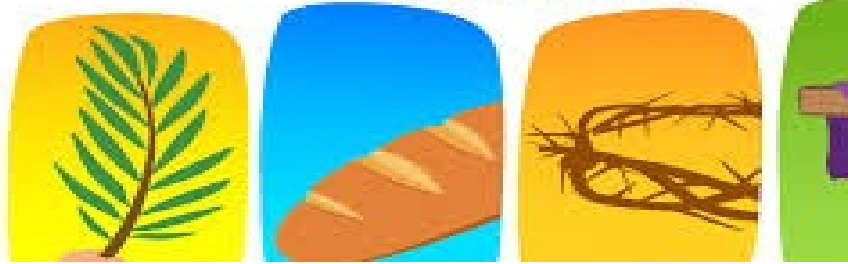


Mark your  
calendar

Middle School Youth— A date will be determined for Activity. Watch for more details.



## HOLY WEEK



### Holy Week Schedule

#### **April 2—Maundy Thursday**

Worship 7 p.m.—Holy Communion

#### **April 3—Good Friday**

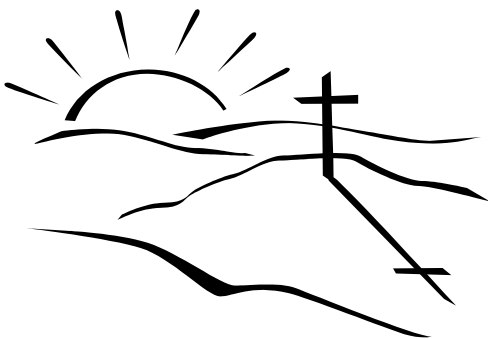
Church Office Closed

#### **April 5—Easter**

Worship 7 a.m.—Holy Communion (Breakfast following)

Worship 8:30 a.m.—Holy Communion at Salem UCC

Worship 10:30 a.m.—Holy Communion




*John 11:25: "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live."*


# United Church of C

Sunday

Monday

## APRIL

<p>5</p> <p>Easter Sunrise at 7 am Breakfast following 10:30 AM Easter Worship</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>6:30 PM Sunday School Teacher and Officer Meeting</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:00</p>
<p>12</p> <p>R.O.K. Sunday Cantata</p>	<p>13</p> <p>6:00 PM Consistory</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:00</p>
<p>19</p> <p>New Member Luncheon after worship Kolten Fulks</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:00</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	
	<p>1</p> <p>NO WED. NIGHT MEAL</p> <p>6:30 PM Bell Choir/God's Singers</p> <p>7:00 PM Tenebrae practice/Sr. Choir</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:00 PM Maundy Thurs. Service</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Go</p> 
<p>11:00 AM Prayer Cell</p> <p>11:00 AM Quilters</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:00 PM Wed. Night Meal</p> <p>6:30 PM Bell Choir/God's Singers</p> <p>7:30 PM Sr. Choir</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11:00 AM Prayer Cell</p>	<p>15</p> <p>1:00 PM Women's Guild</p> <p>6:00 PM Last Wed. Night Meal for Spring</p> <p>6:30 PM Bell Choir/God's Singers</p> <p>7:30 PM Sr. Chdir</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>11:00 AM Prayer Cell</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:30 PM Bell Choir/God's Singers</p> <p>7:30 PM Sr. Choir</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	

## Missouri Mid-South Conference and Western Association Update

The Western Association (WA) will have their Spring meeting on April 18 at Bethel UCC in Concordia. Day will be filled with various service projects around the community. Our Fall meeting will be held on September 19 in Springfield with more information to follow. Kris Ingram will be serving as a representative for the WA Disaster Ministries Team.

**The Missouri Mid-South Conference (MMSM)** will host its highly anticipated Conference Annual Gathering (CAG) at St. John UCC in St. Charles, MO, on November 6th & 7th, 2026. This year's event, themed "**Reclaiming our Connection**", serves as a cornerstone for the United Church of Christ community in the region, bringing together clergy, lay leaders, and members from across Missouri, Memphis, and Arkansas for two days of worship, learning, and connection. CAG will feature a variety of workshops, plenary sessions, and worship services designed to inspire and equip attendees for ministry in their local contexts. The gathering provides an opportunity for participants to engage in meaningful conversations about the future of the church, celebrate milestones, and strengthen relationships within the conference.



On behalf of the Executive Committee, and with the support of the Board of Directors, it is with great excitement and much hope that we announce our selection of the Reverend Phil Hodson as our new Intentional Interim Conference Minister. For more than a year, the Executive Committee has been engaged in a prayerful, grace-filled process to learn more about the needs of our beloved Conference. Phil will begin as our Intentional Interim Conference Minister on June 1, 2026.

You might ask....**Intentional Interim Conference Minister** – Serves for a specific, agreed-upon period, usually 1-2 years, depending on the seriousness of the issues the congregation is facing. May not be considered for the Settle Minister position.

The Executive Committee decided to hire Phil for his strong background in church and conference finance, fundraising, and renewal. In our contacts with him, we found that he has a gifted ability to build relationships and invite conversation. He is a catalyst for visioning. He is energetic and optimistic about the future of the United Church of Christ. We are honored by his decision to join us during our season of growth and discernment.

Phil is husband to Joelle and father to four incredible, energetic boys Xander, Xane, Xackary, and Xavier. Currently resides in West Lafayette, Indiana. He graduated from Purdue University with a degree in Sales Management and from Southern Methodist University's Perkins School of Theology with a Master of Divinity.

Phil is passionate about church growth, made possible by sharing our values in the public square. He is convinced that the gospel is truly good news for all people and that the United Church of Christ is uniquely suited to offer extravagant welcome and creative engagement in the repair of the world in each new generation. Working together with the movement of the Spirit, we can be part of the promise of a "future filled with hope."

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Clennin, Committee on Ministry Lay-person Missouri Mid-South Conference delegate

## 2026 GOD'S SINGERS SPRING SCHEDULE

April 1: God's Singers practice at 6:30 p.m.

April 8: God's Singers practice at 6:30 p.m.

April 12: **Sing in Worship**

April 15: God's Singers practice at 6:30 p.m.

April 26: **Sing in Worship**

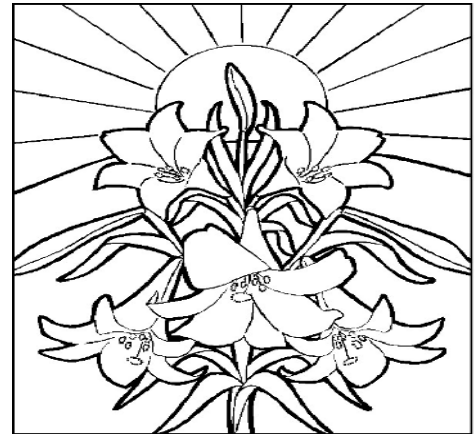
April 29: God's Singers practice at 6:30 p.m.

May 6: God's Singers practice at 6:30 p.m.

**May 10: Mother's Day - Sing in Worship**

“He is not here; he has  
risen, just as he said.”

Matthew 28:5-6



### *Birth*

Margaret Ryan Burger, daughter of  
Luke and Katie Burger was  
born on Thursday, February 26th.  
Congratulations!

# **Sunday School Teachers & Officers Meeting**

## **March 2, 2026**

Austin Chambers called the meeting to order at 6:30PM. Those present were Austin Chambers, Ronda Mortenson, Brittney Medlin, Peggy Liebi, Courtney Cassil, Steven Burger, Carole Barbour, Cressida Gattermeir and Kayla Baker.

Cressida made a motion to approve the February 2026 meeting minutes. Carole seconded the motion. Motion passed. Discussion was had that there is improvement with the Treasurer's report and that we are moving in the right direction. Steven made a motion to approve the February Treasurer's report. Carole seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **Key Dates for 2026**

**Palm Sunday- March 29<sup>th</sup>** -Courtney Cassil will coordinate and acquire the palms to hand out that Sunday.

**Camp schedule-** Camp information is up and we will plan to get that information into the bulletin for the month of April. Cinda will coordinate. Carole to promote during Sunday school and Church.

**Bible School Dates-** June 21st - 25th

More volunteers are needed and a set up schedule will be posted in the near future for those who would like to sign up to help.

**Rally Sunday-** August 30<sup>th</sup>

**Sunday School Fall party-** October 11<sup>th</sup> at Sweet Water (Located on Route O)

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

**Christmas Eve Program-** Thursday December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026—Connie Bestgen and Ellen Ash will organize and coordinate the 2026 Christmas program.

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



## **Old Business:**

Updated Sunday school teachers and officers contact list.

Family Game Night/Chili Cook off- Discussion was had to either advertise more or completely not do it at all and focus primarily on the Fall party and potentially making the Fall party the main event of the year, as a Sunday school event.

## **New Business:**

March ROK- March 15<sup>th</sup>- Holy Week in a Box

April ROK- Crafts

Discussion was had that VanDee Miller has completed two weeks of study for the High School Sunday school class and has five weeks to go. We are still looking for a permanent replacement/teacher when she has finished this 7 week course.

Discussion was had about ROK on Wednesdays. Lisa Milligan has volunteered to help with ROK on Wednesday night's, starting around September for 2026; this is every Wednesday during the school year only. Kirsten Chambers has also decided to help with this.

Discussion was had from Carole Barbour, that the confirmands are continuing to work on their Statement of Faith's and would also potentially like to make a booklet of all the Statement of Faiths for the future. As a whole, this would be a good idea.

Courtney made a motion to adjourn, Cressida seconded, meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Kayla Baker, 3<sup>rd</sup> Superintendent.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL IS IN THE  
MINISTRY OF TRANSFORMING LIVES!**

## UCC Brotherhood Minutes – March 23, 2026

**Refreshments** –Larry Rohrbach, Dean Kiesling, and Eldred and Elaine Proctor provided a delicious meal to begin the meeting.

Following the meal, President Larry Rohrbach called the business meeting to order at 7:34 PM with 20 members and guests present.

Minutes from the February 23, 2026 meeting were read and approved.

Correspondence was received from The Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri, Hope for Caribbean Kids, and The Vitae Foundation.

Cards were circulated for the members to sign, one thanking Dorothy Kirchoff for her gift to the Brotherhood in memory Roger Kirchoff, and one to long-time member Charles Goode, who is currently at Heisinger Bluffs Nursing Facility.

A brief discussion was held on the annual family night to be held May 3. The participation of God's Singers was discussed. Volunteers are still needed for help with setup and cleanup.

It was confirmed that the Brotherhood would invite the church's high school seniors to speak on their future plans at the April 27 meeting.

Dave Meyer volunteered to give the devotion for the April 27 meeting, and Vice President Rob Barbour volunteered to provide refreshments.

It was confirmed that the May meeting would be cancelled since it falls on the Memorial Day holiday.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:52 PM.

Following the business meeting, Vice President Rob Barbour gave a devotion on the crown of thorns placed on the head of Jesus prior to his crucifixion, which is still preserved at the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris. Roman soldiers placed the crown on his head to mock him, not knowing that it symbolized Christ's taking away mankind's curses of death and sin. Cutting down a thorn tree is said to cause 10 more to sprout and Rob likened this to the spread of Christianity throughout the world.

**Program** – Reverend Lina Eddy and Debbie Turner spoke about the Moniteau Christian Ministries Center (MCMC) in California. The Center has 2 parts, the Food Pantry and the Project Share thrift shop.



The Food Pantry supplies nearly 12,000 pounds of food to more than 240 families each month, most of whom also qualify for USDA food aid. Distributions occur on the first, second, and third Tuesday of each month and deliveries are made to homebound participants on the fourth Thursday of each month. The Food Pantry receives donations from stores such as Sam's Club and Hy-Vee, the Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri, the California Ministerial Alliance, and local churches. Notably, California UCC donated approximately 1500 pounds of food last year. The Food Bank also maintains a garden as a source of fresh produce in the summer. The Food Pantry is also closely associated with the Buddy Pack program, which distributes backpacks and school supplies to needy children. Approximately 40 volunteers work each month to weigh, date, record, organize, package, and distribute food. Nearly 7400 volunteer hours were logged last year.

The Project Share thrift shop accepts and resells donated items of many sorts, including women's and men's clothing and shoes, toys, household goods, electronics, and decorative items. They also donate items to other charitable causes, including schools, the 26<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit (for foster children), and Mission Monipaw. The shop is also staffed entirely by volunteers, who receive and process donated items and work in the shop. Around 6000 hours were logged last year, by volunteers who are allowed to work in whatever department they wish. The shop is open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

The shop has been growing in recent years and opened an expansion in 2024. Rev. Eddy noted the remarkable generosity of local residents, observing that the shop's donation loading dock has not been empty for 3 months. Proceeds from Project Share go to pay for utilities and maintenance of the buildings, equipment, and grounds for both Project Share and the Food Pantry as well as purchasing food when necessary and maintaining the organization's delivery truck. As a result, MCMC is self-sustaining and free of debt.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted – Dave Gattermeir, Secretary





Each month the Ministerial Alliance has a suggested food item. There will be a box at the California UCC downstairs foyer to place your food items each month.

### **Food Suggestions for the Food Pantry 2026**

#### **Month**

April  
May  
June  
July  
August  
September  
October  
November  
December

#### **Food Item**

Canned Vegetables  
Peanut Butter  
Cereal  
Rice  
Mac and Cheese  
Tuna  
Cake Mix  
Peanut Butter  
Crackers





### Acolytes

05 Lee Bieri & McKenna Chambers  
12 Nora Wolford & Max Robertson  
19 Brynna Hall & Charley Medlin  
26 Georjie Peck & Amelia Howard

### Lay Readers

05 Judy Burger  
12 Susan Burger  
19 David Gattermeir  
26 Beth Dampf



**WE LOVE  
OUR  
VOLUNTEERS**



### April Music

02 Maundy Thursday- Sr. Choir  
05 Easter Sunrise-Special Music  
05 Easter -Sr. Choir  
12 Sr. Choir  
19 Bells  
26 God's Singers



### Children's Time

05 Ginnie Medlin  
12 Anny Roll  
19 Carla Clennin  
26 Holly Bieri

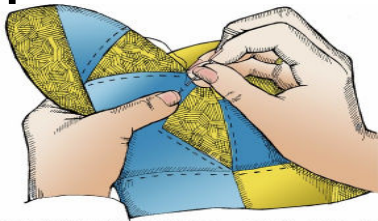
### Nursery Attendant

Emma Bestgen

## Quilters Meet Tuesday, April 7th

11:00 to 4:00 pm

Come join us!



QUILTING GROUP



*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)



**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

### **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)

## *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

Rhonda Elliott, Office Manager [rhonda@calmo-ucc.org](mailto:rhonda@calmo-ucc.org)

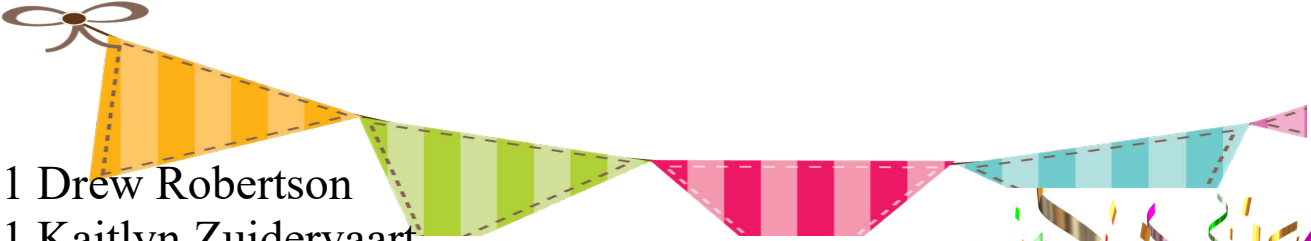
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. & 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

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

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


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

# April Birthdays



01 Drew Robertson  
01 Kaitlyn Zuidervaart  
01 Bobbi Troutman  
02 Michelle Sedgwick  
04 Patrick Miller  
04 Amy Howard  
05 Tammy Kilmer  
05 Charles Goode  
06 Leslie Peck  
06 Adam Burger  
09 Jane Robertson  
09 Cooper Brandes  
10 Stacey Bolinger  
11 Christopher Cassil  
11 Kueffer Koestner  
11 Hunter Hall  
12 Jess Medlin  
12 Tripp Zuidervaart  
13 Elizabeth Ash

15 Carole Barbour  
15 Adley Baker  
16 Mary Burger  
17 Jon Roberts  
17 Kaiden Ingram  
18 Emmett Mouse  
20 Sonja Nelson  
22 Aaron Chambers  
23 Preston Peters  
23 August Chambers  
24 Rhonda Meyer  
25 Kaitlyn Adams



26 Cynthia Hall  
29 Norris Gerhart  
29 Allan Burger  
30 Linda Schnieders



# April Baptisms

Elliott Baker— April 28, 2024  
Aidan Bolinger—April 10, 2005  
Walker Borghardt—April 17, 2011  
Cooper Brandes-April 1, 2023  
Bobby Bryant—April 30, 2000  
Kenny Bryant—April 22, 1979  
Wilma Bryant—April 26, 1970  
Kevin Bueker—April 14, 1984  
Steven Burger—April 15, 1962  
Jo Ann Cantriel—April 7, 1968  
Harold Cashion— April 23, 1995  
Doug Dampf—April 17, 1966  
Lois Daniel—April 14, 1935  
Aubrey Davis—April 25, 2010  
Brooke Dietz—April 25, 1999  
Clyde Dummermuth—April 12, 1936  
Renee Elliott—April 1, 2012  
PJ Hanauer—April 18, 1993  
Blake Howard—April 10, 1994  
Harold Howard—April 1951  
Jackie Howard—April 19, 1987  
Dyan Ingram—April, 2017  
Martin Kilmer—April 3, 2005  
Ronnie Kissick—April 14, 1991  
Sutton Lawson— April 17, 2016  
Allan Mortenson-April 6, 1969  
Suzanne Latham—April 27, 2003  
Olivia Meisenheimer—April 6, 2008  
McKenzie Lohse—April, 2011

John Overbey—April 1961  
Roberta Pate—April 10, 1966  
Kelly Sedgwick—April 11, 1982  
Abby Spieler—April 10, 1993  
Ann Spillars—April 12, 1992  
Cara Stassel—April 28, 1985  
Amanda Trimble-VanDieren  
April 29, 2001  
Chase Trimble—April 20, 2008  
Macie Trimble—April 2, 2006  
Barbara Weis—April 30, 1944  
Robert Zuidervaart—April, 1963  
Rebecca Zuidervaart—April, 1965



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

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

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