The Tidings



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Christ Centered *Biblical *Compassionate*

101 N. Oak, California, MO 65018

Phone: 573-796-4885

Dear UCC Family,



November 22nd will be our last Sunday as your Interim Pastor. Donna and I will be returning to our home in Albuquerque, New Mexico. We love being here with you, but health and family issues make it necessary for us to end our time here.

If I could, I would love to visit with each one of you and have you share all the things that are important to you, but that has not been possible. During my last month I will be speaking on several important Christian themes. On All Saints Sunday I will be talking about Heaven and on the remaining weeks, Holy Hands, The Tongue, and the Power of Love. I hope you can be here on these Sundays.





Each of you will always be an important part of our life and hopefully we will be able to visit again in the years ahead. If you are ever in Albuquerque, we would love to visit with you and show you some of the places and food that are special to us.

Please keep us in your prayers that we will be in good health and be able to help in the different family issues we are navigating now. Thank you for your love and kindness that you have given to us and God be with each of you in the days ahead.

With God's love,
Rev. Michael J. Matheny Sr.



California United Church of Christ
October 12, 2026 – Consistory Meeting Highlights

The October Meeting of the California United church of Christ was Called to Order at 6:08 p.m. by President Jim Deeken. Pastor Matheny opened the meeting with prayer. A quorum was established with Jim Deeken, Jay Bestgen, Larry Schoeneberg, Kris Ingram, Tara Meisenheimer, Doug Dampf and Pastor Matheny present. Holly Bieri and Anny Roll were absent.

Minutes from the September meeting were approved.

Treasurer, Tara Meisenheimer presented the Treasurer's Report and the Stewardship Snapshot Report. The balance brought forward in the General Fund was $77,780.24. There were $16,820.30 in receipts and $33,852.62 in disbursements leaving a balance of $60,747.92. No checks were noted.

Financial Secretary, Larry Schoeneberg presented the Financial Secretary Report. The total income YTD was $214,923.49 compared to the same time last year, which was $181,946.41. The total expenses YTD were $188,232.57 compared to the same time last year, which was $223,154.93.

Larry Schoeneberg also noted there were no updates to the CD activity this month.

Committee Reports

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

· Smoke alarm system is fully operational now.

· Central Dispatch monitoring is operational.

· The wireless monitoring system has been disabled.

· The board discussed replacement of the countertops in the Fellowship Hall. Jay will get a firm estimate for a Formica option for the board to review.

· Drive through covered entrance – discussed potential issues to be addressed and rough cost estimates.

· Kelly Bueker took over cleaning duties as of October 1, 2026.

Organization Reports

Brotherhood – Larry Schoeneberg - The Prison Ministry was a success. Good participation from the congregation to provide meals for the participants.

Women's Guild - The Women's Guild provided 1 meal for the Prison Ministry and 1 funeral meal during September. Festival Of Sharing is upcoming.

Youth Group · High School has a pumpkin carving event planned. The Middle School is having a hayride at Jay and Connie Bestgen's house.

Old Business

· Wednesday night meals – The Youth Groups are hosting on 10/14 with all funds raised going as a donation to the youth groups. The Consistory is hosting on 10/21. We will continue to publish in the bulletin to encourage groups to sign up to host weeks throughout the year.

New Business

· The annual meeting was set for January 24, 2027.

· November 22, 2026, will be Pastor Matheny's last Sunday with us. That will also be Totenfest Sunday. As a thank you and farewell, we will host a light lunch in the fellowship hall after church that day.

· The December schedule of services was reviewed.



Upcoming Communion Dates

· November 1, 2026 – 1st Sunday of the Month

Adjournment

· The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

The Lord's Prayer

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

STEWARDSHIP SNAPSHOT

	September 2026	September 2025
General Fund		
Balance Brought Forward	$ 77,780.24	$ 24,135.79
Receipts	+ 16,820.30	+ 20,288.55
Disbursements	- 33,852.62	- 32,038.93
Balance – September 30, 2026	$ 60,747.92	$ 12,385.41
As of September 30, 2026		
Building Fund Balance	$ 65,321.39	$ 113,077.80
Local Benevolence	$ 10,897.16	$ 9,649.49
Memorial Fund Balance	$ 21,370.61	$ 20,405.77
Schnuck Endowment Checking	**$ 41,389.55	* $ 27,141.58
Scholarship Fund Balance	$ 17,214.46	$ 14,740.63
Youth Fellowship Fund Balance	$ 12,164.57	$ 8,733.81
Total OCWM Received	$ 1,510.00	$ 1,755.00
Other Benevolent Offerings	$12,953.94	$ 10,362.59

Note on 2026 Snapshot regarding Schnuck Endowment

***The C. Schnuck Endowment Checking Fund balance of $41,389.55 includes $166.49 that is part of the original restricted gift and is unable to be expended. $41,223.06 of the fund balance may be expended.*

Note on 2025 Snapshot regarding Schnuck Endowment

**The C. Schnuck Endowment Checking Fund balance of $27,141.58 includes $166.49 that is part of the original restricted gift and is unable to be expended. $26,975.09 of the fund balance may be expended.*

STEWARDS

Special Benevolence— November

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

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

Samaritan's Pu
INTERNATIONAL RELIEF

Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday, Nov. 1, 2026



UCC Brotherhood
Monday, October 26, 2026

After a delicious meal provided by Allan and Ronda Mortenson, President Larry Rohrbach conducted the business meeting. There was discussion on upcoming events, such as the meeting in November- placing the tree in the Sanctuary and the outside decorations followed with a light supper of hamburgers furnished by Steve Burger. Also, December 16th, the Brotherhood will be doing the Wednesday Night meal of Soups/Chili. December 21, 2026 will be the Christmas caroling.

After the meeting, Rhonda Meyer introduced Attorney General Catherine Hanaway. She spoke of her life, beliefs, and issues the Attorney General's Office has been working on.

Respectfully submitted– by Rob Barbour,
Acting Secretary





Ministerial Alliance

Thanksgiving Service

At the First Christian Church

Sunday, November 22nd 7:00 p.m.

Thanksgiving Day, November 26th, the Ministerial Alliance will sponsor a dine-in and carry-out Thanksgiving meal from 11:00-1:00 at the California Nutrition Center. If you have a neighbor or family member that would like a delicious Thanksgiving meal, please invite them to partake.



October 6, 2026 Sunday School Teachers & Officers

Austin Chambers called the meeting to order at 6:29PM. Those present were Austin Chambers, Brittney Medlin, Kaitlyn Mouse, Peggy Liebi, Beth Chambers, Courtney Cassil and Kayla Baker.

Kayla made a motion to approve the September 2026 meeting minutes. Beth seconded the motion. Motion passed. Beth motioned to approve the September 2026 Treasurer's report. Peggy seconded the motion. Motion passed. Total Sunday School Operating Budget as of 9/30/2026- $2,734.79

Key Dates for 2026

Sunday School Fall party- Set for October 11th at Sweet Water
Veggie Tales- Halloween- Saturday, October 31st
Giving Tree- Sunday, November 29th (1st Sunday of Advent)
Christmas Eve Program- Thursday December 24th, 2026- Committee being organized
Toys for tots- December 6th- Bagging day/Location @ North Pole
Toys of tots- December 12th- Distribution day/Location @ North Pole
Cookies and Carols- December 13th

New Business:

It was discussed that the Sunday school teachers and officers are still seeking an additional volunteer to assist with the Pre K/K Sunday school class during the alternate months. The teachers and officers are also seeking an alternate or permanent Sunday school teacher for the 1st and 2nd grade class. Anyone interested in volunteering would be greatly appreciated.

The upcoming Sunday school Fall party, that is set for October 11th at Sweet Water was discussed. Sweet Water is located just outside of town on Route O. The Fall party will begin at 4:30PM, with a Hayride scheduled shortly after, at 5:00PM. Food will be provided by Patrick with Sweet Chipotle. Games and other entertainment will also be provided. Everyone is encouraged to join us for a fun afternoon of fellowship!

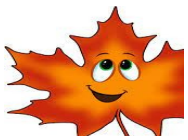
It was also discussed that the teachers and officers are seeking a volunteer to coordinate the Cradle Roll beginning in 2027. Anyone interested in serving in this role would be greatly appreciated.

The Christmas program that is set for Thursday, December 24th, was discussed. Austin Chambers will direct the program alongside Lauren Lawson as his co-chair. Ellen Ash and Connie Bestgen will direct the music. “Come to the Manager Christmas” is the program title currently being considered.

Courtney made a motion to adjourn, Beth seconded, meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Kayla Baker, 3rd Superintendent.





UCC Women's Guild

Minutes of the October 21, 2026 Meeting

* The October meeting of the UCC Women's Guild was celebrated with 12 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 10th Commandment, Do Not Covet. Don't fixate on what you don't have. The author showed us how this Commandment circled us back to the first one, God should be the focus of our lives, not stuff!

*Linda read a poem about focusing our lives in the morning and the evening on God. That will set the mood for the entire day and bring us closer to God.

*Our benevolence opportunities for October are the School Market (Elementary School), Salvation Army & Operation Christmas Child/Shoebox.

*Motion was made by Brenda and seconded by Phyllis to approve the Secretary minutes. Judy 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.

*We have 645 Best Choice labels. 2,000 labels were turned in during Sharefest Tipton on Saturday. Those will result in money coming back to our community that we donate to MCMC.

*Judy reported sending out 25 cards. More cards were signed for sending out in November. Please don't forget to sign the cards as the recipients really love mail!

*A Food Pantry report showed that we gave 75 pounds of tuna. That's a lot of cans...at 6 oz each! Thank you!!



Old Business

*The meal for Prison ministry went well.

*Mary reported on Sharefest results. Please see the article in Tidings for your amazing support!

*We will be starting a study on Joshua in 2027.

*A discussion was held concerning prayer shawls. Linda motioned to have a group of 4 to set guidelines for them and bring them back to the group. Carla seconded the motion. Motion carried.

*The group confirmed the decision about changes to countertops & sinks for Friendship Hall.

New Business

*Cheryl said we will contribute to the Community Thanksgiving event in November.

*Secretary and Treasurer nominations will be activated.

*Christmas plans to give cookies during the December meeting will continue.

*Carla gave an update to the Conference. There is another meeting in St Louis on November 6th & 7th. Information in an email is being sent out concerning business taking place.

*Darles indicated that they have received 2 more applicants that they will be looking at.

* Ronda, Mary Ann, and Joyce birthdays were recognized this month. A time for Joys & Concerns was held. Lexi gave the closing prayer.

*Fellowship was hosted by Linda and Phyllis who had apple cake, s'mores brownies, pecan pie cupcakes, apple slices, and ice cream. Thank you ladies!!

Respectfully submitted, Judy Burger



United Church of Chr

Sunday	Monday	
1 Sr. Choir All Saints Sunday-Communion	2 6:30 PM Sunday School Teacher and Officer Meeting	3 9:0
8 Sr. Choir	9 6:00 PM Consistory	10 9:0
15 Bell Choir	16	17 9:0
22 Totenfest Sunday Pastor Matheny's last Sunday God's Singers 7:00 PM Thanksgiving Service at the First Christian Church	23 7:00 PM Brotherhood	24 9:00
29	30	

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November 202

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	
Quilters meet 0 AM Prayer Cell	4 6:00 PM Wed. night meal/Confirmation 6:30 PM Bell Choir 6:30 PM R.O.K./God's Singers 7:30 PM Sr. Choir practice	5	6
0 AM Prayer Cell	11 6:00 PM Wed. night meal/Confirmation 6:30 PM Bell Choir 6:30 PM R.O.K./God's Singers 7:30 PM Sr. Choir practice	12	1
0 AM Prayer Cell	18 1:00 PM Women's Guild 6:00 PM Wed. night meal/Confirmation 6:30 PM Bell Choir 6:30 PM R.O.K./God's Singers 7:30 PM Sr Choir pacice	19	2(
0 AM Prayer Cell	25 No Wed. night activites	26 	27

Festival of Sharing Report

The Sharefest for the Central Region was held Saturday, October 17th at the Tipton United Methodist Church.
Because of the generosity of our congregation, we were able to deliver the following:

8 Family Food Packs
6 Paper Product Packs
8 Personal Hygiene Packs
1 Twin Fleece Blanket
8 Baby Quilts
25 Quilts for Backpacks of Love
127 stuffed animals for the Backpacks of Love
2000 Best Choice Labels
All of the above items stay in Missouri and their value was $1,949.00

Clarice Nelson made the beautiful 36" x 45" Quilts for the Backpacks of Love. Judy Burger and Shawn Chapins made the adorable Baby Quilts.
A special thanks to them.

Donations given totaled $560. The Women's Guild September benevolence of $100 was added making the total $660. A $100 donation was designated for the Cambodia Project so total cash donations was $760.

Grand Total was $2,709.

Our Sunday School Birthday and Anniversary offerings also go to the Festival of Sharing. The September Benevolence was $250 and the Birthday/Anniversary Offerings was $1,493 bringing the total to $1,743.00

A special thank you to everyone who participated in the Festival of Sharing and your faithful support throughout the year. Please continue to save your Best Choice Labels for next year.

Church Offering Envelopes

If you no longer prefer to use your church offering envelopes for 2027 due to online giving or some other payment option, please let the church office know. Or if you don't have envelopes and would like to have them, let us know as well. Thanks.



796-4885

Rhonda@calmo-ucc.org

Food Suggestions for the Food Pantry for the remaining 2026 year

Month	**Food Item**
November	Peanut Butter
December	Crackers



75 lbs of canned tuna were donated last month and $830.08 was given as the Benevolence for August.



Laid to Rest

We extend our Christian sympathy to the Family and Friends of

Jimmy W. Pate who passed away
October 10, 2026

Paula Selk who passed away
October 8, 2026

May God bless those who mourn in these days.

Thank You

The family of Jimmy Pate expresses our sincere appreciation to family, church family, friends, and the community for the many comforting messages of sympathy, prayers, phone calls, memorials, cards, and all other acts of kindness shown to us during our time of loss. Also, a special thank you to the Women's Guild for the delicious luncheon and allowing family and friends the time and opportunity to reminisce about Jim. We are eternally grateful for your generosity. God Bless!

Greetings,

With joyous rehearsal sounds filling the air, we know that the Winter Concerts for the Lake Area Community Orchestra are not far off. We are happy to announce an exciting six concert Winter Schedule for 2026, and we look forward to playing a concert in your area.

<u>2026 Lake Area Community Orchestra Winter Schedule</u>

Sunday, November 29 - Community Christian Church, Camdenton

Tuesday, December 1 - First Baptist Church, Eldon

Sunday, December 6 - Walk on the Water Faith Church, Osage Beach

Tuesday, December 8 - St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Lohman

Sunday, December 13 - West Lake Christian Church, Laurie

Tuesday, December 15 - Lake Ozark Christian Church

All concerts begin at 7:00 pm. Concerts are free to the public. Free Will donations are welcome.

Eugene Moll



Wednesday Evening Activities

6:00 p.m.—Fellowship Meal—Confirmation
6:30 p.m.—Bell Choir-ROK & God's Singers
7:30 p.m.—Sr. Choir





Operation Shoebox

Join the Middle School Youth Group for Operation Christmas Child! Pick up a box in the lobby by Friendship Hall and fill it for a child aged 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14. We will have a packing party after church on **Sunday, November 15th**, with last-minute items like sunglasses and Bible verse bracelets available. Enjoy pizza afterward.

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

November 04	R.O.K. / God's Singers	6:30 p.m to 7:20 p.m.
November 11	R.O.K. / God's Singers	6:30 p.m to 7:20 p.m.
November 18	R.O.K. / God's Singers	6:30 p.m to 7:20 p.m.
November 22	**SING DURING WORSHIP**	**10:30 A.M.**
November 25	**No School / No R.O.K. - No God's Singers**	**Happy Thanksgiving**
December 02	R.O.K. / God's Singers	6:30 p.m to 7:20 p.m.
December 06	**SING DURING WORSHIP**	**10:30 A.M.**
December 09	R.O.K. / God's Singers	6:30 p.m to 7:20 p.m
December 16	R.O.K. / God's Singers	6:30 p.m to 7:20 p.m.
December 23	**No School / No R.O.K. - No God's Singers**	Happy Holidays
December 24	Christmas Eve Program	**7:00 P.M.**
December 30	**No School / No R.O.K. - No God's Singers**	Happy Holidays

NOTE: CANCELLATIONS

Wednesday, Nov. 25, Dec. 23 and Dec. 31 –No School

No Meal, Confirmation Class

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

Check Sunday bulletins for other cancellations



Special Congregational Meeting

Sunday, November 8th there will be a Congregational Meeting immediately following the service to update the Congregation on the pastor search status and the upcoming services in 2027.



Sunday, November 22 will be Rev. Matheny's last Sunday. There will be a farewell meal immediately following worship at the California UCC. Food provided by the Church, but if you would like to donate a dessert please let the church office know. Please let the church office know if you plan to attend the meal on Sunday, Nov. 22 to plan accordingly for food. Thanks.

Office 573-796-4885

November Choir Schedule

01 Senior Choir
08 Senior Choir
15 Bells
22 God's Singers
29 Senior Choir

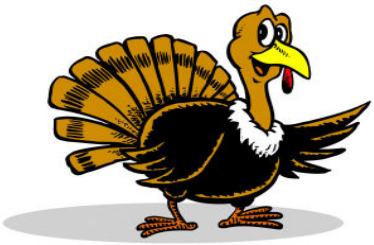




Nursery Attendant

Emma Bestgen

NOVEMBER



Children's Time

01 Ginnie Medlin
08 Carla Clennin
15 Anny Roll
22 JoAnn Cantriel
29 Puppets

Acolytes

01 Lee Bieri & Bruce Miller
08 Amelia & Grady Howard
15 Charley & McKenzie Medlin
22 Sutton & Lennon Lawson
29 Brynna Hall & NoraWolford

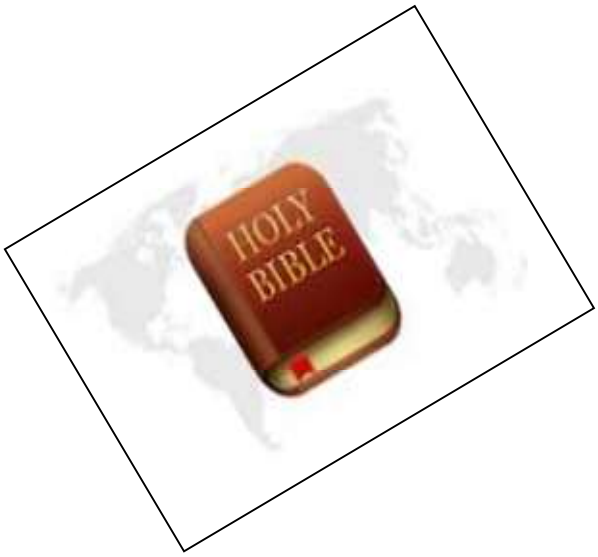




Lay Readers

01 Carole Barbour
08 Becky Schneider
15 Susan Burger
22 Judy Burger
29 Ginnie Medlin

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





*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

<u>Online giving is available for both Church and Sunday School!</u>

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
KRLL 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 in-store credit at Staples toward purchases of office supplies. Please turn in your cartridges to the church office. Thanks!

To Watch California UCC Worship Services Online:

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



November Birthdays



03 Krystal Davis
03 Hazel Wolford
04 Donald Clutter
04 David Meyer
04 Travis Peck
04 Callie Simmons
05 Clyde Dummermuth
05 Calen Kruger
06 Lincoln Connelly
07 David Ratcliff
09 Jenine Baker
10 Lincoln Gratz
10 Brenda Hofstetter
11 Camden Lawson
11 Kevin Steinhauer
12 Harriet Bryant
12 Larry Rohrbach
12 Renee Elliott
13 Carla Clennin
15 Charley Medlin
16 Macie Trimble
17 Patty Hartman
17 Jaelea Hall
18 Mandy Burger
19 Spenser Peters
20 Javan Grover
22 Lanny Ash
22 Stephen Hill
22 Julie Steinhauer
23 LeEtta Dampf
23 Carolyn Twardowski
24 Duane Barbour
24 David Hall
24 Julie Thomas
24 Luke Tuttle
25 Earl Medlin
26 Ethan Hughes
27 Lou Howard
29 Becky Elliott
29 Todd Gabert
29 Kimberly Robertson
29 Walker Borghardt
30 Doug Dampf
30 Robert Weis



November Baptisms

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

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



The Tidings

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST OF CALIFORNIA

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. & 1:30 - 4:00 p.m. Mon. –Thurs.
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Fridays

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