

First Congregational Messenger  
First Congregational United Church of Christ  
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*Serving God with love and faith*



February 2025

Volume 5, Issue 124



During the month of February we will be focusing on stewardship and preparing for our pledging of time, talents and treasure. Please be in prayer for your giving to the church and watch for your pledge information. Please update any information on the time and talent page for the office.



Pastor's  
Office Hours

**Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday 9-12

Afternoons by appointment



Church Secretary

**Office Hours**

Monday-Friday

8-12

May be gone to the  
doctor with Mom

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## Brian's Beacon

February the Love month. In the Bible we find and use the word Love often. There are different meanings for Love.

[This Photo](#) by Un-  
Theres Eros – means the feeling of love, Agape love for selfless love, Philia meaning friendly love, Pragma as a long-standing love, Storge which is a familiar love, Ludus a playful love, and Mania which is an obsessive love. As Christian we want to focus on Agape which is what Christ was and wants us to express to others. A selfless kind of love toward our brothers and sisters. So, as we move into February I hope that we each can go the extra mile and show some Agape love.

### Sermons for February

Prophet on the edge –Lk 4:21-30-----2<sup>nd</sup>

Prophet on the edge -part 2 Lk 5:1-11-----9<sup>th</sup>

Surprising Teaching Lk 6:17-26-----16<sup>th</sup>

Love your enemies Lk 6:27-38 -----23<sup>rd</sup>

A Big Thank you to our church –This past Christmas you were all so kind in your Christmas gift to Andrea and me. We truly thank you and have enjoyed the offering by visiting family, eating out and other things. What a blessing you Are!

Pastor Brian and Andrea



## Lenten Lunches

Be on the watch for Lenten lunches. Lenten lunches are lunch with a short Lenten devotional each Wednesday during Lent. More information to come as we get closer to Lent.

Many thanks for the gifts to the Well. These personal products will assist many as they work to deal with substance abuse and mental health.



## Bible Reading for the Month

# February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Leviticus 1-4
2 Leviticus 5-7	3 Leviticus 8-10	4 Leviticus 11-13	5 Leviticus 14-15	6 Leviticus 16-18	7 Leviticus 19-21	8 Leviticus 22-23
9 Leviticus 24-25	10 Leviticus 26-27	11 Numbers 1-2	12 Numbers 3-4	13 Numbers 5-6	14 Numbers 7	15 Numbers 8-10
16 Numbers 11-13	17 Numbers 14-15	18 Numbers 16-17	19 Numbers 18-20	20 Numbers 21-22	21 Numbers 23-25	22 Numbers 26-27
23 Numbers 28-30	24 Numbers 31-32	25 Numbers 33-34	26 Numbers 35-36	27 Deuteronomy 1-2	28 Deuteronomy 3-4	



**Book Club** will meet February 12 at 10 AM. The books can be found in Fellowship Hall or you can contact Jane Uzzell. This month is the Cora Scott King Award.

Thank you so much for the \$100 Christmas gift. It is very appreciated.  
Sue Allyn



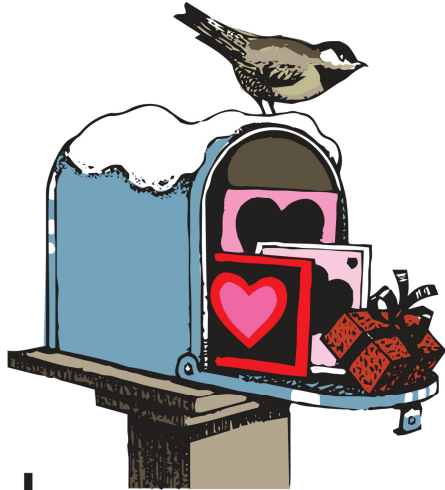
Do you go grocery shopping? At Lou's? At HyVee? **We have an easy way to bump up your donation to the church budget--use a Lou's or HyVee gift card** when you go shopping or get gas. You can buy them **Sundays** in Fellowship Hall. We currently get \$25, \$50 and \$100 gift cards.

See you at the table in Fellowship Hall! Questions? Leave a message for Jane Uzzell at (402) 640-6623.



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

4th	Suzan Podliska Paige Uzzell
15th	Barb Koenig
17th	Garrett Korthals Mary Rhodes
18th	Bonnie Dewell
26th	Pastor Brian High
27th	Mike Synovec
28th	McKenna McQuistan



# February

## February 2

**Communion:** Verletta Olson and Kay Neuharth

**Ushers:** Gene and Bonnie Kroeger

**Greeters:** Randy and Kay Neuharth

**Reader:** Kay Neuharth

**Leader:** Randy Neuharth

**Flowers:** Garry and Suzan Podliska

## February 9

**Ushers:** Susan Surber and Rita Woodard

**Greeters:** Bonnie Dewell and Rita Woodard

**Reader:** Tom McConnell

**Flowers:**

## February 16

**Ushers:** Ben and Stacie Uzzell

**Greeters:** Evonne Burkink and Verletta Olson

**Reader:** Scott Williams

**Flowers:** Gene and Darlene Korthals

## February 23

**Ushers:** Pat Jenny and Mike Synovec

**Greeters:** Stacie and Grace Uzzell

**Reader:** Verletta Olson

**Flowers:**



## March 2

**Communion:** Tom McConnell and Susan Surber

**Ushers:** Scott and Lori Williams

**Greeters:** Darlene Korthals and Jane Uzzell

**Reader:** Randy Neuharth

**Leader:** Ben Uzzell

**Flowers:**

## March 5 Ash Wednesday

**Ushers:** Bonnie Dewell and Verletta Olson

**Greeters:** Gene and Bonnie Kroeger

**Reader:** Jane Uzzell

## March 9

**Ushers:** Barb Koenig and Tom McConnell

**Greeters:** Randy and Kay Neuharth

**Reader:** Grace Uzzell

**Flowers:**

## March 16

**Ushers:** Jane Uzzell and Susan Surber

**Greeters:** Mike Synovec and Tom McConnell

**Reader:** Ben Uzzell

**Flowers:** Rita Woodard

## March 23

**Ushers:** Ben and Stacie Uzzell

**Greeters:** Scott and Lori Williams

**Reader:** Reese Uzzell

**Flowers:**

## March 30

**Ushers:** Randy and Kay Neuharth

**Greeters:** Barb Koenig and Evonne Burkink

**Reader:** Lori Williams

**Flowers:**

Please notify the office if you are not able to attend a service.

# January

From 1/1/25 through 1/31/25

Some bills from last month will show this month  
as the cut-off date was 12/18.

## Checking account information

Beginning balance	\$	9,870.45
Charitable Donation	\$	5,000.00
<u>Weekly deposits</u>	\$	<u>19,862.43</u>
Subtotal	\$	34,732.88
Salary	--\$	9,566.22
Church Maintenance	—\$	3,957.26
Office Expenses	—\$	538.05
Faith Development	—\$	60.12
Worship	---\$	43.20
Christmas Dinner	—\$	44.97
Christmas Gift Bags	—\$	121.33
Substitute Organist	—\$	210.00
Food Pantry	—\$	25.00
Insurance	—\$	1,031.12
Transfer to savings	—\$	10,000.00
Conference	—\$	1,195.00
<u>Renner's</u>	—\$	<u>500.00</u>
Final Balance	\$	7,440.61



# February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Linaje Sanctuary Service
2 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	3 GS 6-7:30	4	5	6 GS 6-7	7	8 Kroegers FH 1-5
9 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	10 GS 5:30-7	11	12 10 Book club Youth Group 6:30 PM	13	14 Delphians 12-3	15
16 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	17 GS 6-7:30	18	19	20 GS 6-7	21	22
23 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship Stewardship Dedication Unity Council	24 GS 5:30-7	25	26 Youth Group 6:30 PM	27	28	



# ▶ March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	GS 6-7:30		Ash Wednesday	GS 6-7		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship Faith Development	GS 5:30-7		10 Book club Youth Group 6:30 PM		Delphians 12-3	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship Irish Potluck	GS 6-7:30		Lenten Lunch Noon	GS 6-7		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	GS 5:30-7		Lenten Lunch Noon Youth Group 6:30 PM			
30	31					
9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship						