

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



May 2026

Volume 5, Issue 139

The Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. Conferences and the national setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. **By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ.**



**Strengthen
the Church**



May 24 is Pentecost. Be sure to wear red that Sunday!



Pastor's
Office Hours



Church Secretary

Office Hours
 Monday-Thursday 9-12
 Afternoons by appointment

Office Hours
 Monday-Friday
 8-12
 May be gone to the
 doctor with Mom

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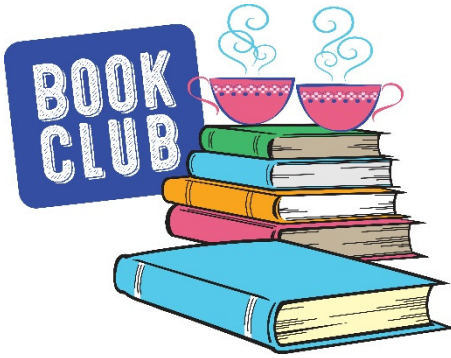
Brian's Beacon

May is here already; can you believe it? Things have turned green and many flowers are coming on. Mother's Day is coming. Are you ready? Then it will be Memorial Day with summer to follow. It is a wonderful time to grill out, picnic, camp, or go fishing. There will be family reunions and many other kinds of outings. But my hope is that you don't forget about Church and the Lord. Don't let the season take you away from the Lord or church, putting them in second place. Keep up with your devotions and keep growing in your faith. When you're in the car, take a book with you. Remember we need to keep growing in our faith daily. I plan on enjoying many of these things that I listed, yet will keep my spiritually in check. That is my hope for you too. In fact many of these things can enhance your spiritual growth provided you include and plan out a spiritual piece with each event. Look for God sightings everywhere you go. It may be in nature, other people, don't forget to keep God in the center of everything. He will bless all your days and the time with him. I will be in the book of Revelation through the summer so keep reading. Look for God sightings and enjoy the season! Pastor Brian

Bible Reading for the Month

May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 1 Chronicles 3-5	2 1 Chronicles 6
3 1 Chronicles 7-8	4 1 Chronicles 9-11	5 1 Chronicles 12-14	6 1 Chronicles 15-17	7 1 Chronicles 18-21	8 1 Chronicles 22-24	9 1 Chronicles 25-27
10 1 Chronicles 28- 2 Chronicles 1	11 2 Chronicles 2-5	12 2 Chronicles 6-8	13 2 Chronicles 9-12	14 2 Chronicles 13-17	15 2 Chronicles 18-20	16 2 Chronicles 21-24
17 2 Chronicles 25-27	18 2 Chronicles 28-31	19 2 Chronicles 32-34	20 2 Chronicles 35-36	21 Ezra 1-3	22 Ezra 4-7	23 Ezra 8-10
24 Nehemiah 1-3	25 Nehemiah 4-6	26 Nehemiah 7	27 Nehemiah 8-9	28 Nehemiah 10-11	29 Nehemiah 12-13	30 Esther 1-5
31 Esther 6-10						



Book Club will be traveling the United States as we celebrate 250 years of being a nation. May travels across the US. Books are available in Fellowship Hall and questions can be answered by Jane.

JAM 2026 (joint annual meeting) for the Tri Conference will be held Sept 18 and 19 in Sioux Falls, SD More information to follow. If you are interested in the wider church, please let Sue know for registration purposes.



Pack Away Hunger was April 11. Addy, Andrea, Audry, Amber, RJ, Lynne, Verletta and Pastor Brian all worked from 2-3:30. They packed around 288 meals during that time. The meals are being sent to those in need around the world.



- Birthdays
- 15th Cole Williams
 - 23rd Reese Uzzell
 - 25th Grace Uzzell
 - 30th Megan Williams
 - 31st Darlene Korthals



May 3

Communion: Verletta Olson and Susan Surber
Ushers: Gene and Bonnie Kroeger
Greeters: Evonne Burkink and Rita Woodard
Reader: Grace Uzzell
Leader: Andrea High
Flowers: Gene and Darlene Korthals

May 10

Ushers: Ben and Stacie Uzzell
Greeters: Gene and Darlene Korthals
Reader: Lori Williams
Flowers:

May 17

Ushers: Tom McConnell and Evonne Burkink
Greeters: Randy and Kay Neuharth
Reader: Jane Uzzell
Flowers: Rita Woodard

May 24 Memorial Weekend

Ushers: Barb Koenig and Bonnie Dewell
Greeters:
Reader: Scott Williams
Flowers: Scott and Lori Williams

May 31

Ushers: Pat Jenny and Susan Surber
Greeters: Gene and Bonnie Kroeger
Reader: Andrea High
Flowers: Pat Jenny

June 7

Communion: Ben Uzzell and Tom McConnell
Ushers: Reese Uzzell and Jane Uzzell
Greeters: Stacie and Grace Uzzell
Reader: Verletta Olson
Leader: Scott Williams
Flowers: Evonne Burkink

June 14

Ushers: Randy and Kay Neuharth
Greeters: Mike Synovec and Verletta Olson
Reader: Ben Uzzell
Flowers:

June 21

Ushers: Rita Woodard and Andrea High
Greeters: Barb Koenig and Sue Surber
Reader: Tom McConnell
Flowers: Scott and Lori Williams

June 28

Ushers: Scott and Lori Williams
Greeters: Bonnie Dewell and Jane Uzzell
Reader: Randy Neuharth
Flowers: Susan Allyn



April

From 4/1/26 through 4/30/26

Checking account information

Beginning balance	\$ 2,721.01
<u>Weekly deposits</u>	<u>\$ 19,394.88</u>
Subtotal	\$ 22,115.89
Salary	--\$ 6,867.76
Church Maintenance	—\$ 1,983.07
Office Expenses	—\$ 770.06
Lenten Lunch	—\$ 81.28
Substitute Organist	----\$ 70.00
Faith Development	---\$ 49.99
Lilies	----\$ 96.75
Insurance	—\$ 783.56
Conference	-----\$ 1,535.00
<u>Renner's</u>	<u>—\$ 500.00</u>
Final Balance	\$ 9,378.44

May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	11 Girl Scouts 5:30-7	12 ELECTIONS 7 am-9 pm	13	14	15	16
17 10:15 Worship	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 10:15 Worship Pentecost Strengthen the Church offering	25 OFFICE CLOSED Girl Scouts 5:30-7	26	27	28	29	30
31 10:15 Worship						

June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 10:15 Worship	8 Girl Scouts 5:30-7 FH	9	10	11	12	13
14 10:15 Worship	15	16 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	17 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	18 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	19 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	20 Kroeger FH
21 10:15 Worship	22 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	23 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	24 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	25 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	26 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	27
28 10:15 Worship	29 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30	30 LifeLine Screening 8-4 Food Pantry 9:30-11:30				