



CHRIST CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

APRIL
2026

THE VISITOR



Holy Week at Christ Church

March 29th at 10:15am: Palm Sunday and Confirmation

April 2nd at 7:30pm: Maundy Thursday/Passion Service with Holy Communion

April 3rd from 12:00pm to 3:00pm: Drop-in for a guided Good Friday remembrance, including multiple stations to visit to prayerfully contemplate Jesus' crucifixion

April 5th at 7:00am: Easter Sunrise Service (followed by continental breakfast)

April 5th at 10:15am: Traditional Easter Service

April 12th at 10:15am: Emmaus Road drama in worship with Holy Communion

The Darkness Before the Dawn

I am spending a fair amount of my time planning for the many upcoming worship experiences that are ahead of us: Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Resurrection Sunday. It is the time of year when we as Christians are most tuned into our faith, and I am aware that your expectations, I hope, are experiences that will not only draw you nearer to the holy but also deepen your faith. Jesus sets a pattern for our lives to follow during Holy Week, but that needs some unpacking.

This will be my first time shepherding Christ Church through the days ahead, but far from my first time shepherding a congregation. It is my intention to 'do my thing' and accept the gentle feedback that I know will follow. What I will ask for this year is open hearts and minds as things will be a little different. It is hard to believe, but I have been serving here for six months, and the first 12 months of serving a church are often the most difficult as there is so much new to experience, for all of us.

As we approach the end of Lent, the wisdom I would share is wisdom that you have no doubt heard before. Palm Sunday, with a confirmation service, will be a celebration. Easter morning will be a celebration. In between, we will face suffering and death alongside Jesus. The celebration on Easter will be more meaningful for those who stayed by his side. On Maundy Thursday, we will bear witness to the Last Supper and lead into a service of Tenebrae (Darkness) where we will experience betrayal, mocking, and suffering, right up to Jesus' death on the cross. In my pastor's mind, I think it should be as highly attended as our Easter services. I hope you'll make a point to attend, in-person or online.

Peace,
Pastor Scott



CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE

March 2026

Church Council Meeting Summary from March 10, 2026

Treasurer's Report is on file. Motion to approve, subject to audit.

Pastor and staff reports are on file.

Rev. Schieber asked for and received council's affirmation to move communion in April to the second week.

Lisa's grant (\$2000) through the Princeton Theological Seminary was approved and work will begin on the transformation of the chapel. Any other funds necessary to complete the transformation will be taken from the Reider Fund.

Elders will meet with the pastor for training with the ICU teams. April - ICU meets with a Hospice representative.

The endowment team met and submitted its recommendations. Those recommendations are on file. Council will disperse the remaining funds plus some left from last year (total \$4982.67) to local missions.

The boiler patch is holding, but the boiler will be replaced in the future.

Jason has inventoried classrooms and spaces in the church. Some items will be removed; others will be replaced via a sale or perhaps a donation to a local missions/thrift store.

The workroom has been cleared and will be used by the accounting team.

The church continues to have issues with the sound equipment. Those issues are being addressed. Some of the tables (rectangular and card tables) will be replaced.

A new copier will be leased from Graphic Enterprise Office Solutions.

Memorial Gifts

In memory of Fred Rehm
William Arnold

Notable Church Events in April

Maundy Thursday Service - 4/2

Good Friday - 4/3

Easter Services (Sunrise and 10:15) - 4/5

Youth Auction Donation Deadline - 4/9

Ladies of Light - 4/11

Youth Auction Begins - 4/12

Youth & Mentor Activity - 4/12

Youth Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser - 4/19

Last Day of Kids' Sunday School - 4/26

Treasurer's Report

February 28, 2026

Current Fund	Month of Feb 2026	Year-to-Date	Last Year
Sunday Offerings	\$ 22,785	\$ 41,409	\$ 43,453
Other Income	\$ 280	\$ 1,300	\$ 1,078
Expenses	\$ 25,827	\$ 55,349	\$ 42,296
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (2,762)	\$ (12,640)	\$ 2,235
Benevolent Fund Donations	\$ 4,375	\$ 6,759	\$ 4,805
Samaritan Fund Donations	\$ 110	\$ 886	\$ 402
Day of Caring	\$ 465	\$ 465	\$ 275

Samaritan Fund Balance is \$2,206.

Brian Amstutz, Treasurer



YOUTH NEWS

Youth Fellowship Schedule:

4/05: No Youth Fellowship, Happy Easter!!

4/12: 1:00pm Youth & Mentor Activity.
6:00-8:00pm Youth Fellowship

4/19: 11:30am Spaghetti Dinner.
6:00-8:00pm Youth Fellowship

4/26: 6:00-8:00pm at the church



Thank you 

Kids Club Volunteer Thank-you

Our Kids Club program would not be possible without the amazing volunteers who give their time, energy, and care each week.

Thank you for the patience, kindness, and enthusiasm you bring to Kids Club. Your willingness to show up and invest in our children makes a lasting difference in their lives and in the life of our church. We are deeply grateful for each of you!

Youth Auction

Our annual Youth Auction is just around the corner! The auction will begin on April 12 and run through April 19 in the church parlor, offering a fun opportunity for the congregation to support the important mission and service work of our youth.

All proceeds from the auction will go directly to the Youth Mission Fund, helping provide opportunities for our young people to participate in service projects, mission experiences, and outreach.

We are still accepting donations for the auction. If you have an item, gift basket, service, or experience you would like to contribute, there is still time! Your generosity helps make this event a success and directly supports the youth of our church.

Winners will be announced at the Spaghetti Dinner on April 19, which will also benefit the Youth Mission Fund.

If you would like to donate an item or have questions, please see Lisa Yeagley. Thank you for supporting our youth and the meaningful work they do in the world!



Spaghetti Dinner

On Sunday, April 19th, we will be swapping our usual church potluck for a Spaghetti Dinner downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to stay after worship and enjoy a delicious meal together!

The lunch menu will include spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, and dessert. The meal will be offered for donations, and all proceeds will go toward helping offset the cost of our annual youth mission trips.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to share food and fellowship while supporting the meaningful service experiences our youth participate in each year.

We hope you'll plan to join us for good food, good company, and a good cause!



We're beginning to explore a church mission trip for Spring 2027 and would love to gauge interest! We are currently looking at partnering with the Fuller Center for Housing in Georgia (possibly Americus or Albany) during the week of March 14, 2027. This trip would likely include hands-on home repair or building projects, shared meals, and time for reflection and community together. At this stage we're simply trying to see who might be interested so we can continue the planning process. If this sounds like something you'd like to learn more about or potentially participate in, please take a moment to follow the link and fill out the short interest form.

<https://forms.gle/SVxbSW5DcHguoDCy8>



Camp Registration:

After Camp Sunday, we hope you got to experience a small taste of the spirit of camp. From time spent outdoors to friendships that form quickly and moments of reflection and fun, camp has a way of creating experiences that stay with people long after the week ends.

Registration for camps across the Heartland Conference is still open. You can explore the options and sign up through the conference website or by scanning the QR code included here.

Christ Church will once again cover half the cost of camp for anyone attending. Just enter the code LetsCampOrrville2026 when you register.



Join the Ladies of Light for Coffee and Convos! Saturday, April 11th (pushed back a week due to Easter), we will be meeting at Sure House in Orrville at 9:00am. Come for the coffee, stay for the conversation!



CAMO Donation Box:

There is a box with a simple list on it from CAMO in the hall across from the parlor. Pastor Scott & Mollie recently toured their facilities and learned more about their mission and work in Honduras. As the box fills up, the donations will be taken to CAMO headquarters, here in Orrville. Reach out if you have any questions or interest in some of their bigger needs.

Birthdays

4/02 Angela Craft	4/13 Mary Lou Bupp
4/02 Margaret Maupin	4/13 Tanner Hostetler
4/02 Michael Thompson	4/13 Haley Fetzer
4/02 Marc Shupp	4/14 Lindsey Yungen
4/03 Alex Schmid	4/14 Matthew Diehl
4/03 Stephen Null	4/14 Jaren Hershey
4/03 Corbin Tompkins	4/15 John Robart
4/03 William Gardner	4/17 Brad Nussbaum
4/04 Paul Gehres	4/17 Alexis Wilson
4/04 Richard Tompkins	4/18 Loren Burkey
4/04 Thomas Fowkes	4/18 Sarah Grimes
4/04 Jaxson Musser	4/18 Shane Clark
4/04 Cayleb Gehring	4/19 Marguerite Kropf
4/05 Taylor Lehman	4/20 Korie Baughman
4/06 Henry Weyrauch	4/20 Kendra Romanchik
4/06 Leonard Brown	4/21 William Duffy
4/07 Matthew Miller	4/22 Valerie Holderman
4/07 Kailey Kartisek	4/22 Samantha Jones
4/08 Vanessa Smith	4/22 Hannah Legan
4/08 Sarah Cross	4/25 Kristi Perry
4/09 Courtney Curtis	4/25 Sarah Finney
4/10 Kim Gochnauer	4/25 Andi Musser
4/10 Lisa Blackford	4/26 Katy Kropf
4/10 Seth Clark	4/26 Jason Smith
4/10 Sara Bowen	4/26 Robin Stocker
4/10 Bronson Loera	4/27 Kevin Kropf
4/11 Mary Helen Meeks	4/29 Paul Bailey
4/11 Pamela Null	4/29 Brooke Wyss
4/12 Angie Seymour	4/30 Sherri Thompson

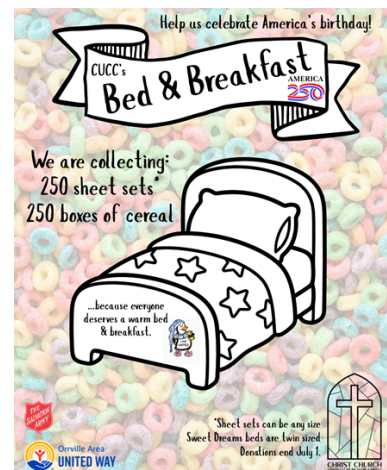


Anniversaries

4/01 Dennis & Sally Curtis
4/15 Chad & Noelle Findley
4/20 Don & Linda Bilderback
4/24 Kyle & Jennifer Brown
4/25 Joshua & Carolyn Crall
4/27 Mark & Sandra Abel



Help us celebrate America 250 with CUCC's 'Bed & Breakfast'!
Now through July 1 we are collecting 250 sheet sets and 250 boxes of cereal to donate to the Salvation Army - Maiwurm Service Center. Any size sheet set is appreciated, twin size is what fits the Sweet Dreams Beds that our bed build team makes with the Orrville Area United Way. Happy Birthday America!



Volunteer Recognition Breakfast

We love our Sunday School, Kids Club, Youth Fellowship volunteers—and our acolytes too! Everyone is invited to join us Sunday, May 3rd at 9:00 a.m. downstairs in the Fellowship Hall for a continental breakfast as we say a big thank you to all these wonderful people. We can't wait to celebrate with everyone!



The Special Offering for April is: Five Voices.

Five Voices fights food insecurity by offering nourishment through our pantry, drawing strength from inspiring stories. Together, we work towards a hunger-free community. They are located at 516 W. High St.



The Endowment Team met on Sunday, March the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the annual allocation of the Endowment Fund income for wider and local missions. This was based on the income earned through the United Church Foundation and Endowment Savings Interest during the 2025 fiscal year. The total amount to be allocated is \$13,333.17. This is 90% of the total income (\$13,589.66), which is equally divided between wider missions, local missions and the CUCC Council.

After thoughtful discussion, the recommended allocations for fiscal year 2025 are as follows:

Wider Missions:

- Disaster Relief – Heartland Conference \$ 1000.00
(fund to build parking pavilion for disaster trailers & truck at Camp Christian)
- Humane Borders (Tucson, Arizona) \$ 1000.00
- S.A.R.A. (Ukraine) \$ 1000.00
- Back Bay Mission (Biloxi, Mississippi) \$ 500.00
- Washington UCC (Cincinnati) – Summer Program \$ 500.00
- Cheyenne River Youth Project (S. Dakota) \$ 444.39.

Total Distribution: \$ 4444.39

Local Missions:

- People to People Ministry \$ 1000.00
- Viola Startzman Clinic \$ 1000.00
- Habitat for Humanity (Wayne County) \$ 500.00
- Augsburg Lutheran Church – Brown Bag \$ 500.00
- O’Huddle (Wayne County) \$ 500.00
- Open Arms Ministry \$ 300.00
- Memories Café \$ 200.00
- Friendship Meals \$ 444.39

Total Distribution: \$ 4444.39

