

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



April 2026  
 Volume 5, Issue 138



The Annual Meeting is scheduled for April 19. We will be voting to call Pastor Brian as our settled pastor.



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

As we move into April with Easter as the big event, we all can celebrate our hope of the world. Jesus resurrected from the dead!

This is the core of our faith and the gospel message.

Spring is new life for all, as we see trees budding out, grass turning green, flowers poking through the ground and all the bugs coming out. Everyone enjoys outdoor activities like biking, skateboarding, cooking out. I ask that you don't forget church.

Church is my heartbeat, but I know that it might not be yours. But it does need to be a large part of who you are no matter the season.

I'm looking forward to all the family time just as you are but remember that church is a family too. Come bring your family, friends, and neighbors to church.

We had a wonderful first three months in 2026, with great Valentine's Day and Saint Patrick's Day celebrations. Our highlight last week with Confirmation was a true Joy.

The next three months we have some great stuff planned too. Our annual church business meeting, Mother's Day and teacher recognition. So, my encouragement is to keep your church in the forefront of your life.

Thank you for letting me serve you,

Pastor Brian High

# Bible Reading for the Month

# April 2026

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



Book Club will be traveling the United States as we celebrate 250 years of being a nation. April continues to celebrate the national parks. 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.



March 22 was a celebration as Grace Uzzell became a member of the church through confirmation. Ben and Stacie Uzzell are her parents and Jane Uzzell is her grandmother.

## APRIL



### Birthdays

- 4<sup>th</sup> Adam Gamerl
- 5<sup>th</sup> Jane Uzzell
- 18<sup>th</sup> Henry Gamerl
- 21<sup>st</sup> Katie Gamerl

### Anniversary

- 16<sup>th</sup> Rick and Jill Waterbury



**April 2 Maundy Thursday**  
**Ushers:** Rita Woodard and Evonne Burkink  
**Greeters:** Susan Surber and Mike Synovec  
**Reader:** Verletta Olson

**April 5 Easter**  
**Communion:** Randy and Kay Neuharth  
**Ushers:** Andrea High and Jane Uzzell  
**Greeters:** Verletta Olson and Pat Jenny  
**Reader:** Reese Uzzell  
**Leader:** Ben Uzzell  
**Flowers:** Lilies

**April 12**  
**Ushers:** Scott and Lori Williams  
**Greeters:** Jane Uzzell and Tom McConnell  
**Reader:** Ben Uzzell  
**Flowers:**

**April 19 Annual Meeting**  
**Ushers:** Karen Allyn and Grace Uzzell  
**Greeters:** Andrea High and Reese Uzzell  
**Reader:** Randy Neuharth  
**Flowers:**

**April 26**  
**Ushers:** Gene and Darlene Korthals  
**Greeters:** Scott and Lori Williams  
**Reader:** Kay Neuharth  
**Flowers:**



**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:** RJ and Lynne Bichlmeier  
**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



March

From 3/1/26 through 3/31/26

Checking account information

Beginning balance	\$ 8,420.40
<u>Weekly deposits</u>	<u>\$ 6,642.65</u>
Subtotal	\$ 15,063.05
Salary	--\$ 6,743.94
Church Maintenance	—\$ 3,252.95
Office Expenses	—\$ 548.73
Lenten Lunch	—-\$ 52.01
Substitute Organist	----\$ 70.00
Faith Development	---\$ 333.59
Worship	----\$ 32.25
Insurance	—-\$ 808.57
<u>Renner's</u>	<u>—-\$ 500.00</u>
Final Balance	\$ 2,721.01

# April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Maundy Thursday service 5:30	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4
5 10:15 Worship Easter	6	7	8 10 Book club	9	10 1 PM Delphians	11
12 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	13 Girl Scouts 5:30-7	14	15	16	17	18
19 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship Annual meeting	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	27 Girl Scouts 5:30-7	28	29	30		

# 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 <b>Pentecost</b> Strengthen the Church offering	25 Girl Scouts 5:30-7	26	27	28	29	30
31 10:15 Worship						