



Branson Christian Church
 (Disciples of Christ)
 213 S. Commercial St.
 Branson, MO 65616
 Office: 417-334-3453

THE SPIRIT

Monthly Newsletter of Branson Christian Church
 (Disciples of Christ)

May 2026



**TO DO JUSTICE, LOVE
 KINDNESS, AND WALK
 HUMBL Y WITH YOUR
 GOD. -MICAH 6:8**

LOVE IN ACTION.

**2026 PENTECOST OFFERING
 SUNDAYS MAY 17 AND MAY 24**



Visit our website at: www.bransonchristianchurch.com



Our Worship Service can be viewed on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/bransonchristianchurch
 or on our website at www.bransonchristianchurch.com



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Learning (Spiritual Growth) - Youth Ministry

There will be a meeting for any members of the congregation interested in discussing the prospects of looking into a youth coordinator to identify and carry out, short and long term, goals for children and youth ministry. A sign-up list is on the information board downstairs. The meeting will take place on Sunday, May 24th, right after church in the Seeker's Room. Please feel free to contact Holli Segura if you have any questions.

Branson Christian Church Staff & Board

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Don Tharp - Pastor
 Samantha West - Office Admin
 Rod Phillips - Music Director
 Annette Sain - Custodial Services

Office Hours: Mon. through Thurs.
 9:00am. -2:00pm.

BOARD OFFICERS 2026

John Lea - Board Chair
 Cindy Baldwin -Vice Chair
 Johnie Groves - Treasurer
 Pat Campbell- Secretary
 Tanya Armstrong- Financial Secretary

BY THE WAY THRIFT SHOP

Spring Fling will be May 15th & 16th and we will stay open till 8pm. with clothes at 50% off as we participate with the Branson downtown Merchants.

We can use several new volunteers to fill in for an occasional shift when needed. You will get a blessing! Let Kathy know if interested.

We will be open Memorial Day with 50% off any red, white, or blue item (except for golf balls, jewelry, and scrubbies).

March receipts: \$5,887.95

Needed items: jewelry, purses, fiction books, children's clothes- baby to 4T, and summer things.

Keep those great donations coming! Thanks.

Roger & Kathy Kauffman
 Thrift Shop co-chairs



-SERVING THIS MONTH-

~MAY~

Gretchen Schultz
 Alex Segura
 Annette Sain
 Justin Tipton



~MAY~

05/03 - Preston
 05/10 - Maleah & Elliza
 05/17 - Neal
 05/24 - Mason
 05/31 - Easton



~MAY~

Johnie Groves
 Kirk Groves



~Membership News~

Easter Pancake Breakfast was a huge success! 70 were served pancakes, sausage, fruit, and a beverage of choice. A big thank you to all our youth that helped.

Easter Bonnet Contest- the winners were announced on Sunday, April 19th with a video created by Stacy Eastridge.



The winners are-

Women - Traditional bonnet - Laura Vestal

Women - Most creative - Lea Trimble

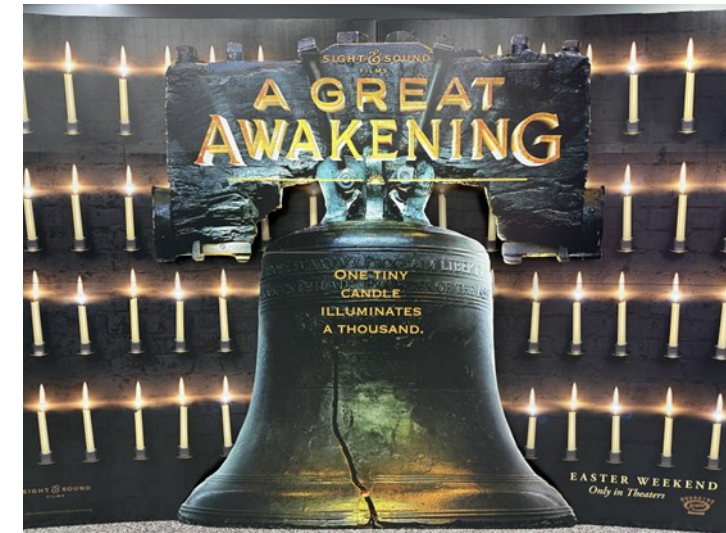
Men - Vernon Doyle

Game night was lots of fun! Seven people played games from Uno Triple Play, Monopoly Deal (a card game), Kollide, and Phase 10 Flip. Everyone brought yummy snacks and a good time was had by all!

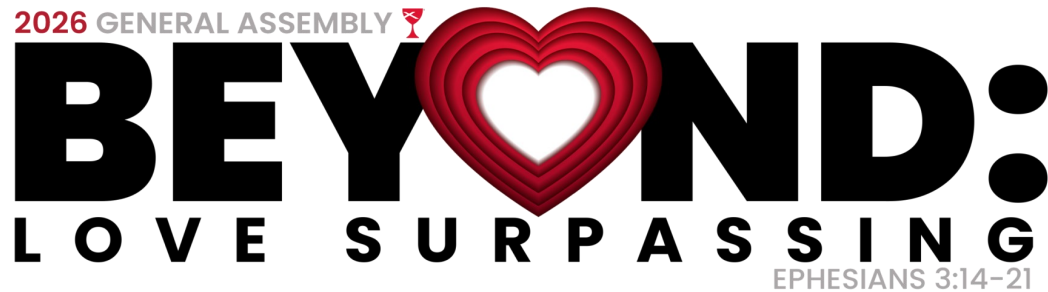
Bobbie Wydeen, Chair

From the Pastor's Desk

I recently joined Cindy's family to see the new movie, "A Great Awakening," which was released by Sight and Sound. It's a fantastic film that explores a period of revival in the United States, led by George Whitefield. The movie also features many scenes about his relationship with Ben Franklin, who published many of his sermons. I think you'd really enjoy it—it's uplifting, full of faith, and provides a fascinating look at the history that shaped our denomination.



Blessings, Pastor Don



Save the dates for the 2026 General Assembly online, July 10–11, 2026! The theme, **BEYOND: Love Surpassing (Ephesians 3:14–21)**, builds on the work that God began last year and marks the first General Assembly of the new triennium as we live into our new structure. Plan to join us online alone or with others at a local assembly gathering in your area for vital worship, discernment, and connection.

Mark your calendar now and plan to participate as we are further “rooted and established in love” that surpasses knowledge. Registration is open and is \$30, visit <https://disciples.org/2026-general-assembly-beyond-love-surpassing/> to sign up.

~Library News~

New books have been ordered! We have many readers in our church, so I sent a text to them and asked what they would like to see in the library (if I missed anyone, please let me know!). Here's what they recommended and what should be in the library by the time the newsletter comes out:

- *The Collector of Burned Books by Roseanna M. White (historical fiction)
- *And the Shofar Blew by Francine Rivers (fiction)
- *The Rock, the Road, and the Rabbi by Kathie Lee Gifford (non-fiction)
- *When You Don't Know What to Pray by Charles Stanley (non-fiction)
- *God's Cranky Prophets: Jonah & Habakkuk: Responding in Faith When You Don't Like What God is Doing by Marci Ogrosky (non-fiction)
- *How the Bible Became a Book by William M Schniedewind (non-fiction)
- *A Time to Heal, Biblical Ministry of Divine Healing by Paul Zinter (non-fiction)
- *Anxious for Nothing, Max Lucado (non-fiction)
- *Witness Protection by Robert Whitlow (fiction)
- *Better Decisions, Fewer Regrets by Andy Stanley (DVD, Study Guide)
- *Better Decisions, Fewer Regrets by Andy Stanley (book, non-fiction)
- *Vanished by Dr. David Jeremiah (book 1 fiction)
- *Shattered by Dr. David Jeremiah (book 2 fiction)
- *No More Boring Bible Study by Faith Womack (non-fiction)
- *In His Steps by Charles M. Sheldon (fiction)
- *One Simple Act by Debbie Macomber (true stories)
- *Heaven, How I Got Here, the Story of the Thief on the Cross, by Colin Smith (fiction)
- *Dancing With Max: a Mother and Son Who Broke Free by Emily Colson (true story)
- *Workin' Our Way Home by Ron Hall (sequel to Same Kind of Different As Me!, which was also a movie and is in our library as well-true story)
- *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry by John Mark Comer (non-fiction)

It's like Christmas when new books come in! Happy reading!

Cindy Tharp

~Christian Ed~

STAND

Youth Black Light Ministry has adopted the name of S.T.A.N.D. (Shining Through A New Darkness). From now on this group will be referred to as STAND.

Vacation Bible School is June 8th through 12th from 6:00pm. to 8:00 pm. each night. Please see the information board for details and to sign-up. Please encourage your friends, neighbors to join us. Several volunteers will be needed for successful VBS. Contact Rebecka for more information.



Next meeting is on Sunday, May 3rd, 2026 after service.

Rebecka Gillen, Chair

Committee Reports

FINANCE REPORT

Finance Report through MAR. 2026

Operating income Mar.	\$24,673.06
Operating expense Mar.	\$15,714.85
Year to date income	\$58,190.46
Year to date expense	\$47,190.50

Online giving is available for your convenience at the church website and Facebook page.

SAFE ~ SECURE ~ SIMPLE

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

~Christian Ed	May 3	After Service
~Membership	May 7	5:30pm.
~Worship	May 12	12:30pm.
~Finance	May 20	9:00am.
~Board	May 21	5:30pm.



~Outreach & Missions~



May's suggested items for CAM is cereal.

An update from some of our partners:

House of Hope partners with CAM on the second Tuesday of each month to do a mobile distribution for our community.

Elevate Branson is excited to have eight tiny homes on foundations, hooked up to electric, water, and sewer. They also have landscaping and the roads completed by the homes. They are needing to still work on getting some walkways completed from the home to the road as well as getting occupancy permits. They are close to ordering all the needed items to furnish the homes and will be setting all that up in the next couple of weeks. The first eight residents have been picked, background checked and are ready to go. Lastly, in the coming weeks, they will be taking the residents through a Good Neighbor Class to teach them about the rules and expectations of the community. They anticipate being able to move everyone in early June.