



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)

July 2026



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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July Special Music

- 07/05 – MEN'S CHOIR
 07/12 – JAMIE HAAGE & LARRY CAMPBELL
 07/19 – HOLLI SEGURA
 07/26 – WOMEN'S CHOIR

If you are interested in doing special music this summer, contact Rod Phillips.

BY THE WAY THRIFT SHOP

Welcome to Our Busy Season!

We are thrilled to see so many new and returning customers. With summer vacations arriving, we have open spots for new volunteers to fill in. Please see Kathy or Denise to see how you can help and receive a blessing through serving.

May Income: \$5,591.88 (Thank you for your continued support!)

Donations Needed: Jewelry, purses, craft items, towels, Romance books (paperback & hardcover)

Store Updates

Be sure to stop by and check out our beautiful handmade cards, now featured on a new, easy-to-use display. We have also installed several other donated displays to give you a better view of our merchandise.

A Special Thanks

Our deepest gratitude goes out to our wonderful volunteers. Your creative ideas and welcoming hearts truly bless our friends and customers!

*Roger & Kathy Kauffman
 Thrift Shop co-chairs*



July's suggested items for CAM are personal hygiene.

Mary Holmes turns 99 on July 12th!!!

Let's all wish her a Happy Birthday!

Please call her the week of July 6th at 505-856-6847 to give her a birthday wish!!

867240 HOURS
 52034400 MINUTES
 36135 DAYS
 1187 MONTHS
 52035 SECONDS
99 YEARS OF BEING AWESOME

Branson Christian Church Staff & Board

STAFF

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

BOARD OFFICERS 2026

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

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

-SERVING THIS MONTH-

~JULY~

Roger Kauffman
 Linda Stinger
 Justin Tipton
 Jody Nelson



~JULY~

07/05 - Maleah
 07/12 - Preston
 07/19 - Neal
 07/26 - Jude



~JULY~

Cindy Baldwin
 Tanya Armstrong
 Susie Cook-Knapik
 Kathy Kauffman



~Membership News~

Celebrating America, Community, and Fellowship at Branson Christian Church!

Thank you to everyone who joined us on Sunday, June 14, to celebrate Flag Day and look ahead to America's 250th birthday! We served cookies, cold water, and lemonade to about 100 people at the parade, and the treats were a huge hit. A special shoutout goes to everyone who donated cookies to make this outreach success possible!

Getting to Know Our Church Family

The Membership Committee is excited to launch a new **Member Spotlight!** To help us get to know one another better, the committee will randomly select different members to answer a few basic questions. These fun profiles will be featured in our newsletter and on the Fellowship Hall information board. Keep an eye out for more details soon!

Save the Dates!

- **Sunday, July 19:** Join us for our next Fellowship Dinner.
- **Wednesday, August 14:** We are heading out for Springfield Cardinals Faith and Family Night! Look for sign-up sheet after the July 4th holiday weekend.

Bobbie Wydeen, Chair

From the Pastor's Desk

Join Us for the 2026 General Assembly!

Our church has officially registered as an official host site for the **2026 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**.

You can watch the assembly in our fellowship hall with other members and Disciples from the area, or watch from home. Here are your options:

- **Watch at the Church:** Join us in the fellowship hall. Please call the church office to RSVP by July 8th, so we can set up enough chairs and prepare enough communion for Saturday's closing worship service.
- **Watch at Home:** You can register yourself to watch from home using the Disciples of Christ Assembly registration link, which we sent out in a blast (cost: \$30).

Assembly Schedule:

- **Friday, July 10:** 4:00 PM – 6:15 PM
- **Saturday, July 11:** 10:00 AM – 5:15 PM *(Note: The closing worship service with communion begins at 4:00 PM on Saturday).*

Blessings, Pastor Don

~From the Board Chair~

We've closed out a highly productive second quarter! I feel good about the progress and accomplishment the church has achieved. You could say we ended with a BANG!

Our downtown corner was incredibly busy and decorated with the Hallmark movie filming, Flag Day Parade, and our VBS program.

A special thanks to Rebecka, Holli, and everyone who helped make VBS such a success.

As we look ahead, two important new teams are now meeting:

- **Constitution & Bylaws:** Reviewing our governing documents for operational improvements.
- **Building Evaluation:** Devising a concrete action plan for remodeling the kitchen and related areas.

This kitchen project has been discussed for years, but let's finally get it done—Amen!

It's been a great first half of the year, and I'm excited to keep our momentum going.

John Lea, Chair

What's Next for Ladies Bible Study?

It's time to announce our next LBS (Ladies Bible Study). So far, we have studied the books of Esther, Ruth, and Daniel. This time around we're taking a different approach. We'll be studying an overview of the Bible itself through "See For Yourself, How to Study Your Bible With Confidence & Joy," by Kelly Needham:

*WHAT IS THE BIBLE? What's the purpose of the Bible? How is it structured? What's its main focus?

*HOW DO I STUDY THE BIBLE? We'll explore all the helpful skills we need to get the most out of God's Word.

*WHAT ABOUT WHEN...? We'll explore the most common problems that jam up Bible readers. For instance, "I don't understand what I'm reading," "I don't like what I'm reading," and "I don't have enough time in my day to read."

We'll be watching videos together, having fun in group discussions, and completing the study guide assignments at home.

When? Aug. 6-Oct. 8, every Thursday, 10:30-Noon. IMPORTANT: you will be ordering your own study guides this time. Please talk with me if you want to participate. I don't want you to order the wrong study guides!

I'm so proud of all the women who have been part of LBS. They aren't afraid to learn and they're not afraid of putting effort into learning. And that's so important in this day and age. We need to understand what we say we believe in!

Cindy T.

~ Christian Education ~

Wonder Junction VBS 2026 Recap

Thank you to everyone who made this year's *Wonder Junction VBS* (June 8–12) such a blessing! We welcomed 11 children and were supported by an average of 10 dedicated adult volunteers each evening.

The pre-service family meals were a major highlight, providing a fantastic space for fellowship.

We extend our deepest gratitude to our volunteers. Your time, energy, and unique talents built a fun, safe, and Christ-centered experience for our community's children.

Mark Your Calendar: The next Christian Education meeting will take place after service on Sunday, July 12th.

Rebecka Gillen, Chair

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO MASON F. FOR MAKING IT TO BOYS STATE
WITH BRANSON HIGH SCHOOL!

Committee Reports

FINANCE REPORT

Finance Report through MAY 2026

Operating income May	\$18,622.37
Operating expense May	\$12,029.17
Year to date income	\$95,354.42
Year to date expense	\$73,312.93

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

SAFE ~ SECURE ~ SIMPLE

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

~Christian Ed	July 5	After Service
~Outreach	July 7	10:30am.
~Worship	July 14	12:30pm.
~Finance	July 15	9:00am.
~Board	July 16	5:30pm.



~Library News~

A Big Milestone Coming Up!!

Thanks to all the support the church library has received through donations and also funds to order new books, the library is now only 158 books short of 1,000! That means we have 842 books/resources for you to check out! We have fiction (124 books); non-fiction (260 books); devotionals (67); true stories (89); Bibles & reference books (52); children and youth books (81); study guides (24); DVD's (74); Christmas books, DVD's (26); misc. booklets (37); and BCC authors (8). Come check them out. It's a rare commodity to have a working library in a church, so take advantage of it!

I'll be thinking of a way to celebrate once we get to that magic 1,000 books number. Be looking for a countdown graphic soon!

*Blessings,
Cindy T.*