

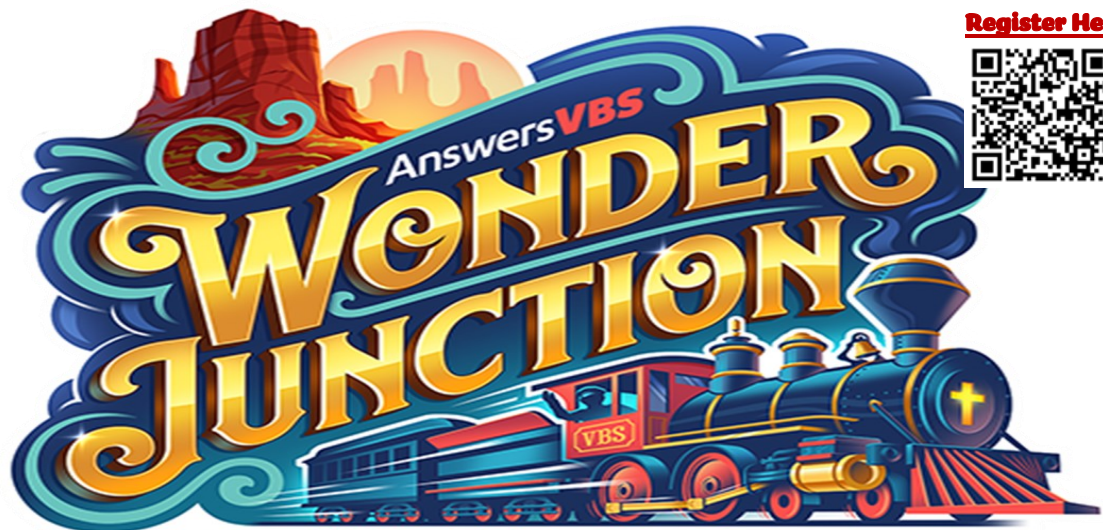


Branson Christian Church  
 (Disciples of Christ)  
 213 S. Commercial St.  
 Branson, MO 65616  
 Office: 417-334-3453

# THE SPIRIT

Monthly Newsletter of Branson Christian Church  
 (Disciples of Christ)

June 2026



[Register Here](#)



*Marvel at Jesus, Live for His Glory*

**June 8-12, 6:00pm. - 8:00pm.**

Visit our website at: [www.bransonchristianchurch.com](http://www.bransonchristianchurch.com)



Our Worship Service can be viewed on Facebook at  
[www.facebook.com/bransonchristianchurch](http://www.facebook.com/bransonchristianchurch)  
 or on our website at [www.bransonchristianchurch.com](http://www.bransonchristianchurch.com)



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**June Special Music**

06/07-DYLAN PRATT & SARAH COX

06/14-VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

06/21-OLD GOSPEL SING

06/28-SCOTT HEPPEL & ROD PHILLIPS

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

**BY THE WAY THRIFT SHOP**

The thrift store had a successful Red, White or Blue sale over Memorial Day weekend and summer has now arrived!

We are still looking for new volunteers to fill in for shifts when needed. If you are interested, please let Kathy or Denise know.

**April receipts: \$5,957.72**

Needed items: jewelry, purses, children's clothing size 4T and up, swimsuits, and anything summer.

Thanks so much for your support!

Roger & Kathy Kauffman  
Thrift Shop co-chairs



The righteous man walks in his integrity; His children are blessed after him.  
PROVERBS 20:7

**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-**

**~JUNE~**

Kathleen Lenore  
David Hedenberg  
Chris Hedenberg  
Maxine Church



**~JUNE~**

06/07 - Preston  
06/14 - Maleah  
06/21 - Easton  
06/28 - Elliza



**~JUNE~**

Susie Cook-Knapik  
Cindy Baldwin  
Keith Nelson



## ~Membership News~

The Membership committee has been busy! Please note the upcoming activities:

**The June Fellowship Dinner is scheduled for Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, one week early due to Father's Day the following Sunday.**

### **Join Us for the Flag Day/America 250th Parade!**

On Sunday, June 14th at 4:00 PM, the Branson Flag Day/America 250th Parade will kick off, following the traditional Adoration Parade route. Ahead of the event, we will serve cookies and lemonade under the tent outside the Fellowship Hall entrance starting at 3:00 PM. We would love your cookie donations! Since it will likely be a warm day, please opt for heat-friendly recipes and avoid cookies that melt easily, such as chocolate chip.

### **Introducing the Member Spotlight**

To help our church community connect on a deeper level, the committee is introducing a new "Member Spotlight" initiative. We will periodically select a member or regular attendee to fill out a short, friendly form covering their church history, occupation, family, and interests. Keep an eye on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board to read the completed forms and learn more about your fellow attendees!

### **Save the Date-**

1. Springfield Cardinal Game, Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup> more information to follow.
2. Please note the committee is asking if anyone is interested in attending the Great Passion Play in Eureka Springs, please sign the list on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. The committee is looking at dates in October 2026.

***Bobbie Wydeen, Chair***

## From the Pastor's Desk

Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> is the concluding Old Testament lesson for our Bethel Bible Teachers. The following week, the New Testament lessons begin and will finish up before the end of the year.

I am so proud of our group of eight teachers for their hard work and dedication.

We have two more persons (Holli Segura and Cindy Baldwin) scheduled to take the Summer Intensive training and will complete all 20 lessons online in mid-July. That will give us a total of 10 teachers, fully trained and ready to offer the Bethel Bible small groups next year.

It is an exciting time for our church as we look forward to those wonderful and enlightening group studies. Join me in congratulating this terrific crew on their progress so far.



(Ronni Haston pictured via FaceTime and Jamie Haage not pictured)

***Blessings, Pastor Don***

## ~Youth Ministry Focus Team~

Our Youth Ministry Focus Team met on May 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss the future of our youth program at BBC. Our immediate goal is to keep our current, wonderful youth ministry opportunities running strong.

Looking ahead, we are also exploring the possibility of bringing on a Youth Coordinator or Leader to help guide our students. As we map out what this role could look like, we ask for your prayers for God's wisdom and discernment.

The team will meet again on June 28<sup>th</sup> after service. Thank you for your continued support of our youth!

*Holli Segura*

*Christian Ed Co-Chair*

## Once In A Lifetime

In over 40 years of Pastoral ministry, I have never served at a church that was asked to be a hospitality site (Base Camp) for a Hollywood movie. So, when the "Ozark Mountain Christmas" crew showed up with our Chamber Representative, Janet Minor, I was not sure how to respond. No, they didn't want to do any filming in our church, but they did need a place near the Owen's Theater (where the filming was done) to feed and prepare the actors and staff. I knew it would mean moving a few meetings, but was not sure how to respond. That's when I asked the Board Chair, John Lea; a Trustee, Johnie Groves; and someone in the entertainment industry, Jamie Haage to help make that decision.

After meeting with the Producers and seeing their contract and timeline, our leaders were supportive and were willing to move ahead with our building being used for this purpose. I am so glad we did. The six days they used our building were a joy, to say the least. We met people from all over America, were invited to eat lunch with them and enjoyed being able to meet the actors and stage crew.

For me the biggest obstacle was allowing our beautiful Sanctuary to be used for the day the "Extras" were called in to fill up the seats at the Theater. They told me 150 local people would be needing a place to sit and receive instruction for their part in the filming. Several of our members volunteered to be here while the Sanctuary was used, to watch over things and help if needed. Thankfully, there were no issues or problems of any kind (beyond a toilet getting stopped up and needing a plunge).

It was amazing to see those 150 people, of all ages, dressed in their Christmas finest attire, quietly waiting (for several hours) in our best and most meditative space - the Sanctuary. What a blessing to be able to have our neighbors, none of whom had ever been in our church, to experience the beautiful stained glass and Easter decorations.

They were good to their word. Everything was left just as they found it. I am so glad we had this opportunity and am really looking forward to watching the movie when it comes out (target date December 2026). We will let you know as soon as we receive further details.

~Pastor Don



2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

# BEYOND: LOVE SURPASSING

EPHESIANS 3:14-21

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.

## Committee Reports

### FINANCE REPORT

#### Finance Report through APR. 2026

Operating income Apr.	\$18,541.59
Operating expense Apr.	\$14,093.26
Year to date income	\$76,732.05
Year to date expense	\$61,283.76

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

**SAFE ~ SECURE ~ SIMPLE**

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

~Membership	June 4	5:30pm.
~Christian Ed	June 7	After Service
~Worship	June 9	12:30pm.
~Finance	June 17	9:00am.
~Board	June 18	5:30pm.



## ~Outreach & Missions~



### June's suggested items for CAM is powdered milk.

Elevate Branson had their unveiling of the first 8 tiny homes on May 28th. Pastor Don was able to stop by and watch some of the ceremony. Here are a few pictures. See opening video on our website.

