



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)

April 2024



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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The church is needing someone to mow. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Robert Baldwin 620-654-8054.

~Ministry Moment~

Each month a committee will be highlighted to provide a better understanding of their responsibilities. We hope that this will help you find a place to engage and share your talents.

This month we are highlighting Christian Education. Please read more about it on page 8 under Christian Ed.

Branson Christian Church Staff & Board

STAFF

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

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

BOARD OFFICERS 2024

Jean Mueller - Board Chair
 Kathy Kauffman-Vice Chair
 Ginger Faragher - Treasurer
 Cindy Baldwin - Secretary
 Johnie Groves - Financial Secretary

BY THE WAY THRIFT SHOP

We welcomed 3 new volunteers this month: Mason Feeler, Brenda Archambeau, and Bill Wilson.

Our summer hours are Monday through Wednesday noon to 5pm, Thursdays and Fridays 10am to 5pm, and Saturday 10am to 3pm.

Spring turnover went well with 10 volunteers packing away winter clothes and putting out spring/ summer clothes, shoes, etc. We celebrated our hard work with a pizza party afterwards.

Our needs this month are XL and plus size women's tops, kids/ baby clothes for summer. Thanks for all the quality donations. We made \$3,300.00 in February.



Kathy & Roger Kauffman
 Thrift Shop co-chairs

-SERVING THIS MONTH-

~APRIL~

Annette Sain
 Roger Kauffman
 David Hedenberg
 Chris Hedenberg



~APRIL~

04/07 Preston S.
 04/14 John G.
 04/21 Lilly C.
 04/28 Mason F.



~APRIL~

Kathy Kauffman
 Jamie Haage



~ CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION ~

SAVE THE DATE!!

BCC Centennial Celebration

Mark your calendars for these Centennial Celebrations!!!

Saturday, June 22nd Events:

12:00p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Ice Cream Social in Fellowship Hall. Enjoy a scoop of ice cream and visit with friend's past and present.

6:00 p.m. Dinner and Celebration at The Keeter Center at College of the Ozarks!

Cost: Adults \$25/ea. & Children \$10/ea.

June 23rd Special Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.

***You will be receiving more information about the Celebration Events in the near future regarding details and how to RSVP for the dinner.**

Centennial Committee

From the Pastor's Desk

Spring is here and the Easter Season upon us. What a wonderful time of the year for our church. New members joining in and seasonal visitors returning. The dark days of Winter slowly give way during Lent as we remember the passion of Christ and move slowly toward glory of the resurrection. A time change accompanies these events as we enjoy more hours of daylight.

These are exciting times at the church. Not only in celebrating the highest and holiest day of the church year, Resurrection Day, but also for several other reasons:

1. Sanctuary Renovation – Soon we will be seeing a much needed update to our Chancel area. Making it more accessible is task number one, but other needed improvements have been approved by unanimous congregational vote.
2. The Centennial celebration preparations continue – The presentations to date have been wonderful. Commendations to those who have helped with the historical, ministry-centered reviews.
3. The new church pictorial directory is going to be finished soon. I look forward to seeing everyone's pictures and being able to quiz myself on your names.

If you have been waiting for better weather to come back to worship, this is a great time to return. Exciting things are happening, and you won't want to miss out. Think of people you know that need a good church home. Maybe a neighbor, or even a family member is in search right now. Invite them to come and experience the joy of worship at Branson Christian Church.

Sincerely, Pastor Don

Board Report

~From the Board~

As you read this, we will have experienced the blessings of the Easter season and celebrated the risen Christ. Thanks to each one who gave their time and talents to make this a meaningful and spiritual experience. The season was full of special services and activities from the Ash Wednesday service, Cantata, Maundy Thursday, and Easter morning services with handbells performing. The Easter breakfast is always a highlight along with the Easter egg hunt, bonnet contest and movie night. Thanks again to each of whom had a helping hand in making all these services and activities possible.

Update from the March Board meeting:

~ After months of researching options to resolve the roof leak problems the Building and Grounds committee have found a solution. The tireless efforts of this committee are greatly appreciated for the time invested in resolving this issue. A roofing company will soon complete the repairs and then the interior damage can be repaired. Thanks again for the team effort!

~ Be sure to read about upcoming plans and events scheduled by various committees included in the newsletter. Thanks to each committee for finding ways to engage the congregation with lots of fun and meaningful activities.

~ Jerry Yeutter has given his time over the past several seasons to keep the landscaping around the church in excellent condition and his efforts are greatly appreciated. He will continue to assist with trimming, but we are in search of someone to volunteer to mow on a weekly basis. If this is a task you are interested in, please contact Robert Baldwin Building and Grounds chair. Thanks Jerry!!

~ Centennial planning is in full swing, and we hope each of you received a "Save the Date" card and marked your calendar for June 22 and 23. Invitations with more details will be sent soon.

~ The chancel renovation is scheduled to begin **Monday, April 22**. If all goes as planned, the renovations will only take a couple of weeks with little interruption to the Sunday worship services with a completion **Sunday, May 5**. We ask for your patience and understanding as these upgrades are completed.

*Blessings,
Jean Mueller, Board Chair*

~Membership News~

The Membership Committee is working on the Centennial Pictorial Directory now that the pictures have been taken. The committee is looking for pictures taken between January 2023 and up to this spring of 2024 of different activities at church. Please email or text the pictures to Bobbie Wydeen at boster218@aol.com or 417-699-4728.

Save The Date! The Annual Church Picnic is Sunday, September 15th at a new location - the Oakmont Community Center off of State Hwy 86. We have an indoor banquet room (no flies!), game room, indoor pool, outdoor patio, and playground. More information to follow closer to the date.

Bobbie Wydeen, Chair

Please help welcome our new members!

Mark & Gretchen Schultz

Lea Trimble

James Stinger

~Outreach & Missions~

The April food donations are peanut butter and canned vegetables.

The Outreach Committee will be collecting donations for the animal shelter in April. Welcomed items include puppy and kitten food, kitty litter, used towels and blankets, and other pet related items.

Jolene Herington, Chair

~Christian Ed~

The Christian Education committee strives to provide quality programs for all ages. We focus on fellowship, educational value, and Christian beliefs. The needs of all ages are addressed. While most of our time and energy has been focused on building a strong youth program to ensure the longevity of the church, we also focus on the needs of the adults.

The Wednesday bible study group and Sunday school class continue to flourish. We are currently researching some potential adult retreats. We are also looking into some all-church activities. For the youth we are bringing back more movie nights and craft events. However, just because it says, "youth movie", know that all church members are welcome to come and partake. Be watching the calendar, newsletter, and e-blasts for upcoming events.

If you would like to support the youth and their continued growth, there are two opportunities that many do not know about. We have two designated funds for youth. One is the general youth fund; this provides the funding for events. Through this fund we provide snacks or a meal at each event, supplies for events and admission to things like WinterJam or Young Christians weekend. Our second fund is the Higher Education Fund. Through this fund we provide a monetary gift to our graduating seniors moving on in their education. Gift amounts vary depending on the type of schooling and the intended course of study. Proof of acceptance and registration must be provided before the gift is given. The Education committee also provides each graduating senior with a Bible in the translation of their choice so they can further their spiritual journey. If you would like to give to either of these funds, you can do so by noting on your offering where you would like the monies to go.

However, the most precious gift you can give us is your prayers that we continue to provide for the needs of all in the way that is seen best. We appreciate all your generosity in the past and the coming future. If you would like to be a part of this committee in any capacity, feel free to reach out. We can always use help.

Stacy Eastridge, Chair

Committee Reports

FINANCE REPORT

Finance Report through FEB. 2024

Operating income Jan.	\$14,857.43
Operating expense Jan.	\$12,480.13
Year to date income	\$14,857.43
Year to date expense	\$12,480.13

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

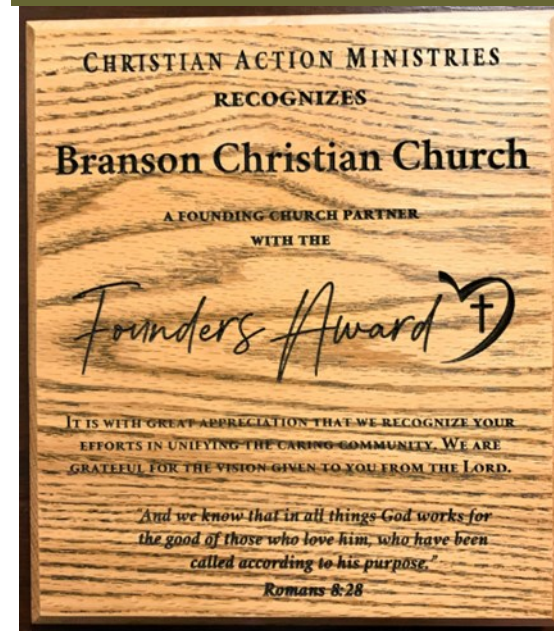
SAFE ~ SECURE ~ SIMPLE

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

~Membership	Apr. 4	5:30pm.
~Worship	Apr. 9	10:30am.
~Christian Ed.	Apr. 14	After Service
~Outreach	Apr. 15	10:00am.
~Finance	Apr. 16	2:00pm.
~Board	Apr. 18	5:30pm.



CAM Founders Award



Branson Christian Church was recognized as one of the eleven founding churches at the Christian Action Ministries (CAM) 40th anniversary celebration. BCC has supported CAM throughout its 40 years of providing food and emergency assistance to our neighbors in need. CAM continues to be a vital ministry in our community that has grown and adapted to the needs of those seeking assistance. We share in their work and ministry as they celebrate 40 years of service and caring in our community.

ALL SUNDAYS

9:30am - Sunday School
 10:15am - Fellowship Time
 10:45am - Worship Service

~April Birthdays~

- Apr. 2 Wilma Springer
- Apr. 3 Rhonda Johnson
- Apr. 3 Kelly Weinstein
- Apr. 4 Ron Derry
- Apr. 7 Annette Sain
- Apr. 8 Kelly Pratt
- Apr. 11 Jana Lindner
- Apr. 15 Carol Turpen
- Apr. 15 Karen Fisher
- Apr. 16 Qorban Tilden
- Apr. 17 Glenda Lewellen
- Apr. 19 Robert Baldwin
- Apr. 19 Sydnee Hey
- Apr. 22 Sandy Rice
- Apr. 27 Lynn Defebaugh
- Apr. 28 Lydia Pribble
- Apr. 28 Cindy Baldwin
- Apr. 29 Joe Burns
- Apr. 30 Rosemary Pribble
- Apr. 30 Annika Wydeen

~Anniversaries~

- Apr. 1 Rod & Andrea Phillips
- Apr. 7 Vernon & June Doyle
- Apr. 8 Harry & Brenda Wilhoit
- Apr. 11 James & Kristin Lea

Serving in April

Worship Leaders

- 7th ~ Chris Hedenberg
- 14th ~ Cindy Baldwin
- 21st ~ Jean Mueller
- 28th ~ Bobbie Wydeen

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 4:00-9:00pm. Youth Fundraiser @ Pizza Ranch	2 Chosen 6:00pm.	3 10:30am. – 12:00pm. Bible Study Choir rehearsal 6:00pm.	4 Membership Mtg. 5:30pm.	5	6 Young Christians Weekend @ SDC
7 VBS Planning Mtg. After service	8	9 10:30am. Worship Comm. Mtg.	10 10:30am. – 12:00pm. Bible Study Choir rehearsal 6:00pm. Handbells 7:00pm.	11 High School Choir Concert 6:00pm. @ BHS PPC Mtg. 5:30pm.	12	13
14 Teen Worship Christian Ed Mtg. After service	15 Outreach Mtg. 10:00am.	16 Finance Mtg. 2:00pm. Chosen 6:00pm.	17 10:30am. – 12:00pm. Bible Study Choir rehearsal 6:00pm.	18 5:30pm. Board Mtg.	19 5:00pm. Youth Movie Night	20 Elder Mtg. 9:00am.
21 Fellowship Dinner	22	23	24 10:30am. – 12:00pm. Bible Study Choir rehearsal 6:00pm.	25 Teen Bible Study 5:00-7:00pm.	26	27
28	29 100th Mtg. 4:30pm.	30				