

Central Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

April 2026



Pastor's Pondering

April 2026

It is intriguing that we enter the month of April with a Joker. April Fool's Day. Proverbs 1:7 says: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Have you ever felt like the fool in the room. A time when you would rather be anyplace else but where you are at that moment. I am sitting here today wondering how many of us have felt that way?

Jesus tells us over and over that he is always with us and we still find ourselves wondering and agonizing over loneliness. Are we so foolish that we skip over the wisdom and instruction that Jesus offers? The small quiet voice of the Holy Spirit within us that we foolishly ignore.

Proverbs 12:15

*The way of a fool is right in his own eyes,
but a wise man listens to advice.*

Let us not be foolish in our journey of life, listen to the voice of God and the knowledge that he is giving us.

April is not about foolish ideals or foolish acceptance. God is in us and we are stronger because we listen and learn. Believe and listen to understand the knowledge God is giving us.

Blessings and Shalom

Pastor Mike



2026

Church Board and Committee members

Board Chair: Jim Gossett

Vice Board Chair: Beth Campbell

Board Secretary: Colette Benge

Treasurer: Mary Jane Hazelwood

Property: Jeff Sommerlot, Allen Miller, Steve Huseboe, Bob Cook

Personnel/Congregational Rep: Beth Campbell, Carolyn Thompson, Peggy White..

Finance Chair: Pat Sommerlot

Missions: Judy Osgood, Beth Campbell, Marla Cook, Pat Sommerlot, Carolyn Thompson

Deacon Chair: Carolyn Thompson

Deacons: Carolyn Thompson, Ed Phillips, Rhonda Spence

DWF: Sarah Sade

Elders Chair: Mary Abens

Elders: Beth Campbell, Jan Bringman, Jim Gossett, Mary Jane Hazelwood, Andy Burt, Marla Cook, Colette Benge,

Elder Emeritus: Sara Sade

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

April Birthdays

- 2 Dennis Westphal
- 15 Jim Fiscus
- 7 Linda Halvorson
- 17 John Schneidermann
- 20 Sandy Miller
- 23 Pat Sommerlot
- 27 Frank Borton



April Greeters: Jeff and Pat Sommerlot

April Deacon: Ed Phillips

April 5

Elder: Beth Cambell

Worship Leader: Beth Campbell

Scripture: Psalm 118:1-2,14-24, John 20:1-18

Sermon: "The Empty Tomb"

Hymns:

#216 "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

#117 "He Is Lord"

#227 "In the Garden"

#224 "Up From the Grave He Arose"

April 12

Elder: Andy Burt

Worship Leader: Andy Burt

Scripture: Psalm 16, John 20:19-31

Sermon: "Peace Be With You"

Hymns:

#234 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

#76 "Wellspring"

#53 "Morning Has Broken"

#434 "God Be With You Til We Meet Again"

April 19

Elder: Mary Jane Hazelwood

Worship Leader: Judy Osgood

Scripture: Psalm 116:1-4,12-19, Luke 24:13-35

Sermon: "The Cost of Discipleship"

Hymns:

#560 "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"

#586 "Open My Eyes, That I May See"

#152CP "We Are an Offering"

#226 "He Lives"

April 26

Elder: Mary Abens

Worship Leader: Mary Abens

Scripture: Psalm 130, John 11:1-45

Sermon: "The Long Narrow Road"

#78 "The Lord's My Shepherd"

#545 "He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought"

#628 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

#540 "O Love that Wilt Not Let Me Go"

Elders Meditation



There are some months that we commonly used as first names. April, May, June and August are four of them. July could be a shortened or nickname for Julius.

April starts the string of three months in a row that are also women's names.

April is the first full month of spring and where we truly see actual signs of it.

It often has huge swings in weather. Just as we sometimes have mood swings, so it seems does April. Take the Drake Relays, scheduled annually during the last full week of April. Sit in the stands on Friday in 70° weather in shorts and short sleeves, getting well sunburned. Come back on Saturday to 30° and rain/snow, where they shovel snow off the track.

But April is when signs of new life begin to take form. Flowers blooming and trees budding brighten our lives. The ground awakening from its winter slumber. And Easter is most frequently in April. The Easter season exemplifies the renewed life in our earth. Let us, like our world, join in renewing our faith together.

Dear Lord, bless us in this Lenten season. May we seek and find the rejuvenation and reaffirmation of our faith that April brings us.

Andy Burt, Elder



PRAYER CONCERNS

Please be in prayer for the following:



Please pray for our members and families. Hold in prayer the following:

David and Linda Halvorsen, Peggy White, Lynne DeSotel, John Schneiderman, Janet Graves, Sherry Eggers, Bev Swearingen, Norma Smith, Julie Burns, Jeff Hazen, Lucas Schultz.

Prayers for those affected by acts of violence.

- ◆ Prayers for our nation that we may come together as one.
- ◆ Prayer for all of those affected by war around our world.
- ◆ Pray for those affected by flooding and other natural disasters.
- ◆ Prayers for those affected by the severe weather throughout the country.
- ◆ Pray for World Peace.

Prayer Requests

There are slips for Prayer Requests by the offering trays, in the Gathering Room and in the note box by the Church Office door. Please write your request, and check which groups you want it to go to. Let us know if it's confidential, and sign your name



Christian Conference Work Days

May 1 and 2nd

Some of the INDOOR tasks include:

- Painting
- Straighten and restock supply closets
- Camp Service Project preparation

Some of the OUTDOOR tasks include:

- Wood cutting
- Prepping for Summer Camp, including
- preparing the mini golf course
- Spreading mulch and cleaning up the flowerbeds

For more information on projects and to volunteer, email [Eric](mailto:eric@newtonccc.org) at eric@newtonccc.org.

Report for February 2026

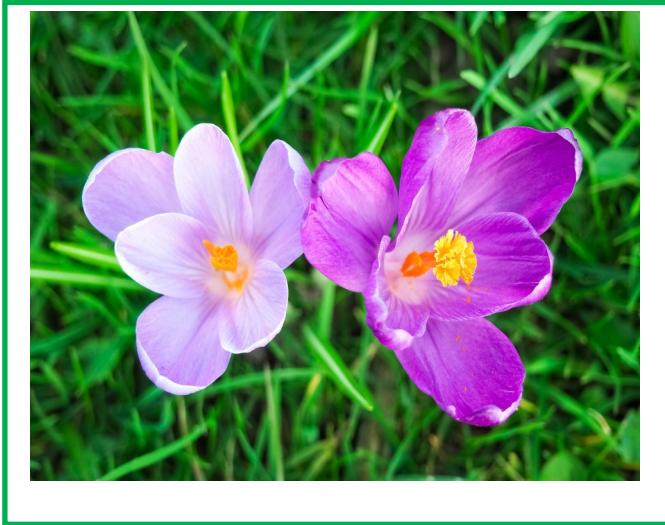
Total Revenues Month: \$7186. Budget: \$12125.00 Year: \$45692.00
Total Expenses Month: \$7945.00. Budget: \$13013.00 Year: \$21141.00

No unexpected expenses.

Future: Pastor is exploring grants to help purchase a portable AED device, and there is additional support for that from a member.

Also future: Replacing gutter over the east doors. Mary Jane Hazelwood
Treasurer.

Announcements



Gatherer's-March

Friday April 17 5:30pm

Opa's Grill

Hosted by Bob and Marla Cook

Please let Carolyn Thompson know by Wednesday April 15 if you would like a reservation.

April Mission-Donations for the Animal Rescue League

Please see the below links to view the ARL wish list. Or you can purchase items at any store in the community.

Monetary donations are also appreciated! If you are using a computer you will want to go the link below and hit control and click with your mouse. Or go to the ARL website and you will find these links as well.

Help Out With Supplies:

Amazon Wish List [HERE](#)

Chewy Wish List [HERE](#)

Cleaning around the house? We can utilize all sorts of house hold supplies! You can bring them during our open hours to: [1921 Taylor Ave](#)

April 2026

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
			1	2	3	4
				6:00pm Maundy Thursday		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10:00 Church Service Easter Sunday			1:30pm Bible Study 4:00pm Worship/ Missions Mtg 5:00pm Vocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir	10:00am PRC		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10:00 Church Service Refreshments/Foodbox			1:30pm Bible Study 4:00 Elders Mtg 5:00pm Vocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir	9:15am Quilters 1:30pm Grief Support Group	5:30pm Gatherer's at Opa Grill, Hosted by Bob and Marla Cook	9:30 Group Lydia Judy O's house
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10:00 am Church Service		5:00pm Group Rebecca	1:30pm Bible Study 4:00pm Board Mtg 5:00pm Vocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir			
26	27	28	29	30		
10:00am Church Service						

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Disciples of Christ

**300 West Main Street
Marshalltown IA
50158**

Phone: (641) 753-3129

Website: www.centraldoc.org

Email: Chalice@centraldoc.org

Facebook: Central Christian Church (Disciples of
Christ) Marshalltown

and
Marshalltown Central
Christian Church

Pastor Mike Carlson

Board Chair: Jim Gossett

Elders Chair: Mary Abens

Deacon Chair: Carolyn Thompson

Office Administrator: Becky Neiman

Custodian: Jessica Vazquez-Ramos

Organist: Colette Bengé

Choir Director: Valerie Sondag

Office Hours: 9am-1pm , Tue-Fri

2026 News



We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a
fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we
welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.
Disciples of Christ Statement of Identity

SUNDAY WORSHIP TIME 10:00 A.M.

SUNDAY ONLINE SERVICE 10:00 A.M.