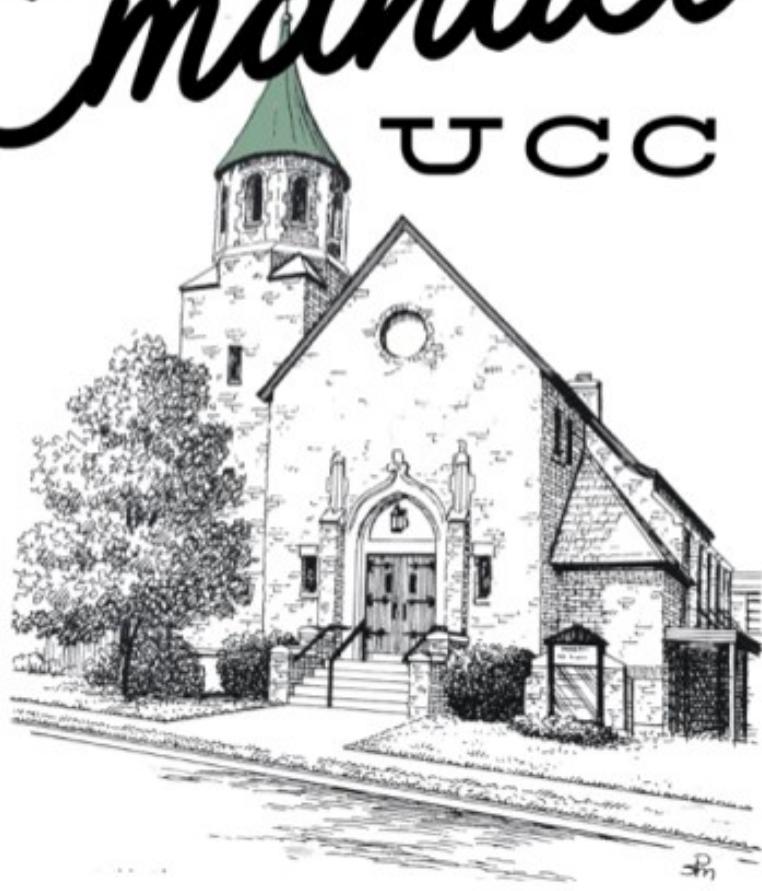


Emanuel
UCC



Good News!
February 2026

Welcoming. Witnessing. Worshiping... through Christ.

Our Staff

Pastor: Joshua W. Rau

Choir Director: Kelly Crawford

Organist: Christy Shinn

Administrative Assistant: Debra Hoffmann

Office Assistant: Alyssa Rau

Our Leadership

President: Jimmy McCormack

Vice President: Katie Beardslee

Treasurer: Pat Holley

Secretary: Geoff Shinn

Financial Secretary: Kelly Crawford

Buildings and Grounds: Matt Roethemeyer

Worship Coordinator: Ann Fields

Lay Services Director: Matt Zschille

Head Usher: Layton Beggs

*Church Council Meetings are the 2nd Sunday at 8:00 am.
All members are welcome to attend council meetings.*



Visitor Info

Ways to Give

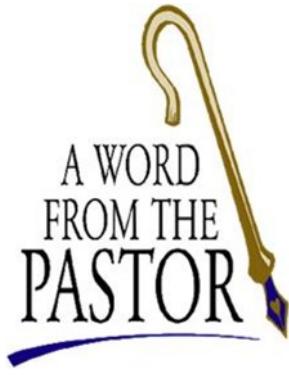
Pastor: *Cell: 715-294-0157 ~ Email:* pastorjoshuarau@gmail.com

Office: 573-243-3323 ~ **Email:** office@euccjackson.org

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9am-3pm

Website: www.euccjackson.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/euccjackson ~ **Instagram:** @euccjackson



Dear Friends in Christ,

As we step into February, my heart is full of gratitude for the joy of serving among you. Every conversation in the hallway, every prayer shared at the altar, every song lifted in worship, and every act of quiet kindness reminds me what a gift it is to be your pastor. Ministry is never something one person does alone; it is something we live together, as the body of Christ, guided by God's grace and love.

I continue to be thankful for the privilege of walking alongside you in seasons of joy and in moments of struggle. Pastoral care is one of the most sacred parts of ministry—listening, praying, celebrating milestones, and sitting tenderly with those who are hurting. Please never hesitate to reach out if you need prayer, conversation, or support. We are a community that carries one another's burdens and joys, trusting that God meets us in both.

February also brings us to the threshold of Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday. Lent invites us into a season of reflection, repentance, prayer, and renewed attentiveness to God's presence in our lives. It is not about perfection or guilt, but about making space for grace—to listen more deeply, to love more fully, and to walk more intentionally with Christ. I encourage you to join us for our Ash Wednesday worship as we begin this sacred journey together. And we will gather once again during the week for Mid-week meal and worship.

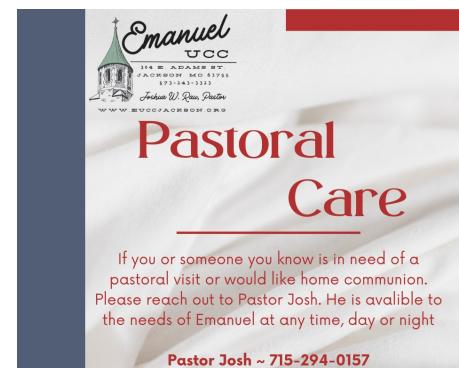
In the weeks ahead, we will also gather for our Annual Meeting. This is an important moment in the life of our congregation—a time to give thanks for where we have been, to celebrate what God has been doing among us, and to look prayerfully toward where the Spirit may be leading us next. Your voice, presence, and participation matter as we discern our shared future.

Above all, I am grateful for the journey we are on together. God continues to shape us into a community of welcome, compassion, generosity, and faith. Wherever you find yourself right now—full of hope, carrying questions, or longing for renewal—know that you belong here and that you are deeply loved.

I look forward to all that God will continue to unfold among us at EUCC.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Josh





Upcoming Events

Sun.	Feb. 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faith and Fellowship 9 am • Worship 10:10 am
Wed.	Feb. 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meditations from Emanuel • Choir 6 pm
Thurs	Feb. 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bethany Circle 2 pm in church parlor • Stewardship Committee 5 pm
Sat.	Feb. 7	Ignite Worship 5:30 pm in Fellowship Hall
Sun.	Feb. 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Church Council 8 am • Faith and Fellowship 9 am • Worship 10:10 am • Women's Fellowship Meeting after worship
Wed.	Feb. 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meditations from Emanuel
Sat	Feb. 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clothing Closet 9-11 am • Ignite Worship 5:30 pm in Fellowship Hall <p>Happy Valentine's Day </p>
Sun.	Feb. 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faith and Fellowship 9 am • Worship 10:10 am • <i>Transfiguration Sunday</i> • CBE meeting after worship
Mon.	Feb. 16	President's Day
Wed.	Feb. 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meditations from Emanuel • Ash Wednesday 7 pm
Sat.	Feb. 21	Ignite Worship 5:30 pm in Fellowship Hall
Sun.	Feb. 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faith and Fellowship 9 am • Worship 10:10 am • <i>*First Sunday of Lent</i> • <i>*Blanket Sunday</i> • Congregational Meeting after worship
Wed.	Feb. 25	<p>Meditations from Emanuel</p> <p>Mid-Week Lenten Service</p> <p>Meal @ 5:45 pm, Worship @ 6:30 pm</p>
Sun.	March 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faith and Fellowship 9 am • Worship 10:10 am

Weekly Use of Church Facilities

Every Monday	TOPS 11am
Every Tuesday	Guitar Lessons 3:30-6:30 pm
Every Wednesday	Optimist 12:00-1:00 pm

Greeters-February

Feb. 1	Joy Kessler Brenda Pender
Feb. 8	Mark & Lisa Dambach
Feb. 15	Rick & Pam Brown
Feb. 22	Larry & Shirley Bock

Readers-February

Feb. 1	Ann Fields
Feb. 8	Catheryn Hartle
Feb. 15	Alyssa Rau
Feb. 22	Heather Beggs

Altar Flowers-February

Feb. 1	Karrie Zschille
Feb. 8	Karrie Zschille
Feb. 15	Joy Kessler
Feb. 22	Matt Roethemeyer

The due date for submissions for the March newsletter is February 23, 2026. Please send submissions to: office@euccjackson.org or call 573.243.3323.

Stewardship Corner

We want to thank everyone for the donations to the food pantry. Please see the list of requested items on this page. There is also a list posted by the donation barrel. This is a very important mission of our church.

The Dime a Day project is active again. Donate a dime a day for the year. \$36.50 per person in your family. Make sure to mark the check or envelope indicating it is to go to the Dime a Day fund. The money will be used to fund needs of the church or special projects in the future.

Stewardship does mean that God is the ultimate owner of everything and we are stewards of his possessions. We are tasked with managing God's resources (time, talents, money, creation) wisely and reflecting His purpose.

We are to be our brothers keeper. We are to make sure we are helping those who need help. We need to support the community and our sister churches. Bring a neighbor or friend to church. Support our online services. Support our Pastor Josh and the Church Council. Say thank you to Deb Hoffman for keeping the church organized. Thank Kelly Crawford for providing the leadership for our choir. Thank Christy Shinn for sharing her God -given talent with us. Thank Alyssa Rau for assisting in the office and cleaning the church.

When you enter our church, smile and share your blessings with others.

May God bless and keep each of you.

Stewardship Committee

Emanuel United Church of Christ ~ Stewardship Committee



FOOD PANTRY DRIVE

January	Peanut Butter, Jelly, Crackers, Jello
February	Canned goods: chicken, potatoes, soups, fruit
March	Instant mashed potatoes (just add water)
April	Canned Goods: baked beans, peas, tomatoes, corn
May	Sugar, cooking oil, tea bags
June	Flour, tomato sauce, complete pancake mix, syrup
July	Juice (orange, grape, apple), canned chili with meat, stew
August	Canned Goods: tuna, vegetables (green beans, etc.), Vienna sausages
September	Powdered milk, salt, pepper, pudding (already made)
October	Canned pumpkin, canned cranberry sauce, mustard, ketchup, mayonnaise
November	Soup with meat, Spaghetti O's with meatballs, dried beans
December	Hot chocolate, pork 'n beans, hot chocolate mix,

This is a new list of items needed for the Food Pantry for 2026. There is also a list posted by the donation barrel in the vestibule. Please feel free to bring one item or all for the month. If you need help to carry in items on a Sunday, let the greeters, Layton Beggs, or Matt Roethemeyer know and they will get your items carried in.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

At least 39 prayer shawls have been documented as sent out during 2025. This is 22 more than in 2024.

As we report this, it would be a time for us again to thank God for the recoveries and comfort that has been given and to pray for those who are still struggling or in pain or mourning. Our prayers are one way we can support those we love and care for either near or far.

As we continue this wonderful ministry in 2026, remember that anyone can contribute prayer shawls. They can be knitted, crocheted or quilted. They can be placed in a bag in the Lower Junior Room. From there we will label and place an information tag on each one.

If you have a request for a prayer shawl and/or need help selecting one, ask an usher, Alyssa, or Marilee to show you where they are located and help you find an appropriate one. Please remember to fill out the index card clipped to the shawl and place it in the basket. This allows us to document each shawl that is given. During worship, you may announce who it is for, or Pastor Joshua or the liturgist can do this for you.

Any questions contact see Marilee or Alyssa.

Blanket Sunday February 22, 2026

Your donation to Church World Services Blanket Fund will help to provide hope when it is needed most. Your compassion will bring comfort, care and the promise of a new beginning to neighbors facing a difficult time. Thank you for being part of a community that shows up — again and again — with love. Last year CWS shipped 17,317 blankets, 71,760 hygiene kits, as well as disaster preparedness kits, etc.

Envelopes will be available in the pews on Sunday, February 22 and March 1.



FOOD PANTRY

For the month of February, the food pantry is in need of:

- CANNED CHICKEN
- CANNED POTATOES
- CANNED SOUPS
- CANNED FRUIT



DONATIONS NEEDED!



Annual Meeting

**February 22, 2026
After Worship**

Congregational Meeting Agenda—February 22, 2026

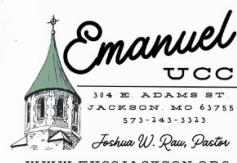
Call to Order
Opening Prayer
Minutes —2025 Congregational Meetings
Financial Report
Annual Report
 Pastor's Report
 Council President's Report
Conference Delegate's Report
Buildings and Grounds
Rental Property
Business from the Floor
Adjourn



Ash Wednesday Worship

Service of Holy Communion with
Imposition of Ashes

**February 18, 2026
7:00 pm**



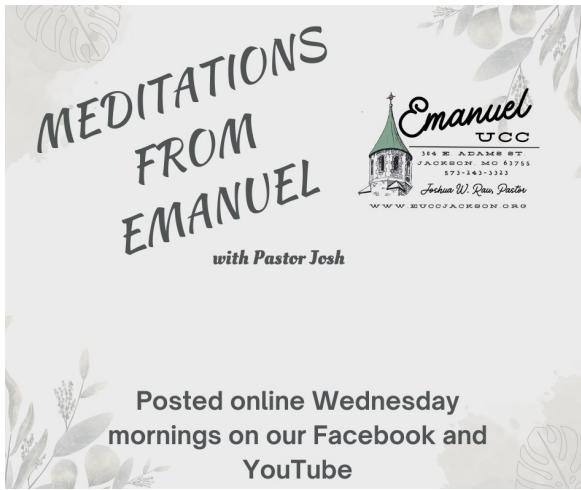
Mid-Week Lent Worship

Journey of Stones

February 25
March 4, 11, 18, 25

Meal at 5:45pm
Worship at 6:30 pm





March Events

World Day of Prayer

March 6, 2026

1:00 p.m.

Emanuel United Church of Christ

"I Will Give You Rest: Come"

Matthew 11:28-30



March 20 & 21

Women's Ministries



Bethany Circle

Members gathered in the church parlor at 2:00 PM. Debra Hoffmann opened the meeting with Welcome, Joys, Concerns and an opening prayer. The 2026 Bethany Circle meeting schedule, program and hostess assignments and contact information was distributed to members for review.

Cathy Sievers began the program with a New Year prayer and reading of "New Year, New You". New Year resolutions were anonymously shared. Program ended with a closing prayer from Cathy.

Business meeting was called to order by President Debra Hoffmann followed by 7 members answering roll call.

Old Business:

- December minutes were read by Secretary Lisa Dambach and approved.
- Treasurer Dorothy Rowley gave the financial report. Balance on Jan.1, 2025 was \$680.71. Total income for 2025 was \$724.62 with total expenses for 2025 of \$624.18. Donations for 2025 were to Amen Center, Foster Adopt Connect, Jackson R-2 back pack, EUCC blanket Sunday, EUCC Memorial Fund, Women's Prison Kits, postage for Christmas shoe boxes and R-2 Christmas child. Balance as of Dec. 31, 2025 is \$781.15.

New Business:

- Meeting time was discussed. Time will remain at 2:00 pm through March with further discussion to follow. Suggestions for July meeting program were requested.
- Debra Hoffman reports that she spoke with Anna at My Daddy's Cheesecake regarding Bethany Circle fundraiser to sell cheesecakes. It was reported that no changes to fundraising program will be made with store under new ownership. Orders will be taken from April 12-26, 2026 with orders due by April 27, 2026. Anticipated pickup date of May 3 or 4 for distribution.
- Donations for 2026 were discussed. Motion to continue to donate to Blanket Sunday was made and seconded by all. Motion was made by Joy Kessler to discontinue our support Women's Prison kits for 2026 and seconded by all. It was agreed to continue the free will offering of \$20.00 for your birthday month.
- The possibility of Bethany Circle providing food at the Christmas Holiday Market was discussed. Debra will discuss it at next Women's Fellowship meeting and report back.

Upcoming Events:

- *Ash Wednesday is Feb. 18, 2026
- *Church yearbooks are in progress.
- *World Day of Prayer is Friday March 6, 2026. EUCC will be organizing this year's program and refreshments due to construction at Immaculate Conception. Debra is requesting help and will reach out to area churches also.

Closing:

Meeting ended with The Mizpah prayer followed with snacks brought by members to enjoy. Next meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2026 at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Dambach, Secretary



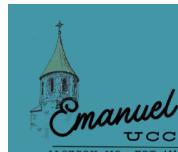
Women's Fellowship

The Women's Fellowship will meet after worship on **Sunday, February 8** in the sanctuary to discuss upcoming events, service projects, and organizational business.

Next meeting will be in May.

Officers for 2026

President: Kelly Crawford
Vice President: Heather Beggs
Secretary: Catheryn Hartle
Treasurer: Earlene Sokolowski



Clothing Closet

Emanuel UCC is pleased to offer free clothing to anyone in need through our Clothing Closet Ministry

2nd Saturday of each month
9:00 am-11:00 am

320A East Adams St.
Jackson, MO 63755

(white house on the corner of E Adams & Georgia St)

* ACCEPTING GENTLY USED WINTER CLOTHING *

www.euccjackson.org

573-243-3323

Church Council Minutes

Below are the unapproved minutes from the January 11, 2026 Church Council Meeting. Minutes will be approved at the next council meeting.

EUCC Council Meeting Minutes 1/11/26

Meeting Members: Kelly Crawford, Katie Beardslee, Pat Holley, Matt Zschille, Jimmy McCormack, Ann Fields

Members absent: Matt Roethemeyer, Geoff Shinn, Layton Beggs

The meeting was called to order at 8:06 with an opening prayer by Pastor Josh.

Previous minutes were available for review. Motion for approval of previous minutes made by Katie and seconded by Kelly. Council approved.

Treasurer and Financial reports given by Pat Holley. Will file for audit.

Report of Committees

Buildings and grounds report:

- The boiler needed to be repaired again. It is currently working.
- The parsonage space heater for the back porch is working.

Audit committee report: Will meet again in January. New committee members Dorothy Rowley and Diana Roethemeyer.

Rental property: All is well.

Clothing Closet: Nine people came yesterday. A window needs to be repaired. Donations will be accepted again in February. Mark Statler will help move clothing and trash.

Stewardship Committee: Met last week. They are planning a spaghetti supper in April. Discussed adding a book club and trivia.

CBE report: Will meet next week.

Lay Service/ Member Care report: Matt Z. will work on getting Pat Abernathy a ride to church once a month.

Worship report: All is well. May need some help in June or July. Roxie Davis was able to help this week.

Head Usher report: Have moved to using 2 ushers for offering when necessary. Will keep 4 for communion.

Pastor Report with notes from Pastor Joshua Rau

- Venmo Account is set up for offering. There is a 1.3% fee for each transaction. Links will be added to videos, bulletins and pew racks.
- Damian Lake is currently acting as the interim Mid-South Conference leader.
- Still getting many online views on the services.
- Pastor Josh will be gone on Jan 24 & 25, 2026. We need a council member to help with Ignite service on Jan 24. Kelly will run the PowerPoint. Ann, Katie, Kelly and Jimmy will lead worship on Jan 25.
- Katie motioned that we need to move 3% of Pastor's adjusted salary (\$2008) into the housing fund for Pastor Josh (per call agreement). Matt Z. second. Motion passed.
- Need to update bank signers for 2026.
- Discussed radio ads - council felt like the 4 ads we are paying for are not giving us many more visitors. We will let the contract expire.
- Pastor Josh asked the council to have a goal of putting more support into more aspects of our church life. Being active in both worship services.

Old Business

Church Insurance Quote - Pat will ask for an itemized breakdown from the Insurance Board so that we can decide on coverage.

Pam Brown will be the new member on the PSRC.

The elevator is taken care of. We have a 3 yr. Contract with Otis. The 5 yr. Inspection is coming up soon.

The automatic billing from GoDaddy has been stopped. We are locked into this website until the end of 2027. The church email is connected to GoDaddy.

New Business

Pat moved to set the Annual Congregational Meeting for February 22, 2026. Matt Z. seconded. Motion passed. The agenda and Annual report will be sent out to the congregation on Feb 8. Debra will email the agenda to council members to approve before sending out.

Pastor Josh thanked the council for allowing him to work remotely and be with Alyssa while she was in the hospital.

Next meeting: Feb 8, 2026 8:00 AM

Meeting adjourned at 9:09 with motion by Katie, seconded by Matt Z with the Lord's prayer led by Jimmy.

Submitted by: Geoff Shinn, Church Council Secretary with notes supplied by Kelly Crawford

Christian Board of Education (CBE) Meeting Minutes - January 18, 2026

The Christian Board of Education (CBE) met on **Sunday, January 18**, in-person. Members in attendance included Morgan Hoffman (President), Marcie Brown (Treasurer), Karrie Zschille (Librarian), Amber McCormack (Vice President), Lydia Shinn (Secretary), Heather Beggs (Event Coordinator), Pastor Joshua Rau, and Katie Beardslee (Council Liaison).

Old Business/Follow-Up

Nursery Class Update

We discussed the Nursery Class dynamic, and will report back after the next meeting with results.

Goals for the new year

Each member shared a goal within the group of what they want to see for the new year. Some include understanding the role within the group, and to be consistent with Christ. As a group we want to remain consistent with CBE events along with a positive attitude.

Group Rolls

Morgan went through each roll to confirm if each member wanted to stay with the same role or move to a different roll. Everyone agreed to remain in their own role which left the secretary open to Lydia Shinn

Annual Report Follow-up

CBE reviewed the Annual Report for 2024 and collaborated on what needed to be added or changed for the 2025 Annual Report.

New Business

Marcie explained her daughter's passion project with school. Based on the passion project it was decided that Katie should discuss it with Council to receive their final decision.

Next Meeting

The next CBE meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, February 15**, following worship.

For questions or to assist with any of these initiatives, please reach out to a CBE member. Thank you for your continued support of Christian education at our church!

Financial Report

Pat Holley, Treasurer

December 2025 BUDGET COMPARISON

2025 BUDGET		
Annual Budget	Budgeted Contributions Monthly Average	2025 YTD Annual Budget thru December '25 (1 Mo)
\$235,086.00	\$19,590.50	\$235,086.00
	December '25 MTD Contributions & Other Income	December '25 YTD Contributions & Other Income
	\$20,155.26	\$207,674.91
	2025 December Excess (Shortfall)	Projected EOY 2025 Annual Budget Shortfall based on Income Thru December '25
	\$564.76	(\$27,411.09)

CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL OFFERINGS & DEDICATED FUNDS NOT AVAILABLE TO FUND CHURCH BUDGET		
	Contributions in December '25	Contributions YTD 2025
UC Funds	\$150.00	\$5,000.68
Dime-A-Day	\$0.00	\$616.89
CWS Blankets	\$0.00	\$370.00
California Disaster Relief	\$0.00	\$595.00
FMSC	\$0.00	\$910.14
Food Pantry & Family Thank Offering	\$0.00	\$586.00
Neighbors in Need	\$0.00	\$220.00
One Gt Hr Sharing	\$0.00	\$245.00
Strengthen the Church	\$0.00	\$415.00
Women's Prison Kits	\$0.00	\$250.00
Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Shipping	\$0.00	\$180.00
Christmas Fd/ Veterans of the Cross	\$95.00	\$95.00
TOTAL		\$9,483.71

February Birthdays



1	Blake Nekula
3	Faye Jean Langston
4	Scott Martin
4	Beth St. John
5	Rhonda Sievers
6	Joy Kessler
7	Jim Nekula
7	Collin Rosborg
10	Katie Biri
12	Grayson Scholl
15	Rayleigh McCormack
16	Kent Peetz
19	Robert Friedrich III
21	Tim Martin
26	Heather Cantoni
29	Betty Burns
29	Kim Hodo

February Anniversaries

5	Jake & Laurie Hency, 15th
5	Matt & Karrie Zschille, 21st
8	Dennis & Shirley McCormack, 56th
24	Gene & Linda Click, 53rd



Recommended Scripture February

Feb. 1	Micah 6:1-8 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Matthew 5:1-12
Feb. 8	Isaiah 58:1-12 1 Corinthians 2:1-16 Matthew 5:13-20
Feb. 15	Exodus 24:12-18 2 Peter 1:16-21 Matthew 17:1-9
Feb. 22	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11

We Keep in Prayer

Please keep in your prayers those who are in need of healing and our shut-ins and homebound members. May God's grace surround them with comfort and care.

Mary Lou Abernathy, Pat Abernathy, LaDonia Beggs, June Borgfield, Larry Brockmire, Jeffrey Kies, Alice Koeppel, Robert Loos, Junior Peetz, Marvin Peetz, Helen Poston, Alice Quigley, Cindy Smith

Emanuel United Church of Christ
304 E. Adams St.
Jackson, Missouri 63755
573-243-3323



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Worship With Us!

Ignite Worship
A Contemporary Worship
Experience

Saturday
5:30 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

Traditional Worship
Liturgical Worship Celebration

Sunday
10:10 a.m. | Sanctuary

Holy Communion~ Monthly 1st Saturday and Sunday

Faith and Fellowship ~Sunday School | 9:00 a.m.

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