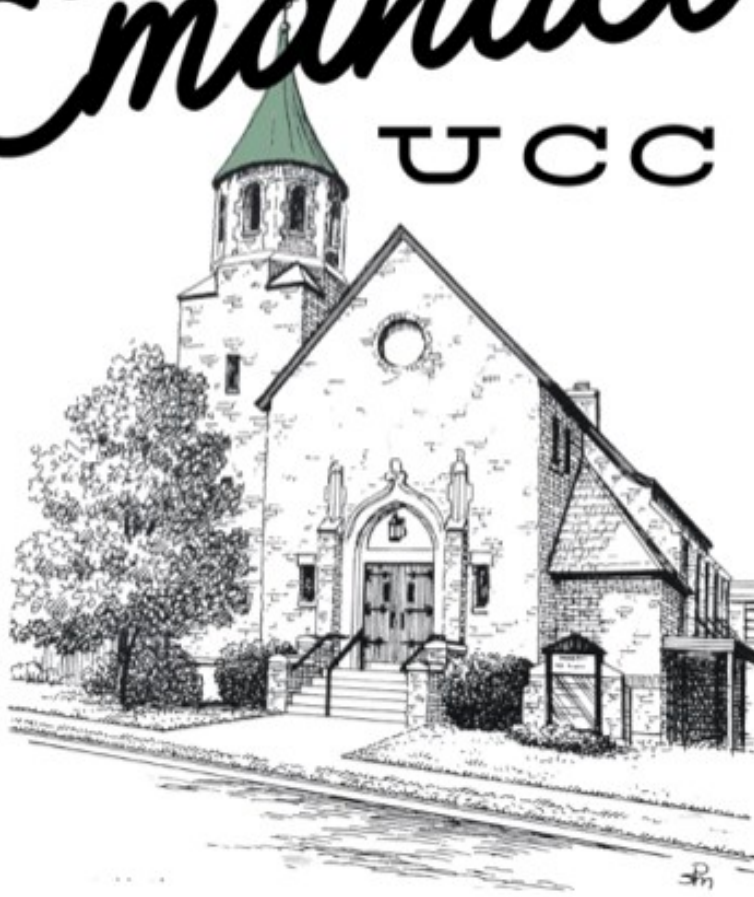


Emanuel

UCC



Good News!

April 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



Via Venmo
(no statement available)



Via Website
(giving statement available)

Ways to Give

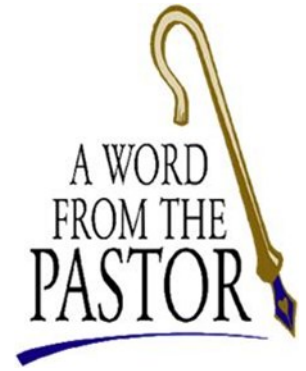
Pastor: Cell: 715-294-0157 ~ **Email:** pastorjoshuarau@gmail.com

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

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9am-3pm
Pastor's Day of Sabbath—Friday

Website: www.euccjackson.org

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



Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”
2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV)

Dear Friends in Christ,

Easter fills the church with joy that words can hardly capture: *“Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!”* These ancient words echo through the centuries, reminding us that resurrection is not just a miracle of the past but a living promise for today. Through the power of Christ’s resurrection, God is still bringing new life; into broken hearts, weary spirits and even into communities of faith like ours.

As spring unfolds, we see this renewal reflected all around us. Gardens begin to stir, trees bud with new leaves, and the air is filled with light and song once again. Nature itself seems to join in Easter’s celebration. It’s a powerful reminder that God’s handiwork is alive and active, bringing forth life from what seemed dormant or lost. In the rhythm of the seasons, we catch a glimpse of the resurrection pattern that shapes our faith—death giving way to life, darkness turning to light, despair to hope.

Emanuel is very much a place where this renewal can be seen and felt. It’s in our worship as voices rise together in praise and thanksgiving; it’s in the fellowship we share over coffee and conversation; it’s in the quiet ministries that bring comfort, food and prayer to those in need. Week after week, we gather not as perfect people, but as those transformed by grace; a grace that meets us as we are and leads us into the fullness of God’s love.

This Easter season, my prayer is that each of us would be renewed in spirit. May the joy we feel in worship carry into our daily lives—in our homes, our workplaces and our community. Let us remember that we are called not just to celebrate the risen Christ but to live as witnesses of His resurrection. That means sharing kindness, offering forgiveness and extending a sincere welcome to all who cross our paths.

Let’s keep being the Church—a community of grace and hope for Jackson and beyond. I encourage you to invite friends, neighbors and family members to join us for worship, to participate in our ministries and to share the good news of all that God is doing here. Whether through conversation or through a simple social media post, every invitation is a seed of grace waiting to bloom.

May the joy of Easter and the beauty of spring bless you abundantly. Christ is risen indeed—and His life is shining among us!

Yours In Christ,

Pastor Josh



THE CONGREGATION OF
EMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

JOYFULLY INVITES YOU TO JOIN IN WORSHIP AND
CELEBRATION AT THE

*SERVICE OF ORDINATION TO
THE MINISTRY OF WORD AND
SACRAMENT*

FOR

Joshua W. Rau

BY THE GRACE OF GOD AND THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE
EASTERN ASSOCIATION, MISSOURI MID-SOUTH
CONFERENCE, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST.

MAY

SUN
31

2026

THREE O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

304 E. ADAMS ST. JACKSON, MO 63755

CLERGY & PASTORS ARE INVITED TO VEST WITH RED STOLES

RSVP by May 19, 2026
office@euccjackson.org



Reception to follow



Upcoming Events

Thurs.	Apr. 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bethany Circle 2:00 pm in Church Parlor Choir Practice-6:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship-7:00 pm
Fri.	Apr. 3	Good Friday Worship—Noon in the Chapel
Sat.	Apr. 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter Brunch 10:00 am Ignite Worship in Fellowship Hall 5:30 pm
Sun.	Apr. 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SONrise Service 6:30 am on church lawn Faith & Fellowship 9:00 am Worship 10:10 am—<i>Easter Sunday</i>
Wed.	Apr. 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meditations from Emanuel Stewardship Meeting-6:00 pm
Sat.	Apr. 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clothing Closet 9-11 am Ignite Worship in Fellowship Hall 5:30 pm
Sun.	Apr. 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church Council Meeting 8:00 am Faith & Fellowship 9:00 am Worship 10:10 am
Wed.	Apr. 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meditations from Emanuel Choir practice 6:00 pm
Fri.	Apr. 17	Spaghetti Supper-5-7pm
Sun.	Apr. 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faith & Fellowship 9:00 am Worship 10:10 am CBE meeting after worship Eastern Association meeting 2:00 pm
Wed.	Apr. 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meditations from Emanuel
Sun.	Apr. 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faith & Fellowship 9 am Worship 10:10 am
Wed.	Apr. 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meditations from Emanuel

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

Greeters--April

Apr. 5	Lanie Brown Cali Williams
Apr. 12	Joy Kessler Lisa Dambach
Apr. 19	Catheryn Hartle Brenda Pender
Apr. 26	Mark & Lisa Dambach

Readers--April

Apr. 5	Alyssa Rau
Apr. 12	Cathy Sievers
Apr. 19	Shirley McCormack
Apr. 26	Barb Chaney

Altar Flowers-April

Apr. 5	Easter Lilies
Apr. 12	Shirley McCormack
Apr. 19	Ann Fields
Apr. 26	Melanie Lutes



Pastor Josh will be out of the office **April 13-16**. He will be attending a UCC meeting in Cleveland.

The due date for submissions for the May newsletter is April 27, 2026. Please send submissions to: office@euccjackson.org or call 573.243.3323.

Stewardship Corner

There are 4 pillars of Stewardship.

Hospitality: creating a warm, welcoming, loving place and atmosphere for worship

Prayer: personal, family, and group prayers which nourish and strengthen each of us to be better stewards

Formation: a lifelong process of transforming the heart and mind. It involves educating oneself on the meaning of stewardship, studying the faith, and developing a deeper relationship with God.

Service: sharing gifts of time, talent, and answering the call to love our neighbors.

The world we live in now challenges us daily to be good stewards. There are so many needs now.

Continue supporting our community by donating to the food pantry by giving non-perishable items or by giving money. You could also donate your time. There is a list of monthly items needed in back of church by the bell.

Donate to the Dime a Day program to help the church with missions and expanding our ministries.

Donate time to church by singing in the choir, join a committee, lawn work, cleaning, and attending regularly.

Watch out for your neighbors, invite them to church, make sure they are safe and their needs are met.

God Bless you on your journey to be a better Steward.

Stewardship Committee

YOU ARE INVITED TO A

Spaghetti Supper

APRIL 17, 2026 5 - 7 PM

\$12.00 Online tickets available via Venmo or pay at the door.

venmo

There will be spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, dessert, and drinks. You can sell to your co-workers, family, friends, and neighbors. You may pay by check, cash or Venmo.

Come and Join Us for a yummy ,fun filled evening.

Book Study

Starting in May we will have a book study led by Marilee Roethemeyer. The book is: "The Gift of Years" by Joan Chittister. It can be purchased at Walmart for \$4.98, Amazon for \$14.46, and Barnes and Noble for \$16.95. It may also be available at eBay.

How do you regard aging? Is it tinged with anxiety and regret? Or is it an adventure, a time to find meaning and a ripening? This book emphasizes the power of positive thinking.

She invites readers to embrace aging not as a decline but a season rich with wisdom and joy.

We will meet twice a month through the summer. This is for men and women. We all age differently and we all have individual thoughts and feelings about getting older.

More information will be announced here and on Sundays. Please get your book and plan to join us.

Happy Aging



**MAUNDY
THURSDAY
WORSHIP**

**April 2, 2026
7:00 pm**



Emanuel
UCC
314 E ADAMS ST.
JACKSON, MO 63755
573-243-3323
Joshua W. Rain, Pastor
WWW.EMANUELMO.ORG



YOU'RE INVITED


EASTER BRUNCH

SATURDAY—APRIL 4—10 AM
304 E Adams St, Jackson, MO

EGG HUNT IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING! BRING YOUR BASKET AND JOIN US FOR EGGS, TREATS & FUN!





Emanuel
UCC
JACKSON, MO • EST. 1867

Good  FRIDAY

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

April 3, 2026 ~ NOON
in the Chapel

Emanuel
UCC
314 E ADAMS ST.
JACKSON, MO 63755
573-243-3323
Joshua W. Rain, Pastor

Easter at Emanuel

April 5, 20256

Easter SONrise Worship - 6:30 am
In the Courtyard

Easter Celebration Worship - 10:10 am
In the Sanctuary




Emanuel
UCC
314 E ADAMS ST.
JACKSON, MO 63755
573-243-3323
Joshua W. Rain, Pastor



FOOD PANTRY

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

- BAKED BEANS
- CANNED PEAS
- CANNED TOMATOES
- CANNED CORN



DONATIONS NEEDED!

Faith

OVER FEAR

IGNITE WORSHIP SERIES

JOIN US FOR A NEW SERIES CALLING US TO MOVE FROM ANXIETY TO TRUST BY FIXING OUR EYES ON GOD'S PRESENCE, PROMISES, AND LOVE.

SATURDAY AT 5:30 PM

Bethany Circle Fundraiser

April 12–26

Cheesecakes for Every Occasion!

Looking for a special treat? Surprise your guests this spring with a cheesecake from My Daddy's Cheesecake! Perfect for Mother's Day, Graduation, Family Reunion, or any celebration.



• Classic

• Berry Swirl



• Mississippi Mud

• Turtle



Size: 2 lbs. — 9" round

Freshness: Stays fresh in the refrigerator for 2 weeks or in the freezer for up to 6–8 months

Only \$18 each!

Order April 12–26 and support the Bethany Circle Fundraiser! Proceeds will go to support their mission work.

Order Pickup: Saturday, May 2 or Sunday, May 3 in the Old Fellowship Hall.

Clean Up Day

April 18, 2026
9:00 am

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!
PLEASE COME AND HELP US CLEAN UP THE OUTSIDE AND INSIDE AREAS OF OUR CHURCH

Women's Ministries



Bethany Circle

Members gathered in the church parlor at 2:00 PM. Pastor Joshua Rau opened the meeting with a prayer in remembrance of member Rhonda Sievers who passed away. Debra Hoffman continued with Joys and Concerns.

Shirley Bock lead the devotion with a story from the book "Proof of Angels" followed by a discussion of "Do you believe in Angels?"

Business meeting was called to order by President Debra Hoffmann followed by 6 members answering roll call. Minutes from February 2026 meeting were read by Secretary Lisa Dambach and approved.

Treasurer report was given by Debra Hoffman in Dorothy Rowley's absence with a current balance of \$856.15 as of February 28, 2026.

Old Business:

Debra is still awaiting cheesecake order forms from My Daddy's Cheesecake.

World Day of Prayer is March 6, 2026 hosted by EUCC. Debra has confirmed refreshments that will be provided. She reports that a former missionary to Nigeria will be attending to share her experience in that country.

Bethany Circle meeting time for April will stay at 2:00 PM due to it falling on Maundy Thursday.

New Business:

Motion was made by Cathy to donated \$25.00 to EUCC Memorial Fund in memory of Rhonda Sievers and second by Alyssa Rau.

Debra read a thank you note from the Amen Center for the 2025 donation.

Upcoming Events:

Lenten meals and worship service continues as scheduled.

Palm Sunday is March 29 and Easter is April 5.

The Stewardship Committee is planning a Spaghetti dinner in April.

Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt is planned for April 4.

Closing:

Meeting ended with The Mizpah prayer followed by refreshments.

Next meeting scheduled for April 2, 2026 at 2:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Dambach, Secretary



Women's Fellowship

The Women's Fellowship met on February 8th following worship. Minutes were printed in the March newsletter. The next meeting/event will be Saturday, May 9. Details on page 10.



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 SPRING/SUMMER CLOTHING



[www.euccjackson.org](http://www.euccjackson.org)

573-243-3323

The Clothing Closet is in need of large totes to store out-of-season clothing.



Donations would be greatly appreciated.

You may place the totes in the old fellowship hall.



## EUCC Mother's Day Brunch 2026

Join us for a morning full of food, fun, and fellowship as we celebrate Moms and all the ladies who play a special role in our lives.

You may use the link found on the website or Facebook Event to sign up.

**Please RSVP by: Friday May 1, 2026**

## Recognition of Graduates

On May 10 during morning worship, we would like to recognize those in our church family who are graduating from any educational institution.

If you or a member of your family would like to be included in this recognition, please submit your name and school name to the church office by Monday, May 4.



Nestled amid rolling hills a few miles southwest of Union, Mo., Camp MoVal features more than 150 acres of beautiful forests, native prairie, natural streams, and a lake.

|                                             |                |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------|
| MMS-UCC Conference Women's Retreat          | May 1-3        |
| High School Camp (completed 8th-12th grade) | June 21-26     |
| Family Camp (All Ages)                      | June 28-July 2 |
| All Ages Camp #1 (grades 3-9)               | July 5-10      |
| All Ages Camp #2 (grades 3-9)               | July 12-17     |
| Adventures in Community (ages 18+)          | July 19-23     |

Summer Camp Fun is just a few clicks away — Register Today!  
<https://missourimidsouth.org/camp-moval>

# Church Council Minutes

Minutes from the March 15, 2026 Church Council Meeting were not available. They will be published in next month's newsletter.

## Financial Report — Pat Holley, Treasurer

### February 2026 BUDGET COMPARISON

| 2026 BUDGET   |                                                          |                                                                                     |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Annual Budget | Budgeted Expense Monthly Average                         | 2026 YTD Annual Budget thru February '26                                            |
| \$215,488.00  | \$17,957.33                                              | \$35,914.67                                                                         |
|               | <b>February '26 MTD Contributions &amp; Other Income</b> | <b>February '26 YTD Contributions &amp; Other Income</b>                            |
|               | \$11,519.75                                              | \$17,876.95                                                                         |
|               | <b>2026 February Excess (Shortfall)</b>                  | <b>Projected EOY 2026 Annual Budget Shortfall based on Income Thru February '26</b> |
|               | (\$6,437.58)                                             | (\$108,226.30)                                                                      |

| CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL OFFERINGS & DEDICATED FUNDS NOT AVAILABLE TO FUND CHURCH BUDGET |                               |                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
|                                                                                          | Contributions in February '26 | Contributions YTD 2026 |
| UC Funds                                                                                 | \$0.00                        | \$300.00               |
| Dime-A-Day                                                                               | \$146.00                      | \$146.00               |
| CWS Blankets                                                                             | \$470.00                      | \$470.00               |
| California Disaster Relief                                                               | \$0.00                        | \$0.00                 |
| FMSC                                                                                     | \$0.00                        | \$0.00                 |
| Food Pantry & Family Thank Offering                                                      | \$120.00                      | \$320.00               |
| Neighbors in Need                                                                        | \$0.00                        | \$0.00                 |
| One Gt Hr Sharing                                                                        | \$0.00                        | \$0.00                 |
| Strengthen the Church                                                                    | \$0.00                        | \$0.00                 |
| Women's Prison Kits                                                                      | \$0.00                        | \$0.00                 |
| Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Shipping                                                       | \$0.00                        | \$0.00                 |
| Christmas Fd/Veterans of the Cross                                                       | \$0.00                        | \$0.00                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                                                             |                               | <b>\$1,236.00</b>      |

### Online Contributors—New Information

To modify an online recurring donation in Breeze.

1. Log into Breeze using your established member username and password  
—<https://eucc.breezechms.com/>

and Click on "Give a Gift" > Recurring Gift

2. Click "change" next to the recurring gift you wish to update

3. Click "Show More Options"



## April Birthdays

|    |                      |
|----|----------------------|
| 3  | Roxie Davis          |
| 3  | Chad Hankins         |
| 3  | Shirley McCormack    |
| 3  | Geoff Shinn          |
| 4  | Jeremy Loenneke      |
| 5  | Earlene Sokolowski   |
| 7  | Levin Hoffman        |
| 8  | LaDonia Beggs        |
| 8  | Rev. Sam Roethemeyer |
| 10 | Jacob Scholl         |
| 16 | Mary Ann Heinsman    |
| 17 | Marvin Peetz         |
| 19 | Clara Beggs          |
| 21 | Linda Drum           |
| 22 | Kyndal Brothers      |
| 24 | Mark Dambach         |
| 26 | Nancy Davis          |
| 27 | Austin Abernathy     |
| 30 | Amy Langston         |
| 30 | Erin Craig           |

## April Anniversaries



|    |                                    |
|----|------------------------------------|
| 3  | Jerry & Brenda Wolfenkoehler, 55th |
| 16 | Edwin Jr. & Elsie Peetz, 60th      |
| 17 | Jason & Heather Brown, 5th         |
| 28 | Lance & Morgan Hoffman, 8th        |

## Recommended Scripture

|         |                                                       |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Apr. 5  | Jeremiah 31:1-6<br>Colossians 3:1-4<br>John 20:1-18   |
| Apr. 12 | Acts 2:14a, 22-32<br>1 Peter 1:3-9<br>John 20:19-31   |
| Apr. 19 | Acts 2:14a, 36-41<br>1 Peter 1:17-23<br>Luke 24:13-35 |
| Apr. 26 | Psalm 23<br>1 Peter 2:19-25<br>John 10:1-10           |



### HE IS RISEN! ALLELUIA

Risen Lord,  
Today we rejoice in your victory over grave!  
You have turned our sorrow into joy,  
our fear into hope,  
and our death into life.  
May the power of the resurrection fill our hearts,  
renew our faith, and guide us in love.  
Let your light shine through us  
so the world may know the joy of Easter.

Amen.

Wishing you a blessed and joyful Easter!

## 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, family of 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!**

|                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Ignite Worship</b><br/>A Contemporary Worship<br/>Experience</p> <p><b>Saturday</b><br/>5:30 p.m   Fellowship Hall</p> | <p><b>Traditional Worship</b><br/>Liturgical Worship Celebration</p> <p><b>Sunday</b><br/>10:10 a.m.   Sancturary</p> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Holy Communion~ Monthly 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday and Sunday

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