

The Messenger

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH DISCIPLES
OF CHRIST

◆
May 2026



A Different Kind of Wall

“Something there is that doesn’t love a wall,” said poet Robert Frost. His poem that begins with that line speaks of neighbors maintaining a barrier between themselves, one that perhaps doesn’t need to exist. Sometimes when we speak of walls, that’s what we’re thinking of: a hard separation between people, when we can’t agree, when there has been too much pain. Pink Floyd disturbingly explored the creation and effect of such a wall in their 1980 album *The Wall* and subsequent movie starring Irish musician Bob Geldof.

But in Washington, D.C., there stands a different kind of wall. Designed by then-21-year-old Maya Lin, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall was born out of the desire of Vietnam Veterans to remember and honor those who had served and died in that long and divisive conflict. Lin’s design was at first controversial, but has proven to be a means for Veterans and those who love them to find some measure of healing. It’s helped bring similar healing to this entire nation, torn apart by the Vietnam War and the attitudes of those at home toward the war. We need not re-litigate the right or wrongness of the war to recognize that its Veterans deserve the same honor and respect we offer to all who have put their lives on the line for this country.

At the end of April and the first few days of May, Butler will be hosting the traveling replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall, called “The Wall That Heals.” Visitors will be welcomed by local volunteers like myself—including some who are themselves Vietnam Veterans. The traveling wall makes it possible for those not able to see the original in Washington to explore the names and stories of those who gave their lives in Vietnam.

I hope you will visit the wall when it’s here, and I pray that all those who are affected by war, especially our Veterans, are cared for in body, mind, and spirit and given the thanks and welcome they deserve.

Sharla



May Serving Schedule

Communion Preparer: Carol Hedrick

May 3

- **Elder:** Shawn Quick
- **Deacon:** Carol Hedrick & Lyssa Lile

May 10

- **Elder:** Phyllis McBrayer
- **Deacon:** Gary Coffman & Judy Colburn

May 17

- **Elder:** Justin Quick
- **Deacon:** Steve Hedrick & Carol Lewis

May 24

- **Elder:** Diana Rich
- **Deacon:** Bob Thomas & Jennifer Schmehl

May 31

- **Elder:** John Daniel
- **Deacon:** Judy Daniel & Everett McBrayer

- **Greeter:** Lile family
- **Scripture Reader:** Lyssa Lile
- **Greeter:** Peggy Thomas
- **Scripture Reader:** Carol Hedrick
- **Greeter:** Chuck & Carol Lewis
- **Scripture Reader:** Diana Rich
- **Greeter:** Peggy Thomas
- **Scripture Reader:** Judy Daniel
- **Greeter:** Carol Roberts
- **Scripture Reader:** Shawn Quick



Attendance

March 29

- **In-person:** 37
- **Online:** 6

April 5

- **In-person:** 49
- **Online:** 7

April 12

- **In-person:** 37
- **Online:** 9

April 19

- **In-person:** 35
- **Online:** 5



Budget

March Income

\$24,007.30

March Expense

\$11,267.51

YTD Income

\$46,256.83

YTD Expense

\$28,218.80

Complete financial reports are available in the church office.



Events

Worship: Sundays @ 9:30 am

Life Group: Sundays @ 10:30 am

Youth Group: Wednesdays @ 5 pm

Choir Practice: Wednesdays @ 6 pm

Taco Bar: Sunday, May 3 @ 10:45 am

Disciples Women: Tuesday, May 5 @ 6 pm

Elders Meeting: Sunday, May 10 @ 10:30 am

Fink/Maddick Wedding: Saturday, May 16

Board Meeting: Sunday, May 17 @ 10:30 am

Community Cafe: Tues., May 19 @ 5:30 pm

Announcements

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH TACO BAR



Sunday, May 3, 2026
10:45 a.m.



Storm Shelter

In the event of a tornado warning, our church will be open as a designated storm shelter. Everyone is welcome to seek safety with us. Pets are also welcome, but they must remain in a carrier or be kept on a leash.



Thoughts & Prayers

Current

Ron & Debbie Dunlap,
Steve Thomas, Gwendolyn Dice,
Tom & Cindy Kennedy,
Darcy Hoffard, Marge Fritts,
Diane Weiss, Jason Bennett,
BethAnn Davis, Brenda Knox,
Vickie Chasteen Cady, Rylee Morgan,
John Snell, Mike Hardison,
Isabel Hannon, Eli Shelton,
Rodney Brown, June Ray,
Steve Hedrick, and Jeff Brown,

Ongoing

Everett & Phyllis McBrayer,
JM Grizzell, Lona Grosshart,
Carroll & Pam Dodds, Lori Koepsel,
Eunice Cobb, Shelby Duffield,
Kathy Bunch, Charlie Padgham,
Nick McBrayer, Mike Crow,
Rocky Redinger, Greg Arnold,
Marilyn Eneff, Debbie Fortner,
Judy Shubert, Joyce Guffey,
Stella Plunkett, Jim Herrell,
Joyce Fitzpatrick, Nancy Gardner
Simons, Terry Lodge, James Mitchell II,
Dolly Studards, Betty Lemon,
Rory Kutz, Doris Jane Lollar,
Mark Lovelace Jr., Sherry Wilson,
Gary Maggard, Larry Hacker,
and Rusty Ross.

At Home

Julie Lewis and Linda Wix

Currently Serving in the Military

Rick Warren, Jordan Olson,
Jordan Lopez, Everett Chapman,
Carter Coffman, and Randy Hubbard.

Sympathy

To the families of Rose Bryan,
Bettelue Powell, Helen Lawrence,
Roxie Schrater, Pat Nichols,
and Etha Pearl Black Pieratt.



Outreach Project

Throughout the month of May, we will be collecting personal care and hygiene items for the Community Food Pantry. Items especially needed include soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, toilet paper, denture adhesive and denture cleaning products, and other similar personal care essentials. Donations may be placed in the collection bin located in the foyer.

Birthdays

7 Pam Hannon 14 Keagen Robinson 21 Steve Lewis
14 Jim Adams 14 Oscar Schmehl

Anniversaries

12 Jim & Nancy Simpson 1990



Upcoming Sermons

May 3, 2026 (5th Sunday of Easter)

Special service planned by Worship Department

May 10, 2026 (6th Sunday of Easter)

Scripture: Acts 1:1-11 (RCL: Ascension, all years)

Psalm: 47

Theme: Jesus and the disciples after the Resurrection

Title: "Wait"

May 17, 2026 (7th Sunday of Easter)

Scripture: Acts 1:12-26 (RCL: Easter 7, Year B)

Psalm: 1

Theme: The disciples

Title: "Fixing a Hole"

May 24, 2026 (Pentecost)

Scripture: John 20:19-31 (RCL: Easter 2, all years)

Psalm: 19:7-10

Theme: John's version of "Pentecost"

Title: "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

May 31, 2026 (Trinity Sunday)

Scripture: Matthew 5:1-12 (RCL: Epiphany 4 & All Saints, Year A)

Psalm: 15

Theme: The Beatitudes

Title: "Congratulations!"

All are welcome

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH	660-679-3066
www.fccbutler.org	11 W Pine St., Butler, MO 64730

Board Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2026

Board Members present—*Deacons:* Steve Hedrick, Jennifer Schmehl, Carol Lewis, Carol Hedrick, Judy Colburn. *Elders:* Chuck Lewis, Shawn Quick, Justin Quick, Diana Rich, John Daniel. *Voting Member:* Carol Roberts. *Others present:* Rev. Sharla Hulsey, Carol Ann Winburn, Claudia Hulsey, Don Malan.

The meeting was called to order at 10:56 a.m. by Carol Roberts, chairperson. Opening prayer was given by Shawn Quick. The agenda was reviewed and requests to add Membership, Worship, Outreach, Youth and Property to committee reports were made. The amended agenda was approved unanimously after a motion was made by Shawn Quick and seconded by John Daniel.

The minutes of the March 2026 meeting were reviewed. No additions or corrections were made, motion to accept the minutes was made by Diana Rich, seconded by Carol Hedrick. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Reports—Carol Lewis reviewed the financial reports for March 2026.

Budget vs. Actual—Total Income—\$24,007.30 (budget \$10,575.25)
Total Expenses—\$11,267.51 (budget \$10,575.25)
Net Income—\$12,739.79
Budget vs Actual YTD—Total Income—\$46,256.83 (budget \$31,725.75)
Total Expenses—\$28,218.80 (budget \$31,725.75)
Net Income—\$18,038.03
Balance Sheet—Total Assets—\$65,243.68
Owed to Special Projects—\$0.00
Total Restricted Funds—\$57,348.74
Total Liability and Equity—\$65,243.68
Total Cash in Bank—\$57,348.74

(Full financial reports are available for review in the church office.)

Carol Lewis reported that Lyssa Lile, church administrative assistant, said that we have many 0.00 balance funds on the books. John Daniel explained that we need to delete some of those funds, but it will take a bylaw amendment voted on by the board. He will try to have a proposal for the board by the May meeting.

Carol Lewis then announced that another member of the Morrison family donated an additional memorial of \$7,000.00. Carol Roberts stated that both those donations are unrestricted memorials and according to the Procedure Document, 10% of the amount needs to go to the Outreach fund. The remainder will go to the memorial fund.

Motion made by Shawn Quick to approve the financial reports, seconded by John Daniel, passed unanimously.

Minister's Report—Rev. Hulsey reported usual conversations with members to include a home visit and a nursing home visit. She attended the Disciples Women's and Elder's meeting this month. Participated in Community Cafe, Ministerial Alliance Lenten services and "Prayer on the Square". Joined with the Ohio Street United Methodist Church for the Good Friday service. Completed continuing education study to fulfill her required Anti-Racism, Pro-Reconciliation Justice Ministry for Regional standing.

The Lenten services were well attended and the offerings for the Ministerial Alliance totaled \$3,547.66. Approximately 12 people attended the "Prayer on the Square" event. Rev. Hulsey states she will take vacation the week of April 26 and will be volunteering at the "Wall that Heals" display in Butler.

Old Business—Memorial gift committee—lighted flagpole. Chuck explained all that they are waiting on is the plaques and better weather to complete this project.

New Business—none reported

Reports from Committees and Departments

—**Membership**—Carol Hedrick stated they are planning a Taco Bar after church May 3. They will be asking for donations of toppings for the tacos.

—**Worship**—Carol Ann Winburn states she is planning the service on May 3 when Rev. Hulsey will be on vacation. She will need some readers for that day.

—**Property**—Chuck Lewis states he has nothing to report on the plaster in the choir loft. He will be checking the moisture in the North wall. There has been a new leak found in the communion kitchen in the education wing. We need to have the roof over the education wing inspected and gutters cleaned this fall.

—**Youth**—Shawn Quick stated that May 13th will be the last youth meeting for this school year. They plan to have a pizza party. He also reported that the staff for Faith Adventures Camp will report to camp on 7/20/26 am and the campers will arrive that afternoon. Camp will adjourn on 7/24/26 at 1:00pm. Leaders and staff will have to pay \$200.00 and the campers \$225.00.

—**Outreach**—Carol Roberts stated that there is a Cash Calendar available to help with the camp's expenses and ongoing ministry needs. Rev. Hulsey said that we will need help for this week's Community Cafe.

Adjournment—Justin Quick made the motion to adjourn with second by Carol Hedrick. Meeting adjourned at 11:35a.m. Closing prayer by Rev. Hulsey.

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Schmehl, Board Secretary



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

REV. SHARLA HULSEY

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*"Come to me, all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."*

Matthew 11:28 (NRSVue)

