

# The Eagle

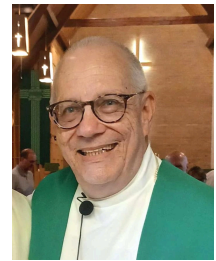
May 2026

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## *Pastor's Corner*

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Crunch... Crunch... Crunch... That's the sound of my previous Pastor's Corner article being tossed aside. I decided to address a topic I directly heard from a couple of people within the general membership. The topic is the Statement of Faith of the United Church of Christ.



There are actually four versions of the UCC Statement of Faith. All of them similar, while having some clear differences. Original (Traditional) Statement of Faith — Accepted July 8, 1959. This was drafted by a commission appointed at the Uniting General Synod in 1957. Presented to the Second General Synod in Oberlin, Ohio, on July 6, 1959. Revised and formally accepted on July 8, 1959. This version is widely regarded as one of the most significant Christian testimonies of the 20th century.

A revised version, written by Robert V. Moss utilizes inclusive language. This variation was recommended in 1977. The General Synod later affirmed this revision; however, sources do not give a specific acceptance date beyond the 1977 recommendation and subsequent affirmation.

A third version or variation was authorized in 1981. This is more of a poetic, worship-oriented variation. It was authorized by the UCC Executive Council in 1981. It is widely used in worship settings and is the version many congregations recite today.

So, let's look at each of these variations, beginning with the 1959 Original Statement of Faith. Clearly, there is a structured, covenantal declaration, with a strong emphasis on God's initiative in creation, covenant, and redemption. Our belief in Christology is explicit and central. Jesus, God the Son, the second person of the Trinity is the Head of the Church. Ecclesiology unity, mission, and sacraments are stressed. The wording leans heavily in the masculine language for God and humanity. It is doctrinal in nature. This form has been taught in Confirmation classes for many years.

Let's move into the 1977 Robert V. Moss Inclusive-Language version. The key component here is a modernization of the 1959 text. The theology remains almost identical, but the language shifts. Moss modernized the gendered language for God ("God creates," rather than "He creates") and updates the references to humanity ("people" instead of "men"). In an effort to embrace the belief that "God is still speaking", some of the lines were updated to reflect God's ongoing activity rather than past action. Moss did not change any of the meanings relating to Christology, sacraments, mission, and covenant. In short, the structure mirrors the 1959 version almost line-for-line.

Thirdly, let's look at 1981 Statement of Faith in the Form of a Doxology. This was the form used on Sunday 4/19/2026. Central to this variation is that this form was designed to be a more poetic form of the statement, designed for liturgical use rather than doctrinal precision. And I believe that's where some of those present noticed the wording variation. While there is reference to our Trinitarian beliefs, the flow of this variation is more lyrical and prayer-like ("We praise you, O God..."). It emphasizes praise rather than declaration. Christology is expressed in a narrative form rather than propositional form. But, the Holy Spirit receives expanded attention compared to the 1959 version.

The fourth and final form, I can summarize in about one sentence. It's a Spanish translation of the 1957 version.

I once again remind everyone within here present that my job is that of an Interim Pastor. One of the many tasks the council and I have agreed to, from day 1, is to do the work of an interim pastor, which includes introducing the congregation to all aspects of the United Church of Christ. This is one of those learning lessons.

If you remain troubled with the language, flow, and/or meaning of our Statement of Faith, let's set some time up and chat.

## Confirmation Sunday

MAY 3, 2026



Please join us at 8:45 a.m.  
Service on May 3<sup>rd</sup> as Ebenezer's  
2026 students are confirmed:

**Jordan Propson**

**Riley Roehrig**

# SUNDAY SCHOOL CORNER



Thank you to everyone who attended our Easter Program. The students had a great performance and loved seeing everyone! A very special thank you to Shirley Lisowe for writing and directing another amazing program for our youth and to Donna Pingel for making costumes. The Christmas and Easter Programs are a very special part of our Sunday School curriculum, and the students look forward to them every year.





Our 2025 – 2026 Sunday School year is coming to an end. We have one more Children’s Worship on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and we will end the Sunday School year on May 10<sup>th</sup>. We hope everyone can join us for our last Children’s Worship and for our last class. I will have updates about the 2026 – 2027 Sunday School plans throughout the summer.

We will also be wrapping up our collection for the Matt Kolbe Foundation on May 10<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to donate, please reach out to me or you can leave the donation in the church office and just note it for the Sunday School Mission Project. I will have a final calculation of the donations received for the June Eagle.

Thank you for your support and please don’t hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Melissa Kuhn

### Ushers



May 3: **Council, Sunday School**

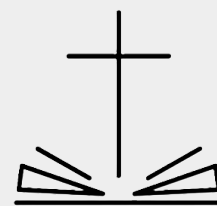
May 10: **Steve S., Mark**

May 17: **Ken, Shirley**

May 24: **Ralph, Mike**

May 31: **Don, Vern**

### Readers



May 3: **Abigail**

May 10: **Dino**

May 17: **Karen**

May 24: **Ann**

May 31: **Kristi**

## Bake Sale Coming Soon!

In the April issue of the “Eagle”, we had an article in about the Women’s Guild sponsoring a Bake Sale on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and asking for donations of bakery to sell that day. We hope you are able to help us out with this fundraiser.



Bakery can be dropped off on Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and on Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, from 9 a.m.-Noon in the kitchen. The doors will be unlocked so you can get in. We will be packaging up the bakery starting at noon. Feel free to bake whatever you want. In the past, we’ve always had a nice selection of bakery to sell so we anticipate that that will happen again.

You can find more details about the Bake Sale in the April “Eagle” issue or you can contact Ruth Aebischer at 920-849-9427 or email her at [draebischer@outlook.com](mailto:draebischer@outlook.com) if you have questions. If you would rather make a donation instead of baking something, that would be appreciated as well. Donations can be sent to Ruth Aebischer, Women’s Guild Treasurer, W851 Aebischer Road, Chilton, WI 53014 or just give it to her when you see her in church. You can also drop off donations at the church office. Church office hours are Monday and Wednesday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Checks can be made payable to Ebenezer’s Women’s Guild/Bake Sale.

We look forward to seeing what Ebenezer bakers will be making for the Bake Sale. We’re sure they will be delicious and sell fast!

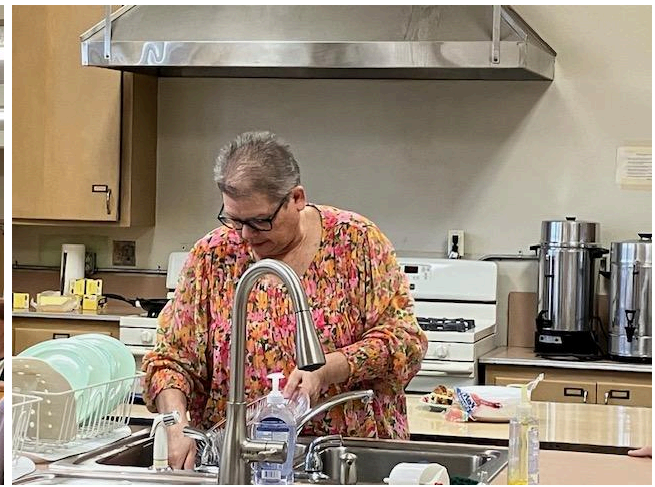
Thank you, again, for your support.

*Ebenezer Women’s Guild*

## *Easter Breakfast*

From the cooking, to the serving, to the eating, to the clean-up, the Easter breakfast was a big success. Thank you to everyone who donated your food and your time and your help to make it happen.





## Strengthen the Church

The Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC.

Conferences and the national setting

equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ.

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches, and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. Offering envelopes will be available in bulletins on **Sunday, May 24**. Contributions can also be made online at any time [here](#).

The theme for 2026 is Sent Forth in Love. Participating in the offering helps foster connections with the wider church and create possibilities for the church of tomorrow.

# HAPPY *may* BIRTHDAY!



1 Don Pingel

1 Samantha Mitchell

2 Ralph Schmid

2 Henry Kolbe

3 Ken Lisowe

7 Stacey Sabish

9 Joel Propson

11 Connie Waldvogel

12 Teagan Sabish

12 Emily Kolbe

12 Breanna Cook

15 Maddie Mueller

19 Adelyn Kolbe

20 David Miller

24 Johanna Bechlem

*Barb ~ Cassie ~ Colleen ~  
Da' Monique ~ Diana ~  
Dino ~ Don ~ Elizabeth ~  
Gail ~ Herb ~ Joan ~ Katy  
~ Pam ~ Rachel ~ Raelynn  
~ Rod ~ Sandra ~ Stevie ~  
Tony*



*Sunday, May 10*



## Memorial Day

Monday, May 25



*\*Office Closed\**

## April Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, April 19, 2026  
Ebenezer Council Meeting

In attendance: Nick Kuhn, Shirley Lisowe, Lexi Pagel, Aubrey Plate, Andy Hofmeister, Glen Pingel, Pastor Dave

Nick Kuhn called the meeting to order at 7:31 AM

Pastor Dave led us in prayer

Glen Pingel made a motion to approve the agenda. Andy Hofmeister seconded the motion and the agenda was approved.

Pastor Dave gave the following Pastor's Report:

Summary: As I reflect on Holy Week/Maundy Thursday/Good Friday/Easter, I was a bit saddened that people only showed up to a specific service, only when it happened in their building. Of the four churches that consisted of the Ecumenical group that showed up at worship outside of their own building was Gloria Dei Lutheran. I complimented their Minister and commended their small church.

Lori Knoespel was a welcome addition to the worship service on Easter. In conversation with her, she might be open to playing a bit more, depending on her schedule.

Upcoming in April and May:

May 3, Confirmation

May 13, Ascension of our Lord

May 17, Women's Sunday

May 24, Memorial Weekend, with the Presentation of the Colors

May 31, Guest Speaker, the Rev Andrew Warner, Associate Conference

Minister

Time Off: From Thursday May 14 through Tuesday May 19, Emergency Back-up, The Rev Randy Koppenhaver of Bethlehem UCC Kiel. If possible, I would appreciate my check by Wednesday May 13, please.

Stewardship proposal first draft should be ready for leadership review in a month.

Pastor Relations and I are in conversation regarding current events. The meeting is expected to be held within the next one to two weeks.

With Respect,  
Dave Kohls

Glen Pingel made a motion to approve the minutes from the March meeting. Shirley Lisowe seconded the motion, and the minutes from March were approved.

Nick Kuhn read the Treasurer's Report for March. It was the following:

Income	\$10,662.46	
Expenses	(\$13,227.89)	
Checking Account Balance	\$116,912.69	
Money Market Account Balance	\$107,118.03	\$140.83 Interest
gained		
Total Equity	\$224,030.72	
Minus Special Giving \$79,607.78	\$144,422.94	
Cambridge Accounts	\$83,690.41	
Parsonage Income	\$2990.00	

March givings were deposited on March 31, 2026 for the amount of \$7267.46. The parsonage income was \$2990.00 due to March and April's rent clearing in the same month. Property insurance bill for the amount of \$4903.00 cleared on March 9,

2026. Ken Lisowe was paid \$144.28 for ceiling tiles and chair lift battery. On March 9, 2026, a bill for \$880.00 to Scott's Towing for snow removal.

Andy Hofmeister made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report subject to verification of expenses. Lexi Pagel seconded the motion, and the Treasurer's Report was approved.

Shirley Lisowe made a motion to approve the paying of the bills. Aubrey Plate seconded the motion, and it was approved to pay the bills.

### Committee Reports

#### Christian Education

- Last day of Sunday School, May 10, 2026
- Matt Kolbe Foundation account \$150

#### Worship and Music Committee

- Still looking for a new organist

#### Property

- Shed still incomplete

#### Evangelism

- Had a meeting and discussed raffle ideas and family fun day

#### Old Business

- Discussion on Stewardship Campaign
- Thank you to Ruth and Lori for their help with Easter
- Discussion on cost for Electronic Marquee
- Discussion on possible church partnerships
- Discussion on lift chair to Fellowship Hall

Shirley Lisowe made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lexi Pagel seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 AM.

## March Finances & April Attendance

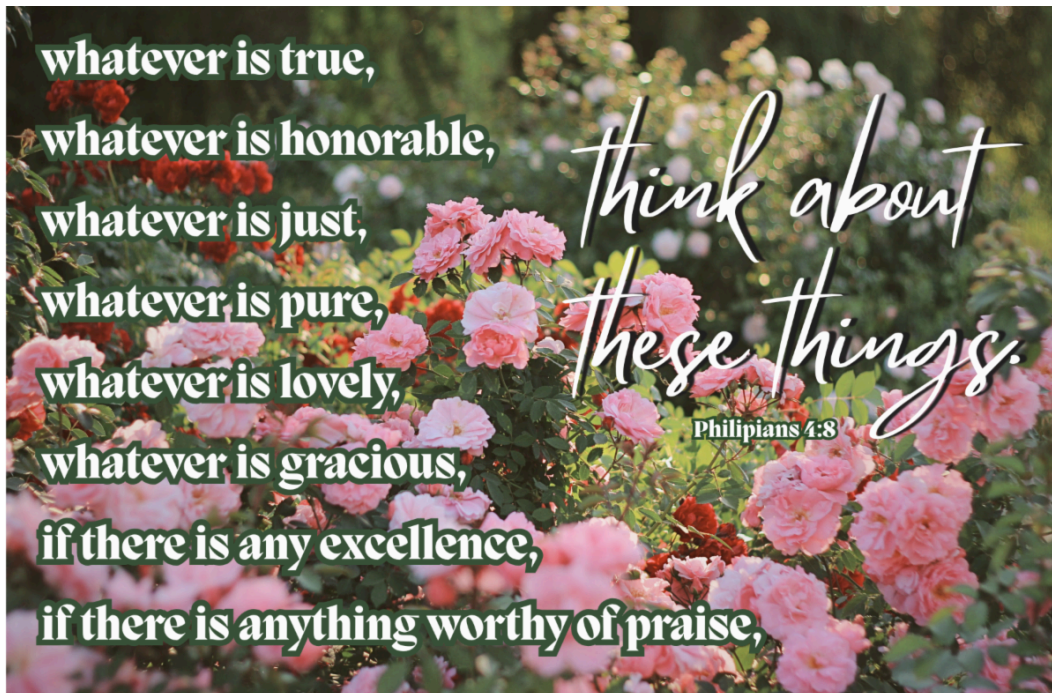
Income	Budgeted Expenses	Actual Expenses
\$10,441.21	\$12,366.68	\$12,460.22

April 2 (Maundy Thursday)	22
April 3 (Good Friday)	9
April 5 (Easter)	97
April 12	65
April 19	38
April 26	38

# May Calendar of Events

## May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
Confirmation Sunday 3 Sunday School @ 8:00 a.m. Family Worship Service @ 8:45 a.m. w/ Communion • Children's Worship Bible Study @ 5:30 p.m.	4	5	Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m.  6:00 Service @SJUCC Supper at 5:00 pm	7	8	9
Mother's Day 10 Last Sunday School @8:00 a.m. Worship Service @ 8:45 a.m. Bible Study @ 5:30 p.m.	11	12	Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m.  6:00 Service @SJUCC Supper at 5:00 pm	14 Men's Breakfast Group Meeting at 7 Angels 8:30 a.m.	15	16 Women's Guild Bake Sale 9:00 am-1:00 pm
Council Meeting @ 7:30 a.m. Worship Service @ 8:45 a.m. • Women's Sunday No Bible Study (Pastor on Vacation from 5/14-5/19)	18	19	Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m. 6:00 Service @SJUCC Supper at 5:00 pm <b>Eagle Articles Due</b>	21 Women's Guild Meeting at 7 Angels 9:00 a.m.	22	23
Strengthen the Church Offering 24 Worship Service @ 8:45 a.m. Bible Study @ 5:30 p.m.	25 <b>Office Closed</b>  Memorial Day	26	Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m.  6:00 Service @SJUCC Supper at 5:00 pm	28	29	30
31 Worship Service @ 8:45 a.m. Bible Study @ 5:30 p.m.						



**Administrative Assistant:** Mary Keran (920) 849-4331 [ebenezeroffice@yahoo.com](mailto:ebenezeroffice@yahoo.com)

**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. David Kohls  
(920) 252-3885 [rev\\_david\\_kohls@yahoo.com](mailto:rev_david_kohls@yahoo.com)

**Council President:** Nick Kuhn (920) 378-0204

**Council VP:** Shirley Lisowe (920) 418-1675

**Council Secretary:** Andy Hofmeister (920) 464-0257

**Council Treasurer:** Brian Adamietz (920) 645-8699

Glen Pingel (920) 419-0433

Aubrey Plate

Lexi Pagel



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