

The Caller



Evangelical United Church of Christ—Tell City, IN
Pastor Mark McDaniel—812.583.3508
Suicide & Crisis Hotline—988 (*Call or Text*)

EUCC Mission Statement: To reflect the image of Jesus in our community and in the world.

Pastor's Page

Pastor Mark's Faith Journey – Part 1

Before Jesus left his disciples, he charged them with going out into all the world to baptize and make disciples. Instead of presuming to tell others what they have to do to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, I believe the best approach is to tell them about your own Faith Journey. In each church I have served, I have encouraged the members to become familiar with their own Faith Journey. Many have shared their stories with me. Some have shared their stories at a Bible Study or Sunday School class. Some have even been willing to share their stories in worship. Before I leave EUCC, I hope to hear some of your Faith stories. As encouragement, I would like to share Part 1 of my Faith Journey with you.

Now, when I talk about a Faith Story, or a Faith Journey, I am talking about those moments in your life when you began to think seriously about things of religion or belief or eternity or the afterlife or service to God. It may have been an experience of feeling a divine presence. It may have been a song that moved your soul. It may have been the words or actions of someone else. It may have been during a crisis when you felt an unexpected calmness as you responded to the needs of others when you fully expected that you would fall apart. These can all be God moments, and each one of them are important to your own spiritual formation.

I am not sure which of the stories of my faith journey I have already shared with you in my sermons, so I hope you don't mind if I repeat some of them. Of course, there is not time to share everything with you, so I will try to share those experiences that I believe were most significant in my journey.

I suppose the best place to start is from the beginning. My father was raised in a Holiness church in Detroit, and apparently was very devote as a teen - until something happened that caused him to turn away from the church and away from God. I never did find out what it was, but it soured his attitude towards all thing's religion for the rest of his life. When I told him I was going into the ministry, he told me that he never met a preacher he trusted.

My mother was raised in West Germany as a devote Catholic. My father, in the Army, and stationed in Germany during the late 50's, met my mother, and then became Catholic so that they could be married in the Catholic Church, where my mother's uncle was the priest.

I was baptized in the Catholic Church in Detroit as an infant, and my mother took me and my sisters to Mass every week. When I was old enough, I started going through my First Communion catechism

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JUNE 15, 2023—JULY 31, 2023

classes. I learned a lot about the Catholic Church, the Sacrament of Communion, and the importance of Confession, but very little about Jesus and the Bible. I had my First Communion and was on track to begin confirmation class when my family moved from inner city Detroit to the suburbs.

While still living in Detroit, I noticed that my father never went to Mass with us, but he didn't seem to mind my mom and us kids going. After moving to the suburbs, he began to give my Mom a hard time about going to church. He would cruelly tease her and make fun of the church and religion. At that time, she wasn't one to stand up to my father, although that did change later, so she stopped attending Mass. And I stopped attending Mass.

I felt a void, so I tried to attend Mass on my own. There was a Catholic church close enough that I could ride my bicycle, so I started going there on my own. I didn't know anybody, and the people were not very friendly or welcoming. When I tried talking to the priest, he just told me to come back with my parents, and then we could talk. I tried going to the youth group a few times, but they were even less welcoming and more unfriendly than the people at Mass, so I gave up and stopped going to church altogether.

It was just as hard to make friends at school, so I started hanging out with the wrong crowd, and doing things of which I am not particularly proud. Drinking, smoking - even some minor illegal activities - I just never got caught. My life was in a downward spiral, and I was only 13 years old.

The thing that saved me was probably baseball. Even though I was rebelling against all the other things those good little boys did, I still loved playing baseball. It didn't even discourage me when my tough guy buddies teased me about it. In the spring, the city recreation league was having summer baseball sign-ups in the park. I didn't know what time registration started, so I rode my bike up to the park very early, so I wouldn't miss it. When I got there, they were just beginning to set up, so I had some time to kill. As I wandered around the park, I noticed that there was a group of kids around my age cleaning up the banks of the small creek that ran along the north edge of the park. I recognized a few of them from school, but I had never really talked to any of them before. I asked what they were doing, and they told me that their church youth group was doing a service project. They invited me to join them, and, as I didn't have any other plans, I decided to help out. When we were done cleaning, they told me that they were having an overnight retreat at the home of the youth director, and that I was welcome to join them. I did, and that was the beginning of my journey into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

The United Methodist Church, to which that particular youth group was connected, also had a very unique summer youth program. It was a singing group called The Spokesmen. It was made up of about 40-50 kids - representing many churches and denominations - in ages from 14 through 18. In the early spring, we would meet for Bible Study one night of the week, rehearsal one night of the week, and physical fitness one night of the week. "Why physical fitness?" - you ask; because on summer weekends we would ride bicycles to churches throughout the State, and we would sing at revivals, worship services, Christian youth camps, beach parties, and anywhere else that we might be invited. We would get up very early on Saturday morning, meet at the church, have a prayer circle, and then head out to the church where we were to sing that evening. Some Saturdays we would bicycle as far as 100 miles, take a shower, put on our dress clothes, have a potluck dinner, and give a two-hour concert. Sometimes we would spend Saturday night at the homes of church members, but usually we slept on the floor of the Fellowship Hall, or Sunday school classrooms, or the sanctuary.

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Sometimes there was carpeting, and sometimes not. Sunday morning we would get up, eat a simple breakfast, and lead the morning worship service. After lunch, we would mount our bicycles, and ride to the church at which we were performing that evening. When we arrived, we would repeat the process of showering, changing, eating, and performing for an evening worship at that church. On Monday morning we would ride back to our home church, and usually have some sort of casual gathering that evening. I grew so much over that first summer - spiritually and emotionally.

During my second summer with The Spokesmen, at the age of 15, we took a two-week tour of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. We followed pretty much the same routine I described for the previous summer, except we rode and performed every day instead of just on the weekends. It was during that two-week period that I had my first “AHA!” moment, feeling closer to God than I ever had before. It was during this time that I began to seriously consider the possibility of a life of ministry in the church.

I stayed in The Spokesmen until I was 18, and then left for college. That concludes the first half of my Faith Story. I will share the second half with you next month.

Blessings,
Pastor Mark

Congregational Meeting Scheduled

My Fellow EUCC Members:

On Sunday, June 18, 2023, we will hold a brief congregational meeting immediately following worship service. At this time, we will nominate and elect three new church council members.

The Nominating Team has submitted the names of Lea Ann Gehlhausen, Steve Owen, and Scot Sandage to serve on the council. Council member terms are set to expire for Clayton Jefford, Linda Franchville, and Debbie Mangum.

Your participation at this meeting is important to assure that we have a quorum for the election and to support our ministry going forward.

Yours in Faith,
Clayton N. Jefford
Council President



HAPPENINGS AT OUR CHURCH

Dear Fellow EUCC members,

Many thanks to the members who stayed after church on May 21st to share their thoughts on the Christian Education Team's proposal to create a quiet family zone at the back of the Sanctuary. We have two more feedback sessions planned for **June 25** and **July 23** after worship. Please join us to share your thoughts.

As many of you learned that day the proposal is to remove some pews from the back of the sanctuary to provide more space and offer an enhanced worship experience for families with young children. All children in this area would be supervised by their parents. It is our goal that the children will be more content (therefore, creating less of a distraction) in a space where they can be rocked, play with quiet toys, crawl around in a larger area rather than be confined to the narrow area of our existing pews.

Contrary to what some have said, we are not proposing an area for children to run and play loudly. We are proposing an area in the back of the church similar to the small area up front where our youngest member currently plays quietly while his parents watch him on the floor. It enables him to have some space to play quietly and for them to still be able to listen to the sermon. We plan to add some rocking chairs and an area rug to the new space. This space would be open to anyone who feels cramped in pews and can accommodate wheel-chairs as well as being a space for families.

Some have suggested reviving the nursery. For liability reasons, we must have two workers in the nursery at all times and would require someone from the congregation to coordinate the workers as well as making sure they showed up and to fill in if someone doesn't show up. This was tried several years ago and was eventually dropped. We also realize that parents today are unlikely to turn their children over to strangers no matter how well trained and kind they are. Parents today send their children to daycare all week long and just want to be with them on the weekend and to be a part of the church family.

We hope this clears up a few things about the proposal. We welcome everyone's opinion and hope you'll join us to discuss this idea.

Christian Ed Committee and Communication Team members

T-SHIRT SUNDAY July 30, 2023

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are always welcome at EUCC.*

Our first T-Shirt Sunday held on April 30, 2023, was a huge success. With there being a 5th Sunday in July, we have decided to do it again! Mark your calendars for **Sunday, July 30**, and get out your EUCC t-shirt or get a new one ordered by July 1. Order information is available elsewhere in the Caller. Order forms and sample shirts are available in the church office and in the narthex.

We're looking forward to seeing our EUCC attire on July 30!

HAPPENINGS AT OUR CHURCH

Pastoral Search Committee Formed

The Church and Ministry Committee is charged with forming the Search Committee to begin the formal process of selecting a permanent pastor for EUCC. The Committee has asked the following members to serve, and they have agreed to form the Search Committee: Sara Belcher, Ashley Biever, Susan Ewing, Mark Fenn, Chris Goffinet, Emile Kercher, and Gary Morton. The Search Committee has elected Chris Goffinet as Chairman. The Committee will begin working very soon with the conference to develop the church profile and begin the formal process. Pastor Mark will continue to serve EUCC during the search and selection process. Please pray for a successful effort by the committee.



Women's Guild News

The Guild is now on recess until September. **Don't forget to hand in your Noble's IGA receipts! Every receipt helps!**

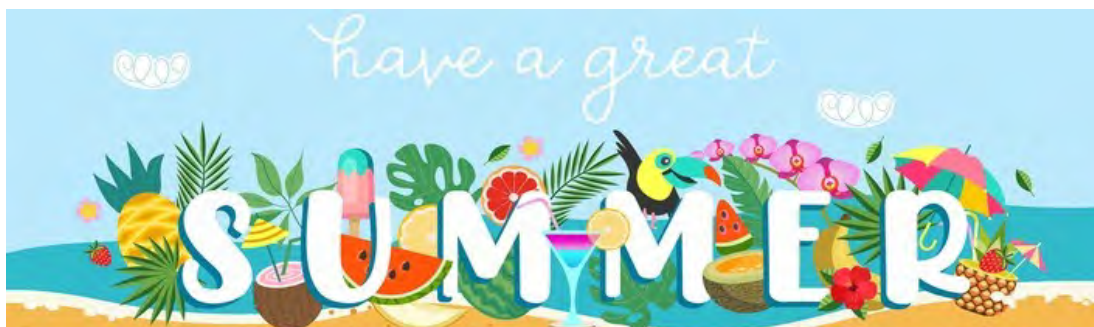
Women's Guild meets the second Thursday of each month except the months of January and February. We also take a brief vacation in June, July, and August. All women of EUCC are considered a member and are encouraged to attend meetings. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 1 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

We hope to see you then!



The Christian Ed youth will collect items in July for the *Stuff the Bus Campaign* for the Perry County Schools. We will have a box in the church narthex starting Sunday, June 25th. Items requested are binders, headphones, pencils, crayons, notebooks, Clorox wipes, Kleenex, and colored pencils.

Thank you,
Christian Ed



Building & Grounds News

Building and Grounds is working on several projects. The most recent issue reported was the Church Bells were not ringing. We ventured up the ladders and found the mounting for the carriage of the large bell came loose and was obstructing the smaller bell. We contacted a local contractor who is willing to do the work but will likely not be able to start until October. The scope of work is being evaluated but the foundation of the bell needs to be rebuilt and may require a crane to lower the bell to the ground. We were able to free up the smaller bell so it can be rung.

We are still at odds with our insurance carrier for the claim on the Sanctuary roof repairs and are working towards securing a better claim for our loss. Please be assured that the roof is not leaking and we hope to have the claim resolved by August.

The interior walls of three classrooms above Fellowship Hall need repairs. The original plaster walls are crumbling and causing the paneling to bulge. The paneling and old plaster must be removed and will be replaced with concrete board (similar to drywall) and painted. This work only involves the walls facing the Fellowship Hall Parking Lot. We plan to complete this work before Tots Lots is back in session.

B & G committee:

Danny Gayer, Mark Fenn, Steve Owen, Phil DeSpain, Ellis Howard, Pat York

Thank You from Riley Foundation for Change for Change Donations

Dear Lauren, Olivia, Liam, Wyatt, Wren, Elliott, Rowan, Lexi, Maverick, Neveah, Zayden, Grayson, Caden, Farrah and members of Evangelical United Church of Christ:

Thank you so much for your gift to support play and activity needs of Riley Kids through the Child Life Department. We are so grateful for our generous communities! Great work to all of you!

Thank you!
Melissa Sexton
Community Fundraising Coordinator



HAPPENINGS AT OUR CHURCH

EUCC Historical Records Books

Church Records
of
FIRST EVANGELICAL
U.C.C. CHURCH
Tell City, Perry County,
Indiana

The Tell City Historical Society has provided us with some hard-back Evangelical UCC Historical Records books. These books contain marriages, deaths, confirmations, and baptisms at EUCC for the years of 1871—1936. The cost per book is \$10. EUCC will receive 50% of each book sold. The books are available in the church office. A copy has been placed in the narthex to view on Sundays. Anyone who has relatives who belonged to our church during those stated years may be interested in having one of these historical records books.

T-Shirt Orders Continuing

Our t-shirt orders are going well. Would you like a shirt with our logo on the front and our motto on back? If so, please complete one of the order forms (located in the narthex and in the church office), and drop the order form and payment in the offering box. The shirts are only \$17 each (which is our cost); sample shirts are available in the narthex on Sunday mornings and in the office during the week. This is a great way to show your pride in EUCC.

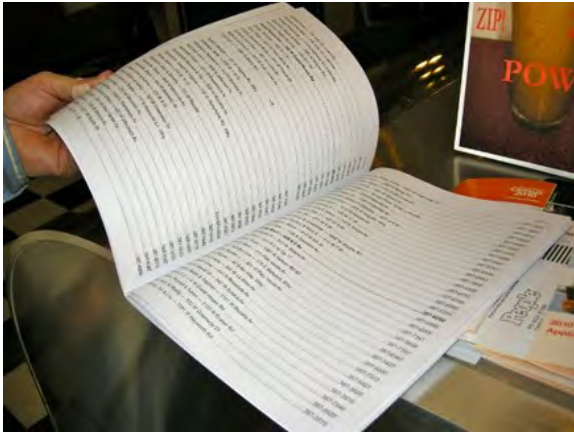
We are taking orders on a continuous basis, meaning there is no deadline to submit your order. We will submit orders at the beginning of each month; the shirts should be in within two weeks.

Youth and adult sizes are available in short sleeved and long sleeved styles. We have a light grey, dark grey, and tie dye option. Tie dye is available in short sleeves only. Sample shirts are available in the narthex on Sundays and the church office during the week.

Questions? Contact Darla Goffinet at 812.608.0122 or dgoffinetlaw@psci.net.



HAPPENINGS AT OUR CHURCH



Church Directory to be Updated in July

After many months of preparation and work, our church directory was updated and distributed in June 2022, with an updated “phone book” section of the directory distributed in January 2023. At the time of distribution, we said we would prepare an update every 6 months.

We are making a last call for any changes, additions, deletions, and corrections to the directory. An addendum will be prepared and distributed in early July, and those changes will be incorporated into a reprinted directory in January 2024.

If you have updated information you would like to include in the directory, please inform the church office no later than June 30.



SCHWEIZER FEST WATER BOTTLE GIVE-AWAY IS BACK!



In 2019, church leadership implemented several local mission opportunities; one of those missions was to give away water bottles during Schweizer Fest. It was a very successful event at which we gave away 1,680 bottles of water over 4 evenings. We took a break during 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic, but resumed this project in 2022. We gave away over 2,000 water bottles during last year’s Schweizer Fest.

Schweizer Fest 2023 runs from Wednesday, August 9, through Saturday, August 12. Please look at your calendars and plan ahead to help with this worthwhile, much appreciated project. More details will appear in the July *Caller*.

Teams and Church Leadership Profiles

We are featuring our final group of church leaders, our liturgists. We have a rotating list of people who act as second chair during the worship service. The liturgist is an invaluable participant in the worship service by doing scripture readings, leading responsive readings, making announcements, and assisting with communion.

Our liturgists are:

Dan Lacy – 1st Sunday
Darla Goffinet – 2nd Sunday
Linda Kramer – 3rd Sunday
Lea Ann Gehlhausen – 4th Sunday
Steve Owen – 5th Sunday



Thanks, liturgists, for what you do to assist the pastor and to make our worship services more meaningful.



*We know that all things work together for good
for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.
Romans 8:28*

LIBRARY AND CHAPEL AREAS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Just a reminder that our beautifully-renovated library and chapel areas are open to the public for use during office hours and for meetings after hours. Members and visitors who wish to take their lunch break, who need a place for meditation or prayer, who want to read or work a puzzle, or who simply seek a quiet, serene atmosphere are invited to spend time at the church. The rooms are open to visitors from 9 am to 3 pm Monday through Thursday. If your organization needs a place for an evening meeting, contact the church office (812.547.7059) to make arrangements to use the space.

Guests should enter the building through the Jefferson Street doors and sign the sign-in sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office. Anyone who needs to use a chair lift should call ahead to make arrangements to enter through the Fellowship Hall doors.

The quiet areas include comfortable lounge seating, tables and chairs, a kitchenette stocked with free snacks and drinks, free Wi-Fi, and plenty of reading materials and jigsaw puzzles. Restrooms are located just across the hall. A freewill offering for snacks and drinks is appreciated; the donations go to the church's Local Emergencies Fund to help community members in need.

If you haven't had a chance to visit these areas, we encourage you to do so. They are a wonderful way of making use of cherished, historical spaces.



Worship Leaders

<u>Date</u>	<u>Liturgist</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Video</u>	<u>Sound</u>
June 18	Linda Kramer	Jerry Brunner Steve & Becky Owen Frank Poehlein	Rebecca Fenn	Mark Fenn
June 25	Lea A. Gehlhausen	Linda Franchville Emile Kercher Chris Van Note	Darla Goffinet	Chris Goffinet
July 2	Darla Goffinet	Ellis & Suellen Howard Dan & Jill Lacy	Emile Kercher	Dan Gayer
July 9	Dan Lacy	Lea Ann Gehlhausen Chris Goffinet Keith & Linda Kramer	Rebecca Fenn	Mark Fenn
July 16	Linda Kramer	Jerry Brunner Steve & Becky Owen Frank Poehlein	Rebecca Fenn	Mark Fenn

Thanks to each of you for helping with our Worship Services!

Local Emergencies Report



The Local Emergency Fund continues to prevent utility service disconnections, home evictions, and provides food vouchers for groceries. Please remember this fund in *memorial gifts* and/or *monthly giving*. The offering envelopes include a monthly envelope for contributing to the Local Emergency Fund.

May Total: \$1,587.68

Utilities— 18 households—\$697.68

Rent assistance— 5 households—\$290.00

IGA Food Vouchers—\$600.00 (24@\$25 ea.)

May Memorial Donations

Memorial donations received in May: \$775

These directed donations benefited the following funds:

General Fund \$600

Local Emergency Fund \$160

Flower Fund \$15



Recurring events...

Every Sunday--
Sunday Worship (10 a.m.)
Both in-person and online
Faith Formation (10:15 a.m.)

***2nd Sunday-Church Growth & Mission Team**
(11 a.m.—after worship in Sanctuary)

***2nd Sunday—Christian Ed Team**
(11 a.m. after worship in Library)

***4th Monday---**
Church Council (6 p.m.) Church Office

***1st Tuesday—**
Communications Team (6 p.m.) Ch. Office

***3rd Tuesday---**
Budget & Finance/Stewardship Team
(5:30 p.m.) Church Office

***2nd Wednesday—**
Building & Grounds Team (6 p.m.) Ch. Office

***3rd Wednesday—**
Church & Ministry (6 p.m.) Church Office

***2nd Thursday—Women’s Guild (1 p.m.) FH**
(on summer break until September)

***Last Thursday of each month—Men’s Brunch**
at Julie’s Tell St. Café (9 a.m.)

***Every Thursday—Table of Blessings (5 p.m) FH**

Church Attendance

<u>Date</u>	<u>In-person</u>	<u>Facebook</u>
May 21	43	6
May 28	52	5
June 4	52	6
June 11	43	4

Thank you!

An appreciative *thank you* goes out to Chris & Darla Goffinet for planting the gorgeous flowers under the corner sign and to Jerry & Bradley Belcher for trimming of the front tree limbs! Thank you for helping to beautify our property!

EUCC Yard Signs

We truly appreciate your pride in EUCC and your willingness to spread our love throughout the community. We encourage you to display one of our all season yard signs. If you need one, they are available in the narthex and church office.



Caller Deadline Reminder

The deadline for the July Caller is **July 10th**. Articles can be dropped off, called in, or emailed to the church office at euccinfo@gmail.com.

The church office will be closed on Tuesday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day.

Financial Report May 2023

May 2023 Income - Total \$9,856.98

Offerings (checks/cash):	\$ 5,679.40	
Offerings (electronic):	\$ 2,023.17	
Building Rental Income:	\$ 50.00	
Franklin Fund Interest Income:	\$ 401.80	
<u><i>Income Specifically Directed to a Fund:</i></u>		
Maintenance & Depreciation Fund Income:	\$ 186.00	
Local Emergencies Fund Income:	\$ 697.00	
Benevolent Fund Income:	\$ 205.00	
Pass Through Account Income:	\$ 599.61	Change for Change donations
Flower Fund Income:	\$ 15.00	

May 2023 Expense - Total \$16,166.70

Salaries:	\$ 7,544.05	
Pastor Housing Allowance Expense:	\$ 1,000.00	
Pastor Pension Expense:	\$ 478.27	
Pastor Health & Dental Expense:	\$ 1,631.72	
Pastor Life & Disability Expense:	\$ 84.40	
Utilities Expense:	\$ 2,448.14	
Office Supplies Expense:	\$ 150.42	
Local Emergencies Expense:	\$ 1,587.68	
Vanco Fees Expense:	\$ 64.22	
Misc. Expense:	\$ 102.25	
Benevolent Fund Expense:	\$ 14.10	
Women's Guild Fund Expense:	\$ 133.15	
Christian Ed Team Budget Expense:	\$ 94.86	
Building & Grounds Team Budget Expense:	\$ 184.44	
Pass Through Account Expense:	\$ 649.00	Change for Change donation + tshirts

<p>May Total Income Minus Total Expenses: (\$6,309.72)</p>

EUCC Assets, Liabilities, Income and Expenses

May-23

Assets and Liabilities May 31, 2023	Assets	\$623,720.09
	Liabilities	\$1,565.19
	Assets - Liabilities	\$622,154.90
	- General Operations Fund -- Can Be Spent on Anything	\$67,241.74
	- Thelander Mission Fund -- Designated for Revitalization Items	\$88,350.27
	- American and Franklin Funds -- Requires Congregation Approval on what can be spent on	\$147,669.76
	- Various Directed Funds -- Earmarked by Donors	\$318,893.13
Operations Income and Budgeted Expenses May 2023	May 2023 Operations Income	\$8,154.37
	May 2023 Budgeted Expenses	\$13,782.77
	May 2023 Operations/Budgeted Gain/Loss	-\$5,628.40
Operations Income and Budgeted Expenses YTD	2023 Operations Income	\$98,382.91
	2023 Budgeted Expenses	\$92,896.50
	2023 Operations/Budgeted Gain/Loss	\$5,486.41
Total Income and Total Expenses May 2023	May 2023 Total Income	\$9,856.98
	May 2023 Total Expenses	\$16,166.70
	May 2023 Total Gain/Loss	-\$6,309.72
Total Income and Total Expenses YTD	2023 Total Income	\$107,695.12
	2023 Total Expenses	\$107,908.57
	2023 Gain/Loss	-\$213.45

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

June

3—Allen Butler
4—Reed Goffinet, Chris Glenn
6—Erika Hauenstein McClain
8—Cassie Kellems
9—Sara Belcher, Kelly Brown
11—Melba Ayer
12—Ange'Lee Pruitt
13—Dan Lacy
15—Tucker Kleemann, Eli Reed,
Suellen Howard
16—Maci Howell
17—Lauren Goffinet
20—Glen Griepenstroh, Cameron Howell,
Tim Pruitt, Sally Ress
25—Steven Kellems
27—Austin Litherland
30—Alexandrea Holmes, Jordi Sandage



**Please contact the church office if you would like to add a birthday or anniversary to the monthly Caller.*

July

1—Mary Aders
7—Maxwell Dugas
8—Greg Held
12—Rebecca Fenn
15—Bradley Belcher
16—Hunter Sandage, Cadence Held
17—Becky Peter
19—Donna Kessler
22—Jessica Fenn Allen
25—Corey Litherland
26—Jamie Held
28—Norman Held, Sean Risse
30—Roy Raider
31—Jerry Brunner



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

June

5—Paul & Debbie Ramsey
7—Greg & Jamie Held
8—Frank & Pam Curtiss
15—Chris & Darla Goffinet
16—James & Monica Holmes
24—Thomas & Mary Ann Hughes
25—Larry & Becky Peter



July

2—Dan & Jill Lacy
14—Duane & Lea Ann Gehlhausen



EUCC Contact Info:

Church Phone: 812.547.7059
Email: eucctinfo@gmail.com
Website: www.tellcityevangelicalucc.org

Pastor Mark McDaniel: 812.583.3508
Email: pastormark98@gmail.com



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Evangelical United Church of
Christ



EVANGELICAL
United Church of Christ

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Tell City, IN 47586
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Website: tellcityevangelicalucc.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

1. Extravagant Welcome
2. Continuing Testament
3. Changing Lives