

The Caller



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

*Our vision is to reflect the image of Jesus in our community and in the world.
Our mission exists to accept, support, and love all people, so together
we grow in faith and demonstrate Christ's love.*

Pastor's Page

Lent: A Season of Preparation and Reflection

Lent is a significant liturgical season observed by many Christians, including those from Catholic, Anglican, and Orthodox churches. It spans approximately 40 days (excluding Sundays) and serves as a period of reflection, penance, fasting, and preparation leading up to Easter. Here are some key aspects of Lent:

Origins and Duration:

- Lent commences on Ash Wednesday and concludes on Holy Saturday, just before the joyous celebration of Easter Sunday.
- The name “Lent” is derived from the Old English word “lencten,” which means springtime or lengthening of the day.

Spiritual Preparation:

- Lent is a time for believers to spiritually prepare for the celebration of Easter, which commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- During this season, Christians engage in practices such as fasting, prayer, and almsgiving.
- Fasting often involves abstaining from certain foods or luxuries as a form of self-discipline and solidarity with Christ's sufferings.

Deepening Connection with God:

- Lent provides an opportunity for introspection, repentance, and personal growth.
- Believers seek to renew their faith and draw closer to the core tenets of Christianity.
- It's not about feeling shame over sin but rather an awareness that sin separates us from God.
- Repentant sinners seek cleansing from sin and freedom from shame.

(continued on page 2)

FEBRUARY 15, 2024—MARCH 31, 2024

(continued from page 1)

The 40-Day Journey:

The 40-day period mirrors significant biblical events:

- Genesis: The flood lasted 40 days.
- Moses: His sojourn at Mount Sinai.
- Elijah: His journey to Mount Horeb.
- Jonah: His call to Nineveh for repentance.
- Jesus: His time of testing in the wilderness.

Preparation for Easter:

- Lent culminates in the celebration of Easter, where Christians rejoice in the victory of Christ over sin and death.
- It's a season of hope, renewal, and anticipation.

In summary, Lent is not merely a time of deprivation; it's a spiritual pilgrimage toward resurrection. As we journey through these 40 days, we remember Christ's sacrifice, seek forgiveness, and prepare our hearts to embrace the joy of Easter.

Blessings,
Pastor Mark

News From the Church Council

After learning of Shari's upcoming retirement we began the process of filling her position. At our January meeting, on a recommendation from the Church & Ministry Team, the council hired Gregory DuPont as Office Manager/Music Director/Program Coordinator of EUCC.

In this full time position, Gregory will continue to serve as our Music Director, assume duties as our Office Manager, and expand the role to include program development, creation, and implementation designed to encourage church growth.

We are very appreciative to Shari for her hard work and dedication to EUCC. We wish her all the best in her retirement!

Moving forward we welcome and support Gregory in his new position, and are excited for the possibilities it brings to our church!

Shari Everly, Office Manager, Retiring

As some of you may have already heard, I will be retiring from the Office Manager position at the end of March. I will be handing over the reins to Gregory DuPont effective April 1, 2024. I have greatly enjoyed my time here at EUCC for the past 5 years. My decision to retire stems from my desire to have more available time to spend with our grandchildren. During my time at EUCC I have reconnected with some past acquaintances, and met many new friends! I will continue to follow and pray for EUCC, its members, and for the new pastor search.

God Bless Each of You!

Shari Everly

SAVE THE DATE: March 17th

Following worship on March 17th, your Fellowship Team is hosting a pitch-in luncheon to honor Shari Everly and her five years of dedicated hard work for EUCC. Meat, rolls, and beverage will be provided. If you are able, please bring a family sized side, salad, or beverage.

We hope the many members who have enjoyed Shari's welcome greeting and ready smile upon entering our church office will join us in a show of appreciation for her years of dependable assistance. We have been blessed by the time, talent, care and concern she has shared with our congregation...both as a church and as individuals.

Please join us for lunch on Sunday, March 17th as we express our heartfelt thanks to Shari Everly!

Baptism at EUCC

We welcomed into holy baptism Milo Ryan Dugas on Sunday, February 11, 2024. Milo is the son of Mitchell and Allison Dugas. Milo's godparents are Sara Hanebutt and J.P. Dennis.



Women's Lenten Prayer Coffee at EUCC

The EUCC Ladies Lenten Prayer Coffee will be held on **Saturday, March 9, 2024, in Fellowship Hall from 9:00-10:00 a.m.** We will need volunteers to help with this event. There are sign-up sheets located in the narthex of church. So please, don't forget to sign up! Food items can be dropped off at Fellowship Hall on **Friday, March 8th from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.** and on **Saturday morning, March 9th from 7 a.m. to start time of 9:00 a.m.** Kitchen crew should arrive at **8:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 9th.** Clean up/tear down will be directly after the event.

We look forward to seeing you. Please mark this event on your calendar. Many thanks to all who will donate food items, volunteer their time and participate in this event.

Questions? Call **Debbie Mangum at 812-549-5714.**



Phone Book Section of Church Directory Updated

The phone book section of the church directory has been updated. Copies of the new directory, which you can insert in the binder which was distributed in June 2022, are available in the narthex and Church Office.

If you need a full directory or only the updated section and can't make it to church to get it, please contact the church office. We will see that one is delivered to you.

We will do an addendum to the directory in July. If any updates are needed, please contact the Church Office.

HAPPENINGS AT OUR CHURCH

The Family Quiet Zone is now complete!!

Here at Evangelical United Church of Christ, we begin each service with a statement that says “no matter where one is on life’s journey, all are welcome here”– and this includes children of all ages. It is in this spirit that the Christian Education Team proudly announces its new Family Quiet Zone for use by our youngest church members and their families! By providing an area where the youngest members of our church can engage in quiet age-appropriate activities while remaining in the sanctuary with their families, we are seeking to provide a better worship experience for the entire family.

The area is located on the left just as one enters the sanctuary. It includes a set of shelves, some soft blocks, books and baskets of quiet toys for the children. Rocking chairs along the back wall complete the area and are available not only to parents but also to anyone who might find sitting in our pews difficult or uncomfortable. Allison Dugas, mother of Max and Milo shared, “We really like that our little one can play and roam around while being contained to a certain area. I can actually pay attention to the sermon this way.” Another mother, Nicole Risse mom to Junah and Adley, added that “by having the ‘Quiet Area’ available, it has made going to church easier for my family and me. The space provides adequate space for my kids to keep busy and play while my husband and I attend worship. We can’t thank the church enough for providing this space for families. Thank you.”

We welcome families with children to join us for worship. In addition to our Family Quiet Zone for our youngest saints, children ages 4 and up are invited to attend Children's Church after the “Time with Our Youth” which is led by Pastor Mark McDaniel. Children’s Church is held in the classroom at the top of the stairs located behind the sanctuary and is led by volunteers of the church. Children are also welcome to stay in the pews with their families throughout the whole worship service if they like. Worship bags with age-appropriate activities are available at the main entrance to the sanctuary for use during worship.



HAPPENINGS AT OUR CHURCH

Change for Change Campaign



The Christian Ed youth has started another *Change for Change* campaign. This year the proceeds will benefit Isaiah House -117 for Perry and Spencer counties. The donation jars are located in the narthex after worship until the school year ends. We will plan a family outing to Evansville to Build-A-Bear to make bears for the children to hug while they transition to Isaiah House from their homes. Our youth are invited to make a bear of their own to keep. We greatly appreciate you saving your change to make our campaign a success!

EUCC Yard Signs

Thanks to all who displayed our Advent yard signs. We truly appreciate your pride in EUCC and your willingness to spread our love throughout the community. Now that Advent is over, 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.



CHRISTMAS TREES REPLACED; OLD ONES BEING GIVEN AWAY

The Music and Worship Resource Team has purchased new Christmas trees for use in the sanctuary during upcoming Christmas seasons. Three more slender, pre-lit trees were bought on clearance to replace the three trees we've been using for many years. Since the new trees are pre-lit, we are also getting rid of the old strands of lights.

The old trees and the lights are stored in the former Tots Lots room (lower level). Anyone is welcome to one, two, or three of the trees and as many strands of lights as you wish to take.

These are available on a first come, first served basis and can be picked up anytime the building is open. Anything not taken will put out for pick up in the City's spring clean up in June.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP WITH ON-LINE WORSHIP SERVICES AND SOUNDBOARD

When our doors were closed due to the pandemic, a team worked quickly to put together the equipment and skills needed to have an on-line presence so our services could be live streamed. Over the years, we have purchased better equipment and have fine-tuned the process so that we deliver a quality on-line worship service. Even though we are having in-person worship again, the on-line presence will not go away. This is a valuable and necessary ministry. We regularly have 5 families who watch the live stream during worship time, and there are dozens more views during the week.

We currently have 3 teams of 2 who rotate Sundays running the soundboard and the audio/visual equipment. With vacations and other commitments during worship (such as serving as the liturgist or an usher), the 6 of us who do this important work for the church really do need more help. It isn't difficult. The soundboard technician mutes and unmutes mics and adjusts the volume. The audio/visual technician starts the live stream, moves the camera, plays the streamed songs, and stops the live stream. Everything is prepared in advance and set up prior to Sunday morning. It's really just a matter of pushing buttons and clicking keys.

Of course, training will be provided. You will not be left to do the live stream on your own until you are comfortable doing so.

If you feel it in your heart to help with this part of our worship, please contact Darla Goffinet at 812.608.0122 or dgoffinetlaw@pcsi.net.

EUCC T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE TO ORDER

Would you like a shirt with our logo on the front and our motto on back? And have you seen the two new colors – royal frost and blush frost? Let's keep promoting our church by showing our pride in EUCC. If you'd like a new shirt, 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, tie dye option, as well as blush frost and royal frost. Tie dye is available in short sleeves only, and the youth sizes of the two new colors are only available in short sleeves.

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



HIGHLIGHTING PORTRAITS IN SANCTUARY

For those of you who have visited our sanctuary, you know we have beautiful portraits hanging on the north wall depicting the events in the life of Jesus. These portraits were painted by lifelong member John Butler, Sr., who passed away in December 2013. Mr. Butler painted these based on the original paintings by 19th century Danish painter Carl Heinrich Bloch. Mr. Butler did these paintings, among others, from 1992 – 1994. While the paintings hang on our walls in the order Mr. Butler painted them, we will be highlighting one painting each month based on the order in which the events took place in Jesus's life.

The paintings were donated to Evangelical United Church of Christ by Corliss Krueger and Diane Gaffney, Mr. Butler's daughters. They were dedicated to the church on September 14, 2008, and are on display in the sanctuary all year, with the exception of the Advent season. We are proud of these beautiful paintings and feel blessed that the Butler family shared Mr. Butler's talents with us.

The first painting we are highlighting is entitled "Jesus in the Temple." During a visit his parents made to the temple in Jerusalem when Jesus was 12, he amazed the teachers there with his questions and with his answers to his questions. The painting is based on Luke 2:41 – 50.

The Boy Jesus at the Temple

⁴¹ Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. ⁴² When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. ⁴³ After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. ⁴⁴ Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

⁴⁹ "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he was saying to them.



HAPPENINGS AT OUR CHURCH

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.



January Total: \$868.51

Utilities—13—households—\$488.51

Rent assistance—4— households—\$180.00

Gas Cards—\$200.00

Worship Leaders

<u>Date</u>	<u>Liturgist</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Video</u>	<u>Audio</u>
Feb 18	Linda Kramer	Jerry Brunner Steve & Becky Owen Frank Poehlein	Emile Kercher	Dan Gayer
Feb 25	Lea A. Gehlhausen	Linda Franchville Emile Kercher	Darla Goffinet	Chris Goffinet
March 3	Dan Lacy	Ellis & Suellen Howard Dan & Jill Lacy	Emile Kercher	Dan Gayer
March 10	Darla Goffinet	Lea Ann Gehlhausen Chris Goffinet Keith & Linda Kramer	Rebecca Fenn	Mark Fenn
March 17	Linda Kramer	Jerry Brunner Steve & Becky Owen Frank Poehlein	Rebecca Fenn	Mark Fenn

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

Recurring events...

Every Sunday--

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

*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 break until March 2024)

*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>
Jan 21	44	7
Jan 28	55	12
Feb 4	43	8
Feb 11	72	18

EUCC Adult Study Class

An Adult Study Class is meeting on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. in the Church Library. The study includes discussions regarding current issues. All adults are invited to participate.

REQUESTS FOR STREAMED MUSIC ACCEPTED

Do you have a favorite contemporary Christian song you would like played during worship? If you do, please call the church office (812.547.7059) or email Darla Goffinet (dgoffinetlaw@psci.net) with your requests. As long as the song is one we are permitted to play under our copyright license, it will be played!

January Memorial Donations

January Memorial donations: \$25

These directed donations benefited the following funds:

Local Emergency Fund \$25

What is Love?

Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, (love) is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Church Profile Submitted

The Pastoral Search and Selection Committee developed the church profile which was approved by the Church and Ministry Team as well as the Church Council. On January 3, 2024, the conference approved the profile and posted it to the United Church of Christ website. The next step in the process is for the committee to review any applications we receive, set up interviews of prospective ministers and, ultimately, make a recommendation of a preferred candidate. We kindly ask for your continued prayers.

Financial Report January 2024

January 2024 Income - Total \$7,669.77

Offerings (checks/cash):	\$ 4,248.00
Offerings (electronic):	\$ 2,085.00
Building Rental Income:	\$ 175.00
Franklin Fund Interest Income:	\$ 413.77
<u>Income Specifically Directed to a Fund:</u>	
Maintenance & Depreciation Fund Income:	\$ 215.00
Local Emergencies Fund Income:	\$ 173.00
Benevolent Fund Income:	\$ 300.00
Women's Guild Fund Income:	\$ 60.00

January 2024 Expense - Total \$17,128.37

Salaries:	\$ 7,796.27
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:	\$ 2,702.70
Office Supplies Expense:	\$ 450.00 <i>(Steeple Acct—Ch. Windows help)</i>
Local Emergencies Expense:	\$ 868.51
Vanco Fees Expense:	\$ 65.50
Pass Through Account Expense:	\$ 301.00 <i>(Re-issue of Shop w/ Cop check)</i>
OCWM Conference Expense:	\$ 1,375.00
Lincolnland Expense:	\$ 375.00

<p style="text-align: center;">January Total Income Minus Total Expenses: (\$9,458.60)</p>

EUCC Assets, Liabilities, Income and Expenses

Jan-24

Assets and Liabilities January 31, 2024	Assets	\$610,811.75
	Liabilities	\$767.31
	Assets - Liabilities	\$610,044.44
	- General Operations Fund -- Can Be Spent on Anything	\$79,045.03
	- Thelander Mission Fund -- Designated for Revitalization Items	63,350.27
	- American and Franklin Funds -- Requires Congregation Approval on what can be spent on	\$152,168.00
	- Various Directed Funds -- Earmarked by Donors	\$315,481.14
Operations Income and Budgeted Expenses January 2023	January 2024 Operations Income	\$6,921.77
	January 2024 Budgeted Expenses	\$15,958.86
	January 2024 Operations/Budgeted Gain/Loss	-\$9,037.09
Operations Income and Budgeted Expenses YTD	2024 Operations Income	\$6,921.77
	2024 Budgeted Expenses	\$15,958.86
	2024 Operations/Budgeted Gain/Loss	-\$9,037.09
Total Income and Total Expenses January 2023	January 2024 Total Income	\$7,669.77
	January 2024 Total Expenses	\$17,128.37
	January 2024 Total Gain/Loss	-\$9,458.60
Total Income and Total Expenses YTD	2024 Total Income	\$7,669.77
	2024 Total Expenses	\$17,128.37
	2024 Gain/Loss	-\$9,458.60

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

February

1—Luke Sanders
2—Katelyn Hughes
8—Alex Fenn
9—Brett Hagedorn
16—Sara Humphrey Brown
19—Caleb Ewing
22—Meg Butler
27—James Litherland

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



March

3—Kyle Hagedorn
5—Trent Litherland
6—Pat York
8—Phil Litherland, JT York,
Emily Hagedorn
11—Alex Ramsey
12—Norma Held
14—Scot Sandage
18—Allison Dugas
19—Autumn Lain
20—Debbie Butler, Greg Zoglman
23—Tim Reed
24—Lois Curl, Linda Kramer
25—Margaret Evrard
27—Jerry Belcher
29—Donovan Aders
31—Lois Humphrey



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

February

26—Carman & Ann Leistner



March

No anniversaries



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



[eucctellcity](https://www.facebook.com/eucctellcity)



[@eucc_tell_city](https://www.instagram.com/@eucc_tell_city)



Evangelical United Church of
Christ

Ladies Lenten Prayer Coffee Dates

- Week 1—Feb. 17.....Gospel Tabernacle, Cannelton, hosting;
St. Michael Catholic Church, Cannelton, co-hosting
- Week 2—Feb. 24.....First Baptist Church, Tell City, hosting
- Week 3— March 2.....St. Pius Catholic Church, Troy, hosting
St. Paul & St. Marks Catholic Churches, co-hosting
- Week 4—March 9.....Evangelical UCC, Tell City, hosting**
- Week 5—March 16.....Methodist Church, Cannelton, hosting
First Baptist Church, Cannelton, co-hosting
- Week 6—March 23.....Troy Fellowship Church, Troy, hosting

The Ladies Lenten Prayer Coffees begin **Saturday, February 17**. There will be an offering taken at each session. At the final session, those attending will decide which local charity will receive the offering. There will be light refreshments served followed by a short program at each session. All sessions will be from **9:00 to 10:00 a.m.** All women and girls are welcome.

Men's Lenten Breakfasts

The Perry County Men's Lenten Breakfasts will include four area churches this year.

- March 9.....Troy Fellowship Church, Troy
- March 16.....Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Tell City
- March 23.....First Baptist Church, Tell City
- March 30.....Evangelical UCC, Tell City**

The breakfasts will begin at 7 a.m. Contact Jerry Belcher to help at EUCC (812.719.0264).



EASTER FLOWER ORDERS BEING TAKEN

Our sanctuary will again be beautifully decorated for Easter Sunday. To place a plant in memory of or in honor of a loved one, please fill out the form and send or take it, along with your payment, to church. You can place the form and payment in the offering box or turn them in to the Church Office. Orders must be turned in by **Thursday, March 14**. You may take your plant after worship on Easter Sunday.

Azalea (hardy)	\$22	Mum	\$11
Hydrangea	\$22	Geranium	\$10
Kimberly Queen fern	\$17		

Name (presented by) _____

In memory of _____ OR _____ in honor of _____

Plant choice _____ \$ _____

Sorry, no choice of colors.



EVANGELICAL
United Church of Christ

802 10th Street
Tell City, IN 47586
Phone: 812-547-7059
E-mail: ucctcinfo@gmail.com
Website: tellcityevangelicalucc.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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