



NEWSLETTER 2026

Hello All,

Lent will begin on February 18th this year and runs until April 2nd^a. Now some of you may be asking what is Lent? I know when I first heard about Lent, I thought the person was talking about the stuff that I remove from a screen in my dryer. My Catholic friend quickly corrected me that was not what he meant by Lent.

Lent started at around 325AD by the Catholic church. It begins with Ash Wednesday and ends on Maundy Thursday. It is a time of fasting, moderation, self-denial, and repentance. The intention is to focus on repentance on self-denial (fasting and moderation are forms of self-denial). We should be focusing on these things year-round. However, I think there is nothing wrong about taking some time to focus on those things.

If you are thinking about practicing Lent this year and fasting from something, I want to encourage you to try two things. The first, try not to tell anyone except maybe your spouse. I say this because of what it says in Matthew chapter 6 which says:

¹⁶“When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.” (Matthew 6:16-18, NIV)

The hypocrites Jesus was talking about would make a grandiose display of their fasting. Jesus is saying do the exact opposite. He is saying keep it a secret, and I want you to do the same.

The second, during the time you would normally be spending on the things you are giving up, I would encourage you to spend that time praying or reading your bible.

You may be thinking “Chris I am not a good prayer.” God doesn’t care how “good” your prayers are, God just wants you to talk to Him. He loves you.

You may be thinking “Chris I am not a good reader.” Most of us have a smart phone, and there are several bible apps that can read to you. I can help you install them if you need it. Then you can spend some time not focused on anything, and listen to God’s love letter to you! I promise you won’t be disappointed.

Even if you don’t plan on “giving-up” something for Lent this year, let me encourage you to take this time and self-reflect. Please take some time and make your spiritual life more of a priority. I think you will find a lot of other issues in life will in a way take care of themselves, or you will see them in a new light.

Intentionality is how we are going to grow in our Christian walk. Whether you plan on practicing some sort of fast during Lent or not, we all need to take some time to grow closer to Christ.

Peace be with you,

Pastor Chris



URBANA YOKE PARISH
Box 8 Urbana, IN 46990

Worship Service

10:00 AM

Sunday School

9:00—9:45 AM

Pastor:

Chris Brock

Office Hours:

Monday—Friday

260-774-3516

Church Email:

urbanaparish@gmail.com

Church Website

www.urbanayokeparish.com

Church Secretary

Rend' Warnock

Wed. 5:30-7:00 pm

Sat. 10:00 am—1:00 pm



Christ Jesus
OUR LORD.

ROMANS 6:23. NIV

Urbana Yoke Parish Board Minutes January 2026

February 11, 2026

Our Mission Statement



To glorify God through our actions, words and deeds as a daily way of life by the leading of the Holy Spirit and commitment to sharing the love of Jesus Christ to others. To open their



When God calls you to something, He is not always calling you to succeed, He's calling you to obey! The success of the calling is up to Him; the obedience is up to you.

David Wilkerson

Those attending: Chairman Richard Monce, Pastor Chris Brock, Brian Chamberlain, Ed Fitch, Troy Baer, Brian Frank and Donna Harman.

Opening Prayer was given by Brian Chamberlain

Secretary's Report

The secretary's report was reviewed by the board and approved with a motion by Brian Chamberlain. The motion was seconded by Donna Harman.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was approved with a motion by Troy Baer. The motion was seconded by Ed Fitch.

Pastor's Report

Mileage total for January was 120 miles. The mileage rate is now .73 cents per mile for a total of \$87.01. The mileage report was approved with a motion by Ed Fitch and seconded by Brian Frank.

In other business from Pastor Chris' report:

Chris has started the new member's class. He is using the book, "I Believe" which he feels covers many subjects a new member may have about the Bible, or scriptures. He is also telling them about the history of the Urbana church.

The new sound and projection system seems to be going well. Still a few things to adapt to but overall is good.

A reminder that Pastor Chris will not be giving the message on Sunday, March 15th due to attending the Brethren Way of Christ. Dr. Aaron Gross will fill the pulpit for that Sunday.

Committee Reports:

Benevolence:

After some discussion it was decided the amount of pork sold should be changed to 1200 pounds, instead of 600. The pork was processed at a different place this year. Lengerich Meats. The sales went very well. They sold out the day of the sausage sales. There was only 100 pounds of sausage to sell after pre-orders.

Christian Ed: Donna Harman

Donna reported the children's Sunday school class is going well. It has been a lot of fun doing all the activities with the kids that go with each lesson.

She has asked another person to take the 4th. Sunday in the nursery since she is doing S.S. and one Sunday of Junior church. Lori Fitch agreed to do nursery the 4th. Sunday.

Program: *Bryan Frank*

The program committee has several things on the calendar in the next few weeks. They will be serving a Valentine Dinner on Sunday, February 15th, after the worship service.

A movie night is set for March 8th.

Maundy Thursday is on April 2, and there will be a breakfast on Easter morning following the sunrise service.

Outreach: *Richard Monce*

It was suggested by the board to combine the outreach committee with the benevolence committee since they both cover the same areas of giving to others in our community.

The next blood drive will be held on February 25th. It “may” be held in the church fellowship hall instead of the Lions Club building.

The Urbana Lions Club will be having a pancake/sausage meal on February 28th. Richard suggested the church buy several tickets to hand out to people in the Urbana community. The board agreed to this. A total of 15 tickets will be purchased. Richard said, “We as a church need to reach out further in those in our community. It’s not just a committee, it is a church project.”

Worship:

A total of 56 people were served communion on the first Sunday of February.

The new sound system has been good for our worship service and on line viewers.

Old Business: It was suggested by the board to create a committee of four members to be a part of the trustees for the church. Pastor Chris is still doing several jobs that is not listed as a part of his responsibility as pastor.

New Business: None

The meeting was closed with prayer by Pastor Chris

MEETINGS THIS MONTH:

The Church Board will meet on Wednesday, March 11th at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Please remember the following in prayer:

Family of Donna Yentes, Judy Eltzroth, Alma DeVore, Ron & Rhonda Baer, Jim Hartley, Jerry & Nancy McColley, Janene & Wendel Dawes, Nancy Miller, Ray & Esther Terrell, Vi Miller, Janice Miller and her grandson Kole, Coy Eads and his parents and sisters. Also those of loved ones, friends and families. Please pray for continued healing.



OTHER CHURCH NEWS

Our "Sausage Day" was a huge success. After pre-orders were filled we only had an extra 100 pounds of sausage to sell. We sold out before the end of the day. Thank you to all who purchased sausage. This is our main fund raiser for the year and all money raised stays in our community to help people in need.



March 1, 2026 we will hold a special congregational meeting following our worship service. Please plan to stay for this meeting as we will be discussing what we will be doing with the steeple and also possibly purchasing an additional property.



The ladies of the church meet on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 6:00 pm for Bible Study. They are studying the book of Genesis. All ladies of the church are welcome to attend this bible study.



The Fellowship Hall was filled to overflowing with good food and lots of fellowship on Sunday, February 15th. Thank you to the Program Committee for a wonderful "Valentine Luncheon". It was enjoyed by all who attended.



The Program Committee will be hosting "Movie Night" on Sunday, March 8th. The movie will be "I Can Only Imagine". Join us for an evening of snacks, fellowship and a great movie!



2026 Yearbooks are finished and available at the back of the sanctuary.

To Make You Smile: 3-year-old Reese: "Our Father Who does art in Heaven, Harold is His name. Amen".

THOSE SERVING THIS MONTH:

Head Usher: Aaron Mattern

Liturgist: Lori Fitch

Acolyte: Usher's Choice

Lay Leader: Need a Volunteer

If you are unable to join us in person on Sunday mornings you can now watch the service LIVE on Facebook. Service begins at 10:00 am.

MARCH 2026

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1 Communion | 2 Pastor Hours 8:00 am-12:00 pm | 3 Pastor Hours 8:00 am-12:00 pm | 4 Pastor Hours 8:00 am-12:00 pm | 5 Pastor Hours 8:00 am-12:00 pm | 6 | 7 Secretary Hours 10:00 am -1:00 pm Sausage Day |
| 8 Daylight Savings Time Begins | 9 Pastor Hours 8:00 am-12:00 pm | 10 Pastor Hours 8:00 am-12:00 pm | 11 Pastor Hours 8:00 am-12:00 pm | 12 Pastor Hours 8:00 am-12:00 pm | 13 | 14 Secretary Hours 10:00 am -1:00 pm |
| 15 | 16 Pastor Hours 8:00 am-12:00 pm | 17 Pastor Hours 8:00 am-12:00 pm | 18 Pastor Hours 8:00 am-12:00 pm | 19 Pastor Hours 8:00 am-12:00 pm | 20 | 21 Secretary Hours 10:00 am -1:00 pm |
| 22 | 23 Pastor Hours 8:00 am-12:00 pm | 24 Pastor Hours 8:00 am-12:00 pm | 25 Pastor Hours 8:00 am-12:00 pm | 26 Pastor Hours 8:00 am-12:00 pm | 27 | 28 Secretary Hours 10:00 am -1:00 pm |
| 29 Palm Sunday | 30 | 31 | April 1 | 2 Maundy Thursday Service | 3 Good Friday | |
| | | Prayer Meetings Monday evenings at 6:00 pm | Secretary Hours: Wednesday Evening 5:30-7:00 pm | 11 Board Meeting @ 6:30 pm | Men's Bible Study Wednesday mornings @ 7:00 am | |

Urbana Yoke Parish
P.O. Box 8
Urbana, IN 46990



The Little Palm Tree

*Once there was a little palm
with branches oh, so small
who felt alone upon the earth
among the trees so tall
The little palm was lonely,
just as sad as he could be
"I cannot understand,"
he thought, "why God created me!"
Then the Great Creator
who spoke across the wind
said, "Oh, but you are special
upon the earth therein
You will be the palm tree beneath a star so bright
Proclaiming Jesus' miracle birth
one blessed holy night
You will be the palm tree
whose branches big and strong
Will wave in praise to Christ the king,
His glory and his song
You shall become a symbol
of victory upon the Earth
Of how a Savior came to die,
so man could receive new birth!
Don't ever be discouraged my precious little tree.
All who look upon you
may glory they shall see
When you are feeling quite alone, sad,
and much neglected
Remember you're the symbol
of a Savior resurrected!*