



The Christian Visitor
A bi-monthly publication of First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ) Rochester, Indiana

Church #574-223-5812

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Our Mission: Bring people to Christ, grow as disciples, and together serve God

Date: April 29, 2025

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Mother's Day Breakfast



If you are a mother, have been a mother, have or have had a mother; you are invited to the Mother's Day breakfast at 8:20, May 11. The Membership Team will be serving an assortment of breakfast casseroles, coffee cake, muffins, fruit and beverages.

The women of the congregation are invited to bring a favorite apron that will be hung up as decoration. There will be an opportunity to tell the story of why you brought that particular apron, but you don't need to stand-up and speak if you don't want to.

Please join us before worship as we celebrate the women who nurture us both physically and spiritually. When they ask what you want for Mother's Day, say, "Take me to church for breakfast and sit with me in worship."



Help Wipe out the Need

The Outreach Team will be doing our toilet paper drive for United Ministries the month of May. We are collecting toilet paper along with Kleenex for United Ministries. Help fill the coat rack area. No job is finished until the paperwork is done.

Pastor Reflection



I grew up in northern Ohio where the soil is defined by clay, but my dad really wanted it to grow things. We had a small flower garden in the back yard and each year he would buy multiple bags of peat moss and mix it into the soil to try and break down the clay. Though there were bulbs and other flowers in the garden, the focus was always the rose bushes. He would weed, water, and fertilize; and every Spring mix in another couple of bags of peat moss to try and change the nature of the soil.

One day my brother and I were playing soccer in the backyard while dad was working in the garden and the ball bounced off the fence or something and took dad by surprise. It was instantly obvious to me that he was not having fun or enjoying his time in the garden. I said, "Dad, I thought you liked working in the garden. I especially thought you loved the roses." He responded, "I love your mother and your mother loves roses." Though dad doesn't remember the incident, it helped shape my understanding of love and what it means to love someone.

The first half of the great commandment says to love the Lord your God with all you heart, soul, mind and strength. How do we do that? We can't bring God flowers or make God's favorite meal or even go in the backyard and play with God? Well, dad raised roses because, "I love your mother and your mother loves roses." What are God's roses? What does God love? More than anything else, God loves the world and its people. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but may have eternal life." Part of loving God is lovingly caring for what God loves – the world and its people. We care for the hurting and the clueless because God loves them. We care for the earth because God loves it. We care for each other because God loves us. We care for the church because God loves it. We care about bringing people to Jesus that they might live forever because God loves them. It can be frustrating and all the peat moss we mix into other's lives may seem to just disappear year after year, but "I love God and God loves them."

Love,
Mike

Teaching Moment Tuesday X



Join Pastor Mike live on Facebook on Tuesdays at noon or catch the recording anytime on our Facebook page. We are studying the Old Testament book of Exodus. Currently we are finishing up The 10 Commandments.



PRAYER LIST

*Key: Person's name (description; who submitted request).

Our Mission Co-Worker in **South Africa**

Jim Wilber 4/27 in St Joseph Hospital, Mishawaka, had a stroke

Lance Musgrave another eye surgery on 4/17. Prayer for healing and that the retina does not detach again; by Judy Musgrave

Fred Jones 4/17 as he continues through his cancer journey

Ellis & Sharri Downing 4/16 Ellis is to have quadruple bypass on May 7; Sharri has severe back pain; by Judy Musgrave

Harper Simpson 4/15 fainting spells, running tests; granddaughter of Lori Simpson

Mick Evans 4/14 cancer that is localized, starting radiation; by Judy Evans

Shane Rudd 4/13 battling two different kinds of cancer, receiving chemo and radiation 5 times a week. Has a feeding tube for nutrition; nephew of Deb Tyler

Jennifer McCarty 4/13 personal problems; by Allen Glassburn

Mary Ellen Nelsen 4/10 stage 4 bone cancer; by Jacque Douglas

Sandra 4/9 tumor in stomach; friend of Peggy Johnson

Jackie Liebrandt 4/9 cancer treatments, just lost mother; by Christy Bennett

Doug Morton 4/3 recovering from a mild stroke in February in the midst of radiation treatments

Cathy Ralstin 3/25 started physical therapy in Indy; by Dave Ralstin

Jim Riffle 3/17 stage 4 liver cancer, receiving treatments; nephew of Barbara Tibbets

Candy Myer 3/10 has colon cancer and stage 4 liver cancer, Starting chemotherapy; niece of Liz Robinson

Shana Maples 3/5 battling lymphoma; surgery, radiation and chemotherapy. Also Pray for her husband and two year old daughter; friends of John and Eve Overmars

Cora Northrop 3/3 knee surgery on March 3; by Sandra Hoffarth

Marcia Smith 7/22 diagnosed with stage 4 breast cancer; cousin of Jacque Douglas

Barbara Swihart 6/24 home with hospice; aunt of Gayle Rodriguez

Carlene Musselman 1/14 monthly chemo injections, still in congestive heart failure; by Judy Evans

Pray for

Israel/Hamas/Gaza/Lebanon/Syria

Russia and Ukraine conflict

Joys

Sydney & Alex Gudeman

welcomed their new daughter Olivia Gudeman on 4/25

8 pounds 10 ounces 19 inches long. She joins big sister Lilli.

Woodlawn Hospital prepares the food for Meals on Wheels, but is in desperate need

volunteer delivery help. The Rochester Community Home Meal Program provides home deliver meals to approximately 16-18 individuals within our community.

The program is in jeopardy of ending because they currently do not have enough volunteers to deliver these meals. If you would like more information, it is on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. If you are interested, please let us know.





Special Thanks to:

Evan Harsh for sharing part of his walk in our Lenten Mediations.

Each person who signed-up and prayed to God during our 24 hour prayer vigil. Whether you came to church or prayed from home, thank you.

Amanda Hooker for cooking our Maundy Thursday meal and to Linda Overmyer, Letty McKee, Ted Waggoner, Doug & Angie Miller, Charlotte Miller, the Praise Team and the hammers for helping lead Maundy worship.

Everyone who came and brought family and friends for Easter worship. We had around 121 in worship (including 3 babies) and an additional 23 worshipping online.

5/09 Kathy Anderson
5/16 Paige Bode
5/17 Bill Miller
5/19 Daniel Miller
5/19 Marvin Overmyer
5/21 Judy Evans
5/23 Kye Murphy
5/24 Evan Harsh
5/25 Joan Gordon

March 2025

March Financials

Income 18,523.00
Expenses 20,360.75

YTD Financials

Income 51,934.16
Expenses 63,898.09

Attendance

March Average
YTD Average

In-person

Attendance 67
Attendance 64

On-line

20
24



Pastor Mike no longer has a landline phone at home. Please call the office phone (574 223-8913) or his cell phone (574-201-9730) when you need to contact him.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Tuesday, April 29

Noon Teaching Tuesday
6:00 pm Ladies Bible Study

Wednesday, April 30

6:30 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, May 1

6:00 pm Praise Team

Sunday, May 4

9:30 am Worship
10:30 am Fellowship Time
10:45 am Sunday School

Monday, May 5

3:00 pm Wynnfield Crossing Bible Study

Tuesday, May 6

Noon Teaching Tuesday

CHURCH CALENDAR

Wednesday, May 7

5:30 pm Community Dinner
6:30 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, May 8

6:00 pm Praise Team

Sunday, May 11

8:20 am **Mother's Day Breakfast**
9:30 am Worship
10:30 am Fellowship Time
10:45 am Sunday School
7:00 pm Board Meeting

Monday, May 12

3:00 pm Wynnfield Bible Study

Tuesday, May 13

Noon Teaching Tuesday
7:00 pm Elders