



# The Christian Visitor

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

Church 574-223-5812  
1101 Madison St. Rochester, IN 46975

**Pastor Mike Van Heyningen:** [fccroch@rtcol.com](mailto:fccroch@rtcol.com)

Pastor Mike's cell (574) 201-9730

website: [www.fccroch.org](http://www.fccroch.org) Secretaries: Letty McKee & Debbie Cannedy [churchsecretary@rtcol.com](mailto:churchsecretary@rtcol.com)

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

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## Mountain of Love

The end of June is fast approaching as we continue to fill the coatrack area with toilet paper for United Ministries. United Ministries continues to serve some of the most vulnerable in our area with food and help with the occasional bill. The average family size being served continues to increase as generations are being forced to live in the same house simply to make ends meet. Toilet paper is a small but essential gift in such a home. Thank you to all who have donated so far, and we still have one week to go!



## 2026 Indiana Disciples Women Annual Event

Blooming Together in Love

September 12, 2026

Westview Christian Church, Indianapolis

Registration is now open. Use the QR code on the left or find the form online at [wmt.suran.com](http://wmt.suran.com)

Cost is \$60

## Pastor's Reflection



This year's Vacation Bible School used the Psalms and a rainforest theme to explore the nature of God. On Monday we celebrated that God is our creator. On Tuesday we explored how God knows everything about us and on Wednesday we acknowledged God as a refuge or safe place. Thursday is always Jesus day as we learned of God's love for us as expressed through Jesus' sacrifice. We wound wind up the week on Friday as we celebrated that even though Vacation Bible School ends, God is forever.

The day that sunk-in with me the most was Tuesday. Our Scripture focused on Psalm 139 which begins, "O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from far away.

3 You search out my path and my lying down  
and are acquainted with all my ways.

4 Even before a word is on my tongue,  
O Lord, you know it completely.

The fact that God knows everything about us – even knows us better than we know ourselves – is not earth shattering. The fact that God knows everything about us and loves us anyway is. There are days I don't even like myself. There are days I am dumbfounded by my own stupidity, perplexed with my own complexity, distraught by my own distrust, and irritated by just how annoying I can be. There are days my arrogance gets out of hand followed by days of such insecurity it is hard to make a decision. There are days when all I want to do is get away from myself, and I can't even manage that.

Yet God: the creator, sustainer and redeemer of the universe; the giver of life, new life and eternal life; the most powerful, most awe inspiring, most knowledgeable being ever; knows all about me and loves me. That not only says volumes about God, but also says something about us too. God knows you even better than you know yourself and loves you; which means even on your worst day, there must be something about you worth loving. Let's search ourselves and search our neighbor for what God sees.

Love,  
Mike

## Teaching Moment Tuesday

STUDYING the GOSPEL OF JOHN. Join Pastor Mike each Tuesday at noon on Facebook or watch the recording anytime.



\*Key: Name, date added/updated, description, who submitted request

Our Mission Co-Workers in  
**Namibia, Laos & Fiji**

**Pat Dorisse** 6/10 internal bleeding one week after knee surgery, at hospital in Indy running tests; by Fred Dorisse

**Pat Clary** 6/9 moved to Alzheimer area at Blair Ridge in Peru

**Phil Samuelson** 6/8 tumor on his spine, causing great pain; brother of Joyce Sroufe

**Lance Musgrave** 6/8 had eye surgery June 4, they believe the retina is secure now; son of Stan & Judy

**Denny Tyler** 5/18 paused cancer treatments to let body recover, esophageal/stomach cancer

**Jim Riffle** 5/18 stage 4 liver cancer, receiving treatments; Barbara Tibbets' nephew

**Jennifer Glassburn** 5/13 severe headaches due to a mass in her brain

**Bill Abbott** 5/4 home with congestive heart failure; Rick Abbott's father

**Mike Hammel** 4/20 seizures, his throat is limiting his talking and swallowing; Lois Hammel's son

**Barbara Tibbets** 4/16 is having positive results from her cancer therapy, continued prayers



**Dick Hamm** 4/12 former DOC General Minister, aggressive cancer diagnosis, prayers for peace and comfort; by Ted Waggoner

**Prayers for families of service members** who lost their lives overseas and to all who are being sent; by Christy Bennett

**Robbie Payne** 3/30 Hospice care; cousin of Gayle Rodriguez

**Sula Smith** 1/19 health battles

**Carlene Musselman** 12/8 Congestive heart failure; by Judy Evans

**Mary Jo Rogers** 12/1 Caston teacher in her third round of cancer; by Angie Miller

**Mike Messick** diagnosed with Alzheimer's, battling squamous cell skin cancer; Sara Story's father

**Russia and Ukraine conflict**

JOY

**Luke and Morgan Cannedy** welcomed daughter Sophie to the world on June 22; grandparents Bob and Debbie Cannedy



Wynnfield Bible study meets each Monday at 3:00 p.m.

Jan Houlihan's study is in the Letters of John.



# JULY

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

**Birthdays:**

6/25 Cathy Ginther  
 6/26 Stacy Rodriguez  
 6/27 Pat Clary  
 6/29 Loretta Bet-Nimrod

7/01 David Murphy  
 7/06 Doug Morton

7/09 Blaise McKee  
 7/14 Betty Vance  
 7/17 Nancy Waggoner  
 7/18 Carol Bridge  
 7/20 Christine Summe  
 7/25 Max Harsh  
 7/30 Loretta Hayden

**Anniversaries:**

7/07 Alex & Sydney Gudeman

**Special Thanks to:**

Letty McKee, Sandra Hoffath, and Deb Tyler for helping to lead worship while Pastor Mike was on vacation.

Judy Evans and the membership team for hosting the Father's Day breakfast.

Our Vacation Bible School volunteers who gave their time and themselves to share Jesus with our children: Melinda Burkett, Joyce Sroufe, Blaise McKee, Kailyn Kimmel, Serenity Blacketor, Lois Morton, Kathy Anderson, Chris Summe, Brittany Compton (Little Lambs teacher), Amy & Mike Van Heyningen, Deb Cannedy and Letty McKee.

**May 2026**

| <u>May Financials</u>     |             | <u>Year to Date Financials</u> |                |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Income                    | \$19,749.00 | Income                         | \$91,122.00    |
| Expenses                  | \$21,446.44 | Expenses                       | \$103,864.93   |
| <u>Worship Attendance</u> |             | <u>In-person</u>               | <u>On-line</u> |
| May Average               |             | 79                             | 16             |
| Year to Date Average      |             | 77                             | 21             |

**CHURCH CALENDAR**

**Tuesday, June 23**

Noon Teaching Tuesday

**Sunday, June 28**

9:30 a.m. Worship with Ted Waggoner  
 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time  
 10:45 a.m. Sunday School

**Monday, June 29**

3:00 p.m. Wynnfield Bible Study

**Tuesday, June 30**

Noon Teaching Tuesday

**CHURCH CALENDAR**

**Saturday, July 4**

**Independence Day**

**Sunday, July 5**

9:30 a.m. Worship  
 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time  
 10:45 a.m. Sunday School

**Monday, July 6**

3:00 p.m. Wynnfield Bible Study

**Tuesday, July 7**

Noon Teaching Tuesday