



The Christian Visitor

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

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

Date: October 13, 2026

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"Contagious Faith" Small Groups

Discover your natural style of sharing Jesus with others

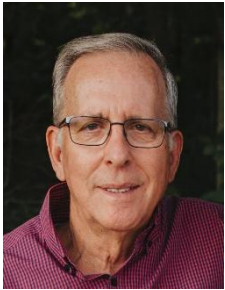
The six week Small Group study to explore "Contagious Faith" has started. Meeting times and locations are listed below.

Sundays	10:50 a.m.	Library
Mondays	3:00 p.m.	Wynnfield Crossing
Mondays	7:00 p.m.	Waggoner's home
Tuesdays	5:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall
Thursdays	1:00 p.m.	Nancy Murphy's home
Thursdays	6:00 p.m.	Library
Saturdays	8:00 a.m.	Jarrety's



The FCC Rochester Disciple Women's group is starting a new fund raising campaign. They are partnering with Wing's Etc. Rochester for Dine to Donate events every other month starting this Thursday, October 15. 15% of food and soft drinks purchased on these days will go to the women's group and those funds will be given back to the community. Show this flyer to the server or use code D2D0018 during checkout when ordering online.

Elder Reflection



It is getting to be a busy time at First Christian Church. In the business world October-December is known as the 4th quarter. In sports and business, the 4th quarter is when a team puts most of the effort in finishing well. At First Christian, we are working to finish 2026 well and to position ourselves for starting strong next year.

We are just starting the Contagious Faith study series, and if you have signed up, you know that there are several weeks of meetings ahead, in addition to the normal church activities we all engage in. Also, the nominating team, budget team, and church board are all working hard with Pastor Mike to prepare for next year. If you are serving on one of these committees, you have my thanks.

The stewardship team will be publicly engaging with you soon, because as we as a church continue to look outward and expand our circle of friends, we do this in large part with the tithes and gifts of our friends and members. The team knows that stewardship issues are always difficult decisions. We take solace from the Scripture: "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:21.

The stewardship question before you is not really a financial question, it is a heart question. We invite you to open your heart and to follow God in these decisions about how to use your time, your talents and your treasures.

Ted A. Waggoner

Teaching Moment Tuesday

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



Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child

The Outreach Team invites you to partner with Samaritan's Purse to provide a gift to a child this Christmas. Shoeboxes are available in the entrance way with instructions on what to fill them with. Items include a "wow" toy plus school supplies, personal care items and even a picture of you, the giver. Most boxes go to warm environments, so warm socks, hats, and mittens are not needed. Christmas Shoeboxes are part of a discipling program to share the love of Jesus. Since Operation Christmas Child began in 1993, over 50 million boys and girls have been discipled through this Samaritan's Purse program.



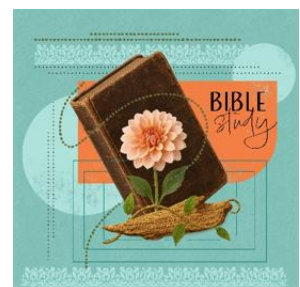
If you have any questions, notify a member of the Outreach Team: Letty McKee, Melinda Burkett, Joyce Mikesell, Gayle Rodriguiz, Nancy Murphy, Charlotte Miller and Pastor Mike.

Boxes need to be returned by November 16.



The month of October is Pastor Appreciation month. Begin thinking of ways you can show your love and appreciation for Pastor Mike over the upcoming weeks.

Wynnfield Bible study meets each Monday at 3:00 p.m. Jan Houlihan will lead a group through a six week study based on the book "Contagious Faith".



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

Our Mission Co-Workers in
Mexico and Democratic Republic of Congo

The family of Mark Olinger, Mark died October 8; son of Mary Barnett
Mike Hammel 10/11 limited swallowing, improvement with talking; Lois Hammel's son
Pat Dorisse 10/9 continued healing following her successful cancer removal surgery
Dylann Elise Hayden 10/5 infant daughter of Dakota & Lana needs prayer for several health issues; by Melinda Burkett
Dave Reece 10/5 health issues (care giver of Ben); by Helen Whitfield
Rebecca 10/5 medical treatments needed; by Helen Whitfield
Ed & Diana's mom 10/5 care givers of Ben
Kim Plantz Hunter 10/2 seeking surgical treatment for liver cancer; by Joyce Mikesell
Eve Overmars 10/2 placement of a stent in her neck has been postponed to 10/14
Jennifer Glassburn 9/30 is back at the nursing home receiving therapy; wife of Allen Glassburn
Kandi Zartman 9/30 suffered a stroke; by Allen Glassburn
Sharon Carter 9/30 struggling with cancer; by Allen Glassburn
Dick Hamm 9/22 former DOC General Minister, Dick Hamm's cancer responded very well to chemotherapy but a new nodule needs investigating before next steps can be defined; by Ted Waggoner
Jim Riffle 9/21 stage 4 colorectal cancer, he's currently trying a new kind of chemo; nephew of Barbara Tibbets
Cheri Hogan 9/21 knee replacement surgery September 23



Carlene Musselman 9/21 diagnosed with stage 4 chronic kidney disease; by Judy Evans
Jon Martin 8/19 non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma affecting his liver and pancreas; great nephew of Stan and Judy Musgrave
Cathy St. Clair 7/2 diagnosed with stage 4 oral cancer; friend of John and Eve Overmars
Phil Samuelson 6/28 advanced prostate cancer, metastasized to other organs, also stenosis of the spine; brother of Joyce Sroufe
Joyce Jeffries 6/26 continued prayer for healing and other health concerns
Denny Tyler 5/18 cancer treatments paused to let body recover, esophageal/stomach cancer
Bill Abbott 5/4 home with congestive heart failure; Rick Abbott's father
Barbara Tibbets 4/16 is having positive results from her cancer therapy, continued prayers
Prayers for families of service members who lost their lives overseas and to all who are being sent; by Christy Bennett
Sula Smith 1/19 health battles
Mike Messick diagnosed with Alzheimer's, battling squamous cell skin cancer; Sara Story's father
Russia and Ukraine conflict

OCTOBER Birthdays & Anniversaries

October Birthdays:

10/13 Jason Lease
 10/15 Lori Shewman
 10/18 Charlotte Miller
 10/19 Mike Van Heyningen
 10/19 Jennifer McCarty
 10/22 Dee Van Winkle

10/25 Judy Miller
 10/25 Joylyn Whitfield
 10/26 Jan Houlihan
 10/26 Carol Shafer
 10/28 Sula Smith
 10/30 Catherine Hughes

October Anniversaries:

10/13 Marvin & Roxann Murphy
 10/15 Mark & Joyce Sroufe

Special Thanks to:

Bob Cannedy for encouraging us to participate in our new congregational study.

Fred Dorisse, Sandra Hoffarth, Doug Miller and Bob Cannedy for leading worship while Pastor Mike was visiting family.

The 50+ people participating in our congregational study "Contagious Faith".

Amanda Hooker, Eric Burch, Deb Cannedy, Will Van Heyningen and Rissa Kepner for keeping our sanctuary technology a gift.

September 2026

<u>September Financials</u>	<u>Year to Date Financials</u>	
Income \$20,467.97	Income	\$166,778.58
Expenses \$17,176.38	Expenses	\$176,763.55
<u>Worship Attendance</u>	<u>In-person</u>	<u>On-line</u>
September Average	69	16
Year to Date Average	77	19

CHURCH CALENDAR

Tuesday, October 13

Noon Teaching Tuesday
 5:00 p.m. Contagious Faith, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, October 14

6:30 p.m. Choir

Thursday, October 15

1:00 p.m. Contagious Faith Study, Nancy Murphy's home
 6:00 p.m. Contagious Faith Study, Library
 7:00 p.m. Praise Team

Saturday, October 17

8:00 a.m. Contagious Faith Study, Jarrety's

Sunday, October 18

9:30 a.m. Worship
 10:40 a.m. Fellowship Time
 10:50 a.m. Sunday School
 10:50 a.m. Contagious Faith Study, Library
 11:30 a.m. Special Board Meeting

Monday, October 19

Noon Ladies Luncheon
 3:00 p.m. Contagious Faith Study, Wynnfield
 7:00 p.m. Contagious Faith Study, Waggoner's

Tuesday, October 20

Noon Teaching Tuesday
 3:00 p.m. Pastor Relations Team
 5:00 p.m. Contagious Faith, Fellowship Hall
 7:00 p.m. Elders Meeting

Wednesday, October 21

6:30 p.m. Choir

Thursday, October 22

1:00 p.m. Contagious Faith Study, Nancy Murphy's home
 6:00 p.m. Contagious Faith Study, Library
 7:00 p.m. Praise Team

Saturday, October 24

8:00 a.m. Contagious Faith Study, Jarrety's

Sunday, October 25

9:30 a.m. Worship
 10:40 a.m. Fellowship Time
 10:50 a.m. Sunday School
 10:50 a.m. Contagious Faith Study, Library
 10:50 a.m. Worship Team

Monday, October 26

3:00 p.m. Contagious Faith Study, Wynnfield
 7:00 p.m. Contagious Faith Study, Waggoner's

Tuesday, October 27

Noon Teaching Tuesday
 5:00 p.m. Contagious Faith, Fellowship Hall