



Countryside Christian Church
1212 E. 100 S.
Winchester, IN 47394
Return Service Requested



NEWSLETTER



MARCH 2026

OUR STAFF

Rev. Melissa Kleinschmidt
Senior Minister

Melissa Brutchen
Christian Education Coordinator

Rita Replogle & Cheryl Study
Pianists

Alyssa Parkison
Administrative Assistant

Greg Mock
Custodian

**Mike Reed, Justin Bailey,
John Kleinschmidt & Mark Haney**
Media

*Faith
OVER
Fear*

WORSHIP

Sunday Mornings at
8:00 am & 10:15 am
Sunday School at 9:00 am

CONNECT

1212 E. 100 S.
Winchester, IN 47394
Phone: (765) 584-1951
(Call or Text)

ONLINE

www.winchesterdisciples.org
[Facebook.com/
WinchesterDisciples](https://www.facebook.com/WinchesterDisciples)
WinchesterDisciples@gmail.com

PRAYER REQUESTS

Church Family

- Brenda Lowe -Sue Williamson -Bob & Betty Howell -Louise Hart
- Barb Haney -Ron Nash -Joe & Angela Abernathy -Mary Overmyer -Hugh Smith -Linda Campbell
- Leon Feters -Stan Hendrickson -Dan & Gloria Hill -Jane Pugh -Ron & Cora Loyd
- Bobby Manning -Cherry Woolf -Phillip Stanley & Ann Marie Browne -Todd & Tammy Abernathy

College Students

- Drew Loyd -Charlie Sauser Lucas Reed

Military

- E4 Ryan Snyder (Great-grandson of Sharon Brown)
- Reese Thurman—Army (Grandson of Tom & Judi Bigelow—Granddaughter Stephanie's Husband)
- Sargent Ryan Woolf—Army (Grandson of Debbie Woolf)

Extended Family

- Camden Abernathy (Todd & Tammy Abernathy's grandson) -Karen Fairley (Deb Preston's sister)
- Sheri Hunley Zerkel -Bill Hudson (Betty Stalcup's brother) -Anita Mullen (Linda Fetter's Daughter)
- Rebecca Smith & Patrick Smith (Betty Stalcup's Sister-in-law & Nephew) -Shirley Study
- Doug Hawley (Tammy Abernathy's Brother) -Chris Prescott (Mark & Cindy Winkle's brother-in-law)
- Feters Family (Unspoken Prayer Request) -Bob Cross Jr. (Cheryl Study's Uncle)
- Jim Wallace (Friend of Betty Stalcup, Sharon Brown, Ed Bunsold, & Helen Snyder)
- Jeff Shively (Relative of Leon & Linda Feters) -Jolinda Morris (Cook at Summer's Pointe)
- Donna Oliver (Kelly Riddle's Sister-in-law)

CWF SUMMER RUMMAGE SALE IS COMING!



Now is the time to get ready for one of our favorite summer traditions! The annual CWF Rummage Sale is happening June 19–20, and we can't wait to see what treasures come in this year. Donations can be dropped off in the Reborn Room (Old Garage) starting May 19th. If you have small or medium items that need to be picked up, please contact Deb Preston at 546-1261. Interested in volunteering for the sale and being part of the fun? Reach out to Deb or any CWF member. Thank you for helping make this event a success year after year!

L'S ANGELS MOVIE DAY IN MARCH



L's Angels (anyone in the community age 50+) are invited to join us for a special Lunch and Movie Day at CCC on Monday, March 9, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. We'll share lunch and enjoy the movie, The Way, a heartfelt story about a pilgrimage along the Camino de Santiago. Come for the food, fellowship, and an inspiring film! Please RSVP by calling the church office at 765-584-1951. We hope to see you there!

THANK YOU, LEON

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Leon Feters for five years of faithful service as our church custodian. Leon has cared for our church building with dedication and pride, helping create a welcoming space for worship, fellowship, and ministry. We are so grateful for the time, hard work, and commitment he has given to our church family. As Leon begins this new chapter of retirement, we wish him rest, joy, and many blessings in the days ahead. Thank you, Leon, for all you have done!



STAFF SPOTLIGHT: MEET GREG MOCK



We are excited to welcome Greg Mock to our church family as our new custodian! Greg and his wife, Shelley (pictured left), will celebrate 43 years of marriage this April. He is a proud father to Brandon (and Taylor) and a grandfather to four grandchildren who keep him smiling and busy.

Greg brings with him 36 years of custodial experience from Randolph Central, spending most of those years at WCHS. In his free time, he enjoys all kinds of sports, reading biographies and historical or wartime novels, and, most of all, spending time playing with his grandchildren.

If you see Greg around the church, be sure to give him a warm welcome! He's always willing to lend a helping hand, and we are truly grateful and excited to have him serving here.

SHARING THE LOVE - A SWEET DREAMS OUTREACH PROJECT

What does it mean to show love? During the month of February, it often looks like cards, flowers, and candy given to those who mean the most to us. But for the past two years, Sweet Dreams has acknowledged those donors who have chosen to show love in another way. By supporting a ministry like Sweet Dreams that provides beds for children in Randolph County and Union City, Ohio, several individuals, groups, churches, and businesses have shown what it means to love their neighbors. Once again, this February, Sweet Dreams sent out postcards to donors thanking them for their continued financial support.



Because of faithful donors, Sweet Dreams was able to provide 145 beds to children in need in 2025. That means 145 children now have a safe, comfortable place to sleep, what a blessing! The postcards also gently reminded supporters that if they feel led to give again, they can continue partnering with Sweet Dreams to meet the ongoing need. And God has already blessed this effort in a powerful way. So far, this year's outreach has brought in over \$2,000 just in two weeks, all of which will go directly toward providing beds for children in need.

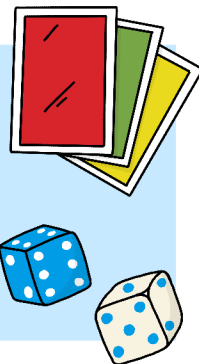
If nothing else, the ministry of Sweet Dreams reminds us that it takes a village to raise children. We are thankful for those who donate money to help purchase beds, as well as those who donate bedding and pillows, and for those who use their gifts of sewing and crafting to provide homemade quilts and pillowcases. Many hands make light work.

This idea was not only conceived by our own Alyssa Parkison, but each postcard that was sent out was designed by her to express heartfelt gratitude for the generosity of our donors, share the impact of their giving, and provide an opportunity for continued partnership. This project is a beautiful example of how a simple act of gratitude can multiply into continued impact.

We are thankful for Aaron and Katy Anderson, as well as Alyssa's dedication and creativity, and for every donor whose generosity makes this ministry possible. As we look ahead, we remain grateful for a church family and community that continues to show love in tangible ways, ensuring that more children in our community can lay their heads down each night knowing they are cared for.

SPRING BREAK AT HOME? JOIN THE FUN AT CCC!

Will you be around for Spring Break? We've got the perfect night planned for the whole family! Join us for an Intergenerational Game Night at CCC on **Wednesday, March 25th from 5:30-7:30 PM**. Bring your favorite snack to share and a board game, and teach someone how to play or come ready to learn a new one! We'll have snacks and plenty of laughter to go around. Church members, L's Angels members, Messy Church families, grandparents, young couples — everyone is welcome! No matter your age or skill level, there's a seat at the table for you. We hope you'll join in the fun!



JOIN US FOR LENTEN BIBLE STUDY!

Experience Lent through the lens of Jesus's most powerful mealtime parables. Travel with Jesus on the road to Jerusalem in this profound six-week Lenten study that explores the parables and stories Jesus told at tables along the way to his final meal. Will Willimon invites readers to experience how these table stories—about searching shepherds, welcoming hosts, prodigal sons, and rejected invitations—illuminate the deeper meaning of the Last Supper and Christ's sacrifice.



Through engaging biblical exploration and Willimon's characteristic storytelling wisdom, readers will:

- Discover how Jesus used meals to reveal the surprising nature of God's kingdom
- Explore how stories of mercy, invitation, and radical hospitality prepare us for Holy Week
- Understand why sharing bread and wine became the central ritual of Christian faith
- Experience Maundy Thursday's profound significance in fresh, meaningful ways

Each chapter concludes with thought-provoking questions for personal reflection or group discussion that connect these ancient stories to contemporary Christian life. This Lenten season, gather at the table with Jesus and his disciples to experience the journey from Palm Sunday to the cross through the stories that prepared the way. Willimon's accessible yet profound insights will transform how you understand both the Last Supper and your own place at Christ's table. We hope you will join us on Thursdays at either 1:00 pm or 6:00 pm!



I want to thank Countryside Christian Church for allowing me to be your custodian for the last 5 years. The kindness and the prayers from the congregation will always be remembered. Our Pastor, Melissa, always gave me encouragement. Our secretary, Alyssa, was always cooperative. I appreciate all the cards, gifts, and well-wishes from the congregation. But my 88-years tell me it is time to retire.

Love and Blessings,
Leon Fetters

JANUARY FINANCIAL REPORT

The amount of weekly offering received for January is listed below. For January, our current income came in slightly below our budgeted income, with a total monthly income of \$10,494.05 (we did cancel our January 25th service so our weekly offering was substantially lower for this week). Our budget was \$14,221.48 (a four-week month), so we brought in \$3,727.43 less than our budget. We would also like to continue highlighting the Givelify electronic giving app, as we received \$4,519 of income in January, which is a lower month of giving through this app. If you recall, we started using the Givelify app back in January 2020, and we have received a total of \$320,248 in giving over the last six (6) years using this app, so it has been a major factor in terms of giving tools for our church.

Our weekly giving summary is below:

DATE	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE
1-4	\$ 2,234.65	\$ 3,555.37	-\$ 1,320.72
1-11	\$ 2,476.20	\$3,555.37	-\$ 1,079.18
1-18	\$ 3,857.35	\$ 3,555.37	+\$ 301.98
1-25	\$ 1,925.85	\$ 3,555.37	-\$ 1,629.52****
TOTAL	\$ 10,494.05	\$ 14,221.48	-3,727.43

DATE	8 AM	10:15 AM	YOUTUBE
1-4	17	58	47
1-11	-	65	24
1-18	23	76	32
1-25	-	-	69****

**** = The January 25th was cancelled due to inclement weather

We want to highlight that 70% of our current expenses go toward personnel, staffing, and programming costs, including salaries and benefits, making it essential that we receive consistent weekly or monthly contributions to pay our Ministry staff, who do an excellent job for our church. Sweet Dreams – The Church received \$1,378 in donations for January. The total amount received is now up to \$55,599.35 in funding. We are very thankful for the community support of this program—over 325 beds have been delivered and set up in the community since our church took over this ministry. We are excited to continue advancing this program in the community under the leadership of Aaron & Katy Anderson. As always, please consider ways you can contribute your time and talents to the church. If you would like to receive offering envelopes, please contact the church office. - Mark Moody, Treasurer

MARCH SERVING SCHEDULE

A NOTE FROM PASTOR MELISSA

DATE	8 AM ELDER	8 AM SCRIPTURE READER
3/1	John Kleinschmidt	John Kleinschmidt
3/8	Hugh Smith	Mark Haney
3/15	Chris Haney	Colin Burk
3/22	Kelly Riddle	Hugh Smith
3/29	John Kleinschmidt	Chris Haney

DATE	10:15 WORSHIP LEADER	10:15 SCRIPTURE READER	10:15 ELDERS
3/1	Mark Winkle	Dillon Moody	Mark W. & John K.
3/8	Bill Bush	Cindy Winkle	Bill B. & Laura G.
3/15	Steve McCoy	Deb McCoy	Steve M. & Phil H.
3/22	Larry Preston	Mary Anderson	Mark A. & John K.
3/29	Steve McCoy	Bobby Manning	Bill B. & Laura G.

If you are unable to serve on your Sunday, please trade or find a substitute AND let the church office know.
Phone: 765-584-1951 Email: Countryside.alyssa@gmail.com

March is a season of transition, bridging winter's quiet with spring's renewal, making it a perfect time for spiritual reflection during Lent. As we look forward to the promise of Easter, we are called to deepen our prayer lives, serve our community, and grow in faith, trusting that God brings new life after the winter.

As we turn the calendar to March, we feel the shift in the air. The days are growing longer, and we are reminded that God brings life after the winter, just as He brings the sunrise after the darkest night.

This year, March finds us deep in the season of Lent, a time for reflection, growth, and preparation for Easter. Just as many of us clear last year's leaves from our gardens to make room for new growth, Lent isn't just about giving something up; it is an invitation to clear away what weighs us down and make space for God's love and transformation in our lives. Through these small acts of spiritual "spring cleaning," we prepare our hearts for what is to come.

- Reflect: Spend time in prayer and meditation, contemplating the journey to the cross. Where is Christ inviting you to pause today? Take a moment of quiet to listen.
- Grow: Consider how you can step out in faith and share God's love in practical ways.
- Act: Join us for our special Lenten services and study groups as we walk this path together. To take the first step by reaching out to let us know which gathering you'd like to attend. You can also invite a friend to join you!

Let's embrace this season of blooming—both in nature and in our hearts. As we approach Holy Week, may we be open to the transformative work of God, turning our focus toward service and community.

March Gatherings by Focus:

Worship:

- Palm Sunday Service: March 29, 8 am and 10:15 am
- Maundy Thursday Service and Meal: Thursday, April 2 at 6 pm
- Good Friday Service: Friday, April 3, 7 pm
- Easter Sunday Service: April 5, 8 am and 10:15 am

Spiritual Growth:

- Lenten Bible Study meeting: Thursdays at 1 pm or 6 pm

Fellowship & Community:

- L's Angels Lunch and Movie Day at CCC: Monday, March 9, 11 am to 1 pm (Movie: The Way, about a pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago)
- Intergenerational Games Day: Wednesday, March 25, 5:30 to 7:30 pm
- Easter Breakfast: April 5, 7:30 to 9:30 am
- Easter Egg Hunt: immediately following the 10:15 am Easter service.

"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. -Isaiah 43:19

MONTH	COMMUNION PREP
March	Colin & Makenna Burk
April	Brnadon & Nicole Mock
May	Larry & Deb Preston

MONTH	8 AM DIACONATES	10:15 DIACONATES
March	Vicki Haney	Ric Study & Nicole Mock
April	-	Cathy Mills & Angie Moody
May	-	Ric Study & Mark Moody

MUSICAL KIDS

Several of our Countryside Kids have been busing during these winter months, making music. During February, Jonathan Newman, Erebus Wilson, Adalyn Shank, and Lily Brutchen all participated in the ISSMA Solo & Ensemble Contest. Each student prepared either a vocal or instrumental solo or participated in an ensemble. All of our students either received a silver or gold rating on their pieces.

Jonathan Newman and Lily Brutchen are both participating in Indoor Percussion for Winchester Community High School and Randolph Southern, respectively. Both schools have already achieved first places in various competitions. Avery Shandy, Haylee Moody, and Jonathan Newman are all practicing for the upcoming WCHS spring musical, *The Sound of Music*. We are looking forward to seeing them perform the weekend of March 13th. Break a leg, kids, but please not literally!

EASTER EGG HUNT CANDY DONATIONS NEEDED!

We're collecting candy donations for our Easter Egg Hunt taking place on Easter Sunday! If you're able to help, please bring your donations to the church office or to Melissa B.! The Easter Bunny has also requested our help stuffing eggs following the Palm Sunday services! With lots of helping hands, this should only take about 15 minutes. Thank you for helping us make this a fun and memorable day for our kids!



FEBRUARY FAMILY CHURCH FOLLOW UP!

Over 50 people gathered for our recent Family Church, and what a meaningful time it was! Families of all ages shared a meal, explored the same Bible story through age-focused conversations and activities, and then came back together for worship and communion as one church family.

Throughout the year, we'll continue meeting on select Sundays for Family Church, creating space for children, parents, grandparents, and caregivers to grow in faith together and carry those conversations home. We're already looking forward to our next Family Church event in April and hope you'll join us around the table!





MARCH 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Services @ 8 & 10:15 am	2 Trustees Meeting @ 6:00 pm	3 Dorcas Ruth Circle @6:00 pm Scouts Meet at CCC 6:30-8:00 pm	4 Lunch Bunch @ 11 am at Mrs. Wicks	5 Bible Study @ 1 pm and 6 pm Board Meeting @ 7pm	6	7
8 Daylight Savings Begins - Spring Forward! Services @ 8 & 10:15 am	9 L's Angels 11 am - 1 pm Movie Day at CCC	10	11 Lunch Bunch @ 11 am at Mrs. Wicks	12 Bible Study @ 1 pm and 6 pm	13	14
15 Services @ 8 & 10:15 am	16	17 Mary Martha Circle at 1 pm Scouts Meet at CCC 6:30-8:00 pm	18 Lunch Bunch @ 11 am at Mrs. Wicks	19 Bible Study @ 1 pm and 6 pm	20 <i>First Day of Spring</i>	21
22 Services @ 8 & 10:15 No Family Worship	23	24	25 Lunch Bunch @ 11 Intergenerational Game Night 5:30-7:30 pm	26 Bible Study @ 1 pm and 6 pm	27	28
29 Palm Sunday Services @ 8 & 10:15 am Egg Help following service	30	31 Scouts Meet at CCC 6:30-8:00 pm	1 Lunch Bunch @ 11 am at Mrs. Wicks	2 Bible Study @ 1 pm Maundy Thursday Service at 6:00 pm	3 Good Friday Service at 7:00 pm	4

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1 - Missy Williams, Posie Moody, Ric Study 3 - Maddie Mock 7- Hadlee Moody, Helen Snyder, Joe Abernathy 17-Jameson Wilson 24-Deb Woolf 26-Amry Edwards 27-Jonathan Newman 28-Mark Moody 31-Bill Bush

Is your birthday or anniversary missing? Contact the church office to have it added!

Save the Date

- 4-2** Maundy Thursday Service at 6:00 pm
- 4-3** Good Friday Service at 7:00 pm
- 4-5** Easter Sunday
- 4-14** Scouts Meeting
- 4-19** Family Church at 11:30 am
- 4-28** Scouts Meeting

Connect with us

www.winchesterdisciples.org
winchesterdisciples@gmail.com
 Phone: 765-584-1951

Calendar Key

- Meetings
- Bible Study
- Special Service/Event

Donation Items of the Month

Food Pantry item
Oatmeal



Sweet Dreams Item
New Twin-Sized Comforters

Place your donation items in the donation basket outside of the church office!