

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

MAY 2025

Sunday Morning Services:

9:30am Sunday School*
10:15am Breakfast
10:45am Worship*
*Nursery is provided
Children's Church (4yrs-4th
grade) during Sermon Time

Wednesday Activities:

6:00pm Small Groups

Church Office:

309-523-2834

Church Email:

cccportbyron@gmail.com

Church Website:

www.countrysidecc.org



Steve Allison, Minister

"Therefore, my beloved brothers,
be steadfast, immovable, always
abounding in the work of the Lord,
knowing that in the Lord your
labor is not in vain." 1 Cor. 15:58

Elders: Wayne Lotz
Ryan Schmidt
Jim Kaecker

Father, my heart is reminded of so many mothers today:

- I pray for the woman who is currently carrying a child. May she recognize and understand the miracle of your creation within her and rejoice in the preciousness of this treasured gift. May she honor her mother and remember the gift of life that was given to her.*
- Father, I pray for the mother who waits for her journey of motherhood to begin. Remind her, Father, of the many women in your Word who prayed and waited in faith. Let her not lose hope that you know who her children are. Let her remember that many children also wait today, and there are many ways to become a mother.*
- Father, I pray for the mother who has given the greatest gift by entrusting her child's life to another woman. I pray for her heart today as she remembers her choice. Let her be filled with your peace and the knowledge that she has made a holy sacrifice to give hope to her child. Let her know that you honor that choice, and you are with her in her journey.*
- Father, I pray for the mother who is raising another woman's child today. Strengthen her bond with her child and give her vision for the road ahead. Fill her with your mercy and grace and remind her of her great calling. Show her that you are the architect of her family and your ways are the highest and best ways.*
- Father, I pray for the mother who grieves today. The pain of her loss can only be healed by you. Fill that hole in her heart with memories of laughter and the promise of an eternal reunion with her beloved. Ease her grief and comfort her today.*
- Father, I pray for the woman whose child is lost. May she remember and understand that you are the Great Shepherd, and no lamb escapes your love and protection. Give her hope and belief today that even if she is not holding her child, your hand is upon them both. Lift her worry and anxiety and bring her child home.*
- Father, I pray for the woman who cannot feed her child today. In her lack, let her remember and understand that you have not forgotten her. Make a way, Father, for her to have provision and blessing, especially today. Bring another mother alongside her who can share abundance and shoulder her burden.*

Father, thank you for the gift of your son Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior, in whose name I pray.

Amen

PANTRY DAYS FOR RRCC

Sarah Denekas, Education Chair

Each year we help support Rock River Christian Camp in many ways. One of these ways is through "Pantry Days". Please read the letter below and help us collect apple pie filling for camp this year! Our goal is to have them collected by the end of May. You can bring them to church and set them on the table in the lobby.



Dear Countryside Christian Church,

For many years, we have asked our member churches to help with Pantry Days, which helps stock the camp with items for the upcoming year.

This year, for Pantry Days, we are asking for you to collect Apple Pie Filling or money for us to purchase them. The goal amount would be 75 Cans.

If you collect the pie filling, please let us know when we can expect it or when we can find a time to come pick it up from you. We want items or money to be collected and to camp by June 6th. Collecting can continue beyond that point, as we will continue to need items throughout the summer and fall months if you cannot collect them until later. If you cannot collect this year, please let us know so we can plan to get this item for camp a different way.

Thank you for your continued support. We pray that God will do great things through you and this camp in 2025. We will be in touch soon with summer camp materials. Registration is open online for campers to begin registering for camp! If you have leaders who would like to get involved in camp this summer, we would love to talk to them and get them involved.

Thank you again for all your help! If you have questions about this, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at 815-493-6622 or rrccoffice@gmail.com.

Thank you again for all your help!
Rock River Christian Camp Staff

*"And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony."
Colossians 3:14*

BIBLE CAMP STARTS NEXT MONTH!

Sarah Denekas, Education Chair

BRING A FRIEND DISCOUNT: Campers who "Bring a Friend" (who has never been to RRCC) will receive a \$30 discount (\$15 for one to three night youth camps) for each new camper that registers for youth camp. The camper that does the inviting will receive the discount.

CCC SCHOLARSHIPS: Our church also supports kids who would like to attend a camp by helping with \$125 of their registration fee.



TEDDY BEAR CAMP

June 13-14, 2025 (1st – 3rd Grade)

Cost: \$100 (cost includes camper & parent/guardian)

This is a fun overnight experience for campers going into 1st – 3rd grade to come to check out RRCC for the first time. Each camper must bring a same-gender parent/guardian (or call the camp office to discuss possible options). Campers spend the weekend swimming, singing, enjoying the campfire, participating in great Bible lessons, having scavenger hunts, wagon rides, and more!



EMBARK CAMP

July 27 – August 1, 2025 (3rd – 5th Grade)

Cost: \$365.00

Campers between 3rd and 5th grade are loading up for the journey of a lifetime. Here at EMBARK, campers will be diving into what it really means to follow God with a lot of fun along the way. Each day, these campers will come face to face with God's truth and grace. They will encounter higher challenges, whether it is stepping up and helping out or maybe it is climbing up the zip line pole. These campers and faculty members will sleep overnight in cabins that are close to the bathhouse and dining hall. A day at camp consists of great worship, dynamic speaking, small family group times, swimming, canteen, campfires, and so much more! Get ready to EMBARK with us!



ELEVATE (JR HIGH CAMP)

June 22 – 27, 2025

(6th – 8th Grade)

Cost: \$365.00

Campers between 6th-8th grade, are stepping up to Elevate. This week, we are moving and rising to a higher place, position, and state, intellectually and spiritually. We are getting loud! We have embarked on our mission, and now it is time to step up. Here at Elevate, you will encounter situations that challenge and push you to new levels. You'll find life-changing experiences during a week of Elevate. Just as all main camps, Elevate campers and faculty will find themselves sleeping in cabins overnight that are close to the bathhouse and dining hall. A day at Elevate includes worship with a band, speakers who will ignite a flame in you, small family group times, swimming, zipline, canteen, campfires, and so much more!



EDGE (HIGH SCHOOL CAMP)

June 15-21, 2025 (9th – Just Graduated)

Cost: \$385.00

High School students, 9th-Just Graduated, are going to the Edge. These students will make a difference in the lives of others. Campers, during their week of Edge, will be going out into the surrounding communities where they will be serving others. This is a week of stepping up to be the leaders and servants that each of us is called to be: Eagerly Dispersing God's love Everywhere. The service projects will vary, but each one can have an effect on a life. That life could be yours. Edge campers and faculty will sleep overnight in cabins that are near the bathhouse and dining hall. Along with the service projects, campers at Edge will partake in worship with a band, classes, intense speakers, small group discussions, swimming, zipline, paintball, canteen, campfires, and more!

VBS 2025

Mark your calendars for this year's VBS: **Mission Space**
More information will be coming out soon!



Matthew 19:14: Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

MISSION HIGHLIGHT: IDES

MISSION HIGHLIGHT



International Disaster Emergency Service responds to emergencies around the globe through Christian churches/ Churches of Christ. IDES is located in Noblesville, Indiana. "For 50+ years IDES has been known for the help and hope we provide in the name of Jesus Christ. As we look ahead at our fifty-first year and beyond, God continues to lead us, and open opportunities for the Gospel to be shared through Disaster Response, Hunger Relief, Medical Care, Community development, and Disciple Making."



Last year IDES responded to tornadoes, hurricanes, wildfires and floods in the United States as well as, typhoons, droughts, wars, coups, floods, fires, and earthquakes internationally. We have seen homes rebuilt, clean water wells drilled, medical needs met, food provided to the starving, and lives changed for eternity!



"On Friday, March 28th a 7.7 magnitude earthquake struck Myanmar, devastating many communities in war-torn Myanmar and also causing damage in neighboring Thailand and our long-standing partners immediately started providing relief. Fortunately, our partners are all safe, but the death toll has risen to over 3000 people, and that number is expected to continue climbing. Widespread destruction to buildings and homes has impacted millions of people, leaving many homeless and jobless. Currently IDES is working through 7 different partners in Myanmar and Thailand to provide Help and Hope to people in need. Most of our efforts are focused on providing basic necessities, but we are also working to repair essential buildings for 2 or our partners." (Newsletters April 10, 2025)



You can make a difference to those who are hurting by making sure resources are available and ready to be deployed immediately when a need arises. The Global Impact Fund (GIF) is the lifeblood of IDES. There is no greater way to impact the work we do than by donating to the Global Impact Fund. Disasters strike often without warning, creating huge needs that are immediate and time-sensitive with no time for fundraising.

On August 17, 2024 Countryside had a cruise in to raise funds for IDES. Money raised from that event will be used to purchase items for the food bags to be put together on August 16, 2025. \$3000.00 from CCC will be needed to finance that food bag packing event. On August 16, 2025, Countryside along with the Erie Christian church is having a food bag packing event here at Countryside Christian Church. Final plans and sign-ups will happen in early August. If you would like more information about IDES refer to the booklet on the mission shelf by the office.

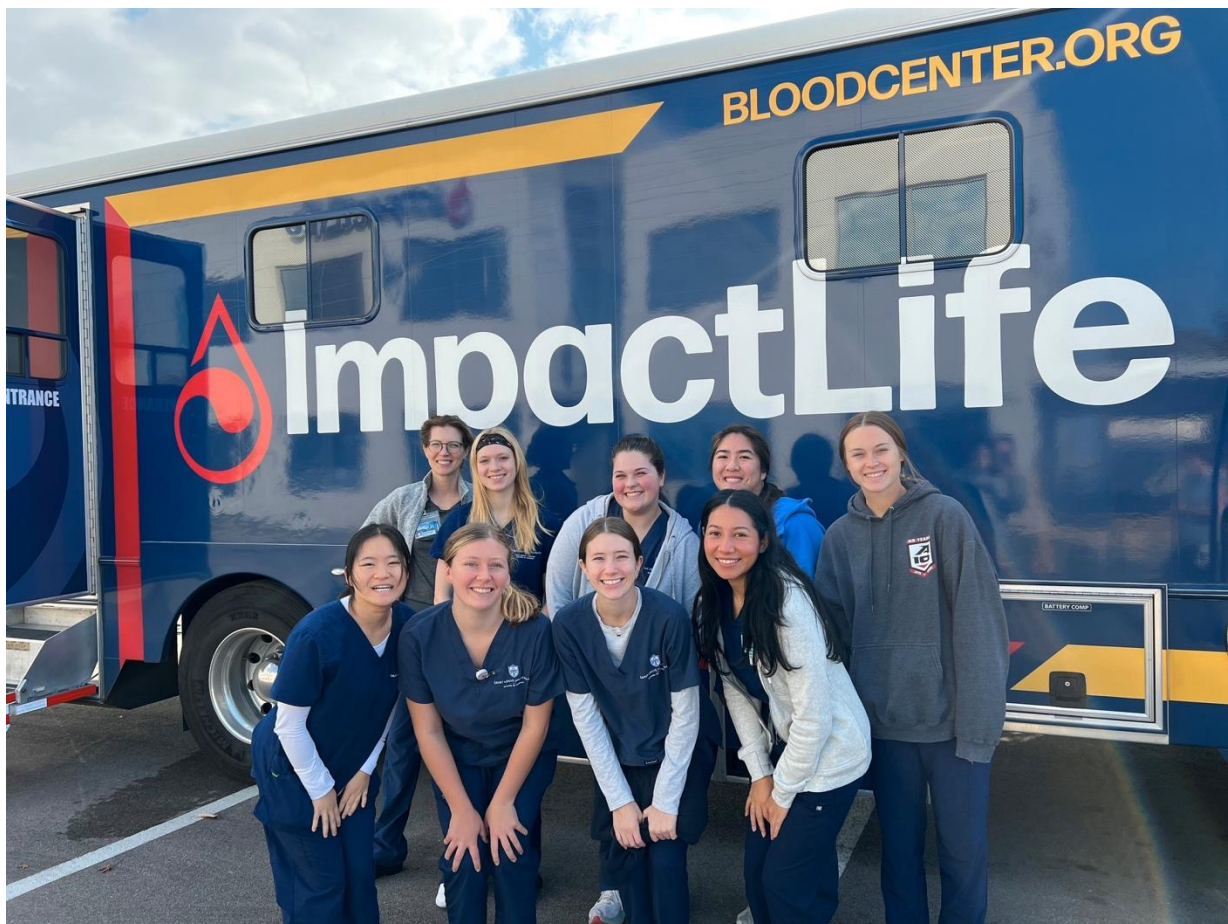
BLOOD DRIVE UPDATE

On April 12, a blood drive was held at Countryside for Impact Life. We collected 23 units of blood plus one unit of plasma. Our goal was 16 so we surpassed that by a long ways. Our next blood drive will be Nov. 15 with the last donation date of September 20 to be eligible for donating in November.

A big THANK YOU to all who donated on Saturday. Those 23 units of blood have been a blessing to many individuals in need.

Connie Curry

Volunteer Co-ordinator



Isaiah 58:10: "If you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday."

SENIOR POTLUCK



Bring a friend to our
Seniors Potluck

May 31st | 12:00 pm
at Countryside Christian Church

The Seniors Group was instrumental in helping our church acquire a new defibrillator. Some training will be happening soon so that everyone is aware of how to use it!



Colossians 2:2: "That their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ."

Women's Ministry

You are invited to join us for our weekly and monthly women's ministry events! Together we learn how to focus on Him, serve Him, and live more joyfully.



*John 1:14
"And the Word
became flesh and
dwelt among us,
and we have seen
his glory, glory as
of the only Son
from the Father,
full of grace and
truth."*



Every relationship and friendship grows through spending time together. Your relationship with God is no different. In order to know him and to feel him we must spend time with him. Spending time with God allows us to experience a privilege of expressing our feelings and thoughts to Him and allows Him to speak to us directly through His words (the Bible) and through prayer.

-Misty Bernstein

Tuesday Morning Bible Studies:

9:00am

Countryside Christian Church

Monthly Coffee:

May 10th

9:30am

Countryside Christian Church



Proverbs 31:10 "A capable, intelligent, and virtuous woman—who is he who can find her? She is far more precious than jewels and her value is far above rubies or pearls."



OUR GIVING THIS MONTH

As of right now, our goal for the 2024-2025 Missions Year is:

\$59,500!!

Thank you for supporting the work of missions!

Remember our missionaries can only continue the important work of sharing the good news of Jesus with the prayerful and monetary support of churches like Countryside!

Countryside supports a wide variety of ministries including:

- Christian higher education
- Youth and adult camping experiences
- Global disaster relief and evangelism
- Ministry to the Chinese people in the U.S. & China
- Church plants in Mexico
- Bible translation in Papua, New Guinea
- Ministry to recruit and support missionaries around the world



GIVING

**2024-2025
Offering Budget**
(Starting 10/1/2024):
\$75,208
YTD Actual:
\$89,812

FAITH PROMISE

**2024-2025 Mission
Year**
(Starting 5/1/2024)
Faith Promises Goal:
\$59,500
YTD Actual:
\$39,641

MY FAITH PROMISE TO WORLD MISSIONS

After a period of much prayer and discernment, I/WE promise to support the worldwide missionary program of the Countryside Christian Church over the next year. In total dependence upon God for HIS provision, it is our promise that "As God Gives, So Shall We Give." By faith, I/We promise the following amount of money:

\$ _____ Annual Total

Note: This is a faith promise, a covenant between myself and God. It is my voluntary offering for the evangelization of the world.

"So do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him." Matthew 6:8



Psalm 139:13-14
*"For you created my
inmost being; you knit
me together in my
mother's womb. I praise
you because I am
fearfully and
wonderfully made; your
works are wonderful, I
know that full well."*

May BIRTHDAYS

1 – Hetty Volk
4 – Amber Ramos
6 – Joanne Wiklund
9 – Brian Tiesman
9 – Emma Wainwright
14 – Mikah Mikles
21 – Molly Paxton
22 – Steve Allison
24 – Jasper Denekas
25 – Rhett Biscontine
25 – Scott Horton
25 – Larry Van Oosten
26 – Dylan Trout
28 – Natalia Ramos
29 – Teagan Collis

May ANNIVERSARIES

1 – Mike & Becki Winger
3 – Adam & Val Rutledge
6 – Brock & Ruthie Coverdill
30 – Corey & Kati Jo Chasek
31 – Rock & Sandy Lawrence



VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH

Children's Ministry

Sunday School (9:30-10:15)		Worship* (10:45-12:00)							
		Nursery			Children's Church				
Date	Nursery	Date	Leader	Helper		Leader	Helper		
		*Children's Church Teacher & helper are dismissed from service after the worship communion / offering							
		*Nursery workers are scheduled for the entire church service from 10:40-12:00							
May									
4	Mikah Mikles		4	Mikah Mikles	Shanie Bird		4	Sarah Denekas	Cheryl Gipson
11	Cathy Lotz		11	Mikah Mikles	Becki Winger		11	Sarah Denekas	Donna Vickroy
18	Becki Winger		18	Mikah Mikles	Sandy Lawrence		18	Sarah Denekas	Kelsey Oney
25	Gail Horst		25	Mikah Mikles	Gail Horst		25	Sarah Denekas	Georgia Cullison

Worship Ministry

COMMUNION MEDITATION

May 4 – Larry Van Oosten

May 11 – Wayne Lotz

May 18 – Ryan Schmidt

May 25 – Jim Kaecker

GREETERS

Please sign up for a Sunday that works for your family! Welcome people, direct them to the sanctuary, nursery, or restrooms if needed, and hand out bulletins.

Breakfast

VOLUNTEERS



*New sign-up sheets are in the lobby.
Please sign up for a Sunday that works best for you! Provide breakfast treats and help serve coffee and clean-up between Sunday School and Worship.*

Church BUILDING CLEANERS








*Mike & Becki Winger
Roger & Connie Curry*



"Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.'" Matthew 9:37-38

VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH

2025 MAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>"She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue." Proverbs 31:26</i></p>				<p>1</p> <p>NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>Stamping Club (Bev Skelton) 9am-12pm</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>Men's Breakfast 8:00am</p>  <p>Sharing and Caring 9am-12pm</p>
<p>4</p> <p>SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM BREAKFAST 10:15AM WORSHIP 10:45AM</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Evangelism/ Missions 5:30pm All Depts. 6pm</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Men's Study 9am Women's Study 9am</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 6pm</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Zuma Home Extension 1:00-4:00pm</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Women's Coffee 9:30am</p> 
<p>11</p> <p>SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM BREAKFAST 10:15AM WORSHIP 10:45AM</p> <p>HAPPY MOTHER'S Day!</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Men's Study 9am Women's Study 9am</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 6pm</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18</p> <p>SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM BREAKFAST 10:15AM WORSHIP 10:45AM</p> <p>Riverdale Graduation</p> 	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Men's Study 9am Women's Study 9am</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 6pm</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p> <p>SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM BREAKFAST 10:15AM WORSHIP 10:45AM</p>  <p>Food Pantry Needs</p>	<p>26</p> <p>MEMORIAL DAY</p> 	<p>27</p> <p>Men's Study 9am Women's Study 9am</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Small Groups Port Byron –6pm Geneseo – 6pm</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Seniors Potluck 12:00pm</p> 