



**FIRST  
CHRISTIAN  
CHURCH**  
OF BRYAN / COLLEGE STATION  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

# The Visitor

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December 2025

## Mike's Musings

*"...teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age"*  
(Matthew 28:20).

When we think about the first Christmas, we think of Jesus' birth, and technically that is correct. However, that is not when Jesus began, as He has no beginning or end. He is Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, the first and the last. And there is no other god besides Him.

Yet, there was a time when God chose to come down from Heaven to Earth and be born in a manger as a vulnerable little baby. Isaiah 9:6 captures this beautifully: "For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

From our viewpoint on Earth, a child was born. From the Father's viewpoint in Heaven, a Son was given. This verse continues to provide us with these titles for Jesus: "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Jesus is God, and God became human.

We refer to Christ's birth as the Incarnation. However, there were appearances of Jesus before His incarnation in the Old Testament. At one point, someone asked Jesus, "Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? The prophets also died. Who do claim to be?" (John 8:53).

Jesus replied, "Your ancestor Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day; he saw it and was glad" (verse 56). "Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, before Abraham was, I am'" (verse 58).

Then there was Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the Emmaus Road after His resurrection. Jesus joined in their discussion. At first, they did not recognize Him. They began recounting the story of Jesus to Jesus.

They said, "But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place" (Luke 24:21).

They were unaware that He had risen. Jesus remarked, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into His glory?" (verses 25-26).

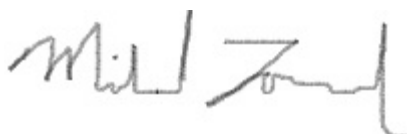
Luke continues by stating that starting with Moses and the prophets, Jesus clarified what the Scriptures said about Him. He pointed out all the verses that referred to Himself. We see Christ in the Old Testament, not by name, but through His appearances.

Then one day, God came to Earth as a Child, grew into a man, died on the cross, and rose from the dead. He has always been present. And He will remain until the very end. Jesus said, "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20).

The holidays are approaching quickly, and retailers are eager for you to spend your money. However, you will find that the true message of the Christmas season is not about presents; it is about His presence.

Blessings!

Pastor Mike



## December Sermon Schedule

### "Advent/Christmas/Epiphany" Sermon Series

December 7 – "Ezekiel: Valley of Dry Bones"  
Advent 2                      Ezekiel 37:1-14

December 14 – "Word Accomplishes God's Purpose"  
Advent 3                      Isaiah 55:1-13

December 21 – "Word Made Flesh"  
Advent 4                      John 1:1-18

December 24 – "Birth of Jesus"  
Christmas Eve              Luke 2:1-20

December 28 – "A Voice in the Wilderness"  
New Year/Christmas 1      John 1:19-34

## OPPORTUNITIES AHEAD



**Christmas at the Townsend's House – Saturday, December 13th from 2-5 PM.** Please contact Mike or Karen if you need the address and directions.

## Disciples Women/CWF

CWF will meet on  
**December 3 at 9:30am**



## Disciples Men/CMF

CMF will meet on the **third Tuesday of the month at 12:30 for lunch, location TBA.**

If you currently do not receive an email from Rev. Mike about this, please contact him.



## Music Ministry

**PICKERS** – Thursdays @ 2:00pm

**CHOIR PRACTICE** – 10:00am, before church

**HANDBELL PRACTICE** – Please watch for updates.



## Kraft Korner

Kraft Korner will not meet during December. The next meeting will be **January 15 at 10:00am**



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## Feelie Hearts Ministry

If you would like to help make Feelie hearts for us to share with our community see Karen Townsend for patterns or kits. Donations are greatly appreciated to help us purchase fiber fill (stuffing), thread, and special fabrics. Please mark in memo "Feelie Hearts". Thank you for supporting this life touching ministry.

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## Sunday Morning Fellowship

Calling all members! The fellowship team could really use your help! Each week before church service we try to provide coffee and a small snack. In order to keep this fellowship time available we need people who are willing to set this up and clean up after church service. We are happy to help assist, however asking one or two people to take care of this every week can become overwhelming. Many hands make light work! Please consider signing up for a Sunday. Sign up sheet is on the glass doors to the Fellowship Hall. You can contact Karen Townsend or any of the Fellowship team for more information.

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## Recycle Team

If you have recycling at your home and are willing to take some home with you from the church we would greatly appreciate it. There is a recycling bin in the Fellowship hall as well as one in the copy room. You can contact the office for more information.



## January Newsletter Deadline!

We would like to publish the January monthly Newsletter on **Dec. 23. Please submit any articles or calendar items by Dec. 22.**

Please submit your articles to:  
[firstchristianbcs@gmail.com](mailto:firstchristianbcs@gmail.com)

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## COVID and the Church:

### Update for December:

*We continue to follow CDC, and local Health Department guidance, in order to keep everyone attending our services as safe as possible.*

People may choose to mask at any time. **People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a high-quality [mask or respirator](#) when indoors in public.**

Please take care of yourself, and be considerate of others.

## Worship Services

**In person and live streamed,  
Sundays at 10:45am:**

## Our Facebook Page:

[https://www.facebook.com/  
BryanCollegeStationDisciples/](https://www.facebook.com/BryanCollegeStationDisciples/)



# Prayer Concerns

*While we believe everyone needs prayer, those named on our list have specific and ongoing needs:*

Diane Andrews  
Cheryl & Karl Aufderheide  
Kay & John Benes  
Rose Bowden  
John Delaney  
Bill Dixon  
Terry & Eva Hart  
Caroline Jeffrey  
Laura Johnson  
Mike Johnson  
Shorty Kindt  
Jeanene Kindt  
Jackie Kranz  
Bob McGee  
Caton Milstead  
Roger & Emily Nichols  
Linda Kay Rector  
Brad Slocum  
Annette & Richard Stadelmann  
Ashley Weber  
Elizabeth Weber  
Reba Wood  
John Wright  
Dale Young  
Jane Young

*(If you would like yours or a loved one's name added to, or removed from, this list, please let us know.)*

## Hanging of the Greens First Sunday of Advent



# Church Calendar: December 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b> News from the Pews due	<b>2</b> 10:30 am Worship Planning Mtg  House Church, 6:00pm	<b>3</b>  Disciples Women/CWF — 9:30am	<b>4</b>  Pickers, 2:00pm	<b>5</b>  Ann P.	<b>6</b>  Michael B.
<b>7 Second Sunday of Advent</b>  Sunday school, 9:30am Choir practice, 10:00am  Worship, 10:45am, in person & live-streamed  Elders Meeting following worship	<b>8</b> News from the Pews due	<b>9</b> 10:30 am Worship Planning Mtg  House Church, 6:00pm	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  Pickers, 2:00pm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14 Third Sunday of Advent</b> Sunday school, 9:30am Choir practice, 10:00am  Worship, 10:45am, in person & live-streamed	<b>15</b> News from the Pews due	<b>16</b> 10:30 am Worship Planning Mtg  Disciples Men/CMF, 12:30pm  House Church, 6:00pm  Richard S.	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  Pickers, 2:00pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  Grace W. Katherine G.
<b>21 Fourth Sunday of Advent</b> Sunday school, 9:30am Choir practice, 10:00am  Worship, 10:45am, in person & live-streamed	<b>22</b> January Newsletter Deadline	<b>23</b> 10:30 am Worship Planning Mtg  House Church, 6:00pm  Natalie R.	<b>24 Christmas Eve Service @ 5:30pm</b>	<b>25 Christmas Day</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Sunday school, 9:30am Choir practice, 10:00am  Worship, 10:45am, in person & live-streamed	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31 New Years Eve</b>			
	<div> <p><b>* The church office will be closed Dec. 24 through Jan. 1</b></p> <p><b>* There will be no News from the Pews the week of Dec. 29</b></p> <p><b>* No Kraft Korner in Dec. – will resume in Jan.</b></p> </div>					
		Karen S.	Liz P.			





Bridges International's mission is simple and effective: to help students know Jesus, grow in their faith, and lead others to Him. We summarize this in three words: Win, Build, Send.

**Win (Engage & Reach)** We enter students' lives, listen, build genuine relationships, and share the gospel gently and clearly when the time is right, inviting them to respond to Jesus. **Build (Root & Grow)** When students choose to follow Christ, we walk with them through Scripture, prayer, and spiritual habits, equipping them to become disciple-makers. **Send (Commission & Multiply)** We train and empower students to influence others — on campus, in the city, and eventually even in their home countries — carrying the gospel to the world.

May God use every student to be a witness and a blessing for His Kingdom.



Leave contact information



Pray for this student



These three photos are a living picture of Win, Build, Send. **Win:** That day we held signs and talked with students. Some stopped to listen, received prayer, and left their contact information — the seed of the gospel was planted. **Build:** On a regular basis, I study the Bible, pray, and learn ministry together with these two brothers. That day, we shared the gospel side-by-side — this is how disciples are built. **Send:** Now they are already able to share Jesus with fellow students on their own. One day, when they return to their home countries, they will continue to share the gospel — carrying it to the nations.

God is at work on campus. One small seed will produce much fruit, and His life will continue to multiply. Thank you all for your prayers!

Matthew 9:38 Ask the Lord of the harvest,  
therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.