



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

# The Visitor

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February 2026

## Mike's Musings

*Psalm 37:7 - Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for him; do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices.*

Our daughter does not like to be in a hurry. Growing up, we had to wake her up a little earlier than usual on school days. I would sneak into her room, "Good morning." She took longer to get ready, and I understand the need for a slow morning. I don't like to feel like I'm in a hurry.

My favorite time of the day is the morning. But when we get to sleep in and enjoy the morning without being rushed, those are my absolute favorite times. My life feels like I'm in a hurry most of the time. One thing I have tried to implement lately, taken from my daughter, is to stop rushing through my days. There is something about waiting and being still that does not seem productive.

I struggle with the need to feel like I'm working all the time. But if there is a pocket of time, I'm learning the beauty of sitting still and just being there. No agenda, no job, no need to be productive. As I study the Bible, I have seen repeatedly that our God is not in a hurry. In Psalm 37, we see David, the author,

providing us with a blueprint for the life of the one who loves God.

There are several command words in this chapter. Phrases like "Do not fret; trust; take delight; commit; and be still." David is reminding us that, yes, our world is filled with rush, hurry, and evil, but God's ways are different. Our God is never in a hurry because He is always on time. When Paul, in Acts 16:6, wanted to go to Asia to spread the Gospel, God forbade it.

It was not that the Gospel was not supposed to go to Asia. It would eventually. The call to go in the opposite direction was a matter of timing. God led Paul and his companions to Macedonia instead. God had a plan for you and me as well.

As His children, can trust His plan. We get impatient waiting for God to intervene, though, don't we? We want to see our prayers answered in ways and at the time we desire. Sometimes, God's timing seems unnecessarily long. Psalm 37:7 reminds us to wait for God and be still.

David says why we should wait. "Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there. But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant

prosperity" (Psalm 37:10-11). The word *meek* here means "humble, poor, and needy." God calls His children to be humble.

It is humbling to wait. The rich get served first in fancy restaurants, and those with power seem to move ahead of the line. The evil in this world feels like it is never punished, but according to God's word we need only wait "a little while." In God's kingdom, God controls the events and the timing. We can trust and commit our hearts to God because we know, like David, "[God is] ever giving liberally and lending, and [his] children become a blessing" (Psalm 37:26).

God is providing for each of us generously, we need only be His child and hold His hand. We often get in a hurry because we want things right away or feel as if we have waited long enough. Our prayers feel like they are not even making a difference because we don't see any change in our lives. This is when we trust like David did: "Our steps are made firm by the Lord when he delights in our way; though we stumble, we shall not fall headlong, for the Lord holds us by the hand" (Psalm 37:23-24). God is a worthy provider and will not lead us astray.

That also means that even though we might feel like we are waiting, we are still moving forward. Our mindsets can get stuck in this idea that we must be busy and work hard. Although we do not neglect what God has entrusted us to do, we often mistake busyness with Christian duty. Being productive is not one of the fruits of the Spirit mentioned in Galatians 5:23-24. God does not ask us to just get things done.

God is asking us to be still throughout our day, too. God asks us to trust Him. Remember that God is not in a hurry, and so He is asking us not to be either. If your life feels too rushed

and busy, how can you stop today and spend time just being still and listening to God's voice? What are you waiting for God to do in your life? How can you hand that over to Him, trusting that He will do it in His timing and in His way?

Blessings!  
Pastor Mike

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike" followed by a stylized surname.

### **"A Journey Through John" Sermon Series**

February 1 – "Woman at the Well"  
John 4:1-42

February 8 – "Healing Stories"  
John 4:46-54

February 15 – "The Man Born Blind"  
John 9:1-41

### **"Lent" Sermon Series**

February 18 – Ash Wednesday  
"The Good Shepherd"  
John 10:1-18

February 22 – Lent 1  
"Jesus Raises Lazarus"  
John 11:1-44

## Behind the Scenes

The holidays are over and Lent is fast approaching. Michael and I will be taking some much needed rest to be refreshed as we go into the Lenten season. We look forward to celebrating 160 years of our church history and sharing this with others. Many things will be planned to share this celebration within our church and in the community, we hope you will be a part of this celebration and show your talents and share the history you and your family have made with our congregation.

Among the planning is our annual Easter Bunny Trail Event. Tentative date for this event will be Sunday March 29th from 2-4:30 pm (set up at 2pm event starts at 2:30). We will start collecting candy and small prizes to fit inside our Easter Eggs. If you would like us to shop for you, just let us know. Donations can be made to the church with Easter Event in the memo. You are the face of our church and we encourage you to sign up to help at the event. Lunch will be provided for all volunteers. Once again we will be asking our Bryan ISD Ambassadors to assist us.

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## Brazos Church Pantry

First Christian Church partners with the Brazos Church Pantry to help provide food for those who experience food scarcity. Our church is one of twenty churches that has a representative on the board. In addition, a member of our congregation volunteers each week in packing and distributing the food to clients. The Pantry served 18,038 families in 2025.

At Thanksgiving we had a food drive for the Pantry. Our total donated was 224 pounds of food and \$100.00 in cash. Two other avenues of giving from First Christian Church includes our Outreach yearly budget and Christian Women's Fellowship group. The non-perishable food being collected currently in the Gathering Space will be donated to the Brazos Church Pantry.

## Congregational Meeting, February 1, 2026

At the congregational meeting on February 1, the 2026 budget proposed by the stewardship committee and the general board was approved by the congregation. If anyone would like to receive a copy of the documents passed out on that day, copies are available on the table in the narthex. Thank you to all who are pledging funds for this year as well as your steadfast generosity over many years. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of us.

*~ The stewardship committee*

### Committee membership:

Susan Beree  
Gerald Bratz  
Marge /Arlen Crouch  
Mary Ann Culpepper  
Anita Foley  
Carolyn Hoyle  
John Parkin  
Jeanette Phariss  
Ann Pittman (convenor)  
Bob / Mary Richards  
Melvin Weber  
Michael Townsend, ex officio

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## Celebrate 160

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for all your generous contributions to the first part of our "Celebration" of our 160 years! The baskets will stay another week if you need more time to bring your cans! Our goal is 160 pounds!

Blessings,  
The Elders

## OPPORTUNITIES AHEAD

**Please remember**, if you signed up to write a devotion for the Lenten Devotional, get those to Pastor Mike by **Friday, February 6**.

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**Fellowship Team Planning Meeting** - If you are on the Fellowship Team, or would like to be, please **contact Karen Townsend**. If everyone is available, we will meet on **Monday Feb 9th at 10 AM, to plan activities from Feb-May**.

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We will have an **Ash Wednesday Service, February 18 at 5:30pm**.

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The annual **Coastal Plains Area Men's Retreat** is taking place on **Friday and Saturday, Feb 20-21**, at Disciple Oaks Camp in Gonzales. Registration link is: [checkout.eventcreate.com/mens-retreat-2026/select-buy](https://checkout.eventcreate.com/mens-retreat-2026/select-buy) **Contact Pastor Mike** for more info.

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Some exciting things begin happening in the next few months, such as a **Congregational Day of Prayer**, as well as a day trip for anyone who wants to participate (called Hearts in Motion) in March. And in April, we will be hosting the **Southern Plainsmen Quartet**, while the Pickers will begin a music outreach ministry at Lampstand Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. There are several other things that we be happening, too, so keep an eye out!

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A **Budget Committee** is being formed to take a very close look at our budget, spending, and long-term financial planning. If you are interested in working on this, **please contact Ann Pittman, who will chair the committee, or Andi Scott**.

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A **committee for celebrating our 160th anniversary** this year, and to begin thinking about our 175th is being formed. Anyone interested, **please contact Andi Scott**, who will chair the committee

## Disciples Women/CWF

CWF will meet on **February 4 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.



Men's Fellowship

## Music Ministry

**PICKERS** – Thursdays @ 2:00pm

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

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



## Kraft Korner

Kraft Korner will meet on **February 19th from 10 am -12 pm**. We will possibly be working on stuffing Teddy Bears and/or a Spring Craft.

## 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.

## Sunday Morning Fellowship

Openings are available for **February and March** for Sunday morning fellowship time. If you are able to set up and clean up our coffee and snack area for Sunday morning, please sign up on the glass doors in the Gathering space.

## March Newsletter Deadline!

We would like to publish the March monthly Newsletter on **February 24** Please submit any **articles or calendar items by Feb. 23.**

Please submit your articles to:

[firstchristianbcs@gmail.com](mailto:firstchristianbcs@gmail.com)

### Worship Services

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

### Our Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/BryanCollegeStationDisciples/>

## COVID and the Church:

### Update for February:

*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.

## 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

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.*

# Church Calendar: February 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> Sunday school, 9:30am Choir practice, 10:00am  Worship, 10:45am, in person & live- streamed  <b>Congregational</b> <b>meeting following</b> <b>worship</b>  <b>Elders meeting</b> <b>following worship</b>	<b>2</b> <b>News from the</b> <b>Pews due</b>	<b>3</b> 10:30 am Worship Planning Mtg	<b>4</b>  Disciples Women/CWF -- 9:30am  <b>Kasie T.</b>	<b>5</b>  Pickers, 2:00pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Sunday school, 9:30am Choir practice, 10:00am  Worship, 10:45am, in person & live- streamed	<b>9</b> <b>News from the</b> <b>Pews due</b>	<b>10</b> 10:30 am Worship Planning Mtg  House Church, 6:00pm	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  Pickers, 2:00pm	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Sunday school, 9:30am Choir practice, 10:00am  Worship, 10:45am, in person & live- streamed	<b>16</b> <b>News from the</b> <b>Pews due</b>	<b>17</b> 10:30 am Worship Planning Mtg  Disciples Men/CMF, 12:30pm  House Church, 6:00pm	<b>18</b>  <b>Ash Wednesday</b> <b>Service, 5:30pm</b>	<b>19</b>  Kraft Korner, 10:00am  Pickers, 2:00pm	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> Sunday school, 9:30am Choir practice, 10:00am  Worship, 10:45am, in person & live- streamed	<b>23</b> <b>March</b> <b>Newsletter</b> <b>Deadline</b>	<b>24</b> 10:30 am Worship Planning Mtg  House Church, 6:00pm	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>