



# East Columbus United Methodist Church

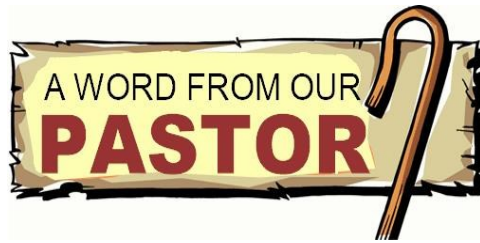
*A Church for Everyone!*

**MAY 2026**



*Honor her for all  
that her hands  
have done,  
and let her  
works bring her  
praise at the  
city gate.*

PROVERBS 31:31, NIV



## God's Family

May the peace of God always be with you.

We are now living in the season after Easter, a time when we continue to live out the meaning of the resurrection. In our daily lives, we experience small resurrections. At night, we fall asleep for rest, and in the morning, when the sunlight shines through the window, we wake up again. Each new day is a gift from God and a time given to us to live out His calling.

The Word of God in 1 Peter encourages us:

“Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed.” (1 Peter 1:13)

Every day is like Easter, and we live each day by the grace of Christ. If we can offer a prayer of thanksgiving to God each morning as we wake up, that itself is a great blessing for us.

In a special way, the month of May is a time to reflect on family. God has given us the gift of family in our lives. Our parents who raised us with love, our families with whom we share laughter and tears, and even our spiritual family in the church, through all these relationships, we discover the love of God.

In particular, Mother’s Day is a very meaningful day for all of us. It is a time to remember with gratitude the love and sacrifice of mothers. The quiet prayers and faithful devotion of mothers, often unseen, have been a great strength that has sustained our lives. So we are able to share words of gratitude with joy.

At the same time, this day may also be a time of quiet tears for those who miss their mothers, or for those whose hearts may be hurting for various reasons. As one community, we share both joy and sorrow together. And in that shared compassion, God will be with us.

During this month of May, I pray that each of you may live by faith in your own place and experience God’s grace through small acts of obedience. In your homes, in your workplaces, and in our church community, may the love of God flow more abundantly.

Especially, through a kind word to one another and a small act of service, may we reveal the love of Christ in our lives.

I love you all and pray God’s blessings upon you.

In the Grace of Christ,  
Pastor Jongmin



I heard again a while back a conversation I had originally heard a few years ago between one of my favorite vocalists (and twice **Gaither Vocal Band** lead singer), **Michael English and Bill Gaither**. In the course of that conversation they talked about an incident during a recording session by the **Gaither Trio** (then consisting of **Bill and Gloria Gaither and Michael English**). As a little background, **Gloria was never a great singer** and never comfortable in the role, but **very reluctantly joined** as a harmony singer in the late sixties because Bill needed her. Her recitations and lyric writing were so instrumental in the Gaither Trio when they started and they felt she needed to not only be onstage, but also the recordings.

During this session in 1989 or 1990, the Gaither Trio were in the studio to record a hymns album with big orchestrations and such. Michael was the “voice” of the group, and Bill could hold down the fort on the baritone part and also do some limited solo work.

I am not sure if it was Bill, or the vocal arranger / producer, Lari Goss, (or both), but there was a small solo with a five note range on the song “**My Jesus, I Love Thee**” on the project for Gloria to do. **Michael recounted how much of a struggle it was for Gloria**. His heart went out to her and he stayed behind to encourage and support her as best he could. He said she was good at everything EXCEPT maybe that one thing (singing) wasn’t her strong point, and then in a self-deprecating way said that he was good at that one thing (singing) and nothing else was his strong point. Michael later played that completed track of that song for the other members of the Gaither Vocal Band and said with tears in his eyes “**if you only knew what it cost her to do that**”.

My mind went to the cost **Christ** paid at Calvary and then was also reminded of a country song, “**You Don’t Count the Cost**” that was released about a year after that Gaither Trio recording was released. I liked it back then though I don’t know how many years or decades it has been since I have heard it and I couldn’t really remember much more than the title and artist. But it occurred to me how that was possibly the opposite side of the proverbial coin.

In looking at the lyrics, it uses examples like a mother doesn’t count the cost of the pain and such when delivering a baby and a soldier doesn’t count the cost in the fear and even uncertainty of survival when they fight to defend this country. It goes on to say that “**when it comes to love, you don’t count the cost**”, it also states how we see these types of things every day and **if we doubt it just “think about the cross.”**

Although **Christ** knew what the cost would be, He went ahead with Calvary anyhow because of it being the Father’s will and out of love for us. I think about that solo that Gloria struggled to do. **Bill received the gift either way** (and benefitted from it), but I have to think that the gift meant more once he knew the price that was paid from her to give it. How are we with Christ’s crucifixion? Do we just accept the gift of salvation and eternal life without really considering what it cost Him? Do we understand how the gift benefits us, but don’t really consider the price paid? **Once we know of the price paid for it, does our appreciation of the gift and sacrifice mean more?**

How often do we really stop to think of what it **cost the Lord to take our sin and shame upon Himself**? Do we maybe do it on **Good Friday**? Do we live the rest of the year (or more) knowing that He did, but not think about it or be thankful for it? Do we tell others that He did the same thing for them if they will repent and accept Him? Or are we like the children who get presents for Christmas or birthdays and are either oblivious to the fact that it cost a parent, or worse being ungrateful? I think those are some good questions for each of us as ask ourselves.

# HOOSIER TRAILS COUNCIL

## Troop 549



Our Spring Camporee was a train theme this year. We had a great time at the Rail Road Camporee. We got to camp at the Whitewater River Campground. Our churches youth group went there to canoe down Whitewater river when I was in junior high school( a long time ago). The new owners collect old signs and neon. They also have the largest collection of sorghum grinders in the world. It is definitely a fun place to visit just for the signs. We road a train to the railyard. The first station was getting to ride on Bob and Sharon Browns Rail car. All the scouts that attended got to ride in their car. We then got to go through a lot of passenger train cars that were built in the 1910's – 1920's. They were in good shape and just knowing the amount of people that have looked out the same windows that we were is an amazing thought. The scout learned about steam engines and they even got to drive in railroad spikes into a real track they were laying down. On Sunday we rode the train from Connersville to Metamora and had 1 ½ hours to look around in the shops. This was not long enough. We all want to come back for more. This was the best ran camporee I have attended since I was a scout.

### May 16th

This is the church block party. We will be helping out with the block party. It will be a great time for the community. The scouts always enjoy the day.

If you know any boys that are interested in scouting the door is always open for their visit on our scout nights. Please feel free to pass my contact information to anyone interested in visiting or joining our troop. Boys ages need to be 11 years old to join and less than 18. Meeting time Thursday is at 6:30 – 8:00 at the Youth Center.

Bruce McIntosh, Scoutmaster  
812-374-9009  
brucemcintoshbsa@yahoo.com



## *A little Mother's Day humor ...*

Yes, these are more like "dad jokes" ... but we're celebrating Mom's special day ... feel free to groan aloud as you enjoy them. And be sure to remember Mom not only on her special day but all year through!!

What did the digital clock say to its mom on Mother's Day?

"Look, Mom, no hands!

What did the mother tomato say to the baby tomato?

"Ketchup! We're going to be late for church!"

Why did mom bring a ladder to church on Mother's Day?

She heard the service was to be uplifting and she wanted to be closer to God!

Why did the cookie go to church on Mother's Day?

Because it wanted to be a "chip" off the old block!

Why did the mother laugh during the sermon?

Because she knew that a joyful heart is good medicine and laughter is a reflection of the joy and love she feels in her faith.

How do you know that God is a fan of mothers?

Because in the Bible, He gave us the perfect example in Proverbs 31! I've shared my favorite version from that chapter here ...

*"Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her"*

*Proverbs 31:28*

*Happy Mother's Day .... Timothy*



# may

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9am-Worship 10:10am-Sunday Sch.	4	5 10am-Prayer Hr	6 6pm- Choir	7 5:30pm-Trustee Meeting 6:30pm-Scouts	8	9
 5pm-Grace's Table	11	12 10am-Prayer Hr	13 6pm-Choir	14 6:30pm-Scouts	15	16  11am-2pm
17 9am-Worship 10:10am-Sunday Sch.	18	19 10am-Prayer Hr	20 <b>BCSC Last Day of School</b> 6pm-Choir	21 6:30pm-Scouts	22 <b>New Tech Graduation</b> 7pm	23 <b>Graduation</b> North-10am East-1pm
24 9am-Worship 10:10am-Sunday Sch.	25 Memorial Day  <b>PRAY for our NATION</b>	26 10am-Prayer Hr	27 6pm-Choir	28 6:30pm-Scouts	29	30
31 9am-Worship 10:10am-Sunday Sch.						

- May 3...Abigail Lee  
 8...Karen Parks  
 11...Shirley Sylvia  
 12...Paula Turnbow  
 15...Gabriel Mattern  
       Philip Mattern  
 30...Ashley Hollis



# News



From the Mail Box...

Thanks you so much to everyone who donated treats for the Easter Egg Hunt. My kids got so many eggs, and we were able to share them with other kids. We truly appreciate your generosity and your kindness in helping us share the joy of the resurrection. -Esther

Thank you to my church family for your love, support, and prayers. All your cards have meant a lot and is helping me through this difficult time. I love my church family so much. -Love Paula

The Indiana Conference, through the Children Matter most ministry, recognized our church for safekeeping of all children, youth, and vulnerable adults for our established Child Protection Policy. This certificate was presented to East Columbus UMC by Bishop Tracy Malone.



*Condolences to Paula and the Turnbow family at the passing of loved one, Barry.*

*Condolences to Garry Taylor at the passing of loved one, Julie.*

Here's what's happening!

**Thursday, May 7—5:30pm—** Trustee Mtg.

**Grace's Table Free Meal** Sunday, May 10 at 5pm in the Youth Center. All are welcome.

**Weekly Prayer Hour**, every Tuesday a prayer time is held from 10am to 11am in the sanctuary. Come and pray for a few minutes or the entire hour. Please enter through the Elevator Door.



**Clarity Baby Bottle Campaign**



Pickup a baby bottle on Mother's Day in the Information Area, fill it with spare change and return it by Sunday, June 21. Help make a difference in the lives of new mothers and babies.



**Saturday, May 16, 11am—2pm**

This is a fun filled afternoon for the whole family. Free food, activities for kids, door prizes and other giveaways.

Volunteers are needed. If you can help please contact Debbie Fox .



**East Columbus United Methodist Church**  
**2439 Indiana Avenue, Columbus IN 47201**

## **Return Service Requested**

**Jongmin Lee, Senior Minister**  
**Terry Snyder, Music Director**  
**Angie Sherfick, Adm. Assistant**

**Church Office: 812.376.7418**

**Church Office Email: [office@eastcolumbusumc.org](mailto:office@eastcolumbusumc.org)**

**Pastor Email: [jongmin.lee@inumc.org](mailto:jongmin.lee@inumc.org)**

**Worship Director Email: [music@eastcolumbusumc.org](mailto:music@eastcolumbusumc.org)**

**Church Website: [www.eastcolumbusumc.org](http://www.eastcolumbusumc.org)**

**9:00 am - Worship Service**

**10:10am - Sunday School**

### **OUR CHURCH MISSION**

**Growing the Family of God by Making**  
**Loving Disciples of Jesus Christ.**