

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

7226 Hwy. 66 P.O. Box 151

Wadesville, Indiana 47638

Our nation was built upon a foundation of freedom of religion and in the latter part of 1948 that freedom was beginning to be expressed in the Wadesville community. Several persons of like mind, but of varying denominational backgrounds decided to form their own special church where all could worship God in harmony. The first service was January 2, 1948 gathered in a local home. After several weeks of meeting in the local school building, a group was formed to contact Rev. Lonnie Haas of Bethany Christian Church in Evansville for advice on how to proceed in the organization of a Christian Church, DOC. Organizational problems were great, but in April of 1949 an empty bar-b-que restaurant building was purchased for \$5000. The Church Board of Extension gave the group a \$1000 grant and a loan of \$4000 which was repaid in full by March 2, 1954. With 12 Charter Members the seeds of church growth were truly sprouting. On March 28, 1954 the original mortgage was burned. Then on May 9, 1954 ground was broken for additional education space and a social room in the basement, complete with kitchen equipment.

By 1976 significant progress had been made in developing a church school program and study groups for interested children and adults. At this time the church roll carried 190 names with about 45 active families. Ground was purchased and bids were let on a new sanctuary to adjoin the existing building. Ground breaking ceremonies were conducted in June 1977, and in December 1978 we held our first service in the new sanctuary. Members of the congregation worked many hours in finishing the interior and exterior of the church. In 1984, the Wadesville Christian Church Day Care Center opened in the basement of the church. Faye Wilson and Kim O'Grady have provided a much needed service to the community for almost 30 years. The Church celebrated its 50th anniversary in 1999. During our 64 years of existence there have been many ministers, some of which we shared with the Poseyville Church, much renovation to the building itself, and a changing congregation. We are now gaining in younger members with young children growing in the ways of the Lord. Rev. Mary Hurley, our current minister, has been with us since 2000.

We have Children's Church, a children's choir, a Day Care Center with a large playground, VBS program, Church Camp, food collection for the local Food Bank, and various Outreach ministries with which we support our community and those in need. Over the years we have helped in the building of several Habitat Homes. We are a small friendly congregation with a big heart. We feel greatly blessed and welcome newcomers with open arms any time.



Easter



Rev. Mary Hurley



VBS



Christmas



Day Care Kids