

## Pastor's Column

Ann and I are in Cambridge, England, happily enjoying the hospitality of Westminster College. I will be doing research on best practices for effective ministry in a "post Christian" era. My thought is that the English have at least a one-generation head start on us in dealing with a national population that is "spiritual but not religious." Lest you think I am all work and no play, Ann and I will also travel a good bit.

Westminster College is a training school for United Reformed Church pastors. The United Reformed Church was formed in 1972, when The Presbyterian Church of England merged with the Congregational Church of England. In 1981, the Churches of Christ joined the union, and in 2000, Scottish Congregationalists joined the URC.

Ann and I were at Westminster College in 1984-85, when I was a student there. We lived in what was known as "the bicycle shed." That space has been renovated now, and we will actually be in the same rooms as before! The rooms looked out on the croquet pitch when we were there. That has probably changed.

The United Reformed Church has the same structure as the Presbyterian Church, with local sessions, regional presbyteries, synods for a broader area, and a national general assembly.

It's my observation that the URC has had to get its theology right, in order to be a suitable home for people of several reformed denominational backgrounds. I have used the URC's Book of Services as a prayerbook throughout my ministry, because the prayers have a solid ring to them. Also, the URC is what's called a nonconformist church, meaning that it is not formally linked with the civil government, as is The Church of England. These qualities of the URC make for a denomination with a centuries-old heritage brought forward into the modern realities of our day. Maybe I'll learn something.

While I am gone (until June 25!) you will enjoy some excellent preaching. I especially want to thank Larry Gildersleeve (April 24 and June 19), David Clarke (May 22), and Jan Albert (May 29), of our congregation for their help in leading worship.

I also want to thank our generous and devoted staff for their support. They are really amazing, for their love of the church we serve together, and for their considerable abilities.

Know you are loved.

Matthew

Pastor's Column	1
Christian Educ.	2
Finance Ministry	2
Missions	3
Church & Comm.	4
Session Report	5
Youth Ministry	6
May Birthdays	6
May Calendar	7



# Christian Education

## PASSPORT TO PEACE— VBS IS COMING SOON!

Vacation Bible School will be June 5-6 at Christ Episcopal Church. Sunday night, June 5, is Family Night. Bring the whole family for dinner from Food Trucks starting at 4:30. Dinner will be followed by worship and rotating through stations for crafts and recreation. Monday, June 6, children must bring an adult to travel with them as we explore peace as Jesus taught us. Dinner is served at 5:30 on Monday and VBS concludes at 8:00.



## THE CHOSEN - New Adult Sunday School Class Starting May 1

Imagine you could see the life of Jesus through the eyes of the people that walked on earth with him such as the disciples, Mary his mother, the Pharisees, the children, and those he healed. The Chosen is a TV series about the life of Jesus and brings to life people in the Bible, using the historical context of life at the time of Jesus. The series comes recommended by Nancy Keyser and Catherine Reber. This class will meet in the Fellowship Hall starting on May 1 at 9:00. We will watch each episode together and then have a discussion as time allows.



# Finance Ministry

## Financial Summary

Year to Date March  
2022

▨ Budget  
▩ Actual



# Missions

## We are building Strength, Stability and Self Reliance

### **Come Build with us!**

In response to the tornado damage, Habitat is gearing up for an impressive building season. In a normal year our local affiliate builds 2-3 homes. This year we will place 12 families in homes. Yes, that is right. **12 Families!**



Even before the storms there was a shortage of affordable housing. Adding 12 homes will assist those who lost their homes or those looking for a reasonable monthly mortgage payment.

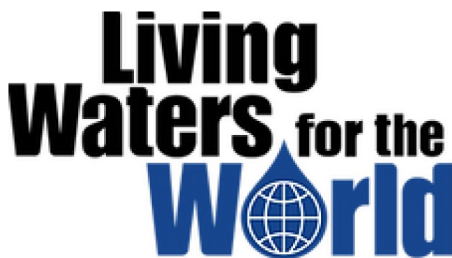
Your Mission Committee has pledged to assist building the walls for one of the homes to be built this summer. The "Help Build Hope" organization will be in Bowling Green in June assisting us in this task. This group is a Crossroads ministry from Louisville that dedicates a crew to build walls for Habitat for Humanity. All ages will be able to participate. Will you help us by volunteering your time in June or a donation?

### **Recap**

- **Building 10 homes this summer**
- **In June, "Help Build Hope" will assist us in building the walls on one house**
- **All ages are welcomed to assist**
- **Your help is needed on this project**

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## Living Waters for the World empowers everyday people to change lives through clean water.



Our clean water team is trained and ready to head south. Kelly Goad is part of the Admin Team at Clean Water U in Oxford Mississippi. Melissa Johnson and Greg Johnson are in the process of attending the classes.

Our installations in Belize are successful and pumping out clean water at schools. Kelly reports that we have trained installers in Belize now. Our friend Tono has been trained to troubleshoot and install water systems. Tono is a great asset to our installation team!

Our water team has been waiting for three years (thanks to Co-Vid) and is gearing up to make a trip very soon. In the meantime, the team is planning to celebrate on World Water Sunday with guests and activities to keep us informed on this mission that has been supported by folks like Fred Higgins, John Gramling, Martha Hanes and family, Ken Royle, Kelly Goad and so many more. Stay tuned there is more to come!

In the meantime watch for a water installation to be set up in the Fellowship Hall. You can learn more about the system and how you can sponsor parts for our next system.

# Church and Community

**YOUR CHURCH OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE is currently at work.**

(The members of the committee are **Bobby Rabold**, Elder Representative; **Tim Leigh**, Elder Representative; **Kim Ferguson**, Deacon Representative; **Annette Parkerson**, Deacon Representative; **Eddie Solberg-Hale**, Youth Representative; **Pam Bratcher**, At-large Member; **John Kernohan**, At-large Member; **Brianna Trickey**, At-large Member; and **Joe McFarland**, At-large Member.)



This year's nominating committee is responsible for selecting a slate of five Elders and seven Deacons for the Class of 2025, and for selecting people who are not currently in service as officers of the church to serve on next year's nominating committee. The nominating committee will present their slate for election at a congregational meeting in June. If they ask you to serve, please give their request prayerful consideration.

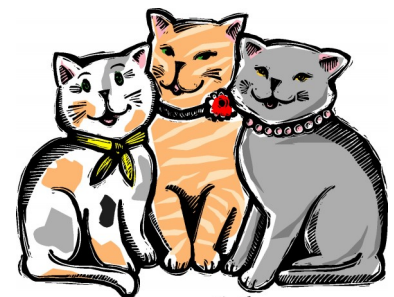
**SATURDAY MEALS COORDINATOR**-The Missions Ministry is sad to announce that Judy Clark has resigned as our Saturday Meals coordinator. Judy has done an excellent job leading this program and thankfully, has agreed to answer questions, share some of her success stories and to assist our next coordinator. Our church is responsible for supplying volunteers for this program every 3 to 4 months. Our next date will be July 23 followed by October 29. (Other dates to be announced.) If you are interested in learning more about the program and/or serving as Coordinator, please contact Judy Whitson ([jkpwhitson@gmail.com](mailto:jkpwhitson@gmail.com) or 270-779-8381).



**CURRENT ART EXHIBIT** —“Mixed Media Joy”— in the gallery of Fellowship Hall. Holly Oglesbee, a local artist who works in mixed media is displaying 25 prints for your enjoyment from April 8 to June 2. To purchase a print, contact the artist: [holly.oglesbee@wku.edu](mailto:holly.oglesbee@wku.edu)

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE** Do you have a bit of free time to do something for your church? We have several opportunities to help on an occasional basis. Let the office know if you might want to be on a list for helping with one of the following activities.

- Assisting with funerals
- Setup for dinners/meals
- Shopping for the food pantry (reimbursed)
- Lay Readers in worship
- Communion preparations
- Assisting with special events
- Nursery helpers



We can put names on a list and call to see if you might be free for a specific day when we need extra help. Please call 270-843-4707 or email Terry or Cheryl in the office. And thank you to all who have helped out in the past!

***Our deepest sympathy is extended to the following members and friends of this church who have recently lost loved ones:***

***To the family of Cameron Koven Pauquette***

***To JoAnn Pearson Buck in the death of her husband Bobby Joe Buck***



# Session Report

It has been a busy time for our church and your Session. We just completed a busy Easter, and it was so great to see so many.

Our Christian Education Committee is working on a new and exciting study series for Sunday School whose core is *The Chosen* and the class will take place in the Fellowship Hall, so be on the alert to look for more details about this new offering.

I know you have seen firsthand that our Fellowship Committee (headed up by Bud Schlinker) has been busy. The Easter Breakfast was excellent and fun for all that participated. Our kickoff Picnic this past Wednesday night titled "the Presbyterian Post Pandemic Picnic in the Park" was great too. Again, be on the lookout for more news about more Fellowship opportunities; starting this Sunday breakfast offerings are back in the Fellowship Hall. Plus make plans now for the Mother's Day breakfast on May 8 in the Fellowship Hall.

Our Small Group Taskforce is introducing Care Groups, and these will help us all stay better connected and keep all of us more in tune with the needs of members. These Care Groups will begin to be launched in the coming weeks so look for a phone call from your Care Group leader soon. It is important to know that all members in these groups will be encouraged to take an active roll in keeping up with their fellow group members, sort of the idea behind a caring group. I know these groups will be fun and help us all stay more connected and improve our communications as a family.

Your Church Officer Nominating Committee is currently at work. The members of the committee are Bobby Rabold, Elder Representative; Tim Leigh, Elder Representative; Kim Ferguson, Deacon Representative; Annette Parkerson, Deacon Representative; Eddie Solberg-Hale, Youth Representative; Pam Bratcher, At-large Member; John Kernohan, At-large Member; Brianna Trickey, At-large Member; and Joe McFarland, At-large Member. This year's nominating committee is responsible for selecting a slate of five Elders and seven Deacons for the Class of 2025, and for selecting people who are not currently in service as officers of the church to serve on next year's nominating committee. The nominating committee will present their slate for election at a congregational meeting in June. If they ask you to serve, please give their request prayerful consideration.

Our Property Committee (headed up by Mike Morse with assistance from Bobby Rabold) is making the final plans to replace windows in our office and education building. They are working on doors to make them useable and to meet fire codes. I'm sure you've noticed the improvements in the wall surround to the Choir- take a moment and look - all the wall plaster has been repaired and painted, and it looks great!

Our Worship Committee has worked with Matthew to make sure we have a full and exciting roster of folks to bring us the message each week. I know you join me in looking forward to hearing and participating.

See you in church.

**(NOTE: The May Session date will be May 24th at 7pm.)**

Our church Elders: Karol Ahmed, Mark Bigler, Mike Kanan, Frederica Kernohan, Jean Harris, Wayne Hendrix, Tim Leigh, Nathan Love, Nancy Moore, Mike Morse, Pamela Napier, Bobby Rabold, Bud Schlinker, and Debbie Trickey, Larry Warden. Our church Deacons: Trudy Burkeen, Rob Byrd, Judy Clark, Kim Ferguson, Evan Goad, Cathey Green, Linda Leigh, Debbie Morse, David Muffett, Annette Parkerson, Teri Polen, Catherine Reber, Susan Thomison and Judy Whitson.

# Youth Ministry

Youth Group will have its last meeting for the season on May 15<sup>th</sup>. This gathering will be held out at Dr. Byrd's farm. If you would like more information reach out to [David Clarke](#).

We will have our Youth Sunday on May 22<sup>nd</sup> this year. This service will be planned and led by our youth, so please come along and celebrate the care and attention they have put into the service.

Our youth Summer Calendar has yet to be finalized, but throughout the summer we will have regular events happening with our youth. Keep an eye out for those announcements and speak to David Clarke for more information.



## May Birthdays

May 2

Mark Patton

Sarah Beth Shepherd

May 4

Delores Iverson

May 5

Emma Elliott

Vera Gramling

Barbara Howell

May 6

June Rose Garrott

Fred Trickey

May 7

David Sears

May 8

Gilbert Calhoun

May 9

Kenneth Crocker

Drew Ellington

May 11

Lynda Johnson

May 13

Caroline Hudson

May 14

Steve Moore

Jim Spiceland

May 18

John Kernohan

Cathy Reynolds

May 19

Mandane Ennis

May 20

Robert Byrd

Alicia Carmichael

Gemma Webb

May 22

Caleb Johnson

Emma Simpson

May 24

Eric Bigler

May 25

Hart Carwell

May 26

Kathleen Gildersleeve

Pamela Napier

May 27

Mary Clemons

Peyton White

May 28

Matthew Byrd

Willie Byrd

May 30

Karen Watson



# May Calendar

Please check our 60-Second email and bulletin announcements regularly. In our present circumstances, scheduled events often change. Take care and stay safe!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 8:30am Fellowship 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Children's Music 10:30am Worship 5:00pm Youth	<b>2</b> 9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love	<b>3</b> 9:30am Chair Yoga 11:00am Special Care 7:00pm Deacons	<b>4</b> 7:00am B'fast Group 5:00pm Chancel Choir	<b>5</b> 7:00pm Neighborhood Group	<b>6</b> 7:30am Men's Breakfast Group	<b>7</b> Sat Meal Prep
<b>8</b> Mother's Day / Clean Water Day 8:30am Fellowship 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Children's Music 10:30am Worship	<b>9</b> 9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love	<b>10</b> 9:30am Chair Yoga 11:00am Special Care 2:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Sunny 16 Cam Club	<b>11</b> 7:00am B'fast Group 5:00pm Chancel Choir	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 7:30am Men's Breakfast Group	<b>14</b> Sat Meal Prep
<b>15</b> 8:30am Fellowship 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Sunday Circle 10:00am Children's Music 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Chr. Ed. 5:00pm Youth	<b>16</b> 9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love	<b>17</b> 9:30am Chair Yoga 11:00am Special Care 1:00pm CUICHM	<b>18</b> 7:00am B'fast Group 5:00pm Chancel Choir	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 7:30am Men's Breakfast Group	<b>21</b> Sat Meal Prep
<b>22</b> Youth Sunday 8:30am Fellowship 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Children's Music 10:30am Worship  PLC afternoon event in FH	<b>23</b> 9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love	<b>24</b> 9:30am Chair Yoga 11:00am Special Care 11:00am Finance Min. 2:00pm Staff Meeting 6:15pm Chairs of Session 7:00pm Session	<b>25</b> 7:00am B'fast Group 5:00pm Chancel Choir	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7:30am Men's Breakfast Group	<b>28</b> Sat Meal Prep (all churches) <b>Our date</b>
<b>29</b> 3¢ Meal 8:30am Fellowship 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 5:00pm Youth	<b>30</b> 9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love  <b>Memorial Day</b> Office Closed	<b>31</b> 9:30am Chair Yoga 11:00am Special Care				

**The Presbyterian Church**  
1003 State Street  
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*“Our reason for being is to manifest the good news of Jesus Christ in word and deed so that disciples are made by means of inspiring and engaging worship, relevant and reliable education, compassionate and caring fellowship, meaningful and magnanimous outreach, to the glory of God.”*

The full-color newsletter is online at [www.bgpres.org](http://www.bgpres.org).  
May 15 is the deadline for the June 2022 newsletter. Please send your information to the church office at [info@bgpres.org](mailto:info@bgpres.org)

**The Presbyterian Church**  
Bowling Green, Kentucky  
(270) 843-4707 [www.bgpres.org](http://www.bgpres.org)

**The Presbyterian Church Staff**

<b>Dr. Matthew W. Covington</b>	<b>Pastor</b>
<b>Thomas N. Moody</b>	<b>Organist, Pastoral Assistant</b>
<b>Terry Johnson</b>	<b>Financial Administrator</b>
<b>Wayne Pope</b>	<b>Choir Director</b>
<b>Youth Ministries</b>	<b>David Clarke</b>
<b>Steve Moore</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Cheryl Gregory</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>Kimberly Watkins</b>	<b>Director, Preschool Learning Center</b>
<b>Lacy Magre</b>	<b>Director of Children’s Music</b>
<b>Cedric Whitney</b>	<b>Custodian</b>
<b>Tim Leigh</b>	<b>Clerk of Session</b>
<b>Sara Parkerson</b>	<b>Sunday Sexton</b>