



It is September and the school year is officially in full swing. Both Bowling Green and the county public schools are up and running and Western Kentucky University has welcomed back its students. Like many churches in college communities, our church life often mirrors the life and rhythm of the school year. So, in this newsletter I would like to begin a conversation with you about Student Ministry.

Student Ministry has always been important to The Presbyterian Church. In the past the church has gathered volunteers and teachers, often led by an Associate Pastor or Director of Christian Education, to lead our efforts to connect with and disciple students of all ages. Most recently David Clarke shared his care and passion for students in a vital ministry that lasted five years. Now, in continuity with David's ministry, student ministry has continued with our youth meeting weekly for learning, fellowship, and service. Montreat remains a highlight for our students.

We are preparing for a new chapter in Student Ministry which we want you all to be familiar with. For the last several months our Youth Council and the elders have been discussing and planning for new leadership in our Student Ministry. The result of that effort is a newly framed full-time position for a Director of Student Ministries. The session has approved the funding and the search has begun! Besides advertising on Presbyterian sites, we are also working closely with the Ministry Leadership Center (formerly the Center for Youth Ministry Training) which was the program that led us to David Clarke. Already the Youth Council and Personnel Ministry have been contacted by interested candidates whom we have begun to interview. Keep us all in prayer! You can view our job posting at <https://bit.ly/BGPresDSM>

I wanted to share a few of the highlights of this position with you. First, the position will combine ministry to our middle school and high school students with ministry to WKU students via Presbyterian Topper Campus Ministry (Check out our Ministry Spotlight on page 6). The position will be divided in time: 70% to middle and high school students and 30% to campus ministry. Our campus ministry is in collaboration with the Presbytery of Western Kentucky and funded by the Presbytery and the Synod of Living Waters. We envisioning calling a person who will work together with volunteers in the church to connect with, serve alongside of, and explore faith in partnership with our students and their families. The Director of Student Ministries will work closely with the pastor, the Youth Council, and the presbytery to meet the needs, opportunities, and challenges of our students as they explore their life in Jesus Christ and the church. The emphasis will not be on creating a program, but on prioritizing our relationships with the students and encouraging their ongoing life of faith.

The conversation is just beginning. We pray and trust we can experience more life in Christ as we welcome and partner with students of all ages. I invite you to join in! I invite you to call or contact me to learn more about this ministry and how you can be a part of it!

In Christ,

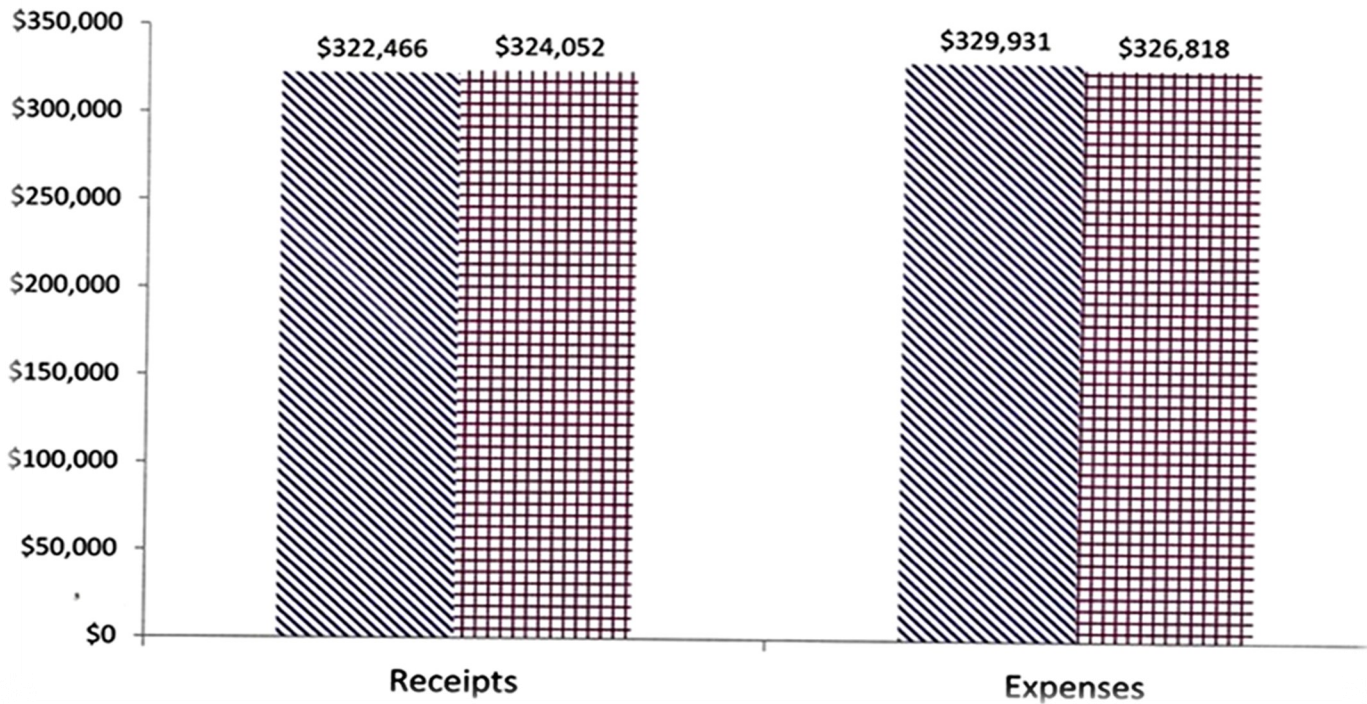
Pastor Kyle Otterbein

Financial Summary

JULY 2025

▨ Budget

▩ Actual



FINANCE

Clerk of Session: Debbie Trickey **Treasurer:** Steve Moore

Elders: Class of 2026- Pam Bratcher, Rachel Crocker, Claire Ellington, J.B. Hines, Susan Howard, Mike Kanan; Class of 2027-Sam Evans, Nathan Love, Susan Thomison, Debbie Trickey, Larry Warden; Class of 2028- Clark Carthrae, Buzz English, Julia Roberts, Julie Wedge; **Deacons:** Class of 2026- Phil Burkeen, Kim Ferguson, Kathy Higgins, Laura Parkerson, Brianna Trickey; Class of 2027-Trudy Burkeen, Georgeanna Capito, Sally Calkins, Nancy Carwell, Evan Goad, Frederica Kernohan; Class of 2028- Sharon Hendrix, Jan Morgan, and Margaret Stein.

CHURCHES UNITED IN CHRIST HELP MINISTRY

Help for the HELP Ministry is needed. Our Churches United in Christ Help Ministry (CUICHM) helps families with utilities annually with money from our church budget and individual donations. Unfortunately, the bills that are usually presented are several hundreds of dollars and, due to our constricted funds, we are only able to help them with \$75-100 annually. Families receive a voucher for the amount of assistance made to the billing agency. This might prevent them from being disconnected for a time.

For January 2025 through July 2025, The Presbyterian Church assisted 107 families for a total \$11,783.80. If you are so inclined, donations can be made through the church office by indicating CUICHM on the memo line of your check. If you would like to volunteer your time with us, contact Sandy Franklin, Bud Schlinker, Faye Patton, or Kyda West.



IMPORTANT NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

IMPORTANT DEADLINE INFORMATION One of our primary goals is to deliver church news to our members in a timely manner. To ensure that our 60-Second Email and newsletter reach our members on time, we must meet our monthly deadline in submitting our articles to the office staff. This is a gentle reminder that if you have a submission for the 60-Second Email and newsletter, please make sure you submit email data by Wednesday and newsletter data by the 15th of the month. If you send us images, they should be high resolution and relevant to the content. We reserve the right to correct and edit the text for clarity, quality, higher performance, and visibility. We would also like to remind you that the newsletter will be uploaded on our church website every month.

YOUTH GROUP started back up in full swing on Sunday, August 24, the night of the Youth Pool Party at the home of the Davenports. We would like to thank them for hosting a successful pool party. Both our youth and adults enjoyed food and fellowship. We had a Cannon Ball contest and an underwater swimming competition. Both contests were won by Pastor Kyle. Yes, our Pastor Kyle is a big kid at heart, and you can see in the picture, with that smile on his face, that he enjoyed the competition with the youth. Engaging our youth in these types of activities help empower our young people by providing them with valuable experiences and opportunities for personal growth. We have a lot of fun with our youth, and we hope you will join us this year as we focus on a year of service, fellowship and cooking classes. Youth group meets every Sunday night at 5:00 p.m. Watch for the 60-Second email and our church bulletin for time and place.



YOUTH GROUP

BUCK IN THE BASKET

Many times we may forget what the Buck in the Basket contributions are for. Our missions committee decides what to do with the monthly offering. We collect on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month. During the month of September, we collect for Living Waters. Your continued support is appreciated for the different missions.

With the generous contributions of our congregation, listed below are the amounts collected this year. Your dollars do make a difference.

January — Deacon's Fund — \$100.00
February — Gloves of Love — \$388.00
March & April — Preschool Learning Center — \$393.00
May — Montreat Conference Center — \$510.00
June — Food Pantry — \$331.00
July — Habitat for Humanity — \$473.00



"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." – 2 Corinthians 9:7

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

GREETING TO ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

WHO WE ARE

You are invited to become a member of our Presbyterian Women organization by becoming a member of one of our circles. These circles are actually groups of women who become friends and a true support system for one another. Most meet once a month to study and discuss various Bible study interests. We are a part of the national organization through the Western Kentucky Presbytery, Synod of Living Waters, and General Assembly.

WHAT WE DO

We empower through our offerings new and existing projects around the world to expand their work in new and creative ways. We support our local church and community through our current involvement with Churches United in Christ Help Ministry (CUICHM) and Room in the Inn, providing support and food for various programs of our church. Three national and international offerings that we support include the Thank Offering that begun in 1888, the Birthday Offering begun in 1922, and the Fellowship of the Least Coin begun in the 1940's. Through these offerings, we help meet the needs of hurting people: the aging, disabled, homeless, refugees, children, youth, and women, through educational, health, peace and justice programs.

Our church has **four circles** that meet on a monthly basis at various times to accommodate the needs of all women. We rejoice that God uses Presbyterian Women to care for other people and build up the family of God close to home and around the world! If you are not currently a member of a circle, please consider visiting one or all of them! They are an inclusive, caring community of women rooted in their faith!

- ◆ *Circle 9* meets at 12:00 p.m. the second Monday of the month at members' homes;
- ◆ *Sunday Morning Circle* meets during the Sunday School hour the Second Sunday of the month in the 10th Street Ladies' Parlor;
- ◆ *Tuesday Evening Circle* meets at 7:00 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the home of Diane Simmons;
- ◆ *Wednesday Morning Circle* meets from 9:15-11:30 a.m. the second Wednesday of the month in the 10th Street Ladies' Parlor.

If you have any questions about Presbyterian Woman or any of their four circles, please contact Donna Meredith (donnawmeredith53@gmail.com) at 270.791.9888.



A FIRST STEP FOR TOPPER MINISTRY All the thrills and uncertainties of campus life have begun to unfold at Western Kentucky University. Part of the thrills and uncertainties include our brand new efforts to extend the care and companionship of Jesus Christ to WKU students on behalf of The Presbyterian Church. As a first step, on August 13 our members Margaret Stein and Donna Wolbe participated in the Campus Ministry Lawn Party at WKU (Thanks, Dillon Miller and Sam Evans for getting us registered!). They met students, extended warm welcomes, and passed out candy in water bottles to enthusiastic students. As Margaret put it, "Our table was a draw!" Students were also given a chance to win one of four \$25 gift cards to Spender's Coffee. In the end, 22 students shared their contact information with us. This is just a first step to connect with students and offer an invitation to share life with us

here at the Presbyterian Church. In the future we are inviting students for a special home-cooked meal with our campus ministry (our first meal will be on Sunday, September 14), and the connections made here will be a part of the Topper ministry led by our Director of Student Ministries (see Kyle's article to learn more). Like all the best of campus life, we are looking forward to learning a lot: learning about students and their lives, learning how we can connect with and encourage one another, learning how to share life and faith in a way that leads us into deeper faith, worship, and service. If you would like to learn more or volunteer to help, contact Margaret Stein at topper@bgpres.org or call 270-779-2579.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

September 2

Doug Humphrey
Kyle Otterbein
Faye Patton

September 4

Miriam Reber
Linda Skaggs

September 7

Lawrence Finley
Elizabeth Nade

September 10

Keith Carwell

September 12

Erin Ellington

September 14

Steve Moore

September 15

Kyda West

September 16

Bruce Barrick
Jean Carson
Diana Davis

September 18

Mary Hills

September 19

Cheryl Gregory

September 20

Megan White

September 21

Jeanne Shearer

September 23

Henry Harper

September 25

Kathryn Bigler
Helen Bueker
Sarah Mayfield

September 26

Rachel Crocker
Ethan Elliott
Charles English, Sr.

September 29

Jane Coverdale

September 30




Barbara Brindle
Cary Beth Bowen



SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Please check our 60-Second email and bulletin announcements regularly.
Sometimes scheduled events may change. Take care and stay safe!

SEPTEMBER 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 	2 9:30am Chair Yoga 11:00am Special Care	3 7:00am Breakfast Group 5:00pm Chancel Choir	4 7:00pm Neighborhood Group	5 7:30am Men's Breakfast Group	6
7 8:30am Fellowship 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Children's Music 10:30am Worship 11:30am Eating Out Small. Group 5:00pm Youth Group	8 9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love 11:00am Personnel Meet- ing 6:00pm Deacons Meeting	9 9:30am Chair Yoga 11:00am Special Care 7:00pm Sunny 16 Camera Club 7:00pm Tuesday Evening Circle	10 7:00am Breakfast Group 9:30am Wednesday Morning Young Mothers and Others Circle 5:00pm Chancel Choir 6:00pm Worship Committee Meeting	11	12 7:30am Men's Breakfast Group	13
14 8:30am Fellowship 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Children's Music 10:30am Worship 11:30am Eating Out Small Group 5:00pm Youth Group	15 9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love 5:30pm Christian Ed. Ministry	16 9:30am Chair Yoga 11:00am Special Care 6:00pm Session	17 7:00am Breakfast Group 10:30am Crisis and New Creation Class 5:00pm Chancel Choir	18	19 7:30am Men's Breakfast Group	20
21 8:30am Fellowship 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Children's Music 10:30am Worship 11:30am Eating Out Small Group 5:00pm Youth Group	22 9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love	23 9:30am Chair Yoga 11:00am Special Care 1:00pm CUICHM	24 7:00am Breakfast Group 10:30am Crisis and New Creation Class 5:00pm Chancel Choir	25	26 7:30am Men's Breakfast Group	27
28 8:30am Fellowship 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Children's Music 10:30am Worship 11:30am Eating Out Small Group 5:00pm Youth Group	29 9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love	30 9:30am Chair Yoga 11:00am Special Care				

The Presbyterian Church
1003 State Street
Bowling Green, KY 42101
(270) 843-4707

Non-Profit Organization
Permit No. 202
U.S. Postage Paid
Bowling Green, KY

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



*We share
the vitality of Christ:
loving, serving, and
welcoming all.*

The full-color newsletter is online at www.bgpres.org.
August 15 is the deadline for the September 2025
newsletter. Please send your information to the
church office at info@bgpres.org

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Bowling Green, Kentucky
(270) 843-4707 www.bgpres.org

The Presbyterian Church Staff

Rev. Kyle Otterbein	Transitional Pastor
Dr. Wayne Pope	Choir Director
Mrs. Terry Johnson	Financial Administrator
Mrs. Beth Pope	Children's Music Director
Mr. Steve Moore	Treasurer
Mrs. Robin Watkins-Tolbert	Office Coordinator
Mrs. Kimberly Watkins	Director, Preschool Learning Center
Mr. Cedric Whitney	Custodian
Mrs. Debbie Trickey	Clerk of Session
Ms. Laura Parkerson	Sound Attendant/ Sunday Sexton