

The Moment

AT THE CORNER OF 10TH AND STATE



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY
Volume 30 JUNE 2026 Issue 6



Ah, the opening lines of a newsletter submission... the first opening lines of a newsletter submission that you'll be reading from the desk of the new minister. These first opening lines may well set the tone for how the rest of, everything (?), is viewed from here on out... wow, a lot of pressure on a few opening lines... Not sure that these will make a top 100 of opening lines from literature, as this is definitely not a profound opening like the lines of *A Bridge to Tarrabithia* (*Ba-room, ba-room, ba-room, baripity, baripity, baripity, baripity—Good.*), or as bluntly descriptive as *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe* (*Once there were four children whose names were Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy*). These opening lines are, well..., done.

Now that we're past that small talk, and I can say HELLO! It is good to be here with you in Bowling Green. We are beyond excited to be here, to continue making a dent in the food scene, exploring the area, and most importantly, getting to know you and your story. I know that the nitty gritty learning of who you are will come in time as we work together, growing in trust and love for each other, and I can not wait to start taking steps along that journey with you. I recently wrote a newsletter article inspired by a song by the band Tophouse called "Song for Walking" and much like the text in Ecclesiastes 3 (you know the one, it's that scripture about times and seasons) the band sings about different times. *There's a time for everything; A time to cry a time to sing; Times that heal and times that sting; Time to stay a time to leave; Time for joy a time for grief; Time to fight a time for peace; Time to lose a time to seek; A time for this and that; But now's the time for walking.*

This article is part of the beginning of this journey together, there will be many times and seasons. Times when the opening lines are good, and times when they put you on edge. There will be times of joy and times of grief. But through it all, I pray that you'll allow me the honor and privilege to walk beside you. As the hymn "We Are One in the Spirit" proclaims: We will walk with each other...hand in hand; we will work with each other... side by side; and they'll know we are Christians by our love. As I write this article four days into my service at The Presbyterian Church of Bowling Green, I have felt the love that you have for one another and the excitement you carry for this new time. **Hold on to that.** As we journey, the shine will wear off the new pastor, there will be changes and failure - but in all things, hold on to love, and it will energize us. Hold tight to the hand you hold, for we will work together, and all will know us as Christian's by the love we have to share. "Beloved, since God loves us so much, we also ought to love one another... God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them (1 John 4:11,16b). Let us journey together, for now is the time to start along the road, now's the time for walking.

Blessings and Shalom,

Pastor Patrick Lane

MEET AND CHAT If you would like to schedule a call or meet up with Rev. Patrick Lane, he has made the process simple and convenient. Just scan the QR code with your phone, and you'll be guided directly to his appointment page. It only takes a moment, and it ensures you can connect



Cover photo: Rev. Patrick Lane and time with our young Christian during worship service.

Spotlight

This month's spotlight is on our seniors! Claire Ellington and Laura Parkerson graduated from Greenwood High School this year.

Laura: A Scholar, Servant, and Faith-Driven Leader



Laura graduated **with honors**, finishing **2nd in her class**, a distinction that reflects her discipline, curiosity, and commitment to excellence. This fall, she will attend the **University of Alabama**, where she plans to major in **Engineering**—a field that perfectly matches her analytical mind and desire to build solutions that matter.

Since moving to Bowling Green, Laura has been an active and devoted member of **The Presbyterian Church**, where she now serves as a **deacon**. Her work with **Gloves for Love** and the **Little Free Library** demonstrates her heart for service and her belief that small acts of care can ripple outward into meaningful change.

When reflecting on her faith journey, Laura shared: *"God is leading me to become a living testimony of him and the Gospel. The church is a place that I know is full of believers, who although imperfect and still sinful are dedicated to bringing the Spirit of Christ into the world. I can see this through the dedication that so many church members have towards serving and attending church."*

Her words reveal a young woman who understands both the beauty and the responsibility of Christian community. She sees the church not as a perfect place, but as a faithful one—filled with people striving to embody Christ's love through service.

Laura is deeply grateful for the **foundation of faith** her church family has given her. It's a foundation she plans to carry with her into college and beyond, shaping not only the engineer she becomes but the person she continues to grow into.

Claire Ellington: Scholar, Leader, and Faith-Rooted Servant

Claire Ellington graduated **with honors** from Greenwood High School, ranking **7th in her class**—a testament to her determination, intellectual curiosity, and steady pursuit of excellence. This fall, she will attend **Western Kentucky University**, majoring in **Biology** with the goal of continuing on to **medical school**, where she hopes to use her gifts to care for others in meaningful, life-changing ways.

Claire has been part of **The Presbyterian Church** for nearly her entire life, growing up within its walls and forming deep connections that have shaped her spiritually and personally. Today, she serves as an **elder on session**, a role that reflects both her maturity and her commitment to leading with humility and purpose.

When asked about her faith journey, Claire shared: *"I believe that God is leading me by giving me opportunities to help people and talk about Jesus. Through realizing the skills God has given me, I have been able to grow them to serve more people. I have grown up in this church and it is a second home for me. I feel comfortable to be myself and share my faith. My relationship with the church has allowed me to grow in leadership and gain wisdom from many amazing mentors."*

Her words reveal a young woman who understands her calling: to serve, to lead, and to use her God-given abilities to bring compassion into the world. Claire's connection to her church is not simply sentimental—it is formative. It has nurtured her confidence, shaped her leadership, and surrounded her with mentors who have poured wisdom into her life.

As she begins her journey at WKU, Claire looks forward to **continuing to serve** her church family, carrying with her the faith, guidance, and community that have grounded her since childhood.

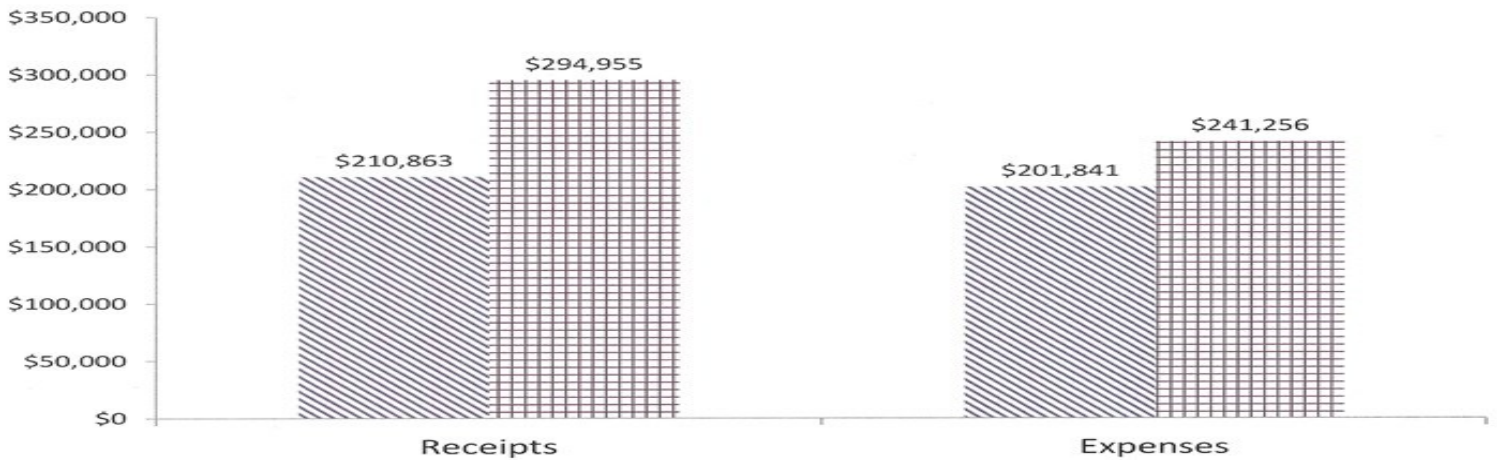


A MESSAGE FROM THE FINANCE MINISTRY

Financial Summary

APRIL 2025

▨ Budget
▩ Actual



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, Dan Stelling, Brianna Trickey; Class of 2027-Trudy Burkeen, Georgeanna Capito, Sally Calkins, Nancy Carwell, Evan Goad, Frederica Kernohan; Class of 2028-Nancy English, Sharon Hendrix, Jan Morgan, and Margaret Stein.



YOUTH GROUP

INSPIRING AND UPLIFTING OUR YOUTH Training our Youth in the ways of God is one of the greatest investments we can make. When we include them in worship, prayer, retreats, and church activities, we plant seeds that will grow for a lifetime. Our Youth need to know they belong — not on the sidelines, but at the heart of the church. By keeping them engaged, supported, and spiritually nourished, we help them discover who they are in Christ and who they can become.

CHALLENGES We recognize that keeping young people engaged in their faith is not always easy. Life pulls them in many directions, and the world is full of distractions competing for their attention. Yet as Christians, we carry a sacred responsibility: to guide our Youth toward a deep, lasting, and meaningful relationship with God. When we create opportunities that nurture spiritual growth — and when those opportunities are enjoyable, relevant, and rooted in real connection — we equip our Youth to face life with confidence, clarity, and unwavering faith. Their future depends on the foundation we help them build today.

COMMUNICATION is more than information — it is ministry. When we keep our Youth informed about upcoming events and intentionally invite their feedback, we do more than update them; we empower them. We give them a voice in their own spiritual journey, reminding them that they are not just participants but valued members of the body of Christ. Their ideas and perspectives strengthen our planning, deepen their sense of belonging, and help them feel truly seen and heard. When we walk alongside them in this way, we create a church environment where our Youth can grow boldly, thrive with purpose, and remain firmly rooted in Christ.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SUMMER GATHERING will be June 24 at 12:00 p.m. at The Presbyterian Church, in the Fellowship Hall. The guest speaker will be Jan Albert. Jan is the representative to the Search Committee for the Board of Directors of Presbyterian Women. She was elected to this position in August 2024 and will serve until the Business Meeting in 2027.

For lunch, A lunch will be provided. If you plan to attend, please contact Donna Meredith at 270-791-9888 or by email at donnawmeredith53@gmail.com or Robin in the church office at 270-843-4707 or officeasst24@bgpres.org. We kindly ask you to respond by Monday, June 22.

For more than **100 years**, women in the Presbyterian Church have faithfully supported the **Birthday Offering**, a special Spring mission offering dedicated to transforming lives. Through this offering, Presbyterian Women have funded **over 200 major projects**—initiatives that continue to deliver **medical care, education, safe shelter, nutritious food, and critical support** to people in greatest need both in the United States and around the world. Each year, organizations seeking assistance submit detailed applications describing their mission and the impact they hope to make. This careful process ensures that every grant is awarded where it can create the most meaningful and lasting change. The Birthday Offering is a powerful reminder of what women of faith can accomplish together, and your participation helps extend that legacy of compassion and hope.



COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

CECELIA MEMORIAL SEVENTH ANNUAL GIVEAWAY was more than just an event this year — it was a beautiful outpouring of love, compassion, and Christian unity. Pastor Tim, First Lady Lovelyn Williams, and the entire Cecelia Memorial family extend their deepest and most heartfelt gratitude for every donation, every prayer, and every moment of service that made this giveaway such a powerful blessing. What took place was not simply a gathering; it was a testimony of God's love shining through His people.

This annual outreach continues to touch the hearts of the Warren County community, drawing people not only for the resources offered but for the warmth, kindness, and genuine care they experience. Volunteers had the opportunity to share meaningful conversations, offer encouragement, and connect with attendees in ways that reminded everyone of God's presence in even the simplest interactions.



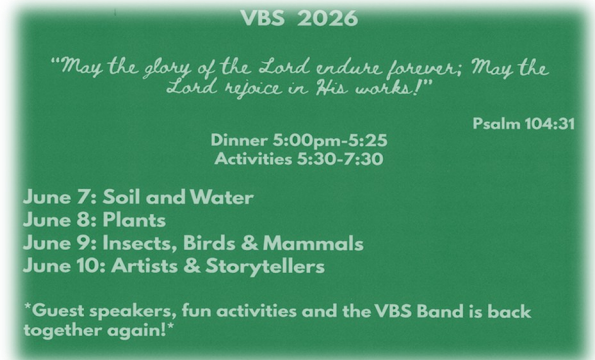
Your dedication to Cecelia Memorial and to our community was truly moving. The generosity poured out through your donations brought hope to families who needed it most. We are profoundly grateful to Cecelia Memorial and its members for inviting us to stand alongside them in this beautiful mission. Your spirit of service is a shining example of what it means to be the hands and feet of Christ.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Join us for Wild and Wonder VBS on June 7-10! This is a collaborative VBS with the downtown churches, hosted by Christ Episcopal Church, located at 1215 State Street. Children will be invited to delight in God as creator, redeemer, and sustainer of all living things by immersing them in the wonders of the created world. A registration form is now available online for participants. Please scan the QR Code below to sign up your child(ren).

If you are interested in volunteering for VBS, please scan the QR code below to visit the link to sign up, or you can see Lilly Hunter in the church office for more information. Flyers to invite friends and neighbors will be available in the church office.



← Please scan this QR Code to sign up your child(ren) for the 2026 Vacation Bible School.

Please scan this QR Code if you would like to volunteer for the 2026 Vacation Bible School. →



Invitation to Contribute to Our Monthly Newsletter



Our church family is strengthened when we share our stories. Every ministry—large or small—plays a vital role in shaping the life of our congregation. Your work inspires, encourages, and connects us, and our monthly newsletter is one of the most meaningful ways we celebrate that together.

We warmly invite **your committee or group to submit an article each month**. Whether it's an update, a testimony, a reflection, upcoming events, or a moment of gratitude, your voice helps our church grow in unity and purpose.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June 3

Connie DeVries

June 6

Marcheta White

June 10

Julie Barrick

June 12

Rett English

Beulah Hunt

June 15

Mike Brown

June 16

JAK Njoku

June 18

Lucy English

June 20

Melissa Johnson

June 22

Nancy Carwell

John Duncan Andrews

June 25

Connor Moore

June 27

Jim Skaggs

June 29

Henry Hulan

Nate Stein



JUNE CALENDAR

Please check our 60-Second email and bulletin announcements regularly.

Sometimes scheduled events may change. Take care and stay safe!

REMINDER-there will not be a July Newsletter.

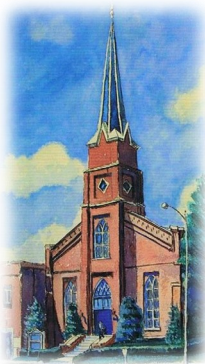
JUNE 2026 ►

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love 6:00pm Deacons Meeting	2 11:00am Special Care 12:00pm Inspirational Meditation	3 7:00am Breakfast Group 5:00pm Chancel Choir	4 7:00pm Neighborhood Group	5 7:30am Men's Breakfast Group	6
	7 9:15am Sunday School Gathering 9:15am Children's Music 9:30am Sunday School Begins 9:45 am Godly Play 10:30am Worship 12:00pm After Church Eating Out Group 5:00pm Youth Group	8 9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love 12:00pm Circle 9 5:30pm Finance Ministry Meeting	9 11:00am Special Care 12:00pm Inspirational Meditation 7:00pm Sunny 16 Camera Club 7:00pm Tuesday Evening Circle	10 7:00am Breakfast Group 9:30am Wed. Morning Young Mothers and Others Circle 5:00pm Chancel Choir 6:30pm Worship Ministry Meeting	11	12 7:30am Men's Breakfast Group
14 9:15am Sunday School Gathering 9:15am Children's Music 9:30am Sunday School Begins 9:45 am Godly Play 10:30am Worship 12:00pm After Church Eating Out Group 5:00pm Youth Group	15 9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love 5:30pm Christian Ed. Ministry Meeting	16 11:00am Special Care 12:00pm Inspirational Meditation 6:00pm Session Meeting	17 7:00am Breakfast Group 5:00pm Chancel Choir	18	19 7:30am Men's Breakfast Group	20
21 9:15am Sunday School Gathering 9:15am Children's Music 9:30am Sunday School Begins 9:45 am Godly Play 10:30am Worship 12:00pm After Church Eating Out Group 5:00pm Youth Group	22 9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love	23 11:00am Special Care 12:00pm Inspirational Meditation 1:00pm CUICHM	24 7:00am Breakfast Group 5:00pm Chancel Choir	25	26 7:30am Men's Breakfast Group	27
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*We share
the vitality of Christ:
loving, serving, and
welcoming all.*

The full-color newsletter is online at www.bgpres.org.
July 15 is the deadline for the August 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. Patrick Lane	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