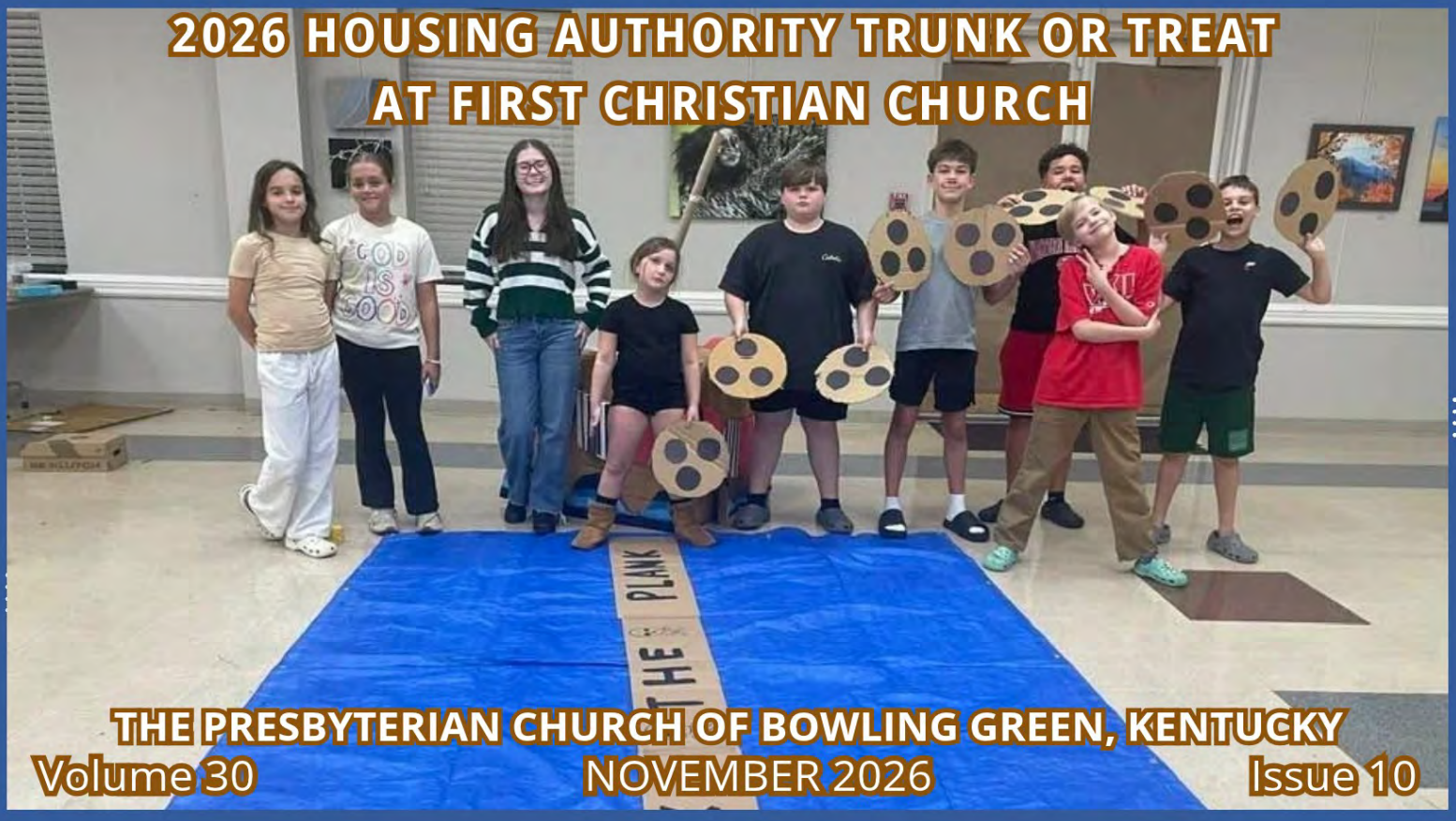
THE MOMENT

AT THE CORNER OF 10TH AND STATE



2026 HOUSING AUTHORITY TRUNK OR TREAT AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY
Volume 30 NOVEMBER 2026 Issue 10



If you can believe it, we're almost to Advent! Sunday, November 29th, will be our first Sunday preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Advent is all about reflecting on the ways in which we live and preparing our hearts and minds to once more receive Christ Jesus into our lives. For Advent this year, we'll continue the tradition of having a combined, intergenerational Sunday school in the fellowship hall on Sunday mornings, along with Wednesday evening meals and study that will build on Sunday's worship. Through the Advent season, we'll have an overarching theme titled *Until the Dawn: Actions for the Work of Advent from the ministry of A Sanctified Art.* If you're unfamiliar with this ministry, allow me to share a bit of their story. A Sanctified Art is a ministry that supports worshiping communities by integrating art and creativity into their worship and spiritual practices. Since 2016, they have been expanding and bringing together pastors, artists, musicians, writers, and more to offer their creative gifts to resource, provoke, guide, facilitate, and enrich the spiritual lives of worshipers around the world. Over the past several years of ministry, I have turned to them many times to provide the backbone of the Advent and Lenten seasons. This year's theme of *Until the Dawn* is particularly exciting for me, and hopefully for you, as we enter the holiday season together as a church family for the first time.

In a time of year when the darkness feels ever more present, as we wake to the dark and come home to dark in the shortened days, this series draws our attention to the work we can do as we move through the darkness with hope for a brighter tomorrow. In the midst of dark and night, we can struggle to find our way, we can be extra wary of where our feet fall, and fear can creep through us. Yet, even in the deepest, darkest parts of the night, God is still there, and still blesses us with gifts of rest, renewal, hopeful and joyful dreams, and an intimacy with God we may otherwise miss out on. Through our Advent season, all the way to Epiphany in the new year, we hear the sacred stories of angels arriving in the night to call forth courageous actions and sing good news of great joy. We will hear of Christ's birth to Mary and Joseph, the journeys of shepherds and magi, and how the stars and dreams guide. All this takes place in the midst of the night, surrounded by darkness.

From A Sanctified Art: "Just as surely as the sun rises, God's steadfast love and mercy are made new every morning. As we move toward the horizon, we will cry out, start somewhere, speak up, take courage, build up, and choose joy. These actions will help us resist despair and put our prayer in motion. Until the day when God's love reigns and all the earth echoes shalom, let us keep moving, singing, resisting, and rejoining, trusting that God joins us in the work of Advent."

And so, as the nights grow long, I want to invite you to walk through Advent with the church family. Come gather on Sunday mornings in the fellowship hall, where we will study and share in the intergenerational Sunday school, learning and laughing together. Then come and pull up a chair on Wednesday evenings for our suppers and study, with good food, good conversation, and time for deepening our faith in fellowship. It all builds up worship for each Sunday, as we light candle after candle against the dark and wait with hopeful hearts *Until the Dawn.* I don't just invite you to come and sit, but to participate as you like throughout this season: you may offer your voice as a worship leader or joyfully light the Advent wreath. In this coming season, and throughout *A Sanctified Art's* theme, we will trust that the God who meets us in the darkest night is already with us, preparing the light and leading us to action, step by step*, Until the Dawn.*

Pastor Patrick

**Front cover photo description: Youth Group preparing for and attending 2026 BG Housing Authority Trunk or Treat at First Christian Church*

TIME CHANGE Winter is slowly making its presence known as the days grow shorter and the evenings arrive sooner. This seasonal change is also a reminder that **Daylight Saving Time is coming to an end**.



Members and friends, don't forget to **set your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday night**. Gaining that extra hour of sleep is a welcome bonus, but forgetting to change your clocks could leave you running late on Sunday morning!

Daylight Saving Time officially ends at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 1. Take a moment to adjust your clocks and devices so you're on time and ready for worship, fellowship, and all the activities of the new day.

A Message From Our Youth Director-Lilly Hunter



November marks a year for me here at TPC. What a year it has been! We've laughed, grieved, and grown in faith and love. This community is truly so special - my family can not imagine being anywhere else. Thank you all for the grace that you have extended to us as we joined this family of faith, and for the grace you have extended to me as I have tried new things. As modern western people, we do not build our lives around remembering the same way that the ancient biblical people did. We live so fast that we miss the chance to learn by reflecting and to hold fast through remembering. November breaks that cycle. We slow down to remember the saints that have come before us on All Saints, and we pause to be grateful on Thanksgiving. This month, I am praying through Psalm 65. In the first stanza, the psalmist praises God for forgiveness, for answering his prayers. He says in v.4 "Happy are those whom you choose and bring near to live in your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple." As I reflect on this, I realize how happy it is to be in this place together. How joyful it is to share life in this community. How awesome it is to humbly sit in the presence of God together in this season. We are satisfied. The psalmist goes on to praise God for the rain, for the bounty of the harvest, because God "crown the year with your bounty;". We are at the crown of the year, and surely God has arrayed creation with bounty. I pray as we enter this season that you would join me in praying through Psalm 65, moving slowly through it as we sit in thankfulness, daily practicing gratitude for the goodness of our God, our community, our creation, and our hope.

Grief Support Group



SUPPORT GROUP The holiday season is often described as the most joyful time of the year. Yet for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one, this season can also bring a deep sense of sadness, loneliness, and longing. Familiar traditions may feel different. Empty chairs at family gatherings can be especially noticeable.

Our **Grief Support Group** offers a caring and compassionate space where you can share your experiences, find encouragement, and connect with others who truly understand the challenges of loss.

As the holidays approach, we especially encourage anyone struggling with loss to join us. The burden of grief is often lighter when shared, and the comfort of fellowship can remind us that God's love remains constant, even in our most difficult days. This group will meet from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. on the **2nd and 4th Tuesday** of each month. You are welcome to attend whether this is your first step in the grieving process or you have been on this journey for years. For additional information, please contact Pastor Patrick at 270-843-4707 or patrick.lane@bgpres.org.

Creative Craft Group



CREATIVE CRAFTS As the holiday season draws near, excitement is building for the next Creative Crafts gathering on **November 12 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall**. This special evening will feature guest art instructor **Bonnie Lowe Robbins**, known for her beautiful decorative door-hangers and creative flair.

Bonnie will guide participants step-by-step as they create and paint a festive holiday doorhanger to take home and enjoy throughout the season. Whether you choose a cheerful **Snowman Doorhanger ($25)** or a charming **Turkey Doorhanger ($30)**, you'll have everything you need to bring your holiday masterpiece to life. All supplies will be provided, making it easy to simply come, create, and enjoy the fellowship.

Those who have signed up are reminded to submit their payment to **Terry Johnson** in the church office or pay online prior to the event. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Terry at **administrator@bgpres.org** or **270-843-4707**.



Gather with friends, unleash your creativity, and enjoy an evening of laughter, fellowship, and holiday spirit as we prepare festive decorations for the season ahead. We look forward to seeing you.

Sanctuary Decorations



SANCTUARY DECORATION Every Christmas season begins with a simple act of love. Long before the candles are lit on Christmas Eve, before the hymns fill the sanctuary, and before families gather to celebrate, faithful hands come together to prepare God's house for the season of Advent.

Imagine walking into the sanctuary and seeing the beauty of the greenery, the glow of the Chrismas tree, and the symbols that remind us of Christ's birth and God's promise of hope. Those decorations do more than beautify the church. They create a sacred space that welcomes worshippers and proclaims the joy of the season to all who enter.

You are invited to be a part of this special tradition on **November 22 immediately following worship** as we decorate the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. Whether you can help hang wreaths, arrange decorations, fluff bows, or simply lend a hand wherever needed, your presence will make a difference.

No special skills are required, just a willing heart and a desire to help prepare God's house for the celebration of Christ's birth. The more helping hands we have, the lighter the work becomes and the more enjoyable the experience will be for everyone.

Come join the Women of the Presbyterian Church, after worship and help them transform our sanctuary into a beautiful reminder of the hope, peace, joy, and love of the Advent and Christmas season. Together, let's prepare a place where hearts can be inspired and Christ can be glorified.



BLOOD DRIVE As we enter the holiday season, our thoughts naturally turn toward giving. We shop for gifts, prepare meals, and look for ways to bless those we love. Yet one of the most meaningful gifts we can offer cannot be wrapped in paper or placed under a tree. It is the gift of life itself.

During the holidays, blood donations often decline while the need remains constant. For many of these individuals, a blood transfusion is not just helpful, it is essential. The blood donated today may be the very blood needed to save a life tomorrow.

As we count our blessings this Thanksgiving season, let us also consider how we can be a blessing to others. Giving blood is a simple yet powerful way to share God's love in a tangible way. It requires only a little time but offers immeasurable hope.

Join us on Monday, November 23, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Blood Assurance will be in the Fellowship Hall for a community blood drive. Give thanks. Give hope. Give life. Donate blood and help ensure that lifesaving blood is available when our neighbors need it most.

THANKGIVING DAY DINNER



JOIN US FOR THANKSGIVING DINNER Thanksgiving is a time to gather, give thanks, and enjoy the warmth of family and friendship. But for many, family may be far away, travel may not be possible, or the holiday table may seem a little smaller this year. If that's true for you, we invite you to celebrate with your church family!

Join your Presbyterian Church family for our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner on **Thanksgiving Day, November 26, at 1:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall**.** The Fellowship Ministry is excited to host this special event and will provide the main course, TURKEY AND DRESSING... YUMMM!

To make our Thanksgiving feast even more memorable, everyone attending is invited to bring a favorite side dish or dessert to share. Whether it's a treasured family recipe or a holiday favorite, your contribution will help create a meal filled with love, fellowship, and gratitude.

To help us prepare adequately, please let us know if you plan to attend by contacting Robin at officeasst24@bgpres.org or 270-843-4707. Come hungry, bring a dish if you're able, and join us for an afternoon of delicious food, heartfelt fellowship, and Thanksgiving blessings. We look forward to sharing our table with you! **Look for the sign-up sheet** In the landing next to the chapel and sign up soon!

PASTOR PATRICK & THE CHURCH OFFICE

PASTOR PATRICK & THE CHURCH OFFICE Pastor Patrick will be on vacation **November 5-9** for rest and renewal. You can contact Robin in the office if you need assistance during this time.

The office will be **CLOSED** on Thursday and Friday, **November 26 and 27.** The staff will be celebrating the Thanksgiving holiday with their family.

Saturday Meals



SATURDAY MEALS PEAS DONATION The holiday season is a time of celebration for many families, but for others it can be a difficult season marked by financial challenges and uncertainty. Through our Saturday Meals Ministry, we have the opportunity to share God's love in a practical way by helping ensure that local families have food during the holidays.

We are currently collecting **15-ounce cans of peas** for our **Saturday Meals Holiday Boxes** and are working toward an ambitious goal of **240 cans**. While a single can may seem small, every donation brings us one step closer to providing a complete holiday meal for families in our community who are facing food insecurity.

We invite each member and friend of the church to prayerfully consider contributing one can, several cans, or even a case. Together, our small acts of generosity can make a significant impact. Donations may be placed in the **new file room located in the main office**. Please label your donation **"Saturday Meals"** so it can be properly counted toward our goal. **With your help, we can reach our goal of 240 cans and help brighten the holidays for families in need.**

Holiday Reminder



HOLIDAY REMINDER As the holiday season approaches, our calendars begin to fill and our lives become busier. Amid the shopping, decorating, traveling, and celebrations, let us remember the true gifts of the season: faith, gratitude, kindness, and fellowship.

This is a wonderful time to reconnect with your church family, participate in worship, and share in the special opportunities for service and fellowship that make this season so meaningful. Whether it's attending a holiday event, serving others in need, donating to a ministry, or simply reaching out to someone who may be feeling lonely, each act of love reflects the light of Christ.

The holidays can be especially challenging for those facing loss, illness, financial hardship, or loneliness. A simple phone call, a warm smile, an encouraging word, or an invitation to join you can make a lasting difference in someone's life. May this holiday season fill your heart with gratitude, your home with joy, and your spirit with the peace of Christ.

As we celebrate God's many blessings, let us also be mindful of the blessing we can be to others. Together, we can create a season marked not only by festive decorations and gatherings, but by compassion, generosity, and hope.

November Birthdays

November 1
- Sharon Hendrix
- Curtiss Long

November 4
- Trudy Burkeen

November 5
- William Rabold, Jr.

November 6
- Hayward Beliles
- Stuart Kernohan

November 9
- Kimberly Watkins

November 10
- Brad Thomison

November 12
- Lloyd Ferguson
- Lilly Hunter
- Ron Shrewsbury

November 13
- Julie Wedge

November 21
- Michael Cobb

November 22
- Cindy Tanner

November 23
- Sandy Franklin
- Rob Hale

November 24
- Paul Clark

November 25
- Jean Harris
- Charles Reid

November 26
- Norma Johnson
- David Stites

November 28
- Miguel Castro

November 29
- Lila Maslowski
- Stella Maslowski

November 30
- David Yusk



NOVEMBER CALENDAR

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00am Coffee Fellowship 9:15am Sunday School 9:45am Godly Play 10:30am Worship 11:45am Coffee Fellowship Mahjong 12:00pm Eating Out Small Grp 3:00pm-Fall Fest-Rob Byrd's Farm	2 9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love 9:00am PLC Picture Day 6:00pm Deacons Meeting	3 11:00am Special Care 12:00pm Inspirational Meditation	4 7:00am Men's Breakfast Group 5:00pm Chancel Choir 6:00pm-Open Table-College Ministry	5 9:00am PLC Picture Day 7:00pm Neighborhood Group	6 7:30am Men's Breakfast Group	7
8 9:00am Coffee Fellowship 9:15am Sunday School 9:45am Godly Play 10:30am Worship 11:45am Coffee Fellowship Mahjong 12:00pm Eating Out Small Grp 5:00pm Youth Group	9 9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love 12:00pm Circle 9 5:30pm Finance Ministry Meeting	10 11:00am Special Care 12:00pm Inspirational Meditation 5:30pm-Grief Support Group 7:00pm Sunny 16 Camera Club 7:00pm Tuesday Evening Circle	11 7:00am Men's Breakfast Group 5:00pm Chancel Choir 6:00pm-Open Table-College Ministry 6:00pm Worship Ministry meeting	12 TRI-PRESBYTERY MEETING-BARDSTONWN 6:00pm Creative Crafts Group	13 TRI-PRESBYTERY MEETING-BARDSTONWN 7:30am Men's Breakfast Group	14 TRI-PRESBYTERY MEETING - BARDSTONWN
15 9:00am Coffee Fellowship 9:15am Sunday School 9:45am Godly Play 10:30am Worship 11:45am Coffee Fellowship Mahjong 12:00pm Eating Out Small Grp	16 9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love 5:30pm Christian Ed. Ministry Meeting	17 11:00am Special Care 12:00pm Inspirational Meditation	18 7:00am Men's Breakfast Group 5:00pm Chancel Choir 6:00pm-Open Table-College Ministry	19	20 7:30am Men's Breakfast Group	21
22 9:00am Coffee Fellowship 9:15am Sunday School 9:45am Godly Play 10:30am Worship 11:45am Coffee Fellowship Mahjong 12:00pm Decorating Sanctuary	23 9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love 10:00am Blood Drive-Blood Assurance	24 11:00am Special Care 12:00pm Inspirational Meditation 1:00pm CUICHM 5:30pm-Grief Support Group	25 7:00am Men's Breakfast Group 5:00pm Chancel Choir 6:00pm-Open Table-College Ministry	26 1:00pm Annual Thanksgiving Dinner HAPPY THANKSIGIVING 	27 7:30am Men's Breakfast Group	28
29 9:00am Coffee Fellowship 9:15am Sunday School 9:45am Godly Play 10:30am Worship 11:45am Coffee Fellowship Mahjong 12:00pm Eating Out Small Grp	30 9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love					

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED





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

The full-color newsletter is online at www.bgpres.org. November 15 is the deadline for the December 2026 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 Leadership

Rev. Patrick Lane	**Pastor**
Lilly Hunter	**Director of Student Ministries**
Dr. Wayne Pope	**Choir Director**
Mrs. Terry Johnson	**Financial Administrator**
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. Claire Ellington	**Sound Attendant**

CECELIA MEMORIAL celebrated it 179th church anniversary on October 17, 2026! Keynote speaker Akisha Townsend-Eaton gave a riveting talk about the history of Ms. Cecelia Lilliard, the founder of the church. How she overcame obstacles facing a young black woman in the 1800's.



Mrs. Townsend-Eaton's family are third generation Bowling Green residents. Her grandparents and parents experienced many of the same toils and heartbreaks that Ms. Lilliard experienced. Black Americans were not given an easy way to go even after slavery was abolished. Through faith and many hours of prayer, Ms. Lilliard persevered. She opened the doors of her church after holding prayer service in the backroom of her home. The church was first called the Negro Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Eventually they joined the Presbytery Church (USA).



The well-known gospel group in south central and central Kentucky, The Gospel Troops, was the musical guest at this anniversary spreading God's word through music. For three decades they have touched hearts, inspired faith and brought people of all nationalities, faith, and religious beliefs together with songs of praise, inspiration, and encouragement.

It was an afternoon of joy and praise that left us all anxiously waiting for the 180th celebration.

To God be the glory!!



PLC NEWSLETTER

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November 2026

In This Issue

* Cooler Weather
* Thanksgiving Feast
* November Calendar

Holidays & Breaks (No School)

Election Day- Nov. 3

Thanksgiving Break- Nov. 25-27

Winter Break- Dec. 21- Jan 1

Cooler Weather is Here...

As the weather gets cooler outside, sometimes the PLC gets warmer. Try dressing your child in layers if he/she gets warm easily. Although we may not be able to go outside to play, we may still go outside to walk around and get fresh air. We don't recommend boots or slides—tennis shoes generally work well in any play situation. Also remember to make sure that your child has season appropriate changes of clothes in their backpack.

Thanksgiving Feast

Monday, November 23 & Tuesday, November 24, we will be having our Thanksgiving feast for the children. The school will provide the food for the feast. No packed lunch is required unless your child will not eat the food listed on the menu.

Menu

Chicken Nuggets
Mashed Potatoes
Macaroni and Cheese
Carrots
Apple Sauce
Rolls
Cookies





November 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2  Picture Day Tuition Due	3 Election Day No School 	4	5  Picture Day Tuition Due	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 Thanksgiving Feast 	24 Thanksgiving Feast	25 Thanksgiving Break No School	26 	27	28
29	30					

Upcoming Breaks:

Christmas/ Winter Break: December 21st- Jan 1st
Classes Resume: January 4th