



# Presbyterian Courier

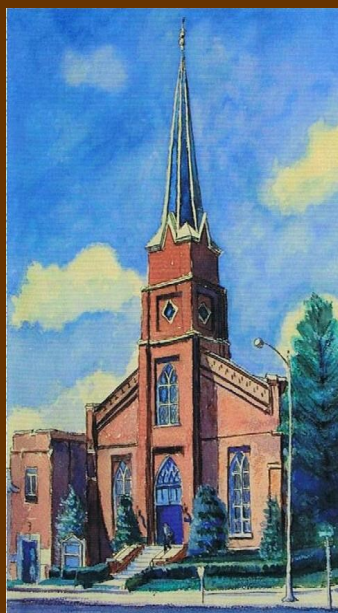
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY



Volume 20

October 2016

Issue 10



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## Pastor's Column

On October 30<sup>th</sup>, we will kick off the larger Fall Festival celebration with a Blessing of the Pets at 4:30 P.M.

I have never had a pet that I didn't love. Even the honeybees in the hive in my back yard arouse my affection. I protect them and watch over them. I appreciate the vital work they do pollinating flowers and making honey.

The fondness I have for my bees is, of course, nothing compared to the way Ann and I love our dog, Pippa. Pippa inspires love and demonstrates it. There's something special about her tail-wagging welcome when we come home. The goodness of God's creation is reflected in her bright little eyes.

Love figures heavily in the Blessing of the Pets. In 1 John, we read that God is love. It is easy to recognize that there is something sacred in every relationship. Chief among these sacred connections is God's love for the human creation, made evident in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Jesus died in response to human sin, and was raised in victory over that sin. This act of divine love is so expansive that it contains every act of love and all love. Whatever we do for the animals around us and whatever they do for us is a reflection of God's superior love.

So we take time to bless our pets. We understand that our relationships with our sweet dogs and clever cats, our beautiful birds and magnificent horses, our bright fish and wonderful small animals are all relationships that further God's loving way in the world. "God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them." (1 John 4:16)

Bring your pet on October 30<sup>th</sup>. If it is not practical to bring your animal companion, bring a picture. If the date is inconvenient, know that I am willing to make house calls to bless your pet.

The Blessing of the Pets is hardly the most important thing we do all year. That would probably be Easter services. But the Blessing of the Pets is a way to show God's love in the world. We're all for that.

Know you (and yours) are loved!

Matthew

# Christian Education

As the weather cools and fall colors arrive, here are some good activities to grow your faith when you are not at church:

<http://www.vibrantfaithathome.org/item/falling-leaf-prayers> As the leaves begin to show their brilliant colors and fall, here is a wonderful activity for families with children-both to celebrate the season and teach about prayer.



Have a new driver or one who is learning? <http://www.vibrantfaithathome.org/item/teens-learning-how-to-drive> This family activity will help the communication stay open and positive as your young person takes a huge step toward independence.

A skill everyone needs, and in particular as we enter close relationships with others, is listening. This activity will help couples improve their listening (and even singles can learn from this activity) <http://www.vibrantfaithathome.org/item/listening>

Faith is nurtured through the community, but also at home. And parents are the first and most important faith educators for their children. So these are offered as a way to help everyone grow their faith.

**Plan now to join us for these great activities coming in October and November:**

**POPS** (Parents of Preschoolers) will meet on Tuesday October 11, 9:15am in the Parlor.

**Game Night**, Friday October 28, 6:00 until...

**Fall Festival** Sunday October 30, 5:00-6:00pm in Fellowship Hall. A Youth project for children's fun.

**Blessing of the Pets**, 4:30pm on October 30. Can't bring your pet? Bring a picture instead.

**November 13** - Montreat Fundraiser for our Youth. Chili Cook Off and Bake Sale (following worship)

**November 20** - Advent Wreathmaking Workshop, 3-4:30pm. Great Advent activities for children also.



Very far! On October 30 we have an opportunity to see just how much impact 3 Cents a Meal can make! During worship that Sunday, our children will be coming around the sanctuary to collect your gifts for 3 Cents a Meal. If each person gives the equivalent of that for this year, it will be \$27.00 (\$0.3 per meal x 3 meals per day x 30 days x 10 months).

Imagine the impact - 1/3 will go to our Food Pantry, 2/3 to the Presbyterian Hunger Program. \$9 of that \$27 will go to help hungry people who walk through our doors, \$18 to help hungry people in the wider community and the world. Together we will make a huge impact. Bring your change, your bills, your checks and be ready to help our children gather it on October 30! (We will be collecting 3 Cents a Meal in worship on every 5th Sunday.)

POPS will meet on Tuesday October 11, 9:15am in the Parlor. Our brief time together is a space apart, for support, nurture and fellowship. All who have a preschool age child are welcome-child care provided for children not in preschool that morning and infants are welcome to join the group. Invite a friend who has young children - this is a group that is open to the community!





Plan now to join us on Sunday October 30, 5:00-6:00pm in Fellowship Hall. This will coincide with our Blessing of The Pets, which will begin at 4:30 in the courtyard. Both pets and kids can wear costumes! Our Youth are planning a fun event for preschool and elementary children - games, snacks, and more! Wear your costume and enjoy a time of fun and fellowship. Invite your neighbors also.

**Game Night Returns!** Friday October 28, beginning around 6pm in Fellowship Hall. Bring a finger food (or other simple) appetizer to share and any games you want to play. We'll have lots to choose from and someone to teach as needed. Great for all ages. Come when you can, leave when you must! Questions? See Leslee or Glenn Kirkconnell.



### Sunday Mornings

Find your place on Sunday mornings! We have classes for all ages and nursery care for our youngest members. Fellowship and coffee are available beginning at 8:30am in Fellowship Hall. Children have choir from 9-9:30am and Sunday morning education begins at 9:30am.

Adults have three options - the **Ellis Class**, meeting in room 201, using the Present Word (Uniform Lesson Series); the **Christian Thought Class**, meeting in the Conference Room. They are finishing their DVD series on the Protestant Reformation. Following that the Rev. Dr. Matthew Covington will begin a series on the 'new' Catechism as a way to learn and discuss Reformed Theology. The **Coffee & Conversation Class**, meeting in room 203, uses each week's preaching scripture to consider how it impacts them, through the Lambeth Bible Study method. And of course good fellowship and conversation happens in all our classes!

Come for one, stay for both! On Sunday October 30, beginning at 4:30pm we will have our **Blessing of The Pets**. Bring your furry, finned or feathered friend for a special blessing. If you pet can't make it, bring a picture. This will coincide with our Fall Festival for children -so both pets and children can wear their costumes!

Please bring a donation for the Humane Society as thank offering for your pet. They always need gifts of food, toys, paper goods (toilet paper, paper towels, tissues); clay cat litter, 13 & 55 gallon trash bags, liquid laundry detergent and more. Visit [their website](#) for more.





# Church and Community



## **A REMINDER THAT HELP IS NEEDED AND REQUESTED—**

Soon this church will celebrate its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary (April 19, 1819). One way to mark that anniversary is collecting memories of activities experienced by its members through recordings or writings. *THIS IS AN APPEAL TO LET FORMER MEMBERS HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO REFLECT ON TIMES WHEN THEY WERE PHYSICALLY PRESENT. WE NEED ADDRESSES OF THOSE OUT-OF-TOWN FOLK.* Please provide names and addresses by calling the church office or addressing Tom Moody at the church office.

**ART EXHIBIT** The next art exhibit coming in will be a display by the youth of Warren County schools. There will be a Gallery Hop on Friday evening, October 14, from 5-8pm in Fellowship Hall. All are invited to come see the new show!

**GORDONEERS** will not meet in the month of October. Please plan to join us for our next scheduled gathering on Friday, November 11 in Fellowship Hall.

## **AN INVITATION FOR OCTOBER 30!**

Please join us on Sunday afternoon, October 30 for the Blessing of the Pets at 4:30pm, to be followed by our Fall Festival at 5:00pm. More information of both of these special events is available on page 3 of the newsletter!



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

*To the Family of Emily Perkins  
To Judy Clark in the death of her uncle Paul Preston  
To Mike Zeller for the death of his mother Jean Rae Zeller  
To Mawk Hendershot in the death of his mother Martha Hendershot  
To Nina Njoku for the recent death of her sister Stella Odo  
To JAK Njoku for the death of his brother Orji Kalu  
To Megan Algie for the death of her mother Gail Bates Gammon*

# Session Report

The Session met for its regular meeting on September 20, 2016 in the Church conference room.

These items highlighted the meeting:

After Matthew Covington opened the meeting with prayer; devotion was given by Diane Simmons. Following, the minutes of the last regular meeting and the special meeting [concerning the HVAC] were approved and the business agenda was taken up.

Prior to the meeting a visioning workshop was conducted for the Deacons and members of the Session by Diane Simmons. As a result the Session meeting was shorter than usual,

Leslie Kirkconnell, Director of Christian Education reported on the Church Rally Day that occurred on September 11, Youth Fellowship, UKirk and the Theology Pub.

There were several Ministry reports. Property reported that the work on our HVAC system has begun and is on schedule. We will be able to release our rental of the temporary chiller in the early part of October. Finance reported that the pledged offerings and unpledged offerings continue to be down from budget but that August had been a good month for us and the deficit was reduced.

The "Elder in the Parlor" selections were made for the upcoming weeks. The Pastoral Care Committee is organizing and seeking input from the Congregation. If there are cares and concerns that anyone wishes to be passed on to the Pastor, please contact any committee member. The committee members are: Bob Bueker, Larry Gildersleeve, Gary Ahrendt, Karol Ahmed and Susan Thomison.

Business having been completed, the Session meeting was adjourned with prayer.

James D. Harris, Jr.  
Clerk of Session



# Youth Ministry

## YOUTH FELLOWSHIP NEWS FOR EVERYONE:

Who doesn't love good cooking? Especially when we can enjoy delicious food and raise money for our Youth to attend Montreat! On Sunday November 13 following worship, our Youth will be holding a Chili Cook Off and Bake Sale in Fellowship Hall. We need our fabulous chili chefs to bring their best chili and help us raise money. Don't do chili? Bring a baked item for the bake sale - brownies, cookies, cupcakes etc. All funds will help support our youth as they plan to go to Montreat next summer.



# CHILI COOK- OFF

Plan now to stay and try some great chili creations. You will vote for the best by with your donation to the chili you like best. And then you can purchase a delicious baked dessert!

Sunday evening Youth Fellowship continues! We are enjoying deliciously home-cooked meals by parents and others in the congregation, followed by some fun games and then focused fellowship time. Confirmation Class meets each week at 5:00 ahead of Youth Fellowship. Please be praying for all our youth and their families as we continue during this time of transition. We also gather on Wednesday afternoons for casual conversation and fellowship at Spencer's Coffee - 5:00-6:30pm. Parents are welcome to join us!



# College Ministry



**UKirk Worship UKIRK** is changing its schedule.

While the Theology Pub will continue to meet on Thursdays from 7-8:30pm at Mellow Mushroom as scheduled, the Wednesday evening worship at 8:15pm is suspended for a time as we regroup and work on plans to meet on campus. Sunday morning class will not be meeting. If you would like to be involved in campus ministry, please contact Michael Spencer, our UKirk Intern.

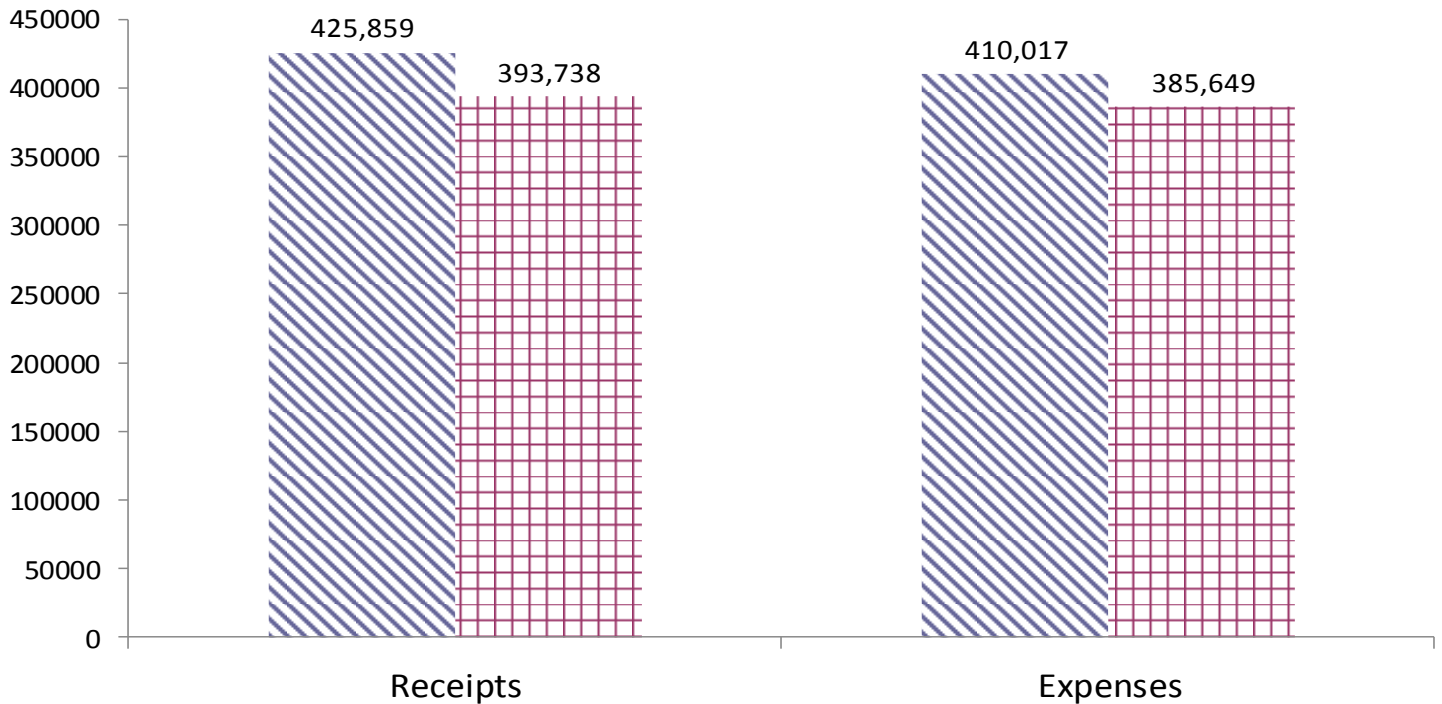
**Theology Pub** meets Thursdays at 7:00pm in the Mellow Mushroom party room. Come join us for free pizza and great conversation.

# Financial Report

## Financial Summary

Year to Date August  
2016

▨ Budget  
+ Actual



**Our church elders:** Gary Ahrendt, Pam Bratcher, Franklin Berry, Charlie Capito, Sam Evans, Jim Harris, Fred Higgins, Brad Howard, Julia Roberts, Nancy English, Bobby Rabold, Diane Simmons, Margaret Stein, Larry Warden, Denny Wedge. **Our church deacons:** Karol Ahmed, Barbara Brindle, Peggy Carthrae, Shannon Dyche, Kim Ferguson, Kelly Goad, Sheryl Goad, Larry Gildersleeve, Cathey Green, Wayne Hendrix, Frederica Kernohan, Nathan Love, Marilyn Mattingly, Charlotte Prow, Kevin Reber, Ken Royse, Ann Rudolph, Janet Schwarzkopf, Diane Simmons, Debbie Trickey, and Judy Whitson.



# Presbyterian Women

## Presbyterian Women

### GREETINGS TO ALL OF THE 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 each other. 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:

Three national and international offerings that we support include the Thank Offering 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, and peace and justice programs. 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 involvement with Uspiritus/Bellewood, Hotel, Inc., Buckhorn Childrens Home, Manna Mart, and providing support and food for various programs of our church.



Our church has six 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 3 meets at 11:00am the first Monday of the month at Village Manor.

Circle 6 meets at 9:30am the second Wednesday of the month at members' homes.

Circle 9 meets at 11:30am 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 Youth Room.

Wednesday Morning Circle meets from 9:15–11:30am the second Wednesday of the month in the Youth Room.

Tuesday Evening Circle meets at 7:00pm the second Tuesday of the month in the Youth Room.

For more information, please contact Donna Meredith at 270.781.9979 or [donnawmeredith53@gmail.com](mailto:donnawmeredith53@gmail.com)



# PW FALL GATHERING

OCTOBER 22ND – 9:30 A.M.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PADUCAH, KENTUCKY

The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Center, Ferncliff, is collecting hygiene kits to distribute to those in need. They have asked our PW Presbytery groups to help with this endeavor.

The kits will be dedicated at our Fall Gathering in Paducah. Our own Jan Albert serves on the Western Kentucky Presbytery Board and she will be attending a mission trip to Ferncliff October 24–28. She will deliver our kits for us!

If you would like to support this worthy cause, you may drop your kits in the marked box located in the church office.

Presbyterian women have such kind hearts and accomplish great things together!



## HYGIENE KITS

- 1 – hand towel (approximately 16”x28”, (no fingertip or bath towels)
- 1 – washcloth
- 1 – wide tooth comb (remove from package)
- 1 – nail clipper (no metal files or emery boards; remove from package)
- 1 – bar of soap (in original package)
- 1 – toothbrush (in original package)
- 10 – band-aids or other adhesive bandage strips

**Please do not add toothpaste to the hygiene kit. Toothpaste that has an extended expiration date will be added to international hygiene kit shipments just prior to shipment. Seal all items in a one-gallon plastic bag with zipper closure.**

**Thank you once again for all you do in support of Presbyterian Women**

**If you are interested in attending the Fall Gathering, please contact Donna Meredith (270.791.9888) and she will make travel arrangements. The group will be departing from Betty Jo Beard’s home on Euclid at 7:00am.**

# October Birthdays

October 2

Parker Evans

October 3

Larry Gildersleeve

October 4

Ellie Ramsing

Rory Small

October 5

Sam Evans

Timothy Evans

Benjamin Long

Catherine Reber

October 7

Samuel Kernohan

Laura Kessel

Bob Scantlin

October 9

Joseph Survant

October 10

Greg Johnson

Marvin May

October 11

Bev Nuerge

Chhar Sy

October 12

Michael Ballard

Mary Ann Berry

Bob Holderfield

Cammie Kirkwood

October 14

Blakey Hayes

Catherine Lowe

Oriaku Njoku

Diane Simmons

October 16

Hunter Sharp

Bette Smith

October 17

Sheila Reeves

October 18

Rider Allen

October 19

Todd Hudson

October 20

Karen Kreuzer

Ann Wyatt

October 21

Kim Ferguson

October 24

Nancy Hulan

Charlotte Prow

October 26

Emma Ahmed

October 28

Stephanie Wycihowski

October 29

Saint Carmichael

Ernie Small

October 30

Emily Davenport

Lisa Rabold



# October Calendar

| Sun   | Mon   | Tue   | Wed  | Thu                           | Fri   | Sat                  |
|---|---|---|--|-------------------------------|---|----------------------|
|   |   |   |  |                               |   | <b>1</b>             |
| <b>2</b> 8:30am Fellowship<br>9:00am Children's Chimes<br>9:30am Children's Choir<br>9:30am Sunday School<br>10:30am Worship<br>6:00pm Youth Group<br><b>World Communion</b>                                | <b>3</b> 11:00am Circle 3<br>6:00pm Medicare Class<br><i>Fall break</i> | <b>4</b> 11:00am Special Care<br>2:00pm Staff Meeting<br>7:00pm Deacons   | <b>5</b> 5:00pm Youth Fellowship<br>7:00pm Chancel Choir   | <b>6</b> 7:00pm Theology Pub  | <b>7</b> 10:30am Morning Prayer   | <b>8</b>             |
| <b>9</b> 8:30am Fellowship<br>9:00am Children's Chimes<br>9:30am Children's Choir<br>9:30am Sunday School<br>9:45am Sunday Circle<br>10:30am Worship<br>5:00pm Confirmation class<br>6:00pm Youth Group     | <b>10</b> 11:30am Circle 9<br>7:00pm Study Class                        | <b>11</b> 9:00am PLC parent mtg<br>11:00am Special Care<br>4:30pm Peace-making<br>7:00pm Evening Circle<br>7:00pm Camera Club | <b>12</b> 9:15am Wed Morn Circle<br>9:30am Circle 6<br>5:00pm Youth Fellowship<br>7:00pm Chancel Choir | <b>13</b> 7:00pm Theology Pub | <b>14</b> 10:30am Morning Prayer<br>5:00pm Gallery Hop<br>6:30pm Gordoneers | <b>15</b>            |
| <b>16</b> 8:30am Fellowship<br>9:00am Children's Chimes<br>9:30am Children's Choir<br>9:30am Sunday School<br>10:30am Worship<br>5:00pm Confirmation class<br>6:00pm Youth Group                            | <b>17</b> 4:00pm Youth Orch.<br>7:00pm Study Class                      | <b>18</b> 11:00am Special Care<br>11:00am Finance Min<br>2:00pm Staff Mtg.<br>7:00pm Session                                  | <b>19</b> 5:00pm Youth Fellowship<br>7:00pm Chancel Choir  | <b>20</b> 7:00pm Theology Pub | <b>21</b> 10:30am Morning Prayer  | <b>22</b>            |
| <b>23</b> 8:30am Fellowship<br>9:00am Children's Chimes<br>9:30am Children's Choir<br>9:30am Sunday School<br>10:30am Worship<br>5:00pm Confirmation class<br>6:00pm Youth Group                            | <b>24</b>   | <b>25</b> 11:00am Special Care<br>2:00pm Staff Meeting<br>7:00pm Missions   | <b>26</b> 5:00pm Youth Fellowship<br>7:00pm Chancel Choir  | <b>27</b> 7:00pm Theology Pub | <b>28</b> 10:30am Morning Prayer<br>Game Night                              | <b>29</b> 9:00am PEO |
| <b>30</b> 8:30am Fellowship<br>9:00am Children's Chimes<br>9:30am Children's Choir<br>9:30am Sunday School<br>10:30am Worship<br>4:30pm Fall Festival & Blessing of Pets<br>6:00pm Youth Group/Confirmation | <b>31</b>   |   |  |                               |   |                      |



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**October 2016**



*"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).  
October 15 is the deadline for the November 2016 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)

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