

Water the Soil of Your Soul

We are rounding the corner of Easter.

For the past several weeks, we've been living in the joy of resurrection—celebrating that Jesus is alive, that death is defeated, and that new life is not just possible, but already breaking in among us.

But the church calendar is always moving somewhere. And where we are headed now matters.

Just ahead is the Day of Pentecost—the coming of the Holy Spirit. And from there, we enter what the church has often called the season after Pentecost... sometimes even Kingdomtide. This long stretch—from Pentecost all the way to Advent—is where the focus shifts.

It's the season of growth. The season of work. The season of becoming who God is calling us to be.

If you think about the rhythm of the Christian year, it tells a story:

- Advent – we wait
- Christmas & Epiphany – Christ is revealed
- Lent – we repent and prepare
- Easter – we celebrate new life
- Pentecost and beyond – we get to work

And that last part can feel a little out of step with our culture. Because for us, summer often means slowing down. Vacations. Time away. A break from the usual routine.

But for most of Christian history—especially in agricultural societies—summer wasn't a time to coast. It was a time to labor. To tend. To cultivate. Because what happened in those months determined whether there would be a harvest later... or not.

That raises a question for all of us: **What will you do this summer to prepare your heart to grow?**

We all feel the dryness around us right now. The heat. The lack of rain. The rising cost of water. It's hard enough just to keep a yard alive. But there is absolutely no excuse for neglecting something far more important: **the soil of your soul.**

You don't need perfect weather to pray.
You don't need ideal conditions to worship.
You don't need extra time to stay rooted in Christ.

Jesus says He is the vine. We are the branches. The Father is the gardener.
Our role is to remain. To stay connected. To be formed.

So as May begins, don't drift. Lean in.

This Sunday, we will be led in worship by our children—one of the most joyful and faith-building Sundays of the year. The following Sunday, we celebrate Mother's Day and honor our graduates as they step into what's next.

These aren't throwaway Sundays. They are moments of formation. And they are just the beginning.

Because we are not heading into a season of spiritual vacation. We are stepping into a season of spiritual growth.

Yes—take your trips. Rest well. Enjoy your family. That is good, and even holy. But don't confuse rest with disengagement. Sabbath restores us so that we can return to God's work—not drift from it. There is a kind of "self-care" that quietly turns inward... and there is a kind of surrender that opens us up to be shaped by God.

One leads to stagnation. The other leads to life.

Scripture reminds us again and again: God is the potter—we are the clay. God is the gardener—we are the field. And growth doesn't happen by accident.

So this May—and in the months ahead—let's be intentional. Let's worship. Let's pray. Let's stay rooted. Let's serve.

Let's water the soil of our souls...and trust God to bring growth. (And pray for rain!)

Grace and Peace,
Tom

MUSIC MINISTRY

Director of Music/Organist: Dr. Jane Kimbrel
Collaborative Pianist: Dr. Carol Goff
Music Assistant: Tammara Shipes
janeimbrel@gmail.com (478) 987-1852

MUSIC MINISTRY *Spring Picnic*

May 20 | 6:00 p.m.

Family Life Center

Menu
All You Can Eat

Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes
and Gravy, Green Beans,
Macaroni and Cheese,
French Fries, Rolls,
Ice Cream Sandwiches,
Tea and Lemonade

Cost: \$10 per person
Sign up by May 13

MISSION MINISTRY

Mission Coordinator: Katie Cawthon
katie.pumc@gmail.com (478) 987-1852

MAY IS
NATIONAL
FOSTER
CARE
MONTH

Foster Care Appreciation Dinner: Since May is National Foster Care Month, we are hosting an Appreciation Dinner for the foster and adoptive families of Houston County on Tuesday, May 12th, from 5:15 to 8 pm. We need many volunteers to help make this night a success! You can sign up online, or by emailing Katie at katie.pumc@gmail.com.



We are asking for desserts to be donated for the meal as well – this is a perfect way to contribute for those who can't be there but like to bake!

Desserts will need to be dropped off the day of the event, on May 12th.



We are also collecting \$25 gift cards for restaurants, groceries, and gas to gift to the foster and adoptive families. Thank you all for helping to make this event a success!

PRIME TIME

Assistant Pastor: Rob Ray
rob@perrymethodist.com

PRIME TIME
JUNE LUNCHEON
THURSDAY, JUNE 11
12 P.M. IN THE
FELLOWSHIP HALL

Michelle Gowan of Cookie Nip will present our program. Lunch will be catered by Yoders Sandwich Shop. Reserve your spot by calling the church office at 478-987-1852.



The Lord's Table: Our next Thee Lord's Table meal is Friday, May 29th. We will meet in the FLC kitchen at 9:30am to prep food, then transition to Memorial Heights Baptist for set up and to serve the meal between 11 and 11:30. If you are interested in helping with this ministry that feeds our the hungry in our community, reach out to Katie at katie.pumc@gmail.com.

Next Missions Meeting: Thursday, May 21st at 12pm in the Missions Room

The May Hospice Casserole Helper is the Mission Outreach Sunday School class.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

PRAY MAY

DID YOU KNOW?
 IT IS MANDATED IN THE BIBLE
 FOR US TO DISCIPLE OUR KIDS:
 DEUTERONOMY 6:4-9
 PSALM 78:1-8
 EPHESIANS 6:4

KRISSEY WALKER
 CHILDRENS PASTOR
 KCPTEACH@YAHOO.COM
 CHRISTIE ROOKS
 CHRISTIAN ED. ASSISTANT
 CHRISTIEROOKS.PMC@GMAIL.COM

The Children's Department would like to invite you all to Pray through May with us! We will have "Pray May" calendars available in the office to pick up and will distribute them at Children's Led Worship Service May 3rd. Pray without ceasing this month and see what God does!

SUNday School Shindig!

May 17th at 10 am

THE AMAZING RACE

A family race to find out the theme of Perry Methodist Children's Camp 2026!
When: Sunday Afternoon, May 17th, at 4:00 pm
Deadline to sign up is May 13th.

Starting Line will be in front yard of Perry Methodist and race will take you all over town. A vehicle, cell phone, and \$20 cash will be needed.

Register your team online to participate.
www.perrymethodist.com

Children's Camp will be July 6th-10th at Camp Kulaqua in High Springs, FL
 Registration will open for members of Perry Methodist on May 18th and community friends May 19th.
 Space is limited to 50 campers this year.

Informational "Tea Party" will be Wednesday Night, June 10th, at 7pm.
 If you'd like some more information about camp, come hear us "spill some tea" about the week!
 If you do not attend the meeting, you will need to make sure you get permission slips signed for your child to ride horses and do the zipline at camp.

Summer Kick-Off!
Sunday, May 31st
2-6pm

Let's get the summer season started together at Rigby's Water World! Sign up online to join us for a fun day in the sun! Parents will be required to stay for the day. Food & Drink will be dutch treat.



PERRY METHODIST YOUTH

Nichole Lawson
 nhslawson@gmail.com
 478-230-2237

www.facebook.com/perryyouth www.instagram.com/perrymethodistyouth

PARTY LIKE IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY!
WEDNESDAY, MAY 6
6 P.M. IN THE FLC
WE WILL PROVIDE CHICKEN TENDERS AND BIRTHDAY CAKE!
BRING YOUR FAVORITE SIDE TO SHARE!

YOUTH CAMP
PYC Youth Camp
May 31 - June 5
Dooly County Campground

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR YOUR PACKING LIST

SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY
MAY 10, 2026
11 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

WE WILL HAVE BREAKFAST FOR OUR SENIORS IN THE FLC AT 10 A.M.

SUMMER KICKOFF
WEDNESDAY, MAY 13
6 P.M. AT THE YOUTH CENTER

WE WILL GIVE OUT SUMMER CALENDARS!

BRING A TOWEL AND YOUR SWIMSUIT

Perry Methodist Church
1002 Carroll Street
Perry, GA 31069

NONPROFIT
US POSTAGE PAID
PERRY GA
PERMIT NO 7

Electronic Service Requested

Average Attendance As of April 2026	
Morning Worship	457
Finance Report Month to Date	
	April 2026
Receipts Month to Date	116,877.05
Disbursements Month to Date	111,443.54
Finance Report Year to Date	
	April 2026
Receipts Year to Date	649,954.78
Disbursements Year to Date	484,614.23
Difference	165,340.55
Building Fund	
	April 2026
Total Received Year to Date	26,994.00
Building Loan Balance	844167.47

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday
9 a.m. - Morning Worship
10 a.m. - Sunday School
11 a.m. - Morning Worship

Monday
10:30 a.m. - Staff Meeting
6 p.m. - Cub Scouts in the FLC

Tuesday
7 a.m. - Men's Prayer Breakfast

Wednesday
6:45 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday
1 p.m. - Walking in the FLC

SPECIAL EVENTS

May 3 - Children's Led Worship for both services

May 5 - JOY Choir sings at Summers Landing - buses depart at 10 a.m.

May 6 - Youth Everyone's Birthday Party in the FLC at 6 p.m.

May 7 - Men's Basketball in the FLC at 6 a.m.

May 7 - National Day of Prayer Service at 11 a.m. at Perry City Hall

May 7 - Prime Time Dinner at the Fish and Pig (prior registration required)

May 10 - Senior Recognition Sunday at 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary

May 11 - Methodist Women Spring Tea at 12 p.m. - Reserve your spot by May 6

May 12 - Foster Family Appreciation Dinner in the FLC at 6 p.m.

May 13 - Westfield Senior Tea in the FLC

May 13 - Youth Summer Kickoff at 6 p.m. at the Youth Center

May 14 - Westfield Baccalaureate in the Sanctuary at 6 p.m.

May 17 - The Amazing Race Children's Camp Reveal at 4 p.m.- register by May 13.

May 20 - Farewell Drop In Party for Uriah and Jubilee from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

May 20 - Music Ministry Spring Picnic in the FLC at 6 p.m.

May 21 - Men's Basketball in the FLC at 6 a.m.

May 25 - Church Office closed for Memorial Day

May 31 - Children's Summer Kickoff at Rigbys Water World

May 31 - June 5 - Youth Camp at Dooly County Campground



PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS

Brandi Warren, United States Navy, granddaughter of Bill Warren

Lt. Col. Phillip Ferris, son of Mark and Gloria Ferris

CPL Connor Hill, USMC, grandson of Linda Loewen and the late Arthur Loewen

Lt. Col. William R. Wright, grandson of Elaine Wright

Staff Sergeant Brooks Warren, United States Air Force, grandson of Bill Warren

SFC Christopher Lanning, United States Army, son of Richard and Trisha Lanning

Sergeant First Class Derek M. Livingston, United States Army, Grandson of Liz Fauconniere

CPT Harrison Booth, United States Airforce son of Bill and Dawn Booth

Brian Sikes, United States Navy, nephew of Mike and Lisa Klug

Please help us keep this list updated by calling the church office.

Supporting the Ministries of Perry Methodist Church

Thank you for your support of our church ministries. You may make your gifts by several means:

Perry Methodist Website
perrymethodist.com/give
Click the "Make a donation" button and follow the instructions.

Online Giving
Text "PERRYMC" to 73256 or and follow the prompts.

Postal Mail
PO Box 73, Perry 31069

Perry Methodist Church Staff

Rev. Tom Carruth	Senior Pastor
Rob Ray	Assistant Pastor
Krissy Walker	Children's Pastor
Christie Rooks	Christian Education Assistant
Katie Cawthon	Missions Coordinator
Nichole Lawson	Youth Pastor
Caroline Arnold	Assistant Youth Pastor
Dr. Jane Kimbrel	Director of Music Ministries/Organist
Dr. Carol Goff	Collaborative Pianist
Tammara Shipes	Music Assistant
Dicky Gilbert	Audio Visual
Emilee Sheffield	Office Manager
Kelley Sorrow	Financial Secretary
Mike Klug	Building Superintendent
Alice Releford	Custodian
Joyce Cook	Nursery Worker
Abigail Durham	Nursery Worker
Lacy Murphy	Nursery Worker