

EVERYONE BELONGS!

Sunday, September 13

Imagine someone deciding to visit Perry Methodist Church for the first time. They pull into the wrong parking lot, enter through the wrong door, or arrive at 10:00 thinking that is when worship begins. They find unfamiliar hallways and people moving in every direction. They do not know where the sanctuary is, where their children should go, or whom they are supposed to ask. They already feel conspicuous. Now they feel embarrassed.

If someone chooses to visit a church for the first time, there is a good chance something difficult is happening in their life. Maybe they are leaving another church—and leaving a church is usually painful. Perhaps they were hurt. Perhaps there was conflict, disappointment, or a deep sense that something they trusted had failed them. Maybe they have just moved to Perry. Anyone who has moved knows the stress of leaving familiar people, places, and routines and beginning again. Maybe their marriage is in crisis. Maybe they are going through a divorce, grieving a loss, or facing a frightening diagnosis.

Sometimes, someone new to our church has already made up their mind: **“I have decided to give God one last chance. I am going to church one more time.”** The Sunday they walk through our doors may be the very last time they intend to walk through the doors of any church.

None of that will be visible to us. They will look like everybody else. Because we do not know their name, we may not speak to them. We assume somebody else knows them. But what if nobody does? What if they leave believing that no one noticed they were here? That is why this matters.

On September 13, we will have our regular worship services at 9:00 and 11:00, with Sunday school and other groups meeting at 10:00. After hearing helpful feedback from our leaders, we are simplifying the plan. We will not have classes making posters or standing around holding signs. Instead, we want a clear **Welcome and Connection Point** where people can meet someone who knows our church, learn about our classes and ministries, and receive personal help finding where they want to go. We also hope to provide a simple printed and digital guide explaining who our groups are for, what happens when they meet, where they meet, and how someone can get connected.

But a table, map, or QR code can only do so much. What people really need is another person. When someone asks where a class meets, let's not point toward another building and give them six turns to remember. Let's walk with them and say, **“I'll show you. Come with me.”** When someone enters your class, notice them. Learn their name. Help them find a seat. Introduce them to someone else. Make that awkward first step as easy as possible. No pressure. No sales pitch. Just: **“We're glad you're here. There is a place for you.”**

We are also learning important things about our space. Some classes have room to grow. Others are close to capacity. Some areas of our children's ministry are already full. That matters. It does no good to tell people that everyone belongs if we have not prepared a place for them.

September 13 will not solve everything. What we need is not merely a one-day welcoming event, but a new instinct that shapes us every Sunday: Who is missing? Who is standing alone? Who does not know where to go? Who needs someone to say, **“Come with me”**?

Everyone Belongs Sunday is not about posters, tables, maps, or programs. It is about becoming the kind of church that notices people, makes room for people, and refuses to leave anyone standing on the outside—because we never know what someone had to overcome just to walk through our doors.

Everyone Belongs. Let's make sure people know it.

Grace and Peace,
Tom

MUSIC MINISTRY

Interim Director of Music: Dr. Carol Goff
Music Assistant/Interim Handbells: Tammara Shipes
Interim Organist: David M. Kenney, Jr
Interim JOY Choir Director: Mark Blankenship



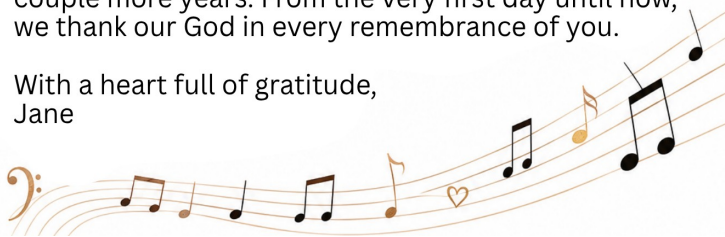
Thank you for your expressions of appreciation and blessings as I transition into retirement. I am overwhelmed by the love and gratitude showered over me last weekend. The love and joy I felt was indescribable. I have never felt more honored and appreciated.

You are a caring and supportive congregation. Words cannot adequately express my gratitude for the things you have done for me. The love gifts and acts of kindness were enormously generous. I have profound gratitude for your innumerable acts of grace.

These past twenty years have been some of the happiest years in the lives of the Kimbrel family. We treasure your friendship, and our family will carry the memories of this church deep within our hearts forever.

As we look to the future, Billy and I will continue to live in our home in Perry, and Billy plans to continue to serve the Methodist church in Marshallville for a couple more years. From the very first day until now, we thank our God in every remembrance of you.

With a heart full of gratitude,
Jane



J.O.Y. Just Older Youth CHOIR

starting September 8
at 11 a.m. in the
Fellowship Hall

Music for this choir is composed for older adult singers, with large print and no repeats. Members bring their lunches and enjoy a fun time of singing and fellowshiping together. The choir presents annual seasonal musicals, and sings regularly in area nursing and assisted living facilities.

**Contact Mark Blankenship for more
information at 478-960-4548**

MISSION MINISTRY

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



Honduras Mission Trip: It's time to put our next mission team together! Do you want to go with us? We are going back to Honduras for our TENTH trip the

week of **March 7-14, 2027**. We will have an info meeting on **Sunday, September 13th at 4pm** in the Fellowship Hall for anyone who is interested. If you can't make it to the meeting, please reach out to Katie at katie.pumc@gmail.com for more info.



Rise Against Hunger: Join us for a volunteer lunch in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, September 20th at 12 pm, followed by our next meal packaging event in the FLC

at 1pm. We need lots of volunteers to help pack 16,000 meals to feed hungry families all over the world! This is a great volunteer opportunity for all ages. We are still collecting donations to help cover the cost of lunch. Checks can be made out to "Perry Methodist Church" with "Rise Against Hunger" in the note line. Thank you all for your support for this organization!



Operation Christmas Child

Kickoff: We will kickoff Operation Christmas Child on Sunday, September 27th. Make sure you pick up a shoebox or two in the

sanctuary or church office, fill them with new, quality items from the suggested packing list, and return your shoebox on or before Sunday, October 25th. Thank you for supporting this ministry!

Next Missions Meeting: Thursday, September 17th at 12 pm in the Missions Room

Hospice Casserole Helper for September is the Discoverers Sunday School class.

PRIME TIME LUNCHEON

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1 AT
12 P.M. IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL**

OUR PROGRAM WILL BE FROM ABOUT ESTATE PLANNING. LUNCH WILL BE CATERED BY THE RAILROAD CAFE. RESERVE YOUR SPOT BY **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21** BY CALLING THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 478-987-1852.

SEPTEMBER

Sunday School Shindig
September 20th
Bring your backpack to Sunday School!



Moms Fellowship Lunch at Meridian Brunch Restaurant

Monday, September 14th 11:30

Need help with discipleship? Grab a pad of "Know Me Notes" from your SS classroom!



Treehouse Trades Kicks off September 9th 4:00-5:30pm

Sign up online to be a part of the Fall session!

Kids are encouraged to wear a jersey or uniform for kick-off!

Birthday BINGO!

Sunday, September 27th 5-7pm, PMC Fellowship Hall
Sign up online to attend everybody's birthday party!
We will celebrate all the months, recognize all the kids, play BINGO, have pizza and cake, and fellowship!

Kids are invited to wear things that represent the month they were born!

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



PERRY METHODIST YOUTH

Follow Us!



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

Caroline Arnold
Assistant Youth Pastor
478-230-4505

PRAYER BREAKFAST
7 A.M. IN THE YOUTH CENTER
TRANSPORTATION TO WESTFIELD AND PERRY HIGH AFTER BREAKFAST

YOUTH WEDNESDAYS!
STARTING
SEPTEMBER 2

\$5 PIZZA, WORSHIP AND SMALL GROUPS
6 P.M. IN THE YOUTH CENTER



YOUTH DAY AT DOOLY CAMPGROUND

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
BUSES DEPART AT 2 P.M.
REGISTER AT
PERRYMETHODIST.COM/OUR-MINISTRIES/YOUTH
BRING \$20 FOR DINNER



CONFIRMATION CLASSES
BEGIN ON SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 13
AT 10 A.M. IN THE YOUTH CENTER

A PARENT LETTER
WILL GO OUT SOON.

PLEASE CONTACT NICHOLE OR CAROLINE WITH ANY QUESTIONS.



YOUTH FALL RETREAT TO LAGUNA BEACH

OCTOBER 10TH - 13TH
\$250 PER PERSON

REGISTER AT
PERRYMETHODIST.COM/OUR-MINISTRIES/YOUTH

Youth Band Practice
Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.
in the Youth Center



FILL OUT OUR INFO FORM FOR THE 2026/2027 YEAR



Electronic Service Requested

Average Attendance As of August 2026	
Morning Worship	545
Finance Report Month to Date	
Receipts Month to Date	153,732.63
Disbursements Month to Date	139,841.64
Finance Report Year to Date	
Receipts Year to Date	1,161,046.94
Disbursements Year to Date	1,104,349.92
Difference	56,697.02
Building Fund	
Total Received Year to Date	50,679.25
Building Loan Balance	828,607.39



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 prompts.

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

Postal Mail
PO Box 73, Perry 31069

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday

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

Monday

10 a.m. - Diving Deeper Women's Bible Study in the Brad Brady Conference Room
10:30 a.m. - Staff Meeting
5 p.m. - Ladies Bible Study in the Brad Brady Conference Room
6 p.m. - Cub Scouts in the Youth Center
7 p.m. - Sanctuary Bells Rehearsal

Tuesday

7 a.m. - Men's Prayer Breakfast
11 a.m. - JOY Choir Rehearsal in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesday

7 a.m. - Youth Prayer Breakfast
4 p.m. - Tree House Trades (beginning September 9)
6 p.m. - Youth \$5 Pizza
6:30 p.m. - Worship and Small Groups
6:45 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday

1 p.m. - Walking in the FLC

Special Events

September 10-15 - CSFC presents "You're a Mean One, Mr. Lynch" in the Family Life Center
September 13 - Youth Confirmation Class begins at 10 a.m.
September 13 - Honduras Mission Trip Info Meeting at 4 p.m.
September 14 - Mom's Fellowship Lunch at Meridia at 11:30 a.m.
September 14 - Methodist Women in the Fellowship Hall at 12 p.m.
September 17 - Men's F3 Basketball in the FLC at 6:15 a.m.
September 17 - Missions Committee Meeting at 12 p.m.
September 20 - Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing at 1 p.m. in the FLC (lunch beforehand in the Fellowship Hall)
September 20 - Youth Day at Dooly (register online)
September 21 - Prime Time Reservations are due
September 22 - JOY Choir buses depart at 10:15 a.m. to sing in Hawkinsville
September 23-24 - Carpet Cleaning in the FLC
September 27 - Children's Ministry "Birthday Bingo" in the FLC at 5 p.m.
September 27 - Operation Christmas Child Kick Off

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
CPT Alexander M. Kofskey, MD United States Air Force, son of Su and Mike Kofskey, grandson of Bob and Marguerite Messer.
Hannah Charlesworth, United States AirForce, granddaughter of Jerrye Charlesworth.

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

Perry Methodist Church Staff

Rev. Tom Carruth	Senior Pastor
Rev. Rob Ray	Associate 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. Carol Goff	Interim Director of Music
David M. Kenney, Jr.	Interim Organist
Tammara Shipes	Music Assistant/Handbells
Mark Blankenship	Interim JOY Choir Director
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
Lesley Matthews	Nursery Worker