



August 2025 Steeple Bell



The start of a new school year can bring a mix of excitement, and sometimes “butterflies” for students. A lot of “new” stuff to sort through—new teachers, maybe a new school, new classmates, new clothes, and maybe even a new backpack. Parents, glad and sad to see them go, wonder what the year will bring. Teachers, too, ponder the precious lives soon to pass through their doors. Our prayers go out to cover and protect our kids and parents, along with teachers, bus drivers, administrators and other school staff! We’ve got your back!

Here at Brandenburg UMC, we too, start a new season in life together, a mix of the new, the un-

known and the known, challenges and opportunities unfolding as we seek to be faithful to Christ. As “the new guy,” and as the gracious hosts, the church, who have welcomed me, we might have our own feelings of excitement or “butterflies” as our journey begins together, and that is ok. As we journey into the new school year and into a new season in the life of the church, let us all lean on the words God gave Joshua as the Israelites began a new season in their journey to the Promised Land, Joshua 1:9 “Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” God’s got our back!

*Blessings,
Pastor Jason*

You are invited!

God has plans for His church in Brandenburg (BUMC)! And we want to be doing the things He is calling us to do at BUMC. To help guide us as we strive to do His will, we are scheduling several listening sessions. We are asking everyone associated with BUMC to attend one of these sessions. You do not have to be an official member. Children and families are welcome. We want to hear your voice and your thoughts on what we can do to further God’s kingdom in Meade County.

At each session we will:

1. Introduce each other (which will help our new pastor learn more about us)
2. Ask you what you enjoy about BUMC.
3. Ask you to share what we might do differently to be more effective in our ministries.
4. Ask you about communication and how we can most effectively deepen two-way communication with you.

We did something similar to this 25 years ago, and God moved in a powerful way through BUMC. We built a new building. We launched small group ministries. We collectively envisioned ways to be His church. We certainly

aren’t looking to build a new building, but we are looking to open doors and let God work through His church.

The listening sessions will be held in Room 201 (first door on the left at the top of the atrium stairs). The dates of times of each session are listed below.

Wednesday, August 13	11:00 a.m.
Wednesday, August 13	6:30 p.m.
Sunday, August 17	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, August 20	11:00 a.m.
Wednesday, August 20	6:30 p.m.

We look forward to hearing from you at one of the listening sessions. You may access the form at <https://brandenburg.breezechms.com/form/5e0909> or by using the QR code at right. You may also call the church office at 270-422-2810 to let us know which session you plan to attend.

BUMC Leadership Council





As quickly as summer break started, it has ended and it is time to jump back into our routines and schedules that only the Back-to-School phenomenon can bring! This week Josh and I were at Wal-Mart with our granddaughter, Layken, shopping for all of her school supplies – it is CRAZY how excited the kids AND parents are to be buying new school supplies! Kids can't wait to see their friends and new teachers, and parents can't wait for them to get back to school! At the beginning of my 26th year teaching, I get it. I love the smells of the new notebooks and the new ink pens. I love a brand new plan book and grade book! I still get excited to set up my classroom and welcome new kids. I love Back-to-School season!

It occurred to me that we are very similar as Christians in certain seasons of our lives too. We are eager to celebrate and worship Jesus during the Christmas season, the Easter season, in seasons of fear, grief, doubt, unknown...but do we give him our

all in the not so exciting or flamboyant seasons of our life? I am not the best teacher I can be in March. Why? Because between Christmas break and Spring Break, it is just the daily routine of school...not many days off, it's cold, it gets dark early, and the kids are grumpy. I find myself just going through the routine without much depth or devotion. I also find myself like that with Christ sometimes. Just taking for granted that each day will keep coming as is. That is not who Christ called us to be! We are called to be ambassadors, disciples, and examples of Jesus every day we are gifted life.

So, as we jump back in to school and our fall halftime, let's vow to do it with enthusiasm found on the first day of school, Christmas morning, and Easter Sunday. I can't wait to welcome our youth back! I hope to see you in classes, Sunday School, church, and at Halftime dinner!

One last thing – On behalf of our Africa Team and Eden's Hope – THANK YOU!! BUMC and family and friends of BUMC are now sponsoring 30 kids in Africa. This is giving them the opportunity to go to school, have a meal, and be off the streets. I hope you know the impact that is making! I do still have kids who need sponsors. If you are interested in sponsoring a child, the cost is \$40 a month for younger children and \$60 a month for the middle and high schoolers. I'd love to share this amazing opportunity with you!

Dates to Note:

Wednesday, August 6 – Pool and Popsicle Party at Melissa Vowels' home, 6:30-8:00 pm (grades 7-12)

Wednesday, August 13 – First halftime dinner and Youth. Dinner at 5:45 pm and youth from 6:30-7:30 pm

October 18-19 – Fall Mystery Youth Retreat

As always, thank you for another year of opportunity to serve the youth in our church and community. Let's do it together in the way Christ called us to!

Love,
Kelly

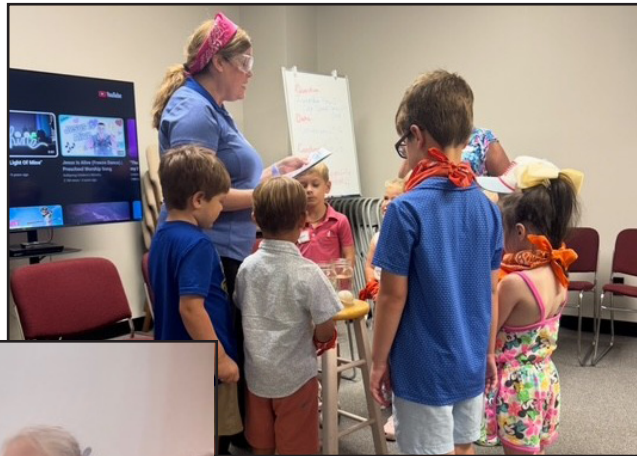
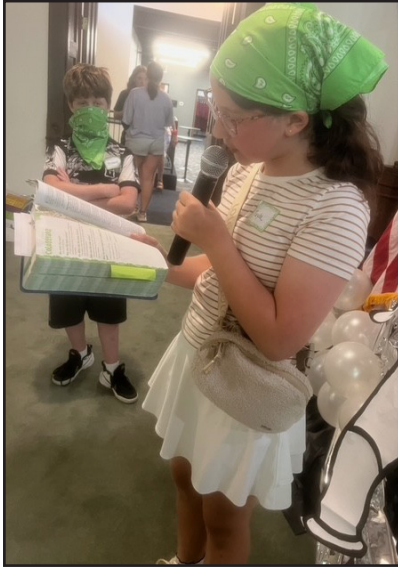




Melissa Vowels

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."
— John 15:5

The TWIGS had a busy July with Backpack Blessings, VBS and a pool party. They spent time learning about their stories and talents, and how to spend more time with God. They also witnessed how a church comes together to spread God's love. Thank you to the many people who donated school supplies and gave their time and talents to make these events successful.



**VBS
2025**



A GREAT TIME FOR HALF TIME

Halftime Talent Search

Have a skill, spiritual discipline, hobby, or passion you would like to share with others? We are looking for people who feel called to share with others on Wednesday nights this fall, whether it is something that is offered for one night, six weeks, or the whole semester. Cooking, book/Bible/prayer group, art, exercise, yoga, baking, craft, repair/construction, whatever! Let the office know and we will follow up!

Halftime Cooks Needed

Halftime activities will resume Wednesday, August 13, with a meal at 5:45 p.m. and classes and groups for all ages beginning at 6:30 p.m. We are in need of people willing to help prepare meals. If you are interested, please call Jackie Bruington (270-668-3607).

Communion Offering for August Eden's Hope

Our Communion Offering for August will go to support Eden's Hope, the organization our youth worked through on their mission trip this past summer to Nairobi, Africa.

The mission of Eden's Hope is to provide a safe and hopeful environment for individuals to discover their worth, develop their potential, and experience the unconditional love of Jesus in Kenya. They work toward this mission by ministering under three main initiatives:

Growing Hope (providing schooling and meals to school age kids),

Living Hope (teen pregnancy crisis outreach and ministry), and

Thriving Hope (mission work of Jesus to the adults and community).



Bringing Hope to Children Since 1871

Fifth Sunday Offering

Sunday, August 31, will be a Fifth Sunday. Our special offering on this day will go to the United Methodist Homes for Children and Youth. This offering is vital in supporting the ministry to abused, neglected and hurting children and youth. It enables us to help give hope to these children for a brighter future.

Please give generously and help our Methodist Homes offer these children a chance to live in God's grace and abundant love.

AUGUST CALENDAR

Regular Weekly Events:

Sunday, August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

- 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School/Small Groups - all ages
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service

Tuesday, August 5, 12, 19, 26

- 10:30 a.m. Sisters in Christ (BUMC Library)
- 11:30 a.m. Java with Pastor Jason - The Daily Grind

Wednesday, August 6, 13, 20, 27

- 6:30 a.m. Brothers in Christ

Wednesday, August 13, 20, 27

- 5:45 p.m. Halftime Fellowship Meal
- 6:30 p.m. Classes and Groups - all ages
- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, August 14, 28

- 10:00 a.m. Sisters in Christ

Saturday, August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

- 7:00 a.m. Brothers in Christ

Current Events:

Wednesday, August 6

- 6:30 p.m. BUMC Tribe Back to School Pool Party

Wednesday, August 13

- 11:00 a.m. BUMC Listening Session, Room 201
- 6:30 p.m. BUMC Listening Session, Room 201

Tuesday, August 12

- 5:00 p.m. Under The Sun Open House

Sunday, August 17

- 10:00 a.m. BUMC Listening Session, Room 201
- 12:15 p.m. Leadership Council

Wednesday, August 20

- 11:00 a.m. BUMC Listening Session, Room 201
- 6:30 p.m. BUMC Listening Session, Room 201

Saturday, August 30

- 1:00 p.m. FLC Reserved



Thursday, September 4
Food & Fellowship at 6:30 pm,
worship to follow

Brandenburg UMC will host the
September meeting of ManUp Meade
County. Please contact
T Parker for more information.

SERVING ON SUNDAY IN AUGUST

Contemporary Service (9 a.m.)

Greeters:

Atrium: Steve Cannady FLC: Kasi Schoenbaechler
 Ushers: Chad Barley contacts ushers
 Communion Servers: Pastor Jason, Avery Dix
 Welcome Center: Mimi Wilson

Traditional Service (11 a.m.)

Greeters:

Atrium: Chester Davison
 Sanctuary Entrance: Simone Chester
 Ushers: Ron Barger contacts ushers
 Communion Servers: Pastor Jason, Mary Lee Ernst
 Tellers: Mary Lee Ernst, Betts Price
 Welcome Center: Jackie Bruington
 Follow-up for First-Time Guests: Judy Stone

Hospitality: Provide food/Staff cafe

August 3 - Sandra Stone
 August 10 - Robyn Proctor/Eric and Daphne King
 August 17 - Joy Adams/Morgan Smallwood
 August 24 - Chester & Simone Davisson
 August 31 - Jane Slinger

A BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER

Loving God, thank you for the rest and relaxation we enjoyed over the summer.

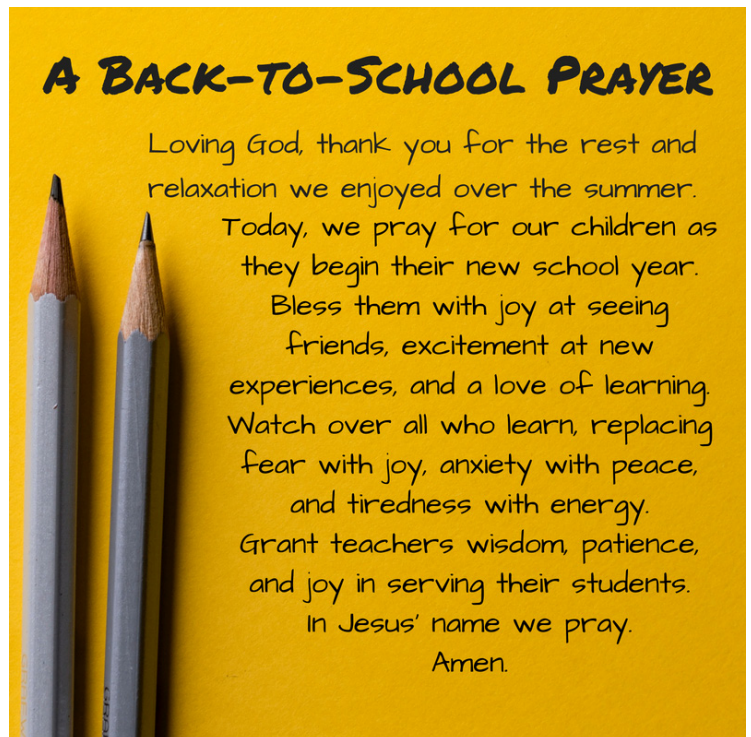
Today, we pray for our children as they begin their new school year.

Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new experiences, and a love of learning. Watch over all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace, and tiredness with energy.

Grant teachers wisdom, patience, and joy in serving their students.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.



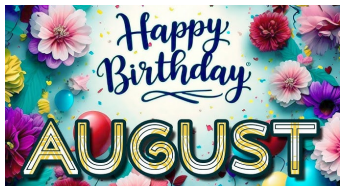
THE STEEPLE BELL

Brandenburg United Methodist Church
215 Broadway
Brandenburg, KY 40108

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

ORGANIZED 1829
AUGUST 2025 EDITION
PASTOR: Jason Brock

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 9:00 and 11:00 A.M.



1) Sam Goins, (2) Tatum Parker, Kim Robinson, (4) Erin King, (6) John Trotter, (8) Robin Harper (11) Jennifer Miller, (12) Cassidy Adams, (16) Karen Ilario, (17) JP Roberts, Jennifer Saylor (18) Joy Adams, (19) Kasi Schoenbaechler, (21) Becca Kulkofsky, (23) Allie Bogard, Lyla Stiff, (24) Levi Stiff, (25) James Taylor, JD Wilson (26) Kelsey (Adams) Karram, (27) Natalie Nelson, Steve Ward, Luke Wilson, (30) Nate Jones, Heather Wilson, (31) Donna Funk, David Miles

Follow us on Social Media!



Brandenburg United Methodist Church



@BburgUMC



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QR code for
online giving

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