October 2026 Steeple Bell

brandenburg
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PASTOR'S PEN

A word from the heart

It was a joy last week to attend the Fusion worship music conference in Nashville with our Praise Team leaders Heather Wilson and Charlotte Shephard. We joined over a hundred people from around the country for an experience designed to "empower United Methodist pastors, musicians, and worship leaders to create vibrant, contemporary worship experiences rooted in Wesleyan theology and theological integrity." While we had special speakers and workshops, we also frequently lifted our hands and our voices in song, lifting up the name of our Savior Jesus Christ and his love. I'm thankful to the UMC Board of Discipleship who organized this time for us to get away from our routine, to dream, to be inspired, to worship without the stress of leading, and to learn how the Holy Spirit is working in a variety of ways and contexts in modern worship. I had the joy of working with this group about 15 years ago in resourcing new church starts and am thankful for their heart for worship and heart for exploring ways that others might come to know Jesus more deeply or for the first time.

Here at BUMC we are blessed with traditional and modern music leaders and musicians with many tools to help connect with our community in worship. But as they stressed at the Conference, style and flash is less important than authentic Jesus followers leading from the heart and Spirit, and we are thankful to be led in music by such people. Be it traditional, modern, or blended, authentic worship of the leaders and the congregation are what pleases God and shapes human hearts. As we worship together, whether we sing out every word, silently meditate as the music washes over us, or even sway/dance, our praise offering is pleasing and acceptable to God.

Psalm 96:1-3 (NIV)
Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Sing to the Lord, praise his name;
proclaim his salvation day after day.
Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

Blessings,
Pastor Jason



Explore BUMC Second and Third Sundays

Join Pastor Jason for a two-part introduction to life and service at Brandenburg UMC and what it means to be a United Methodist. This is for newer guests or folks who've attended for a while who want to explore more about life at BUMC or perhaps are considering joining. If you miss one part, simply catch it the next month. The next Explore classes will be October 11 and 18, 10:15 a.m., in Room 204



We are preparing for a service of remembrance on **All Saints Sunday, November 1**

If you have lost a loved one in the past year and would like to have that individual remembered on this special day, please contact the church office with information and a photo of your loved one. Please also indicate the person(s) who will be representing your loved one in each worship service as all saints will be remembered during both services.

Members of BUMC are automatically included in the All Saints Sunday Service of Remembrance. All others are included upon request. Following is the list we have compiled since last All Saints Sunday.

Mary Crase, Julia Crase's grandmother
Donnie Bogard, Scott Bogard's father
Angela Sue Hayes
Alan Gregory Stone, Doug Stone's uncle
Charli Cato, infant granddaughter of Holly Fitzgerald
Sharon Sharpe, Jimmy Melton's sister
Don Baldwin, Joy Adams' father
Mycheal Mucker, cousin of Charlotte Shepard and Rhonda Mucker
Reginald Clay, cousin of Charlotte Shepard and Rhonda Mucker
Shelia Harper

Photographs are due by Sunday, October 25, in order for them to be included in the PowerPoint presentation.
An original may be brought in, or an electronic version may be e-mailed to communications@bburgumc.org.

Mission Notes

Thank you for your generosity for the Meade County Food Pantry during the month of September.
Ravioli & Spaghettios – 100 cans
Ramen – 12 packs
Cups of noodles – 6

During the month of October, BUMC is asked to donate canned vegetables for the Meade County Food Pantry.

Blessings,
Charlotte Shepard, Mission Chair



Wednesday, October 21
5:45 p.m.

Please bring your favorite chili, cornbread and/or dessert to share. The church will provide drinks, crackers, condiments, and plenty of bowls for tasting.

Pumpkin Carving & Decorating immediately following dinner

Congregational Life Update

– Lesley Wilson

Sisters Worshiping in Faith Together (SWIFT)will meet Tuesday, October 13, at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center. The program will be led by Kaitlynn French.

Light snacks will be served. Nursery available.

Chili Cookoff
Wednesday, October 21

Church will provide drinks, crackers, condiments & plenty of bowls for tasting! Come ready to select the 2026 Chili Cookoff Winner!

Mark your Calendars:

Tuesday, November 10

Swift Night, 6:30-7:30 p.m., led by Courtney Dix

Sunday, December 6, 10:30 a.m.

Combined Worship Service, Second Sunday of Advent. Annual Soup Fest will immediately follow



The Adult Chancel Choir is doing a Christmas Cantata on Sunday, December 20, during the 11:00 a.m. service, and we need more voices! If you love to sing and love Christmas music, consider joining the choir just for the holiday season. Tribe members are welcome to join the adults for this program.

We will hold 30- to 40-minute rehearsals for the cantata on the following Sundays immediately after the 11:00 service: November 8, 15, 22, 29, and December 6. There will be a dress rehearsal on Wednesday, December 16, at 6:30 p.m. Singing in this event does not require attendance at Wednesday evening choir practices.

If you're interested or have any questions, text or call Joy Trotter at 270-945-5584.



THE TRIBE

Youth Ministry of Brandenburg United Methodist Church

Fall is in the air and hopefully, some cooler weather! I am ready for it!

September has been an extremely busy month for our youth group. First, we have been studying through the book of Hebrews and really focusing on our faith and how that impacts our daily life. There has been great discussion and learning along the way.

This month we supported our children's ministry with their Olympic-themed Vacation Bible School. We enjoyed our annual Fall Mystery Retreat at Red River Gorge, and we closed out the month alongside our children's ministry at Roberts Family Farm.

Spending some time in nature this month was a great reminder of the beauty that only God can provide each of us. Just as seasons on the calendar change, so do the seasons in our lives. As we move from summer to fall, I have reminded our youth that sometimes our faith leads us out of one season and into another. While that can be scary or seem big, it can also be beautiful and such a blessing. I am thankful for the visible reminders that the seasons bring!

As always, thank you for loving and supporting our youth!

In Christ,
Kelly Wilson

Fall Mystery Retreat











BUMC
T.W.I.G.S
Tiny Wonders Illuminating God's Spirit

"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

Melissa Vowels

What a wonderful time of faith, fellowship, and fun we shared during our Super Charged Wednesday Night! It was a blessing to see so many smiling faces as our kids grew closer to one another while growing in their relationship with God.

I want to give a special thank you to our youth who helped throughout the evening. Their willingness to serve, encourage, and engage with the younger children made a visible impact. Our children's church kids truly look up to and admire these older students. They see them as role models and examples of what it means to live out their faith. Watching the youth interact with the children was a reminder of how important it is to build connections across generations within our church family.

In October, we will be studying from the books of Luke, Ephesians, and 2 Corinthians as we continue helping our children grow in their understanding of God's Word. One of the greatest joys in Children's Church is seeing the excitement our kids have for reading directly from the Bible. Week after week, eager hands shoot into the air as children volunteer to read Scripture aloud. Their enthusiasm for God's Word is both encouraging and inspiring, and it is a beautiful reminder that seeds of faith are being planted in young hearts. We know that as they read, learn, and hide God's Word in their hearts, the Lord is continuing His good work in their lives.

Thank you to all our volunteers, parents, youth helpers, and church family for investing in the lives of our children. We are grateful for the love, support, and encouragement you show them each week.

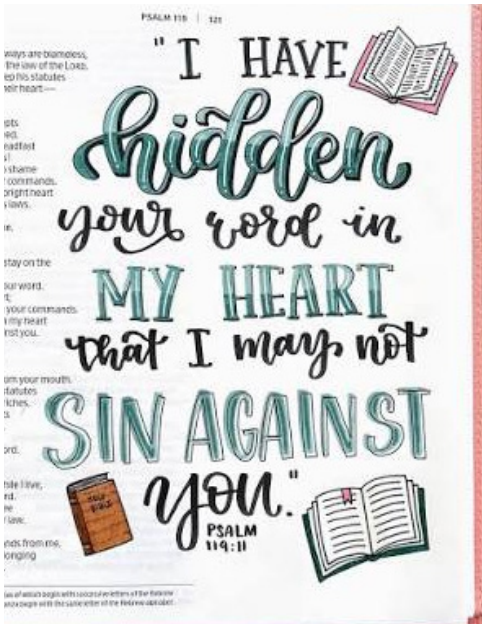
"Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." — Matthew 19:14

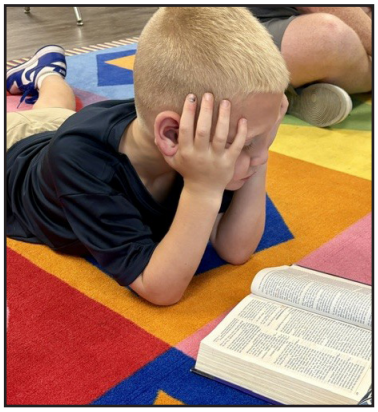
Upcoming Events:

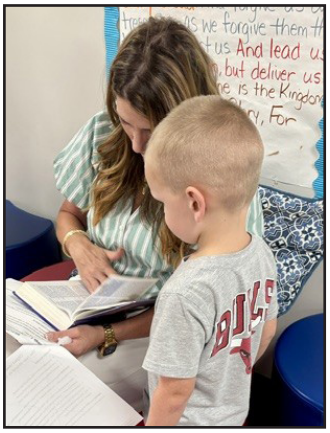
Sundays - Children's Church at 9:00 and 11:00 am
Sunday School at 10:00 am

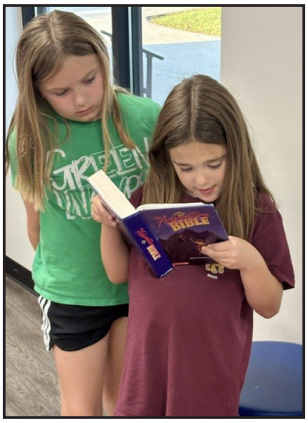
Wednesday nights - Halftime meal (5:45 pm), music and a lesson (6:30 - 7:30 pm)

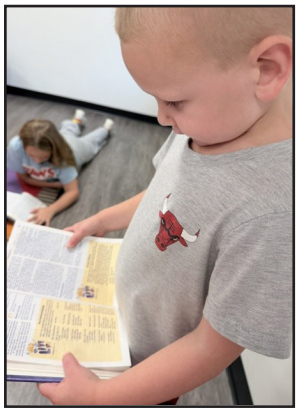
For His glory and their growth in Christ,
Melissa

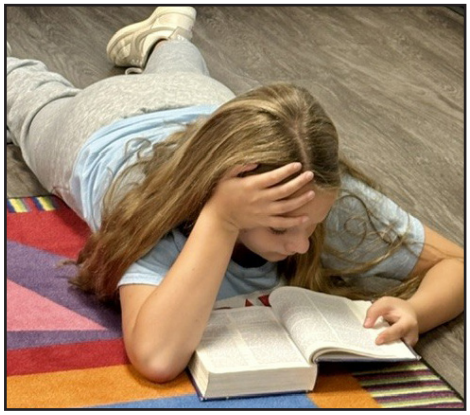












Super-Charged Halftime Event

























OCTOBER CALENDAR

Regular Weekly Events:
Sunday, October 4, 11, 18, 25
9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Sunday School/Small Groups - all ages
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service
Monday, October 12, 19, 26
6:30 p.m. Scouts
Wednesday, October 14, 28
7:00 a.m. Brothers in Christ
5:45 p.m. Halftime Fellowship Meal
6:30 p.m. Classes and Groups - All Ages
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday, October 21
7:00 a.m. Brothers in Christ
5:45 p.m. Chili Cookoff
Pumpkin Carving & Decorating
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, October 8, 22
10:00 a.m. Sisters in Christ
Saturday, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
7:00 a.m. Brothers in Christ

Current Events:
Saturday, October 10
11:30 a.m. BUMC providing lunch for Fire School
Tuesday, October 13
6:30 p.m. SWIFT Ladies' Bible Study Event
Sunday, October 18
12:15 p.m. Leadership Council Meeting
Wednesday, October 21
5:45 p.m. Annual Chili Cookoff

Adult & Teen Challenge of Kentucky
Faith-Based Hope for Addiction Recovery

Evening of Hope 2026 Annual Auction and Banquet
Thursday, October 15
Meade County Extension Office

Celebrate lives transformed through Jesus Christ during a night of worship,hope-filled testimonies, dinner and an auction.
Your participation helps provide Christ-centered recovery for men and women across Kentucky.
Register online: www.teenchallengeky.com/hope

SERVING ON SUNDAY IN OCTOBER

Contemporary Service (9 a.m.)
Greeters: Atrium: Pat Carlson
FLC Entrance: Jean Walls
Ushers: Chad Barley contacts ushers
Communion Servers: Pastor Jason, Jean Walls, Jody & Val Goins
Welcome Center: Bonnie Wardrip
Traditional Service (11 a.m.)
Greeters: Atrium: Jordan Smallwood
Sanctuary Entrance: Morgan Smallwood
Ushers: Ron Barger contacts ushers
Communion Servers: Pastor Jason, Jane Slinger
Tellers: Andrew Nichols, Robyn Proctor
Welcome Center: Jane Slinger
Follow-up for First-Time Guests: Donna Funk

Hospitality: Provide food/Staff cafe
September 6 – Karen Ilario/Joan Wilson
September 13 – Joy Adams
September 20 – Volunteers Needed
September 27 – Jane Slinger

Halftime Cooks
October 7 – No Halftime - Fall Break
October 14 – Heather Wilson
October 21 – Chili Cookoff
October 28 – Cooks Needed



Our communion offering for October is is World Communion Sunday. Holy Communion joins us in Christian unity. This sacrament invites us to focus on the holiness of communion with God and one another. On World Communion Sunday, United Methodists, in conjunction with other denominations and believers worldwide, participate in communion to recognize our unity in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. This universal and inclusive connection is the foundation of the special offering for World Communion Sunday.

Under the Son Spotlight

Happy Fall!

What a beautiful change in weather for the first day of fall! In October we will learn all about fall and pumpkins!

Toddlers will focus on the color orange.

Three-year-olds will review numbers 1-3 and start 4-6.

Pre-K will finish learning straight line letters T and I. They will start circular letters U and C.

This month's Bible story focus will be on Jonah and the importance of obeying God.

"I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land." Jonah 1:9

The students will also hear about Daniel's courage and God's love and protection as Daniel prayed to God in the face of danger. "For he is the living God and he endures forever." Daniel 6:26

The changing of seasons is a reminder of God's beautiful creation and his faithfulness. May we all have the courage of Daniel as we pray and trust in our living God through all seasons.

Blessings,
Heather Dumont
Under the Son Director





Sunday School Teachers Needed

Children's Ministries director Melissa Vowels is seeking a Sunday School teacher (or teachers) for the TWIGS.
All help is welcome – either once a month or more frequently.

Please contact Ms. Melissa at 502-296-7338 if you would like to assist with this ministry.

The Fuller Center for Housing

We are beyond grateful to our community partners and individuals that supported the Foundation of Hope Gala. $50,122.46.

Congratulations to our new Covenant Partner Emily Bratcher and her daughter Madi. The plan is to begin clearing the land and pouring concrete before the end of the year.

Congratulations, also, to Christina Russell. Amazing partnerships with BUMC helped us build a home for Christina, and the burning of Christina's mortgage was celebrated during the gala.

Your community involvement has lasting impact and changes lives in a positive way. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to The Fuller Center for Housing.

Charlotte Shepard, Secretary
Fuller Center for Housing, Meade County





Pictured above: Fuller Center for Housing board members. Note burning celebration.
Pictured below: left to right: New Covenant Partner Emily Bratcher, Christina Russell and her daughter, Caitlyn Silveria, Scott and Dawn Scholl, Donna Brown and Rachael Brown.







