



Presbyterian Courier

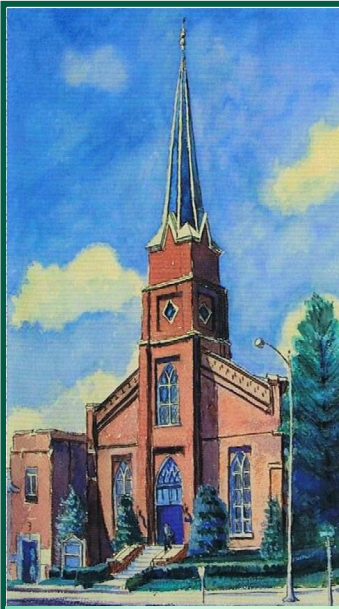
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY



Volume 24

January 2020

Issue 1



Pastor's Column

Go, Tell It On the Mountain!

Our church is pretty special. If you agree, tell someone about it!

All We are Saying Is: Give Peas A Chance!"

We participate in the Saturday Meals program, to bring hot meals to folks who don't have access to such meals over the weekend. Each year, a special Christmas box is prepared. Our church was asked to provide 254 cans of green peas for these boxes this year. As someone said, "Two-hundred and fifty-four cans is a lot of peas." Happily, The Presbyterian Church exceeded the goal. Generosity comes in many forms. One member of our congregation told me that she hates peas. "So, I'm really, really enjoying giving peas away-- for someone else to eat!" she said.

A Crisp \$100 Bill for Households in Need And Help for One of Bowling Green's Finest

Our church has contributed to fund a "Good Samaritan" project in which \$100 bills are given to individuals and families in need each Christmas. This year, for the first time, the project has given \$100 bills to the families on our Angel Tree and to young people who are former foster kids, and are currently in transitional housing, preparing for independent living. The "Good Samaritan" funds will also assist an officer in the Bowling Green Police Department, who is battling neuro-endocrine cancer, with travel expenses related to his treatments.

Rise Against Hunger

On February 2nd, before the Super Bowl, our congregation has another big challenge. With the support of an international feeding outreach, called Rise Against Hunger, we will assemble some 15,000 meals to be sent abroad. February 2nd is also "Souper Bowl Sunday" in which we collect money for feeding ministries. Our goal for "Souper Bowl Sunday" this year is \$3000, which will defray the cost of our participation in the Rise Against Hunger initiative.

You Read It Here, But Tell Someone!

Our church is pretty special. There are lots of ways to say it. Tell someone!

And know that you are loved.

Matthew

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Christian Education

Children's Choir Rehearsals Resume Sunday January 5, 9:00am in the Bell room (across from the elevator). Every rehearsal is important and newcomers in Kindergarten to 6th grade always welcome!



It is a New Year! As we make those resolutions, let us ALL commit to one for our church: invite a friend or neighbor to join us for AT LEAST one worship service, special event, Sunday School class, etc., this year. Most new members in a church join because they were invited by someone they know. We will ALL be richly blessed when we reach out in love to our community!

Parents of Preschoolers (POPS) resumes Tuesday January 7 and Wednesday January 8, 9:00ish in the Nursery. All who parent young children are welcome. We share hot coffee, light refreshments and warm conversation. Questions? See Leslee Kirkconnell.



YOUTH COUNCIL meets Sunday January 19 at 11:30am in Fellowship Hall.



Keep Up with the News! (The PC(U.S.A.) news). Our library stays current with subscriptions to both The Presbyterian Outlook and Presbyterians Today. You can read about the wonderful ways Presbyterians are serving Christ in their communities and around the world. And learn how the denomination is responding to difficult societal issues. Also find some wonderful devotional materials, bible study resources and more. Visit our Library! And since this year will bring another General Assembly (Baltimore, June 20-27), you can learn all about what will be coming to our Commissioners.

EPIPHANY CELEBRATION will be Sunday January 5, from 9:00-10:15am in Fellowship Hall. **POTLUCK BREAKFAST** – please bring something to share – casserole, fruit, pastries, bagels, etc. We will have cereal and milk here. Once again we will share together for this special day – scripture, story, song and more. All ages (with nursery care for those under three as needed).





Our Regular Schedule will return Sunday January 12. 8:30am is always coffee fellowship with any breakfast items provided by volunteers (we always have cereal and milk). 9:30 will be Sunday school, followed by worship at 10:30am. Adult class plans are in process, so stay tuned to see what's coming!

Growing in Faith is something we can and should do every day! Here are some 'between times' activities for you and your family! And while some may be listed for a particular age, really there is NO limit or restriction! GO! GROW!

<https://www.vibrantfaithathome.org/item/praying-for-light>

This time of year is darker, although we are beginning to see a bit longer days as we move toward spring. This activity is good for families to talk about light and how we need light.

Christmas is just past, but sometimes it's good to reflect with your family about the whole 'Santa Claus' story. Our kids do eventually figure it out, but we also don't want to confuse ourselves. Parents, time to come clean! This activity will help!

<https://www.vibrantfaithathome.org/item/saint-jesus-claus-2#.XfepHetMGWg>

We are good at denying the weather. Yet, it is only very recently that we humans are able to act like winter doesn't exist. Perhaps we should step back from that and embrace a time of cold and dark, allowing time for 'holy hibernation.'

<https://www.vibrantfaithathome.org/item/winter-cold-and-cozy-2#.XfepdOtMGWg>



Church and Community

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY and the Souper Bowl of Caring luncheon will be on Sunday, February 2nd following worship. We'll have soup, sandwiches and desserts. Plan to join us for a delicious Mission Fundraising event with food and fellowship. This year all proceeds will benefit Rise Against Hunger (see page 7). We will have a group meal-packing effort to prepare food boxes for Rise Against Hunger following lunch. For more info:

<https://www.riseagainsthunger.org/>



PRESCHOOL LEARNING CENTER

Registration begins February 19, 2020 for Fall Enrollment. Packets will be available in the church office or on the book rack in the PLC hallway. The school year runs from August-May. We offer classes for students who will be 2, 3, or 4 by August 1 of that school year. Class options include a Mon/Wed or Tues/Thurs option. Contact Dana Patterson for more information at plcdirector@bgpres.org or 270-282-5140.



PLEASE NOTE The church office will be closed on Monday, January 20th in observance of Martin Luther King Day. We will be open again on Tuesday, January 21st.

CURRENT GALLERY EXHIBIT

Artworks is currently featured in our Fellowship Hall exhibit. Be sure to stop by and see it! This show will run until January 16th.

Church and Community

WE GIVE THANKS for our newly elected officers, and also thank our outgoing officers for their service to our church.

Outgoing Class of 2019 Elders:

David Coverdale
Rob Hale
Matt Hunt
Stuart Kernohan
David Thomison



Outgoing Class of 2019 Deacons:

Rocky Cooper
Jean Harris
Tom MacMillin
Debbie Trickey

ELDERS

Class of 2020

Pam Bratcher
Mary Evans
John Kernohan
Tim Leigh
David Sears

Class of 2021

Karol Ahmed
Mark Bigler
Mike Kanan
Nancy Moore
Pamela Napier

Class of 2022

Bud Schlinker
Jean Harris
Nathan Love
Mike Morse
Wayne Henrix

DEACONS

Class of 2020

Sally Calkins
Shannon Dyché
Ray Elms
Linda Leigh
Ken Royse
Susan Thomison

Class of 2021

Rob Byrd
Judy Clark
Cathey Green
Debbie Morse
Teri Polen
Charlotte Prow

Class of 2022

Kim Ferguson
Annette Parkerson
Angie Alexieff
Kathleen Gildersleeve
David Muffett
Judy Whitson

...and



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

To the family and friends of H. Field McChesney

To Jody Johnson in the death of her brother Talbot Allen



Missions

The Buck in a Basket Schedule for the first part of 2020 will be:

Rise Against Hunger – January
Clean Up Buckets - February
Food Pantry – March
College Scholarship Fund - April
PLC Scholarship Fund - May

Buck in a Basket is a special 'over and above' offering requesting an additional dollar from worshippers. These monies help fund items that are not part of our regular budget and have enabled us to expand our mission outreach dramatically thanks to your generosity. The Session has asked the Mission Committee to create the schedule. And please note, when we take other special offerings (3 Cents a Meal or one of our PCUSA offerings), we DO NOT collect Buck in a Basket that day.

For January, we will be designating our Buck in a Basket to help with Rise Against Hunger (see special article, next page). This will be a congregation-wide event on February 2, coinciding with SOUPER BOWL Sunday. Lunch followed by packing 15, 000 meals. Plan to join us!



It is Room in The Inn season, when we host our guests every Thursday evening. Many volunteers work together to make this important ministry happen. There are sign-up sheets in the 10th Ave Lobby. Please consider how you can help. We need folks to host guests during dinner, stay overnight, clean up after guests leave and more. David Coverdale has information about helping. Shannon Dyche coordinates our meals and will be happy to answer questions about food needs.

Although coordinated by our Youth, The Souper Bowl of Caring is a congregation-wide project. We need your best soup, sandwiches and dessert items. The meal is by donation and all proceeds this year will benefit our Rise Against Hunger project. Last year we raised around \$1200. Our Souper Bowl Luncheon will be **Sunday February 2, 11:30am in Fellowship Hall**. See the special article about Rise Against Hunger.





RISE AGAINST HUNGER

This is a program our Church has learned about and the Session has voted that we should participate in. Simply put, the program's goal is to eliminate world hunger by the year 2030 by distributing meals that will consist of rice, soybeans, and dried vegetables and will also include 23 nutrients and vitamins.



On February 2, following our Souper Bowl luncheon, and with the guidance of the organization's Nashville based staff, we will begin packaging the meals. Our goal will be to package approximately 15,000 bags of food which will make 90,000 meals to be distributed around the world. Based on others' experience, we expect this to require about two hours. Members and friends between the ages of 5 and 105 are encouraged to participate. Approximately 75-85 persons will be required to successfully carry out this project. Please plan to participate.

The cost of each bag is thirty-seven cents, thus a total of \$5,550.00. However, an anonymous donor in Nashville will pay one half of this amount, with us funding the remaining \$2,775.00. The Buck in a Basket offering in January will be dedicated to the program, as will the collection by the Youth on Souper Bowl Sunday. We hope our generous congregation will help us exceed our goal!

We look forward to a rewarding day of sharing table fellowship, raising funds for hunger AND packing meals as a tangible way to help end hunger! Join us! For more information about this program, visit www.riseagainsthunger.org.

Our church Elders: Karol Ahmed, Mark Bigler, Pam Bratcher, Mary Evans, Mike Kanan, John Kernohan, Jean Harris, Wayne Hendrix, Tim Leigh, Nathan Love, Nancy Moore, Mike Morse, Pamela Napier, Bud Schlinker, and David Sears. Our church Deacons: Angie Alexieff, Rider Allen, Rob Byrd, Sally Calkins, Judy Clark, Shannon Dyche, Ray Elms, Kim Ferguson, Kathleen Gildersleeve, Cathey Green, Linda Leigh, Debbie Morse, David Muffett, Annette Parkerson, Teri Polen, Charlotte Prow, Ken Royse, Susan Thomison and Judy Whitson.

Youth Ministry

Please note — David Clarke will be away for part of the holidays, and will get back from Northern Ireland on January 2nd.

Re-decorating — On Saturday, December 4th the youth will be meeting at the church to decorate the two youth rooms upstairs. Speak to Susan Thomison for more details.

Meetings Resume — Sunday January 5th will be the Youth Group's first night back after Christmas. We will meet from 5pm-6pm and have a family dinner night, and catch up after the holidays. If you need more information, please email David Clarke (david.clarke@bgpres.org).

Montreat — Our Middle and High School Montreat registration deposit deadline is January 15th. If you would like to register your youth for Montreat, speak to David Clarke or Leslee Kirkconnell soon.

Souperbowl — This year our Souperbowl of Caring event will be on February 2nd. The proceeds from this year's event will go towards our participation in the Rise Against Hunger event which will happen after we eat. Once we have finished eating we will proceed to pack meals that will be distributed across the country to those in need.

<https://perfectpotluck.com/meals.php?t=IIRT4741&v=cd824beb5f>



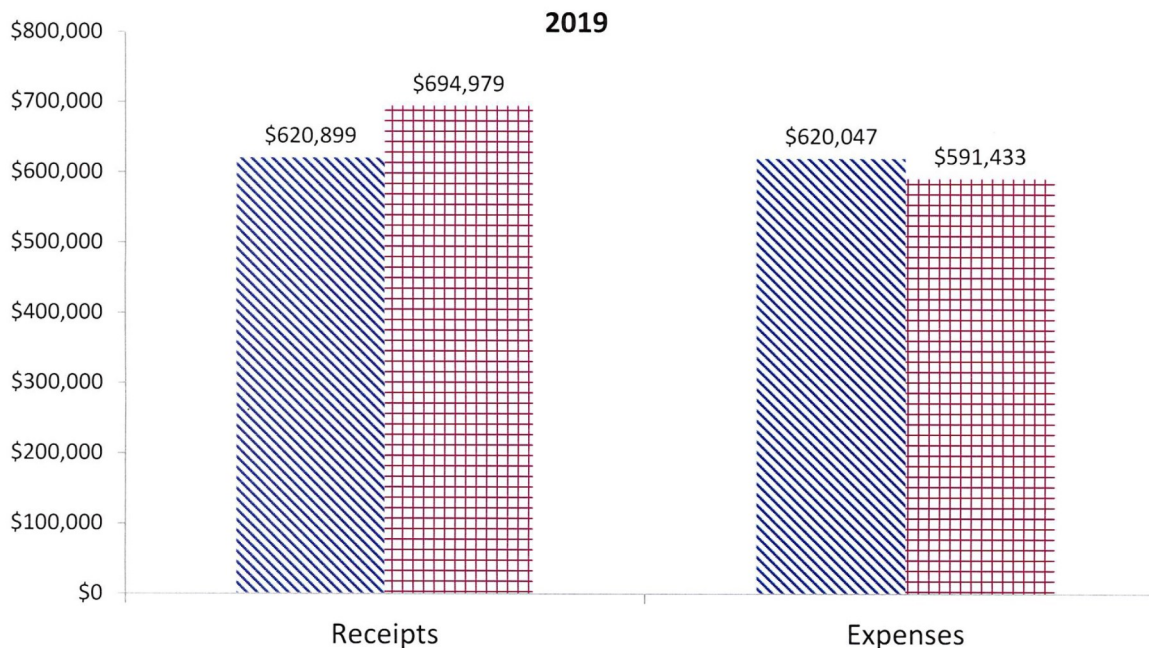
Financial Report

Financial Summary

Year to Date OCTOBER

▨ Budget

▨ Actual



Session Report

Well we've gone and done it again...we have completed another year and oh what a year it has been!

We have celebrated 200 years.

We had J. Herbert Nelson preach and bring us a message of congratulations and encouragement to keep moving forward.

We saw the publication of a history of the early years of our Church by Dr. Bob Haynes.

We had a grand gala event at La Gala.

We celebrated the joining of our church with the Westminster church and had a grand breakfast in the old Westminster building.

We saw the dedication of the Historical Marker at Pioneer Cemetery near the spot we believe our church began.

We served guests through Room In The Inn... Saw our Pantry help countless folks though the year, enjoyed the reports of our Youth about Montreat at Pig Pickin', saw our Youth program continue to flourish with David Clarke's leadership, established a mission statement for the Youth program and set goals for it, watched our gallery host artists and photographers from the community, saw our Circles continue to minister and serve. We gifted 16 young people through the Angel Tree and through our Good Samaritan program, and our own Secret Santa gave those families each a nice new \$100.00 bill to help them this holiday. And through that same Good Samaritan Program we helped Officer Ed Pulley, who is battling cancer, with a donation towards his travel fund for his treatments.

We lost some precious friends this year too: Fred Higgins, Les Reeves, Bobbie Strickler, John Van Ness, Carol Wedge, and John Stone; and we cherish their memories and the impact they had upon our lives and God's church.

We celebrated with Matthew and Rachel Crocker the birth of Charlotte, and with Timothy and Apryl Evans the birth of Hayes!

We saw new members join us: J. B. and Shaska Hines, Delores Iverson, and then our fantastic confirmation class, Nate Stein, Charlie Reber, Caroline Wedge, Saint Carmichael, Ben Davenport, Sara Parkerson, Carlie Bowen, Emma Ahmed, David Yusk and Eddie Solberg-Hale!

We continue to hammer away on our budget, and as Brad Howard reported on Sunday the 22nd we are short on pledged giving but have faith we will see the gap closed.

We have wonderful Deacons serving us and an above average group of Elders, if I do say so. We have, in my opinion a giving, loving and accepting church full of members who want to do the right things in service of our Lord and to help each other.

So all in all a pretty good year! Thank you for allowing me and each of our Elders and Deacons the opportunity to serve and for the fellowship we enjoy with one another. Let me wish you a Happy New Year full of blessings!

Tim Leigh

Clerk of Session

January Birthdays

January 1

Allison Willian

January 4

Robert Dickey, Jr.

Harvey Johnston

January 5

Christine Burkeen

January 6

Matt Hunt

Brittany Maslowski

January 7

Eddie Solberg-Hale

Debbie Trickey

January 8

Alisa Anderson

Les Pfahl

Margaret Stein

Jane Wilkinson

January 11

Jennie Lou Hagans

Tom Moody

Ann Humphrey

January 12

Jim Stites

January 13

Tricia Just

Julia Roberts

Miles Small

January 14

Benjamin Crocker

Mary Lee Kelley

January 15

Page Beard

Paul Clark

Judy Gerhardt

January 16

Duffy Hayes

Sarah Maurer

January 17

Madalene Chandler

Chris Davenport

January 18

Mame Stone

January 19

David Rabold

Calvin Small

January 20

William Moore

January 22

Jim Stickles

January 23

Rawley Evans

January 25

Blake Moran

January 28

Benjamin Davenport

January 30

Evan Goad

Joe McFarland

Katie Thomison

January 31

Stone Begley

Nick Johnson



January Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Office Closed New Year's Day	2 6:00pm RITI	3	4 Youth room re-do
	5 8:30am Fellowship Epiphany Breakfast/ Celeb. 9:00am Children's Music 10:30am Worship	6 11:00am Circle 3 5:00pm Bible Study <i>Schools resume</i>	7 11:00am Special Care 7:00pm Deacons	8 9:15am Wed Morn Circle 10:00am Circle 6 7:00pm Chancel Choir	9 6:00pm RITI	10
11						
12 8:30am Fellowship 9:00am Children's Music 9:30am Sunday School 9:45am Sunday Circle 10:30am Worship 11:30am CE Min./ Youth Council 5:00pm Youth Group	13 11:30am Circle 9 5:00pm Bible Study	14 11:00am Special Care 2:00pm Staff Meet- ing 7:00pm Sunny 16 Camera Club 7:00pm Eve. Circle	15 7:00pm Chancel Choir	16 6:00pm RITI	17	18
19 8:30am Fellowship 9:00am Children's Music 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 5:00pm Youth Group	20 MLK Day Office Closed 5:00pm Bible Study	21 11:00am Special Care 11:00am Finance Min. 1:00pm CUICHM 2:00pm Staff Meet- ing 6:00pm Chairs mtg. 7:00pm Session	22 7:00pm Chancel Choir	23 6:00pm RITI	24	25
26 8:30am Fellowship 9:00am Children's Music 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:30am Missions 5:00pm Youth Group	27 <i>WKU starts</i> 5:00pm Bible Study	28 11:00am Special Care 2:00pm Staff Meet- ing 5:00pm Uspiritus	29 7:00pm Chancel Choir	30 6:00pm RITI	31	

The Presbyterian Church
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(270) 843-4707

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



"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.
January 15 is the deadline for the February 2020 newsletter. Please send your information to the church office at info@bgpres.org

The Presbyterian Church
Bowling Green, Kentucky
(270) 843-4707
www.bgpres.org

The Presbyterian Church Staff

Dr. Matthew W. Covington	Pastor
Thomas N. Moody	Organist, Pastoral Assistant
Leslee Kirkconnell	Director of Christian Education
Terry Johnson	Financial Administrator
David Clarke	Youth Ministry
Wayne Pope	Choir Director
Steve Moore	Treasurer
Cheryl Gregory	Secretary
Dana Patterson	Director, Preschool Learning Center
Heather Kirkconnell	Children's Music
Cedric Whitney	Custodian
Barbara Solberg-Hale	Sunday Sexton
Tim Leigh	Clerk of Session