



# Presbyterian Courier

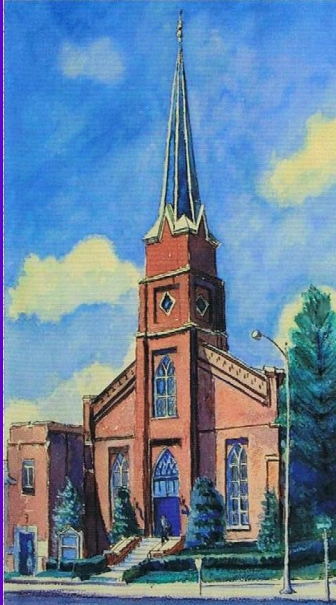
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY



Volume 25

September 2021

Issue 9



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## Pastor's Column

### Small Groups Are the Way Forward

Small Group Ministry is our church's newest way of meeting needs for friendship, learning, engagement, and contact. It is especially important to be flexible. The variety of Small Groups and the variability of scheduling will allow our church to be especially nimble, as we move to welcome newcomers, encourage church members, and practice our faith.

### Look on Page Three of This Newsletter

Elsewhere in this newsletter (page 3) you will see a listing of the Small Groups we are already offering; and we believe more will come. Please look at the list, and decide which group or groups you will want to join. At some point, and maybe soon, we want to have everyone in the church involved in the Small Group Ministry.

### Why a Movement? Why Now?

The leadership of the church is high on Small Groups because **1.** We want to build connections with each other. Everyone matters, and everyone has something to contribute to the lives and faith we share. Small Groups will allow for more participation. **2.** Small Groups are an effective way to learn. If the Sunday sermon is more like a lecture, then we need another, more interactive way to study too. **3.** Small Groups help a spread-out congregation come together. We live in different neighborhoods, and keep to different schedules. Belonging to a Small Group gives you a way to gather with others around a common interest and at a time that fits your schedule. **4.** Small Groups will be a "shot in the arm" for our congregation's energy and interests. Doing the work of the church (Bible study, worship, service projects, fellowship) in a different way will invigorate us all.

### We Are Being Led It's a God Thing

### The Holy Spirit is Moving Among Us

Being a Small Group church makes logical sense, but it is also a deeply spiritual direction to which we are being called. Many people have prayed about this, and prayed on your behalf. God is leading us into a new chapter as a congregation. The feeling of being guided by the Holy Spirit is very strong.

Join in this exciting time. Look at the list on page 3, and talk to the designated person(s) about this.

### You'll Go Down in History!

Someday, when the history of our congregation's second hundred years is being written, the launch of Small Groups will have its own page. This is potentially as big as anything we've ever done. Be a part of it!

And know you are loved.

Matthew

# Christian Education



**SUNDAY SCHOOL IS NOW 9:00am!** We have moved the start back 30 minutes to allow more time for classes AND to encourage Choir members to attend. Rehearsal at 10am leaves little time for them to participate, so we encourage ALL who are part of the choir (when it restarts) to join a Sunday morning class. And if you aren't in choir, you are STILL invited/urged to join a class!

**ALL CLASSES** begin at 9am and end at 10 (although may continue until 10:15 as needed/desired. Children's Choir and Chimes will meet at 10:00am when able. And for now, our fellowship will be time for visiting and deepening our relationships – no coffee/food as yet.



**OUR ROOTS AND HISTORY**, including Scots/Irish heritage, is NEW short term study coordinated by Mary Lucas. **Sunday mornings, 9:00am.** Weather permitting, we gather in the courtyard, otherwise in Fellowship Hall (masks required). The class meets from August 29-October 24 and will have a variety of speakers on topics to include Kilts/tartans (the one to the right is the Hay tartan); John Knox, our Book of Order/history of other branches of the Presbyterian family; those Presbyterian political figures, military leaders and more. JOIN US!



**OUR NURSERY IS OPEN AGAIN!** Every Sunday, 9:00am-12:00noon (or whenever worship is out). During Sunday School (9-10) care is available for children under 3. During worship care is available for children up to 4 (pre-K). All caregivers wear masks and children over 2 also (anyone in the Children's Center MUST wear a mask). Enter through the 10<sup>th</sup> Ave Lobby – down the ramp and turn right, then left.

# Christian Education

**SMALL GROUPS CONTINUE!** On Rally Day we had 'sign ups' available for you to join a small group. It's NEVER too late to join! Here's the list and whom to contact:

**Neighborhood Small Group –**

First Thursday each month – Julia Roberts – [Julia.roberts@wku.edu](mailto:Julia.roberts@wku.edu)

**Round Table Pulpit –**

Mondays, 5:00pm – Matthew Covington – [matthew.covington@bgpres.org](mailto:matthew.covington@bgpres.org)

**GOD/DOG is LOVE –**

Mondays, 9:00am at Covington Woods Park – Debbie Morse – [morse3411@bellsouth.net](mailto:morse3411@bellsouth.net)

**Men's Breakfast Small Group –**

Fridays, 7:30am at Lisa's Fifth Street Diner – Tim Leigh – [tim@selectprofessional.com](mailto:tim@selectprofessional.com)

**Chair Yoga –**

Tuesdays, 9:30am Fellowship Hall (masks), Trudy Burkeen – [tburkeen@twc.com](mailto:tburkeen@twc.com)

**Walking Small Group –**

Tuesdays, 8:15am Basil Griffin Park, Karen Watson, [mail@kgwatson.com](mailto:mail@kgwatson.com)

**Day Trips –**

Pamela Napier, [pamela.napier@gmail.com](mailto:pamela.napier@gmail.com) (trips to be determined by group interest, planning first to Shaker Village)

**Eating Out Small Group** (Sundays after Church)

Contact the office – [info@bgpres.org](mailto:info@bgpres.org). To be determined by group.

**Eating Out Small Group** (Fridays, 6:00pm)

Contact the office – [info@bgpres.org](mailto:info@bgpres.org). Group to determine where (and when precisely) to meet.

**CONFIRMATION CLASS BEGINS** September 12, 3:30pm. The schedule has been sent out (we will meet approximately 2 times each month for 90 minutes). As we explore our Big God/Big Questions, we look forward to having special guests join us at times. Please keep our class in your prayers as we move through this process, which will culminate in their Public Declaration of Faith on Easter Sunday, 2022.

**Our class and their mentors:**

Claire Ellington-Susan Thomison; Maddie Davenport-Mary Evans;  
Laura Parkerson-Judy Whitson and Cary Beth Bowen-Karol Ahmed.



**CHILD PROTECTION/SAFE SANCTUARY** workshops are being scheduled for all who work with our children and youth. We are on a three year cycle and those who were trained three years ago are 'up' again this year! Also all officers who are new or who were also trained three+ years ago are asked to attend. Leslee Kirkconnell will be in touch with those who must attend with several date options. ALL in the congregation are welcome to attend – the more we are all aware of the issues, the safer we ALL are!



# Church and Community



**TWICE AS NICE!** Join us on Sunday mornings at **8:30am** and/or at **10:00am** for FELLOWSHIP in Fellowship Hall. Sunday school begins at 9:00am and we can gather for a bit prior, or following, ahead of worship. We will NOT be doing coffee/food just yet, until we are able to be mask-free, but just visiting is fun and important. Join us, make some friends/ deepen relationships as we gather together!

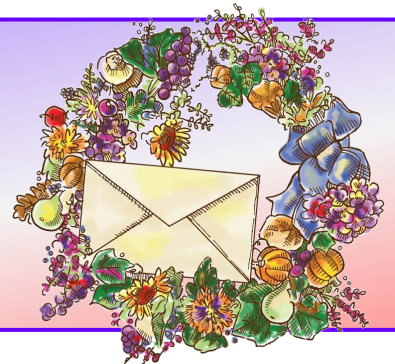
**GALLERY HOP** The next Gallery Hop is scheduled for Friday, September 24 from 5:00-8:00pm in our Fellowship Hall. We encourage social distancing and masks for this event, and we will be taking information for contact tracing. This exhibit features the works of Peggy Truman.

**TIME TO ORDER COFFEE!** Doug Humphrey will be taking coffee and tea orders for Equal Exchange until **September 12**. An order sheet will be posted to the website, but if you want something else they sell, you *can* order that (**must** be by case lots - get together with friends to order a case of coffee- 6 bags per case).

[www.equalexchange.coop](http://www.equalexchange.coop)

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

***To Matt Hunt in the death of his grandfather  
To the family and friends of Kenneth Royse  
To the family and friends of Jim Stickles***



# Church and Community

## MEET THE COLLEGIATE ENSEMBLE

The Collegiate Ensemble is a vital part of our music and worship at TPC. They wonderfully sustained us during our live stream only services and in our return to in person worship. With three of our members graduating and moving away for the next chapter of their lives, we happily welcome three new members and the return of senior, Autumn Stolle.

Soprano, **Autumn Stolle** is from Owensboro, Kentucky. A voice student of Dr. Wayne Pope, Autumn is a senior Voice Performance Major in Music at WKU. She sings in the select WKU Chorale, has played in the WKU Orchestra and is very active in the WKU Opera having most recently performed a lead role (First Knitter) in Seymour Barab's *Game of Chance*. She serves on the Potter College Dean's Council where she is Committee Chair of Diversity and Outreach and is a WKU Admission's Ambassador.

**Megan Healey**, alto, is a junior at WKU with a major in Vocal Music Education. Megan studies voice with Ms. Beth Pope. She sings in the select WKU Chorale and is a member of the Big Red Marching Band's Color Guard. Go Tops! Megan performed a lead role (Second Knitter) in last spring's production of Seymour Barab's *Game of Chance* by the WKU Opera and WKU Symphony. Megan is a graduate of Greenwood High School.

Tenor, **Darcy Merriman** comes to us from Cynthiana, Kentucky and is a sophomore Integrated Track Music Education Major with emphasis in Voice at WKU. Darcy sings in the select WKU Chorale. He is an active member of Phi Mu Alpha Music Fraternity. Last spring, he sang the lead role of Bastien in the WKU Opera production of Mozart's *Bastien and Bastienna*. Darcy studies voice with Dr. Wayne Pope.

Bass, **Chris Muller**, sophomore Music Major in Voice Performance, is from Gallatin, Tennessee. Chris studies voice with Dr. Wayne Pope and is a member of the select WKU Chorale. As a freshman, Chris performed the role of Colas the Magician in WKU's 2021 spring production of *Bastien and Bastienna* with the WKU Symphony. He serves on the Executive Committee for WKU's Student Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing.



**CHANCEL CHOIR** New Chancel Choir start-up date: Chancel Choir will resume regular practice on Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> (5:00pm). New choir members are always welcomed. Please email or speak to Wayne Pope if you are interested. [wayne.pope@wku.edu](mailto:wayne.pope@wku.edu)

**SING PRAISES**  
to the **LORD**.

Psalms 30:4

# Missions

## HABITAT AUCTION



**YES! WE ARE BACK AND WE ARE TOGETHER!** Join us Sunday September 19 following worship for our annual gathering to raise money for Habitat for Humanity and Living Waters for the World! Please bring a salad or side dish for our **POTLUCK lunch**. Following worship we will get our food and go to the courtyard to eat. Birdhouses on tables for silent auction and desserts will be 'sold' to the highest bidder by table! We will have some other fun items for live auction (if you have something fun to donate, let Leslee Kirkconnell know).

**IMPORTANT WEATHER NOTE:** Safety is our priority and we will hold this event outdoors. If the weather makes that impossible (meaning rain) here's what will happen: Our birdhouses will be on silent auction before and after the luncheon, probably for a week beyond. We will provide clamshells for everyone to get their lunch TO GO. We will NOT eat in Fellowship Hall. **DESSERTS:** we will 'live auction' the desserts in similar fashion to what we normally do - you get together with some friends, pool your cash and we'll see who gets what. We will have small clamshells so your group can split the dessert to take home. Birdhouse bidding will close and winners announced on September 26. So if it is raining that day, plan to stay following worship for about 30 minutes for fun and getting yummy food to go (so bring your dish)!

**DECADENT DESSERTS NEEDED!** If you have an amazing dessert recipe, we need your skills for our September 19 auction! We estimate needing a dozen desserts that will be 'sold' to the table with the highest offer. Please let Leslee Kirkconnell know (by September 15) you will provide a dessert. And plan to bring your dollars so your table can get the best dessert!

**Living Waters  
for the World**

**SATURDAY MEALS DATE:** September 11 is our next date! We need drivers to deliver, someone to pick up bread from Panera (Thursday and Friday evenings at 9) and folks to work preparing the boxes. Inside folks need to arrive by 6:30am, drivers between 8:30-8:45am. MASKS are required at all times for those inside the building. Judy Clark has details and would LOVE to hear that you can help! Call Judy at 270-779-1600 or email her: [judy068clark@outlook.com](mailto:judy068clark@outlook.com).

# Missions

## SATURDAY DECEMBER 4th!

Vendor applications are now available on our website -

<https://bgpres.org/serve/christmas-market>

We are limiting the number of vendors, first come first served and we will have a waiting list as needed. \$25 per table holds your space and benefits Habitat for Humanity. VOLUNTEERS will be needed and we will have a Sign Up Genius for that. We are inviting Food Trucks, and will not do a brunch as in the past. FREE coffee and hot chocolate all day! More information soon!



## Christmas MARKET

**First Saturday in December**  
*The Presbyterian Church*  
Corner of 10<sup>th</sup> and State

**OUR ANGEL TREE** will return in November. We anticipate November 14-December 12. Watch for information coming soon.



## DAVID's Room in the Inn

### THE SEASON BEGINS IN NOVEMBER!

And while that feels a long way off....it's NOT!

Our first night will be November 18th (we are back to Thursdays) and will continue until March 10. Sign-up sheets are in the 10<sup>th</sup> Ave Lobby and there will be a Sign-Up Genius available soon as well. We are expanding our capacity to 12 friends this year, so our need for food will also expand somewhat. Because we are still dealing with Covid-19, we will require all to wear masks unless eating, and we'll space out the cots and tables as much as we are able. Kitchen/Dinner cooks will need to limit to 4 individuals in the kitchen, and we will serve as we did last year. Dinner will need to be able to serve 20 people (we often do not know our final numbers until about an hour before we need to serve- some weeks we will have fewer guests).

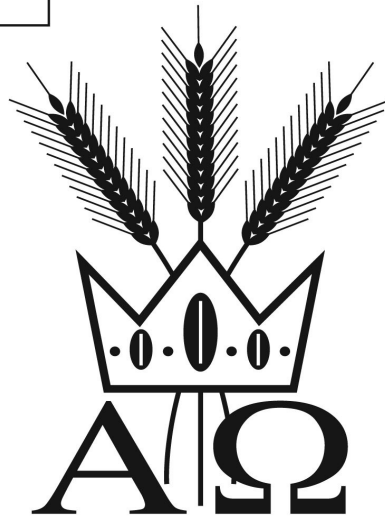
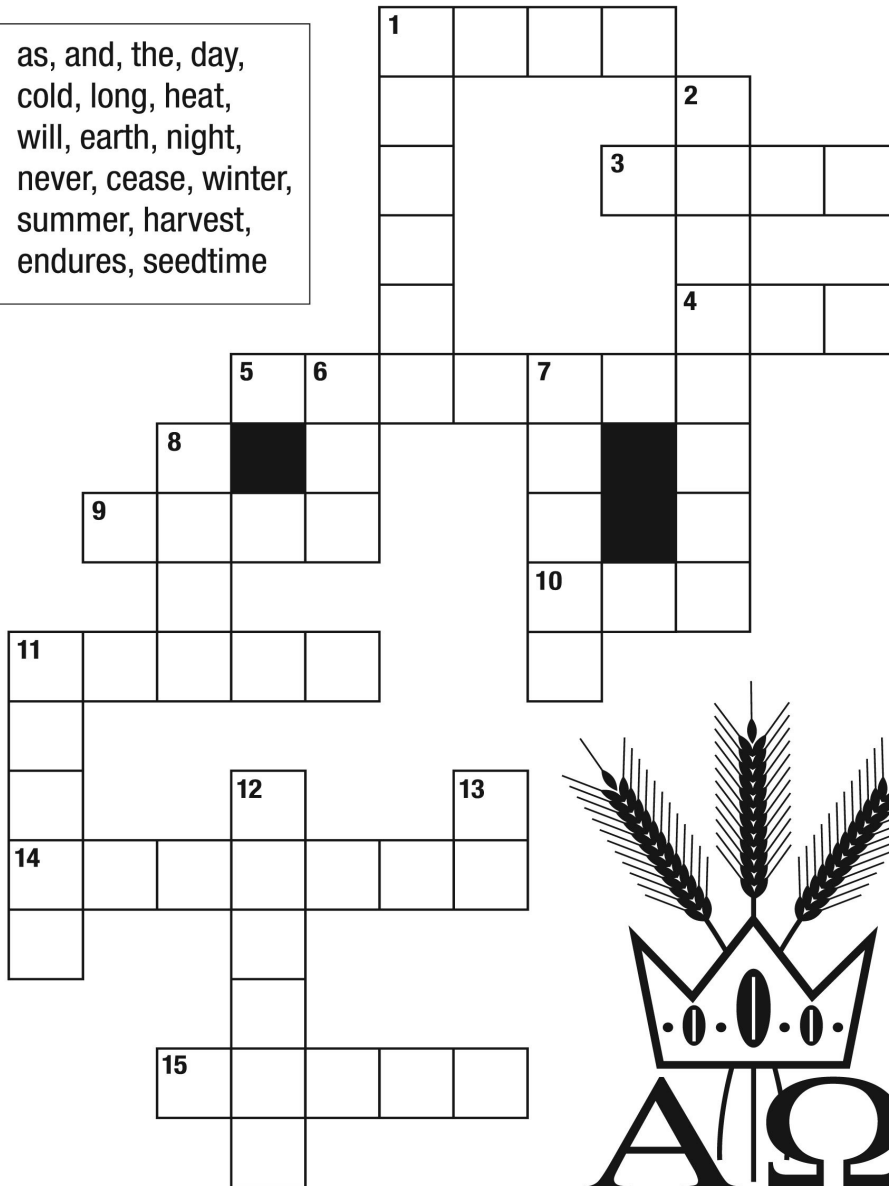
Stop by the table in the 10th Street lobby, or call the office to be added to the list. We need breakfast/dinner cooks, dinner servers, dinner hosts, overnight hosts, bus drivers, housekeepers (Friday mornings), set up help and more.

# Kids' Page

# Puzzle!

Use the word list to complete the crossword. Then fill in the numbered blanks to read God's promise to Noah — and to us.

as, and, the, day,  
cold, long, heat,  
will, earth, night,  
never, cease, winter,  
summer, harvest,  
endures, seedtime



“ 13 8 13 10 7 14 , 2 6 5 9 6 , 3 12 6 1 down 4 , 6 11 across 1 across 11 down 15 . ”

GENESIS 8:22, NIV

Answer: “As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.” Genesis 8:22, NIV



# Youth Ministries

**YOUTH GROUP** will begin in the fall on September 12th. It will run from 5-7pm. As it stands, we will meet in the Fellowship Hall still for activities as we are able to have more space while there. For more information contact [David Clarke](#).

A copy of our fall youth group calendar is now available. Please speak to David Clarke if you would like a copy.



# Finance Ministry

## Financial Summary

Year to Date July  
2021

▨ Budget  
▨ Actual



# September Birthdays

September 2

Jan Albert

Doug Humphrey

Russell Moore

Faye Patton

September 3

Bailey Jordan

September 4

Miriam Reber

Linda Skaggs

September 7

Lawrence Finley

Elizabeth Nade

September 10

Keith Carwell

September 11

Marge McLaren

September 12

Ryan Ballance

Erin Ellington

September 14

Charlie Capito

Steve Moore

September 15

Kyda West

September 16

Bruce Barrick

Jean Carson

September 18

Mary Hills

September 19

Cheryl Gregory

Reid Small

September 20

Megan White

September 25

Kathryn Bigler

Helen Bueker

Sarah Mayfield

September 26

Rachel Crocker

Ethan Elliott

Charles English, Sr.

Rachel Crocker

September 29

Jane Coverdale

Timothy Small

September 30

Barbara Brindle

Cary Beth Bowen



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Our church Elders: Karol Ahmed, Mark Bigler, Mike Kanan, Frederica Kernohan, Jean Harris, Wayne Hendrix, Tim Leigh, Nathan Love, Nancy Moore, Mike Morse, Pamela Napier, Bobby Rabold, Bud Schlinker, and Debbie Trickey, Larry Warden. Our church Deacons: Angie Alexieff, Rider Allen, Trudy Burkeen, Rob Byrd, Judy Clark, Kim Ferguson, Evan Goad, Kathleen Gildersleeve, Cathey Green, Kathy Higgins, Linda Leigh, Debbie Morse, David Muffett, Annette Parkerson, Teri Polen, Catherine Reber, Susan Thomison and Judy Whitson.

# September Calendar

Please check our 60-Second email and bulletin announcements regularly. In our present circumstances, scheduled events often change. Take care and stay safe!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Sat. meals prep
5 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	6 <b>Labor Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b>  5:00pm Bible Study	7 7:00am Men's Prayers 11:00am Special Care  7:00pm Deacons	8  5:00pm Chancel Choir resumes	9	10	11 Sat. meals prep  Our Sat. Meal date
12 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 5:00pm Youth	13  12:00pm Circle 9  5:00pm Bible Study	14 9:30am Chair Yoga 11:00am Special Care  7:00pm Sunny 16 Camera Club	15  5:00pm Chancel Choir	16 6:00pm ASL class 6:00pm Child Prot. Wkshp (F Hall)	17	18 Sat. meals prep
19 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:30 Habitat/LWW fundraiser  5:00pm Youth	20 5:00pm Bible Study 6:00pm Child Prot. wkshp	21 9:30am Chair Yoga 11:00am Special Care 11:00am Finance Min. 1:00pm CUICHM 7:00pm Session	22  5:00pm Chancel Choir	23 7:00am Men's Prayers  6:00pm ASL class	24 5:00pm Gallery Hop	25 Sat. meals prep
26 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship  5:00pm Youth	27 5:00pm Bible Study 6:00pm Child Prot. wkshp	28 9:30am Chair Yoga 11:00am Special Care	29 5:00pm Chancel Choir 6:00pm Child Prot. wkshp	30		

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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](http://www.bgpres.org).  
September 15 is the deadline for the October 2021 newsletter. Please send your information to the church office at [info@bgpres.org](mailto:info@bgpres.org)

**The Presbyterian Church**  
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