

## Coming in June



### June 6 - 10 Vacation Bible School

A fun-filled week for our children ages.

### June 12 Church Picnic

Enjoy fellowship with our church family  
Location TBA.

### June 12-18 High School Youth at Montreat.

### June 18 - July 9 PC(USA) General Assembly

This first ever hybrid General Assembly will be a time for worship, innovation, and a new Vision for the PC(USA). Learn more at [ga-pcusa.org](http://ga-pcusa.org).



*First Presbyterian Church is an inclusive community of faith called to proclaim the good news of the love of Jesus Christ for all people, and to join God in the building of a just, peaceful, and compassionate world.*

*May the peace of Christ be with you!*

1328 Griffith Avenue  
Owensboro, KY 42301



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## Quote of the Month

*Rest ~  
Allow God to  
restore, replenish,  
and refocus your  
heart and mind.*



## People of Grace

A monthly newsletter for First Presbyterian Church

May 2022



A meme on social media that is popular among clergy features a sepia-toned photograph of two aged preachers - one wearing a robe and collar.

One of these sages, with a long white beard, says to his colleague: "Pastor Brown told me he never takes a day off because Satan never takes a day off." The other minister responds: "Seems to me, Pastor Brown needs to pick a better role model!" That's one of my favorites.

The best humor always contains the ring of truth. Minister's staff and volunteers who are committed to church life often struggle with being away from the work that God has called them to do. More than ever we all seem to have little time to do anything. Whether the issue is daily job demands or finding time to serve the church, Jesus was clear that the Sabbath commandment was created for our benefit: *The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath* (Mark 2: 27-28).

Finding time for oneself, and in communion with Christ, is therefore a calling in itself.

One year at an out-of-town preaching conference, I heard another minister talk about needing to take time out of his day to work on a sermon, then he would depart the conference early. The reason: He did not trust anyone to preach in his place. I suspect he may have missed the point of being there! Taking time away, recharging, learning new things, all help us be better when we return. We have the opportunity to put our trust in God instead of our own efforts to keep everything running. Would it be so bad to give someone else a chance to step up and have an opportunity to try something new? Are we just too arrogant?

In our culture and times - whether it is jobs, family life, or church - it can be a struggle to find any semblance of Sabbath time in any given week. As I write this, I just returned from a week of vacation. I took a road trip through the South, visited my daughter, walked through museums and admired the spring explosion of floral beauty, the handiwork of the Creator. Time in the car gave me more time to pray and meditate - and be thankful for the trip. Of course, I admit that for pastors who do not have attentive and talented staff members like ours, it is more difficult to leave church concerns behind. But that is the challenge, isn't it? To believe everything will work out like it is supposed to, even if we step away?

Occasionally, over the years, I have been visited by church volunteers who  
(Continued on page 5)



## May

### Birthdays

- 5 Meredith Coomes
- 6 Claudia Johnson
- 8 Debra Thacker
- 9 Laura Morris
- 9 Gerald Price IV
- 10 Aileen Bravo-Lopez
- 11 Susan Furlong
- 14 Ella Grace Hicks
- 14 Emma Curry
- 15 Larry Hale
- 15 Mark Malony
- 18 George Hall
- 18 Ray Kramer
- 19 Linda Kabalen
- 19 Lucy Smith
- 20 Amelia Fowler
- 22 Katie Duncan
- 22 Tom Furlong
- 28 Susan Taylor
- 28 Tricia Moore
- 31 Zoey Morris
- 31 Julia Hayden
- 31 Gus Moore

### Anniversaries

- 4 Sally & Bill Helwig
- 9 Shannon & Craig Smith
- 20 Nancy & Bill Harrison
- 27 Kim & John Lashbrook
- 28 Karen & Brent Nichols
- 30 Kendall & Brandon Black



## It's Severe Weather Season: Be Prepared!

It doesn't have to be expensive or time consuming to be prepared



During our severe weather season, when tornadoes or damaging storms are more likely to do their worst, are you prepared? What happens to you and your family if a tornado or other severe weather develops here depends upon whether you made a few preparations ahead of time.

- Make a plan for tornadoes, fire and earthquakes and review it with everyone in your house-hold. This includes identifying a meeting place should you have to evacuate your house.

- If severe weather is predicted during the night, have sturdy shoes and a jacket or cover-up by the bed of each person. Also have keys, your purse or billfold, and charged cell phone with a charger cord.
- Identify your safe room - a interior room away from windows and on the lowest level - and go there immediately if the sirens sound or if your weather radio goes off. Do NOT go outside for any reason!
- Have some emergency items in a backpack or small bag and place it in your safe room when bad weather is forecast. Minimal suggested items include: battery powered weather radio, flashlights, batteries, first-aid kit, whistle, pen and paper, bike helmets/hard hats, a wrench to turn off the gas, and a knife or multi-purpose tool. Make sure to put some cash in there too. (See above picture).
- Have some bottled water and food such as energy bars or cheese crackers, and don't forget pet and baby items!
- Keep an emergency supply of essential medicines or at least have a complete list.
- Be sure emergency contacts are in your cell phone and put a written list in your emergency kit bag. Include your doctors and insurance information. Should your family be in different locations and unable to reach each other have an agreed upon in-town and out-of-town contact where everyone can check in. If you have any questions contact Larry Hale or any member of the Disaster Team.

## Work Days: A Great way to Give Back



Our church building has seen many improvements in the last year. Now, with spring approaching, is the time for us to attend to the outside of our building. We have work days the **3rd Sunday of each month** beginning at 8:00 am. We need your hands and your feet! With more hands it makes for shorter work. We do a variety of tasks to improve the areas around the church. If you enjoy working outside and would like to give some time to your church, come join us. **Our next work day is May 21st.** We hope to see you there!

Creda Heffelfinger, Property Moderator



# May 2022



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 11:30 Worship Mtg	2 11:00 VBS Mtg  11:30 Matthew 25	3 9:15 Staff Mtg 3:00 Personnel 4:00 Property 5:00 Outreach & Evangelism Mtg 5:30 Spiritlifters	4 10:00 Book Group 1:00 Coffee Cup Theology 2:00 Prayer Grp  6:45 Choir	5  4:00 Finance Mtg  5:30 Safe Child Policy Mtg	6 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	7
8 11:30 Christian Ed. Mtg  5:00 Youth	9 11:00 VBS Mtg	10 9:15 Staff Mtg  6:00 Session	11 10:00 Book Group 1:00 Coffee Cup Theology 2:00 Prayer Grp  4:30 Deacons 6:45 Choir	12	13 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	14
15 11:45 Extended Table at Old Hickory	16 11:00 VBS Mtg  4:30 Multicultural Festival Mtg	17 9:15 Staff Mtg	18 10:00 Book Group 1:00 Coffee Cup Theology 2:00 Prayer Grp  6:45 Choir	19 PWS Last Day 4:00 Finance Mtg	20 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 11:30 Primetimers	21 8:00 Church Work Day  Church Work Day
22 11:30 Mission Mtg  5:00 Youth	23	24 9:15 Staff Mtg 4:00 Property Mtg	25 10:00 Book Group 1:00 Coffee Cup Theology 2:00 Prayer Grp  6:45 Choir	26 10:00 Sew it Seams  3:00 Personnel Mtg	27 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	28
29 Pitino Shelter Meal	30 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>  MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBER & HONOR	31 9:15 Staff Mtg	Every Sunday 9:00 Nursery Available 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship		Presbyterian Weekday School T-W-TH 10:15 - 1:30	

## Fellowship

**Spiritlifters**  
 Tuesday, May 3  
 5:30 pm  
 Papa Grande 54 Mexican  
 RSVP Jerry Price  
 502-553-9126,  
 kyprice@outlook.com

**Primetimers**  
 Friday, May 20  
 11:30 am  
 Fellowship Hall  
 RSVP: Church Office

**Extended Table**  
 Sunday, May 15,  
 11:45 am  
 Old Hickory  
 All are invited!  
 Just come after church

**Sew it Seams**  
 Thursday May 26  
 Fellowship Hall  
 10:00-2:00 am



## Summer Food Baskets



Thanks to our congregation's generosity and the limits of available food in December, there was money left over after our Christmas Baskets were delivered.

The Mission Committee has decided to spend that surplus on summer food baskets. We plan to serve the same families who received food and gifts cards at Christmas.

Watch for announcements about how you can be involved in June.

## Youth Group



Our youth took some time on Earth Day to clean up trash together at English Park  
 Thank you— you guys rock!

## Sunday School



**Children's Sunday School**  
 Begins at 9:30 in the first floor Kindergarten Room

**Youth Sunday School**  
 Meets at 9:30 in the second floor Youth Room

**Adult Sunday School**  
 Meets at 9:30 in the Parlor to look at topics related to church, the Bible and current events

**The Men's Bible Class**  
 Meets at 9:30 downstairs and uses *The Present Word* literature

## Coffee Cup Theology

Each **Wednesday at 1:00**, our Coffee Cup Theology group meets to discuss the scripture passages for the coming Sunday. It's always interesting conversation!



Join us **LIVE** in the church parlor  
 Join us **May 4, 11, 18, 25**

## Prayer Group



Our **Wednesday** Prayer Group meets from **2:00-2:30**. It is an opportunity to share prayer concerns.

If you would like prayers for someone, please call Sasha with their names before Wednesday noon.

Join us **May 4, 11, 18, 25**

## Weekday School Update



Our Weekday School kids enjoyed an Easter Egg hunt in our sanctuary. It's very exciting to find so many eggs there!



## April Highlights



Palm Sunday



Palm Sunday Baptism



Pastor Book Group Meets Author



Spiritlifters



Easter Egg Hunt



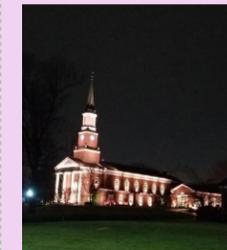
Flower Cross 2022



Men Serve Breakfast



Our New Night Lights



EASTER—He is Risen!



Passing the Peace



Jeff Preaches & Dennis leads the Eucharist



Children's Time

## Staci Horn Retires



Our Financial Secretary, Staci Horn will be retiring on **May 15th** after 17 years of faithful service as our church's Financial Secretary. During this time, many of us have had the chance to work with Staci as she worked with church leaders to manage our finances. We are grateful for the dedication, expertise, and professionalism she has brought to her work. We wish Staci and her family the best and say thank you for these many years of partnership!

The Personnel Committee has been interviewing candidates to fill this position going forward and Debbie Hutchinson will be serving in an interim capacity.

## Tee Shirt Time!



Church members have been talking about how they'd like to have a church shirt to wear, particularly when we go somewhere together as a group. It is a great way to show our community and solidarity.

We've come up with a few tee, polo and hat options seen in the picture

above and we will be taking orders for the next few weeks.

**Order flyers are available on the hall table at the church.** Simply pick one up, fill out your choices on the back form, and leave it in the provided box. Payment will be taken at pick up. If you need assistance, please let Sasha know. Sizes and prices are shown on the flyer.

## VBS—June 6-10



### ReNew: The Green VBS

Renew is an environmentally-focused VBS that inspires kids to grow in faith, have fun, and change the world as they practice stewardship of creation. The curriculum focuses on self, community and the world.

Over the course of the week of **June 6-10**, we will be digging into Jesus' Parable of the Sower through songs, crafts, games, and more.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Shepherds for each grade group
- Leaders for Crafts, Games and Science sessions
- Helpers for snack time for volunteer break area
- Volunteers to help set up and do behind the scenes work

Please consider serving. It is a fun and rewarding week. Please contact Stephanie Dube or Jeff Moles if you would like to help.

## Multicultural Festival



The 24th Annual Owensboro Multicultural Festival will be held **Saturday, August 20, 2022** on the church lawn. This year's theme is: ***We're Better Together: Building Bridges since 1998.***

We can look forward to the above logo on our festival tee shirts!

We are currently recruiting:

- \* Sponsors
- \* Exhibitors
- \* Performers
- \* Food Vendors

The Festival website, [fpcobky.com/multicultural-festival](http://fpcobky.com/multicultural-festival), has been updated to include links to our exhibitor and food vendor application as well as a sponsorship flyer. Please pass this along to people you know who may be interested in participating.

## Pentecost Offering



Plan to give generously to the **Pentecost Offering** on **Sunday, June 5**. This annual offering of our denomination supports ministries with children, youth, and young adults.

Sixty percent of funds collected support national programs that have impacted people in our congregation such as the Presbyterian Youth Triennium and Young Adult Volunteers.

Forty percent will stay with our congregation for local ministry with young people. The Mission Committee has chosen to support the Tri-State Alliance's newly-forming Owensboro Youth Group. This youth group is a safe space for teens who identify as members of the LGBTQ+ community, providing a place of acceptance for young people who have often faced rejection from family and religious institutions.

## Our 2022 Graduates



**Brennen Hutchinson - Daviess County High School**  
Will attend Owensboro Community and Technical College



**Sam Smith Daviess County High School**  
Will spend one year at the University of Kentucky and then attend Cornell University

## Extended Table



Extended Table

This month's Extended Table will be **Sunday, May 21st at Old Hickory Bar-B-Que** located at 338 Washington Avenue,

Join us as we share a meal together in continued fellowship. There is no RSVP required—just come after church. If you have questions, please contact Patrick Wallace or Mary Lou Taylor.

## Pastor Matt (Cont.)

admit never saying no to any request and to becoming overwhelmed with their responsibilities. They tell me with sadness that they must now take some time away from those roles, or from the church itself. But I don't see these as sad occasions. I celebrate the self-awareness! I would far rather people take a break than burn out altogether and leave the church for good. I have seen that happen, too. It wasn't meant to be this way.

Dedicated church staff and volunteers are particularly susceptible to taking on every issue, saying yes to every request and to worrying that no one can take their place if they are gone. But if we live what we proclaim, we sometimes need to find the courage to hand things over to God instead of relying on our own efforts

Sabbath is good for the soul!

*Matt*

## Bountiful Harvest Returns



What does it mean to glean? It is a well established agricultural practice rooted in the ideas of grace and reciprocity. Gleaning is the harvesting of surplus foods that would otherwise go to waste. Gleaning was a well established practice embedded in the Judeo-Christian faith. There are biblical references to gleaning in Leviticus and Deuteronomy

For the past two summers, FPC has gleaned the leftovers from the Farmers' Market every Saturday at noon. Fresh produce donated by the farmers is taken to one of several facilities to be enjoyed by the residents.

We need your help for this to be a success! Won't you PLEASE commit to picking up the food and delivering it to a shelter on one or two Saturdays this summer? There are 13 Saturdays to choose from. Please contact Amy Fredrickson-Wilkey at 270-929-1216 to add your name to the gleaners roster!

## Youth Trips

Our Youth meet on the second and fourth Sundays, **May 8th and 22nd at 5:00**

### Upcoming Conferences and Missions

#### Montreat Youth Conference - June 12-18

Because our culture is overwhelmed with messages of scarcity and criticism, we can feel inadequate for lives we are called to lead. From the manna discovered in the desert by the Israelites to the feast of loaves and fish received, we will explore how God has always provided us with what we need to survive and thrive.

#### Montreat Middle School Conference July 20-24

Designed for youth who have completed 5th-8th grades by summer 2002. The daily schedule includes keynote, worship, recreation, singing, small groups, and more. The conference will be held at Maryville College, a PC(USA) affiliated private college in Maryville TN.

#### Tri-Presbytery HS Youth Mission Trip Aug 1-5

They will work with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in Western KY

#### Tri-Presbytery Fall Youth Retreat November 4-6

Camp Loucon for 6th-12th grades. Theme: Matthew 25.

