

## SHOWERS OF BLESSING

During May we will collect:  
body wash,  
shampoo,  
deodorant,  
tampons,  
pads,  
3 ring binders (1/2-1 inch),  
and back packs (black).

Thank you for the support you have given to  
our schools.

## OPPORTUNITY CIRCLE

Opportunity Circle will meet on Wednesday,  
May 7 at 11:00. We will discuss Lesson 7:  
Sustaining Creation's Health for All.

## LADIES' LUNCHEON

Ladies Luncheon will meet on Wednesday,  
May 28 at 11:45 at Creek Side.  
Hope you can come.

## Budget Information

Average Weekly Needs: \$3,895.31  
Average Weekly Giving: \$3,136.76

## Kingdom Kids

Hi!! I can't believe your school year  
is almost over! I'm sure you are  
excited and ready for summer. We  
will meet on Wednesday, May 14th  
at 6 pm. If the weather is nice we  
will do something outdoors, if not  
we will meet at church. We are  
going to celebrate the end of  
another school year with games,  
food, and other activities.  
Remember, friends are always  
welcome.

In Children's church we are going  
to talk about growing on God's  
love.

God Bless,

Michelle



REV. MURPHY CONTACT INFORMATION:  
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## Bethel Beacon

May 2025

### May Calendar

5/4	10:00 Sunday School; 11:00 Worship 11:00 Opportunity Circle
5/5	6:00 Boy Scouts Troop 616
5/7	11:00 Opportunity Circle 5:30 E-connect team meeting
5/11	10:00 Sunday School; 11:00 Worship
5/12	6:00 Boy Scouts Troop 616
5/14	5:30 Session 6:00 Kingdom Kids
5/17	11:00 Kelsi Brown Memorial Foundation Golf Scramble at Campbellsville Country Club
5/18	10:00 Sunday School; 11:00 Worship
5/19	6:00 Boy Scouts Troop 616
5/25	10:00 Sunday School; 11:00 Worship
5/26	6:00 Boy Scouts Troop 616
5/28	11:45 Ladies Luncheon

## BFPC PURPOSE STATEMENT

(APPROVED 3/12/2025)

***CARING, SHARING, SERVING,  
AND GROWING TOGETHER  
AS CHRIST'S CHURCH  
IN THE WORLD.***

**Bethel First Presbyterian Church**  
**502 East Main Street**  
**Campbellsville, KY 42718**  
**Office (270)-465-7091**  
**E-mail [bfpc502@gmail.com](mailto:bfpc502@gmail.com)**  
**Pastor's cell (270) 403-7709**

Trustees: Paul Johnson (2025), Jane Horn (2026) John  
Waldrop (2027)

Treasurer: John Waldrop

The Session:

Class of 2025: Jeanne Brown, Jayne Hogan,  
Linda Shipp

Class of 2026: Jimmy Ewing, Bonnie Watkins

Class of 2027: Terry Feather, Greg Laramore,  
John Powell

Staff

Pastor: Rev. James C. Murphy, Organist: Suellen Shaw  
Pianist: Ann DeSpain, Choir Director: Joe DeSpain  
Bookkeeper: Karen Reynolds,  
Youth/Child Director: Michelle Murphy

## May Birthdays

2<sup>nd</sup>: Rev. Jim Murphy  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Nona Gribbins  
Creed Caldwell  
Wayne Wells  
17<sup>th</sup>: Paul Johnson  
24<sup>th</sup>: Dr. Robert Shipp  
25<sup>th</sup>: Dr. Richard A. Sanders III  
29<sup>th</sup>: Nathan Coyle  
30<sup>th</sup>: Chase Coyle

## FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN...

Recently, I was in my office reading in preparation for a sermon when I came across a thoughtful article. I had read it before, but this time it caught my attention with renewed interest. I encourage you to spend a moment mulling over the following words about our lack of contentment.

*The Paradox of Our Time in History is that we spend more, but have less; we buy more, but enjoy it less.*

*We have bigger houses and smaller families; more conveniences, but less time; more medicine, but less wellness. We read too little, watch TV too much and pray too seldom.*

*We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values.*

*These are the times of tall men, and short character; steep profits, and shallow relationships.*

*These are the days of two incomes, but more divorce; of fancier houses, but broken homes.*

*We've learned how to make a living, but not a life; we've added years to life, not life to years; we've cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul.*

*(An anonymous source, cited by David G. Myers, "Wanting More in an Age of Plenty," Christianity Today, April 24, 2000, 95.)*

In this day and time, what are the ways you find yourself *wanting more*? Chances

are, they might be ways that are close to the lack of contentment mentioned in the words above. Or maybe you have your own unique pursuits that will not let you rest until the *goal* is achieved. Whatever the case may be, our earthly longings often only leave us longing for more.

Contentment cannot find its way into our lives until we define contentment the same way the apostle Paul did. In writing to his brothers and sisters in Christ in the church at Philippi to thank them for their gifts (he was writing from prison, by the way) he included the following thoughts:

*"...I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in every situation, whether fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength." (Philippians 4:11-13).*

May we allow our hearts to be content with the same knowledge that the Apostle Paul found. May we thank God for everything we have. May we also thank God that in Christ we have everything we need.

God Bless,

Jim

## FROM MID KY PRESBYTERY

### Creating Sacred Spaces

by Rev. Andrew Hartmans

As the director of Cedar Ridge Camp, I've often been struck by the story of the Transfiguration in the Bible, where Jesus meets with Moses and Elijah on a mountaintop. What stands out to me is the moment when Peter, witnessing this awe-inspiring event, suggests to Jesus that they should build three shelters—one for Jesus, one for Moses, and one for Elijah. Peter's impulse to preserve that mountaintop experience resonates with me deeply, especially as it relates to camping.

At Camp Cedar Ridge, a significant part of my role revolves around creating spaces where people—whether children or adults—can feel welcomed and sheltered. Our goal is to offer a place where individuals can experience nature, but also find comfort and community in shared spaces—whether it's a place to rest, dine, or connect with others during their time at camp.

Right now, we are focusing a lot of our energy on the new Calvin Chapel, a space we hope will enhance our campers' experiences. We envision it as a place that will bring people closer to God, to each other, and to the beauty of nature. It's fascinating how physical spaces can help foster deeper connections with each other and with the natural world. A shelter, a comfortable base, allows us to better connect as we explore the woods or paddle across the pond.



I think it's part of human nature to want to create shelters or spaces that allow us to hold on to those powerful, mountaintop moments. Just like Peter, we can find ourselves so moved by an experience that we want to keep a piece of it with us.

I invite you to visit Cedar Ridge and experience your own mountaintop moment. While we don't have towering peaks, we do have shelters and spaces that help us draw closer to one another, to nature, and to the Creator. Whether it's a quiet moment in the chapel or a shared meal in the dining hall, I hope you'll find a place where your heart can be still, and your spirit can be renewed.