

The Scroll

April 2026 Vol. 188 No. 4



Bishopville Presbyterian Church

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Email us to receive enews: bishopvillepc@gmail.com
Printed materials available, upon request, through office

Please contact office to make any corrections/changes
to your and/or your family's records

Easter
sunrise service
Sunday, April 5th @ 7:00 am



2026

SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Coffee Time- 10:30 a.m.
Worship Service – 11:00 a.m.

Business Office Hours

9:00 am – 5:00 pm (Monday - Wednesday)
unless otherwise noted

Adult Choir Practice

Thursday's @ 5:00 pm

Key Officers and Staff

Clerk: Reese Atkinson / Asst. Tim McElhenny
Treasurer: Gregg McCutchen / Asst. Billy Clyburn
Office Manager: Gwen Hayden Steinmeyer
Choir Director: Bo Dickinson / Asst. Lian Latimer

Pastor: Rev. Christopher Parnell

From the Pastor... “When all has been heard, the conclusion of the matter is this: Fear God and keep His commands, because this is for all humanity.” (Ecclesiastes 12:13 CSB)

I don't believe in magic numbers. I don't believe 13 is “unlucky” or that a Friday that falls on that day is scary. I don't believe that if my dollar store purchase is \$6.66 I need to pick up something else otherwise... who knows? In all honestly, if it's only \$6 & change, I think that's a cheap trip! I don't believe in magic numbers.

At the same time, I DO believe there are significant numbers, numbers like 3 (for the Triune nature of God), 7 (for creation & rest), 12 (for the Apostles and the Tribes), and, of course, 77. And I can hear you now: “77? What number is that?”

It's the number you get when you add together the 23 times the Bible uses the expression “fear God” and the 54 times it says “fear the Lord”. That's 77 times the Bible tells us, warns us, shows us the consequences when people obey the commandment from Ecclesiastes 12:13: “Fear God.”

And yet, sometime in the late 1970s/early 1980s that sentiment, that concept, that statement echoed 77 times in the Bible, that statement commanded by prophets and their kings, apostles and their Messiah alike, that idea that we ought to “fear God” became... well, unpopular. Out of vogue, out of style. Unattractive, unappealing to the “modern” Christian. And so we preachers - to our great discredit - stopped preaching it to our churches. The concept of “fear of the Lord” got replaced with “respect”. But here's the thing - how does that “jive” with what Jesus, very God of very God, says in both Matthew 10:28 and Luke 12:5?

“I will warn you whom to fear: fear Him who, after He has killed, has authority to cast into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear Him!”

And yet there are 77 times where the Bible tells us, shows us what happens when we do & don't, encourages us & yes, even commands us: Fear the Lord our God. Why?

First & foremost, because He's God, and everything about our God is above & beyond anything we've ever experienced. He said words, and the universe, every atom & subatomic particle of it, leapt into existence! He said words, and things we don't even fully understand like light (is it particles or waves or what), like gravity, like time, all leapt into being! He said words, and things we'll never fully understand (like LOVE) exist! He did this, not by any incredible effort or exertion of power, he did this by saying WORDS. **God is powerful.**

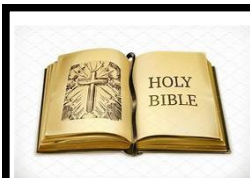
Secondly, because one of the essential things about God is that He is holy, pure, perfect and perfectly sinless in His being, so holy in fact that the very aura of that holiness burns any sin-touched thing to ashes merely by proximity! My son recently got into welding, and the end of his welder can get up to 6000 degrees - which is only 4000 degrees cooler than the surface of the sun. And as hot as either of those things are, compared to God's holiness, you might as well be holding ice-cubes at the South Pole. **God is Holy.**

Thirdly, because another of the essential things about God is that He has all authority over all creation. It's His, belongs to Him, made by Him, for Him, through Him, etc. it's His IP (intellectual property) and ACTUAL property. King David got this point and drove it home in Psalm 139, realizing there is no place, no part of God's creation where God doesn't belong, because God has authority over it all - and you and I, as God's creations, owe Him our existence, our awe-filled worship, and mostly our obedience... and when we fail to obey God, He has every right to punish us according to the scale of our offence against Him.

And this is where Jesus, God's own Son, comes in to remind you and me, we are to fear God who made us for eternity and can eternally unmake us. And so Jesus says, just as Solomon does in Ecclesiastes, it all boils down to this: **Fear God. Obey God. Love God.**

Wait, what? Fear Him? Obey Him? And yes, LOVE Him. How can I say that? Because this God we've failed (and let's be real, just like Adam & Eve, David & Peter, and all the rest of humankind, we've failed God, we've sinned against Him) - this very powerful, holy, and authoritative God has made a way, sparing not even His only Son for our, your & my salvation. He who knew no sin became sin so that we sinners might become the righteousness of God. Who did this? That same God who so loved us that He would spare us judgment and instead give us Jesus.

How ought we respond to this? With love, yes. With respect, always. And yes, with a holy and wholly deserved fear, deep in our souls. Our God deserves it. And we love Him for it. Amen! –Pastor Chris



April Sermons

4/2: Maundy Thursday (selected scriptures)

4/5: John 20:1-23 4/19: Isaiah 27:1-13
4/12: Isaiah 10:5-15 4/26: Isaiah 40:1-8

NEWS FROM THE SESSION ...

The Session met on March 8th. The Property committee is working on several projects to maintain the grounds & buildings. We have a Building Fund set up for anyone that would like to contribute to the upcoming building projects, maintenance, etc...

The Session has begun the process of reviewing the membership rolls. If you have any updates to your record or know of someone, that does, please email the Church office.

We are continuing our Elder Training, every 3rd Sunday.

If the Session can do anything for you, please contact the Church Office or send an email.

Love in Christ, Reese Atkinson, Clerk of Session

Next Session Meeting: April 12th @ 8:30 a.m.

APRIL ELDERS-ON-CALL:

***Matt Bramlett & Reese Atkinson**

**denotes Session devotional responsibilities*

March 2026 Statistics

Attendance Average's

Worship: 61 Sunday School: 37

Budgeted Income & Expenses (operating)

MTD Income received:	\$18,476.02
YTD Income received:	\$59,783.48
Budgeted YTD Income Needed:	\$56,982.00
MTD Expenses disbursed:	\$23,294.73
YTD Expenses disbursed:	\$56,959.86
Budgeted YTD Expenses:	\$57,290.00

Non-budgeted Income & Expenses (designated)
(Cemetery, Building & Playground Funds)

MTD Income received:	\$1,270.00
YTD Income received:	\$3,741.70
MTD Expenses disbursed:	\$0.00
YTD Expenses disbursed:	\$0.00

2nd Qtr Communion

Sunday, April 5th @ 11:00 am

Communion Elders: Reese Atkinson & Gregg McCutchen

Easter Events

Maunder Thursday Communion

Thursday, April 2nd @ 6:00 pm

Communion Elders: Jimmy McCutchen & Tim McElhenny

Easter Sunrise service, breakfast & Living Cross

Sunday, April 5th @ 7:00 am

Butterfly Release @ noon, in memory of William Welsh



You may use your smart phone or device for online giving by scanning this QR code. Please leave your name and note where funds are to be designated

SANCTUARY FLOWER CALENDAR

APRIL 2026

- 5th: Debbie Tindal & Lena McCutchen
- 12th: Reneé Bell
- 19th: Retta & Hugh Tindal
- 26th: Sarah McCutchen Family

MAY 2026

- 3rd: Kathryn Welch
- 10th: Lila Mae Welsh Family
- 17th: John & Karen Gentry
- 24th: Jimmy & Marsha McCutchen
- 31st: Don & Beth Grant

JUNE 2026

- 7th: William Welsh Family
- 14th: Dot & Buddy Wilson Family
- 21st: Reneé Bell
- 28th: Gregg McCutchen III

JULY 2026

- 5th: Virginia & Charlie Ipock
- 12th: Harriett & Henry Watson Family
- 19th: William & Pat Monroe Fields
- 26th: Reese & Melinda Atkinson



AUGUST 2026

- 2nd: Bert Cousar
- 9th: Debbie & Bill Tindal
- 16th: Bill Welsh Family
- 23rd: Lena & Leila McCutchen
- 30th: John Latimer

SEPTEMBER 2026

- 6th: Reneé Bell
- 13th: Ryan & Andrea McCutchen
- 20th: Jennifer & Perry McCutchen
- 27th: Reese & Melinda Atkinson

OCTOBER 2026

- 4th: Liz & Billy Simon
- 11th: John & Karen Gentry
- 18th: Christine Shirley Family
- 25th: Mike Monroe

NOVEMBER 2026

- 1st: Reneé Bell
- 8th: Wendy & Benny Welch
- 15th: Ray & Jackie Drayton
- 22nd: Jim & Barbara Latimer
- 25th: Hanging of the Greens

Please contact the Church Business Office (preferably by email) to change a date or to be added/removed from the running Flower Calendar



Cyndi Eckley	1
Charlie McCutchen	1
Gwen Steinmeyer	2
Melinda Atkinson	3
Kerry W. Frazier	3
Kathryn Welch	4
Renee Bell	13
Doris Bell	14
Kathryn Hart	19
Tyner B. Logan	20
Caroline McCutchen	20
Devin Atkinson	22
Susan Hilditch	23
Ryan McCutchen	25
Gregg McCutchen III	27



Madison Bramlett	7
Zeke Gaskins	7
Jimmy McCutchen	3
Terri Ann T. Belk	13
Beth Grant	15
Beth McCutchen	17
Ricky McCutchen	23
Virginia Kerr Beard	28
Debbie Tindal	28
Tim Kirven	31

FROM CHURCH BUSINESS OFFICE
 Email & Postal mail, is checked and acted on, daily as applicable. Please mail donations to:
Bishopville PC @ POB 66
Bishopville, SC 29010

NOTE: Post Office returns all street mail



Business Office Hours

Monday - Wednesday
 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Unless otherwise noted below

2026 Business Office vacation/holiday closings:

May 19th - 26th; July 6th;
 September 7th; October 6th - 12th;
 November 3rd & 24th - 30th;
 December 1st & 22nd - 29th

Please contact office to update records (via email)



Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 4th @ 10:30 a.m.
At the Ipock's Farm
 3760 Bethune Hwy
Lunch provided



Coffee Time: Sunday's @ 10:30 am between Sunday School & Church. Anyone who wishes to host, please sign up on the kitchen calendar. Everyone is welcome to join us

The Bishopville Music Club invites everyone to an **organ Concert** on **Sunday, April 26th @ 3 pm** in our Sanctuary Reception afterwards

Adult Fellowships

Morning Circle: Monday, April 13th @ 10:30 am in the FH. Host: Marsha McCutchen
Men of Church: Wednesday, April 15th @ 7 pm in Kitchen. Host: Reese Atkinson
Night Circle: Monday, April 20th @ 7:00 pm. Host: Melinda Atkinson

SAVE THE DATE: VBS in July "Illumination Station"

Sunday 26th, 5:30 – 8:00 (w/registration)
Monday, 27th & Tuesday, 28th from 6:00 – 8:00. pm,
Wednesday, 29th @ 6:00 pm we will have a **Fun Day.**
 Supper will be served each night and everyone is welcome to attend

Remember our HOMEBOUND

Doris Bell @ Skilled Care Manor, Florence
Karen Gentry @ Memory Care Manor, Florence
Kathryn Hart @ The Addison in Florence
BJ Kerr @ McCoy
Beth McCutchen @ McCoy
Hugh Tindal @ his home
Dotty G. Williamson @ Morrell's, Hartsville

Jewish Voice Coin Collection

Thanks to your support, Jewish Voice was able to help meet people's basic need for dental services in war-torn Ukraine. Your generosity shares the hope of Yeshua (Jesus) while providing tangible help to meet real needs – sometimes in desperate situations, like Ukraine. Coin banks are in the Bell Tower room and you can pick up and drop off any time of the year, in the office.

Thanks to all who participate!
Next Coin Collection Date: May 17, 2026

We are cleaning stones in our cemetery.

Anyone with any objections or interest, please contact the Church office via email or contact Wendy Welch



Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry
 Thank you to everyone who helps pack or donates funds and/or items for the shoeboxes. We collect all year & mail in November



"Blessing Box" Ministry

These boxes are stocked/maintained with food, necessities, Devotionals & Bibles. Our children are stocking, maintaining, and updating the Church on the progress. **We collected \$295, during Superbowl.**
Collection dates: 1st Sunday of each month.

All 5th Sunday undesignated gifts are placed into the Kids for Christ Mission Fund.

Please note "Kids4Christ" on gifts outside this timeframe. Make checks payable to BPC. If it is for a specific need or project, please indicate that on your check or correspondence.

Next collection date: May 31, 2026

Yesterday's high: 91
Yesterday's low: 70

750 Carman Woods Dr.
Ballwin, MO 63021
Mx phone #: 011 521 999 225 7958

March 9, 2026

Dear Prayer Partners and Friends,

The faithfulness of the Lord never ends. His mercies never cease Great is His faithfulness. His mercies begin afresh each morning. (Lam. 3:22,23)

We thank the Lord for 2025 and all that transpired, some things wonderful and others to help us grow. But we have seen God's faithfulness in every situation. The end of 2025, December 14, is memorable for me because I fell and had a double fracture of my ankle. This has colored my life since then. Thankfully, our friend Julie Madeira was visiting at that time and the nursing care I received helped me avoid surgery. Although I am aware the recovery involves a process that is not complete yet, I am finally able to begin walking slowly and I am enjoying the freedom of not needing a wheelchair or a big heavy boot. This marks a good start to 2026 for me!

The seminary just reopened in February for its second semester with about 35 students on campus and nearly 100 in online classes. President Amos Cauich will end his term after 12 years in office and Pastor José Luis Pech will be sworn in later this year. The needs of the seminary are many as it is expanding its undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral programs, as well as its sacred music program of studies. Pray for each of the students on campus and online, and those whom the Lord is calling to serve His growing Church in southeastern Mexico. Many require scholarship support in order to enroll or finish their studies. The seminary is also looking to renovate the classrooms with larger TV screens in each for digital content sharing and also better internet access to serve those learning at a distance. The family apartments have run into problems with vandalism to the original copper water pipes as the copper is easy to resell. This has caused numerous water leaks and plumbing problems and it seems a large job is in store where the floors may need to be replaced after a new PVC water system is installed. This will affect the men's dorms as well as the family apartments which are near one another. Pray for the Lord's provision in these areas. On a brighter note, we are grateful once again for the visit of Dr. Will Ackles who has been here teaching New Testament and homiletics at the Seminary until mid March. If you would like to be part of what God is doing here, or if your church would like to put together a work team to help the seminary, the more hands we have, the lighter the burden will feel. There is always a place where your help can make a big difference.

The camp take-over situation continues to drag on with various meetings, but no tangible results. We have started and are waiting for response from the legal process we initiated at the end of 2025, but we are told it can take months or years to finally be resolved. We are praying that the Lord would move in the hearts of those in power to allow us access to our house there (everything is as we left it on November 6th when we were last there and were told we could not stay). We also have heavy hearts over the yearly camp ministries we direct and the churches who worked with us for their annual retreats. We are praying for the Lord to show us whether we are to continue directing camp programs for children, young people and families, even if for now it is to be held in a different place. We were told by those who took over and are reopening the camp ground this Easter season that we are not allowed to host a camp event under their name and that if we visit Porvenir we will not be allowed access to our home. Yet so many have asked about this year's camps and some have even asked us to pray about starting over in a new place. Please join us in prayer over these decisions. If we are to direct camps this summer, the time to find a new place is now. If we are to set roots in a new place, we pray the Lord would provide the funds and resources for that new endeavor, even as we await the results from the courts on Camp Porvenir. We believe God will answer our prayers over Porvenir because it was dedicated for His use and it belongs to Him. And we are seeking His will whether all of this may lead to a possible expansion of the ministry if a second campground in the heart of our state of Yucatan were to be established. Please also pray for the camp caretaker, Jose, his wife, Marisol and their four daughters ages 2-15. The two oldest have already lost the entire school year because they were uprooted from their home at camp and had to find a place to live with various relatives. They have not been able to settle down because they don't have a home of their own, nor has Jose been able to find full time employment. Those who took over the camp property are refusing to recognize him as an employee of 25 years and will not pay him any kind of severance. We treasure your prayers for all these concerns as we trust that only God is able to bring good out of something that at the moment seems so wrong. That is the kind of God we serve so we trust in his good plans and perfect timing in each of these matters that we bring to Him.

In family news, my granddaughter, Alyssa, Daniel's daughter, was married December 20 to my newest grandson- Austin McNeil. The trip there felt like an odyssey with me in a wheelchair because of my broken ankle and Debbie using crutches as she recovered from meniscus surgery. But it was all worth it as we were able to spend the holidays together in St. Louis and attend Alyssa and Austin's beautiful wedding. And I even had the honor of playing the piano for the ceremony!

As we begin the month of March, we will be blessed even more with a new member in our family. My other granddaughter (Mark's oldest), Ellie and her husband Sam are expecting their first child, Lucas, in just a couple weeks. That will make me a great grandmother!

Now, saving the best news for last, I want to share a big decision Daniel has made regarding his future. After 25 years of being the head soccer coach and Spanish teacher at Westminster Christian Academy in St. Louis, he was invited and accepted to go into full-time missionary service joining Great Commission Coaching. The primary aim of this growing organization is to help equip, train and encourage church leaders, pastors and church planters in Latin American countries such as Cuba, Argentina, Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia, Mexico, and others where they have already started ministry. He is stepping out in faith, trusting the Lord to supply for the family's needs. If you or your church are interested in helping to support this fourth generation missionary to Latin America, please contact me or him directly, using the email address below. I am so humbled and proud that God has called all three of our children to serve Him in the ways He can best use their abilities: Mark pastoring a growing church in the city of Merida, Daniel who is beginning a new call, and Debbie serving as director of a Christian homeschool co-op in Merida.

I trust throughout this year, 2026, you also will find that God is faithful and that his mercies are new every single morning.

Your servant for Jesus' sake,
Jean Legters, for the family

Any tax-deductible gifts for our ministry (family, seminary, or camp) may be sent to:

Son Raise Missionaries Services
4395 Idlewood Dr. SW
Wyoming, MI 49519

Daniel's email: dlegters@wcastl.org

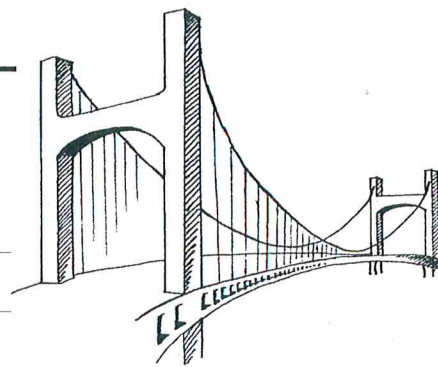
Great Commission Coaching website: www.greatcommisioncoaching.com

We appreciate your support, prayers, and friendships!
David, and for Estelle

BRIDGES

David & Estelle Abernathy

March 2026



What are we doing now?

Now that we are retired, it might be good to report what we are doing, and how we are spending our time. What we are *not* doing is taking it easy. We are taking it easier than we were before, but we are still busy.

Earlier last year my energy level had decreased enough that I felt the need to reduce my work hours to what I could manage with the energy I had available, which was about 25 hours a week. Since I retired I have tried to continue at a similar pace, putting in up to 20 hours a week of volunteer service. Unfortunately, that has not been possible. I have spent a lot more time than I wanted having physical therapy and chiropractic appointments for my back problems, and for doctor appointments, but also for Estelle's doctor appointments.

In November Estelle had a series of falls, and then she collapsed in the kitchen, unconscious. She was in the hospital for two days, and after coming home she had considerable memory loss and confusion. A visit to the neurologist showed that it was a problem related to her Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus (NPH), for which she had previously had a shunt implanted in her brain to drain excess cerebrospinal fluid into the abdomen. The solution to the problem that put her in the hospital was to adjust the small valve in the shunt that regulates how much fluid drains out.

The neurosurgeon and his team adjusted the valve several times, and now she is much better. She is driving again now after having had a three-month pause. You could pray that God will guide her, and that she will function safely, in whatever she does.

Volunteer service



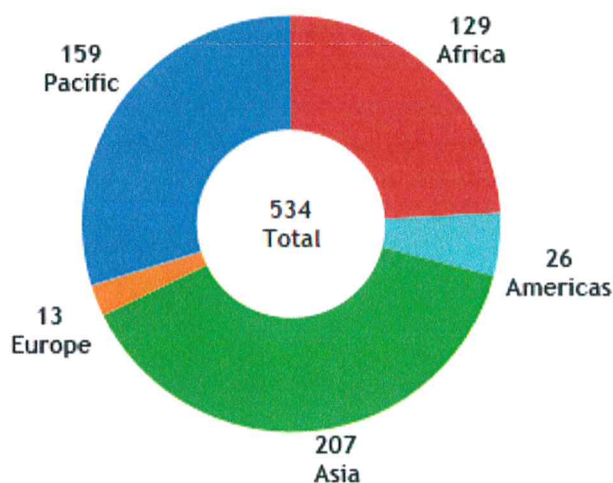
When I am able to work I am trying to finish the exegetical summary of portions of the book of Numbers, but the pace has been *really* slow. I'm almost ready to start work on the story of Balaam, which is quite interesting (remember his donkey speaking to him?). But for now I should probably go back over the files I had finished three and four years ago and edit them so they can be submitted for publication – assuming I can find the time to do it!

But for now, like Balaam's donkey, I'll keep plodding on, doing what I can.

Some statistics

Here is a graph showing the remaining needs by continent of languages that still need a Bible translation program to begin. (Note that the Pacific area includes Papua New Guinea, the most language-dense country in the world. Asia includes India, also a very language-dense country.)

Remaining Bible Translation Needs by Continent



Graph courtesy of the March 2026 Snapshot publication of ProgressBible™.

Vision 2025

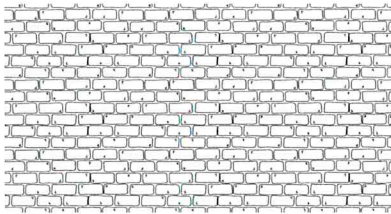
From time to time in our newsletters we have mentioned Vision 2025, which was a goal established in 1999 by Wycliffe Bible Translators and Summer Institute of Linguistics (now SIL) as they met for an international conference at the JAARS Center. This was an ambitious goal—some would even say an unrealistic goal—that every language without scripture and that needed a translation to begin would have a translation program begun by 2025. This is not to say that all those languages would have a translation completed by that year, but that all languages that *needed* a Bible translation would have a program begun and underway.

2025 has come and gone, but not all languages needing scripture have a Bible translation program going on—yet. Of the 7,397 languages in the world (which also counts several hundred sign languages for the deaf), there are still 534 language groups that need scripture in their own language, but for which a translation program has not yet begun.

However, we can say that many of the languages that were targeted in 1999 *do* have a translation program in progress. There are more languages needing a translation program than we knew about in 1999, but a lot of progress has been made—more than what at that time seemed possible from a human standpoint. There are now 4,459 Bible translation programs underway around the world. Many of those are not being done by our organization, but we are happy that other people who are motivated and trained are doing the work.

One brick in the wall

In 1997 I was standing in line at a university in Texas, waiting to enroll in a sociolinguistic class that I needed to prepare for my future work in Bible translation. As I waited, I noticed a four-story brick building a little way across campus. One of the walls was solid brick, having no windows. I have often thought of that wall as being an apt illustration of the role that Estelle and I have had in the larger task of world outreach through Bible translation. I might be like two bricks in the big wall of Bible translation, but all the bricks are necessary. Take two out and you probably won't have a problem, depending on where they had been. Take ten out and you probably *do* have a problem. If you take out a hundred, you had better stand back!



FOR YOUR PRAYERS

We give thanks...

- That Estelle has improved considerably since her hospitalization in November
- That so many Bible translation programs are underway, and will eventually pave the way for people to hear what God has to say to them

Please pray...

- For health and strength for both of us as age is having its effects on our bodies
- For a good balance between volunteer service and other responsibilities, medical appointments, etc.
- For us and our family members to be filled with God's Spirit and be led by the Spirit in doing what pleases him

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