

First Presbyterian Church
200 North 7th Street
Paducah, KY 42001
Return Service Requested

The Voice

First Presbyterian Church

200 North 7th Street, Paducah, KY 42001

Ph. (270) 442-3545

email: firstprespaducah@gmail.com

website: firstprespaducah.org

May 2026

To Know Him and To Make Him Known

Siblings in Christ,

Are you ready for a fun activity?

First, take a moment to recall one of your earliest childhood memories. It doesn't need to be perfect or even especially happy, just something from your early years. Maybe it's a faint image of being in a crib, playing with a sibling, going on a family trip, or even a small detail like the feel of a pet's fur or a room in your home. If nothing comes to mind right away, choose one of your earliest favorite memories. The only requirement is that it's *yours*.

Got it?

Next, think of your favorite Bible story, or simply the first one that comes to mind. Picture it as clearly as you can, including who was present, what took place, and any other details that make it meaningful for you. Examples include Jesus walking on water (my favorite), the feeding of the five thousand, Moses leading the Israelites out of Egypt, Rahab or Ruth, Abraham and Isaac, etc. Notice what draws you to it.

Think of one?

When you've got both in your mind – memory and story – find the commonalities. Look for connections between them. At first, it may seem challenging, but stay with it. Maybe both hold the element of water. Maybe each includes prayers as the central focus. Perhaps your memory has three major characters, as does the Bible story that connects with you, or leaves you asking major questions. The connection can be simple and unexpected.

Find a connection?

Finally, consider what these two together reveal about you. You definitely won't find out that you're the next savior of the world (hallelujah!), but these two meaningful pieces, when put in conversation, tell you something. If your memory and story share a common theme of bravery, it may indicate that you value bravery as a quality about yourself. If both are adventurous, chances are that you enjoy adventure. If folks in both are sleeping or resting, perhaps you prize rest in your daily life. Again, the options are endless.

So, what's the point?

It's a reminder that God's story and our own stories are not separate. Our experiences shape our faith, and our faith shapes how we understand our experiences. The two are always in conversation.

As we move toward the summer months, we'll spend time exploring the stories of the world and the stories of God that continue to guide us today. If you'd like to share what you discover through this reflection, I invite you to follow the link below and leave a note. I would truly love to hear from you.

<https://tinyurl.com/cra9s6pn>

Peace, Lex

MAY WORSHIP

May 3-Finding New Life

Acts 17:22-31

May 10-Searching for Heaven

Acts 7:55-60

May 17-The Aftermath of Amazement

Luke 24:44-53

May 24-Joined in the Spirit

Acts 2:1-21

May 31-Grace, Love, and Communion

Matthew 28:16-20 & 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Upcoming Events

- Saturday, May 2-Tag Sale in Fellowship Hall 7am-12pm
- Monday, May 4-Bible Study in Memorial Hall & on Zoom 12pm
- Sunday, May 10-Mother's Day
- Monday, May 11-PW Circle 10am
- Monday, May 11-Bible Study in Memorial Hall & on Zoom 12pm
- Monday, May 11-LILs 6pm
- Tuesday, May 12-Presbytery of Western KY 9:30am
- Thursday, May 14-TOTs 6pm
- Sunday, May 17-Senior Recognition Sunday-End of Year Youth Group Party
- Monday, May 18-Bible Study in Memorial Hall & on Zoom 12pm
- Tuesday, May 19-Book Club at Wrinkle house 1:30pm
- Tuesday, May 19-Session in Memorial Hall 7pm
- Wednesday, May 20-Family Night Supper & Talent Show 5:45pm
- Thursday, May 21-PW Spring Gathering in Hopkinsville 9am-12pm
- Monday, May 25-Memorial Day-Office Closed
- Sunday, May 31-Trinity Sunday

Wonderful Wednesdays

We'd like to thank our church family for their support during this school year. We have enjoyed sharing our learning with you. The children of Wonderful Wednesdays will be taking the summer off after sharing their final musical journey through the Miracles of Jesus. We have a few fun activities in mind for May, June and July. Watch the announcements for those events.

Treasurer's Report-March 2026

	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under)
Income	128,393	106,345	22,048
Expenses			
Benevolences	11,271	12,021	(750)
Church Staff	71,599	75,873	(4,274)
Administrative	11,300	11,340	(40)
Worship	748	1,913	(1,165)
Christian Life	2,904	2,937	(33)
Property	8,198	10,553	(2,355)
Missional Outreach	105	700	(595)
Buddenbaum	1,432	1,250	182
	107,557	116,587	(9,030)
Net Total	20,836	(10,242)	31,078

The summary operating statement for the first quarter of 2026 is presented above. Due to strong early giving and no expense surprises, we are \$31,078 ahead of budget after the first three months of the year. Your continued financial support of First Presbyterian Church is greatly appreciated. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Karen Durbin, Treasurer

Family Night Supper-Wednesday, May 20th at 5:45pm

Our final Family Night Supper is scheduled for Wednesday, May 20th at 5:45pm in Fellowship Hall. We will furnish BBQ and drinks. You are asked to bring a side to complete the meal. This meal is sponsored by the Presbyterian Women and Christian Life Committee. We will be celebrating our birthdays with the PW Birthday Offering while we enjoy some entertainment. So...if you can sing, dance, tell jokes, read poetry, play an instrument, etc., we want you to share your talents with us at the May Family Night Supper. We will place a sign-up sheet in the bulletin or you can call the church office if you would like to participate in this fun event. Hope to see you as we share one last meal together before summer vacation.

May Birthdays

1~Lisa Craft	16~Robyn West
1~Jacob West	23~Nancy Flowers
2~Natalie Ballert	23~Phyllis Flowers
4~John Johnson	25~Emerson Martin
9~Scott Marcum	26~Pamela Fleming
9~Amelia Martens	31~Tom Miller
9~Canyon Bowden	
11~Chris Krueger	
11~Stacey Martin-Hadley	
11~Cathy Trampe	
14~Ben Stewart	
15~Dawne Robertson	

May Anniversaries

2~Keith & Robyn West	18~Tom & Cindy Miller
7~John & Natalie Ballert	30~Jim & Debbie Long
18~Brian & Kristen Courtney	31~Dan & Whitney Stratemeyer

Book Club

Book Club will be meeting at the home of Shirley Wrinkle on Tuesday, May 19th at 1:30pm. If you think you might be interested in Book Club, don't hesitate. All are welcome!

We will be discussing Same Kind of Different As Me by Ron Hall & Denver Moore with Lynn Vincent.

Presbyterian Women

Our church will be hosting the Presbytery of Western Kentucky in May. The Presbyterian Women will be assisting by providing breakfast and lunch for the gathering. Our PW will gather on Monday, May 11th at 10am in Fellowship Hall to set up for the Presbytery luncheon, followed by the final lesson of our Bible Study. Viola Blackwell will be leading us through Lesson Nine of the Horizon's Bible study in the library when our work is complete. Join us and bring a friend.

The Presbyterian Women of Western Kentucky will be holding the Spring Gathering on May 21st at Highland Presbyterian Church in Hopkinsville starting at 9am. The theme is "A New Beginning." We will have the opportunity to hear from Rev. Jen Evans, Presbyter of Churches in Western Kentucky. We will also be introduced to the new Bible study and remembering our loved ones in the necrology service. Please complete the pre-registration form by May 11th. Forms can be found under the bulletin board outside the church office.

Upcoming PW Projects:

Due to your generosity, we were able to purchase 600 sharpened pencils and 100 nail clippers for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in Ferncliff, Arkansas. This quarter we will be collecting funds for adult toothbrushes and single large erasers. Snacks were also delivered to the Hospice Care Center at Mercy Hospital.

Tag Sale

Our annual Tag Sale is scheduled for Saturday, May 2nd from 7am-12pm. Items can be brought to the Fellowship Hall by noon on Friday, May 1st, through the kitchen door. All proceeds from the Tag Sale are used to defray the costs for our youth at Montreat Worship and Music Conference this summer. Tell your friends who like to find some great deals to stop by and shop. We hope you will attend as well, Thank you for your generosity.

Lifelong Learning Class

The Lifelong Learning Sunday School Class will begin a six-week study of David the King on Sunday, May 17th, meeting at 9:30am in Memorial Hall. Lessons: The Law of the Gift, Your Servant is Listening, Warrior of God, Gathered in Jerusalem, The House of David, and Absalom, My Son!

Adam was the first king and steward of the rightly ordered Garden of Eden. He was called to govern the garden according to God's mind and purpose, but by allowing negative influences to wreak havoc on Eden, he did not fulfill his kingly responsibility. Long after Adam, David emerged as the definitive king who would restore the Garden and bring the lordship of God. But like Adam, David fell, and his reign ushered in a series of compromised kings and rejected prophets. The New Testament, however, foretold a son of David – Christ the King – who would realize the fullness of Israelite kingship.

Glass Call for Recycling

First Presbyterian's Missional Outreach Committee recycles glass. All interested First Presbyterian families are welcome to participate.

If you are interested, spring collection is happening now. Bring your clean glass bottles and jars to 323 Hilldale Road (Hutch Smith's house) between now and June 1st.

Have the glass separated by clear and colored glass. Set your boxes on the table under the carport.

After June 1st, collect and save your glass at your home until the next Glass Call this summer.

Senior Recognition

Conner DeBoe

Conner will be a Valedictorian for McCracken County High School Class of 2026. He plans to attend the University of Kentucky in the fall where he will pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science in hopes of going to Law School.

He is looking forward to visiting FPC in Lexington, but Paducah will always be home.



Senior Recognition

Eleanor Hammonds

Eleanor is a 2026 graduating senior. She is the daughter of Hannah Hammonds and Andrew Hammonds and the granddaughter of Jon and Mary Hoy and Jim and Jill Hammonds. Her siblings are Marshall Hammonds and Edith Hammonds.

She attended Paducah Public Schools until January 2026 when she started attending school in New Zealand. She will graduate from high school in New Zealand in December of 2026. While attending Paducah Tilghman High School she played oboe in the PTHS Band of Blue and was very involved in the Visual Arts Program. She was recognized as an AP Scholar. She placed in the Yeiser Teen Spirit Art Show three years in a row and won awards in 2024 and 2025. She won the Regional Art Show at Murray State University in Fiber Arts two years in a row and took "Best in Show" in 2025. In both 2024 and 2025, she placed first in Fiber Arts in the Kentucky State High School awards. Her preferred medium is embroidery.

Outside of school she is an avid horse rider and enjoys spending time with her horse, Phoenix. She participated in several regional horse shows doing Hunter Jumping. She is also an avid hiker and traveler. Upon graduation she is looking to pursue art, farming, and travel.



Senior Recognition

Lucy LeBuhn

I am Lucy Rose LeBuhn from Paducah Tilghman High School. I play Varsity girls' soccer, Varsity girls tennis, am a pep club leader, member of the National Honor Society, Student Council, Beta Club, Rotary Interact Club, Concordia (women's acapella group), and Concert Choir. Outside of school I enjoy Saddlebred horseback riding, play the piano and guitar, and enjoy volunteering with local organizations. I have been named a candidate for the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program, an AP Scholar, and have graduated from the Kentucky Governor's Scholar Program. I was named "Miss Tilghman" for the Paducah Tilghman High School Class of 2026. I plan to attend the University of Virginia and am undecided on my major.

