

Monthly Prayer



Gracious and faithful God,

As we step into May, we thank You for the signs of new life all around us. The beauty of spring reminds us of Your promise in Isaiah 43:19—“*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?*” Open our eyes to the new things You are doing in our lives.

Let this be a month of blossoming—of faith growing, relationships healing, and joy returning. Where there is sorrow, plant hope. Where there is fear, shine courage. Where there is doubt, anchor us in Your love.

Help us reflect Christ more fully. May our words be kind, our hearts generous, and our hands ready to serve. Let our church be a place of grace in this season of growth.

Bless those in need with peace and guide our leaders with wisdom. Keep us rooted in Your Word and open to Your Spirit.

In Jesus’ name we pray,
Amen.

For Your Information

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THE NEWSLETTER – MAY 2025
THE OUTVILLE CHURCH
6463 Outville Road SW
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GOOD NEWS



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Mission Statement:

Outville Presbyterian strives to be a Christ centered growing and giving church by proclaiming *Jesus’s love for all through our service to the community and the world.*

A Word from the Pastor

Rev. Mary Gene Boteler



It is Easter evening, and I am reflecting on our day together.

The morning began with the story of the resurrection from John's gospel in which the risen Christ is revealed as Jesus tenderly calls Mary by name.

This evening, I read Luke's Easter evening story. You know it well. Jesus meets two of his followers on the road to Emmaus. It is not until he breaks bread with them that these disciples recognize the risen Christ.

In both these stories, recognizing Jesus requires more than a visual sighting; it is through the depth of the previous relationship that Mary recognizes Jesus' voice and the two followers discern Jesus' actions.

Seeing Jesus today and tomorrow still hinges on the depth of relationship—with Jesus and with one another. For, if we are to see Jesus, it will be primarily through our relationships with one another.

This can be a challenge for a small church. We spend a lot of time together. One is likely to see the same people whether engaged in the worship or in the work of the church. We can fool ourselves into thinking that the *quantity* of our relationship is the measure of the *quality* of our relationship. Nothing could be less accurate.

Working side-by-side with the same people week in and week out does not necessarily deepen relationships. Our relationships deepen when we show love, exhibit compassion, speak kindly to and about one another, and extend grace and forgiveness.

In this Easter season, may we all intentionally and prayerfully work to deepen our relationships in this congregation so that, as we look across the sanctuary or across the table, we will discover the risen Christ in the face of one another.



We Had So Much Fun on Palm Sunday



MONTHLY CALENDAR

May 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER 4:00 pm Trustees 6:00 pm PNC 6:30 pm Trombones 	2 9:00 pm Bread Pick Up	3 10 – noon Breads Distributed 
4 9:30 am Bible Study – H 10:30 Worship – H 11:30 Fellowship- Celebrate 11:30 Choral Group	5 11:30 am Men’s Lunch 	6	7 11:00 am Bell Choir 12:30 pm Bible Study 2:30 pm Food Packing 3:30 pm Good News Club	8 6:30 pm Trombones 	9 9:00 pm Bread Pick Up	10 10 – noon Breads Distributed 
11 MOTHER'S DAY 9:30 am Bible Study – H 10:30 Worship – H 11:30 Fellowship- Celebrate 11:30 Choral Group Noon Music & Worship	12 7:00 pm Crochet Group 	13 6:30 pm CE, F, E ,O VBS focus	14 11:00 am Bell Choir 12:30 pm Bible Study 2:30 pm Food Packing 3:30 pm Good News Club	15 6:30 pm Trombones 	16 9:00 pm Bread Pick Up	17 10 – noon Breads Distributed 
18 9:30 am Bible Study – H 10:30 Worship – H 11:30 Fellowship- Celebrate 11:30 Choral Group	19	20 10:00 am Missions 3:30 pm Presbytery (Circleville)	21 11:00 am Bell Choir 12:30 pm Bible Study 6:00 pm Session	22 6:30 pm Trombones 	23 9:00 pm Bread Pick Up	24 10 – noon Breads Distributed 
25 INVITE A FRIEND 9:30 am Bible Study – H 10:30 Worship – H 11:30 Fellowship- Celebrate 11:30 Choral Group	26 10:00 Deacon Mtg.	27	28 11:00 am Bell Choir 12:30 pm Bible Study	29 ASCENSION OF THE LORD 6:30 pm Trombones 	30 9:00 pm Bread Pick Up	31 10 – noon Breads Distributed 

LEADERSHIP UPDATE

The Outville Presbyterian Church’s Board of Session held its monthly meeting on April 23, 2025.

The focus of the meeting was on operational ministry initiatives and ensuring that future plans align with our Mission Study. One key topic was the work of the Interior Design Committee, which will explore ways to refresh and enhance our shared spaces to better reflect the mission and vision of the church.

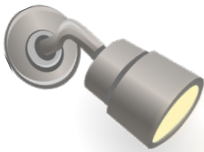
Please keep in mind that the work is being guided by the goals and objectives outlined in the recent Mission Study. This ensures that any updates made will support our broader efforts to grow, welcome, and serve our communities more effectively.

The Interior Design Committee welcomes your ideas and input! If you have suggestions or would like to be part of the conversation, please speak with Carol Glaub. While all ideas will be thoughtfully considered, not all can be implemented. Again, our shared focus will remain on what best supports the church’s mission moving forward.



2025 Committee Chairs & Liaisons

- Clerk of Session: AK Hite
- Deacons: Mary Ramey
- Education Grant: Mary Ramey
- Endowment & Educational Grant: Mary Ramey
- Christian Education, Outreach, Fellowship and Evangelism – Lisa Mitchell and Alice Karen Hite
- Missions: Cathy Ritchie
- Music & Worship: Lisa Mitchell, Jane Tudor
- Technology: Alice Karen Hite
- Trustees: Alice Karen Hite



IN THE SPOTLIGHT OUR NEW MISSION

Outville Presbyterian Church: Faithfully Living the PC(USA) Mission

At Outville Presbyterian Church, our mission is simple but powerful: to be a Christ-centered, growing and giving church by proclaiming Jesus’s love for all through our service to the community and the world. What may sound like a heartfelt local expression is, in fact, deeply aligned with the broader mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) as defined in the Book of Order.

The PC(USA)’s mission calls congregations to participate in God’s transformative work in the world—proclaiming the gospel, promoting social righteousness, and exhibiting the Kingdom of Heaven. These values are echoed clearly in Outville’s commitment to both proclaiming Christ’s love and living that love through service. By engaging our community and extending outreach beyond our walls, we embody the call to be witnesses of hope, love, and justice in the world.

Outville’s focus on being “growing and giving” reflects the PC(USA)’s emphasis on nurturing faith, fostering spiritual fellowship, and expanding the church’s impact through generosity and engagement. Our commitment to inclusivity—expressed in the phrase “Jesus’s love for all”—resonates with the denomination’s vision of a church that welcomes all people and works toward the flourishing of every child of God.

While every church expresses its mission in ways that are unique to its context, Outville's ministry reveals a deep harmony with the Great Ends of the Church—proclamation, nurture, worship, truth, justice, and kingdom witness. We may be a small congregation, but we are fully engaged in the sacred work to which the PC(USA) calls every church: to follow Jesus Christ, serve others in love, and help bring about God's reign of peace and justice.

In both word and deed, Outville is faithfully living out the mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).



MISSIONS POSSIBLE

You are making a Difference

Where Your Offerings Are Going in May

The offerings will be shared between two vital local organizations: the Licking County Coalition of Care (LCCOC) and the Licking County Coalition for Housing (LCCH). Both are based in Newark, Ohio, and are dedicated to serving our neighbors in need.

Licking County Coalition of Care (LCCOC) is a faith-based nonprofit that assists with rent, utilities, transportation, and medicine, aiming to improve the lives of families living in poverty. In 2024, LCCOC reports that it helped 1,194 people stay in their homes.

The Licking County Coalition for Housing (LCCH) offers programs to help individuals and families achieve stable housing. Your contributions help to enable LCCH to provide essential items not typically covered by federal grants, such as furniture, household necessities, and toiletries, directly supporting those in need.

Hands-On Mission for May Blessing Box



We continue to collect non-perishable groceries, laundry products, toilet paper, and personal care items to support individuals and families who visit our Blessing Box. Your generosity eases food concerns in our neighborhood. Items especially needed include canned meats, canned pasta, peanut butter, jelly, bread, toilet paper, laundry soap, toothpaste, and toothbrushes. When possible, please select cans with pull-tab openings for easier access. Thank you for your kindness and support!

*100% of your
offerings
support
missions
locally,
nationally,
and globally*

Announcements



Good News Club

The Good News Club launched its current session on April 16 with the theme, “Jesus: God Who Saves.”

This five-week series explores the story of Holy Week, connecting Old Testament prophecies with their fulfillment in the New Testament to show God’s faithfulness through Jesus.

We were thrilled to welcome 19 children on the first day of the session and look forward to sharing this journey of discovery and faith with them.



Graduation Celebration

Those with grandchildren, neighbors, family members graduating are fully aware it is graduation time. Please tell Lisa Mitchell or Alice Karen immediately of a graduate whom we may celebrate in May. The date is to be determined.



MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

05/03	Wayne Rader	05/29	Gary Clark
05/08	Alex Hamilton	05/30	Jeannie deSaavedra
05/09	Megan Beaumont	05/31	Cali Ellwood Davis
05/16	Leslie Carte	ANNIVERSARIES	
05/18	Garret Darst	05/31	Bruce & Mary K. Franz
05/18	Jon Davis		
05/20	Stellie Davis		
05/24	Debbie Schiller		

Save the Date



Men's Lunch, May 5

The Men's Group is flourishing. Twelve people, including Pastor Mary Gene Boteler and her husband Rick Nutt, shared the time in April. You may be missing some special fellowship. Join them Monday, May 5 at 11:30 at Denny's located south of Kirkersville.

He Is Risen—Let Your Spirit Rise Too

Easter Sunday marks the beginning of the Easter season, continuing through the Day of Pentecost on June 8.

Pastor Mary Gene prepared and led deeply meaningful services throughout Lent and Holy Week. Her thoughtful approach to worship continues to deepen and strengthen our faith.



On May 4 and May 11, Pastor Mary Gene will be traveling in Utah, visiting national parks. For May 4, she has planned a special worship service that invites us to expand our understanding of mission. Laypersons will serve as storytellers—come and experience their witness.

There will be no Communion celebrated in May. On May 11, Rev. Kathy Nice, Executive Presbyter of our Presbytery, will lead worship.

The Sundays in May will guide us from the Ascension of our Lord on May 29 to the joy of Pentecost ten days later. We invite you to come, grow, and be renewed in spirit.



Vacation Bible School: June 8–12 | 6:00–8:30 PM

Join us for *Camp Firelight: A Summer Camp Adventure with God!* VBS runs Sunday–Thursday, with dinner served at the start each evening. There are many ways to be involved—music, recreation, storytelling, food, decorating, cleanup, and more! There's a place for everyone. Talk to Lisa Mitchell or look for signup sheets.

For decorating, we're looking for camp-themed items to borrow or donate—evergreen trees, sleeping bags, lanterns, tents, animal props, and more.

Watch for details about the upcoming VBS planning meeting, and most importantly—spread the word about VBS at Outville!