



CHRIST CHURCH PRESS

The Monthly Newsletter of Christ Church, Presbyterian
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Rev. Robert Hendrick, Pastor

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May 2025

Look For:

- ⇒ Memorial Day Picnic
- ⇒ Missions Matters
- ⇒ American Heritage Girls
- ⇒ Trail Life Trek
- ⇒ Children's Ministry News
- ⇒ Music Ministry News
- ⇒ Youth Ministry News
- ⇒ Ladies Online Prayer Group
- ⇒ Servant's Schedule
- ⇒ Upcoming Events
- ⇒ Calendar of Events

Birthdays

- 02.....Rick Rezzelle
03.....Rita Channell
04.....Bill McGowan
Carmen Omary
05.....Jon Kunze
06.....Stu Dawley
08.....Gregory Green
10.....Joseph Doss
11.....Gary Cowart
14.....Tammy Hendrick
Janet Hesse
15.....Dana McWhirter
17.....Ransom Bigham
17.....Barrett Campbell
18.....Esther Doss
25.....Chris Nabholz
26.....Sonia Agrelius

HAPPY
Mother's
DAY!



Mark your calendars and make plans to join us for a Memorial Day Picnic at the Lake! We'll be out at Pointes West Army Resort in Appling at Pavillion 5, beginning at 10:00 a.m., and we'll enjoy food, fellowship, and fun for the day! Come and go as you would like. Lunch will be served at 1:00 p.m. Hamburgers, hot dogs, paper products and ice will be provided.



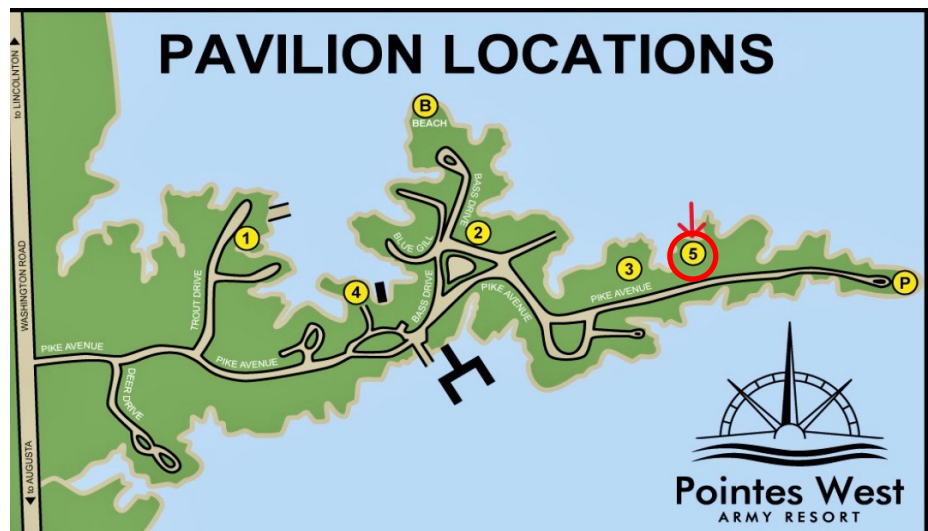
What: Churchwide Memorial Day Picnic

When: Monday, May 26 beginning at 10:00am

Where: Pointes West Army Resort (6703 Washington Rd, Appling), Pavilion 5 (see map)

What to Bring: Last name beginning with A-J bring sides, K-S bring desserts, T-Z bring drinks.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, May 21 so that we know how much meat to purchase. When you arrive at Pointes West, there may be someone at the gate. You do not need a military ID to get it, but you may have to tell the guard that you are going to Pavilion 5 and you are with the Doss party.





STEPHEN MERWIN
U. of AL at Birmingham
RUF-I

Stephen and Kellie both grew up in Georgia dreaming of being missionaries. Following God's leading, they met as teammates teaching English in China for a year as adventurous, world-changing college students. They walked away from that experience with a love for the Chinese and a growing love for each other that continues to this day.

They happily spent their first three years of marriage in Birmingham, and then in 2003 they returned to China to raise a family and join in God's kingdom work there. Stephen and Kellie have four children: Miles (10/2005), Amelia (11/2007), Grady (5/2010), and Oliver (3/2012). RUF-I is a ministry of the Presbyterian Church in America. They host dinners, discussion groups, and activities to help international students and scholars explore the deep questions of life. They work with the local church to help provide free services such as ESL tutoring. In January of 2020 the Merwin family went to a week-long conference in Thailand, just as the coronavirus began to spread. They never made it back home. Instead, God brought them to the States to renew their call to reach the nations by ministering to international students at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) with Reformed University Fellowship International. Stephen began ministering at UAB on January 1, 2022 and is still numb with joy that God is calling them to this work.

We are entering our fourth year of ministry with Reformed University Fellowship—International at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Through gospel hospitality and witness, we seek to reach close to 2,000 internationals from over eighty countries at UAB. We partner with several ministries to host a free, weekly meal for one hundred students each week. Twenty to thirty volunteers come as well to engage in guided discussion and establish deeper relationships. We've also started a small Scripture-reading group for seekers in addition to a Bible study and fellowship for international believers. Our weeks are full and the opportunities seem endless.

Prayer:

- Please pray for us to make wise decisions on who to minister to and what programs we should develop to best reach the students God brings to us with the resources he has given us.
- Pray too for our family as we enter a new season of life. Miles, our oldest, is in his first year at Samford University. We miss his daily presence and cheerfulness at home, but we are grateful he is still in the same city. Amelia, now seventeen, has a strong heart for missions and is continues to grow as a servant leader in her youth group. Grady and Oliver are doing well in school and have made some great friendships.

Go and Make
Disciples

American Heritage Girls

At our first meeting back together after spring break, we held our annual Board of Review for girls earning their Level Awards, and made a thank you gift and cards for Christ Church. All units are finishing up the requirements for the Sustainable Living badge, which called for a troop-wide trip to Hickory Hill Dairy Farm in Edgefield, South Carolina. Our fundraiser bake sale at Art on Southern Pines was a great success and we are so thankful for all the support we received. We have our annual Talent Show to look forward to in early May before we wrap up the school year with our final Court of Awards on Monday, May 12th. While we will not have our regular Monday meetings during the summer, we do have an Ice Cream Social/Pool Party planned. As we think about planning for the next school year, please pray for us and consider coming alongside this wonderful ministry as we strive to fulfill the AHG mission of building women of integrity through service to God, Family, Community, and Country. We welcome adult helpers as well as girls ages 5-18! For more information, contact Jen Zamora at ahg@christchurchpres.org



Trail Life Trek

April was a light month for the Trail Life troop with the Master's Week Spring Break. Railmen, however, provided assistance for the Art on Southern Pines festival at Christ Church, assisting with vendor setup and takedown as well as setting up tables and chairs in the fellowship hall for Sunday morning.

Our spring troop campout will be on May 2-4 at the primitive campsite at Wildwood Park. Navigator and Adventurer Trailmen will be instructing Woodland Trailmen in various skills such as camping and hiking, outdoor cooking, water safety, first aid, and tread lightly principles.

Trail Life USA's CEO, Mark Hancock, provides a daily podcast for parents entitled **Raising Godly Boys Minute**. In life, watching a boy head straight into challenging territory can be a frightening and stressful experience. But there's a reason God wired boys to crave adventure, excitement, and risk.

The Raising Godly Boys Minute is a daily 60-second broadcast designed to help you learn to raise boys to become godly men. Listen to the full archive of Raising Godly Boys Minutes and get the answers on how to equip your son, grandson, or young mentee with the knowledge he needs to keep moving forward. You can find it at www.trailifeusa.com or wherever you find your favorite podcasts.



Music Ministry News



John Wilson will be joining our staff on July 1 as the Director of Music. John is currently the Director of Music at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where he spent 12 years working with the international television ministry of Dr. D. James Kennedy. Dr. Wilson holds a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Conducting from the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago and a Master of Sacred Music Degree from the School of Sacred Music in New York City, where he studied organ with Alec Wyton and conducting with Abraham Kaplan. His undergraduate degree, also in Church Music, from Westminster College (New Wilmington, PA), where he recently received the Westminster Alumni Citation Award. He had additional graduate study at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, N. J., where he studied choral conducting with Robert Shaw and Wilhelm Ehmann. He also holds the Associate and Choirmaster Degrees from the American Guild of Organists. Over the years, he has conducted most of the major sacred choral works with full orchestra and has produced 7 CD recordings. He has been married to Lisa Blyler Wilson for 46 years, and they have 3 children and 9 grandchildren. Lisa is the Director of the Diane Bish Center for Music and the Arts and is also the Associate Organist at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church.

Youth Ministry News

Jonathan McKenzie will be joining our staff on May 15 as our new Director of Youth Ministries. Jonathan was raised in Richwood, Texas and spent his high school years in Springfield, Illinois. He received a B.A. in Theological Studies from Reformation Bible College and is currently pursuing an M.Div from Reformed Theological Seminary, Orlando through a hybrid program. While at Reformation Bible College, he met and married his lovely bride, Bethany. Jonathan has worked as a foreman in landscaping, as an intern for the Davenant Institute, and most recently as a classical Christian educator. What fuels Jonathan's desire for ministry is the following saying that his father would often repeat to him and his siblings growing up: "There are only two things that last forever: God's Word and people. So spend your time investing God's Word into people."



Ladies Online Prayer Group

"...in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

Philippians 4:6



Join the ladies of Christ Church as we unite in online prayer twice weekly: Sundays 4:00–5:00 p.m. and Thursdays, 7:30–8:15 p.m. (focusing on America). Contact Charlotte Jewett (cjjewett@att.net; 706-731-0191) or Maria Russell (edmarmam@gmail.com; 706-726-1703) to receive the online invitations.

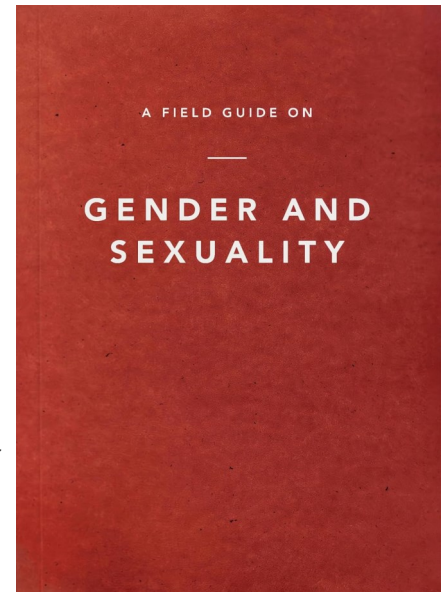
Book Review

A Field Guide on Gender and Sexuality by Ligonier Ministries

The world around us is rapidly changing. Rejection of the Bible's teaching on what it means to be human has created widespread confusion about gender and sexuality. Many Christians now face questions that seem to pit love and truth against each other. Should we attend the LGBTQ weddings of our family members and friends? May we address people by their preferred pronouns? And are we unloving if we do not do what the culture demands?

God is not silent on these matters. His unchanging and authoritative Word provides the truth we need to face today's challenges. Do we have the resolve to speak the truth in love amid the mounting pressure to compromise?

This field guide offers biblical answers to questions about gender, sexuality, and identity. Each answer seeks to help Christians stand firm in their convictions, navigate relationships with true compassion, and proclaim the liberating hope of the gospel.



Save the Dates

- ◇ **Fellowship Luncheon** – May 18, 12:00 p.m.
- ◇ **Memorial Day Picnic** – May 26, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- ◇ **VBS** – June 23–27, 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- ◇ **Ice Cream Social** – July 6 at 7:00 p.m.
- ◇ **Apologetics Conference** – August 23–24, with guest speaker Carlton Wynne

Servant's Schedule

Elder Greeters

May 4: John Dunsmore & Charles McClure
May 11: Glynn Dyer & John Norkus
May 18: Rich Fishel & Ora Parish
May 25: Billy Hatcher & Rick Rezzelle

Morning Prayer

Hendrick/Bigham
Billy Hatcher
Robbie Hendrick
Mel Jewett

House Deacon

Eddie Zamora
Jon Kunze
Matt Linton
Ken Lynch

Ushers

May 4: Gene Gojda, Jon Kunze, Michael Carter
May 11: Dan Campbell, Rick Rezzelle, Brady Downs
May 18: Lee Carter, Allen Richardson, Stu Dawley
May 25: Marion Butler, Joe Beasley, Charles Kimbrell

Wonder Junction

Howdy there, partner! You ready for a grand ol' time this summer, discovering the wonder of Jesus? If so, grab yer stirrups and lasso and hightail it out west to *Wonder Junction* where kids will marvel at Jesus and learn that we live for his glory.

As you may've guessed, *Wonder Junction* is an Old West themed VBS adventure that will teach kids about who Jesus is as they marvel at his birth, his childhood, his ministry, his death and resurrection, and his coming return. It's all about Jesus and the call for kids to live for his glory.



Kids will find answers to the questions:

- What amazing events surrounded the King's birth?
- Was there ever a person born who was more important than Jesus?
- What was Jesus like as a child?
- Is Jesus God or man—or both?
- What astonishing things occurred during Jesus' ministry and how much power does he have?
- How was Jesus' death and resurrection like no other?
- Could Jesus experience pain and sadness?
- What should we be doing while we wait for the King to return?
- Is Jesus going to be a man forever?

It's a wild ride designed to help kids better know Jesus,
what he did for them, and how we should respond.

June 23—27, 9:00 a.m.— 12:30 p.m.

How can *you* help?
Please pray for the planning team, all volunteers,
And the children who will be attending this event!

Please visit www.myccp.faith for registration.

May

Weekly Sunday Schedule

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship • 6:00 p.m. Worship

Please pray daily for our CC,P supported missionaries
and missions agencies listed in italics.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
			Noah & Karleigh Stephens <i>Rick & Betty Aschmann</i>	<i>Greg & Julieann</i>	7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer 10:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study <i>Child Evangelism Fellowship Kermit & Cheryl</i>	7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study <i>American Heritage Girls Alliance Defending Freedom</i>
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship 6:00 p.m. Evening Worship	7:00 p.m. AHG 7:00 p.m. Trail Life			6:30 p.m. Diaconate Meeting	7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer 10:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study	
<i>Cheryl Crocker</i>	<i>Alliance Defending Freedom Noah & Karleigh Stephens</i>	<i>American Heritage Girls Augusta Care Pregnancy Center</i>	<i>Broad Street Ministries</i>	<i>Child Evangelism Fellowship</i>	<i>Heritage Academy</i>	<i>International Link</i>
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship 6:00 p.m. Evening Worship	7:00 p.m. AHG 7:00 p.m. Trail Life	7:00 p.m. Evans Bible Study	10:00 a.m. Ladies Revelation Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	6:30 p.m. Session Prayer & Meeting <i>Palmer Home for Children David & Maaddie Dyer</i>	7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer 10:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study <i>RUF</i>	
Chris & Cary Drinkard	Institute for Creation Research <i>Bob & Andrea Burnham</i>	<i>Jews for Jesus Cheryl Croker</i>	<i>Missionary Care Ministry Chris & Cary Drinkard</i>			<i>Trail Life</i>
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship 4:00 p.m. AYC Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Easter Evensong	7:00 p.m. Trail Life	7:00 p.m. Augusta Bible Study	7:05 p.m. Choir Rehearsal		7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer	
David & Maaddie Dyer	<i>Elisea & Paula Guadagno</i>	<i>Glenn & Sharlene Grubb</i>	<i>Tim & Lana Higginbotham</i>	<i>Steve & Sherri Letchford</i>	<i>Steve & Kellie Merwin</i>	Nathanael Miller
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship 4:00 p.m. AYC Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Evening Worship	7:00 p.m. Trail Life		10:00 a.m. Ladies Revelation Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal		7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer 5:00 p.m. Homeschool Practicum Meeting	5:00 p.m. Homeschool Practicum Meeting
Glenn & Sharlene Grubb	<i>Kurt & Pat Nelson</i>	<i>Doug & Amy Nunziato</i>	<i>Rick & Betty Aschmann</i>	<i>David & Erin Pervis</i>	<i>Steven Smith Steven Smith</i>	<i>Jonathan Stamberg Jonathan Stamberg</i>



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