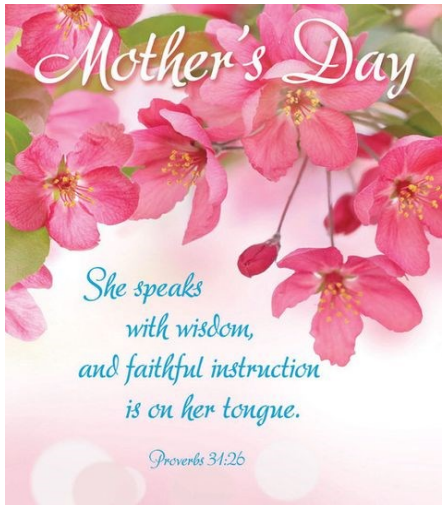


Sunday, May 12



A MOTHER'S LOVE

**A mother's love is something
that no one can explain,
It is made of deep devotion
and of sacrifice and pain.
It is endless and unselfish
and enduring come what may
For nothing can destroy it
or take that love away . . .
It is patient and forgiving
when all others are forsaking,
And it never fails or falters
even though the heart is breaking.
It believes beyond believing
when the world around condemns,
And it glows with all the beauty
of the rarest, brightest gems.
It is far beyond defining,
it defies all explanation,
And it still remains a secret
like the mysteries of creation.
A many splendored miracle
man cannot understand
And another wondrous evidence
of God's tender guiding Hand.**

— Author Unknown



The desired "Products of the Month" for May — **cereal & oatmeal**
We will gladly receive any non-perishable items.

Food items will be delivered to Fairfield Presbyterian Church to help families in the northern end of the county.



The Compassion and Fellowship Committee will be hosting a special anniversary celebration luncheon for our couples in the church at the Community Building after the worship service on **Sunday, May 5th.**



Window to the Past:

Until the eve of World War I, Southern Presbyterians held firm to the old rule requiring that ladies must keep silent in church. Women could not read from the pulpit, offer public prayers at Sunday service, hold a church office, or serve on Synod or Presbytery committees. Yet, in the decade before those archaic practices were finally dropped, women began to appear on the rolls in leadership positions at Timber Ridge.



The deadline is the **22nd of each month.** Please send items to Linda Kuehne at kuehneal@msn.com or phone: 703-505-4993.

Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church

73 Sam Houston Way, Lexington, Virginia 24450



"Old Stone Church" est. 1746



Pentecost symbolizes the **empowerment of believers** through the Holy Spirit and the **beginning of the Church's mission** to spread the Gospel worldwide.

Pentecost (meaning “fiftieth day” in Greek) is one of the most prominent feast days of the Christian calendar. It is often referred to as the birthday of the Church. It marks the day, nearly 2,000 years ago, when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles, who had been living in fear for fifty days following the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday.



All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit!
Acts 2.4

On the day of Pentecost, the disciples were gathered together in Jerusalem. Suddenly, there was a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and tongues of fire appeared, resting on each of them. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in

various languages. Emboldened by the Holy Spirit, the apostles set forth to tell all people in Jerusalem of the Resurrection. As they spoke in tongues given to them by the Holy Spirit, all nationalities present could understand them in their own mother tongue. Over 3,000 people were baptized that day. This miraculous event, described in **Acts 2:1-13**, marked the birth of the early Christian Church.



TRINITY SUNDAY

Trinity Sunday is a Christian festival celebrated by Western Churches the first Sunday after Pentecost. It is dedicated to the Christian belief in the Trinity, the three persons of God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Pope Gregory IX instituted Trinity Sunday in 828 AD. It is notable for being the only major Christian festival that celebrates a doctrine of the church rather than an event in its sacred history.



PENTECOST
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

Psalm 71 testifies that a foundation of faith established during childhood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person’s life. By receiving the Pentecost Offering, you are nurturing the faith of those who are the church to come — children, youth, and young adults.

The Pentecost Offering, one of the PC(USA)’s four Special Offerings, benefits children at risk through the “Educate a Child, Transform the World” national initiative as well as the Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) program and the Presbyterian Youth Triennium. A unique feature of this Special Offering is that 40% of the Pentecost offering is retained by the individual congregation for local ministries while the remaining 60% is used at the national level to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

Please prayerfully consider a generous gift to the Pentecost Special Offering. We will be collecting your gifts on Sunday, May 19th. Place in the offering plate or mail to the church.

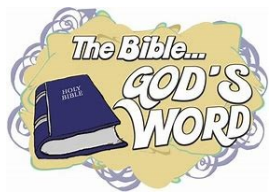


CHURCH CALENDAR



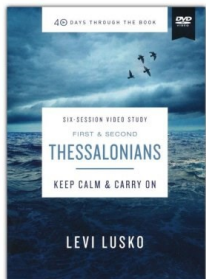
- MAY 01 COOKIE COLLECTION
- MAY 05 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 AM
- MAY 05 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 11:00 AM
- MAY 05 **LUNCH BUNCH** 12:00 PM
- MAY 12 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 AM
- MAY 12 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 11:00 AM
- MAY 16 **COMPASSION/FELLOWSHIP** .. 10:00 AM
- MAY 18 **CHURCH CLEAN-UP DAY** 8:00 AM
- MAY 19 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 AM
- MAY 19 DAY OF PENTECOST 11:00 AM
———— WITH COMMUNION ————
- MAY 26 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 AM
- MAY 26 TRINITY SUNDAY 11:00 AM
- MAY 31 MEMORIAL DAY





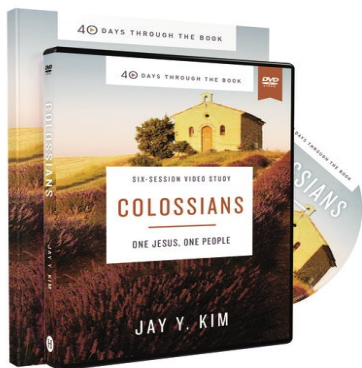
The **40 Days Through the Book** DVD series is taught by a different pastor or Bible teacher and designed to help you actively engage with God's Word. As you read through selected books of the New Testament, you will gain an understanding of the background and culture of the book, insights into key passages, and clear takeaways that you can apply today to your life.

Preview of the next Bible Study in the *40 Days Through the Book* series starting on **May 19th**.



Have you ever been discouraged in your faith? Or wondered if you are staying grounded in what you believe? This was the issue facing the believers in Thessalonica. So Paul compelled them in two letters to not be deceived by false teachers but remain diligent in doing the work set before them as they looked forward to Jesus's return.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
April 7—May 12
6 sessions



In this six-session study, author and pastor Jay Kim guides small-group members through Paul's letter to the believers in Colossae, revealing what his words meant to his original readers . . . and how they apply to us today. The letter to the believers in Colossae contains a message that's urgent today—a message of unity among the followers of Christ; a message of thanksgiving and spiritual fullness in a broken world; a message that shows us how to live as the people who are made alive in the one true Christ. Sessions include:

- ~ **The True Center**
- ~ **Broken Gauges**
- ~ **A Greater Reality**
- ~ **Constant Dissonance**
- ~ **The Right Attire**
- ~ **God Alone**

Lectionary Readings

For May 2024

May 5 — Sixth Sunday of Easter

First Reading Acts 10:44-48
Psalm 98
Second Reading 1 John 5:1-6
Gospel John 15:9-17



May 9 — Ascension of the Lord

First Reading Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47 *or* Psalm 93
Second Reading Ephesians 1:15-23
Gospel Luke 24:44-53

May 12 — Seventh Sunday of Easter

First Reading Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
Psalm 1
Second Reading 1 John 5:9-13
Gospel John 17:6-19

May 19 — Day of Pentecost

First Reading Acts 2:1-21 *or* Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Second Reading Romans 8:22-27 *or* Acts 2:1-21
Gospel John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

May 26 — Trinity Sunday

First Reading Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm 29
Second Reading Romans 8:12-17
Gospel John 3:1-17



Colossae was an ethnically and religiously diverse city in modern-day Turkey where Jews and Gentiles co-existed. The believers there had found themselves floundering as they tried to navigate what following Jesus looks like in a pluralistic society. So Paul wrote to the young church to confront individualism and the falsehood that the world revolved around them. He dispels the false teachings by emphasizing the supremacy of Christ over all human actions and philosophies. This wasn't just an issue for the Colossian Christians ... it's an issue for believers today.



Administration

Allen Strecker — No report.

March budget data:

	<u>March</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>
Receipts	13,579.88	38,382.34
Payments	9,364.63	18,278.03
Balance 3/31/2024	4,215.25	20,104.31



Christian Education

Jean Ramsey — No report.

“So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.” ~ Colossians 2:6-7



Compassion & Fellowship

Jessie Lotts — The Compassion & Fellowship Committee met on April 18th at 10:00 a.m. We will be having a Lunch Bunch on Sunday, May 5th. We will be acknowledging all the wedding anniversaries during the gathering. We have asked couples to provide a 5x7 or smaller wedding photo.

We are beginning our update of the church directory. So, if you have a new phone number, email or address please contact Sylvia Henry or Joyce Broughman as soon as possible.

There will be some new items in the kitchen this year. So far a new microwave and coffee pot have been added, and more is to come. We will be sprucing up the kitchen at our next meeting on May 16th, so if you would like to give a hand we will start at 10:00 am.



Witness & Outreach

Kathy Cummins — The Witness & Outreach Committee met on April 17th at 11:00 a.m. to put together hygiene kits in support of disaster relief through Church World Service. A total of 31 hygiene kits were completed. Thank you to everyone who helped with this outreach project.

On April 16th, Comfort Care Women’s Health had a fundraising banquet. Seven members of Timber Ridge were able to attend the dinner. A wonderful meal was provided, and a guest speaker (Rebecca Lee) gave an informative talk about her past experiences with her pregnancy and the help and blessings that she received. The competent, compassionate care and encouragement that Comfort Care Women’s Health provides to help families is a true blessing and a wonderful outreach program.

“I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.” ~ Psalm 139:14





Property

Nick Ramsey — The Property Committee met on Sunday, April 14th after the morning worship service. The committee is currently pursuing a realtor to assist us in renting the Manse while the church continues its search for a pastor. We hope to have a meeting with the realtor soon. This meeting will allow the realtor to inspect the property and set a rental price based on the current market. The hope is that a realtor will also assist us in getting the property rented quicker than trying to navigate the process on our own. Once this meeting occurs and we have more details, the Session will be briefed and request approval to move forward with the process.

It has been brought to our attention that we have some places that need to be repainted to both maintain the appearance and prevent further damage. We are actively seeking a painter and quotes to complete this project.

The smaller maple tree that is located near the entrance of the church has started to impede upon the church building. This has resulted in some minor damage along the roof line. The secondary concern is that it will continue to grow and cause further damage to the building and sidewalks. At this time the tree is at a manageable size to be removed. With this being said, the Property Committee has elected to remove the tree.

J

Joyce Broughman has drafted a new check list to be given when the community building is rented. This check list lays out the church’s expectations of those that rent the building. This check list will help to prevent damage and additional cleaning by the Sexton. Both of which can be an added expense. The check list is currently under review by the Property Committee and the Session.

A congregation clean-up day is scheduled for **Saturday, May 18th**. Work will begin at 8:00 am. All those who can lend a hand are welcome!



Worship

Mike Henry — The Worship Committee met on Sunday, April 7th after the morning worship service. The committee discussed the possibility of securing the Rev. Rob Sherrard to fill our pulpit for an extended period of time. Rev. Sherrard would not be under contract, but would be allowed to serve as our pulpit supply on a more consistent basis during the time we are resolving our permanent pastoral arrangements.

- May 5 — Open
- May 12 — Margie Anderson
- May 19 — Open
- May 26 — Bernard Bangley



MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day is not just about sales and a three-day weekend. Many traditions have been lost over the years that neglect to remind us of this truly important day of Remembrance. Established in 1868, Memorial Day serves as a day to remember those that died while serving our nation. The official moment of remembrance is at 3:00pm, where all Americans are intended to reflect upon the sacrifices and true purpose of this day.

“Four things support the world: the learning of the wise, the justice of the great, the prayers of the good, and the valor of the brave.” ~ A Memorial Day reflection

“The greatest glory of a free born people is to transmit that freedom to their children.”

What are some things you can do to pay your respects to those brave heroes who have died serving our nation during times of war?

1. **Wear a Red Poppy** - inspired by the poem “In Flanders Field”, in 1915

Moina Michael wrote her own poem:

*“We cherish too, the Poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led,
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies.”*

She then conceived the idea to wear red poppies on Memorial Day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war.



2. **Moment of Remembrance** - 3:00 PM on Memorial Day is the “National Moment of Remembrance”. President Clinton established the “National Moment of Remembrance” in 2000 to give everyone a chance to reflect on the true purpose and sacrifices that should be honored on Memorial Day. Wherever you are, whatever you are doing, take a moment to think about our fallen heroes during this time.

3. **Decorate Graves** - Formally known as “Decoration Day”, Memorial Day is a time to visit and pay respects to the graves of those who have sacrificed so much for our freedom. American flags, flowers, and other items, can be left at the tombstone of family members or friends who died serving in any American war.

4. **Attend a Parade or Ceremony** - Your town or city may be hosting a parade or other Memorial Day event. Attend these events with your family to show your gratitude for those who have died in battle.

5. **Fly an American Flag** - On Memorial Day, flags are flown at half-staff from sunrise to noon only, and then raised to full-staff. For mounted flags that cannot be lowered, the American Legion says an acceptable alternative is to attach a black ribbon to the top of the flag pole, directly below the ornament at the end of the pole. The ribbon should be the same width as the stripes on the flag and same length of the flag.

6. **Pledge to Help** - Make a commitment to aid widows, widowers, and orphans of our fallen dead. Also take the time to help and volunteer for the disabled veterans who were wounded in war.

Source: Blog by Brandon Gaille dated 7/25/2017



Visit the **NATIONAL D-DAY MEMORIAL** in Bedford, Va to experience life-size courage and honor the Allied troops who fought for freedom in 1944. This year marks the **80th anniversary** of the D-Day landing that would turn the tide of the war in Europe.

“From the moment you step on the grounds of the National D-Day Memorial, you’ll experience a solemn and respectful tribute to our fallen heroes, as well as those who lived to fight another day. From the stylized English garden to the haunting invasion tableau and striking victory plaza, the Memorial stands as a powerful, permanent tribute to the valor, fidelity, and sacrifice of D-Day participants.”

At the Memorial, you’ll discover the story of the “Bedford Boys,” who bravely stormed Omaha Beach in the first wave. Their courage and valor resulted in Bedford suffering the highest-known D-Day loss per capita in the Nation.

A National Tribute to our Heroes is scheduled for **June 6-9, 2024**. If you are interested in more information about this special event, call **1-800-351-DDAY**.

Youth Activity Page


BibleWise

What Happened at the Pentecost?

ACTS 1:15 - 2:47, ACTS 2

Use the word bank below to fill in the blanks and learn about the Pentecost.

1. Jesus instructs his followers to wait in _____ for a _____.
2. The followers heard the _____ howling. It looked like little _____ appeared above them.
3. Each of them began speaking and understanding new _____.
4. _____ declared "we have received a great blessing from God." He then taught them about _____ and God.
5. Word of Jesus and the blessing spread. Many people began to believe in the power of God. It is said this is the beginning of the _____ church.



WORD BANK

LANGUAGES	CHRISTIAN	PETER	JESUS
WIND	GIFT	JERUSALEM	FLAMES

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Pentecost is a significant celebration on the Church calendar, commemorating the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church. While it doesn't have as strong a cultural tradition as Christmas or Easter, there are delightful ways to celebrate with your family. Here are eight creative ideas:

1. **Make a Fruit Salad:** The Holy Spirit is associated with nine spiritual fruits—Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-control. Create a literal fruit salad, with each fruit representing one of these gifts of the Holy Spirit.
2. **Celebrate with Birthday Cake:** Pentecost is the birthday of the Church. Thousands of people from diverse backgrounds converted, and the Church became a global phenomenon. Bake or buy a birthday cake to remind everyone that the Church is one year older. Each candle can symbolize a century in the Church's history, with the flames representing the "tongues of fire" from the first Pentecost.
3. **Bake Bread:** Before it became a Christian holiday, Pentecost was the Jewish Festival of Weeks—a harvest festival celebrating the wheat harvest. As part of the festivities, loaves of bread were baked and offered in the Temple. Gather your family and bake some fresh bread together, connecting with the original meaning of the holiday.
4. **Take Food to the Local Food Pantry:** During the Jewish Festival of Weeks, people were reminded to provide for the poor. While baking that cake or bread, consider making extra to donate to your local food pantry or homeless shelter. It's a beautiful way to share the spirit of Pentecost with those in need.
5. **Decorate with the Color Red:** Churches often decorate with red on Pentecost due to its connection with the "tongues of fire." At home, you can do the same—use red streamers, napkins, and plates. It's a simple yet effective way to make the day feel special.
6. **Multi-Language Craft Project:** At the first Pentecost, St. Peter spoke in many languages as a sign of both diversity and unity. Cut out dove or flame shapes from paper and write words like "Holy Spirit," "Unity," or "Peace" on them in various languages. It's a beautiful representation of the global Church.
7. **Create Flame Hats:** While actual hats on fire might be a bit extreme, consider a construction paper project. You can make flame hats similar to the example from Joyful Mama's Place. These hats symbolize the "tongues of fire" from the first Pentecost and add a touch of fun to your celebration.
8. **Make a Mobile:** Craft a mobile with doves, flames, or other symbols related to the Holy Spirit. Hang it in a prominent place in your home as a visual reminder of Pentecost's significance.

Source: Article by Fr. Micheal Rennie dated 6/9/2019 at aleteia.org