

NORTH BENTON CHURCH

NEWS



North Benton Presbyterian Church

Web Site: www.northbentonchurch.org
www.facebook.com/northbenton.church.1

May 2026
Vol. 52, Issue 5

Good May to all of you, Northern Bentonians, Spring flowers are bursting out all over the place, especially for the grand crop of dandelions!

This year is the 250th anniversary of our country's founding and it would be appropriate to remind ourselves about how, more than ANY other country in history, "God shed His grace on thee." So, for the next few monthly newsletters, we will be seeing how our God's hand was at work in the people who were influential in the early years of our county.

A good place to start would be to look at Christopher Columbus. The name "Christopher" means "Christ-bearer" in Greek. Columbus is remembered for his daring voyages across the Atlantic that connected Europe to the Americas. While Columbus's initial motivation was to open a trading route to the riches of Asia (in order to get financing for his ships), his expeditions were also deeply intertwined with the idea of it being a spiritual mission to bring Christian faith to distant peoples.

In his letters and journals, Columbus often wrote of his deep conviction that God had chosen him to carry Christianity beyond the boundaries of Europe. Upon reaching the shores of the Bahamas, he named the island as "San Salvador" which means "Holy Savior" in Spanish. Columbus immediately set to introduce Christian teachings to the indigenous peoples he encountered. He had priests and missionaries on every one of his voyages.

The immediate impact of Columbus's efforts

was far-reaching. Other explorers bringing missionaries quickly followed, venturing into the New World to build churches and introducing Christianity to the residents. Many of these expeditions were blessed by church officials and sponsored by European monarchs who saw the spread of Christianity as an important part of these expeditions.

However, Columbus and the other explorers' religious mission brought serious challenges and upheaval to the locals. For sure it was not all wonderful. The conversion to Christianity often disrupted their traditional ways of life and cultural identity. New languages and European customs did make the transitions "bumpy" at times to say the least. But anytime there is a conversion to Christianity, there is a change so radical, it is called being "Born Again."

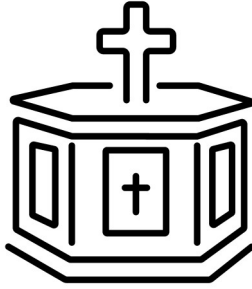
The legacy of Columbus's mission remains complex. There were, for sure, many spiritual achievements that continue to impact this New World that the "Christ-bearer" brought.

In this anniversary year, let us find time to thank God for moving in our land and remember that we can also be "Christ-bearers" no matter what our name. "America, America, May God shed His grace and thee and crown thy good with brotherhood, from sea to shing sea."

Blessings,

Pastor Herb





Let's
Celebrate

For May, our sermons will continue to be based on the letter to the church at Philippi and to our church today. Here are the sermon titles, themes and scriptures for this month:

May 3, 2026. Fifth Sunday of Easter. “Faithful Models” is the title of a sermon based on Philippians 2: 19-30. There are bad people in the Bible who teach us what not to do. Then there are people in the Bible who are positive role models for us. This Sunday we will look at the positive ones.

May 10, 2026. Sixth Sunday of Easter. Mother’s Day. In worship for this day, we will look at Philippians 3: 1-11. The sermon will be about “Knowing Jesus!” There is nothing more important to know.

May 17, 2026. Seventh Sunday of Easter. One of the worst things you can do is to give up doing good. Paul writes to us that we should be Pressing On” in his writing in Philippians 3: 12-21.

May 24, 2026. Day of Pentecost. New members will be joining today. “Therefore” is a sermon based on Philippians 4: 1-9 that shows us what Good News is all about.

May 30, 10-23. Trinity Sunday. Philippians 4: 10-23 reveals “The Secret.” It really is not a secret, it is just in front of our eyes but we don’t see it. Now we will.

There will be a gathering for a time for prayers on May 23, 2026, at 7:00 in the sanctuary. We will be asking for God’s blessing on our church and for our new members. You may enter from the west side door.

May 2026

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 5/2 Stanley Jozwiakowski
- 5/11 Stephanie Klinkowicz
- 5/14 Joe & Stephanie Klinkowicz
- 5/20 Emily Winters
- 5/21 Alisha Gamble
- 5/24 Kathy Eshelman
- 5/25 Cindy Ruffier



To have a name added or removed, please contact the church office.

OFFERING/ATTENDANCE

March 2026

	Offering	Attendance
3/1/26	\$1,201	
3/8/26	\$1,764	28
3/15/26	\$784	40
3/22/26	\$1,375	35
3/29/26	\$2,394	41

DEACON GREETERS

May 2026

Cheri Martin
Sherry Kelly

Coffee & Pastry

9:00 a.m.

May 10, 2026



CONTINUED PRAYER

Nursing Home/Homebound

Dan Rowe

(Essex #1 Salem, Rm. # 210, Salem, OH 44460)

Ongoing Health Concerns

Denton Herron, Jim Hilles, Stan Jozwiakowski,
Sandy Jozwiakowski

FAMILIES FOR PRAYER BECAUSE WE CARE

May 2026



Brittany Owens

Liam, Lila, Scarlet, Finn



MISSION CAUSE FOR PRAYER

Youth Initiatives/Ireland - Doug Smith

Campus Crusade - Lisa (Smith) Wyss

Vacation Bible School



Special Dates for May 2026

National Day of Prayer, May 7, 2026

Mother's Day, May 10, 2026

Ascension of the Lord, May 14, 2026

Armed Forces Day, May 16, 2026

Victoria Day [Canada], May 18, 2026

Day of Pentecost, May 24, 2026

Memorial Day, May 25, 2026

the
Presbyterian
Story

2nd
Edition

Origins & Progress of a Reformed Tradition



Book Review

Being Presbyterian involves multiple layers of identity and connection. As Christians, Presbyterians are ""catholic,"" sharing the common heritage of ancient Christianity with all believers, of all times, in all places. Presbyterians are Protestant by conviction sharing the rich spiritual heritage of the sixteenth century and the unique contributions of the Reformed Tradition. Historically, Presbyterians are also part of the evangelical movement, embracing the legacy of the eighteenth-century revivals (awakenings) in America and Britain. Each of these historic layers is equally important to Presbyterian identity and this book will seek to underscore that reality.



CHRISTIAN SYMBOL

CEDAR TREE — A species of evergreen used to decorate for Christmas, the tall cedar tree symbolizes Christ's majesty year-round. Cedars of Lebanon, which have grown to 130 feet, were known to Old Testament people. "The trees of the LORD are well watered, the cedars of Lebanon that he planted" (Psalm 104:16, NIV). David's palace and both Solomon's palace and temple were built of cedar wood. The word cedar is found 75 times in the Bible. Due to its evergreen nature and longevity, this tree is associated with eternal life and thus sometimes used in cemetery landscaping.

Favorite Recipes of Old

Recipes are chosen at random from the North Benton Church "Favorite Recipes" cookbook.

CHERRY ALOHA SALAD

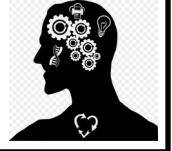
Lori & Brad Metts

- 2 packages cherry Jello
- 1 can cherry pie filling
- 1 8-oz. cream cheese
- 2 cups boiling water
- 1 can crushed pineapple
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Dissolve Jello in boiling water. Add cherry pie filling and let set in a 9x13-inch pan until firm. Mix cream cheese, drained pineapple and nuts. Spread over firm Jello. Let chill; then serve.



Engage Your Mind



Puzzle!

In spring and summer, we remember mothers and fathers with special days. Find the parents of these Biblical children. Check the verse given for help.



- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Joash (2 Kings 11:2) | A _____ |
| Obed (Matthew 1:5) | B _____ |
| Joseph (Genesis 35: 22-24) | _____ C _____ |
| John the disciple (Matthew 4:21) | _____ D _____ |
| John the Baptist (Luke 1:13) | _____ E _____ |
| Lo-Ruhamah (Hosea 1:6) | G _____ |
| Jezreel (Hosea 1:4) | H _____ |
| Esau (Genesis 25:28) | I _____ |
| David (1 Samuel 16:19) | J _____ |
| Jacob (Genesis 25:28) | _____ K _____ |
| Samuel (1 Samuel 1:19-20) | _____ L _____ |
| Gershom (Exodus 2:21-22) | M _____ |
| Samuel (1 Samuel 1:19-20) | _____ N _____ |
| Jesse (Matthew 1:5) | O _____ |
| Gershom (Exodus 2:21-22) | _____ P _____ |
| Joseph (Genesis 35: 22-24) | R _____ |
| Isaac (Genesis 21:3) | S _____ |
| John the Baptist (Luke 1:13) | _____ T _____ |
| Jonathan (1 Samuel 14:1) | _____ U _____ |
| Solomon (1 Kings 2:1) | _____ V _____ |
| Jesus (Matthew 1:18) | _____ Y _____ |
| James (Matthew 4:21) | Z _____ |

Answers: Ahaziah, Boaz, Jacob, Zebadee, Zechariah, Gomer, Hosea, Isaac, Jesse, Rebekah, Elkanah, Moses, Hannah, Obed, Zipporah, Rachel, Sarah, Elizabeth, Saul, David, Mary, Zebadee



A LEGACY OF FAITH

You're blessed when you have a mother, a grandmother or any relative or friend who passes down a strong faith to you. In the Bible, Timothy learned about faith from his mother and grandmother.

Complete the verse below by filling in the blanks with the correct vowels.

VOWELS: 1 = a 2 = e 3 = i 4 = o 5 = u

" _____₃ _____₁ m _____₂ m _____₃ nd _____₂ d _____₄ f
 y _____₄ _____₅ r _____₃ nc _____₂ r _____₂ f _____₁ _____₃ th, wh _____₃ ch
 f _____₃ rst l _____₃ v _____₂ d _____₃ n y _____₄ _____₅ r gr _____₁ ndm _____₄ th _____₂ r
 L _____₄ _____₃ s _____₁ nd _____₃ n y _____₄ _____₅ r m _____₄ th _____₂ r
 _____₂ _____₅ n _____₃ c _____₂ _____₁ nd, _____₃ _____₁ m p _____₂ rs _____₅ _____₁ d _____₂ d,
 n _____₄ w l _____₃ v _____₂ s _____₃ n y _____₄ _____₅ _____₁ ls _____₄ ."

2 Timothy 1:5, NIV

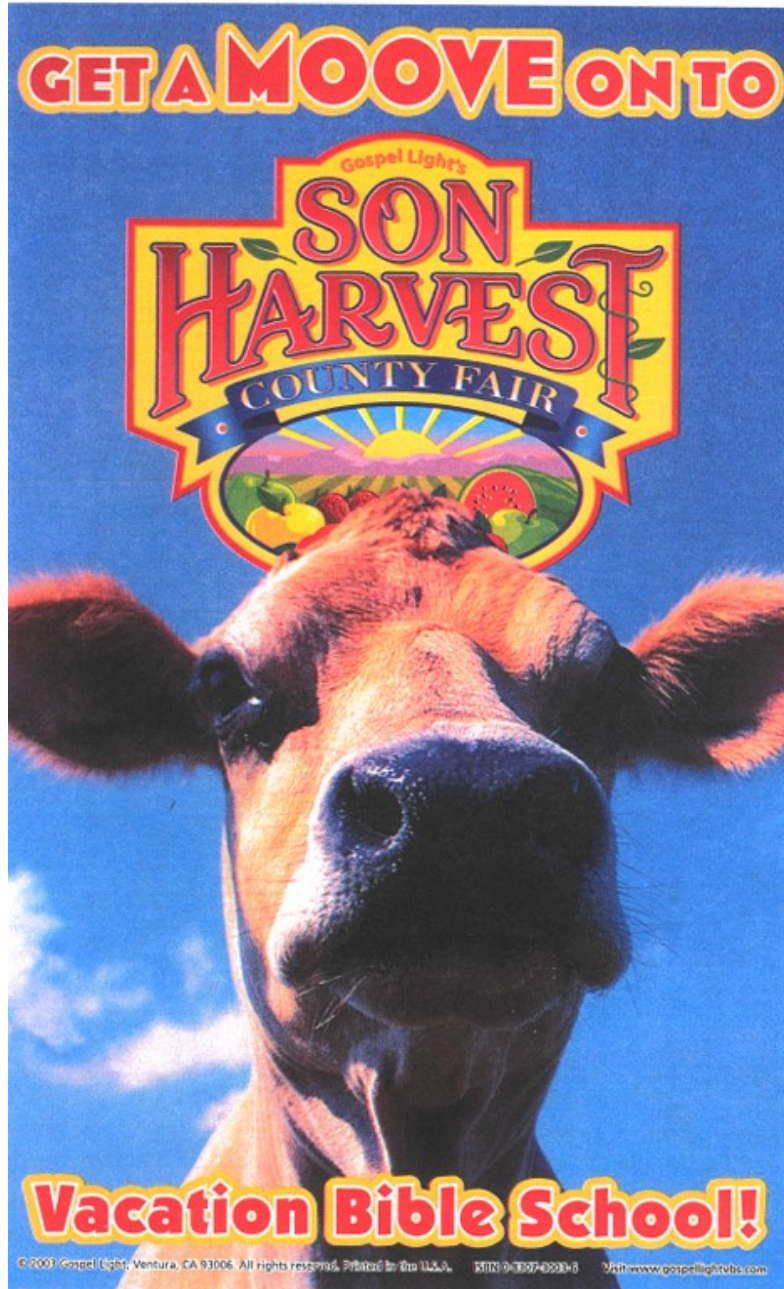
Answer: "I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also."

BIBLE QUIZ

Although the apostle Paul is credited with writing the letter to the Romans, he dictated the message while another believer served as the scribe. Near the end of the letter, that writer briefly identifies himself. Who was it?

- A. Tertius
- B. Timothy
- C. Lucius
- D. Aquila

Answer: A (Romans 16:22)



North Benton Presbyterian Church

Vacation Bible School

Date: June 8-12, 2026

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Ages: 4 years old through completed Grade 6

Questions: Contact Cindy Gaines at 330-584-2989

May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Birthday Sunday 9:30 Worship Svc 10:45 Searcher's Class 10:45 Deacon's Mtg	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Mother's Day 9:00 Coffee & Pastry 9:30 Worship Svc 10:45 Searcher's Class	11	12	13	14 7:30 p.m. Session Mtg	15	16
17 9:30 Worship Svc 10:45 Searcher's Class	18	19	20	21	22	23 A TIME OF PRAYER 7PM
24 Pentecost Communicant's Graduation Luncheon 9:30 Worship Svc 10:45 Searcher's Class	25 Memorial Day	26	27	28	29	30
31 9:30 Worship Svc 10:45 Searcher's Class						



Harvesting Hope IYC

2025 Ministry Snapshot & Community Impact

Harvesting Hope IYC is dedicated to addressing food insecurity while bringing compassion, dignity, and connection to seniors and families across our local communities. Through the support of donors, volunteers, and community partners, we provide meals, groceries, and meaningful engagement to those who need it most.

2025 Impact	
1,577	Individuals served through the Blessing Barn Food Pantry
18,804	Meals created from pantry food distribution
27,852	Homemade meals packaged and delivered with love
8,298	Free community meals served at activities and emergency requests

Senior Meal Delivery Program

- 250 seniors served across 11 delivery routes
- Meals delivered regardless of ability to pay
- Deliveries every Tuesday and Thursday
- Drivers depart from 230 S. 12th Street at 12:00–12:30 PM
- Most delivery routes take about one hour

Communities served include Beloit, Sebring, Alliance, Salem, Homeworth, North Benton, Hanoverton, North Georgetown, Damascus, Copeland Oaks, and surrounding areas.

Current Needs

- Private donor support to sustain programs as 2026 grant funding is highly competitive
- Volunteer delivery drivers for Tuesday and Thursday afternoon routes

Your support helps ensure no neighbor in our community goes hungry or forgotten.



A TIME OF PRAYER

7 P.M. SATURDAY, MAY 23, 2026

IN THE CHURCH SANCTUARY

ALL DOORS WILL BE OPEN FOR EASY ACCESS

NBC News

North Benton Presbyterian Church
19070 North Benton West Road
North Benton, OH 44449



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44460
Permit No. 112

Sunday Service: 9:30 am Worship Service

“A church where everybody is somebody, and Jesus Christ is Lord”

GOD’S PERFECT SPECIFICATIONS

After a company couldn’t meet the specifications for ink pens used in some US government offices in the 1960’s, the General Services Administration asked National Industries for the Blind (NIB) to make 70 million pens - despite NIB having never made pens before. They accepted the challenge and met all the specifications. Since 1967 blind factory workers have assembled these writing instruments used extensively by military personnel. The pens can be used to write upside down, make a mile-long line of ink, and withstand extreme temperatures.

Genesis 1:27 reminds us that each human being has been made to God’s perfect specifications: “God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male

and female he created them.” How we’re created reflects God’s character and nature. Being created in His image means everyone has inherent dignity and worth. God said that each person’s story begins with being made “in [His] image, in [His] likeness” (v.26). This truth provides the foundation for understanding human dignity, identity, and relationships with others.

Just as those pens serve a vital role, so do we! Though we might feel unimpressive, each of us holds intrinsic value and purpose crafted by God. Today, may we embrace our story, knowing our Creator treasures us and calls us “very good” (v.31).

- Marvin Williams

How have you embraced your story as being created in God’s image? How has your image and identity been formed by Him?

Prayer
Dear God, thank You that I’m created in Your image.

Reprinted from “Our Daily Bread”

May 1, 2026

Our Daily Bread is provided FREE of charge can be found on the information counter in the lobby.