



PRITCHARD CHURCH MESSENGER

MAY 2026 | VOLUME 61 | ISSUE 5

CHURCHWIDE MISSIONS OPPORTUNITY:

SERVING OUR UNHOUSED NEIGHBORS

2 WAYS TO BE INVOLVED:

1 PROVIDE DONATIONS NOW

- INDIVIDUAL PACKAGED SNACKS
- TRAVEL-SIZE TOILETRIES
- NEW SOCKS

**DROP-OFF IN THE CHURCH OFFICE
OR THE GATHERING PLACE**

2 SERVE ON MAY 30

- 7-9 AM
- 125 WADSWORTH PL

SIGN UP



The Holy Spirit raised Jesus from the dead.
Not his effort. Not his ingenuity or cleverness.
Not his hard work or his good looks or his
paycheck.

The Holy Spirit.

One of the things I see very often, in ministers, in lay leaders, in church folks everywhere of every type is the delusion that we can work our way up to resurrection.

We spent a couple weeks after Easter talking about what Resurrection People are like. We see this unfold in the early church and we see the immense power of change, renewal, growth, repentance. The early church focused themselves on living the life of Jesus and taking up the cross of Jesus, which resulted in them living communally in the resurrection of Jesus.

This is what we want above all other things, and I believe it is in our power to live how Jesus lived, and I believe it is in our power to forgive and die as Jesus died. But it is not in our power to create resurrection. That is the work, the domain, the result of the Holy Spirit.

We often stifle and stymie the Holy Spirit. We keep inserting ourselves because we think we know best. We insist on skipping over grief and struggle and suffering and that short circuits our ability to receive resurrection.

Often our largest part is simply to wait on the Holy Spirit. This is a good place to be.

And this is what I encourage in you.

Practice Jesus' life. Practice Jesus' death. Wait on the Holy Spirit.

Just wait.

Chris Richardson
Lead Pastor



welcome

To Our New Member!

By Baptism:
Steven Bernardes

Prayer List

The weekly prayer list is available 24/7 on Church Center and is updated daily. We invite you to take a look and lift up those listed in prayer as you go about your day.

We Express Our Love and Deepest Sympathy to:

- The family and friends in the passing of Joyce Oakley.
- Melanie Harper, Jean Patterson, Doug and Kathy Evans, and their extended families in the passing of their father, Jasper Evans.
- The family and friends in the passing of James Phillips.



Nathan Hewitt	5/1	Gabby Foresyth	5/17
Ned Lyerly'	5/4	Robert Thompson	5/17
Todd Grady	5/5	Jane Harris	5/18
Tate Self	5/6	Shane Agostinelli	5/18
Allison Self	5/7	Carolyn Bolin	5/19
Jennifer Arena	5/7	Dorothy Seabolt	5/19
Daniel Hursey	5/9	Millie Creech	5/20
Mac Elder	5/10	Brenda Farson	5/23
Leslie Mayer	5/11	Rose Byrd	5/25
Barbara Gabriel	5/12	Holly Gabriel	5/27
Kalyn Wells	5/12	Buck Boyd	5/28
Jane Mizelle	5/13	Amanda Berkman	5/29
Angela Livingston	5/14	Lynn Plyler	5/29
Robert Wilson	5/15	Doris Anderson	5/30
Dick Kimrey	5/16	Walt Mizelle	5/30
Marilyn Withrow	5/16	Charlie Erickson	5/31
Tim Stewart	5/16	Sherri Sellers	5/31
Todd Nicholson	5/16		

A Summary of the Pritchard Church Monthly Generosity Report

MARCH 2026

A copy of the full report is available on request.

	<u>MARCH</u>	<u>YEAR-TO-DATE</u>
Generosity (Tithes & Offerings)	\$ 86,493	\$213,031
Other Income	<u>\$ 33,405</u>	<u>\$ 86,577</u>
Total Revenue	\$119,898	\$299,609
Expenses	\$120,045	\$387,410
Net Income	-\$ 148	-\$ 87,801

You may remember that last month I wrote about exceptions. Sometimes we like them; sometimes we don't. Sometimes exceptions can be confusing. Remember "I" before "E" except after "C"....exception for a bunch of words where the "E" comes before the "I" for no reason other than to keep Rusty confused?

But sometimes there are no exceptions...ever. Being generous with our finances by participating in Kingdom work and contributing through the local church is one such case. No one is "excused" from this; no one. I love how clear scripture makes this.

You would think that if there were an exception to this, it would be the ministers. I mean, ministers live off what people give. Part of the church's tithe is to provide for the ministers. So, that money has already been tithed on, right?

Well, in Numbers 18:25-26, God tells Moses to tell the Levites (the ministers) that they, too, are to give financially. They are to give "a tithe of the tithe." Wow! God must be serious! He really has closed every loophole.

As has been pointed out many times in these articles, being generous financially is an act of worship AND part of our spiritual formation. How is your worship? How is your spiritual formation?

Saved to Serve,
Rusty Thomaston

To Our Pritchard Church Family,

I want to thank the good people of Pritchard for the cards, letters, food, and especially the prayers during my recent health concerns. The Sunday School classes (especially HIS class), Women on Mission, See 'n Sew group, and other individuals have been a source of encouragement. Thank God for answered prayers!

Gail Helms



FACILITIES FORWARD: TOWN HALL

Monday, May 4
at 6:00pm

Join us in the Fellowship Hall for a light dinner, followed by an update from the Facilities Forward Team.

As we continue important conversations -

PRAY

for clear direction that God would make it evident which path we should take.

PRAY

for unity and understanding across our church that we would recognize the urgency of this season.

PRAY

that this moment would be pivotal in the life of Pritchard, advancing the Kingdom in ways greater than we can imagine.

Sweet Spirits

Join us for our final Sweet Spirits gathering on Wednesday, May 20, before we break for the summer! The Sunago Singers will present a special concert at 11:00am followed by a delicious brunch featuring French toast sticks, eggs, bacon, and fruit. Call the office or register on Church Center by the end of the day on Thursday, May 14, for a fee of \$10. After this date, the cost will increase to \$12. See you there!

Summer Camps

More details are available on Church Center and our website! REGISTER TODAY!

Sports Camp (Ages 7-11) · JUNE 22-25

Sports Camp (Ages 5-7) · JUNE 29-JULY 2

Time: 9:00am-4:00pm / **Cost:** \$199

Drop-off: Begins at 8:30am

Pick-up: No later than 4:30pm

Campers must bring a bag lunch each day.

Questions: Contact Adam Calderone.

VBS + Extended Camp · JULY 13-16

Half Day: 9:00am-12:00pm / **Cost:** Free

Full Day: 9:00am-4:00pm / **Cost:** \$150

Campers participating in the full day camp will need to bring a water bottle and bag lunch.

Drop-off: 8:45am

Pick-up / Half Day: 12:00pm - Gathering Place.

Pick-up / Full Day: No later than 4:30pm - Gym.

Questions: Contact Melissa Wisor for VBS or

Adam Calderone for Extended Camp.

Camp Ridgecrest · AUGUST 3-7

Drop-off: 8:00am Monday

Pick-up: 12:00pm Friday

Cost: \$350

Open to 3rd-12th grade during the 2025-2026 school year.

Questions: Contact Jordan Sykes or Melissa Wisor.

Farewell Summer (Ages 7-11) · AUGUST 10-13

Time: 9:00am-4:00pm / **Cost:** \$199

Drop-off: Begins at 8:30am

Pick-up: No later than 4:30pm

Campers must bring a bag lunch each day.

Questions: Contact Adam Calderone.

Summerfest (Adults Ages 50+) · AUGUST 17-21

Time: 9:00am Monday-4:00pm Friday / **Cost:** \$350

Questions: Contact Grace Sykes.

CONTACT INFO:

Rev. Grace Sykes - gsykes@pritchardchurch.com

Rev. Melissa Wisor - mwisor@pritchardchurch.com

Adam Calderone - acalderone@pritchardchurch.com

Jordan Sykes - pritchardcamp@pritchardchurch.com



Friday, May 1

Saturday, May 2

Sunday, May 3...COMMUNION

9:00am—Children and Youth Programming

9:15am—Connect Groups

10:30am—Worship

11:45am—Personnel Meeting

12:00pm—Pritchard Kids: Park, Picnic and Pictures

Monday, May 4

6:00pm—Facilities Forward: Town Hall

Tuesday, May 5

10:30am—Women on Mission

2:00pm—Afternoon Bible Study Group

12:30pm-3:00pm—Pickleball

Wednesday, May 6

6:30am—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)

10:00am-4:00pm—Thrift Store open

Thursday, May 7

6:30am—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's in Matthews)

10:15am-11:15am—Sunago Singers

Friday, May 8

Saturday, May 9

5:00pm—Youth: Upper Room

5:00pm-7:00pm—More Than Conquerors

Sunday, May 10...MOTHER'S DAY

9:00am—Children and Youth Programming

9:15am—Connect Groups

10:30am—Worship

Monday, May 11

SummerFest participants leave for Caswell

12:00pm—Endowment Meeting

6:30pm—Deacons Meeting

Tuesday, May 12

10:00am—See 'n Sew

12:15pm—CDC Advisory Board Meeting

12:30pm-3:00pm—Pickleball

Wednesday, May 13

6:30am—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)

Thursday, May 14

6:30am—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's in Matthews)

10:15am-11:15am—Sunago Singers

5:00pm—CDC Family Picnic

Friday, May 15

SummerFest participants return from Caswell

Saturday, May 16

11:00am—Fine Arts Academy Dance Recital

5:00pm-7:00pm—More Than Conquerors

Sunday, May 17

9:00am—Children and Youth Programming

9:15am—Connect Groups

10:30am—Worship

11:45am—Church Council

5:00pm—All on the Table

Monday, May 18

Tuesday, May 19

12:30pm-3:00pm—Pickleball

Wednesday, May 20

6:30am—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)

10:00am-4:00pm—Thrift Store open

11:00am-1:00pm—Sweet Spirits

Thursday, May 21

6:30am—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's in Matthews)

10:15am-11:15am—Sunago Singers

Friday, May 22

Saturday, May 23

5:00pm-7:00pm—More Than Conquerors

Sunday, May 24

9:00am—Children and Youth Programming

9:15am—Connect Groups

10:30am—Worship

Monday, May 25...MEMORIAL DAY

CAMPUS/OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, May 26

10:00am-12:00pm—Volunteers to Crisis Assistance

12:30pm-3:00pm—Pickleball

Wednesday, May 27

6:30am—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)

8:30am—Women's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)

6:30pm-8:00pm—Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 28

6:30am—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's in Matthews)

Friday, May 29

6:00pm—Fine Arts Academy Piano Recital

Saturday, May 30

7:00-8:00am—Serving our Unhoused Neighbors

5:00pm-7:00pm—More Than Conquerors

Sunday, May 31...GRADUATE RECOGNITION

9:00am—Children and Youth Programming

9:15am—Connect Groups

10:30am—Worship