



In A Wilderness

A pre-Easter sermon centered on Jesus's wilderness retreat and temptations stuck with me. My wife, Marty, and I have more time outdoors than most people, but have we really experienced the wilderness?

We walked for 17 days in Himalaya of Nepal. Often, we walked past small hamlets and monasteries passing pack and porter trains and sleeping at the edge of hamlets. Even camping above 14,000 feet, in Rolwaling Valley, where few westerners have been; we saw children collecting fuel (dung) for the summer herding huts. We only saw or passed briefly through wilderness.

In the Alps or Tetons of Idaho/Wyoming towns were half a day's hike away with towns and roads often seen from ridge tops. We hiked eight days in the Peruvian Andes, but we might have camped one night in the wilderness. Otherwise, camping was near villages and pack trains often passed us. A backpacking trip into Federal Cranberry Wilderness and one into desert backcountry of Capital Reef felt the most like wilderness.

However, I believe all of us experience wilderness produced in our minds. The extremes are clinical depression and psychosis. More commonly, we get in a wilderness by stress of planning our future (even a college major), general depression, or grief. Even frustration and exhaustion may put us there. Then like Jesus, we might "hear" extreme temptations. I believe few people are challenged by Satan, but we all hunger and thirst for relief.

We need to remember that our path out of wilderness is lighted by the Holy Spirit and we have Jesus Christ to follow, with God the father looking ahead for us. Believing that God wishes well for us can help make our path out of the wilderness less of a trek. Although we are in real wilderness of our mind, sometimes with God's help we discover we have "only half a day's hike out." The believing community tells us that we are supported no matter how vast our wilderness is.

Joe Schmidt

Stirring Up a Life With Meaning

 Newsletter, Newsletter, Church Art Pro, May, 2026

When Winston Churchill once dined at a prestigious London restaurant, he tasted his soup and promptly sent it back to the kitchen. "It has no theme," he complained.

A good soup, he insisted, should have a theme. The same can be said of many things that matter: a good book, a meaningful concert, a memorable film, a powerful sermon, a beautiful work of art. It is also true of a good life.

Joan of Arc, the French martyr, declared, "God must be served first." That was her theme. St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians that he desired to know nothing among them except Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 2:2). That was his theme. Again and again, we see that every truly devoted Christian lives with a central, guiding focus — an overriding theme.

That realization invites a personal question: What is ours?

Pastor and psychologist Dr. Curtis Nigh offers this challenge: "If the heart does not have a noble or goodly theme, then it develops an anti-theme." In other words, if we do not intentionally shape our lives around what is good and holy, something lesser will quietly take its place.

To be a Christian is to embrace a compelling, Christ-centered theme. It shapes our priorities, our decisions, our relationships and our hope. It is not simply an idea we admire — it is the heartbeat of a life lived for God.

Church Calendar

Please help keep the church office current with calendar additions, changes and information.

To avoid scheduling conflicts and to maintain accuracy, please notify Cyndy A.S.A.P.

cyndysusan.sfpc@gmail.com Thanks! Cyndy

Do these belong to you?

The Lost and Found basket was moved to the back of the Sanctuary from the office entry way bookshelf. I just noticed it is full of glasses and a heart ring. The basket will be placed on the table in the back of the Sanctuary for you to claim your item.



Events and Activities

Wednesday, April 29

7:00 ... Choir

Sunday, May 3

10:00 ... Counterpoints & Faith in Action SS Adult Classes
 10:00 ... Children's & Middle School SS Classes
 11:00 ... In person & Facebook Worship Service, Rev. Marissa Carver
 12:00 ... Outreach Meeting
 5:00 ... Youth Group

Monday, May 4

2:00 ... Bridge
 4:30 ... Knitting Group

Tuesday, May 5

12:00 ... **Circle 3**, Susan Quarles Home
 3:30 ... **Circle 2**, Jackie Hensley's Home



Wednesday, May 6

7:00 ... Choir

Sunday, May 10 *Mother's Day*

10:00 ... Counterpoints & Faith in Action SS Adult Classes
 10:00 ... Children's & Middle School SS Classes
 11:00 ... In person & Facebook Worship Service, Rev. Marissa Carver
 5:00 ... Youth Group

Monday, May 11

2:00 ... Bridge
 4:30 ... Knitting Group

Tuesday, May 12

12:00 ... **ROSM** board meeting, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, May 13

7:00 ... Choir

Friday, May 15

11:00 ... **Friendship Day**, Church of the Ascension

Save the date:

Wednesday, May 20

6:00 ... Wednesday Night Dinner

Worship Sunday

Attendance: **April 26, 2026**
 SFPC in person: **61**
Join us Sundays - 11:00 a.m.,
also online service.
 During our live streaming time,
 you can go to

YouTube: [youtube.com/@southfrankfortpresbyterian8198](https://www.youtube.com/@southfrankfortpresbyterian8198)
 or to
Facebook: [facebook.com/sfpchurch](https://www.facebook.com/sfpchurch)

The next week, you may go to
www.sfpcky.org, the church's
 website and click "YouTube"
 or "Facebook" at the bottom
 right corner of the website to

If not in the service, please consider donating one of two ways:

1. Mail a check to: South Frankfort Presbyterian Church, 224 Steele Street, Frankfort, KY 40601.
 2. Click the green "Give Now" button on our website at sfpcy.org. You can start and manage your account, and even set up repeating donations.



April 26, 2026
Offering: \$1,614.00

Prayer List

Helen Taulbee	Glenda Harned
Jackie Hensley	Jane Wilson
Bill Cheek	Ann Disney
Patti Cross	Christine Richards
Alice Delambre	Carolynn Underwood
Addie Harrod	Nancey Belle Smith
Presley Winner	Brad Wirth
Dale Bryant	Marcella Diehl

Names remain on the Prayer List for four weeks unless the request is long term. To add or retain people with their permission, email or call the church office.

April 28 Janet Gates
April 28 Jennifer Grisham
April 29 Elizabeth Harris

Happy May Birthdays!

May 4 Lucas Ritter
May 6 Karen Brady
May 9 Tierelee Logan
May 10 Anna Curlin
May 12 Christy Brock
May 16 Nancey Belle Smith
May 17 Jim Roberts
May 19 Njomi Bebe
May 19 Kim Fern
May 25 Matthew Harned
May 25 Wood Smith
May 30 Stephen Taylor



CHURCH WOMEN UNITED
 OF FRANKLIN COUNTY

FRIENDSHIP DAY
 MAY 15, 2026

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
 311 WASHINGTON STREET
 GATHERING @ 11:00A
 PROGRAM @ 11:30A
 SPEAKER: ELLY GILBERT, AUTHOR
 LUNCH TO FOLLOW
 BRING A FRIEND!!!!
 TWO OFFERINGS WILL BE RECEIVED



Notice

Please avoid unplugging cords in the main office when office staff is not available.

Changing the cords has often disrupted administration internet connections.

If the problem is finally understood, it has often taken 1/2 hour to an hour to resolve the problem and use the computer again.

Thanks!



Updating Our Church Files!

Please call the office or email: cyndysusan.sfp@gmail.com, any address, email and phone number changes you have made in the past two years.

We would also like to know if you still have your land line and specifically what emails and phone numbers you wish for the church to use.

If you are a member and your birthday is not listed in the Newsletter, please send us the date. Our records require the year, but the year will not be posted.

>:) Thank you!!

Please include any children and their birthdays who attend church activities.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Kentucky Derby

Word Search

DIRECTIONS:
Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.



- BET
- CHURCHILL
- COLT
- CROWD
- DERBY
- DOWN
- FESTIVAL
- FILLY
- GELDING
- GOVERNOR
- HORSE
- JOCKEY
- KENTUCKY
- LOUISVILLE
- MAY
- ODDS
- RACE
- RUN FOR THE ROSES
- SEATTLE SLEW
- SECRETARIAT
- THOROUGHBRED
- TRIPLE CROWN
- TROPHY
- WINNER



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Name: _____ Date: _____

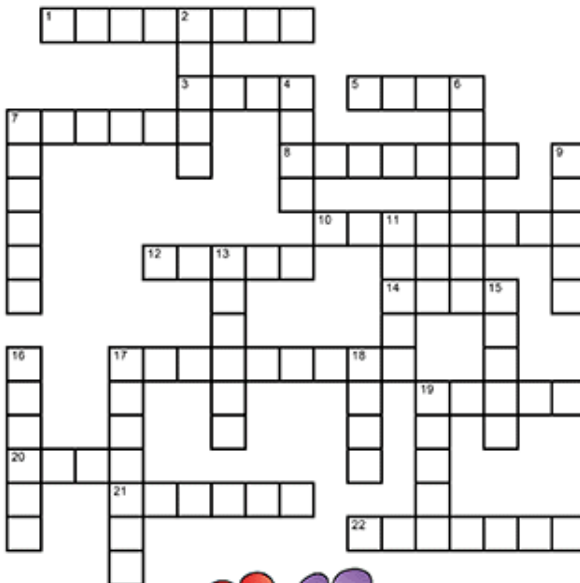
Spring is Here!

Across

1. It warms and brightens everything.
3. Warm up from a freeze.
5. They make honey.
7. Meal in the park.
8. Colorful arc in the sky.
10. It keeps the rain off you.
12. The color of spring grass.
14. Where a bird lives.
17. An adult caterpillar.
19. A baby chicken.
20. What chicks hatch from.
21. It comes after winter.
22. Red insect with black spots.

Down

2. Come out of an egg.
4. Wiggly creature that lives in the ground.
6. Short rainfalls.
7. Small pool of rain.
9. What the lawn is made of.
11. Another name for a rabbit.
13. A spring holiday.
15. Holland is famous for this flower.
16. Just a little wind.
17. Flower on a tree.
18. It is green and on a plant.
19. It might hide the sun.



Word Bank: Bees, Blossom, Breeze, Bunny, Butterfly, Chick, Cloud, Easter, Eggs, Grass, Green, Hatch, Ladybug, Leaf, Nest, Picnic, Puddle, Rainbow, Showers, Spring, Sunshine, Thaw, Tulip, Umbrella, Worm

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