

Issue 26 | Volume 11

In the Summer of 2027 Belleville Wesleyan Church will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Our building has served us well since being built in 1979. She needs a little TLC before our 100-year celebration. Okay, a lot of TLC!

What can you do to help us Renovate Before '28? Below are some of the ideas your leaders are pursuing. Where can you and your family make a difference?

Please consider the ideas below and ask yourself, where can I best use my God-given ability to make a positive difference? And understand, you may be asked to do something a little out of your comfort zone, but please, be ready and willing to help. We need each other and we are better together.

“From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, *as each part does its work.*” Ephesians 4:16

### **RENOVATE BEFORE '28 Partial PROJECT LIST**

1. Playground – **completed**
2. Motion-activated light switches installed in the restrooms and basement
3. Basement Bathrooms: completely redone
4. Foyer: paint, purchase new furniture/fixtures/wall decorations, replace drinking fountains, new coffee/snack bar, more TV's
5. Upstairs Janitor's Space: cleaned and reorganized
6. Basement: Combine storage and small office space + build new storage system
7. Children's Room (next to office): paint, remove everything, purchase large toys for toddlers, cut down wall between kid's room and nursery
8. Basement classrooms – paint and new carpet – **completed**

**Communion:** We will remember Jesus and all He does for us on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

## Graduates

Graduates Needed! If you have a family member who is graduating from pre-school, junior high, high school, trade school or college please let us know. We would like to honor their achievement and celebrate with them.

Please email the church office @ [markwesley@nckcn.com](mailto:markwesley@nckcn.com) or text

Pastor Mark @ (785) 527-3510 or Pastor Pam @ (785) 527-3512.

Let us know the graduate's name, their graduation level and the school as well as any special honors or awards they have earned.

We will honor our graduates on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>.

## *Men's & Ladies Bible Study Groups*

Our men and ladies' groups meet Sunday evenings @ 6:30pm to study God's Word and encourage one another. You are welcome to join us in the upstairs classrooms.

### ***'Change for Life' Baby Bottle Project***

The Baby Bottle Project is an easy way to support life. All you have to do is pick up a baby bottle at church on Mother's Day. Take it home and drop your spare change in it and then return the filled bottle to church on Father's Day. The money will be collected and sent to Heart Choices and/or Kansans for Life.

Every cent will be used to help women and children in need and support our most precious commodity...life.

"Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from Him." Psalms 127:3

### ***Youth Group***

Our Youth Group meets each Wednesday @ 6:00pm. Their last meeting for the Spring will be on Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. On May 13<sup>th</sup> they will meet at 6:30pm to organize the concessions schedule for the summer. **Thanks to everyone who supported our Youth Garage Sale. \$1100.00 was raised to help send our kids to Summer Church Camp.**

**Camp this summer will be at Lakeview Christian Camp from May 31<sup>st</sup> – June 5<sup>th</sup>.**

The Youth will be running the concession stands at the ball fields during the month of June. If any of you adults are able to help any evening during the week, please contact Sister Pam.

### ***Awana***

Thank you leaders for making Awana a great success! You did an amazing job with the kids!!! We praise God for you: Mabel, Angie, Gary, Linda, Hannah, Marlea and Pastor Mark. Stay tuned, Awana will be back in the Fall.

## Pastor Mark's Minute:

**“STOP!” Yes, I’m talking to you! I mean it, “STOP!”** In our dog-eat-dog, micro-wave world, we travel at the speed of ‘why wasn’t that finished yesterday!’ Boy howdy, do we celebrate speed. Power. Achievement. Advancement. Breakthrough. Momentum. Being first above all else. And *SLOW* never seems to get celebrated or encouraged.

In my life, God and I are working together on *SLOW*. *I have discovered that SLOW* helps me get through the day without becoming frustrated and losing my cool with people and situations. If my mind starts to race, *SLOW* is the antidote. In our church, I’ve discovered my desire to *SLOW* down is quite challenging. Keeping up. Making the meetings. Accomplishing tasks. Getting things done so we can succeed is what I expect. But *SLOW* doesn’t get a lot of positive press coverage as a tactic for surviving and thriving in our chaotic world. Speed is the way to go, right? Speed is an effective tool. Speed is where it’s at. And yes, sometimes speed is necessary. But **speed is not a virtue**, despite the fact that our culture has elevated it to virtue status.

Hurry has become our default setting. Can I get an, ‘amen?’ We measure our worth by our output, our value by our productivity and our significance by how much we can accomplish in an hour, a day, a week.

***But hurry is not spiritually neutral. It has a spiritual cost.*** When we hurry, we become like a speed boat, we skim the surface of our lives and our loves.

We barrel past the quiet invitations to notice, to feel, to connect, to enjoy. We often operate on autopilot, reacting rather than reflecting. When we give in to the pressure of hurry, and who hasn’t? We become human ‘doings’ instead of human ‘beings.’

The late, great Zig Ziglar often said, **“You’ve got to BE before you can DO, and DO before you can HAVE.”**

When will we realize that we are beings first and foremost, we are not ‘doings.’ And yet, speed is attractive, it promises us everything and delivers exhaustion and anxiety if we don’t learn how to keep speed in its proper place. *SLOW* is not about doing less, though sometimes it requires that. Slow is not about laziness or avoidance, though it can be mistaken for both.

***SLOW is a spiritual practice.*** It’s an act of resistance against the gods of hurry.

In my family life, *Slow* is becoming the new normal. It’s the only way to really listen to what Pam, the kids and grandkids are really saying. It’s the only way to sort out any racing thoughts that come busting into my brain at all hours of the day and night.

Do you ever feel like you are rushing through life? Missing some of the important things that truly matter? The following verses and thoughts will help you to reset your life on the ‘*SLOW* Setting.’ You do have one. These verses will help you hear from God as well as hear, see, and experience your loved ones better. Read over these verses *SLOWly*...let them sink in to your mind...your heart...your soul...like a gentle, misty rain.

**“...Be still, and know that I am God...” Psalm 46:10**

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Stillness is where we meet God's strength and love. We notice His beauty all around us. Maybe, like me, stillness isn't your default, but it's worth practicing.

**"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." Isaiah 41:10**

God doesn't expect us to be strong on our own. When we're weak, He carries us. His strength becomes our breath when we're out of breath.

**"Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest." Mark 6:31**

Even Jesus told his disciples to slow down to rest. If the Son of God made time for rest, shouldn't we?

**"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30**

Have you ever thought that busyness might be a burden worth laying down? Jesus doesn't just suggest rest—He *invites* us into it. His yoke is light. His rest is soul-giving.

**"In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps." Proverbs 16:9**

Slowing down gives us space to hear God; to sense when He's redirecting or guiding our path. Without pause, we miss His quiet leading.

### **Here are a Few Practical Ideas for SLOWing Down:**

Start your day with a Bible verse instead of a scroll through your phone.

Brew your tea or coffee *SLOWly*, as a quiet moment of preparation. Write a verse on a card and place it near your sink, nightstand, or dashboard. End your day by meditating on one promise of God's peace. *SLOWness* is a form of discipleship. It teaches us to walk with, and not race ahead of, the Holy Spirit of God. "Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit." Galatians 5:25

**As your pastor, one who cares about you, please, "STOP!" At least slow down and catch your breath. I truly love you and can't wait to see you on Sunday!**

### ***90 Day Stewardship Journey***

Financial Peace is not about wealth—it is about contentment, discipline, and trust. Paul experienced abundance and hardship, yet he discovered the secret: Christ was enough. When Jesus becomes our ultimate treasure, money loses its power to control our hearts. Peace comes not from financial success but from faithful stewardship.

**Here are great reflection Questions:** What has God taught me during this journey? Which habits will I continue? How has my perspective on money changed?

**Reach out to Pastor Mark today with your story of financial peace. Send an email to: [markwesley@nckn.com](mailto:markwesley@nckn.com) and explain what God has done in your heart and in your finances over the last 90 Days.**

*Mother's Day  
is May 11th*

Bring your mother to church  
and we'll celebrate her special  
day together!

*Meals-on-Wheels*

We will be delivering meals to our local shut-ins  
the week of May 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up and help  
with this valuable ministry. The sign-up sheet is  
on the clip board in the foyer.

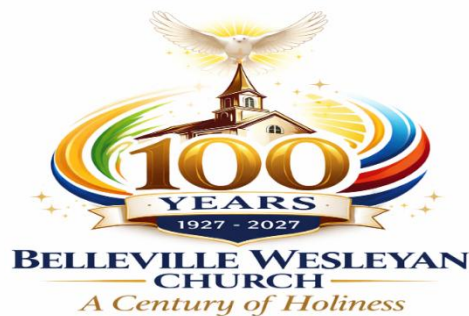
**Rededication of America on May 17<sup>th</sup>**

On January 1, 2026, the United States began our year-long commemoration of 250 years of American freedom and independence. President Trump has announced a day of prayer, praise, and thanksgiving for May 17, 2026, including a special event on the National Mall in Washington, DC.

May 17<sup>th</sup> has historical roots. In 1776, the American colonies were facing the likelihood of a war with the British Empire. Armed conflict between patriots and British troops had already exploded in 1775 in the Battles of Lexington, Concord, and Bunker Hill. More British troops were headed across the Atlantic.

In January 1776, Thomas Paine published a pamphlet titled *Common Sense*. In it, he called for complete independence from England. On March 16, 1776, the Continental Congress called for May 17<sup>th</sup> to be "a day of humiliation, fasting, and prayer; that we may, with united hearts, confess...our sins and transgressions, and, by a sincere repentance...and through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, obtain his pardon and forgiveness; humbly imploring his assistance to frustrate the cruel purposes of our unnatural enemies . . ."

Join us on May 17<sup>th</sup> to rededicate our country and our faith to almighty God.



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*"Because we care...about you!"*