

OPINIONS

The opinion page does not reflect the views of the KyNewsGroup.

Jesus, the good Shepherd (Sermon at Peeled Oak Christian Church)

Article by Jerry Hall, Peeled Oak Christian Church. If you are looking for a home church, join us.

A friend of mine recounted an experience he had with his friends a few years ago while they were out west. One of his friends owned a large flock of sheep on his farm. He mentioned that the sheep would follow their owner wherever he went. Although he did not have to speak to them frequently, they evidently recognized his voice when he did speak. If someone else gave them voice instructions or attempted to get them to perform a task, the sheep would not comply. During this occurrence, he recalled the bible verse that states, "The sheep know my voice, and they will not go to anyone else."

A Shepherd in a World of Strangers

In a world full of noise, competing voices, and spiritual confusion, Jesus steps forward in John 10 and gives us one of the most comforting and powerful revelations of who He is. He doesn't call Himself a king although He is one. He doesn't call Himself a judge, though He will be one. Instead, He calls Himself something empathetic, relational, and deeply personal:

"I am the good shepherd."

The Good Shepherd Calls His Sheep (John 10:1-3)

Jesus begins with a contrast: There are thieves and robbers who climb in another way, but the true shepherd enters by the door. What does this mean? Jesus

comes with divine authority, not deception. He comes openly, not secretly. When the serpent spoke to Eve, he didn't announce it to Adam. One thing for sure, he didn't call for God to enter the conversation.

John 10:3 "The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name." He calls you by name. This is not a general call. It is personal. It is intimate. It is specific. The sheep know the shepherd's voice. They won't respond to any other. Jesus doesn't drive the sheep — He leads them. "He goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice." He leads from the front. A shepherd in the Middle East didn't walk behind the sheep with a stick. He walks ahead, calling them, guiding them, and protecting them. Jesus leads us the same way: He leads us into truth. He leads us into peace. He leads us into purpose. He leads us into life. The sheep follow because they know His voice. This is the heart of discipleship. Not: following rules, following religion, following tradition, but following His voice. The more you walk with Him, the more clearly you recognize Him.

He knows your past, your wounds, your fears, and your failures, but most importantly, He knows your potential. And still, He calls you. Jhn 10:9 I am the gate! If anyone comes in through Me, he will be saved. He will come and go and find pasture. Jhn 10:10 The thief comes only to steal, slaughter, and destroy. I have come that they

might have life, and have it abundantly! "I am the door of the sheep." In ancient sheepfolds, the shepherd literally became the door — lying across the entrance at night. Nothing could enter unless it passed over his body. Now, that's dedication. Jesus stands between you and danger. He protects: your soul, your mind, your future and most importantly, your eternity. The Good Shepherd Gives His Life for the Sheep (John 10:11) "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." This is the gospel in one sentence.

He doesn't lose His life — He gives it. At the cross, the Shepherd became the Lamb. He died so we could live. He was struck so we could be healed. He was forsaken so we could be found. So, how do we hear the Shepherd's Voice Today? The question is not whether He is speaking — the question is whether we are listening. The more time we spend with God, the easier it is to hear His voice. We don't have to study the works of the devil to recognize him. All we need to know is the scriptures that God has given us and the word he has spoken to our hearts. Anything else will be quite evident as a phony, fake, and dangerous to our lives. Today, Jesus' voice calls out: "Come to Me, follow Me, trust Me and I will lead you." You will find your true identity in knowing His purpose for your life.

It's so ironic that we can find life in His sacrifice.

Letter to the Editor

Why I Support Jon Crouch for Bath County Sheriff

I am proud to support Jon Crouch for Sheriff of Bath County.

I had the privilege of serving with Jon when he was a member of the 301st Chemical Company during our deployment to Iraq from 2009 to 2010. As the unit commander during that time, I saw firsthand the character, professionalism, and dedication he brought to the mission every day.

Jon was entrusted with some of the most demanding and sensitive responsibilities our unit performed. He was selected for specialized training through the U.S. Department of State to conduct Personal Security Details — work that requires exceptional discipline, sound judgment, and the ability to make critical decisions under pressure. Jon also served as part of the team responsible for providing Quick Reaction Force support to the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, a role that required constant readiness and absolute trust among team members.

These assignments were not given lightly. They

were reserved for soldiers who demonstrated reliability, integrity, and the ability to perform in high-stress environments where the safety of others depended on their actions.

Those same qualities are exactly what Bath County should look for in a sheriff.

Beyond the training and experience, Jon has always been someone who takes responsibility seriously. He understands the importance of protecting others, working as part of a team, and serving a mission larger than himself. In Iraq, that mission was protecting American personnel and supporting our nation's diplomatic presence. Here at home, the mission is protecting the citizens of Bath County and ensuring your community remains safe.

Leadership, integrity, and service are not slogans for Jon — they are values he has lived throughout his military service.

I believe the people of Bath County would be well served by a sheriff who has already proven his ability to operate under pressure, lead with integrity, and put the safety of others first. I have and would continue to trust Jon with my life,

you would be well served to trust him to protect Bath County!

For those reasons, I am proud to support Jon Crouch for Sheriff of Bath County.

Travis Huber
Former Commander,
301st Chemical Company
Operation Iraqi Freedom

The City of Frenchburg/Frenchburg Water will be accepting job applications until March 26, 2026 at 4:30 p.m. This will be a full-time position, with paid benefits and state retirement. Company truck provided once probation period is over. Will have the ability to drive it home if you live in the county. Pay based on experience. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must have a valid driver's license and be able to pass a drug test. Backhoe experience is a plus. Examples of job duties and responsibilities include necessary work related to mowing city property and maintenance of streets, including removal of snow. Routine work requires employee to work both indoors and outdoors in all weather conditions. Install water meters for new connections, cuts off water to delinquent customers. Replace inoperable meters as necessary. Assist in repairing water and sewer lines. Performs related work as required. Applications are available at Frenchburg Water & Sewer/City Hall in Frenchburg, 28-B Bible Camp Lane, Frenchburg KY 40322, phone 606-768-3457.

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JOB OPENING

Gateway Community Action seeks a CEO in West Liberty, KY to lead programs across a five-county service area. Bachelor's degree and 5+ years executive leadership (nonprofit preferred); master's and 10+ years preferred. Oversight of staff, budgeting, and strategic growth to alleviate poverty. Full-time, day-exempt; salary \$100,000+ negotiable. Competitive benefits and relocation required within the service area. Apply: <https://gatewaycaa.org/join-the-team>

SECTION 00 11 00
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Bath County Fiscal Court
19 E. Main Street
Owingsville, Kentucky 40360

Separate sealed Bids for the construction of Contract No. 1 – Bath County 911 Dispatch Relocation including the construction of a new 2" PVC conduit for future fiber optic cabling (by others) from the existing radio tower control building to the lower level of the Bath County Courthouse Annex and all related appurtenances and improvements as shown on the DRAWINGS and described in the SPECIFICATIONS will be received by the Bath County Fiscal Court at the Bath County Courthouse Annex Building at 19 E. Main Street, Owingsville, Kentucky 40360 until 2:00 p.m., (Local Time) Monday, March 30, 2026. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Bath County Courthouse Annex Building at 2:00p.m., (Local Time) Monday, March 30, 2026.

The Contract Time allotted for the completion of this Contract is sixty (60) consecutive calendar days.

Bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a unit price basis as indicated in the Bid Form. The Contract Documents may be examined at the following location:
Bath County Fiscal Court, 19 E. Main Street, Owingsville, Kentucky 40360
Phone: 606.674.6346.
Electronic copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained by visiting www.gwadd.org/rfps-public-comment/ or contacting Collin Ray, PE, PLS at (606) 336-3306 or email collin.ray@optipllc.com

Full size paper copies of the Contract Documents can be obtained from Optic Engineering & Surveying, PLLC upon receipt of a non-refundable amount of \$50.00 for each complete set of documents.

The following shall be the official contact for the project. All communication and clarification concerning the bidding documents shall be forwarded through the contact listed below. All correspondence and questions shall be copied by email:

Company: Optic Engineering & Surveying, PLLC
Collin Ray, PE, PLS
Cell: 606.336.3306
Email: collin.ray@optipllc.com

If necessary, an addendum to the contract documents will be sent out at 4:00p.m. (Local Time) Wednesday, March 25, 2026. All questions must be submitted via email to Collin Ray, collin.ray@optipllc.com, by 4:00p.m. (Local Time) on Tuesday, March 24, 2026.

All bids must be made on required Bid Form and must be fully completed and executed with original signatures and corporate seals.

Bids submitted are subject to a period of validity extending through 11:59p.m. (Local Time) Monday, August 31st, 2026. During this time, the offer remains open for acceptance without change. A Notice to Proceed shall not be expected prior to this date.

Funding for this contract is being provided by Bath County Fiscal Court through a 911 Services Board Grant. Award of any contract is contingent upon the successful receipt and availability of grant funds.

Bidders must certify they do not and will not maintain or provide for their employees any facilities that are segregated or based on race, color, creed or national origin. Bidders must comply with 41 CFR 60-4 in regard to affirmative action and to insure equal opportunity to females and minorities, and all that are applicable. Minorities and small businesses are encouraged to submit bids on this project.

Bidders must comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

Successful Bidder shall make positive efforts to use small, minority, women owned and disadvantaged businesses.

The Bath County Fiscal Court, reserves the right to waive any bidding informalities and to reject any or all bids, for any reason. The right is reserved by the Owner, in the exercise of its sole judgment to reject any or all Bids, and to re-advertise and award the Contract in the regular manner or to waive any informalities, irregularities, mistakes, errors, or omissions in any Bid received and to accept any Bid deemed to be responsive to this invitation and favorable to interests of the Owner.

The sealed bid for this project shall be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope: "Sealed Bid for Contract No. 1 – Bath County 911 Dispatch Relocation". The bid may be mailed to: Bath County Fiscal Court, PO Box 39, Owingsville, Kentucky 40360 or hand delivered to: Joan Becraft, Financial Officer, at the Bath County Courthouse Annex Building, 19 E. Main Street, Owingsville, Kentucky 40360. A certified check or Bid Bond payable to the Bath County Fiscal Court in the amount of five (5) percent of the Bid shall accompany the Bid.

Bid Schedule

Advertisement for Bid in Bath County News Outlook: Thursday, March 19, 2026.

Pre-Bid Meeting: 10:00a.m. (Local Time) Tuesday, March 24, 2026 at the Bath County Courthouse Annex located at 19 E. Main Street Owingsville, Kentucky 40360.

Last day for questions to Collin Ray, collin.ray@optipllc.com : 4:00p.m. (Local Time) Tuesday, March 24, 2026.

Addendum #1 (if necessary): 4:00p.m. (Local Time) Wednesday, March 25, 2026.

Latest Bid Received by: 2:00p.m. (Local Time) Monday, March 30, 2026.

Public Bid Opening: 2:00p.m. (Local Time) Monday, March 30, 2026 at the Bath County Courthouse Annex Building.

Forrest McKenzie, Judge Executive
Bath County, Kentucky

Date: 03/17/2026

-- END OF SECTION --

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Ad prices good
March 18-March 24



Our meat is cut fresh daily in store.

<p>Fresh Boneless Pork Loin Chops Family Pack \$2.19/lb.</p>	<p>Chef Boyardee Pasta 14.5-15 oz., Assorted Varieties 5 for \$5</p>
<p>Fresh Beef T-Bone Steaks Family Pack \$5.99/lb.</p>	<p>Mandarin Oranges \$3.99 ea.</p> <p>Pineapples 2 for \$5</p>
<p>Fresh Chicken Drumsticks Family Pack 99¢/lb.</p>	<p>Yellow Onions \$1.69 ea.</p>
<p>Farmington Hickory Smoked Thick Cut Bacon \$9.99 2 1/2 lb. Pkg.</p>	<p>North Star Ice Cream Bars or Sandwiches 30-42 oz., Assorted Varieties \$4.99</p>
<p>12 pk. cans Pepsi Products 3 for \$16</p>	<p>Doritos or Funyuns 6-9.75 oz., Assorted Varieties 2 for \$7</p>
<p>605 Doe Run Drive Mt. Sterling Phone (859) 498-3076</p>	<p>78 Creekside Drive Owingsville Phone (606) 674-9343</p>