

CHURCH CALENDAR

FUNDRAISER

Smithland First Baptist Church, 237 Court St., Smithland, will hold its 5K Run & Walk on Saturday, Oct. 18, 2025. Registration at 7:30 a.m. Race begins at 8 a.m. at the church. Proceeds will go to the SBFC-LCHS Scholarship and Turkey Give Away. Information and preregistration call 270-350-6957 or e-mail smithlandfirstbaptistchurch@gmail.com.

SPECIAL SERVICES/ CELEBRATIONS

Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, 830 Oscar Cross Blvd, Paducah, will be celebrate its 151st Church Anniversary at the 3 p.m. service Sunday. Guests will be Rev. Raynardo Henderson and the congregation of Washington Street Baptist Church. The theme is “Rejoicing in Hope; Our Journey Ahead, Romans 12:12.

Color theme is Fall Colors. The minister of Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church is Rev. Donna G. Hawkins. Information: 574-234-0876. Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 1110 North 14th Street, Paducah, will have guest speaker Tineka Fitzgerald from Greater Love Baptist Church at its 11 a.m. Sunday service. Information: 270-442-1000.

SUBMIT ITEMS

Items for the Church Calendar must be received by email by noon Tuesday to news@paducahsun.com. No handwritten announcements, please. Put Church Calendar in the subject line. Include the name, location, physical address, date, and time of the event, along with the phone number and name for contact information.

Soup season

It happens every year at about this time. I noticed the darkness. It is that shoulder season, when the last bits of summer are hanging on in the evening. In the morning, there is a slight tease of a refreshing chill that can’t quite make itself felt. There will be a day, sooner rather than later, that I will get home in the afternoon. It will be dark, windy, rainy, and the leaves will be tumbling onto the ground. The clock on the summer projects will have run out. Whatever did not get done will have to wait until spring. I will start the first fire since last spring, chop some celery and onion and drop it into a pan of hot butter as the first step of our



DR. SEAN NIESTRATH

evening meal. It will be time to settle into “soup season.” The chorus sound of insects in the evening gives way to the last of the “spring peepers” chirping before hibernation. That distinct smell of fallen leaves decaying that I connect with all the other (more pleasant) aromas of the upcoming season — allspice, cinnamon, cloves, and cardamom. The lower angle of the sun filtering through low clouds feels serene, as though the work is nearly complete and it’s time to rest. This time of year is no less busy than others, but it does feel that way. Maybe it is the relative predictability of the coming weeks. Visiting with

neighbors as their children collect sweets on Halloween. Preparing for Thanksgiving. There is baking to do along with some shopping. Christmas. New Year’s Eve. A little rest. This is a time of reflection. It is a time of comfort food and familiar smells. It is no accident that we feel nostalgic in the coming months. Many of us make familiar family recipes. The sweet and savory spices wafting about may take us back as far as we can remember. Grief and joy are in the air. There is remembrance and hope for the future. If there are family gatherings, the oldest among us may reach four generations in either direction. This is the season when we learn how well our time has been used to prepare

for life. I think it is another reason we feel this season more than others. Not just the changes in the weather and daylight, but in our lives as well. It is a time to make an extra effort and reach out to our families or those who need one. Being content does not mean being inactive. Anyone who hosts family gatherings knows this. I have time to think about those who I care about. It is a good time to make that phone call or write that note on a peaceful evening when the mind is settled. It is a time of year to learn how to set aside harsh feelings and pride. One of my favorite passages in the category of a personal note in the New Testament is at the end of II Timothy. It appears that it was written during “soup season.”

It is a touching note from an aged apostle to one of his beloved disciples. He writes of people deserting him and opposing him. He is thankful for Luke, who stayed. He asked for Mark (whom he had a disagreement with years earlier) to join Timothy. But what gives this note its power and life is asking for his cloak, books, and parchment — and to come before winter. It was “soup season” and Paul was nearly alone in prison in Rome. “Do your best to come to me soon. For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. Luke alone is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you; for he is very useful in serving me. Tychicus I

have sent to Ephesus. When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments. Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will requite him for his deeds. Beware of him yourself, for he strongly opposed our message. At my first defense no one took my part; all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength to proclaim the message fully, that all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion’s mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen. Do your best to come before winter.” (II Timothy 4:9-18; 21)

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Taking bids for said vehicle that
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0900 LEGALS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PADUCAH PLANNING COMMISSION

On Monday November 3, 2025
at 5:30 PM, the Paducah
Planning Commission will
conduct a public hearing
regarding:

Case #ZON2025-0004--
Proposed zoning change from
R-2 Low & Medium Density
Residential Zone to B-3
General Business Zone at
2706, 2728 and 2730 for a
dentist office expansion.
Request is made by Siteworx
Survey & Design as
professional representative.

The hearing will be held in the
Commission Chambers of
Paducah City Hall, located at
300 South 5th Street, Paducah
KY 42003.

Inquires may be made to
270-444-8690 ext. 2067 or
<http://www.paducahky.gov/planning-commission-and-urcda>.

Applications may be continued
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