

The Scroll

Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church
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1600 W. Mallard Creek Church Road



From Pastor Rob

As we open August, we are opening yet another new chapter in our life together at Mallard Creek. Many of our ministries that were quiet last year are resurrecting this fall into new life and new ways of being. We will be offering classes, worship, fellowship, small groups, and mission opportunities for all ages, both online and in person.

One thing the pandemic gave us the chance to do was expand exactly how we are church and how we are able to reach more and more people in a variety of formats. It promises to be an exciting time. As one Elder stated it at a recent Session meeting, we will be meeting the 21st Century, using the wisdom of our predecessors.

On Sunday, August 22, we will hold a Celebration Sunday, kicking off our programs in Christian formation, mission, preschool, youth and children's ministry, our music ministry, and all else. Not everything will start exactly on that day, but we will all see everything that is coming this fall, offer blessings to those who will make it happen, and celebrate our ability to be a church in the fullest sense.

A couple of special notes about that service on August 22—we will be blessing backpacks for our children and students returning to school and commissioning our teachers for another year of teaching.

What a special day this promises to be. I hope you will be able to join us.



CELEBRATION SUNDAY

Sunday, August 22, is going to be a special day for our church as we celebrate being able to be back together in so many ways. We will be launching Sunday School, our Children and Youth Ministries, our Music Ministries, and our Preschool for the coming year. During worship, we will commission our teachers, bless backpacks, and recommit ourselves to our work together as a church family as we reach out again to the world around us. Join us! Worship will be at 10:00 AM, followed by a fellowship time on the church lawn.

BIBLE STUDY TO RESUME

Bible Study will be resuming on August 22 for an in person study. We will meet at church at 6:30 pm on Sunday evenings. We will be studying the Gospel of Matthew for the fall. Watch for details as we get closer to our start date. The class will also be offered in an online format so folks can participate at home as they are able.

Up until now, I've taken routine vaccinations for granted. Up until now, that is.

That our children would be vaccinated against childhood diseases was never in question. That my parents saw to it that my brother and I were vaccinated against childhood diseases was never in question. Getting vaccinated was routine. It's just what you did.

I never questioned whether I would get the COVID-19 vaccine for myself. And among our extended family, only one individual has opted not to be vaccinated. I personally trust the Center for Disease Control (CDC). I trust the Federal Drug Administration (FDA). I trust science.

Having tested positive for COVID-19 has left me intentionally grateful for the gift of routine vaccines. Had I not been vaccinated, who knows how sick I would have become. Nearing 60, it's possible I would have wound up in the hospital or worse. Thus far, my symptoms have remained very mild - fatigue, congestion, headache.

Throughout these months of the pandemic, I've intentionally offered prayers of thanksgiving during worship for scientists and researchers who labored to come up with a vaccine for COVID-19, and my prayers were always sincere. But up until now, my prayers felt somehow rote. But a positive COVID-19 test changed all of this, and within a microsecond. My cup now runneth over with prayers of gratitude for those who labored to provide not one, but three different vaccines.

What a difference personal experience makes.



“Marriage Workshop to Begin in September”

Rev. Dr. Mark Larson of Sanctuary Counseling will present a four-part marriage workshop series beginning Wednesday, September 29 at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Mark is a seasoned mental health professional with over 30 years of clinical experience. Childcare for ages will be provided. Although not required, couples are encouraged to attend all sessions. There is no charge for the series.

The series, “Re-Booting Your Marriage,” is for couples of all ages and stages in their relationship. Each gathering will run roughly 1.5 hours, beginning with snacks and fellowship.

The topics to be covered include:

- ◆ Characteristics of Healthy Couples
- ◆ Learning How to Meet Your Partner's Core Emotional Needs
- ◆ Mirroring - A Different Way to Listen

Please email Pastor Alison (revallieo@gmail.com) so that we may reserve a space in the class.

Elizabeth King
Bernice Martin
Michael Rhodes
Tom Rhodes

Warner Marshall
Kenneth Helms
Caroline Willaims
Sheila Letica

Ann Brown
Joann Reid
Bonnie Hodges

Eve Cooper
Ronald Stephens
Holly Diggs

Faith Toc
David Stephens
Jack Pirrello

We pray for national and world leaders, the men and women who are serving in the Armed Forces, their families, and those who are deployed: Col. Cristina Moore - LTC Rob Byars - Austin Powers (Nat. Guard) - Major Trevor Sutherland (Air Nat. Guard) - STG2 Hunter Holland - Master SGT Rick Treadway - SGT Malcolm Allen - LTJG Morgan Whitmore ,Lt. Alex Busch and PV2 Stephen Lisi



We are gearing up for a great year at MCPCP! We are making a lot of plans and starting to get things ready for the 140+ students who are enrolled for this school year. God has blessed us with full classes and a long waiting list for each age group and we could not be more grateful to Him for continuing to watch over us and guide us every day!

MCPCP is HIRING! We have a couple openings for assistant teachers for the upcoming school year. If you LOVE children, have experience working in a school setting and are interested in joining our amazing team, call us at 704-549-9741 or email kristym@mallardcreekchurch.org. If you cannot commit to working each day but LOVE children, would like to earn some extra money, and would love working with a great team, we would love to have you sign-up to be one of our substitute teachers. Please call or email us at the information above.

Thank you again for your continued support of our preschool! It means a lot to our staff, and we would love for you to add us, our students, and preschool families to your prayers, especially as we prepare for and start our new school year!

Starting on September 7th, the office hours for the preschool will be Monday through Thursday, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (we are off on Fridays and follow CMS' school calendar for days off). It is going to be an awesome year!

'Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." ~Matthew 19:14

Kristy Maddux, Preschool Director and Paula Brasel, Administrative Assistant

Calling All Presbyterian Women – Please join us Sunday August 22, 2021 at the 10:00am service, we will announce our Lifetime member recipient. Then join us at 3:00 in the dining hall where we will have our kick-off meeting for our new PW year. We are so excited that we can again come together as Presbyterian Women and hope everyone can join us at both events!

All women in the church have been assigned to a circle, but are welcome to attend any that they wish. Each meeting is centered around a Bible study lesson. Our Bible study this year will be the PW/Horizons Bible Study "What My Grandmothers Taught Me" where it highlights many women of the Bible. We hope everyone will join us for the kick-off meeting on Sunday. Below are the circles, the time in which they meet and Circle leaders and their contact info.

Circle of Mary-Anna –Tuesday; September 14, 2021 – 10:20 am in the gathering space

(Jane Isenhower-isenhowerj@bellsouth.net)

Circle of Rebekah – Monday, September 13th 6:00 in the gathering space

(Rachel Rodden – rachrodden@gmail.com)

Circle of Ruth – September 13th 7:00 on ZOOM

(Beth Patafio – Bethpatafio@icloud.com)



Missions 2021

Mission Trip 2021 – Trying to find a place to do a mission trip during covid has been a challenge to say the least. But God has provided! One of our Mission partners has reached out for some help. Camp Grier – We have previously gone to Grier and rebuilt bunkhouses and we have 3 that are still in need of rebuilds. At Camp Grier we can have socially distance lodging- each person will have their own bunk room and the work will be outdoors. So we are happy to announce we will be going to Camp Grier September 12 – 17, 2021. Please sign up in the office if you want to participate (because of sleeping arrangements space is limited) Any questions you can contact Tom Fuller (704-310-0644) or Robin Fuller (704-701-2121)

Sonja Chisolm, Director of Gracious Hands Transitional Housing
To Speak in Worship on Sunday, August 29

On a recent Saturday morning, before the heat was too intense, a handful of folks from the Mission Committee gathered at one of the locations of Gracious Hands Transitional Housing to do a bit of yard work and install gutter guards.

For those of you who do not know, Gracious Hands provides housing to homeless women and their children. Each woman receives financial counseling, mental health counseling, job interviewing training, and life skills coaching. The residents are required to find employment and to save a certain amount of their earnings. The hope is for these women to transition out of homelessness within twelve months.

Sonja Chisolm, the founder and Director of Gracious Hands Transitional Housing, will join us for worship on Sunday, August 29 as she shares with us her story and the ministry of Gracious Hands. Join us for worship on August 29 as we learn more about the homelessness problem in our city, and how we as followers of Jesus can minister to and with those who find themselves without a home.



2021 Youth Montreat Conference

August 2021



Session Highlights

1. VBS August 8-12, please see Andrea for volunteer opportunities
2. Rise Against Hunger event scheduled for 9/11/2021, more details to come
3. Discussed reopening plan, hoping to get us fully back open soon, more details to come
4. PPP Loan was forgiven
5. Communion Packets will be used for August communion

Elder duty for August: Harvey Alexander, Tommy Mitchell, Andy Stiffel, Andy Spittle and Tom Fuller
Deacon duty for August: Leigh Johnson, Amy Spittle, Jenn Messina, Robin McCraw Phil Ashley and Perry Deaton

We welcome Karen Kosmoski and Marti McCoy as new members of MCPC!

JUNE STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Sunday School	
Worship Offering	\$39,539.23
Online Giving	\$14,230.00
TOTAL Offering	\$53,769.23
Total Offering YTD	\$267,038.23
Total Expenses YTD	\$277,800.30
Under for Year	(10,762.07)

The Session has approved proceeding with the **MCPC BBQ** this year, based on what we know now. The BBQ Committee will be working with guidance from the COVID Task Force, but rest assured if there are changes to the COVID situation that warrant the cancellation of the BBQ, there will be no hesitancy in doing that. The process of planning the BBQ has begun – but we need to hear from YOU. It has been almost 2 years, and situations may have changed for some of our members. We would like to hear from you, concerning your ability to participate. Please contact us and let us know if you will be able to participate or not.

Bill Wood 704-756-0943 dabbqman78@gmail.com

Charles Kimrey 704-408-6722 charles@universalvoicedata.com



As the school year begins we are welcoming Mallard Creek Elementary to our Backpack Blessings family. As of now we will be helping University Meadows and Mallard Creek; Parkside is uncertain.

For the month of August we are collecting school supplies and gently used clothes. As you are getting ready for the cooler weather and going thru your children's clothes please remember these needy students who sometimes come to school not prepared for the weather. Bins are in the gathering space labeled "School supplies and clothing," Clothes size needed are 5T thru 16. The bin in the sanctuary for non-perishable foods remains.

Thank you again for your continued support. Without you we would not be able to help these schools. If you are not able to donate items but want to assist with this ministry, please write a check made out to Presbyterian Women and in the memo section write "Backpack blessings."

Thank you and God's blessings to all.



Dear MCPC members,

Thank you so much for all your prayers, calls, cards and thoughts during my recent surgery. It meant so much to me to know I had a church family praying for my surgery and recovery. Please keep me in your prayers as I continue my battle and start treatments soon.

In Christ, Ronald Stephens



Reminder: Communion will be celebrated Sunday, August 1st.



SAVE THE DATE: SEPTEMBER 11, 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
September Birthdays						
			1 Martin Oehler Brian Wasko	2	3 Doug Martin Will Busch Jake Crapster Cole Scholand	4 Karen Trimble Jason Alexander
5	6 Kathleen Crosier Ernie Jones Kathryn Beard	7 Ginny Brooks Leigh Johnson Melissa Helms	8	9 Bernice Martin Charles Kimrey	10	11 Shirley Allen Lois Spradley Shawn Watkins Lewis Smith Joshua Baker Carlene Clark
12 Barbara Walker Penny Louya Anye Ndingwan	13 Sarah Alexander Alice Oehler Michael Kostrzynski	14 Brodie MacNeil Caroline Johnson	15	16 Sheri Rose	17 Alec Trimble	18 Carl Hatton
19 Gary Walker Candace Greenly	20	21	22 Michel Lapalombella	23 Nancy Garrison BJ Knox Ronnie McKay Jeb White	24 Noah Rodden	25 Cameron Mitchell Alexander Snyder Kathy Robinson
26	27 Benjamin Baker	28 Bebe McGee Sydney Oehler Caitlin Rainstein	29	30 Sue Bishop Ben Oehler		

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The Rev. Rob Watkins

The Rev. Alison Messick-Watkins

Mrs. Andrea Thomas

Mrs. Shawn Watkins

Mr. David Barnaba

Mrs. Cathy Marlor

Mrs. Kristy Maddux

Senior Pastor

Temp. Associate Pastor

Director of Children & Youth Ministry

Administrative Assistant

Director of Music

Financial Manager

Preschool Director