

# The Scroll

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Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church  
[www.mallardcreekchurch.org](http://www.mallardcreekchurch.org) | 704.547.0038  
1600 W. Mallard Creek Church Road

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## From Pastor Rob

### What do you want for Christmas this year?

That question so many children's imaginations as they ponder wishes that may actually come true. Some dream big—a HORSE!; a swimming pool; or some other humongous gift. Some dream a bit smaller—a longed-for LEGO set; a new video game; or maybe an art set. No matter the dream, there is hope—hope that springs eternal, hope that refuses to be dashed—youthful, exuberant expectancy.

I think we adults could use a bit of that Christmas wistfulness this year. The year has been up and down, lurching this way or that, for many of us. As we bring it to a close, maybe we need to consider the question sparking so many youthful imaginations—what do you want for Christmas this year?

What would make you happier, healthier, and more hopeful? What would make life easier, smoother, or simply more livable? What do you need?

Now realize that we are not asking Santa for any of these things—we can turn our answers and reflections into prayer, seeking God's bounty and grace.

That is the promise in the Christ child—God listens for us and to us; and God answers by becoming one of us and one with us. God descends to our level, takes in what is there, and abides. God abides with grace, compassion, and mercy. God prepares to offer us what is needed to make our lives what we would have them to be. By being with us in Jesus, God knows us, knows our needs, and knows what is necessary to make our lives align with God's intentions for us. *For unto us a child is born, a Son is given...*

Think on that this Advent. Look for signs of Immanuel (God with us) in this season of light and hope. One place I know to find such things is any Advent worship service—the carols, the children, the music, the decorations—it all becomes a great beacon to the hope offered in Christ. It also becomes a comfort for weary souls and worried hearts.

May the peace of Christ be with us all as we prepare for Christmas!



## Hunter's Thoughts

I am writing this a couple of days before Thanksgiving though I know it won't be read until after we have all gorged ourselves! But the Thanksgiving meal we had here at the church caused me to reflect on this year's holiday and many before it. Each has been different. But each has focused on family. And that definition can be very different from year to year.



It was such a blessing to be with so many of you on Sunday as we shared a meal. The food was wonderful - I particularly felt like I needed to sample as many of the desserts as possible! (Some of the richest chocolate ones seemed to be calling my name...) That was definitely a church family meal. Each time we gather together, that family feels stronger and stronger.

As people prepare for Thursday (or whatever day you end up celebrating Thanksgiving), all sorts of families take shape. I remember the first year Susan and I were in Seminary - it was also the first year we celebrated the holiday as a married couple. We were not able to travel to either of our homes of origin because of distance, so we created our own new family. There ended up being 9 of us in our little apartment - people from all of the country (and one from India) who likewise could not get to our biological families. So we shared a common bond. For many of us, it was the first time we had not been with our families of origin and all the traditions that entails. But instead of mourning that, we were able to learn more about each other and how we had known Thanksgiving. Each brought their favorite holiday food and we learned new tastes we would not have previously imagined. That was a family that was created and blessed by God on that day.

Over the years, I have had colleagues who came from distant places and they often chose to save their time away for Christmas. So more than once, I included them in my large extended family gathering in Charlotte. No one ever ran from the meal screaming, and a couple even came back more than one year. I like to think they felt included in our family for that event and maybe beyond as well.

That family gathering of mine has changed much over the years. My aunt is the only one of the previous generation who is still with us. But we have added to the family as spouses and children have joined us. And inevitably, there will be one or two who get invited because they don't have other family to spend the holiday with, for whatever reason. My prayer for us all is that we can all share the love that comes from being part of God's family as we gather for Thanksgivings and Christmases and Homecomings and Barbeques and many other events. May your holiday family - whatever it is - be blessed!



December is a month of joy, hope, family, and Jesus' birth so these are what we will focus on this month. We will also be busy teaching our children about the true meaning of Christmas and different events this month. Ms. Robin will share the Bible stories about The Crippled Lamb and Jesus' birth in Children's Church.

All classes will celebrate the Christmas season by coming together to sing songs and celebrate Jesus' birthday, visit Santa, and have a Christmas celebration in their classroom before they leave for their Christmas break.

Each of our classes participate in a mission project to help teach the children the importance of giving to and helping others. So, this month our 2-year-old classes are collecting for CVAN, and the 3-year-old classes are collecting for Gracious Hands Transitional House. What a wonderful way to spread joy during the Christmas season!

*This month, we are also collecting gently used children's clothing and some adult sizes for the children from the Backpack Blessings program.*

**A big THANK YOU to everyone who supported our Scholastic Book Fair! We appreciate you!**

*Mark your calendars now! Registration for the 2023-2024 school year will start on January 23, 2023!*

**The preschool and preschool office will be closed for Christmas break from Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> through Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will re-open at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.**

Our Bible verse for the month is: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart." Matthew 22:37

***Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from our family to yours!!!***



Our Family wishes to thank everyone who helped us celebrate, at long last, the life of Jill Garrison. Her service on November 19<sup>th</sup> was joyful, musical, and uplifting, just as she had wished.

Special appreciation to those who helped us with her grandson's music, lots of artwork, and many cookies!

Also, we are grateful for the streaming services that allowed Jill's sister Beverly, Jill's daughter Marjo, and Jill's granddaughter Ansley to be with us in spirit.



The Family of Jill Garrison



AMERICAN RED CROSS



BLOOD DRIVE

BLOOD DRIVE

Saturday December 10 at 10 am

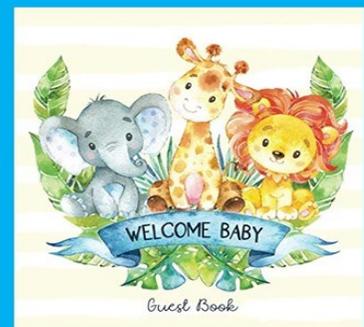
walk ins are welcome for blood drives going forward. The Red Cross had paused that during COVID but now have the all clear.

Thank you!

Congratulations to Quinn and Amber Cooper on the birth of their son, **Craven Barrett Cooper** born on **November 16<sup>th</sup>**.

Baby is named after his two great grandfathers.

Craven is the little brother of Carsyn, grandson of Charles and Sharon Kimrey and great grandson of Craven and Sue Oehler.



## 91st MCPC BBC Update

**Thanks to all of YOU, the 91st BBQ was huge success.** We had the best participation and help putting on the event - ever. As further news:

**The BBQ Committee met and approved the BBQ to continue next year, thanks to the great results this year.**

Financially, the BBQ was a good success. As a reminder, proceeds go to the Building Fund and Missions, not the day to day operation of the Church.

We will have final numbers toward the end of the year, and we will communicate that to you. If you have any outstanding bills for the BBQ, please submit them to the Church Office for payment. Also, if you still have to pay for your BBQ order, you can that too. Just make sure to note "BBQ" on your check or online payment.

Additionally, we don't need any firewood left at the Community House for cooking ,we have plenty.

**Many Thanks to Each of You!**  
BBQ Committee



**Our Lunch Bunch program on December 20, will be a Christmas Party, singing Christmas Carols, Cookie Exchange, and White Elephant Gifts. We will have lots of fun so please join us!**





## The holiday season is upon us.



Give yourself the gift of visiting a PW circle meeting.  
Come join us for fellowship, Bible study, prayer.

**Circle of Rebekah** = Monday, December 5th 6:30 at Polly Walker's house (soup/chili/salad)

**Circle of Ruth** = Monday, December 5th 6:30 at Nancy Busch's house (covered dish)

**Circle of Mary Anne** = Tuesday, December 6th at 10:00 in the Baucom Craig class (going to the Speedway Club for Christmas dinner)

Please contact **Connie Wallace @ 704-363-6047** for more information.

## Circle of Mary Anna-Christmas gathering

**Tuesday, December 6, 11:30**

 The Speedway Club  
5555 Concord Parkway South  
Concord, NC 28027



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

Enter the main entrance-free parking on the right-follow the signs to the restaurant.

RSVP [BMisenheimer@Bellsouth.net](mailto:BMisenheimer@Bellsouth.net)  
704-609-2805

**PLEASE NOTE!** Our **REGULAR** meeting will be held the same day at 10:00 in our classroom.

Those interested in lunch at The Speedway can carpool **AFTER** our meeting.



**Still need to take money out of your IRA???**  
**How about helping the church at the same time.**



A qualified charitable distribution is a non-taxable distribution from an IRA (other than an ongoing SEP or SIMPLE IRA) owned by an individual who is age 70½ or over that is paid directly from the IRA to a qualified charity.

Your qualified charitable distributions can satisfy all or part of the amount of your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your IRA. For example, if your RMD for 2022 is \$10,000, and you made a \$5,000 qualified charitable distribution for 2022, you would still have to withdraw another \$5,000 to satisfy your 2022 required minimum distribution.

If you would like to direct a portion of your Required Minimum Distribution from your IRA to Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church as a Qualified Charitable Distribution, please contact your IRA custodian or broker. The check should be made payable to Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church and sent to the church address.

No taxes need to be withheld as the distribution does not count as taxable income, but it does help satisfy your RMD.

Peace

December 11  
At 10 am

A Musical Cantata based on  
The promise of peace delivered  
by angels on the birth of Jesus

# Youth Club and Teen Fellowship

December 2022

## Youth Club Schedule:



**December Youth Club Schedule**  
**Sundays 3:00-4:30pm**

12/4	Christmas Bible Lesson
12/11	Christmas PJ Party
12/18	Sabbath (Christmas Break)
12/25	Sabbath (Christmas Break)

## Teen Fellowship Schedule:



**December Teen Fellowship Schedule**  
**Sundays 4:30-6:30pm**

12/4	Mission - Christmas Caroling
12/11	Christmas Party
12/18	Sabbath (Christmas Break)
12/25	Sabbath (Christmas Break)



Youth Club and Teens will practice Sabbath for the holidays. Both will resume on January 15<sup>th</sup>

**Dec 4**  
**At 9 am**  
**Youth**  
**Christmas**  
**Program**



**Elder duty for December:** Nancy Busch , Harvey Alexander, Perry Deaton

**Deacon duty for December:** Amy Spittle, Jean MacNeil, Rachel Rodden, Sheila Letica, Phil Ashely, Tom Baker

						Fri	Sat
<h1>January Birthdays</h1>							
							
1 Linda Benfield Frances Christenbury William Achurch	2 Fred Campbell Brandon Putnam Raelyn Oehler Roy Skinner	3 Linda Wallace Heather Andreasen	4	5 Kenny Brown Calla Oehler	6 Paul Christenbury Shirley Hunter	7 Chance Rosenberger Marty Brown	
8 Jim Brown	9 Jarrett Garrison McKenna Estes	10 Debbie Hunter	11 Jennifer Lazarus Bailey Mitchell	12 Dennis McCrary Matt Palmer CJ Scott	13 Barbara Alexander	14 Tommy Mitchell	
15 Phyllis Jones Dave Andreasen Lauren Cochran	16	17 Dennis Lord	18 Scott Moss Cale Oehler	19	20 Craven Oehler	21 Sonja Benton Johnnie Cartner, Jr. Joshua Kiser Jennifer Messina	
22 Rob Johnson	23	24 Sheila DeArmon	25 Maria Menconi	26 Allison Young	27 Evan Guiney Jack Schultz	28 Lisa Oehler Eric Johnson	
29 Maria Martini	30 Caitlin Blevins	31 Jo Moore Chuck Keys Alexa Moor Jake White					

Nancy Moore - mother of Rob Moore  
Carolyn Sheehan

Kenneth Helms

Bernice Martin

Andy Marcus - brother of Rachel Rodden

Pat Smith - mother of Mary Baker

LaVern Winter - father of Tammy Alford

Harry and Margaret Kirk- Monie Alexander parents

Brian Wasko on the death of his father

Elizabeth King  
Shirley Hunter

Juanita Untz

Ruby Downing

Donnie Oehler

Sharon Benfield

Suggie Christenbury

Cy Alexander

Bobby Brown  
Cecil Massey

Kathy Robinson

Andrea Thomas

Maggie Joseph

Katherine Lockhart - mother of Keri Wass

Joana Lovette

Dale McLaughlin

Ann Brown

Caroline Williams  
Donna Seaford

Elaine Lord

Guy Eberhart

Jenny Cochran

Cy Alexander

Mathew Sheehan

Roy Kinnamon



## Special Prayers

# 2023 Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church Budget

On October 18, 2022 the MCPC Session adopted our budget for the year 2023. The figures are listed below. Our pledge to work outside MCPC will remain at 12% of our weekly offering receipts to the general fund in 2023. This should total about \$91,056 and is shown in the benevolence section of the budget. The work within our church is done by our committees and their budget approvals are listed next. Projected committee expenses are \$284,325 or about 37.5% of the total budget. The third section of our budget is salaries and employee benefits. This section totals \$384,617. The employee salaries and benefits for 2023 make up about 50.5% of the budget. The terms of call for the senior pastor will need to be approved by the congregation in January 2023.

The 2023 budget is up \$3,918 compared to this year.

To fund the 2023 budget we will again need the generous support of ALL MCPC members

Your officers wish to thank you for your continued financial support. Any budget questions may be given to the Finance Committee. Thank you again for being a faithful supporter of the LORD's work at MCPC.

**The Loan on the Gathering Space was paid off in 2022.**

## A. BENEVOLENCES ( 12 % of regular offerings)

### GENERAL BENEVOLENCE

5001	Unified budget	
5001.01	Charlotte Presbytery	7200.00
5001.02	Synod of Mid-Atlantic	460.00
5001.03	General Assembly	3940.00
5002.01	Youngs	3600.00
5002.03	Presby. World Missions	3600.00
5003	Theological education	1000.00
5004	Presbyterian Psych Services	2000.00
5005	Session benevolence fund	400.00

### Total General Benevolences

**22,200.00**

### OTHER BENEVOLENCES

5052	Alexander Children Center	3000.00
5056	Crisis Assistance Ministry	5000.00
5075	Lions Blind Services	1000.00
5076	UNICEF	0.00
5077	Strategic Partnerships	
5077.01	Stop Hungar NOW	8000.00
5077.02	Camp Grier	5000.00
5077.05	Parkside & University Meadows & MC Elem.	4500.00
5077.07	CVAN	1000.00
5077.09	Niner United	1500.00
5077.11	Room In The Inn	500.00
5077.1	Backpack Blessings	500.00
5077.12	Gracious Hands	2500.00

### Total Other Benevolences

**32,500.00**

### MISSIONS

5102	Mission Trip(s)	6500.00
5105	Local Mission Project(s)	2000.00

### Total Missions

**8500.00**

5006	Undesignated (estimated)	27856.00
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## B. COMMITTEE EXPENSES

**50662.59**

**97100.29**

**105748.84**

## TOTAL BENEVOLENCES

**91,056.00**

I. YOUTH AND CHILDREN Committee	22,200.00
II. FELLOWSHIP Committee	8,200.00
III. EDUCATION AND SPIRITUAL NUTURE Committee	6,175.00
IV. FINANCE Committee	200.00
V. WORSHIP Committee	7,600.00

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE Committee		44,550.00	
VII. PROPERTY Committee		187,750.00	
VIII. CONGREGATIONAL CARE Committee		2,000.00	
IX. MISSION Committee			
	see items under benevolences		
X. CONNECTIONS Committee		5,650.00	
C. SALARIES			
<b>TOTAL COMMITTEE EXPENSES</b>		<b><u>284,325.00</u></b>	
<b>7001 Senior Pastor</b>			
7001.01	Salary	56,302.00	
7001.02	Housing	45,000.00	
7001.03	Social Security	7,750.00	
7001.04	Education Allowance	2,000.00	
7001.05	Auto Allowance	2,500.00	
7001.06	Pension Benefits 8.5%	8,611.00	
7001.07	Disability 1.5%	1,520.00	
7001.08	Medical 27% to 29%	29,378.00	
7001.14	Phone /Data Allowance	1,200.00	
7001.09	Dental Insurance	905.00	
	Vision	95.00	
<b>Total Senior Pastor</b>		<b>155,261.00</b>	
<b>7060 DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND CHILDREN MINISTRIES</b>			
7060.01	Salary	43,500.00	
7060.03	Social Security	3,328.00	
7060.04	Education Allowance	2,000.00	
7060.05	Auto Allowance	600.00	
<b>Total Director of Youth and Children</b>		<b>49,428.00</b>	
<b>IV. OTHER EMPLOYEE EXPENSES</b>			
7110.01	Parrish Associate	Salary	60,000.00
7110.04	Parrish Associate	Education	by Voucher
7110.05	Parrish Associate	Auto Allowance	I R S rate
7120	Admin. Assist.	Salary	36,500.00
	Admin. Assist.	Education	500.00
7140	Music Director	Salary	29,364.00
7145	Assistant to the music director		7,800.00
7150	Organist	Salary--TEMPS	4,800.00
7160	Financial Manager	Salary	26,000.00
	Financial Manager	Education	500.00
7180	Website Administrator		2,000.00
7190	Nursery Workers		5,050.00
7195	Payroll Taxes		7,414.00
<b>Total other employee expenses</b>			<b><u>179,928.00</u></b>
<b>TOTAL STAFF SALARIES AND BENEFITS</b>			<b><u>384,617.00</u></b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>			<b>759,998.00</b>

Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church  
1600 W. Mallard Creek Church Road  
Charlotte, NC 28262



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The Rev. Rob Watkins  
The Rev. Hunter Roddey  
Mrs. Andrea Thomas  
Mrs. Claudia Perez  
Mr. David Barnaba  
Mrs. Carolyn Fitzgerald  
Mrs. Kristy Maddux

Senior Pastor  
Transitional Associate Pastor  
Director of Children & Youth Ministry  
Administrative Assistant  
Director of Music  
Financial Manager  
Preschool Director