From Rev. Rob Watkins:

At the last stated meeting of the Session, it was decided that the by-laws of Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church need to be sent to the congregation for review and possible revision.

In particular, Article VII, which deals with the ordination standards for Elders, Deacons, and Pastors called to serve this congregation, needs a review because of questions arising in the Nominating Committee concerning the eligibility of some of our church members for service, and a general call for a review coming from members of the church.

To begin the process of this congregational review, there will be an organizational meeting on February 23 at 3:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Childcare will be provided. It is hoped that every member of our congregation will be able to be present for this important conversation.

To prepare, copies of the current by-laws will be sent to every member either electronically or through standard mail. Look for this mailing in early February. Article VII will be highlighted. It is suggested that everyone look through the by-laws to see how they work, what they say, and to consider how they reflect on our work and ministry at Mallard Creek.

At the meeting, there will be a description of the manner in which conversations will be held and conducted; i.e., being sure all dialogs and conversations remain subject to Jesus’ own command to love one another as Christ loves each of us (John 15:12). Also, there will be a presentation of options for action to be taken with regard to Article VII. There will then be conversation on those options, concluding with a discussion of the format for further meetings to gather information, hear input, and to decide when and how to make a fully formed decision on what comes next. No formal or conclusive action will be taken at this meeting—it is primarily for information on the process.

If anyone has any questions before our meeting on February 23, please feel free to contact your current Elders, Deacons, pastors, Rob and Alison, or our Director of Youth and Children’s Ministry, Andrea. If we cannot answer your questions, we will work to find someone who can.
February 1, 2020

Special Prayer

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 and Lt. Alex Busch

Sunday School Opportunities

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<tr>
<th>PRESCHOOL &amp; ELEMENTARY</th>
<th>PRE-TEENS &amp; TEENS</th>
<th>ADULTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sanctuary Building, Downstairs</td>
<td>Activity Building</td>
<td>Education Building</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nursery</td>
<td>Grades 5, 6, 7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Morrison Class</td>
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<td>Ages 2,3,4 &amp; 5</td>
<td>High School (9-12)</td>
<td>Spencer Class</td>
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<td>Grades 1st &amp; 2nd</td>
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<td>Activity Building</td>
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<td>3rd &amp; 4th</td>
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<td>Baucom/Craig Class</td>
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<td>Garrison-Martin Class</td>
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<td>Listening to Your Life</td>
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<td>New Life</td>
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Lunch Bunch-
Join us February 18, at noon for food, fellowship and CHOCOLATE!
We will be playing BINGO with prizes for the winners.
Please bring your favorite chocolate dessert.
RSVP to 704-965-1676, 614-537-5363 or hattonm7@gmail.com

Thank You! I would like to thank each and everyone of you for the cards and prayers since I started this new journey. Thank you for the ministry support, Rob and Allison and to those that brought food. Thank you to my son, Sean English and family for your love and support, love you all. May God bless you all. Lynn Kelley
DECEMBER STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Sunday School $490.06
Worship Offering $89,868.26
Online Giving $13,320.00
TOTAL Offering $103,678.32
Total Offering YTD $631,618.58
Total Expenses YTD $633,828.67
Under for Year $2,210.09

Worship Attendance for January:
January 5- 275 January 12- 316
January 19- 260 January 26- 250

Elders on Duty for February: Pam Whitmire, Charles Kimrey, Randy Oehler, Clay Scholand and Ed Gulledge
Deacons on Duty for February: Lori Joye, Fred Campbell, Tammy Alford, Jennifer Lazarus, Joe Crapster and Ryan Oehler

Pastor Alison’s Care Corner

Being a caregiver isn’t easy. Caring for someone we love because that person is no longer able to care for herself can be draining, emotionally, physically, and spiritually. The fact that we find caregiving to be draining has nothing to do with not loving the person for whom we are caring. In fact, it’s quite the opposite: it’s because we love the other person so much that we find becoming their caregiver so draining.

I think of those of you in our own congregation whose primary role is no longer that of spouse, but that of primary caregiver for your own spouse. No longer is your spouse your partner in all things. No longer is your spouse the one who shares in the decision-making, who carries his or her fair share of the home responsibilities, or who is able to be present for you in the ways that only spouses and partners can. Once you become a caregiver for your spouse, the old familiar roles cease to exist. The one offering the care might very well end up feeling more like a parent to the other. There is a real sense of loss that comes when one spouse becomes the caregiver for the other spouse. And as with any loss, this loss brings with it profound grief.

Of course, it isn’t just spouses and partners who become caregivers for their significant other. Adult children also become caregivers for their parents, and when this happens, the relationship is turned upside down. The child becomes the parent, while the parent become the child. There is profound grief here as well.

But grief isn’t the only emotion we experience when our familiar family roles shift. We end up feeling frustrated, irritable, overwhelmed, and angry. We can lose patience with the other person, wishing more than anything that he or she was the person they used to be, and that life could once again be the way that it was. And we can easily become despondent and depressed.

Circumstances such as these are simply too deep and wide for any of us to manage on our own, which is where our faith community comes in. The greatest gift we can give ourselves and the other person is the gift of reaching out for help. Remember that God did not create Adam to till the garden alone; instead, God saw that it was not good for Adam to be alone, and so God created another human being to join Adam in the Garden of Eden, to be his compassion, his confident, his help-mate.

Contrary to popular belief, reaching out for help is not a sign of weakness. Reaching out for help is, in fact, a sign of strength and of courage. God placed us on this earth to be comforters for one another.
Upcoming Circle Meetings
Come as you are for one of our February Circle meetings. This is a great way to start the new year! Each meeting is centered around a Bible study lesson. Didn’t read? Don’t have a book? Don’t worry, come anyway! Aside from the lessons, there is typically a discussion about mission projects or special events. Please reach out to the women listed below if you have any questions.

- Circle of Anna – Feb. 6th, 10:15, Parlor
  - (Polly Caldwell - cacpwc@bellsouth.net, Linda Apolinar - edlin1025@yahoo.com)
- Circle of Mary – Feb. 4th, 7:00 pm, Dining Hall
  - (Linda Wallace - beach68@bellsouth.net, Sally Tyler - tylerstmt@bellsouth.net)
- Circle of Rebekah – Feb. 3rd, 6:30 pm, Gathering Space
  - (Julie Mingus - julie.mingus@ncfbins.com)
- Circle of Ruth – Feb. 3rd, 7:00 pm, Nancy Busch’s Home
  - (Sue Oehler - csoehler@bellsouth.net)

Honorary Life Membership

It’s time to begin nominating women (or men) for the Honorary Life Membership. You can get a nomination form from your circle leader, the mail room, or any Presbyterian Women Committee member.

The Honorary Life Membership (HLM) program was established in the Presbyterian Church to honor faithful service to the women’s organization and to the church. More than a thousand women (and a few men) receive this honor each year, many on Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday.

Here is a picture of Pastor Milton holding the dedication plaque for the “Kenneth P. Craig Well” in Paloma, Dominican Republic. The well is at his feet and he is standing in front of the church building. This well currently provides water to over a thousand people. Ten families have already built their homes nearby to be near the well and the church. Praise be to God.
Preschool Upcoming Events:

*Jan. 27*-Registration begins for the 2020-2021 School Year! Don't miss your chance to enroll your child. Enrollment paperwork will be available in the Narthex or outside the church office starting January 27th. Completed registration paperwork is due by **Feb. 13** for church members.

*Feb. 6*- Chick-fil-a Night, 5-8pm, 8700 University Executive Park location. Come and join us. Tell the cashier you're with MCPCP.


*March-ALL MONTH*- The month of March is "Focus on Reading" for the preschool. Please call Kristy ASAP in the preschool office if you'd like to sign-up to be a guest reader in one or more preschool classrooms. 704-549-9741

*Thank you to Pastor Rob and Andrea* for helping teach our children the "Church Helpers" unit in January! The students enjoyed learning about what they do in the church and about a typical church service at MCPC. Thank you!

Kerri Miner, Preschool Director and Kristy Maddux, Assistant Director

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**2020 COMMITTEES—SPECIAL**

The following committees are re-established each year and their members are appointed by the session for a one year term.

- **BUS/MINI-BUS COMMITTEE**
  Charles Kimrey, Rusty Wallace and Alan Garrison

- **CHILD DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

- **BARBECUE COMMITTEE**
  Charles Kimrey and Bill Wood Co- Chairs

- **CEMETERY AND COLUMBARIUM COMMITTEE**
  James Killian Sr., Bob Oehler, Calvin Caldwell, Larry Oehler

- **MCPC ASSISTANCE FUND**
  Harry Kirk, Sue Oehler and Viviane Avant

- **SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE**
  Fred Campbell: D 21 Chair, Guy Eberhart D 22: Vice Chair, Dennis McCrary, Lee Ann Oehler, Robin Fuller

- **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**
  Nancy Busch: Chair, Jennifer Lazarus, Kristy Maddux

Updated 1/21/2020
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<td><strong>Deacon Committees</strong></td>
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<td>Tammy Alford</td>
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<td>Jane Marshall</td>
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<td>Connie Wallace</td>
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<td><strong>Nominating ** Special Comm.</strong></td>
<td>Bill Wood</td>
<td>Elder Chair</td>
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<td>Vicki Buchanan</td>
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2019 BARBECUE REPORT

The 90th annual Mallard Creek Bar-B-Que was once again a great success. The hard work of MCPC members and friends culminated in a wonderful fall day of work, fellowship, and fundraising. The weather was great and we welcomed a very large, hungry crowd. Words can not adequately express the gratitude of the BBQ committee to all those individuals who gave of their time and energy for the two plus weeks of preparation for the annual event.

The Barbecue raised $76,840.61 for the building fund of the church. In addition the day also generated $13,560.11 for benevolence use (missions).

Mark your calendar now for the 4th Thursday in October 2020 and the 91st annual Mallard Creek Bar-b-que.

Save the Date - We NEED You!
Please come and support the American Red Cross at our Blood Drive, Sunday, February 9, 2020 at 10:00am to 2:30pm, in the Dining Hall.

Questions: Contact Carey Armistead @ 704-906-4620

Save the Date:
The Annual Sunday School Teacher/Choir, Youth Leaders and Sound Appreciation Luncheon will be March 31st after late service.
More info to come.
If you are a teacher or a sub, please submit your name and email to the church office.
We don’t want to leave anyone out!

Reminder: Communion will be served Sunday, February 2nd at both services.

Join us, Saturday, February 1, 2020 at 9:00am
Youth Club and Teen Fellowship

February events for Youth Club

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>2/2/20</td>
<td>Fellowship - Souper Bowl of Caring (lunch after church - no meeting Sunday night)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/9/20</td>
<td>Fellowship - Rollerskating at Frye’s meet there at 3-5pm (wear red!) families welcome!</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/16/20</td>
<td>Sabbath (Valentine’s Weekend)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/23/20</td>
<td>Mission (Purses with toiletry items and cards for homeless women) and Games</td>
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February events for Teen Fellowship

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>2/2/20</td>
<td>Fellowship - Souper Bowl of Caring (lunch after church - no meeting Sunday night)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/9/20</td>
<td>Mission - Make Valentines for Soldiers</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/16/20</td>
<td>Sabbath (Valentine’s Weekend)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/23/20</td>
<td>Bible Study (Isaiah 58:1-9) and Lent Covenant</td>
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Join us for the Souper Bowl of Caring on February 2! The teens will be raising money to send care packages to soldiers overseas.

Youth Club call for Donations!!

For a February mission project, Youth Club is collecting donations of new travel-size toiletry items and gently used purses to donate to women in need. Please give donations to Andrea. Thank you!

Raleigh Youth Mission

All teens who would like to attend Raleigh Youth Mission in Raleigh, NC on July 5-10, 2020, please email Andrea or mcpcteens@gmail.com with your student’s name and grade level, and pay a $25 deposit to the church BY FEBRUARY 2.

Want to stay up to date on what’s happening in Teen Fellowship and Youth Club?

Join our Remind app!

Teens: text @mcpctee to 81010  Youth Club: text @mcpcyo to 81010

2. Elected Andy Spittle as Assistant Clerk of session for 2020.


4. Elected Bill Wood and Vicki Buchanan as Elder Reps on the Nominating Committee for 2020
   a. Bill Wood as 2020 Chair
   b. Vicki Buchanan as 2020 Elder Rep

5. Souper Bowl of Sharing-February 2

6. Teens Takeover Sunday-March 15 to lead both 8:30 and 10:30 services

7. Kid’s Communicant Class (Holy Sacrament of Communion Discussion) March 22 This class is for younger elementary ages and is not to be confused with Confirmation Class

8. Easter Egg Hunt April 4 11am

9. Camp Grier August 2-7; K-12

10. Annual church workday March 28 (rain date April 11)

11. 2nd Floor Activity Building project is to start February 24

12. December 2019 collections were $6,907.00 MORE than December 2018 collections

13. 2019 Collections were $38,203.00 LESS than 2018

14. 2019 collections were $9,999.78 MORE than 2019 expenses

15. 2019 expenses were $106,620.00 less than 2019 budget
   a. Note: the Parrish Associate position and DYCM position were $45,099.00 of the amount

16. $1,882,807.79 has been collected into the capital campaign

17. 90th Annual BBQ
   a. $76,840.00 to the Building Fund
   b. $13,560.00 to Benevolences

18. Rob will facilitate a congregational gathering to discuss Article VII of the MCPC By-Laws and pending revisions
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### March Birthdays

1. Colton Monteith
2. Asher Buchanan
3. Kim Alessi
4. Kelly Oehler
5. Wendy Brown
6. Beth Bost
7. Pat Dicken
8. Ruby Downing
9. Vance Reid
10. Aimee Carre
11. Georgie Zevan
12. Reid Wilkinson
13. Rusty Wallace
14. Julianna Kostrzynski
15. Jessica Sangutei
16. Wendy Brown
17. Sean English
18. Merle King
19. Zeek Garrison
20. Todd Oehler
21. James Killian, Sr.
22. Georgie Zevan
23. Christina DeKam
24. Carlita Hunter
25. Oliver Alexander
26. Merle King
27. Christine DeKam
28. Merle King
29. Merle King
30. Merle King
31. Derrick Killian

### February Events

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**February Events**

1. Rise Against Hunger

2. 8:30 Early Worship
   9:15 Fellowship Coffee
   9:30 SS Classes
   10:30 Worship
   11:30 Super Bowl of Caring

3. 8:30 Early Worship
   9:45 Bon Appetens
   9:30 SS Classes
   10:30 Worship
   11:30 Youth & Children
   3:00 Girl Scouts
   3:00 Youth Club & Teen Fellowship

4. 8:30 Early Worship
   9:15 Fellowship Coffee
   9:30 SS Classes
   10:30 Worship
   11:30 Worship

5. 8:30 Early Worship
   9:15 Fellowship Coffee
   9:30 SS Classes
   10:30 Worship
   11:30 Worship

6. 8:30 Early Worship
   9:15 Fellowship Coffee
   9:30 SS Classes
   10:30 Worship
   11:30 Worship

7. 8:30 Early Worship
   9:15 Fellowship Coffee
   9:30 SS Classes
   10:30 Worship
   11:30 Worship
February 1, 2020

Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church
1600 W. Mallard Creek Church Road
Charlotte, NC 28262
(704) 547-0038

“Growing disciples of Jesus Christ who bear much fruit.”
Sunday Services 8:30 & 10:30 am

The Rev. Rob Watkins  Senior Pastor
The Rev. Alison Messick-Watkins  Parish Associate
Mrs. Andrea Thomas  Director of Children & Youth Ministry
Mr. David Barnaba  Director of Music
Mrs. Kerri Miner  Preschool Director
Mrs. Cathy Marlor  Financial Secretary
Mrs. Shawn Watkins  Administrative Assistant