

The Scroll

Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church
www.mallardcreekchurch.org | 704.547.0038
1600 W. Mallard Creek Church Road



From Pastor Rob

We open the book on another year.

Last year, I truly believed that the year opening was one of promise, hope, and possibility as we continued to come out of the pandemic, resumed being a fully active congregation, and would find things far more settled and certain.

Well, we know how that worked out....

Yet, I still believe with every fiber of my being that we are still in a moment of promise, hope, and possibility. Kind of like the Prophet Jeremiah buying a plot of land to build a house on as the city collapsed all around him; I believe there is much to be hopeful about, look forward to, and live into as this new year opens.

That is what the Incarnation means as God became flesh and dwelt among us. There is always hope. There are always possibilities. There are always promises coming to fruition. In the presence of the God who spun all creation into being with a simple set of seven words, there is always something coming into being. And God chooses to be right in the middle of it as one of us and one *for* us.

What that means is that all the creative power of God is right here, right now, working, making, fashioning, and enlivening. Or to sum up in a single word—*resurrecting*.

Resurrection is not only God's answer to our impending deaths. It is also the assurance that there is no situation beyond the redemptive grace of God, and certainly no person beyond God's reclamation.

As we begin this year, you might want to take a look at the Gospel of Mark. St Mark's summation of Jesus' work was the "5 R's"—reclamation, restoration, reconciliation, redemption, and resurrection. Reading through the gospel, we find that those 5 R's are everywhere—in the healings, in the miracles, in the parables, in the teaching, and so on—everywhere. We need that reassurance and reminder right now. Read and allow comfort to fill you.

Or just keep saying to yourselves, "God is good and grace abounds!"

God is good and grace abounds!



Please welcome Rev. Hunter Roddey to MCPC as the new Transitional Pastor. Born in Boston to Charlottean parents, we came back to their homeplace when I was 7 years old. I grew up with my younger sister at Myers Park Presbyterian Church. I went up the road to Davidson College, graduating in 1985, and then worked in the college Development Office for two years. In 1987, I married fellow Davidson graduate, Susan MacDonald, and we both promptly enrolled at Princeton Theological Seminary. We both graduated in 1990 (though she always had the better grades!). We then moved back to NC where I completed a year of Clinical Pastoral Education at NC Baptist Hospital while Susan served two interim positions. I was fortunate to return to Charlotte in 1991 to work at Presbyterian Hospital (now Novant) as a chaplain, and I remained at the Charlotte and Matthews hospitals for the next 30 years while Susan served several churches and became a Certified Pastoral Counselor. For a few years, she saw clients here at MCPC once a week as part of the Presbyterian

Samaritan Counseling Center. For the last six years, Susan has been the chaplain at Abernathy Laurels – a Continuing Care Retirement Facility in Newton, NC that is part of the United Church of Christ. We have been blessed with two wonderful children – Harrison (26) who works at a therapeutic boarding school near Lexington, Virginia; and Caroline (23) who works in Washington, DC as an Associate Analyst in the Social and Economic Policy Division of Abt Associates. For the first time in many years, we are without any canines in our household, but our attention is constantly demanded by our one-eyed feline, Cassie.

I have always known of Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church and its rich history. I have supply-preached here in past years on a couple of occasions and have always felt warmly welcomed. Hunter was my mother’s Maiden name, and her family has been part of Mecklenburg County for generations. I already know of one relative buried in the MCPC cemetery – my fourth great uncle, Andrew Hunter – and I plan to look for more in the months to come.



Thank you for the opportunity to join you in the ministry of this wonderful congregation!

Faithfully,

Hunter

Special Prayers

Elizabeth King	Carolyn Sheehan	Ann Brown	Juanita Untz	Shirley Hunter
Bernice Martin	Kenneth Helms	Joann Reid	Sally Tulbert	Larry Oehler
Caroline Williams	Holly Diggs	Pam McMahan	Michael Doering	
Carl Hatton	Libby Carroll	Winston Haney	Cathee Griffin	
Barbara Cottrell	Pat Snow	Bob Lazarus	Donny Brown	

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

Thank You!

NOVEMBER STEWARDSHIP UPDATE	
Sunday School	\$117.00
Worship Offering	\$43,219.00
Online Giving	\$18,540.00
TOTAL Offering	\$61,876.00
Total Offering YTD	\$576,648.12
Total Expenses YTD	\$598,775.37
Under for Year	(22,127.25)

THANK YOU

To the congregation—
I cannot thank you all enough for the kind words, thoughts, cards, calls, and all else in response to the death of my father. It has been a difficult year, losing both parents, but it has also been a good year with the marriages of both children. Some years are like that.

Your support, care, concern, and love has carried me through it all.

Thank you!
Blessings, Pastor Rob

“Thank you to the Congregational Care Committee for all the many beautiful and thoughtful cards that you have sent me throughout the year. Also, many thanks for my bag of Christmas goodies. Everything was needed and appreciated, and I especially loved the gifts that the Children took time to create. “

Many blessings to all of you!! Donna Seaford

Thank you to everybody who sent cards, made phone call, and sent food the past year. Everything was greatly appreciated. Hopefully things will get better during the coming year.

Merle and Elizabeth King

“Thank you for your cards, calls and most of all your prayers that we received upon the passing of our Mom, Nancy Seaford. It’s a blessing to be a part of such a loving and caring church.”

Lane and Donna Seaford Jeff and Robin Seaford



Save the date for our February Blood Drive, Saturday, February 26 at 10:00am. To pre-register call 1-800-REDCROSS or Carey Armistead at 704-906-4610 or visit RedcrossBlood.org and enter MCPC to schedule an appointment.

Need to Know!

2022 Contribution envelopes are available for pickup in the Gathering Space. Online givers WILL NOT be receiving envelopes. If you have questions please contact Cathy Marlor in the church office.

A Congregational Meeting will be held immediately after the service on January 9th for the purpose of receiving the annual report from the session, to receive the 2020 budget, and to elect members to the nominating committee.

We will also be installing and ordaining the newly elected church officers during the service.

Reminder from the Property Committee: As we have begun to open our facilities, we have discovered items from the kitchen are missing. If you have borrowed something, please return it as soon as possible. As a reminder, our policy has been any church member can borrow kitchen items but need to return them in a timely manner. If the borrowed kitchen item needs to leave the church property for more than a day then Sonja Benton needs to be consulted.

Happy New Year!!!

It is hard to believe that we are starting another year but 2022 is here and we are off to a great start! God has blessed us with full classrooms, long waiting lists for each age group, wonderful teachers, generous preschool parents, and church members, and so much more! We have so much to be grateful for and are looking forward to this next year!

We **LOVE** our new sidewalk and would like to **thank Merle and Elizabeth King** for their generous donation that covered its cost! The sidewalk is awesome! It has made the car rider line safer for the children and teachers and it runs so much more efficiently. **THANK YOU to James Killian and Bob Oehler** for helping Butler Construction Company by providing much of the

labor to get the ground and area ready for the sidewalk. You guys rock!

A big **THANK YOU to Harvey and Monie Alexander** for helping Ms. Robin and some of our staff re-enact the story of Jesus' birth during Children's Church last month! It was wonderful and the children loved it!

Our 2's and 3's classes learned about giving last month by collecting items for CVAN and the Gracious Hands Transitional House. **THANK YOU** to parents who donated items! It means a lot to all of us!

This month is going to be busy, as our students learn about winter and going to church. All classes will do fun winter activities and meet with Pastor Rob in the church sanctuary to hear all about our church.

We will start registration for the 2022-2023 school year on January 25th. Look for information on the church website. In-house students will register first and then we will open the remaining spots up to church members. The deadline for church members is February 10th. Email paulab@mallardcreekchurch.org or call 704-549-9741, if you would like more information or to sign-up for a tour of the preschool. We would love to have your child join us next year!

Our Bible verse this month is: "Come, follow Me and I will make you fishers of men." Mark 1:17

Kristy Maddux, Preschool Director and Paula Brasel, Administrative Assistant



Youth Club and Teen Fellowship

January 2022

Happy New Year!

Youth Club and Teen Fellowship on Sunday afternoons resumes on January 9.

Youth Club Schedule:

<u>Youth Club 3:00-4:30pm</u>	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
1/9	Everyone's Birthday Party
1/16	Bible Story and Craft
1/23	Bible Story and Games
1/30	Family Ice Skating

Teen Fellowship Schedule:

<u>Teen Fellowship 4:30-6:30pm</u>	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
1/9	New Year Lesson and Games
1/16	Bible Study and Dinner
1/23	Trivia Night
1/30	Family Ice Skating



The Teens will be hosting Room in the Inn for our guests on Thursday evening, January 13th. Please make plans to be there for this important mission opportunity.

With the start of a new year, there are a lot of new opportunities for volunteers! Andrea needs volunteers in the nursery, the kids Sunday School class, Youth Club, and Teen Fellowship. She also needs elementary age students to serve as acolytes on Sunday mornings. Contact Andrea to find out how you can get involved!



PW Circle Meetings update

Presbyterian Women –

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. What a great way to begin the New Year; attend a circle meeting! Each meeting is centered around a Bible study lesson. Our Bible study this year is the PW/Horizons Bible Study “What My Grandmothers Taught Me” where it highlights many women of the bible. Below are the circles, the time in which they meet and Circle leaders and their contact info.

Circle of Mary-Anna –Tuesday; January 4, 2022 – 10:30 am in the gathering space

(Jane Isenhower-isenhowerj@bellsouth.net)

Circle of Rebekah – Monday, January 3, 2022 6:00 in the gathering space

(Rachel Rodden – rachrodden@gmail.com)

Circle of Ruth – Monday, January 10, 2022 7:00 on ZOOM

(Beth Patafio – Bethpatafio@icloud.com)



If anyone is aware of a birth of a baby in our congregation please let the office know.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <h1 style="color: #00AEEF;">February Birthdays</h1> 						
		1 Wyn Pearson Paul Snyder	2 Linda Untz Bill Penninger Darrell Thomas Wendy White Lily Larkin	3 Suzanne Curtis	4 Kathleen Good Clay Grubb Ashton Blevins	5 Amber Cooper Taylor Wass
6 Marshall Love	7 Braden Wallace	8 Nina Brown Dalton Martin	9 Laura Pelfrey	10	11 Al Wilkinson	12 Linda Apolinar Mary Kostrzynski Rosie Clark
13 Aprille Mitchell	14 Jamie Brown	15 Philip Wescott Nicole Scott	16 Patsy Oehler Rachel Rodden Kelly Semon Owen Lazarus Tolby Coore	17	18 Gray Brookshire Jimmy Brown, Jr	19 Bob Hamilton Ned Baker Whitney Oehler AJ Alexander
20 Ashley Rose	21 Erin Gullede Tripp Moore III Sarah DeArmon Bret MacNeil	22 Stephanie Barrett	23 Carlotta Doran Laura Andreasen Dalton Oehler	24 Drew Dowling JD Oehler	25	26 Ralph Brand Kim Tucker Kaleb Tucker Joshuah Serepca Elizabeth Fuller
27 Evan Lazarus	28 Jaret Oehler					

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The Rev. Rob Watkins
The Rev. Hunter Roddey
Mrs. Andrea Thomas
Mrs. Shawn Watkins
Mr. David Barnaba
Mrs. Cathy Marlor
Mrs. Kristy Maddux

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