



THE SCROLL

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

From Rev. Rob Watkins:

RESOLUTIONS

As the new year comes, one of the traditions is to resolve to do things differently. A church along I-81 on my way to visit my parents had this counsel posted on their sign, though--
Daily devotions are better than yearly resolutions



They may have a point.

Once a year commitments are just that--once a year. They easily get set aside as we move into the regular business of our normal lives. The same things that took our time last year will take our time this year. Our resolve gets worn away by simply trying to keep up with all the things we always keep up with.

Daily devotions are also just that--daily. I read that for a new practice to become simply part of our daily order, it needs to be kept for six months. After that, it will be part of who and what we are. This year, such a practice of prayer and sitting still with God through Bible, devotional reading, and just listening for God could add a grounding for what could be a strenuous year with an election that promises to be as divisive as ever, social media's continued arena for screeching, and uncertainty about where we are headed. But we will need to be at it daily.

It really does not add to our schedule--pause at bedtime or on waking to sit by the bed and pray. If that doesn't come easy, pray the two prayers Jesus actually taught in the Gospels--the Lord's Prayer and "Lord, have mercy on me a sinner." Read a psalm or two. Just pick something simple to do that you know you can repeat as often as needed.

So doing, we can be present in life with the presence of God. May we resolve to do so.

Special Prayer

Elizabeth King	Christopher Lawing	Danny Mingus, brother of Chris	Lynn Kelly
Ann Brown	Dwayne Martin	Eve Cooper	Dave Richards
Ruby Downing	Fred Treadway	BJ Knox	Caroline Williams
Ricki Grubb	Ralph Brand	Tommy Carter	Reese Untz
Adam Sellers, great-grandson of Lois Spradley		Sylvia Buchanan, sister of Debbie Killian	
Holly Diggs, great niece of Doris DeArmon		Joe Doran, father of Mary Kostrzynski	
Kathy Reid, daughter of Elizabeth King		Ila Christenbury, sister in law of the Christenburys	
Morgan Khur, friend of Maria Menconi		Marinell Martin, mother of Rachel Rodden	

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

PRESCHOOL & ELEMENTARY

Sanctuary Building, Downstairs

Nursery
 Ages 2,3,4 & 5
 Grades 1st & 2nd
 3rd & 4th

PRE-TEENS & TEENS

Activity Building

Grades 5, 6, 7 & 8
 High School (9-12)

ADULTS

Education Building

Morrison Class
 Spencer Class
Activity Building
 Baucom/Craig Class
 Garrison-Martin Class
 Listening to Your Life
 New Life



Lunch Bunch-

Join us January 21, at noon for food and fellowship.
 There will be a presentation from the NC Highway Patrol Dept.
 RSVP to 704-965-1676, 614-537-5363 or hattonm7@gmail.com

Upcoming Circle Meetings

Come as you are for one of our January 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 – Jan. 2nd, 10:15, Parlor
 - (Polly Caldwell - cacpwc@bellsouth.net, Linda Apolinar - edlin1025@yahoo.com)
- Circle of Mary – Jan. 7th, 7:00 pm, Dining Hall
 - (Linda Wallace - beach68@bellsouth.net, Sally Tyler - tylerstmt@bellsouth.net)
- Circle of Rebekah – Jan. 6th, 6:30 pm, Gathering Space
 - (Julie Mingus - julie.mingus@ncfbins.com)
- Circle of Ruth – Jan. 6th, 7:00 pm, Holly Oehler's Home
 - (Sue Oehler - csoehler@bellsouth.net)

Annual Staff and Volunteer Breakfast

On December 17th, the Presbyterian Women hosted their Annual Staff and Volunteer Breakfast. This is always a wonderful way to show our gratitude to our church staff and volunteers.



Presbyterian Women in the Church

Circle of Anna have made plans to help with Room at the Inn in December and have collected sock donations for Backpack Blessings. They enjoyed their Christmas luncheon, devotional, and fellowship at Olive Garden.



Circle of Mary enjoyed a Christmas dinner and prepared and sent cards to college students.

Circle of Rebekah made plans to host Room in the Inn in January and sent packages filled with food/snacks to the USS Abraham Lincoln. They also welcomed Andrea Thomas as their guest of honor and collected 80 children's books in her honor.

Circle of Ruth enjoyed a Christmas devotional and dinner for circle meeting last month. They planned cards and gift cards to be sent to college students.

Birth Announcement

If you know of a baby born to a church member or relative, please notify Shawn Watkins in the church office (704.547.0038) or a member of the Presbyterian Women Committee. This way we can make sure that a rose is placed in his/her honor.





Happy New Year from the Preschool! Thank you for attending our Chick-fil-a Spirit Night! We had \$1161 in sales and earned \$174 for the preschool. The next Chick-fil-a night will be February 6, 5:00-8:00pm. Mark your calendars! Santa came to visit us last month. See if you can recognize him on our Facebook page! We had a wonderful staff Christmas luncheon thanks to our awesome parent reps, Maria and Christina. We also enjoyed a Pre-K field trip to the Children's Theater. In December, preschool children got to learn about the true meaning of Christmas, the birth of the Savior and Son of God, Jesus Christ. Happy Birthday, Jesus. In January we look forward to our big registration drive for next year. If you'd like to register your child for MCPCP for the 2020-2021 school year, please pick up a registration packet outside the church office or contact the preschool office at 704-549-9741.

Kerri Miner, Preschool Director and Kristy Maddux, Assistant Director



Plan to join us on Saturday, February 1, 2020 at 9:00am in the church dining hall for a wonderful family mission opportunity. Mallard Creek will be hosting its annual Rise Against Hunger

packaging event to assemble 20,000 meals that will be distributed to third world countries. Although it sounds daunting, you'll be amazed at how these meals are put together and we'll be done in just a couple of hours. Unlike some other mission events, this is a great family activity; children of all ages can help, even those with limited mobility.

Rise Against Hunger has been fulfilling its commitment to end hunger across the globe for over 20 years. Established in 1998, Rise Against Hunger coordinates the distribution of food and other life-saving aid to crisis-burdened areas around the world. This is accomplished through popular community-supported meal packaging programs such as our upcoming event.

Rise Against Hunger distributes its meals through feeding programs operated by partner organizations in developing countries which promote education, encourage children to attend school, improve the health and nutrition of students, address gender inequalities, spur economic growth, combat child labor, and create a platform for tackling global issues. In addition to supporting school feeding programs, Rise Against Hunger also provides meals in response to crisis relief.

Volunteers have packaged more than 225 million meals distributed to 74 countries. Learn more about the organization by visiting their website: www.riseagainsthunger.org.

Bring the entire family on February 1 and witness how we can make a difference in other parts of the world.



NOVEMBER STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Sunday School	\$392.10
Worship Offering	\$42,275.00
Online Giving	\$6,440.00
TOTAL Offering	49,107.10
Total Offering YTD	527,940.26
Total Expenses YTD	571,801.54
Under for Year	43,861.28

Worship Attendance for December:

December 1-266 December 8-263

December 15-349 December 22-266

December 24-336 December 29-254

Elders on Duty for January: Nancy Busch,

James Killian, Paul Menconi, Mike Rodden and

Andy Spittle

Deacons on Duty for January: Jackie Brand, Faye

Stanley, Guy Eberhart, Amy Spittle, Jack Miles and

Brian Wasko

Pastor Alison's Care Corner

I've always liked turning the pages on my calendar to a new year. There's something incredibly freeing about knowing that there is a clean slate before me and that the past is just that - the past.

As a child, I always dreaded when the day came to take down our Christmas tree. I grew up in a now 100-year old home in Davidson, and the ceilings were quite high. My mother nearly always chose a tree to go with the height of the ceiling, and so our trees were spectacular. It was like magic to walk from the kitchen, through the dining room, and into the living room where our majestic tree stood tall with its twinkling white lights and droves of decorations and strands of glistening silver tinsel.

And when the day came to take it down, I always felt let-down. (In looking back, I can't help but belly laugh when I recall how my mother would take limb loppers, stand on a ladder, systematically whack down the tree down limb by limb, and toss the limbs into the fireplace which created a rather impressive roaring fire in our living room. It's a wonder that our home didn't burn to the ground!)

Now, some 40 plus years later, I don't at all dread when the time comes to unhook the decorations from the limbs, unwind the lights, and box them up for another year. In fact, I find it freeing. I find it freeing because taking down the tree means that whatever hurt and difficulties I experienced in the past year are now behind me. It's a great mercy, really, that the past is in the past, and that what lies before me is a story yet to be written. We really do have a choice as to whether we allow the past to define us. Granted, some hurts are more easily worked through than others. Some hurts require considerable time and effort to process. Still, we do have a choice as to whether we allow the past to define who we are now in the present.

Thanks be to God.





A very big "THANK YOU" to Chris Mingus, Tomas Brooker, Trey Brooker, Chris Gainey, and Lindsay Maddux for all of their help and expertise in putting Christmas lights on Merle King's big tree! Also, thank you to Greg Armistead for recruiting volunteers from the Boy Scouts!

Need to Know!

2020 Contribution envelopes are available for pickup in the Gathering Space. Online givers WILL NOT be receiving envelopes. If you have questions please contact Cathy.

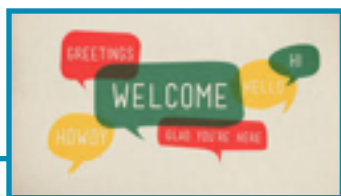
On behalf of the present Nominating Committee, the following will be asked to serve on the 2020 Nominating Committee: Carey Armistead, Lynette Gullede, Julie Mingus and Bob Oehler

*Newly elected church officers will be ordained and installed on January 12 at the 10:30 worship service: Deacons: Guy Eberhart, Jamie Garrison, Jennifer Lazarus, Jenn Messina, Jack Miles, Ryan Oehler, Rachel Rodden and Connie Wallace
Elders: Vicki Buchanan, Nancy Busch, Sean English, Tommy Mitchell, Andy Stiffle and Bill Wood.

A Congregational Meeting will be held at 10:15am on January 19th for the purpose of receiving the annual report from the session, to receive the financial report, to receive the 2020 budget, and to elect members to the nominating committee.



January 12th at 8:45am



Do you like to meet and greet and make people feel welcomed, then you are who we are looking for! We need volunteers to work the Welcome table before and after early and late services. Interested parties should contact Linda Wallace at 704-608-9744 or beach68@bellsouth.net



The Connections Committee is seeking all bakers!

If you love to bake bread and would like to volunteer your talent, we are seeking volunteers to make a loaf for our New Members bags.

Please contact Jean Thomas at 704-807-6683 or ejthom41@bellsouth.net.

Youth Club and Teen Fellowship

January events for Youth Club

1/5/20	Mission (Goody bags and cards for sick/homebound) and Games
1/12/20	Bible Study and Craft (1 Kings 18-19)
1/19/20	Sabbath (MLK Day)
1/26/20	Yoga and Godly Play Storytime (Matthew 3)

January events for Teen Fellowship

1/5/20	Bible Study (1 Kings 18-19)
1/16/20	Mission - Room in the Inn on Thursday - no meeting Sunday 1/12/20
1/19/20	Sabbath (MLK Day)
1/25/20	Fellowship - Winter Outing on Saturday - no meeting Sunday 1/26/20



Calling all Teens! Save the date for a mini-winter outing and retreat, followed by a lock-in at the church on **Saturday 1/25/20**.

Pick-up after 10:30am service at the church on 1/26.

No teen fellowship in the afternoon on 1/26.



WANT TO HIRE OUR TEENS? IF YOU HAVE SPRING CLEANING, YARD WORK, OR ANYTHING AROUND THE HOUSE THAT JUST NEEDS TO BE DONE, CONSIDER HIRING OUR TEENS TO DO IT! THE TEENS WILL BE WORKING ODD JOBS IN FEBRUARY, MARCH, AND APRIL FOR A DONATION TO THEIR CAMP FUND. CONTACT ANDREA IF INTERESTED.

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!

Teens, make sure to join us on **Thursday 1/16/20** to volunteer for Room in the Inn and serve the homeless members of our community.



This will be our mission project for the month - No teen fellowship in the afternoon the preceding Sunday 1/12.

Parent/Caregiver Meeting

All parents and caregivers of teens, please plan to attend a meeting with Andrea on **JANUARY 12th at 11:35am** in the Chapel directly after service. We will discuss upcoming curriculum, events, and summer trips.

Middle School Montreat

If your middle school student would like to attend Montreat Conference in Maryville, TN on July 15-19, 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 JANUARY 12**.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
						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
9 Laura Pelfrey	10	11 Al Wilkinson	12 Linda Apolinar Mary Kostrzynski Rosie Clark	13 Aprille Mitchell	14 Jamie Brown	15 Philip Wescott Nathan Benfield Nicole Scott
16 Patsy Oehler Rachel Rodden Kelly Semon Owen Lazarus Tolby Coore	17	18 Gray Brookshire Jimmy Brown, Jr	19 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 Laney Brookshire	26 Ralph Brand Kim Tucker Kaleb Tucker Joshuah Serepca Elizabeth Fuller	27 Evan Lazarus	28 Jaret Oehler	29



January Events



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Happy New Year	2 9:00 Joy Ringers 10:00 Backpack Blessings 10:15 Circle of Anna 5:00 Room in the Inn 6:00 Mallard Sq. Dancers	3	4
5 8:30 Early Worship 9:15 Fellowship Coffee 9:30 SS Classes 10:30 Worship 4:00 Youth & Teen Club	6 6:30 Circle of Rebekah 7:00 Circle of Ruth 6:00 Cub Scouts	7 5:30 Girl Scouts 6:00 Preschool Board mtg 6:30 Circle of Mary 6:45 Boy Scouts 7:00 Fellowship Comm.	8 11:00 Bible Study 6:00 Hansen Bell 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 Choir	9 10:00 Joy Ringers 10:00 Backpack Blessings 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Ed. & Spiritual Comm	10	11
12 8:30 Early Worship 8:45 Bon Appetees 9:30 SS Classes 10:30 Worship 11:30 Worship Comm	13 6:00 Cub Scouts	14 9:00 Prayer Quilt Ministry 6:45 Boy Scouts 7:00 Diaconate Meeting	15 11:00 Bible Study 6:00 Hansen Bell 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 Choir	16 10:00 Joy Ringers 10:00 Backpack Blessings 5:00 Room in the Inn	17	18
19 8:30 Early Worship 9:15 Fellowship Coffee 9:30 SS Classes 10:30 Worship	20 6:00 Cub Scouts	21 6:45 Boy Scouts 7:00 Session Meeting	22 11:00 Bible Study 6:00 Hansen Bell 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 Choir	23 10:00 Joy Ringers 10:00 Backpack Blessings 6:30 Mission Committee	24	25
26 8:30 Early Worship 9:15 Fellowship Coffee 9:30 SS Classes 10:30 Worship 4:00 Youth Club	27 6:00 Cub Scouts 7:00 PW Meeting	28 5:30 Girl Scouts 6:45 Boy Scouts	29 11:00 Bible Study 6:00 Hansen Bell 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 Choir	30 10:00 Joy Ringers 10:00 Backpack Blessings 5:00 Room in the Inn	31	

January 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
The Rev. Alison Messick-Watkins
Mrs. Andrea Thomas
Mr. David Barnaba
Mrs. Kerri Miner
Mrs. Cathy Marlor
Mrs. Shawn Watkins

Senior Pastor
Parish Associate
Director of Children & Youth Ministry
Director of Music
Preschool Director
Financial Secretary
Administrative Assistant