

# The Scroll



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Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church  
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## From Pastor Rob

We have reached midsummer—halfway through 2022. There are days when that does not seem possible; but then there are others when it seems all too possible.

Midsummer is a moment to pause and take stock.

Where have we been so far?  
What have we done?  
What is still to come?  
Where do we think we will be?

We need such moments. We need time to reflect, think, and collect ourselves. Life can become so full, so rushed, and so complicated that we lose time. We realize we have not had time to catch our breath and just be. Days roll into weeks, weeks roll into months, and—BAM!—Happy New Year! And we are left, breathlessly asking, “Wait, wait—there is still so much I wanted to do...can we have a few more hours?”

There was a moment when such muttering must have flitting about within the community of the Twelve, for Jesus offered a gentle reminder on the need to let go of anxiety—“Do not worry about your life...what you will eat...what you will wear. The birds neither sow nor reap, yet your Father feeds them...think of the flowers of the field—they neither sew nor spin, yet your Father clothes them in more splendor than Solomon and all his robes...so do not worry about tomorrow—tomorrow will take care of itself...”

—Matthew 6:25-34, amended

Tomorrow will take care of itself. That is one of the great assurances of faith. *God is already in tomorrow.* That is what eternity actually means. But beyond being a profound theological truth, it is also a truth of great comfort and compassion. God is present in every moment—those lived, those we are in right now, and those to come. That means God’s goodness and graciousness are also present in every moment. Nothing is beyond God’s reclamation. Nothing has been done that God cannot restore. No conflict is beyond God’s ability to reconcile. No person is beyond God’s redeeming. And resurrection is the answer to any and all ultimatums—there is always something else to come.

So, the year is passing. God is with us. Take a moment and take stock—

What graces have you experienced this year?  
For what are you especially grateful so far?  
What opportunities do you see ahead?  
Where might God be taking you?

Pause and consider.

As Qoholeth reminded us in Ecclesiastes, there is indeed a season for all things under heaven. This season is one, another is coming. God is good and grace abounds.



## Hunter's Thoughts

In my few months here at Mallard Creek PC, I have talked with a handful of people who have come to the church asking for money or help of some sort. Of course, it's not the first time I have encountered this - when I was a chaplain at Presbyterian Hospital, we often had people come in off the street asking for help. But as much as a hospital can do for someone's health, we were not set up to financially assist everyone who walked in off the street. Depending on the circumstances, sometimes we would give a person a meal ticket for our cafeteria. Occasionally, when we would do that, the word would get out and we would be inundated over the next couple of weeks with other people asking for the same thing. Eventually, we had to keep a notebook of the people we assisted to make sure we were not simply enabling the same people over and over again. And then as now, we try to direct people with needs to the agencies that we support that can best help them.



For me, this always brings up some of the most significant questions in my faith life. Who can I help? How much must I give? Am I giving enough to the agencies that are really equipped to assist people in distress? I can't help but always think of Matthew 19:21-24, when the rich young man asks what he must do to have eternal life and Jesus answers that he must sell all he has and give the money to the poor. Most days, I don't feel rich. But whenever I am talking to someone who is struggling to pay rent or even to buy gas to get to their new job, I feel embarrassed by my wealth in comparison. I imagine this is something we all debate within ourselves at times.

Usually, I feel no closer to settling these questions in my mind than when I first heard this directive from Jesus decades ago. At the same time, I can watch people reach out to those in this congregation who are in need. I can celebrate the outreach we do with Backpack Blessings and Gracious Hands and several other groups we support. I can explore with the Mission Committee new ways that we can open our hearts to the community and address the needs we see all around.

I don't want to become hard-hearted when asked for help. Nor do I want to be taken advantage of. Wise people in my past have encouraged me to avoid being overwhelmed by the immensity of the need - to focus on what I can do - on what we can do. I don't think I will ever stop struggling with these questions. But I am thankful to be part of this congregation that is working to make this world a better place. And I am thankful that we can challenge ourselves to always be aware of the needs around us.

## Congregational Care Committee

- The Congregational Care Committee is at the heart of our church and responds to the needs of our members and their families.
- The committee sends monthly cards with personal messages to members who are homebound or members/friends experiencing sorrows and joys.
- Help members by providing meals or other support in times of difficult or challenge.
- Visit and form relationships with members who are elderly, ill, homebound, and those dealing with personal crisis. Provide friendship, encouragement and prayer.

**Welcome all members and volunteers to committee**



## Special Prayers

Nancy Moore - mother of Rob Moore	Elizabeth King	Bobby Brown	Ann Brown
Holly Diggs, niece of Doris DeArmon	Caroline Williams	Carolyn Sheehan	Juanita Untz
Michael Doering, son in law of Jimmy & Janet Hunter		Shirley Hunter	Cecil Massey
Nancy Crapster, mother of Joe	Carl Hatton	Donna Seaford	Kenneth Helms
Betty Shue - mother of Robin Fuller	Ruby Downing	Elaine Lord	Jean MacNiel
Allison Messick-Watkins	Debbie Faraone	Bernice Martin	Lucy McLaughlin
Pat Fuller - mother of Tom Fuller	Roy Kinnamon	Lois Spradley	Peggy Puckett
Dale McLaughlin	Tammy Sheehan		



*Kristy Maddux, Preschool Director and Paula Brasel, Administrative Assistant*

**We are FINALLY on summer break!** Woohoo!!! The school year is over, and we just finished three weeks of summer camps! We had a wonderful year and cannot thank everyone enough for your continued prayers and support throughout the year! It means a lot to all of us!

**We would like to give a special THANK YOU** to the following people for their help with different events and/or continued support during this school year:

- |                       |                           |                  |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| John Harvey Alexander | Sarai Georges             | Chris Mingus     |
| Harvey Alexander      | Harish Gowda              | Pranjal Nerurkar |
| Monie Alexander       | Bailey Green              | Bob Oehler       |
| Marlene Allen         | Grayson Hanes             | Abari Ojha       |
| Joshua Baker          | Brett Hartis              | Anusha Ranga     |
| Ned Baker             | Trait Hartis              | Hunter Roddey    |
| Charitha Boppuluru    | Patty Hawks               | Lois Spradley    |
| Jackie Brand          | Merle & Elizabeth King    | Nicole Stillman  |
| Christian Brasel      | Karen Kosmoski            | Ashley Suliman   |
| Christy Brasel        | Jeff Lovette              | Sara Suliman     |
| Troy Brasel           | Lindsay Maddux            | Zulma Suliman    |
| Christina deKam       | Mike Maddux               | Zach Tait        |
| Mack Downing          | Paul Menconi              | Andrea Thomas    |
| Tom Fuller            | Christopher Merida-Brasel | Linda Wallace    |
| Aiden Gathings        | Erika Miller              | Rob Watkins      |

**We would like to thank our Preschool Board members**, too, for their service, support, and guidance that they give the preschool throughout the school year. **THANK YOU to:**

- |                 |                    |               |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Christina deKam | Barbara Oehler     | Andrea Thomas |
| Leigh Johnson   | Bob Oehler         | Jackie Triage |
| James Killian   | Priscilla Stephens | Kim Tucker    |

**MCPCP is HIRING!** We have a few **Assistant Teacher** positions open for the upcoming school year. If you LOVE working with children and would like to work part-time, Monday through Thursday, from 8:30 to 1:30, we have a spot for you. Please send your resume to Kristy at [kristym@mallardcreekchurch.org](mailto:kristym@mallardcreekchurch.org) or stop by the preschool and fill out an application.

We also need substitute teachers for the upcoming school year. If you would like to be on our Substitute List, please call our office at 704.549.9741 or email Kristy at the above email address.

**Our summer office hours through are** Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 8:30 to 12:30 through August 18<sup>th</sup>.

We hope you and your family have an awesome July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration and a wonderful summer!

## PW Circle Meetings update

Presbyterian Women –

Happy Summer! Circles are taking a break for the summer, but I hope you make sure you are looking at a circle to begin in the Fall.

Each meeting is centered around a Bible study lesson. As soon as we finalize our Bible study for next year, I will let everyone know. Below are the circles, the time in which they meet and Circle leaders and their contact info. Please reach out to them if you have any questions so you can find a circle that meets all your needs.

Circle of Mary-Anna –Typically meets on Tuesday @ 10:30 am

(Jane Isenhower-isenhowerj@bellsouth.net)

Circle of Rebekah –Typically meets on Monday, @ 6:00

(Rachel Rodden – rachrodden@gmail.com)

Circle of Ruth – Typicall meets on Monday @ 7:00 this circle will be a hybrid meeting in person and on zoom

(Beth Patafio – [Bethpatafio@icloud.com](mailto:Bethpatafio@icloud.com))



*\*\*If anyone is aware of a birth of a baby in our congregation, please contact the church office\*\**

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

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

### Nursery Volunteer Schedule

7/3 Janie Dowling  
 7/10 Riley Ashley  
 7/17 Jessica Booth  
 7/24 Jane Isenhower  
 7/31 Georgie Deaton

### MAY STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Sunday School	\$120.00
Worship Offering	\$37,726.00
Online Giving	\$14,505.00
TOTAL Offering	\$52,351.00
Total Offering YTD	\$191,668.45
Total Expenses YTD	\$247,116.83
Under for Year	(\$55,448.38)

## Session Highlights

- No Financial Report yet for May, due to Financial Manger new hiring. Report will be published in next Scroll.
- Approved expense of up to \$2000 from the Johnson Music Fund, for cleaning and maintenance of the handbells.
- Heard very positive report on Vacation Bible School signups for participation of both children and volunteers.
- Officers completed Child Safety Training.

## Youth Club and Teen Fellowship

### July 2022

Summer is finally here! Our kids and teens have had a fantastic year so far, and we were able to maintain a regular meeting schedule all academic year, including outings! None of this would be possible without our amazing parents and volunteers who support our kids and teens programs. THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who attended our family events in June and went to the baseball game! We had a blast Thank you to our wonderful volunteers for VBS! It takes so many people to put together a successful VBS, and I'm so grateful to all of you!

Next up is the most exciting time of our year: Montreat! We have good groups of teens attending this year. Please pray for our teens to deepen their faith and come to know God more fully at Montreat this summer.



**High School Montreat: July 24-30**

**Middle School Montreat: July 20-23**

Congratulations to our 2022 recipient of the Neal Scholarship, **Jaylen Oehler!** This award recognizes academic excellence, church and community involvement, and faith in Jesus Christ. Jaylen will be attending the Honors Program at Queens University of Charlotte in the fall to study nursing.



 <h2 style="text-align: center;">August Birthdays 2022</h2> 						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Gary Rose Sophia Lemon Harry Kirk	2	3 Ken Christenbury Carl Spradley	4	5 Trevor Barret	6 Janet Hunter Tracy Tucker Jonathan Kiser
7 Dave Good Tammy Sheehan Sharon Kimrey Katelyn Brandon	8 Lois Treadway Mark Johnson	9 Jean Thomas Perry Quattlebaum	10 Clyde Benfield Monie Alexander Bingham Dixon	11 Kim Beall Riley Ashley	12 Bobby Benton	13 Zoey Garrison Grey Hansen
14 Bob Oehler Stephen Lisi Katelyn Kiser Clara Messina	15 Lynette Gullede	16 David Stephens	17 Michelle Lemon	18	19	20 Dale McLaughlin Tonia English Kolton Kiser Lucas Orlovsky Camryn Powell
21 Carolyn Sheehan Steven Johnston	22 Leigh Love Cristina Moore Saxon McElveen Sylvia Snyder	23 Polly Walker Virginia Halter	24 Tom Fuller Joey Brown Owen Stiffel	25 Beverly McLaughlin	26 Susie Oehler	27 Joe Oehler Perry Deaton Tobias Wescott
28 Mary McCraw	29 Tommy Oehler Barbara Oehler Joey Crapster	30 Haiden Gullede	31 James Crenshaw			



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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