

# The Scroll

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



## From Pastor Rob

A meditation on a cup of coffee...

A cup of coffee can be so much more than a morning jolt of caffeine to break free of the lingering sleepiness of the night before.

A cup of coffee can be an invitation. Offered to someone, it can be an invitation to conversation. It can be an offer of welcome. It can be an offer to sit with someone who does need to be alone. It can be an invitation to just sit still and savor a moment.

A cup of coffee can be a comfort. Offered to someone, it can be an offer of listening. Offered to someone, it can be an offer of warm solace. Drunk by oneself, it can be a moment of quiet and reflection. Drunk by oneself, it can be a warm embrace on a cold day.

A cup of coffee can be a family moment. Drunk around the breakfast table, it can be part of the morning reconnect. Made before everyone else awakes, it can be a word of care for them. It can be a chance to sit and catch up with each other.

A cup of coffee can be an assurance. Offered by a first responder to someone wrapped in a blanket after escaping a crisis, it becomes a word of reassuring grace that all is well. Offered by a friend, it can be an assurance that one is not alone.



A cup of coffee can be a needed break. A cup of coffee can break up a cycle of hard work and focus, giving us a chance to shut down for a moment. A cup of coffee can be a refreshing pause, just a moment to sit still then get back to whatever needs doing.

A cup of coffee can be a cup of coffee, too. Sometimes it is what it is, reminding us that there is a lot in life that is what it is. It can be a call to recalibrate what we are spending our time and energy on—is something really as important as we think it is? Maybe we just need to relax...

As you can see, a cup of coffee can be a lot of things.

What connects all of the items on this list—and I encourage you to add to it (what is a cup of coffee for you?)—is that there is grace in each experience of a cup of coffee. Grace is so often like that—it is present in even the most mundane and ordinary of things and experiences, and, if we are honest, we often miss it.

Take a moment each day to recount the moments of grace. As with gratitude, consciously recollecting moments of grace helps us realize how present it is and how often we experience it.

Even in the daily experience of drinking a cup of coffee.

## Hunter's Thoughts

I Recently, there has been some media attention around the Southern Baptist Convention and the hard stance it has taken against ordaining women to any position in the church. This has been a painful experience for many people in that denomination as they have struggled with a difficult and often very personal issue. The United Methodist Church has been struggling over the past few years with divisions over ordination of LGBTQ people in their denomination. Though the church as a whole has not changed its stance, the disagreements have been enough to cause several congregations to leave the UMC. People of deep faith have come to different viewpoints on challenging issues. Obviously, these disputes reflect much of what is going on in our society as a whole.

Our own denomination, the PCUSA, has been through many of the same struggles and debates. It has caused divisions that have sometimes taken centuries to heal. I remember clearly when there was still a division between the UPCUSA - the former "northern" Presbyterian Church - and the PCUS - the "southern" Presbyterian Church. It was only in 1983 that these "siblings in faith" reunited after having been split apart for more than 120 years.



Since that reunion, the denomination has continued to debate many issues of theology and polity - the way the church is governed. In the 1990's and early 2000's, there was upheaval over several things with the most divisive being about fidelity in marriage for members and leaders of the church. Again, the underlying question was about whether LGBTQ people could be ordained in the church and accepted fully. In the Presbyteries and individual churches, there were many debates and studies and prayers and votes about how to address it. Rarely was everyone satisfied with the outcome, whether it seemed to be more traditional or more progressive.

I was part of many of those Presbytery meetings where people with deep faith had prayerfully come to different opinions of the matters. I felt blessed to be part of a process where we could honestly and openly express those opinions. There were times, of course, where things were said that left hurt feelings. But overall, I was thankful that we could talk freely and then each individual could look to God and listen for God's quiet word to us. Each time we voted, we did so with respect and hope. And each time we came to a new decision, we would then gather for a meal and break bread together.

This was a difficult time in the life of our denomination and its effects will be with us for decades to come. Our own church family continues to be challenged by some of the questions that linger in the air. Trusting in God to guide us as a family may be one of the hardest things we do. Respecting the feelings of each other is an added challenge, but one that we can and must strive to do. And as we do, I pray that we will continue to seek God's will and listen for the many ways God will speak to us, and we will answer as the body of Christ.



# THANK YOU

We just finished three weeks of summer camp so bring on our summer break! Woohoo!!! **We had a wonderful year and cannot thank everyone enough for your continued prayers and support throughout the school year! It has meant a lot to all of us at MCPCP!**

**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:

Harvey Alexander	Tom Fuller	Maria Menconi	Madeline Smith
Monie Alexander	Sarai Georges	Paul Menconi	Lois Spradley
Josh Ashley	Sonai Gonzalez	Christopher Merida-Brasel	Nicole Stillman
Phil Ashley	Bailey Green	Erika Miller	Tanner Suttles
Riley Ashley	Grayson Hanes	Chris Mingus	Angela Swicegood
Joshua Baker	Brett Hartis	Cristina Moore	Zach Tait
Clyde Benfield	Tara Hartis	Helena Moore	Andrea Thomas
Charitha Bodduluru	Trait Hartis	Hope Moore	Sydney Townsend
Amanda Booth	Patty Hawks	Leah Morse	Jackie Tiece
Christian Brasel	Leigh Johnson	Barbara Oehler	Linda Wallace
Christy Brasel	Nancy Joseph	Bob Oehler	Ruby Wallace
Paula Brasel	James Killian	Craven Oehler	Rob Watkins
Troy Brasel	Elizabeth King	Larry Oehler	Marisa Wilson
Ravi Davuluri	Merle King	Jacob Rodden	Mike Wilson
Christina deKam	Jeff Lovette	Mike Rodden	Sonia Wilson
Evie deKam	Katie Maddux	Rachel Rodden	Lindsay Young
Mack Downing	Charlotte McConnell	Hunter Roddey	
John Fabian	Radhika Medishetti	Betty Shue	
Robin Fuller	Dawn Medlin		

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

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

**MCPCP is HIRING!** We have an opening for a Pre-K Teacher and 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 24<sup>th</sup>. We hope you and your family have an awesome July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration and a wonderful summer!

*"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed." ~Proverbs 16:3*

# Youth Club and Teen Fellowship

July 2023

Thank you to everyone who went to the baseball game in June! 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 23-29**

**Middle School Montreat: July 19-23**

## We're Hiring!

If you LOVE working with children in a loving, Christian environment, we have a place for you!

Pre-K teacher and assistant teachers needed for the 2023-2024 school year!

To apply, email [kristym@mallardcreekchurch.org](mailto:kristym@mallardcreekchurch.org) or call 704-549-9741.



**THANK YOU for a GREAT Year!**



We're very proud of Aidan Lynch became Troop 148's newest Eagle Scout  
**Congratulations in his Eagle achievement!**







**Elder duty for July:** Harvey Alexander , Cristina Moore , Jamie Garrison  
**Deacon duty for July:** Leigh Johnson, Jean MacNeil, Jane Geracimos, Andrew Coore, Allston Oehler, Chris Mingus.

January - June 15, 2023 FINANCIAL POSITION	
Year to Date income	
SUNDAY SCHOOL	\$727.34
WORSHIP OFFERING	\$141,707.21
ONLINE GIVING	\$62,197.77
CELL TOWER INCOME	\$12,546.72
TOTAL	\$217,179.04
YTD INCOME	\$217,179.04
YTD EXPENSES	\$293,186.41
Reserves Spent	(\$76,007.37)

Contributions	
January	\$36,873.66
February	\$43,353.43
March	\$42,998.84
April	\$34,910.84
May	\$28,525.55
June 1/2 a month	\$17,970.00
Total Contributions	\$204,632.32

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New ways to give at Mallard Creek

**WE GIVE** because  
**GOD GAVE FIRST**

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son. ...  
John 3:16

Text  
MCPC  
to 73256

### Twin Boys Coming Soon!

Pastor Rob's daughter and son-in-law are having twin boys due in September. If you would like to send them a gift or card to shower them with love, please do so.

**Chelsea and Colton Sinkovich**

869 Ratcliff Cove Rd

Waynesville, NC 28786

Online registry link: <https://www.babylist.com/list/baby-chelsea-sinkovich>



We are doing backpacks this summer month start in July for a couple of times in the month.

Special Thank you of Circle of Rebekah and Mary/Anna for the contribution to be able to do backpacks for the summer.

**Thank you to all that have contributed to backpack blessings this year.** In preparation for the new school year we are asking for help. Our funding was in a surplus position during the pandemic because of lower needs but now the schools are back to normal and we are preparing many more backpacks. Not to mention higher grocery prices! Below is a listing of what typically goes in each backpack, based on 4 children per backpack.

- 1 can of Hunts spaghetti sauce.
- 1 package of pasta
- 2 cans of Spaghettios
- 1 Can of chicken
- 2 cans of veggies
- 2 Cans of beans
- 4 top ramen
- 1 Box of Mac and Cheese
- 4 fruit cups
- 4 packs of oatmeal
- 4 packs of grits
- 1 box of rice or potatoes



As you can see we only buy necessities but with 80 children for Parkside and up to 30 for Mallard Creek costs add up quickly. Granola bars, cookies and chips are only put in when donated. **As the school year begins we are asking for monetary donations or food to keep this ministry going.** Contributions can be made online or via check made payable to Presbyterian Women, noting "Backpack Blessings" in the memo line.

## Special Prayers

Nancy Moore - mother of Rob Moore	Elizabeth King	Caroline Williams	Sandra Tracy
Jimmy Rodgers - son of Frances Christenbury	Shirley Hunter	Cecil Massey	Donna Seaford
Donna Garrison— wife of Eddie Garrison	Juanita Untz	Roy Kinnamon	Elaine Lord
Larry Carroll - husband of Ann Carroll	Ruby Downing	Dennis Lord	Guy Eberhart
Andy Marcus - brother of Rachel Rodden	Donnie Oehler	Ken Christenbury	Carolyn Sheehan
Barry Henson - brother-in-law of Perry Deaton	Taylor Jones	Judith Rankin	Jane Geracimos
LaVern Winter - father of Tammy Alford	Suggie Christenbury	Joana Lovette	Cy Alexander
Matthew Lee - friend of Karen Kosmoski	Dale McLaughlin	Ann Brown	Frances Christenbury
Dallas Kim King - son of Merle King	Carlita Hunter	Stan Mach	Perry Deaton
Grey Taylor - brother of Nancy Busch	Penny Louya	Barbara Cottrell	Carl Hatton
Tracy Brienich - daughter of Linda and Teddy Preslar		David Saviano	Lynn Kelley
The family of Silas Davis	The family of Barbara Rodden - mother of Mike Rodden		

 <h1>August Birthdays 2023</h1> 						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Gary Rose Sophia Lemon	2	3 Ken Christenbury Carl Spradley	4	5 Trevor Barret
6 Janet Hunter Tracy Tucker Jonathan Kiser	7 Dave Good Tammy Sheehan Sharon Kimrey	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 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	28 Mary McCraw	29 Tommy Oehler Barbara Oehler Joey Crapster	30 Haiden Gullede	31 James Crenshaw		

Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church  
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Charlotte, NC 28262



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The Rev. Rob Watkins  
The Rev. Hunter Roddey  
Mrs. Andrea Thomas  
Ms. Amanda Booth  
Ms. Claudia Perez  
Mr. David Barnaba  
Mrs. Kristy Maddux

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