



THE SCROLL

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

From Rev. Rob Watkins:

As Lent opens for us at Mallard Creek, many folks among us feel like we are truly in a time of examination, testing, and challenge.

We tackled an important and yet difficult task in examining our by-laws, trying to form a consensus that is reflective of who we are, what we believe, and how we practice being disciples; but at the same time, recognizing and living with the diversity in our community.



Some would argue this is an impossible task. Our context seems to continually communicate that impossibility in its harsh partisanship, its fostering of deep divisions between different groups of people (e.g., rural vs. urban, rich vs. poor, one race against another, elite vs. “regular,” and any other division or designation found on cable news), and its message to refuse to cooperate or even interact with someone different from oneself. Therefore, why bother to try at all to find a consensus?

Because Jesus.

Jesus gave the greatest and best mission statement ever written—

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind; and you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

(Mt. 22:37-39; Mk. 12:30-31; Lk. 10:27)

It is a mission statement he intends us to actually practice, and he even gives a practical way in which to live by it—

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

(Mt. 7:12; Lk. 6:31)

This Lent, let our aim be to live into, first, Jesus’ mission statement, and, second, to put it into practice by doing unto others as we would have them do to us. Love can reign within our fellowship, Love can bring unity. Love can overcome impossibilities.

Special Prayer

Elizabeth King	Christopher Lawing	Danny Mingus, brother of Chris	Lynn Kelly
Ann Brown	Dwayne Martin	Eve Cooper	J.W. Avant
Ruby Downing	Fred Treadway	BJ Knox	Caroline Williams
Tommy Carter	Carlita Hunter	Deane Davis	Frank Cartner
Barbara Krady	Kathy Robinson	Glenda Shample, friend of Penningers	
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		Morgan Khur, friend of Maria Menconi	

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-

You are invited on March 17
for food and fellowship.

The Molded Clay Quartet
will be performing

RSVP to

704-965-1676, 614-537-5363
or hattonm7@gmail.com



Please join us for Thursday night fellowship, on March 19. We will eat at the "River Buffet and Grill", a delicious Chinese/Japanese buffet with Hibachi and Sushi. If you wish to drive yourself, it is located next to Big Lots by Home Depot in the University Area. If you want to take the bus, Please meet at church to leave at 5:30pm. Reservations will be for 6:00 pm. If you plan to come, please call, text or email Barbara Kumnick 704-516-9834 abkumnick@bellsouth.net She will reserve tables for a large group. It's OK to leave a message.

JANUARY STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Sunday School	\$440.50
Worship Offering	\$32,070.60
Online Giving	\$7,938.00
TOTAL Offering	\$40,449.10
Total Offering YTD	\$40,449.10
Total Expenses YTD	\$71,044.51
Under for Year	\$30,595.41

Worship Attendance for February:

February 2- 247 February 9-307

February 16- 261 February 23-305

Elders on Duty for March: Vicki Buchanan, Sean English, Jonathan Kiser, Kenneth McCraw and Andy Spittle
Deacons on Duty for March: Jamie Garrison, Jane Marshall, Linda Wallace, Jenn Messina, Perry Deaton and Wade MacNeil

Pastor Alison's Care Corner

While we've certainly made progress, it seems to me that that we as people of faith still have a long way to go in the way that we think about and talk and feel about mental illness. Just hearing the words "mental illness" still conjures up images that are extreme, unkind, untrue, and, frankly, unhelpful. Chances are that we all know persons diagnosed with mental illness: family, neighbors, friends, co-workers, ourselves.

An approach that some persons of faith take is that of attempting to pray away symptoms of mental illness, the thought being that if my faith were strong enough, my illness would go away. But do we take this same approach with our physical illnesses? Of course we don't. So why do we treat illnesses of the brain (which is what mental illness is) so differently? When we do, we only shame ourselves and others who suffer.

To worsen matters, the Church, both Protestant and Catholic, has a horrendous history of deeming those with mental illness as being demon-possessed, a practice that causes me to cringe. What causes me to cringe even more is that this kind of warped thinking still exists. To this day, exorcisms still take place. What damage we inflict in the name of faith!

My sense is that symptoms of mental illness frighten us. Often these symptoms are invisible; we look the same, sound the same, act the same - at least to those who do not know us very well - but inside we can be in excruciating and debilitating pain, even to the point of no longer wanting to live. And we suffer silently and alone.

Some of you have taken the brave step of sharing with me your own struggle with mental illness, and what a gift it is that you trust me with such a tender part of your person story. Now I want to return the favor: about twenty years ago I was diagnosed with a form of depression. My mother suffered from it, as did her mother, as does an uncle. Although it has taken some tinkering, I am on a regime of medication which keeps my symptoms manageable. Without medication, my life is an existence at best; with medication, my life is worth living!

We are better as a community of faith when we risk being vulnerable, when we share tender parts of our stories with one another; otherwise, we remain basically a group of polite acquaintances whose connections with one another don't run that deeply. God placed us here to be companions with one another, to bond with one another, to care deeply for one another. May we grow into God's desire for us and experience the richness of deeper human connections within our community of faith.



Upcoming Circle Meetings

Come as you are for one of our March Circle meetings. All women in the church have been assigned to a circle, but are welcome to attend any that they wish. 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 – March 5th, 10:15, Parlor
 - (Polly Caldwell - cacpwc@bellsouth.net, Linda Apolinar - edlin1025@yahoo.com)
- Circle of Mary – March 3rd, 7:00 pm, Dining Hall
 - (Linda Wallace - beach68@bellsouth.net, Sally Tyler - tylerstmt@bellsouth.net)
- Circle of Rebekah – March 2nd, 6:30 pm, Gathering Space
 - (Julie Mingus - julie.mingus@ncfbins.com)
- Circle of Ruth – March 2nd, 7:00 pm, Nancy Busch's Home

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.

Presbyterian Women in the Church

- **Circle of Anna** enjoyed devotions and a bible study at their latest meeting. They also collected items to help with a Youth Mission Project.
- **Circle of Mary** enjoyed devotions, bible study, fellowship, and prayer at their latest meeting.
- **Circle of Rebekah** studied lesson 4 in the Messy People bible study. They also collected 20 purses to help with Youth Club's mission project.
- **Circle of Ruth** had a devotion followed by a "favorite things" gift exchange and fellowship. They also helped provide the meal for Room in the Inn on February 13th.

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.





Come and join the Preschool at the University Chick-fil-a on March 26th, 5:00-8:00pm. Tell the cashier you're with MCPCP. Also, the Book Fair will be open for church members on March 1st. Come downstairs to the preschool meeting room to shop between services! If you'd like to be a guest reader for any or all classrooms, call Kristy in the preschool office to schedule a reading time. Preschoolers will get to enjoy pajama day, crazy hair day, silly sock day, and hat day in March, as well as a performance by the Children's Theater of Charlotte. If you want your child to get to experience all the fun next year, it's not too late! Church members get priority on the waiting list, so call us [today](#). 704-549-9741.

Kerri Miner, Preschool Director and Kristy Maddux, Assistant Director

THANK YOU!

Dear Church Friends,

Thank you all for your calls, cards, visits, care and concern supporting my battle with breast cancer. Holly and Jason brought us food, Pastor Craig and Pastor Alison called and/or stopped by, and I have a bulletin board on which I display my cards and notes to keep me smiling! Thank you also, to the quilt ladies for my beautiful quilt which I am certainly enjoying using. Much love, Rickie Grubb

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the love to my mom and her family during her illness and death. The many cards, visits, flowers and food meant a lot to us. Thank you for honoring Pat's memory with a gift made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Mom supported the worthy cause monthly. Thanks again for being such an important part of mom's life. She loved her church dearly. Again, your thoughtfulness is appreciated. Love, Cindy, Donna and Paul

We want to thank everyone for all that they have done for us this past year (and continue to do)! We cannot thank you enough for all of your prayers cards, calls, visits and other very generous means of support! Thanks again for all your do. Love Dwayne & Debbie Martin

P.S. Also thanks for the visits and prayers for our Dad-Frank. He appreciates the hospital visits and Pruitt Health care visits. It brightens his day!. Thank you, Johnnie Cartner, Dwayne and Debbie

Thanks to the 100+ people who attended this year's Rise Against Hunger meal packing event on February 1. In addition to church members attending for the first time, several visitors helped with this effort. We turned out over 20,000 meals in two hours which will be used for disaster relief efforts or sent to third world countries. This was our ninth event and we've now packaged over 150,000 meals. Mark you calendars now for our next event on Saturday, February 6, 2021.

THANK YOU! Huge thank you to everyone who came to Souper Bowl Sunday. With the money you gave, the teens were able to send care packages to 50 soldiers!

March 1, 2020



**Come and
Join Us!**

Easter Cantata, 4/5	Chapel	8:30am
	Sanctuary	10:30am
Maundy Thursday Communion Service, 4/9		7:00pm
Easter Sunrise Service, 4/12		7:00am
	Amphitheater, weather permitting	
Easter Service		8:30am & 10:30am

WE NEED ALL HANDS! Annual church workday is
March 28th, 8:00am until finished.
Many hands will make the work go faster.



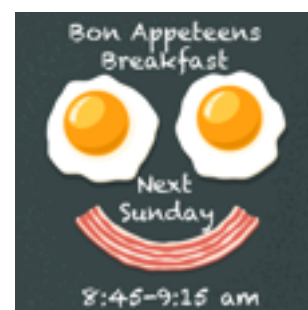
Lenten Devotions will be available each week
February 23–April 5, written with teens in
mind, but applicable to everyone.
Join us as we reflect on Christ's life and
ministry this Lenten season.

Save the Date:

The Annual Sunday School Teacher/Choir, Youth
Leaders and Sound Appreciation Luncheon will be
March 29th after late service.

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!



March 8th at 8:45am

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS:

The Neal Scholarship for High School Seniors is due
April 30, 2020.

Copies of the application can be found in the church office.

Youth Club and Teen Fellowship

March events for Youth Club

3/1/20	Bible Study and Craft (Matthew 14:13-21) (Andrea OOT)
3/8/20	Mission - Stations of the Cross (Camp Grier info meeting at 9:30am)
3/15/20	Fellowship - Bowling at Spare Time Huntersville meet there 3-5pm (wear green!) families welcome
3/22/20	Sabbath (Kids Communion Class at 11:40am)
3/29/20	Yoga and Godly Play Storytime (Luke 10:25-37)

March events for Teen Fellowship

3/1/20	Fellowship - Rollerskating at Frye's meet there at 3pm-5pm (Andrea OOT)
3/8/20	Stations of the Cross and Practice for Teen Sunday (Bon Appeteens at 9:15am)
3/15/20	Bible Study (John 8:1-11) and Teen Takeover in AM services
3/22/20	Sabbath
3/29/20	Fellowship - IKEA Scavenger Hunt and Dinner



Interested in learning more about children taking Communion? Join us for an informational gathering and discussion on **Sunday, March 22 at 11:40am in the Dining Hall**. We will be teaching the kids about Communion on their level. All ages welcome. Families encouraged to participate. A light lunch will be provided.



Informational Meeting with the Director of Camp Grier!

MCPC will be taking a group to Camp Grier on August 2-7.

Join us on Sunday March 8 to answer all your questions during the Sunday School hour!

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



Session Highlights

March 1, 2020

1. “Teen Takeover” during the early and late service March 15
2. February 26 Ash Wednesday walk-in service 12:00-2:00PM in the Gathering Space
3. February 26 Ash Wednesday Service 7:00PM in the Chapel
4. April 5 8:30 service in the Chapel with Communion
5. April 5 Easter Cantata 10:30 service in the Sanctuary with Communion
6. April 9 Maundy Thursday Service with Communion 7:00PM
7. April 12 Sunrise Service 7:00AM in the Amphitheater (Gathering Space in case of rain)
8. Accepted with gratitude a gift of \$1,500.00 from Merle King and Jackie Oehler to purchase folding chairs for the Gathering Space
9. Approved recommendation for the construction of a new shed at the Community House for the BBQ
10. Approved motion to increase Parish Associate to 30-hours per week and to amend the budget
11. Approved recommendation that Trusted Employees Company replace the current firm conducting background checks

Website Update

The newly formed website committee is working with the firm of Austin Morin to update our church website, making it fresher and more user friendly.




So how would you describe MCPC?

*Worship, Praise, Prayer, and PreSchool
Raising our children to live the Christian way
Growing in faith through teaching and learning
Fellowship, Square Dancing, Lunch Bunch and Dining
Giving, Caring, Sharing and Volunteering
Helping others less fortunate near and far
And the list goes on and on!*

Pictures are a big part of telling our story and we need your help! We need current pictures, preferably horizontal shots, of EVERYTHING that is MCPC. We hope to have the new site launched within 60 days so please don't wait!

Please forward your submissions to Mack Downing or Carey Armistead at:

mcpc2020web@gmail.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>  <h1>April Birthdays</h1>  </div>						
			1 Ann Carroll Timothy Johnston Kristy Maddux Molly Rice	2 Will Armistead Emily Rose	3 Marleen Alexander Scot Barrett	4 Chuck Strong, Jr.
5 Julia Brown Chris Alessi	6 Juanita Untz Sandra Thomas Gabriel Lapalombella	7 Emily Holt Jackson Oehler Wren Alexander	8	9 Debbie Freidlander Jean Helms Lee Ann Oehler	10 Earlene Craver Anne Eberhart Eddie Garrison Page Gupton Bobbie Lisi Julie Mingus	11 Mary Snow Allston Oehler April Carte
12 Steve Brown Jessica Rainstein	13 Pam Beard Daniel Messina Christine Shankey	14 Doris DeArmon Faye Stanley Tom Baker	15 Taylor Jones Kristina Sheppard	16 Danny Ndingwan	17 Sue Oehler Anne Quattlebaum Andy Brown Sophia Johnson	18 Stephen Haas Kalie Barrett
19 Brenda Garrison Easton Cochran	20 Mason Coore	21 Ben Alford	22 Robin Fuller	23 Jean MacNeil	24 Bonnie Hodges Dave Richards Brice Dixon	25 Shirley McKay Kayla Serepca
26 Emily Shankey	27 Susan Mach Amy Oehler Holly Oehler Hayden Love	28 Ann Brown Ashley Smith Abigail Yates	29 Carolyn Stubbs	30		



March Events



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

March 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