



The Scroll

Mallard Creek
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

From Pastor Rob

November brings the annual call to pause for a moment and give thanks—

- give thanks for friends and family
- give thanks for meaningful work to do
- give thanks for moments of grace and redemption
- give thanks for opportunities and possibilities
- give thanks for wonderful days
- give thanks for help on the not so good days
- give thanks for time off
- give thanks for daily bread
- give thanks for good health
- give thanks for wise physicians who were there in illness

And on goes a list that could nearly infinite.

Each day brings something or someone for which to be thankful. God's grace knows no season or day—it is always there. Even in our darkest moments grace shines forth. Sometimes we can't see it. Sometimes we can't feel it. But that doesn't change the fact that God is present as is God's grace.

Of course, on the best days, we are sometimes so caught up in the celebrations that we miss the grace that made it possible. Saying thank you slips past without being said.

So let's reconnect with our lives for a moment...for what are you grateful for right this moment? Where is a little light shining right now? The step back a couple steps—what happened yesterday or the day before that made something happen today? Who helped? Who went with us? Who listened? Who offered a piece of wise counsel?

Then step back even further...what are the moments for which you are the most grateful? What people? Who has meant the most?

Now take a bit of a sidetrack...for what are you grateful that it is over? What are you glad is in the past never to return?

Sometimes grace takes a detour.

It is interesting to me how often in the scriptures God takes something not so good and makes it good. One of the most profound is the moment when Joseph is reunited with his eleven brothers in Egypt. Remember they sold him into slavery because of his coat of many colors, but God used that to save the whole family and a whole bunch of Egyptians, too (Gen. 37-50). And the core of our faith is built on just such a moment—the cross—the single worst moment in human history when we sought to be rid of God and his Son—yet God redeemed the whole of creation through that terrible moment.

God is good and grace abounds.

There is always something for which to be thankful, even if we may not see it at the moment. Therefore, let us give thanks and sing, just as the hymn suggests.





Our students and staff were busy last month with a visit from the Firefighters from Station#36, Community Helpers Week, our Scholastic Book Fair, Fall Pictures, annual Fall Festival (hayrides, pumpkin patch, and the Pint Sized Pasture Petting Zoo from Sanford, NC), Halloween Festivities (Storybook Parade, Candy Walk, Trunk or Treat, and Fall Celebrations). It was a lot of fun for everyone!

THANK YOU to the firefighters from Station 36 of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Fire Department for visiting our preschool and teaching our students how to “Stop, Drop, and Roll” and letting the children climb up in their big fire truck!

A huge **THANK YOU TO** Mr. Harvey Alexander for taking everyone on fun hayrides around our campus and to Jimmy Brown and Bob Oehler for making them possible by loaning us a wagon and tractor! You all are the BEST!

THANK YOU to everyone who supported our Fall Scholastic Book Fair by purchasing books! It was a tremendous success! We sold just under \$3000 in books this time, which is awesome! **THANK YOU!!!**

THANK YOU to MCPC’s Presbyterian Women for hosting Trunk or Treat and all the church members who set up a trunk and/or donated candy! Our staff members had a fun time participating by setting up trunks and so many of our preschool families enjoyed attending with their children. Of course, all the students who attended really loved getting bags full of candy, too!

We would also like to thank Pastor Rob, Terri Smith, and Keri Wass for the judging our Greatest Pumpkin Contest this year! They picked one pumpkin from each of our eleven classrooms and then the best pumpkin for each age group! To see the winning pumpkins, please check out our Instagram and/or Facebook pages.

This month our students will learn about God’s fall gifts, having fun with friends, all about others, changes in the weather, being thankful, expressing what they are thankful for, and what Thanksgiving is all about. Our Pre-K classes will celebrate Thanksgiving with their annual Thanksgiving Feast, our 3’s classes will celebrate Thanksgiving with their Festival of Plenty, and our 2’s classes will celebrate Thanksgiving by having a Friendsgiving!

****Calling volunteers to help serve food at the Pre-K’s Thanksgiving Feast on Thursday, November 20th, at 11 am and partake in the meal together afterwards. If you can help us, please call 704-549-9741 or email kristym@mallardcreekchurch.org. Thank you!**

November’s Important Dates:

- Monday, November 3, 2025—Make-Up Fall Picture Day
- Tuesday, November 4, 2025—NO PRESCHOOL—Election Day
- Thursday, November 6, 2025—Police Visit from CMPD police officers.
- Tuesday, November 11, 2025—NO PRESCHOOL—Veterans Day
- Thursday, November 13, 2025—Wear YELLOW Day for 2’s Classes
- Tuesday, November 18, 2025—Silhouette Artist Fundraiser
- Wednesday, November 19, 2025—3’s Festival of Plenty
- Thursday, November 20, 2025—Pre-K’s Thanksgiving Feast
- Tuesday, November 25, 2025—2’s Friendsgiving
- Wednesday, November 26, 2025—NO PRESCHOOL
- Thursday, November 27, 2025—NO PRESCHOOL—Happy Thanksgiving!!!

Our students will also hear the following Bible stories in Children’s Church this month: Water to Wine, the Good Samaritan, Jesus Feeds the 5000, and Jesus Heals the 10 Lepers.

We are so thankful for our Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church family and hope that each of you have a wonderful and blessed Thanksgiving surrounded by your family and friends!

Looking ahead to December... We hope that each of you will join us for our Annual Christmas Program and Nativity Play on Thursday, December 18th, at 11:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Follow us on Instagram and Like us on Facebook so you can see what is happening at MCPCP!
1 Thessalonians 5:18 ~ Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.

PRESCHOOL FALL FESTIVAL

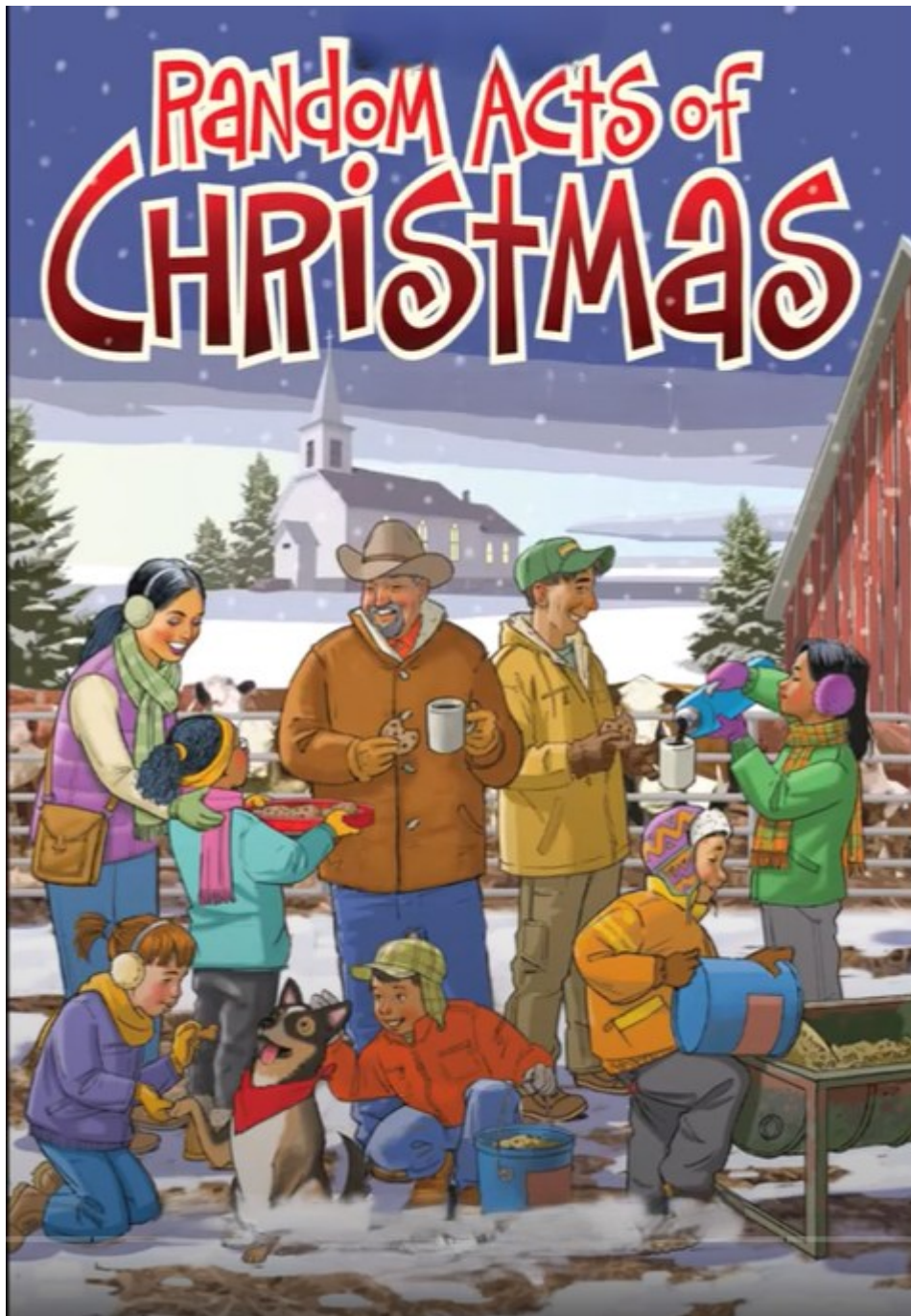
Pumpkins and Hay Rides and Animals...oh my!!!





STORYBOOK PARADE





It's hard to believe, but the holiday season is just around the corner—and that means it's time to prepare for the MCPC Christmas Program!

This year, we're excited to present *Random Acts of Christmas*—a joyful and funny show with a meaningful message. We'd love for your child to be part of it! There are opportunities for both lead roles and ensemble parts, including chorus singing.

**WE NEED KIDS
OF ALL AGES!**

We hope you'll consider joining us!

Rehearsals begin Sunday, October 5th at 11:30 AM in the Sanctuary, and will continue each Sunday from 11:30–12:00 PM. As we get closer to showtime, we may extend rehearsal times as needed.

Final Dress Rehearsal: ☐ Saturday, December 6th from 9:30–11:30 AM

Can you join us? Help us keep the kid's program alive and well at MCPC!

We're looking forward to a joyful season and a fantastic show!

Please contact our Music Director, David Barnaba, if you have questions, have a child who'd like to participate, or are able to volunteer to help.

FINANCE

Do You Know About Qualified Charitable Distributions? Supporting Charity Through Your IRA

If you are 70.5 years of age or older, you have a unique opportunity to support charitable organizations while also managing your financial situation. By making a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) of up to \$108,000 directly from your IRA to a qualified charity, you can contribute to causes you care about in a tax-efficient manner.

Benefits of a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)

- QCDs help ensure that your IRA distributions do not impact your adjusted gross income (AGI), both now and in the future, which means you pay no taxes on that part of your RMD (Required Minimum Distribution)
- This option is available whether you choose the standard deduction or itemize your deductions on your tax return.

If you are subject to a required minimum distribution (RMD), a QCD can count toward fulfilling that requirement.

Key Considerations

Making a QCD is a straightforward way to support your favorite charities while managing your retirement account distributions efficiently.

To make a QCD to Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church, ask your brokerage firm or bank that manages your IRA to make a qualified charitable distribution to Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church by completing a form they will have or requesting an outgoing check.

Check payments should be made payable to MCPC and sent to:

Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church, Inc
1600 West Mallard Creek Church Rd
Charlotte, NC 28262

Stock Donations:

Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church, Inc
1600 W Mallard Creek Church Rd
Charlotte, NC 29262
Phone: 704-547-0038

It should be sent to **UBS Financial Services**, account number **C433095 (DTC 0221)**

Please be sure to call Amanda at the church office: Tell her the stock is being transferred. She will then show your gift on the church records when the stock transfer is completed. You must call her as UBS does not send the church the donor information.

OCTOBER FINANCIAL REPORT

October 15, 2025

Financial Position

Year To Date Income

SUNDAY SCHOOL	\$2,915.73
WORSHIP OFFERING	\$188,109.61
ONLINE GIVING	\$119,124.00
CELL TOWER INCOME	\$34,949.30
ONCE A YEAR CONTRIB	\$65,773.57
TOTAL	<u>\$410,872.21</u>

YTD INCOME	\$410,872.21
YTD EXPENSES	<u>\$473,447.07</u>
Reserves Spent	<u>(\$62,574.86)</u>

Contributions

January	\$28,170.00
February	\$32,380.12
March	\$76,191.90
April	\$39,521.00
May	\$26,810.69
June	\$48,755.45
July	\$44,697.75
August	\$25,634.00
September	\$30,159.00
October (1/2 a month)	<u>\$23,603.00</u>
Total Contributions	<u>\$375,922.91</u>

'With the retirement of the Mallard Creek BBQ, the Property Committee will be offering supplies from the BBQ to the Mallard Creek Presbyterian Congregation. Please contact Kelly Jones to set up a time to pick up supplies. 704-907-1670

(text or phone) email: knitteriam@gmail.com.

Please come with appropriate vehicle for what you are picking up.'

MCPC BBQ Supply Inventory

Trailer:

Grinder on stand (used for tomatoes, veggies)
Meat choppers (stainless)
Stew pots (includes frame, paddle, burner, gas pipe, lid)
Igloo coolers (orange, round) 1 medium, 1 large
XL ice chest coolers w/ pull handle (gray)
40 cup Hamilton Beach coffee maker
Microwave (small, black)
Bunn coffee maker w/ carafes (large unit w/ 3 hot plates)
trash can dollie for round cans (yellow)
colanders/strainers, XL stainless
stainless bowl, XL holes drilled for handles (NO handles included)
disposable glove holders, (white, metal, mountable)
red floor mats
spatulas, red or black
pots
frying pan
blue silicone frying pan handle covers
red silicone frying pan handle covers
black plastic meat bins
white plastic meat bins, large and deep
small maroon plastic meat bins, small and shallow
white plastic bin, small and shallow
Folgers plastic coffee cans (empty, no lids)
metal cans (1 gallon size, empty)
hot sauce bottles
brown trash cans, smaller
white trash cans, BRUTE
stew buckets, (only 30 lids found)
white buckets, (square with lids)
boxes hair nets/ bonnets
box white plastic disposable aprons
roll of brown paper tape
paper bags, lunch size (6 x 3 x 11)
paper bags, grocery size
paper bags, small grocery size (12 x 7x 17)
plastic stew containers (quart size w/ lids)
slaw containers (quart size w/ lids)
straws, wrapped
8 inch plates
8 oz styrofoam bowls (with lids)
rolls plastic sheeting
metal prep tables with removable legs (medium)
metal/white prep tables with removable legs (large)

Kitchen/Stew Area/Store Front:

commercial sinks (3 bays, stainless)
hot water heater
flags
10 ft. black stew racks with casters
6 ft black stew rack with casters
moving boxes (8" x 16", unfolded)
wire racks (used for t-shirts and hats for sale)
small refrigerator
black wire shelving rack
Bread trays
Pallets
chest freezers (unknown if they are operational)
Various wooden tables
Silver microwave
Black microwave

Trash Room:

metal wagons
fans on a stand
garbage cans
squirrel cage fans

Out Building:

cookers
squirrel cage fans
metal tables
metal embalming table
chopping table (wooden top with metal base)
Long handle shovels
Burn barrels
firewood

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, November 4, 7am-9pm

We will once again be a voting site for the Mecklenburg County Board of Elections.

The church office will remain open from 8:30-4:30,

The Kitchen, Dining Hall and Gym will be unavailable for church use during this time.

PICKLEBALL & GAME NIGHT

Friday, November 7, 7-9pm

Join us for Open Court Pickleball in the Gym!

This outreach program has been a growing success, with attendees playing pickleball and enjoying our new GIANT sized games in Fellowship Hall.

Invite your friends and neighbors to join us for a fun evening of friendly competition.

No experience necessary, and snacks are provided!

Adults age 18 and up

BONAPPETEENS

Sunday, November 9, 9:00am

Join us after the early service in the Dining Hall for a yummy breakfast and an opportunity to mix and mingle with other church members.

Support our TEENS!

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, November 16, 10am-2:00pm

Be a Lifesaver!

Sponsored by the American Red Cross, this event will be held in the Dining Hall.

Please reach out to Carey Armistead if you have any questions.

ANGEL TREE

November 2-16, in the Gathering Space

Our Annual Angel Tree is up in the Gathering Space, and FULL of Angels!
We have over 200 children on the tree, and expect to add 75 more children who are homeless.

- ♦ Take a look at the Angels, and decide on a child to shop for
- ♦ When you take your Angel off the tree, you'll find a green tag attached. Please fill it out with your name and contact information, so we know who will be shopping for that child. Put the green tag in the box next to the tree.
- ♦ When we have the information, we've indicated the child's ethnicity when their wish list includes relevant items like dolls, or hair products.
- ♦ When you've finished shopping, please bring your UNWRAPPED gifts in a large bag and leave it under the tree, with your Angel attached.
- ♦ If you have ANY questions, please contact Maria Menconi.
- ♦ If you'd like the MCPC elves to do the shopping, you can write a check to Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church, with "ANGEL TREE" in the Memo Line.

THE DEADLINE TO RETURN GIFTS IS NOVEMBER 16!!!

BACKPACK BLESSINGS

Every Week During the School Year

Thanks to the dedication of Maria Menconi and her volunteers, on October 1, we began our 12th year of Backpack Blessings. We want to thank the Mallard Creek family for the contributions made during the 2024-2025 school year; the program absolutely cannot continue without your support! This past year we averaged about 60 backpacks a week, with each containing food for 4 children. Our expenses have been about \$700.00 a week.

This school year is going to be especially challenging, as Parkside Elementary has merged with another school and will have around 720 students, up from about 330 last year. As a result, the food needs will be even greater; and we'll prepare 116 bags each week. Parkside has also changed its name to Dorothy J Vaughn Academy of Technology at Parkside. We will continue to provide backpacks for University Meadows.

This program has been supported by the generous donations of church members. Due to the Current situation with SNAP, and the growing number of bags as well as the rising food prices, your continued donations are even more important, and appreciated. While there are many worthwhile projects to support - both in and out of the Mallard Creek family-serving the children in our immediate area is one of the best ways to spread Christ's love around us.

How can you donate?

- § Bring food items and place them in the bin in the gathering space.
- § Write a check payable to Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church, and in the memo section put Backpack Blessings

OLDER ADULTS MINISTRY

Tuesday, November 18, 12:00

Though we don't like to think about it, a change in health or an accident can happen to any of us. That's why it's important for all of us, regardless of age or health, to make important decisions before a health crisis occurs, ensuring our family and medical professionals know our wishes in case we become unable to make important treatment decisions or communicate choices.

A valuable resource, Five Wishes, will be presented at the November Lunch Bunch, and each attendee will receive their own Five Wishes booklet to complete afterwards. As America's most frequently used living will, Five Wishes is presented in easy-to-understand language to help you express your wishes in areas that matter most – the personal, emotional and spiritual, as well as the medical and legal.

Even if you don't normally attend Lunch Bunch, you are welcome to let us know you are coming for this important discussion!

This month's menu will be catered by the Harrisburg Family Restaurant, and will include:
baked chicken, rice, green beans, salad, rolls and dessert.

Please contact Margaret Hatton or Jimmy Walker with questions.

Thanksgiving Luncheon

Sunday, November 23

An Annual Mallard Creek Tradition, please join us at our Potluck Thanksgiving luncheon at 11:30 in the Dining Hall. **EVERYONE is welcome!!!** There is no sign up sheet, so please bring your covered dish to the kitchen before church, and we'll keep it warm for you. Our experienced chefs will cook turkey for everyone.

Realm Connect

Sundays, November 9-23

We Want You In the Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church Directory!

All members of Mallard Creek are eligible to use our online application Realm Connect. During the month of November, we are encouraging all members to log into the Realm app and update your name and address information and add a current photo. It's easy! The Directory is great way to put names to faces and learn more about the people in our church. Realm is private and secure because only church members with a login and password have access to it, and you can choose what you wish to share with other members. Stop by the table in the Gathering Space for assistance logging into Realm and updating your Church Directory entry.

MISSION COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES

NOURISH UP

Drivers Needed

Nourish Up is in need of Home Delivery Drivers for Meals on Wheels as well as grocery boxes.

Please go to their website to sign up.

www.nourishup.org

SAMARITANS PURSE

Operation Christmas Child

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED for Shoebox Processing!

Before the millions of shoebox gifts collected each year can bring hope and joy to children around the world, each one has to be carefully inspected and made ready for international shipment by volunteers like you. Tens of thousands of volunteers serve annually at shoebox processing centers across the United States after National Collection Week (the third week of November) and into December. Whether you're interested in serving as an individual or with a group of any size, sign up now to have a direct part in blessing children overseas with the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

Processing Center opens November 22, 2025

Location: 7100 Forest Point Blvd, Charlotte, NC 28217

Go to the website to sign up!

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/volunteer-at-a-shoebox-processing-center>

LION'S CLUB GLASSES COLLECTION

Lions Recycle for Sight

The Mission Committee will be collecting gently used prescription and reading glasses to be given to the Lion's Club.

Usable Glasses Can Make a Difference! Lions and Leos help to conserve sight by providing usable eyeglasses to children and adults throughout the world. Why Recycle Glasses? An estimated 120 million people* are visually impaired because of uncorrected refractive errors (far and near sightedness). Almost all cases can be corrected and normal vision can be restored with eyeglasses, contact lenses or refractive surgery. The lack of eyeglasses denies children and adults opportunities for education, employment, and a better quality of life.

The collection of eyeglasses for recycling is an on-going, year-round program involving Lions throughout North Carolina. Reusable plastic frame glasses are sent to a Lions Recycling Center where they are cleaned, tested, classified, and sent abroad to medical missions and welfare agencies for re-distribution. Metal frame glasses and scrap metal are sold to a refinery and the redeemed cash is used to help fund the needs of the visually impaired.

Special Prayers

November 2025

Avonda Albright
Josh Ashley
 Clyde and Linda Benfield
Jessica Booth
 Ann & Jimmy Brown
 Bobby Brown
 Bill Cochran
Sheila DeArmon
 Guy Eberhart
Rima Frika
 Brenda Garrison
Jane Geracimos

Ben Hatton
 Jean Helms
Barry Hinson
Blanche & Johnny Hodges (Bonnie's Aunt & Uncle)
 Janet Hunter
 Shirley Hunter
 Phyllis Jones
Debra Johnson
 Betsy Killian
Lana Lamkin (friend of Doris DeArmon)
Sheila Letica
Elaine Lord
Cecil Massey

Dennis McCrary
Beth McLamb (Joe Crapster's Cousin)
Bobbie Misenheimer
 Donnie Oehler
 Tommy Oehler
 Jenny Parker
Bryan Pouliot (friend of the Alexanders')
 Donna Seaford
 Lois Spradley's daughter in law Diana
 Linda Taylor (Nancy Busch's Sister-In-Law)
 Earl Thomas
 Lois Treadway
 Dave York (Nancy Busch's Brother-In-Law)

NOVEMBER OFFICERS ON DUTY

ELDERS

Becky Wood, Tommy Mitchell

DEACONS

Leigh Johnson, Charlotte McConnell, Karen Kosmoski, Rima Frika, Lee McConnell

