THE SCROLL

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

From Rev. Rob Watkins:

Here is an article I never thought I would write for this church's newsletter—after 90 years, the Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church BBQ will not happen this year.

That is the sort of year it has been.

So much of what was normal shifted right before us. Going to the grocery store became a moment to consider risks. School stopped being something we sent our children to, becoming something we made sure they had quiet in the living room for so they could focus on an online teacher. Family and friends entered the hospital, and we would not be able to visit them. Eating out became truly eating out as restaurants converted to patio dining for all. The Big Ten—one of the iconic conferences in college football, sporting equally iconic teams from Ohio State, Michigan, and Penn State, will not have a football season. And on goes the list—one thing after another that most of us took completely for granted as parts of the landscape changed.

It was inevitable that it would touch us at church.

It did. Worship for a couple of months was something you tuned into on your laptop. Now, we have answered the prayers of our Property Committee and found a lasting and meaningful use for the Community House, worshipping there every week. We will be doing so on through September. Our Youth Program lost a summer of conferences and mission trips, but will now find a new way to meet outdoors. Choir has become a bi-weekly social gathering on ZOOM. We are using technology in new and wonderful ways, exploring all the possibilities a webpage can offer. Facebook and YouTube are now avenues into church life.

But we have also lost some of the things that had been part of the fabric of our life together. Day in the Park will not happen. We don't know when choir practice will resume. Sunday School is no longer a community event apart from virtually.

And the BBQ won't happen this year.

However, we are still the church. Mission happens. We helped our neighbors in need, living in a tent city. We continue to care for the needs of children through Backpack Blessings. Our quilters made bushels of masks for area care facilities. Even without the BBQ, families can still help—the money we might have spent on pounds of BBQ, quarts of stew, and hats and t-shirts can still be donated to mission—imagine what we might be able to do in service to others!

2020 will be a year generations will remember. It will be a year when we recall the world changed. It will be a year that altered all of our lives. But it will also be a year that caused us to grow in new ways, imagine new ways of being, and push us into being an adaptable, adjustable community of faith that found all manner of new avenues for the worship of God and service to the world through Jesus.

2020 will be a year in which we discovered once again that God is good and grace abounds.

Special Prayer

Elizabeth King
Kenneth Helms
Deane Davis
Bernice Martin
Kathy Robinson
Bill Marcus, brother of Jean Thomas
Ricki Grubb
Fred Campbell
Warner Marshall
Reese Untz
Frank Cartner
Jackie Triece
Cathee Griffin, sister of Kim Helms
Bill Sweet, father of Pastor Alison
Lewis Grubb
Charley Moon
Fred Treadway
Sylvia Buchanan, sister of Debbie Killian
Debbie Killian
Margaret Covington
Ann Brown
BJ Knox
Debbie Hunter
Barbara Cottrell
Justin Alford
Ron Stanley, brother of Faye

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	PRE-TEENS & TEENS	ADULTS
Sanctuary Building, Downstairs	**Activity Building**	**Education Building**
Nursery Ages 2,3,4 & 5 Grades 1st & 2nd 3rd & 4th	Grades 5, 6, 7 & 8 High School (9-12)	Morrison Class Spencer Class **Activity Building** Baucom/Craig Class Garrison-Martin Class Listening to Your Life New Life

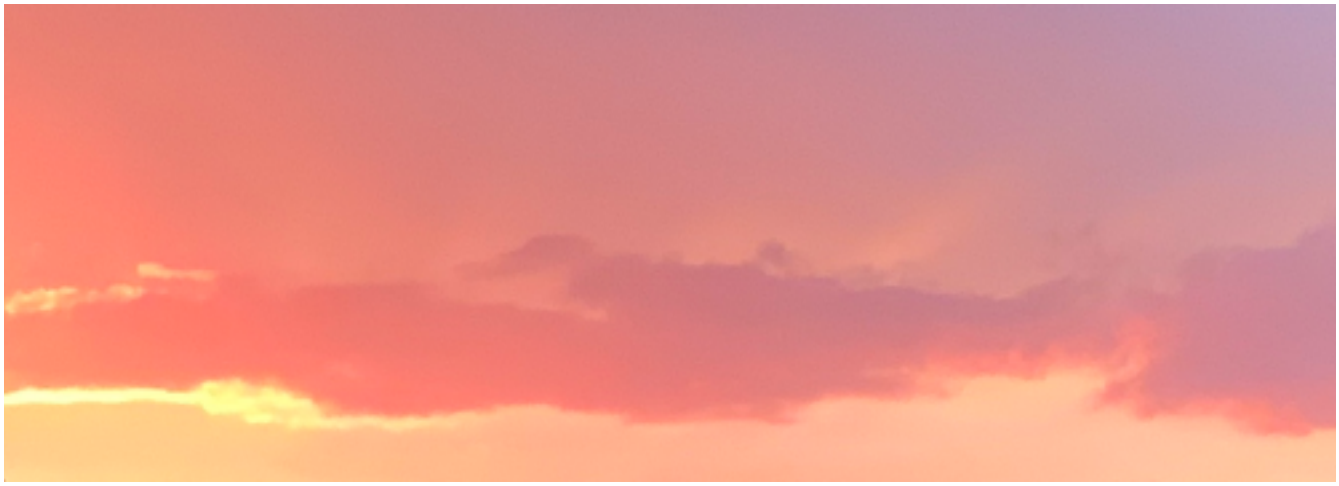
JULY STEWARDSHIP UPDATE	
Sunday School	$0
Worship Offering	$38,248.00
Online Giving	$10,228.00
TOTAL Offering	$44,476.00
Total Offering YTD	$312,266.89
Total Expenses YTD	$363,966.78
Under for Year	$51,699.89

American Red Cross

Save the Date - We NEED You!

Please come and support the American Red Cross at our **Blood Drive**, Sunday, September 20, 2020 at 10:00am to 2:30pm,in the Gym.

Pastor Alison's Care Corner



It is near dusk and I am sitting comfortably in an Adirondack chair on the deck of the house we have rented for the week at Litchfield Beach. Just inside the sliding door are Rob, our daughter, Chelsea, and her fiancée, Colton, and our son, Perry, and his fiancée, Kaylee. Someone's Spotify playlist sings out bluegrass. It is Chelsea's night to cook, and I can hear the clinking of spoon on metal as she prepares our tilapia for tonight's supper of fish tacos.

It's been a wonderful day on the beach. Our brand spanking new Coleman tent provides ample shade for the fair-skinned (like me), while the others bake on towels and chairs just outside the gaze of the tent's shade. Once again, someone's Spotify playlist sings out music, 80's rock this time. Suddenly, I feel old as my adult children refer to 80's Rock as "old music." We graze from our stuffed blue nylon cooler from noon on: tuna salad, chips, strawberries, hummus, and homemade honey wheat bread.

Time away from life as usual feeds the soul. It really does. I had no idea how much I needed this time away until I was actually in the middle of it.

This spring and summer of staying in and social distancing due to the novel corona virus have left many of us leery of travel, and for good reason. Some of us are not venturing very far from our front doors, much less to another state for a vacation. Our family is being smart and careful while away, staying to ourselves on the beach and wearing our masks when out for trips to the grocery store. We'll not eat a meal out, a huge change for us while on vacation, but we do not want to take any unnecessary risks.

It occurs to me that this time away feels like a sabbath, a time for intentional rest, a time of unplugging from all that feels like work, a time to simply be. Of the sabbath, Episcopal priest Barbara Brown Taylor writes,

"At least one day in every seven, pull off the road and park the car in the garage. Close the door to the toolshed and turn off the computer. Stay home not because you are sick but because you are well. Talk someone you love into being well with you...Test the premise that you are worth more than what you can produce—that even if you spent one whole day being good for nothing you would still be precious in God's sight—and when you get anxious because you are convinced that this is not so, remember that your own conviction is not required. This is a commandment. Your worth has already been established, even when you are not working. The purpose of the commandment is to woo you to the same truth."

It really doesn't take a trip to the beach to discover the beauty of sabbath rest. We can create Sabbath wherever we find ourselves. Our souls need sabbath. Our bodies need sabbath. Our hearts need sabbath. It was with intention that God gifted humanity with the sabbath. May we eat and drink from this good gift from God.

"It's almost time for preschool to open back up and our staff is working really hard to get the preschool ready for our first day on September 8th! We have missed the children so much and can't wait to see them again and we're looking forward to seeing all of the new little faces, too!

The 2020-2021 school year is going to look very different for us due to COVID-19, just as it is for many of you. We've made many changes to our policies and procedures so that we can provide a safe and healthy environment for all of our children, staff, families, and MCPC members. Some of the changes that you might notice right away are:

- Children and staff will be screened before entering the preschool.
- Staff will be wearing masks or face shields.
- Children can also wear masks if their parents want them to.
- Each class will be kept together as a family unit during the day.
- Children's Church/Weekly Bible Stories provided virtually for all classes by Ms. Monie Alexander.
- A carpool line will be used for drop-off and pick-up.
- No parents or visitors allowed in the preschool.
- Smaller class sizes.
- Increased cleaning, sanitizing, washing hands, etc. throughout the preschool.
- Social distancing, when possible.

We are so appreciative of our Preschool Board of Directors (Kim Tucker, James Killian, Andrea Thomas, Leigh Johnson, Maria Menconi, Barbara Oehler, Bob Oehler, Christina deKam, and Priscilla Stephens), the MCPC Session, and all of the members of MCPC for all of the support that you have given us throughout this past year and we hope that you will continue to do so again this school year!"

Kristy Maddux, **Preschool Director**

Circle Meetings

With everything going on right now, Circle meetings may look different than we're used to. However, the women of the church will keep engaging, studying, and volunteering how they can. Please reach out to your circle leader for more information!

- Circle of Anna
  - (Polly Caldwell - cacpwc@bellsouth.net, Linda Apolinar - edlin1025@yahoo.com)
- Circle of Mary
  - (Linda Wallace - beach68@bellsouth.net, Sally Tyler - tylerstmt@bellsouth.net)
- Circle of Rebekah
  - (Rachel Rodden -)
- Circle of Ruth
  - (Sue Oehler - csoehler@bellsouth.net)

Honorary Life Membership

Each year, the Honorary Life Membership Award is chosen through nominations from members of the congregation. This award honors faithful service to Presbyterian Women and the church. This year, we are pleased to announce that **Linda Wallace** is our Honorary Life recipient! This is a much deserved honor, and we continue to appreciate your service.

I am the vice-moderator of the PW and I am here to present the Honorary Life Membership to a very deserving woman.

The Honorary Life membership program was established to honor faithful service to the women's organization and to the church. Recipients become a part of a large group of women (and a few men) who have been recognized in this way.

The honoree will receive a certificate and this beautiful pin which has a wealth of meaning. the **supportive hands** represent women who seek to build an inclusive community of Presbyterian Women. The **leaf** represents growth of our personal and corporate response to Jesus Christ as we nurture our faith and The **dove** indicates our work for peace in our own lives and throughout the world, shown in the globe. At the center of the design is the **cross,** by which our sins are forgiven and we are freed to live in Christ who is at the center of our lives. The overall design is of a **butterfly**, a symbol of newness in Christ.

Let me tell you a little about our recipient:

In 1967 this woman made a commitment of marriage to a man, his family, and this church. Since then she has become a vital asset to this church in many different ways. Her consecutive years of commitment in multiple departments, committees and leadership roles are remarkable. Throughout the years she has held multiple positions on Presbyterian Women Console and countless committees. Right up to her recent years as an officer in the church; she has volunteered with Youth Club, Vacation Bible School, as a Sunday School Teacher, UNICEF Carnival and Church Barbeque. From 50+ years in the Stew/BBQ department to 20+ years running/or assisting in the UNICEF Carnival she hasn't stopped yet now being our coordinator of the new welcoming table. I'm sure that in 1967 when she married into the Wallace family Mallard Creek Church did not know what they were getting from this commitment but they are certainly thankful now. I am honored to present this years Honorary Life Membership to Linda Wallace.

I would like to thank all who voted and the women of Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church for this honor. All that I do I do for the Lord Jesus Christ. I am human and fell many times, but thank GOD for His forgiveness, I can and will go on. Having said this I do feel there are many, many women in our church who work hard for our church. I am very humble to be among the great women who are on this very prestigious list. Thank you so much for the calls,cards, and flowers I have received over the week. My heart is so full for your thoughtfulness.
With all my love, Linda Wallace

School has started, but like everything else this year, in a very different way as CMS begins the year virtually. Without a doubt, the pandemic has made the need to provide food for families even more important. Backpack Blessings has already started working with both Parkside and University Meadows to assess each school's needs. The counselors are getting together lists of families and we will soon begin our weekly food deliveries. Monetary and/or food donations are both necessary and appreciated to keep the program running. Checks can be written to Presbyterian Women and mailed to the church (be sure to note Backpack Blessings in the memo line of the check) or made online. Food donations can be dropped off in the Backpack Blessing room in the Education Building if you have church keys, brought to worship services on Sunday mornings or coordinate delivery through Maria Menconi (704-560-3961). As always, we request non-perishable foods in small, non-breakable packages. More information will be provided once we know more about the families we are helping. Thanks in advance for your continued support of this program.

The Connection Committee would like to offer a big THANKS to the person or persons who donated anonymously the money for the digital sign in front of the church. Thank you so much for your generosity.

We would also like to THANK on behalf of the Connection Committee and the church, Rusty Wallace, Joe Crapster, Larry Oehler who spent countless hours researching for just the right Digital sign on behalf of the past Reach Out Committees, and the present Connection Committee.

If you have not had a chance to ride by and take a look, please do as it really enhances the front of our church.

GOD BLESS
Linda Wallace

Youth Club and Teen Fellowship

I am so excited about starting a new year of Youth Club and Teen Fellowship! We will kick off the year in September by meeting in separate groups outdoors at the church. Please wear a mask!! Parents make sure to bring your new signed information forms and covenants.

This fall will be full of games, crafts, Bible study, and fellowship! We will be starting a new series about Weird Stories in the Bible – I can't wait to share with you some of these wild stories and help you to apply them to your life today. God has a lot to tell us through these stories, even if it comes out of a donkey's mouth! (Numbers 22). I'll see you guys in-person, outdoors on the following dates from 4-6pm at the church:

9/6/20	Labor Day Holiday (no meeting)
9/13/20	Youth Club kick off
9/20/20	Middle school kick off
9/27/20	High school kick off

Get ready to get weird, y'all 😊 Blessings, Andrea

A Congressional Meeting is called for September 13, 2020 at 9:30am at the Community House for a report from the Nominating Committee. The following will be nominated for the Elder class of 2023: Harvey Alexander, Tom Fuller, Kristy Maddux, Cristina Moore, Rodney Smith and Becky Wood. Floor nominations will be taken at this time. If only six are nominated, they will be elected by acclamation. If more than six persons are nominated, congregational meetings will be called each Sunday at 9:30am until six are elected.

Bio's for the nominating Elder Class of 2023

Harvey Alexander- My name is Harvey Alexander I've been married to my wife Monie for 42 years and we have four sons and seven grandchildren. I'm a lifelong member of Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church. I have served on the Session and the Diaconate. I am currently on the Worship committee, Barbecue committee, and I am a member of the audio-visual team here at Mallard creek. I participate each year with the mission trips and help with the Room at the Inn.

Tom Fuller- Robin and I have been married for 35 years and have two children, TJ and Elizabeth. Within the next year we will be welcoming two new members to the Fuller family, a grandchild (Elizabeth is expecting) and a daughter In Law (TJ and Macy will be getting married in April 2021). I am employed with Lowe's and also serve on the Board of Directors for Camp Grier.

I have been a member of Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church for approximately 26 years. I have previously served the church as an Elder and Deacon. I have also served as a Teen Advisor and currently support the Senior High Class as a Sunday School Teacher in addition I have been an active member of the Mission Committee participating in many mission trips and local mission projects.

Kristy Maddux - My husband, Mike, and I joined Mallard Creek 24 years ago. Our family consists of our three children, Lindsay, Brandon, and Jordan who were all baptized in this church, our daughter-in-law, Katie, our sweet granddaughter, Riley, four grand dogs and our two dachshunds, Macy and Sadie. I am a member of the Circle of Mary, serve on the Congregational Care and Personnel Committees, and am the Director at the MCPC Preschool. I have also served as a Deacon and on the Fellowship Committee in the past. I love spending time with my family, WVU football and basketball, and Mallard Creek Church! I am extremely honored to be considered for an Elder position at our church and am looking forward to serving and helping our church grow.

Cristina Moore - Cristina Moore and her family have been members of Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church since 2010. She has served in multiple positions and committees during her time at Mallard Creek to include Presbyterian Woman Chair, Circle of Anna Chair, Congregational Care Committee Chair and has hosted special cooking events for the youth and teens. In addition to her PSW and committee engagements, she had the honor of serving as a Deacon for three years and guest teaching Sunday School classes. In her personal time, she hosts a weekly women's bible study in her neighborhood. She is honored to be asked to continue her service as an Elder in this next class.

Rodney Smith - Rodney has been a member of MCPC since 1987 and has been a member of the adult choir for many years. He has served on several committees in the past and has also served as a Deacon and as an Elder. He works as an Assembler computer programmer for Fiserv, Inc. Rodney is married to Doreen and has two adult children, Ashley (husband is John) and Lewis. Ashley and John have identical twin girls named Evelyn and Lyla.

Becky Wood - Becky Wood has been a member of Mallard Creek Presbyterian since 1990. She has served as Deacon & Elder several times. She has also served on many committees over the years, including Finance and Worship. Becky is a member of the Baucom-Craig Class and is married to Bill. They have 2 grown children, Katherine and Jimmy.

Session Highlights

1. Approved motion to call a Congregational Meeting for Sunday September 13, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. at the Community House to hear a report from the Nominating Committee. They will nominate six persons for the Elder class of 2023 and floor nominations will be taken. If only six are nominated, they will be elected by acclamation. If more than six persons are nominated, congregational meetings will be called each Sunday at 9:30 am until six are elected.
2. Approved recommendation to meet weekly beginning post Labor Day rotating Youth Club, Middle School, High School Teens each Sunday evening 4:00-6:00 PM
3. Recommendation is to continue outdoor services at the Community House for the foreseeable future
4. Approved to cancel the 91st Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church BBQ
5. Approved recommendation that, until the MCPC congregation can return to the sanctuary for worship services, all funerals would be grave side only. For safety, the family would be able to park in the cemetery driveway but would be welcome to return to the church lawn or church parking lot to visit after the grave side if they so desired. For the health and safety of all, masks and social distancing would be required on the church grounds. If the family desired a sanctuary memorial service after COVID health concerns have been satisfied later, they could speak with the MCPC minister.
6. July Financial Report
    a. July 2020 collections were $16,692 LESS THAN July 2019
    b. YTD 2020 collections were $34,060 LESS THAN YTD 2019
    c. YTD 2020 collections were $51,700 LESS THAN YTD expenses
    d. Capital campaign receipts to date $1,908,317.79
7. September Session Meeting will be September15 at 6:30pm via ZOOM

October Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Jeff Brown Amanda Murray Peter Shankey	3 Kimberly Stiffel Will Oehler
4 Crystal Johnston	5 Margaret Kirk Terry Wilkinson Lynn Davidson Justin Alford James Kostrzynaski	6	7 Ann West Madelyn Lazarus	8 Jack Miles Kyle Semon Janet Dalelio	9 Michele Rosenberger	10
11 Thomas Moss	12	13 Jessica Booth	14 Chad Killian Justin Beall Trent Spittle	15 Lynn Kelley Bobbie Misenheimer Scott Dixon Tammy Alford	16 Sally Tulbert Nell Lawing Linda Baker	17 Pam Whitmire Alex Busch
18 Jackie Oehler Carole Ostrander Jan Isenhower Laura Standish	19 Harlowe Miller Bobby Brown	20 Harry Kirk, Jr. Ginny Haas Shelly Haas Aubrey Wasko	21 Jimmy Walker	22 Ed Gulledge III Jim Burroughs, Jr. Adelynn Zevan	23 Craven Benfield	24 Mary Jo Mizelle
25	26 James DeArmon Jr.	27 Shelley Schultz Connor Trimble	28 Katie Estes Deborah Wilson Phil Ashley Lorraine Ndingwan McKenzie Kimrey Erin Mitchell Ian Sangutei	29 Doreen Smith Ben Wilson Daniel McCraw II Blaine Kimrey	30 Jamie Garrison Austin Alexander Jay Burroughs III	31 Suggie Christenbury Sylvia Buchanan Debbie Faraone

September 1, 2020

Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church
1600 W. Mallard Creek Church Road
Charlotte, NC 28262
(704) 547-0038

Mallard Creek
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"Growing disciples of Jesus Christ who bear much fruit."
Sunday Services 8:30 & 10:30 am

The Rev. Rob Watkins	Senior Pastor
The Rev. Alison Messick-Watkins	Parish Associate
Mrs. Andrea Thomas	Director of Children & Youth Ministry
Mr.David Barnaba	Director of Music
Mrs. Kristy Maddox	Preschool Director
Mrs. Cathy Marlor	Financial Secretary
Mrs. Shawn Watkins	Administrative Assistant