

The Scroll

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



From Pastor Rob

As the seasons change—we are moving into Fall—it is important for us to remember that there is a season for everything. We pass through different times, different moments, different experiences, different feelings, and different contexts all the time. What we are experiencing right now will pass into something else, sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly.

We call all this change of seasons TRANSITION.

Transition is constant, but that does not make it easy. Change can at times be difficult. A change at work can mean a change in income; a change in a relationship may mean a broken heart; a change in context can upend what we thought of as stable—change brings all manner of concern.

Sometimes we feel like Job, atop his ash heap, wondering why everything happens. We want someone to explain it to us, but all that comes is silence. Worse—sometimes what comes—as with Job—are voices telling us it is somehow our fault.

But Job heard the voice of God. He never did get an explanation for why everything shifted underfoot, but he got something powerful and redeeming—the assurance that God heard him, and not only that, but that God was WITH him! When God comes to Job, God offers no explanation, justification, or rationale for all Job endured, but rather an assurance that God was present with all the powerful grace, creative spirit, and redemptive power God could offer.

For Job, that became enough.

Transition can also be an opportunity. If things stay constant or static, they can become stale. A shift or change can bring freshness. Meeting someone new can open our eyes to a new way of seeing what has been there. Changing situations can allow for growth, development, and new ways of being. We often see Adam and Eve as dimly lost when they exit Eden, but noted biblical scholar, Walter Brueggemann, suggested that if they had not left the garden, we would never experience the wonder, miracle, and possibility we experience on a daily basis.



Think about that...change can be a promise...a promise to see more, do more, and be more than we ever imagined.

In the sermons and worship for the Fall, we are going to be looking at different seasons—a season of transition, a season of harvest, and a season the thanksgiving. Reflect on what these might mean for you. Reflect on how they open our eyes to new ways of finding God with us. Reflect on where God might be leading us.

May this be a rich season of worship for us all.

Hunter's Thoughts

Each morning, I hate how a hot shower fogs up the bathroom mirror. But I get frustrated when I try to clear it off with my hand or a towel and it is left so messy. So after I blow dry my hair (yes, with my thin hair that takes all of 20 seconds), I aim the blow drier at the mirror and let it clear off a spot. Some mornings, I watch as that fog fades away and it's like I'm seeing my face for the first time in a long time. Sometimes it's sort of startling and I think, "How did I get that much older since yesterday?" Sometimes I see my father's face staring back at me! But most days, as that fog clears, it just helps bring me back to the present moment - a reminder to focus on the tasks before me and the blessings of the day.



We have spoken often over the past months about coming out of the fog of the pandemic and seeing ourselves again - as individuals and as a church. It can be tiresome hearing that over and over again, but it really is where we are. I reflected on that as I sat in the Charlotte Presbytery meeting this week. The theme of our presbytery this year has been "The Beyond in the Now." As always, almost the first thing we did was worship together. Rev. Gail Henderson-Belsito, the Associate Pastor at Caldwell Church, preached on the Luke 17 passage of Jesus healing the 10 lepers. It ends with Jesus saying, "Your faith has made you whole." Rev. Gail commented on how it is easy to feel that we have a spiritual leprosy. But she kept coming back to the idea that "we are being made whole." As we all then shared communion, I could not help but think about how we are being made whole - though sometimes in a new way. Just as my face can look a little bit different each day in the mirror, but it is still me.

After that, our Executive Presbyter, Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston, gave a wonderful presentation about where the Presbytery stands at this point. She was realistic about the changes in the culture, the Church Universal, and the individual churches, but she framed all that in a positive, genuine, hopeful light. Right after that, we were blessed with a message from one of the Co-Moderators of the current General Assembly of the PCUSA, who also happens to be a member of this presbytery. Rev. Shavon Starling-Louis of Memorial Presbyterian Church gave a brief but encouraging view of the church as a whole.

She was followed by the report from all the commissioners from our presbytery who attended the General Assembly earlier this summer. They each shared their experiences and impressions and summed it up in their 'laments' and 'hopes' as they concluded. The laments sound so much like what is going on the culture as the whole: "so far to go"; still have too much of a culture of distrust; there were technical issues; and there were people who struggled to move on after a vote that did not go their way. But they all had many more hopeful things to report from the conference - among them: they were so impressed by the youth who participated; they felt a deep commitment from all; there was strong participation from both small and large churches; there were more and varied voices heard because of the technical solutions; and there were hearts that were softened on all sides of the issues. It was truly encouraging.

Rev. Gail's refrain from her sermon - "We are being made whole" - has stayed with me these last few days. I agree with her. And even as we clear away the fog in the mirror each morning, we can see new things about who we are as individuals, as a church, and as God's children.



“It is time for preschool to open back up and our staff has been working hard to get everything ready for our first day on **September 6th**. We cannot wait to see our returning students and families and to meet our new ones!

If you love children and would like to earn some extra money, we would love for you to be a substitute teacher at the preschool! If you or anyone you know is interested, please call our office at 704-549-9741 or email

pualb@mallardcreekchurch.org.

Substitutes Needed



Thursday, September 15th, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the University Place Chick-fil-A, located at 8700 University Executive Park Drive, 28262

Take a break from cooking and support the preschool at our Chick-fil-A Spirit Night! We would love to have you join us for some food, fun, and fellowship! Whether you order inside or in the drive-thru, tell your cashier that ***"you are with the Preschool Spirit Night"*** so we can earn 15% of your sale. We hope to see you there!

We want to thank each of you for your continued support of our preschool as an outreach ministry program of Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church. We look forward to another great year of working together with each of you and seeing where God leads us.

Mark 6:7 *"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."*

MCPC Preschool is hosting an Active Shooter Training, presented by CMPD, on **Saturday September 10 , from 8 to 10 a.m. in the church dining hall.**

If you would like to attend, please contact Kristy at kristym@mallardcreekchurch.org so we know how many people to expect."

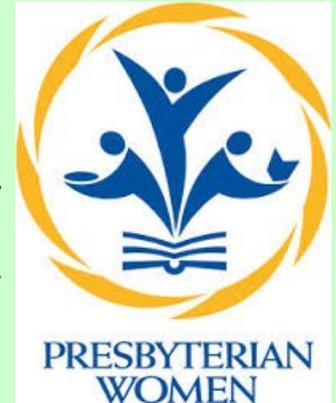


PW Circle Meetings update

Calling ALL Presbyterian Women -

What a great way to begin the Fall; attend a circle meeting! Each meeting is centered around a Bible study lesson. Our Bible study this year for Circles of Mary/Anna and Rebekah is the PW/Horizons bible Study Celebrating Sabbath and Circle of Ruth is doing a Book study; Bigger, Rebuilding the Broken by Kristan Dooley. Below are the circles, the time in which they meet and Circle leaders and their contact info. Hope to see you at one of the meetings

- **Circle of Mary/Anna – Bobbie Misenheimer, Jane Isehour & Sally Tyler** 1st meeting will be Tuesday 9/6 at 10:30 am in Garrison/Martin SS class
- **Circle of Rebekah – Rachel Rodden** – 1st meeting 9/12 6:30 in the Gathering Space
- **Circle of Ruth – Beth Patafio** – 1st meeting 9/12 7:00 at the home of Rob-in Fuller.



If anyone is aware of a birth of a baby in our congregation please let the office know.



Confirmation



Calling all 6th graders for 2022-2023!

Confirmation class during Sunday school will begin again for this school year on **September 11th**. We meet every **Sunday from 9-9:45am**. If your 6th grader would like to participate in Confirmation class to be confirmed on April 30, 2023, please let Andrea know!

Dear Church Friends

Through this long journey of hospitalizations and rehab, we always knew things would be better. God's protection and healing were evident each day! MCPC members' prayers, thoughts, love, and cards enhanced and provided hope during our journey. There are no words to express how thankful we are to each and everyone of you.

Many prayers and much love to you,

Laney and Donna



JULY STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Sunday School	\$113.00
Worship Offering	\$23,571.00
Online Giving	\$7,975.00
TOTAL Offering	\$31,659.00
Total Offering YTD	\$282,377.15
Total Expenses YTD	\$354,803.35
Under for Year	(\$72,426.20)

Youth Club and Teen Fellowship

September 2022

Youth Club Schedule:

Teen Fellowship Schedule:

<u>Youth Club 3:00-4:30pm</u>	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
9/11	Kick Off Celebration
9/18	Bible Story and Ice Cream
9/25	A Day in the Park congregational event (starts at Noon in gym)

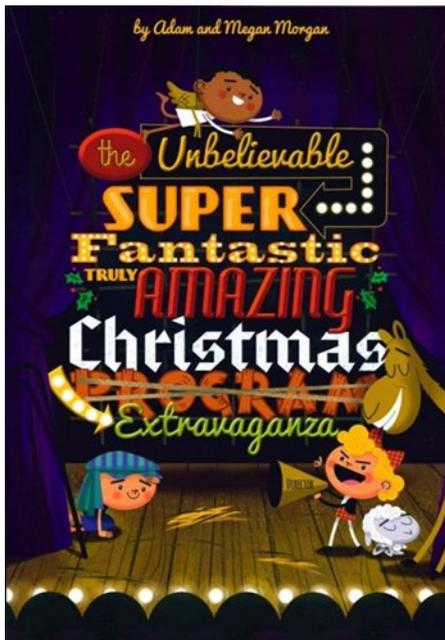
<u>Teen Fellowship 4:30-6:30pm</u>	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
9/11	Kick Off Celebration (Pool party off campus – meet there)
9/18	Mission - Shop for Backpack Blessings
9/25	A Day in the Park congregational event (starts at Noon in gym)

Youth Club
Fall Kickoff Party
Sunday, September 11th
3:00-4:30pm

Meet in the dining hall for a fun craft, some fall treats, and games!



Teen Fellowship Fall Kickoff Pool Party
Sunday, September 11th 4:30-6:30pm
Meet at Kings Crossing Neighborhood Pool
801 Kings Crossing Drive NW in Concord
RSVP to Andrea to plan for food!



This Christmas, we are bringing back our live children's Christmas musical on December 4th! We need child and teen actors and singers. We will rehearse the songs during Youth Club and rehearse the skits after worship starting in October. Contact Andrea or Dave to join today!

Day In the Park

Date: Sunday, September 25, 2022
Time: Noon
Location: Church Activity Building/ Gymnasium
Food: Hamburgers and Hot dogs. Members please bring a dessert. If your able, bring an extra dessert for cake walk.

Day in the Park, Fun, Food, and Games! Games include, bouncy house, corn hole tournament, BINGO, Cake walk, and more...

Come out and enjoy church fellowship!

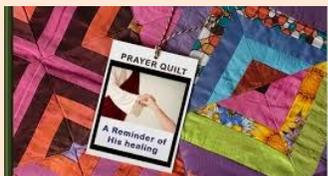
Authority,

Chair Person for Fellowship Committee, Wendy O. White



It's not about the Quilts; it's all about the Prayers"

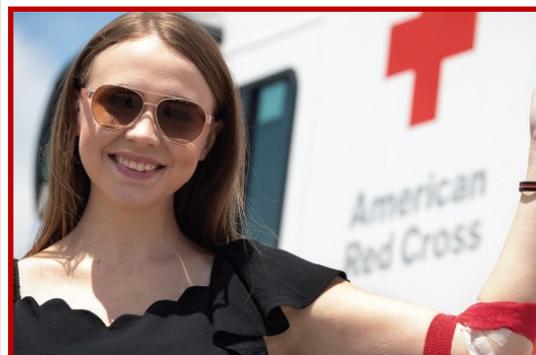
Prayer is a powerful tool that God has provided for us. But can you touch a prayer? Can you pull it close and feel its warmth and comfort? Well, you can answer that question with a definite "yes" if it's part of a Prayer Quilt.



The Prayer Quilt Ministry will begin meeting regularly again on Tuesday, September 13th in the dining hall at 9:30 AM. We welcome our regular members back and look forward to seeing new faces that would like to participate in the Ministry. You don't have to quilt, sew, or come anywhere near a needle or thread to participate. Along with sewers we need "pressers, cutters, pinner, as well as **Pray-ers.**"

Come and join us the second Tuesday of each month September thru May from 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM. We break for fellowship time and enjoy lunch together between 12:00 AM – 12:30 PM.

Contact Sue Oehler for more information – cscoehler@bellsouth.net or 704-564-1555.



Blood Drive Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church

Dining Hall
1600 Mallard Creek Church Road
Charlotte, NC 28262

**Saturday, September 24th
10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**



Dear Church Friends

To the many people that helped us get through the difficult time while I was recovering from my back injury, your kindness touched our hearts in many ways.

We are thankful for the phone calls, the cards, the prayers, food and to my circle Mary Anna for the gift card.

It has meant so much to us to be back with each of you at Mallard Creek after moving away for several years. We feel like we are back home. May God bless each of you.

In Love and Kindness,

Elaine and Dennis Lord





October Birthdays

						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 Kostrzynski	6	7 Ann West Madelyn Lazarus	8 Jack Miles Kyle Semon Janet Dalelio Alexander Hattie
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 Jan Isenhower	19 Harlowe Miller Bobby Brown	20 Harry Kirk, Jr. Aubrey Wasko	21 Jimmy Walker	22 Ed Gullledge 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 Debbie Faraone					



A baby boy is on the way!

Join us for a
Baby Shower
honoring

 **Andrea Thomas & Carson Shoupe**

Date : Sunday October 2, 2022

Time : 2-4 PM

Place : Church Dining Hall

Hosted by: Robin Fuller & Kristy Maddux

RSVP : Text 704-701-2121 or 704-517-7384

Registered at Amazon & Target under Andrea Thomas

Papery Pop

Elder duty for September: Andy Stiffel, Kristy Maddux, James Killian.

Deacon duty for September: Jamie Garrison, Terri Garrison, Robin McCraw, Joe Crapster, Allston Oehler

Special Prayers

Nancy Moore - mother of Rob Moore	Elizabeth King	Bobby Brown	Caroline Williams
Carolyn Sheehan	Shirley Hunter	Cecil Massey	Donna Seaford
Kenneth Helms	Juanita Untz	Kathy Robinson	Elaine Lord
Joy Johnson	Bernice Martin	Ruby Downing	Maria Martini
Andy Marcus - brother of Rachel Rodden	Justin Alford	Donnie Oehler	Janet Dalelio

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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