



# The Scroll

Mallard Creek  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

[www.mallardcreekchurch.org](http://www.mallardcreekchurch.org) | 704.547.0038

1600 W. Mallard Creek Church Road

## The Gospel According to St. James

It is my first ever installment for The Scroll. What do you write about for an inaugural article in the church newsletter? James Brown, the Godfather of Soul, of course!

James Brown, “the hardest working man in show business”, grew up in a church called the United House of Prayer for All People of the Church on the Rock of the Apostolic Faith. Now that is a serious name for a church! You can tell those folks got after it when it came time to worship. (You can also tell by the length of the name, there was no time keeping during the worship service-no one was checking their watch 60 minutes into the service, because they were just getting warmed up.)

Growing up in the church was formative for Brown, and it shaped his life as a performer. He said,

**“When I’m on stage, I’m tryin; to do one thing-bring people joy. Just like church does. People don’t go to church to find trouble. They go there to lose it.”**

That’s it! We should all jump up and down, and cry out, and yell “hallelujah!”, and dance in the aisles at that word. James Brown shows himself to be a great theologian here, because he understands church. We are about joy! (Aren’t we?) We are about helping folks lose trouble! (Aren’t we?) Church is all about those two things. We proclaim the good news of Jesus; we wash people in baptism; we feed and fill people with communion; we encourage one another through fellowship and service to “bring people joy”, and help folks “lose trouble”. If we do that, if we focus every ministry, every initiative in that direction, we don’t need to worry about health, vitality, or growth. They will all take care of themselves. They will be by-products and side effects.



I think we should regularly say these things to ourselves: **“we bring people joy, and help folks lose trouble”**. I think we should remind each other (especially when we get fussy and carried away with business): **“we bring people joy, and help folks lose trouble”**. I think we should paint it and carve it on the walls, so we don’t forget: **“we bring people joy, and help folks lose trouble”**. I think we should frame pictures of St. James (Brown) and hang them around the place. Wouldn’t hurt. Because St. James (Brown) has spoken good news to our hearts here.

(By the way, when I use this quote in a sermon, I want you all to pretend you’ve never heard it before. You will be bringing me joy, and helping me lose trouble if you do.)

Joy + peace (i.e. less trouble)

*Pastor Rich*

# FINANCE

July 15, 2026

## Financial Position

### Year To Date Income

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| SUNDAY SCHOOL       | \$1,075.75          |
| WORSHIP OFFERING    | \$135,032.66        |
| ONLINE GIVING       | \$72,625.15         |
| CELL TOWER INCOME   | \$20,565.18         |
| ONCE A YEAR CONTRIB | \$50,489.60         |
| TOTAL               | <u>\$279,788.34</u> |

|                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| YTD INCOME            | \$279,788.34         |
| YTD EXPENSES          | \$332,852.70         |
| <b>Reserves Spent</b> | <u>(\$53,064.36)</u> |

### Contributions

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| January             | \$24,905.00         |
| February            | \$27,119.02         |
| March               | \$61,216.92         |
| April               | \$49,346.68         |
| May                 | \$22,065.65         |
| June                | \$49,658.89         |
| July (1/2 a month)  | \$24,911.00         |
| Total Contributions | <u>\$259,223.16</u> |

# FINANCE

NINERUNITED.ORG  
8840 UNIV. CITY BLVD  
CHARLOTTE, NC 28213



July 1, 2026

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

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you. Your generous gift of \$750 to Niner United means more than we can easily put into words.

Because of you, students have a place where they are welcomed, included, seen, and encouraged to grow in faith and purpose. Your generosity strengthens the programs that help young adults find community, ask big questions, and discover practices that sustain them through the challenges of college life.

We are deeply grateful for your partnership. Your commitment helps us continue creating a space where students can thrive spiritually, emotionally, and relationally. Thank you for believing in this work and in the students we serve.

With Deep Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephen Cheyney".

Stephen Cheyney  
University Minister

CVAN

Safety, Shelter & Support for Battered Women  
& Their Children

24-Hour Hotline  
704.788.2826

Shelter

Supportive Counseling

Support Group

Court Program

Teen Program

Children's Program

Jail Program

Friends & Family Program

Outreach Center

Formerly Battered  
Women's Program

Community Education

Thrift Store

Volunteer Program

*"There are no words to truly express  
my gratitude for each of you,  
and the organization as a whole.  
You've given us safety, hope, optimism.  
The chance to start building the life I deserve."  
- Former Shelter Resident*

Dear Friends at Mallard Creek Presbyterian,

Thank you so much for your generous gift of \$500!

Your support and generosity mean a lot to all of us at CVAN – especially to the women and children we serve every day.

Just last year we answered 2,119 calls on our 24-Hour Hotline, provided 10,264 meals for the families in Shelter, and helped 183 women through our Court Program. Just a snapshot of the many ways your support has helped to make an impact on families in our community.

Your gift brings women and children hope – thank you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Margaret Flynn".

Mary Margaret Flynn  
Executive Director

Received From: Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church – \$500.00 check – received July 1, 2026. No goods or services were provided to you in return for this contribution. This is your receipt. CVAN is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Tax ID #57-0749038.

PO Box 1749 • Concord, NC 28026-1749  
bus 704.788.1108 • 24-hour hotline 704.788.2826  
www.cvan.org • thrift store 704.721.9020



Camp Grier  
985 Camp Grier Rd  
Old Fort NC 28762

PO Box 490  
Old Fort NC 28762  
828-668-7793

Good afternoon!

I am with the Development Department at Camp Grier, and we are so grateful for your recent gift to our organization!

Also, we are thrilled to announce the opening of our new Copper Ridge cabins adjacent to Camp property, a new boutique lodging experience. Take a look at <https://www.grier-village.org> and let me know if you have any questions.

Your recent gift has been such a blessing to our summer scholarship campers. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Joyfully,

Micah Pulleyn



First, we would like to extend a heartfelt welcome to Pastor Rich Lambert, our new Transitional Pastor, and April Patek, our new Director of Children and Family Ministries!!! We are so excited to have both of you at Mallard Creek and look forward to getting to know you and work with you during the upcoming school year!

Do you LOVE children, want to earn some extra money, and work with an amazing team in a Christian environment? If so, **WE NEED YOU! WE ARE HIRING!** **We are looking for Substitute Teachers for the upcoming school year.** If you are interested or know someone who is, please contact Kristy at [kristym@mallardcreekchurch.org](mailto:kristym@mallardcreekchurch.org) or call 704-549-9741 for more information.

We are busy preparing for the upcoming school year and anxiously waiting for our students to return and fill the hallways with their smiles, enthusiasm, and giggles again! God has blessed us with an impressive teaching staff, full classes, and long waiting lists and we cannot wait to get started!

**In case you wondered where it went...the Preschool's Children's Library that was in the Education Building moved to the meeting room at the end of the long preschool hallway (under the church gathering space).**



Even though the first day of school for our preschoolers is not until September 8<sup>th</sup>, there is A LOT going on in the preschool this month.

Wednesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, at 10 a.m.—Child Protection Class for new hires.

Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.—Staff Orientation.

**Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.—CPR/1<sup>st</sup> Aid** (*If you would like to attend this class, email Paige at [paiget@mallardcreekchurch.org](mailto:paiget@mallardcreekchurch.org) in advance to sign up.*)

Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.—Staff Workshop Training

Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, at 6 p.m.—Parent Orientation.

Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.—Open House.

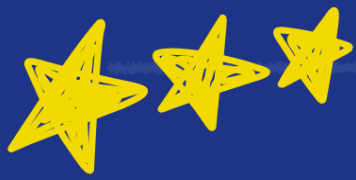
Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>—1<sup>st</sup> Day of Preschool!

**THANK YOU** for your continued support of our preschool as an outreach ministry program of Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church! We look forward to working with our church family again school year!

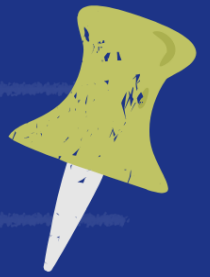
Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church Preschool is a mission of Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church and our mission is to provide a loving, learning, Christian environment where children can test themselves in their world, gain self-confidence, and develop as a whole person. At MCPCP, we emphasize the development of young children spiritually, mentally, emotionally, socially, and physically through a developmentally appropriate curriculum under the leadership of experienced teachers.



*Isaiah 41:10 "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."*



# AUGUST EVENTS



**AUG.  
15**

**Carrison  
Funeral**

**AUG.  
15**

**Wedding**



**AUG.  
16**

**PW Annual  
Kickoff Luncheon**



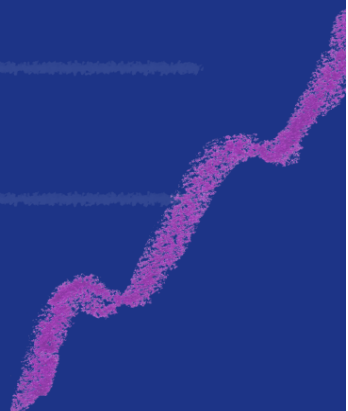
**AUG.  
23**

**Newcomers  
Luncheon**

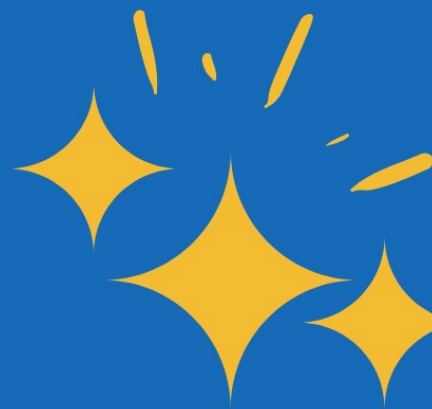


**AUG.  
25**

**OAM  
Bus Trip**



# Road Trip



MALLARD CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
— OLDER ADULT MINISTRY —

## OLDER ADULT MINISTRY BUS TRIP



*Join us for a day of fellowship, fun & inspiration!*



DESTINATION  
**SAMARITAN'S PURSE**  
401 ELKIN HWY.  
NORTH WILKESBORO, NC



DATE  
**TUESDAY,**  
**AUGUST 25, 2026**



COACH  
**MCPC BUS**



DRIVER  
**HARVEY ALEXANDER**



APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME  
**1 HOUR, 20 MINUTES**

*Traveling  
Together*

Strengthened in Faith.  
Connected in Christ.



MALLARD CREEK  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

CAGNEY'S  
KITCHEN

SAMARITAN'S  
PURSE

RETURN TO  
MALLARD CREEK  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH



**BOARDING PASS**  
— ENJOY THE JOURNEY! —

### TRIP ITINERARY



**10:15 AM**

**LEAVE MALLARD CREEK**

Depart Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church  
at 10:15am.



**12:00 PM**

**ARRIVE AT CAGNEY'S KITCHEN FOR LUNCH**

1200 Central Street  
Wilkesboro, NC



**1:30 PM**

**DEPART FOR SAMARITAN'S PURSE**



**2:00 PM**

**TOUR OF SAMARITAN'S PURSE FACILITY**

401 Elkin Hwy.  
North Wilkesboro, NC



**3:00 PM**

**RETURN DEPARTURE**

for Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church

### RESERVATIONS



RESERVE YOUR SEAT BY

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2026**

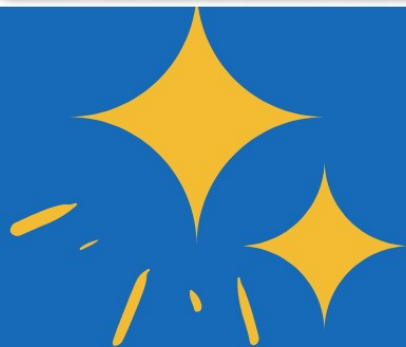


CONTACT:

MARGARET HATTON | JIMMY WALKER | POLLY WALKER



★ THANK YOU FOR RIDING WITH US! ★





Introducing our  
**Director  
of  
Family Ministry**

*April Patek*



Pastor April Patek holds a Bachelor of Music Education (Flute Performance) from Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois, and a Master of Arts in Christian Education from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois. Before answering God's call to full-time ministry, she spent 13 years as a public school music educator, directing concert bands, marching bands, orchestras, and maintaining a private flute studio. While in seminary, she completed Clinical Pastoral Education at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago and served in field education at Trinity United Methodist Church in Mt. Prospect and Prince of Peace United Methodist Church in Elk Grove Village.

Throughout more than 14 years of church ministry, April has served congregations in Illinois, South Carolina, and North Carolina as a Director of Family Ministries, solo pastor, associate pastor, and Pastor of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries. No matter her role, her calling has remained the same: helping people of every generation grow as disciples of Jesus Christ, build meaningful relationships, and discover how God has uniquely gifted them to serve. She is passionate about creating opportunities where children, youth, adults, and older adults learn, worship, serve, and grow together as one church family.

April is especially passionate about mission and outreach, believing that faith grows strongest when it is lived out in service to others. She loves equipping people to use their gifts, building authentic relationships, and creating welcoming spaces where everyone knows they belong. Her background as both an educator and pastor has given her a deep appreciation for lifelong learning, creative teaching, and walking alongside people wherever they are in their faith journey.

April is excited to join the Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church family and has already experienced the warmth and hospitality of the congregation. She looks forward to getting to know the church and community, growing together in faith, and seeing how God will work through the congregation in the years ahead.

Outside of ministry, April enjoys learning new things, testing her knowledge with trivia, and spending time with family and friends over board and card games—especially Spades and Euchre. Her three cats, Shadow, Theophilus ("Theo"), and Freddie Mercury, keep life entertaining and are constant sources of joy, laughter, and companionship.

# Welcome to Mallard Creek!



JOIN THE BAKER FAMILY FOR

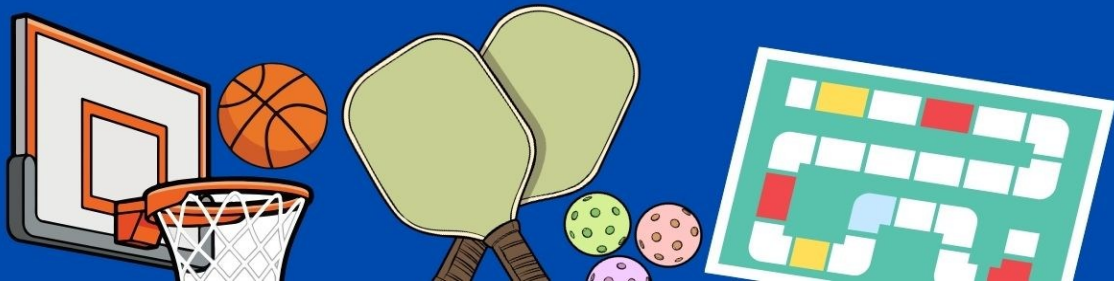
# OPEN GYM NIGHT

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21

7:00 – 9:00 PM

BASKETBALL, PICKLEBALL, PUZZLES & FUN TABLE TOP GAMES!

TEENAGERS AND UP ARE WELCOME—BRING YOUR FRIENDS!



Join us in  
Worship on  
Sunday, August  
23rd as we  
celebrate the  
start of a new  
school year!  
Students,  
teachers, and  
anyone heading  
back to the  
classroom are



invited to bring their backpacks or work bags  
to worship for a special blessing. We'll pray  
over our students and educators as they begin  
this new season of learning, asking for God's  
guidance, protection, and joy throughout the  
year ahead. Whether you're starting pre-  
school or your senior year, we want to send  
you off with prayer and encouragement!





## PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY THANK YOU'S

*Dear Prayer Quilters,*

*Thank you so much for the beautiful quilt. I can feel the love and labor instilled in my quilt. I love the music theme, too. It will be forever cherished by me. Your ministry is a true blessing to those you touch. To God be the glory.*

*...Don Killian*

*MCPC Prayer Quilters,*

*Thank you so much for the beautiful quilt and the prayers that came with it. Only with our faith is my family making it thru this.*

*...Susie Householder*



# Special Prayers

**Bobby Brown**  
**Donny Brown**  
 Christian Busch  
 Alex Busch  
**Bill Cochran**  
**Sheila DeArmon**  
 Dawn Drye  
**Mary Jean Dowling**  
**Guy Eberhart**  
**Rima Frika**

**Terri Garrison**  
 Ben Hatton  
 Jean Helms  
**Susie Householder**  
**Daisy Huber**  
**Jane Isenhower**  
 Shirley Hunter  
 Phyllis Jones  
 Betsy Killian  
 Karen Kosmoski  
 Sheila Letica

Elaine Lord  
**Kristy & Mike Maddux**  
 Bebe McGee  
**Bobbie Misenheimer**  
 Donnie Oehler  
 Tommy Oehler  
**John Potts**  
**Donna & Laney Seaford**  
 Earl Thomas  
**Jane Thomas**

## AUGUST OFFICERS ON DUTY

### ELDERS:

Tommy Mitchell, Suzanne Curtis,  
 Drew Dowling

### DEACONS:

Lynn Davidson, Charlotte McConnell,  
 Rima Frika, Lee McConnell

# September

# 2026

| <i>Sunday</i>                       | <i>Monday</i>                                     | <i>Tuesday</i>            | <i>Wednesday</i>                                                  | <i>Thursday</i>                                   | <i>Friday</i>                                                                      | <i>Saturday</i>     |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
|                                     |                                                   | 1<br>Brian Wasko          | 2<br>Aaurienna Alexander<br>Deborah Ansah-Yeboah<br>Teddy Preslar | 3<br>Will Busch<br>Jake Crapster<br>Cole Scholand | 4                                                                                  | 5                   |
| 6<br>Kat Beard Corbin               | 7<br>Ginny Brooks<br>Carl Corbin<br>Leigh Johnson | 8                         | 9<br>Charles Kimrey                                               | 10<br>Doug Sheehan                                | 11<br>Joshua Baker<br>Carlene Clark<br>Kelly Jones<br>Lewis Smith<br>Lois Spradley | 12<br>Anye Ndingwan |
| 13<br>Stanson Heath<br>Alice Oehler | 14<br>Brodie MacNeil<br>Caroline Johnson          | 15                        | 16<br>Sheri Gose<br>John Wilkerson                                | 17                                                | 18<br>Beau Brown                                                                   | 19<br>Tom Busch     |
| 20<br>Marie Ayukegba                | 21                                                | 22<br>Michel Lapalombella | 23<br>Nancy Garrison                                              | 24                                                | 25<br>Clara Barnaba<br>Cameron Mitchell                                            | 26<br>Jayden Sosoo  |
| 27<br>Benjamin Baker                | 28<br>Bebe McGee                                  | 29                        | 30<br>Sue Bishop                                                  |                                                   |                                                                                    |                     |

