



WALKERSVILLE EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6204 BRADY ROAD, WAXHAW, NC 28173

JUNE 2020

A Note from the Pastor...

Have you risen to the occasion? Have you met the challenges? As we have been making our way through Philippians there have been a few challenges that are significant ones.

Even before we began considering the words of Paul's letter to the Philippians, you were challenged to read this letter once each week. It's such an easy challenge, it's easy to forget to do it. Here's your reminder! What new thought has the Holy Spirit placed in your heart and mind as you read it again? Did something "jump out at you" that you hadn't noticed before? Is this letter touching your life in some way?

As we considered Philippians 1:1-6, and in particular verses 3-5, we very likely have someone (or several people) in our lives for whom we give thanks, lift up prayers filled with joy, people we have worked side by side with in the work of the Kingdom of God. The challenge was to let them know. Have you met the challenge? Your words might be exactly what they need to hear.

Then there came the thought, "Are you in love with God?" That's a completely different question than, "Do you love God?" While both are important questions to answer, they look at our relationship with God in different and deeper ways. Being "in love with God" is a thought we can carry with us for the rest of our lives.

Finally, we are designed to be in relationship and to be there for each other, but, even more, being there for Christ: being faithful, available, undistracted, and focused, knowing that, in the end, the victory is *already* the Lord's. Do we live in this reality? In this broken world that is a great challenge that can only be met through Christ! In this new reality of social distancing and "opening up" these first thoughts to come out of Philippians are needed now more than ever.

Looking ahead into June, we begin with our ultimate example of Jesus Christ (2:5-11). Everything Paul writes here (as well as everything in the Bible) is centered on Jesus Christ. With that in mind Paul gives a couple of examples of how we are to lead our lives in this "crooked and perverse generation" (2:15), realizing that if we follow Jesus' example we will "shine like stars" (2:15). So, "hold fast to the word of life" so that, in the end, we are people who are able to rejoice.

Back in January when I was planning out the passages I would be preaching from, I wish I could say I was smart enough to put Philippians 2:19-24 on Father's Day. No, that was the Holy Spirit. Here, as in 1 & 2 Timothy, we get to look over Paul's shoulder at this wonderful father-son relationship and see how it speaks to all men, officially a father or not, and the influence we have.

Finally, at one time our denomination's General Assembly was supposed to meet at the end of June. Debbie and I were going to that, then further west to visit her family in Kansas and Iowa. Now, all of

that has changed, but, as I write this, we are still planning to be on vacation June 22-July 6. Whoever brings the Word of God on those Sundays is yet to be determined.

Sermons for June

June 7: Philippians 2:5-11

June 14: Philippians 2:12-18

June 21 (Father's Day): Philippians 2:19-24

June 28: Pastor Paul and Debbie on vacation

Weekly Reminders:

Prayer Group: Wednesdays at 4:00 PM in the Youth Room

Children's Choir Practice: Mondays at 4:00 PM in the Sanctuary

Adult Choir Practice: Wednesday at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary

Bible Study with Pastor: Wednesday at 3:00 PM and 6:00 PM in the Library

Walkersville's EPC Session Meetings Minutes

The session of Walkersville EPC met on May 7, 2020 @ 7:00 pm in the fellowship hall. Elders present were Boyet Twitty, Dean Haney, Hazel Norwood, Jim McGee, Dennis Robinson and Rev. Paul Rankin.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Paul Rankin. The minutes from March 19, 2020 meeting were presented. Boyet Twitty made the motion to approve and Jim McGee seconded the motion. Session approved.

Committee Reports:

Building & Grounds: Thanks to all who helped clean and remove the broken limbs from the church yard.

Christian Education: Vacation Bible School is still planned for July 12 – 15. We will keep everyone posted if changes need to be made. 2020 graduates will be honored on June 7, 2020. No luncheon on June 7, 2020 due to social distancing.

Congregational Care: Everyone is encouraged to check on each other during this time.

Mission & Outreach: Thanks to men and women of the church for their donation to Prospect for the food shack. Debbie Robinson and Clara McGee will supply lunch for Operation Reach Out on May 13, 2020. Hazel Norwood made the motion to continue support to Jennifer Corley @ \$300.00 a month for the next 12 months beginning June 2020. Jim McGee seconded the motion and session approved.

Worship: Outside worship is planned starting on May 24, 2020. This will be held outside in front of the Memorial Garden here at Walkersville. Everyone is encouraged to bring a yard chair. This will be at 11:00 am. Live worship service will continue on Facebook for May 10th and May 17th. Dennis made a motion to purchase individual communion kits. Dean seconded the motion and session approved.

Stewardship: Beverly Haney submitted April treasurer's report through Dean Haney. Thanks to everyone who is sending their tithes. We are still meeting our budget during this time.

New & Old Business: A congregational meeting will be called for June 7, 2020 for the nomination of new elders, class of 2023. The nominating committee will present Clara McGee and Betty Lou Mosley as candidates.

Tentative dates for pictures for the new pictorial church directory will be September 22 & 23, 2020.

No Sunday School classes until further notice.

There being no further business, Jim McGee made the motion to adjourn. Dean Haney seconded the motion and session approved. Dennis Robinson closed in prayer.

Rev. Paul Rankin
Moderator

Dennis Robinson
Clerk of Session

The Men's and Ladies Bible Study

They meet on second Monday of every month at 7:00 PM

With Pastor Paul Rankin Wednesdays at 3:00/6:00 PM in Library.

From the Worship Committee

The Worship Committee will be including a Prayer List in the bulletin each week. If you wish to have someone's name listed in the church bulletin, please contact Clara McGee. Your request will remain on the Prayer List in the bulletin for one month. At the end of that time, the name you listed will be dropped from the Prayer List or you may ask Clara to continue to list that person's name.

Senior Saints Luncheon

55 plus luncheon is meeting the last Wednesday of every month at 11:30.

A note from the Congregational Care Ministry Group...

We have several friends who are suffering from injuries and other health problems who need our help through prayers, cards, phone calls, and visits. Please minister in some way to Jean Price, Robby Griffin, Eric Thomas, Ronnie Craig, Barb Castner, Gregg Ross, Phil Keyes, Lynne Dewlen, Henry and Phyllis Parker, Becky Adams (sister of Phyllis Norwood), Linda Goodman, Carolyn Griffin, Shelia Medlin, Matthew Stewart, Libby Kiser, Larry Schott, Jane Threatt, Marcie Barrell, Debbie Wallace, Phillip Carter, Faye Cox, Clyde Norwood, Bruce Griffin, Travis Price, Troyanne and Mark Hinson, Edith Kimmarling, Rick and Iris Moser, Beth Simpson, Nancy Morgan, Alan Wright, Todd Huntley, C B Griffin, Phillip Carter and Janice York.

We extend sympathy to the families of Helen Van Huss, Johnny Robinson and Sybil McCorkle Gaddy.

Our special prayer from the Congregation Care Committee is that our Walkersville Family will be spared from the coronavirus.

Please continue to send cards and remember in prayer our church members who are in assisted living homes:

Mrs. Jean Price, White Oaks of Waxhaw 700 Howie Mine Rd. Waxhaw, NC 28173

Robby Griffin, Lee Forest Group Home, 1209 Pelham Dr., Laurinburg, NC 28352

Travis Price, Brookdale Monroe Square, Room 44918 Fitzgerald St, Monroe, NC 28112-5679

Sunday School Teachers Needed

We are in need of new Sunday school teachers. If you are interested in teaching 1st through 6th grade or in leading the John Knox Sunday school class, please let Dennis or Debbie Robinson know. These classes need new leaders. Dennis has had the John Knox class for years and he hopes someone else will accept the challenge.

Food Pantry

The food pantry at Prospect is always in need of donations to meet the growing need. Canned soups and non-perishable items are helpful. Please bring them to the back of the church and let's see how fast we can fill up the barrel!

Memorial Garden News

Ten new engraved brick pavers have been ordered to the church memorial garden. Listed below are the names of those memorialized and those who purchased the pavers.

J W (Jim) Brady, Jr by Sue Thornton

Perry Brown by Marlene Brown

Curtis and Virginia Courtney by Dennis and Debbie Robinson

Jo Neil McCain by Bob McCain

Robert Maxwell McCain Sr by Gladys McCain Kerr

Artie B Norwood by Clyde and Ruth Norwood

Dottie Svendsen by Dennis and Debbie Robinson

Larry and Maggie Thompson by Maggie and Amy Thompson

Operation Reach Out

Wow, Walkersville!! What a blessing you are to the folks at Operation Reach Out. Let's continue to serve our God by helping others. Walkersville EPC has pledged to provide lunch once a month on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. We generally take chicken casseroles or soup or baked spaghetti or Walkersville Stroganoff (They're very appreciative of whatever we bring!), one or two sides, rolls, and a dessert. Please consider signing up for this ministry of our church.

We also donate items each month. Did you know that Operation Reach Out provides a food pantry? I copied this list from their website (<https://www.opreachout.org/>):

Always Needed:

Dry goods--cereals, rice, grits, dry beans, potato flakes, etc.

JELLY

PEANUT BUTTER

DRIED BEANS

RICE

CANNED SOUPS

OATMEAL

CRACKERS

MACARONI & CHEESE

CANNED MEATS

CANNED FRUIT

Women of Walkersville (WOW) News

Ladies Spring Luncheon Update: Let's change the name to Ladies Fall Luncheon. We'll talk later about an actual date, but at this time the Spring Luncheon is on hold due to the current situation.

News from Nicaragua

Just like the other parts of the world, Nicaragua has changed in different ways. Our distant learning program is moving forward, so we will do testing to see how much the students are really learning. We are clearing land and getting ready to plant, while our chickens are growing. The sheep and goats are doing well, they are glad the rain is starting to come. Thank you for all of the prayers, please continue to pray for us as we pray for you.

Working to change lives in Nicaragua.

Patrick Brown and staff.

Good News and Praises

A Shout Out to our Congregation and Pastor for reaching out to our church members and checking on each of us during this social distancing time.

A special **THANK YOU** to all of you who have reached out to someone with a helping hand and support during these trying times.

Happy Birthday to Todd Twitty June 5....celebrate

As we continue to await the arrival of Caleb Alexander Rankin. Here is an update on David, Kayleen, and Daniel. They moved to 132 Clara Dr., Troutman, NC 28677 in March and they have been worshipping with us online each Sunday. They are looking forward to finding a church near them very soon. Once Caleb arrives, we will have a celebration party in July, so everyone can meet him and wish this new family of 4 well.

Potpourri
by
Layne Dewlen

Anyone who knew me years back would tell you I was an avid follower of Paul Harvey. If you mention his name today almost everyone would say, "And now you know the rest of the story." However, for me he WAS the news that I listened to for 15 minutes every day. It all started when I would come home at lunch time from school and my father would turn him on at noon, and ended when he died. In between the bookends I listened to him at home, in cities where I had overnight stays, in the airplane at 35,000 ft., and when I was retired and Lynn and I were full-timing in our motorhome. I say all that to say I remember him saying when I was a kid, "And now for a potpourri of the news." And that's the "rest of the story" how I came up with the title of this piece.

We live in momentous times, or as the Scriptures put it in 2Tim. 3:1, "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come." Would anyone disagree that we have arrived? I don't think so, unless they've been asleep, or go around in rose colored glasses. As I write this in the middle of May we have known about this virus for approximately three months. What if someone had come up to you the first day of January 2020 and said:

1. In a matter of weeks you will lose many of your rights under the Bill of Rights because of a little bug you can't see.
2. In two months you will be told to not leave your house. If you must get food you must wear a mask.
3. There will be a new terminology, "Social distancing." (By the way, one reason for six feet between individuals are so AI (Artificial Intelligence) cameras can more easily pick you out in a crowd.)
4. Food will be rationed.
5. There will be no toilet paper in the stores.
6. There will be businesses that will be called essential, and others non-essential, which will be closed.
7. Churches will be non-essential and closed, while abortion centers will be essential and open.
8. In five months this economy which is the envy of the world today, will be on life support.
(To support this, I give these numbers: National Bureau of Economic Research=100,000 businesses have permanently closed. The Fed. Reserve Bank of Atlanta=US GDP will shrink 42.8% in second quarter. US retail sales down 13.7%, the worst recorded. The US factory production is down 11.2%, worst in 101 years. Last but not least, unemployment is now 36.5 million, over twice what it was in the 1930's.

One of the end results of this China virus will be the elimination of paper currency. What we are going to have soon is cryptocurrency. Now, you may say along with me that you like having dollars in your pocket. The problem is we don't have any say so in the discussion. Mega-banks as well as countries are working on it right now. Another fact is that Microsoft has been given a patent on how individuals will be able to be marked so they can buy and sell using cryptocurrency. And get this, the patent number is nothing like what has been seen in the past, it's WO2020060606, which means World Order, the year 2020, and three sixes? Whoa! Now this isn't the mark of the beast yet because it isn't mandatory, plus the false prophet is not involved yet, but an international patent on a system to track buying and selling, that is numbered 666 could be a sign that the Mark of the Beast System is being developed. With cryptocurrency you had better be nice to the powers that be, or else they will turn off your account electronically, and you can neither buy or sell.

Have you heard of the Georgia Guidestones? If you haven't may I suggest taking the time to check it out. It is not far from the Ga./SC. border. The main part of the stones are four pieces of limestone almost 20 feet high. Written on both sides of each stone is the same 10 statements in eight languages the first of which is very disturbing, wanting to hold the population of the world at 500 million, 1/15 of the current population. I wonder which side of the fence they are putting themselves? As you read the

other nine statements, they sound pretty good until you realize the first, second, and third are against what the Word of God says, and the rest of them are going to be ministered by fallen men, or man.

The wisdom and foresight of our founding fathers never cease to amaze me. James Madison in 1792 said, "If Congress can apply money indefinitely to the general welfare, and are the sole and supreme judges of the general welfare, they may take the care of religion into their own hands....In short, everything, from the highest object of state legislation, down to the minute object of police, would be thrown under the power of Congress...and might be called, if Congress pleased, provisions of the general welfare." Does anything further need be said??

Something to think about.... When the state says it's safe to go to Lowe's to buy a sponge, but not safe to go and buy a flower, it's not about your health. When the state shuts down millions of businesses but doesn't lay off one government employee, it's not about your health. When the state says it's unsafe to get a haircut but the governor gets his makeup and hair done every day for TV appearances, it's not about your health. When the state puts you in jail for walking with your child in the park because it's too dangerous, and lets criminals OUT OF PRISON, (yeah, it's true!), it's not about your health. When the state says it's too dangerous to go to the doctor, chiropractor, etc., but deems the liquor store essential, it's not about your health. When the state says it's fine to go to the grocery or hardware store but demands voting by mail, it's not your health.

The one that really speaks to me is about the criminals. The state says we must stay in our houses to be safe. I thought that was what the criminals were able to do in prison. I think Romans 1:22 covers it. "Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools." As you look around our world today you can find it to be so, almost everywhere you look.

Well, what is going on? I feel it's quite evident we are in the last moments of Matt. 24:5-8. If I may use this analogy, it's like a basketball game. First the crowd starts coming in, but that's not the start of the game. Then the cheerleaders come in and start leading in cheers, but that's not the game. Officials come to start the scoreboard, etc., but that's not the game. In walks the referees, still that's not the start of the game. The teams come on the floor to practice, but that's not the game. Think about something with me. As these things start coming together what is happening? Excitement, anticipation. It's all coming together to a moment for which everyone is waiting, the tip off.

I believe with all my heart we are in a God given time granted as a reprieve of sorts, a time of transition for us as believers to continue loosening our grip on the things of the world in preparation for our rapid departure as we watch the signs of the coming tribulation increase exponentially before our eyes. It's almost tips off time!

I guess by now you've decided why I gave this piece the title "Potpourri." Until next time, if there is a next time, look up, for our redemption draws nigh, (Luke 21:28). Maranatha!



June Roster

Committee of Month: Worship

Nursery Workers:

- Jun 07 Nanci Beebe
- Jun 14 Jessica Johnston
- Jun 21 Debbie Rankin
- Jun 28 Rhonda McManus

Volunteers Needed

Newsletter Information

If you have information to include in the newsletter, please send it to Harvey Hess by the 15th of each month. You may email the information to harveyhess@bellsouth.net or by phone or text to 704-516-6503. Thank you!

Prayer Chain

If you have a prayer request that needs to be communicated through the prayer chain, please contact Clara McGee at 704-709-7125 or Gloria Norwood at 704-843-2352. They will ensure that the word gets out! Also, if you have not been receiving prayer chain calls and would like to be added to the call list, please let Clara or Gloria know this as well.

Session Members, Prayer Chain Contacts, and Committee Information

2020 Session		
Elder	Phone	Term
Paul Rankin	814-279-5055	Pastor
Dennis Robinson	704-764-9025	3 Years
Jim McGee	704-709-7125	3 Years
Hazel Norwood	704-575-6258	2 Years
Dean Haney	704-533-1263	2 Years
Boyet Twitty	704-843-1245	1 Years

Prayer Chain – Call to Activate	
Clara McGee	704-709-7125
Gloria Norwood	704-843-2352

2020 Church Committees		
Committee	Chair	Clerk
Building & Grounds	Russell Mosley	Bob Stirton
Christian Education	Debbie Robinson	Gloria Norwood
Congregational Care	Bob McCain	Tammy Mosley
Fellowship		
Missions & Outreach	Clay Murray	Betty Lou Mosley
Stewardship	Fran Griffin	Betty Lou Mosley
Worship	Lynn Twitty	Sue Thornton

June 2020

	1	2	3	4	5	6
	5:00 PM – Children Choir Practice	6:30 PM – Cane Creek Cruisers Square Dance	4:00 PM – Prayer Group 7:00 PM – Adult Choir Practice 3:00/6:00 PM Bible Study	9:30 to 11:30 AM Community Playgroup		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Congregational Meeting to elect Elders Honor Graduates	5:00 PM – Children Choir Practice 7:00 PM – Men’s Bible Study 7:00 PM – Ladies Bible Study	6:30 PM – Cane Creek Cruisers Square Dance	4:00 PM – Prayer Group 7:00 PM – Adult Choir Practice 3:00/6:00 PM Bible Study Operation Reach Out Meal	9:30 to 11:30 AM Community Playgroup		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	5:00 PM – Children Choir Practice	6:30 PM – Cane Creek Cruisers Square Dance	4:00 PM – Prayer Group 7:00 PM – Adult Choir Practice 3:00/6:00 PM Bible Study	9:30 to 11:30 AM Community Playgroup 7:00 PM Session Meeting		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Happy Father’s Day	5:00 PM – Children Choir Practice	6:30 PM – Cane Creek Cruisers Square Dance	4:00 PM – Prayer Group 7:00 PM – Adult Choir Practice 3:00/6:00 PM Bible Study 11:30 AM Senior Saints Luncheon 6:00 – 7:30 PM – Little Angels Youth Group	9:30 to 11:30 AM Community Playgroup		
28	29	30				
Game Day 12:30 to 2:00 PM	5:00 PM – Children Choir Practice	6:30 PM – Cane Creek Cruisers Square Dance				

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