



WALKERSVILLE EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6204 BRADY ROAD WAXHAW, NC 28173

JULY 2023

A note from the pastor...

One of those great questions we all ask from time to time: What do I *really* want? Whether you are deciding on which flavor of ice cream you want or when to comes to life's major questions revolving around careers and marriage, what do I *really* want? What are the deepest desires of our hearts?

An equally important question for us is wondering what God really wants. As we read through a few of the prophets of the Old Testament we land on some answers that we will consider during the month of July.

Amos 9:11-15 leads us to one of God's greatest desires: to bless us. As a good bit of Amos is full of doom and gloom, the last five verses of this prophecy provide a new picture. God intends to bless his people. It is what he wants. It is what he has always wanted. We often get in the way of those blessings, but that still doesn't change how God feels. He loves us and wants to bless us so much he provides the way for our restoration back to himself through Jesus Christ so that we can experience his blessings.

In Jonah 3:10 it says, "...God changed his mind (relented)..." Really? Is that really true? What if he changes his mind about our salvation? What if he changes his mind about the grace and mercy, he has shown us? Does God *really* relent or change his mind? We will consider these unfamiliar words within the words of a familiar story.

What is at least one of God's deepest desires for his people? What is God's desire for the nations of the earth? Micah 4:1-5 speaks to this. Ultimately it is a desire for peace: peace with God, peace with each other...you know...relationship!! I like to think of this as how creation is supposed to work, God's original design, 'God's blueprints'.

Have you ever been angry at God? Have you ever yelled at God? Did you ever shake an angry fist at God? If any of these sound like you, you're in good company. At the beginning of Habakkuk we hear these words of frustration mixed with anger, but, once Habakkuk and God have talked about it, we find a very different attitude in the final three verses from this prophet. No one said it would be easy, convenient, or trouble free, but learning to trust and glorify God in all circumstances is essential to the Christian life.

Sermon passages for July 2023

July 2: Amos 9:11-15 "When God Restores"

July 9: Jonah 3 "Does God change his mind?"

July 16: Micah 4:1-5 "God's Blueprints"

July 23: Hymn Sing

July 30: Habakkuk 1:2-4; 3:17-19 "The Cry of the Soul"

Weekly Reminders:

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

Adult Choir Practice: Sunday at 11:15 AM in the Sanctuary

Bible Study with Pastor: Wednesday at 3:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall

Walkersville's EPC Session Meetings Minutes

Walkersville EPC

Session Meeting Review for June 15, 2023

I. Prayer and Devotions (The Ruling Elder: Teach, Shepherd, Unify, Lead)

-The Ruling Elder is to seek unity within the Body of Christ: John 17:21; 1 Corinthians 1:10.

-Model how to forgive, how to pray for each other, how to love each other, how to value biblical wisdom.

II. Approved: May 18, 2023 minutes (stated meeting)

III. Baptisms, new members, and visitors

IV. Committee Reports: "How is each committee fulfilling the Great Commission?"

A. July 2023 Committee of the Month: *Building & Grounds*

B. July 2023 Elder of the Month (from the Committee of the Month): *Bob Stirton*

C. **Building & Grounds:** *Bob Stirton*

-new projector in the Fellowship Hall: We have a new projector!! Learning how to use it.

-We have Wifi/internet in Fellowship Hall!!

-gathering information for an electronic message board for our sign. Report to be given at a future meeting

-We will need 2, one for each side. Taking measurements.

-need a new hose reel for the hose in front of the Fellowship Hall

D. **Christian Education:** *Larry Schott*

-next meeting: July ____, 2023

-2023 VBS: July 30-8/2

-Sunday School teachers: Debbie Rankin: Young elementary; Debbie Robinson & Sherri Simpson: older elementary; Caitlin Richardson: High School teacher (Fall); Pastor Paul: Adults (soon to be a team)

E. **Congregational Care:** *Dennis Robinson*

F. **Mission & Outreach:** *Betty Lou Mosley*

-June 2023 Mission of the Month: Missionary Month (Joyce Smith, Claire H., Elias & Caris Yohannes)

-next meeting: July 26, 2023 @5pm in the Fellowship Hall

-Next 2023 Chicken & Dumpling: September 16

-Project2Heal Yardsale: October 28, 2023

G. Worship: *Clara McGee*

-Next meeting: August 13, 2023

-2023 tentative Communion dates:

July 2, Aug. 6, Sept. 3, Oct. 1, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, Dec. 24

-Worship outside during the summer; last Sunday of each month: June 25, July 30, August 27.

-July 23, 2023: Hymn Sing

-Sanctuary banners approved for the open area on the east wall.

H. Finance Committee: *Betty Lou Mosley*

-Next Meeting: October 12, 2023

-March/April 2023 Financial Report discussed and approved.

J. Nominating Committee: *Clara and Betty Lou*

-Meeting date: TBD (for 2024 Nominating Committee)

K. Fellowship Committee: *RE Representative*

-Next meeting: September 26, 2023, 7pm

-The following dates were approved:

-July 2, 2023: Patriotic BBQ

-November 4, 2023: Fall Get-Together

-December 17, 2023: Christmas Party

V. Old Business

A. Presbytery Report

1. Next Presbytery meeting: September 29-30, 2023 (Valley Hope Church, Swannanoa, NC)

B. Pastor Paul (and Debbie) on vacation: July 16-21, 2023

1. July Session meeting date: July 13, 2023

VI. New Business

A. In July, RE representatives for Missions, Finance, Worship, Fellowship Committees will be open.

B. Session Meeting time will remain at 5pm

C. The session agreed that we would like to consider hosting a presbytery meeting. It wouldn't be until next year, so possibly the April 2024 presbytery meeting.

D. Encourage all committees to meet to consider the 2024 budget for their committee, between now and the end of August.

E. Regional Evangelical Presbyterian Women Planning Committee: 1st meeting on Saturday, 6/17/2023

1. Jessica Johnston and Caitlin Richardson are representing Walkersville

2. This group is focused on the women of the EPC churches in Union County.

F. Approved: to purchase a portable keyboard to be used anywhere in the church, but especially during outside worship.

G. Elder Training for Rick Gay and Ann Rose will be 7-8:30 on June 19-20, 2023.

VII. Dates for use of the Fellowship Hall:

VIII. Close with prayer

Next stated Session meeting: July 13, 2023, 5pm in the Fellowship Hall

Rev. Paul Rankin
Moderator

Clara McGee
Clerk of Session

The Men's and Ladies Bible Study

They meet on second Monday of every month at 7:00 PM, Men meet in Fellowship Hall and Women in the Bruce Powell Room.

Please help us update our prayer list

It is a blessing to be able to lift our friends and family up in prayer to our Lord as a community of believers. If there is a change or update for a prayer request, please let the church know by filling out a prayer card in the church pew or email (walkersvillepc@gmail.com). Thank you.

The Congregational Care Committee

Have you noticed Walkersville is sending birthday and anniversary cards to members and friends of the church? The Congregational Care Committee would like to extend this ministry by sending cards to your friends and neighbors who need pray encouragement or to be remembered on their special day. Please let Audrey Schott, 704-774-1691, know their name and address and she will make sure a card is sent.

Christian Education Committee needs you:

If you love God's word and want to see others love it too, then consider joining the Christian Education Committee. As we desire to see of the children, youth, and adults of Walkersville and the community grow in their knowledge and love of Jesus Christ and the Bible. The committee has bi-monthly meetings to coordinate and plan for up-coming events and to pray for our church. Help us as we pray and plan for Sunday School (Adult, youth & children), Advent, Bible Studies, Lent, Little Angels, CREW Time and special events like the Easter Egg Hunt, and a Children's Christmas.

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

Needs List

***14.5 oz canned vegetables:**

-green beans	-potatoes	-pinto beans
-sweet peas	-black-eyed peas	-navy beans
-chili beans	-pork and beans	-baked beans
-black beans	-corn	-creamed corn

***14.5 oz of canned fruit:**

-fruit cocktail	-peaches	-pears
-pineapple	-mandarin, oranges	-mixed fruit

***Canned meat (does NOT require refrigeration):**

-Spam or Treet meat	-ham	-tuna	
-salmon	-chicken		-stew beef

***Cereal:**

Instant Grits & Oatmeal

***Miscellaneous Items:**

-Macaroni & Cheese -1 lb. bag of white or brown rice

- Jiffy corn muffin mix
- Instant potatoes
- Peanut butter
- Canned soups
- Jello gelatin or pudding
- Dried beans 1 lb.
- Saltine crackers
- Jelly or jams
- Spaghetti sauce
- Juice in 64 oz to 1 gallon size
- Pasta/spaghetti noodles 1 lb.

*Gently used clothing items:

- | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|----------|----------|
| -shirts | -pants | -blouses | -dresses |
| -sweatshirts | -sweaters | -coats. | |
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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 Robby Griffin, Shelia Medlin, Larry and Audrey Schott, Clyde Norwood, Beth Simpson, Rachel Brody, Sheldon Medlin, Martha Allen, James Gordon, Sandy Brady, Linda and Phil Goodman, Clara McGee, Shirley Starnes, Reece Starnes, Mark and Nanci Beebe, Albert and Bo Starnes, Kaymon Carter, Frankie Norwood, George Huntley, Silas Simpson, Pat Schlappich, Bart Jackson, Rudy Robinson, Ann and Grady Rose, Barry Joyner, Suzette Barker, Mark Mull, Jerry and Alice Griffin, Remington Hargette Billy Norwood, Lynn and Layne Dewlen, Bryan Dean, LeeAnn Ventuo, Chris Starnes, , Phyllis Norwood, Doris and Brooke Rhoden Mary Edwards, Richard and Tyler Lee, Fran Griffin, Maggie Thompson , Richard Wieck, Pete Green, Wyatt Melton, Dawn Culp, Karen Trull, Bob O'Kelly, Katya Newsham, Pat Varner, Baby Kix , Rachel Tyson, Brenda Mosley, Chris Beck, Carolyn Porter, Saylor Grace Hardy, Monty Brady, Tami Fowler, Logan Liuzzo, Pat and Joanne Cochran, David Pruett, Joyce Wooten, Kim Dion, Lexie Yeakley, Lexi Langley, Barb Salisbury, Betty Simpson Medlin, Mark McCain Jr., Eric Munoz, Jean White, Jackie Bennett, Cabel Rankin, Beth Handsel, Edith Kimmerling, Blakley Moore and Doug Couick.

We extend our sympathy to the families of Eddie Seymore, Carol Kennedy, Stephanie Thomas and Rick Starnes.

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

- 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
 - Linda Goodman, Arcadia Care Home, 741 Walnut Crest Drive, Waxhaw, NC 28173
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Worship Committee

The Worship Committee wants everyone to know that on the last Sunday of each summer month our worship service will be outside. BYOC (bring your own chair). The dates for our outdoor worship will be: June 25, July 30, August 27.

Good News and Praises

Happy Birthday and Anniversary

July

Barb Salisbury-1

Tim Hardy-5

Audrey Schott-6

Grayson Condor-7

Mark Beebe-8

Peggy Dvorak-10

Phoenix Hardy-10

Samuel Norwood-13

Daniel Gay-16

Linda Hess-24

Mike Stinson-26

Tommy Norwood, Jr.-27

Boyet Twitty-29



July Roster

Committee of the Month:

Building & Grounds

Mission of the Month:

Missionary Month

Nursery Workers:

Jul 02 Rhonda McManus

Jul 09 Mark and Nanci Beebe

Jul 16 Jessica Johnston

Jul 23 Debbie Rankin and Serenity Johnston

Jul 30 Rhonda McManus

Volunteers Needed

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.

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!

Session Members, Prayer Chain Contacts, and Committee Information

2023 Session		
Elder	Phone	Term
Paul Rankin	814-279-5055	Pastor
Clara McGee Clerk of Session	704-709-7125	Class of 2023
Larry Schott	704-774-1691	Class of 2024
Bob Stirton	704-361-4888	Class of 2024
Dennis Robinson	704-291-0856	Class of 2025
Betty Lou Mosley	704-764-3339	Class of 2023

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

2023 Church Committees		
Committee	Chair	Clerk
Building & Grounds	Russell Mosley	Bob Stirton
Christian Education	Debbie Rankin	Gloria Norwood
Congregational Care	Bob McCain	Tammy Mosley
Fellowship	Debbie Robinson	Caitlin Richardson
Missions & Outreach	Clay Murray	Betty Lou Mosley
Stewardship	Fran Griffin	Betty Lou Mosley
Worship	Francis Gamble	Sue Thornton

July 2023

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							9:00 AM VBS Workday
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service Holy Communion 4:00 PM Patriotic BBQ		Independence Day	3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group 7:00 PM VBS Workday				9:00 AM VBS Workday
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service	7:00 PM – Men’s Bible Study in Fellowship Hall Ladies Bible Study in Bruce Powell Room	7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing	12:15 PM Operation Reach Out Meal 3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group	5:00 PM Session Meeting			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service Camp Meeting Begins		7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing					
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service Hymn Sing		11:30 Senior Luncheon 7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing	3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group 5:30 PM Little Angel’s Pool Party				9:00 AM VBS Set Up

30 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service Outdoors 5:30 PM Vacation Bible School	31					
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