



WALKERSVILLE EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6204 BRADY ROAD, WAXHAW, NC 28173

NOVEMBER 2021

A note from the pastor...

“This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful.” (Joshua 1:8)

“I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you.” (Psalm 119:11)

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.” (Colossians 3:16)

“All Scripture is inspired by God and useful for teaching, reproof, correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who is of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.” (2 Tim. 3:16)

These verses and hundreds like them remind us of the importance of God’s Word in our lives. The consistent message throughout the Bible is that Scripture is an essential element in our spiritual survival. Consider this experiment: only eat on the days you spend time in God’s Word. Would that change your life? Could you survive?

Is our time with God a habit and an automatic part of our day? Do we have to squeeze time with God into our schedules on the really busy days? For me, if I don’t place my devotional time first thing in the morning, I know it simply won’t happen, no matter how good my intentions are too “fit” that time in later.

Do you carry the Word of God around with you? Do you meditate on Scripture throughout your day? Do you memorize Scripture? I have met plenty of people who say Scripture memorization is a good idea, but they are “not good at memorizing”. I disagree. I like to think of our memory as a muscle, the more you use it, the stronger it gets. Memorizing Scripture is one of the best ways to carry it in our hearts and be able to think about and meditate on it. The verses above are a good starting point. If you are reading this, you must have some connection to Walkersville EPC. If this church is going to have a reputation, my choice is that we are recognized as much for knowing and loving the Word of God as we are for Chicken & Dumplings!

Pastor Paul

Sermon Passages for November:

November 7: Mark 1:4-11

November 14: Mark 1:12

November 21: John 3:3-9; 4:7-15

November 28: Advent #1) Luke 4:14-30

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 Minutes
October 21, 2021

The Session of Walkersville EPC met on October 21, 2021 in the Fellowship Hall. Elders present were Clara McGee, Larry Schott, Bob Stirton, Boyet Twitty and Paul Rankin as Moderator. Betty Lou Mosley was excused.

The meeting was opened with prayer and a word of encouragement by Rev. Paul Rankin. The minutes from September 16, 2021 were read. Boyet Twitty made a motion to accept as read. Larry Schott seconded and all approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Building & Grounds – Repair of the Carillon, steeple speakers. Waiting on repair man.
Water Fountain in Educational Wing needs replacing – Motion made by Boyet Twitty to have plumber Gerald Freeman replace it, also to add more Hot Water in kitchen. Seconded by Larry Schott. All accepted.
Boyet Twitty made a motion to have repairs done on the back walkway to correct drainage problem. Motion to accept by Clara McGee. Seconded by Bob Stirton.

Christian Education – Advent devotional materials ordered
Next meeting November 21, 2021

Congregational Care – Pray for the congregation and our church.
Note the prayer list in the bulletin

Mission & Outreach – October Mission of the Month – Operation Out Reach
Consider supporting EPC missionary individuals/couples (EPCWO)

Stewardship/Finance – Finance Report read. Motion to accept by Clara McGee
Seconded by Boyet Twitty
The new budget for 2022 was presented. Motion to accept
Clara McGee, Seconded by Larry Schott. All approved.

Worship – Next meeting is scheduled for October 31, 2021
November 7, All Saints Day- flowers can be order by the Congregation
November 14 Observation of Veteran's Day
November 22 – Hanging of the Greens

(We encourage everyone to wear a mask when entering and exiting the Sanctuary. They are mask at the back of the church if you need one)

Old Business – N/A

New Business – Congregational Meeting December 5, 2021 following preaching. We will present the proposed 2022 Budget. We will also elect an Elder Nominating Committee

Next stated Session Meeting November 18, 2021

There being no further business Clara McGee made a motion to adjourn, Seconded by Boyet Twitty and approved by all.

Closed with Prayer by Paul Rankin

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 at the Manse.

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 Debbie Rankin. 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 Debbie to continue to list that person's name.

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, Phil Keys, Shelia Medlin, Larry and Audrey Schott, Clyde and Ruth Norwood, Travis Price, Troyanne and Mark Hinson, Rick and Iris Moser, Beth Simpson, Frank Rogers, Rachel Brody, Sheldon Medlin, Martha Allen, James and Francis Gordon, Sandy Brady, Linda and Phil Goodman, Wilson Pierce, Paul and Peggy Dvorak, Phil Mosley, Brody Batson, Billy Thompson, Terry McManus, Wendy Rose, Clara and Jim McGee, Shirley Starnes, Reece Starnes, Rev. Steve Rembert, Mark and Nanci Beebe, Albert, Hazel, and Bo Starnes, Jenny Wilson, Bob and Brenda O'Kelley Lynn Dewlen, Karen Skirpol, Tim Morgan, Brody Keen, Sharon Barber, Randy Richardson, Robert Helms, Kaymon Carter, Frankie Norwood, Bill Cope, Claude Gamble, Geneva Desmond, Daniel McGuirt, George Huntley, Brittany Helms, David Rankin, Ray Phillips, Melody Carswell, Jeff Wren, Donald Beebe, Tammy Mosley, Walt Venturo, Sue Haney, Silas Simpson, Pat Schlappich, Barb Salisbury, Tiffany Medlin, Bart Jackson and our missionaries in Haiti and through the world.

We extend our sympathy to the families of Claudette Deputy, Doug Laney and Zachary 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

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

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.

Daylight Saving Time

Clocks fall back an hour on November 7.

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.

Mission/Outreach Committee Report on Chicken & Dumplings

Chicken and Dumplings for November will have to be cancelled due to the availability of buying our whole chickens. Our next event will be January 15, the third Saturday of January.

Good News and Praises

Happy Birthday and Anniversary

November

Braylen Batson-1
Noah Medlin-1
Tammy Mosley-7
Jordan Parr-9
Jim & Patty Outen-11/9
Cody Hardy-12
Pete Medlin-13
Caitlin Hardy-15
Billy Thompson-16
Eric Bartel-18
Larry Schott-18
Nick Presson-22
Boyet & Lynn Twitty-11/24/68
Sandy Brady-26
Rick & Alice Gay-11/27/83
Paul & Debbie Rankin-11/28/87
Patty Outen-30

Choir News

Fall has finally arrived and cooler weather takes us back inside our Sanctuary for Sunday morning Worship Services.

While we continue to be careful due to COVID choir members are meeting immediately following Worship on Sunday mornings. We meet for about 30 minutes and at this time we are singing during Worship every other Sunday, at least until Advent.

It's wonderful to be together singing praise to God for all his many blessings.

WAR!

“OK you guys, ATTENTION! You, in the back of the room, quiet! You’ve all been gathered here today for a very important council of war preparation. It has come to the attention of our General, Jesus, the Christ, that there has been a lot of playing around for quite a while now, and the General says it has to stop. There has been way too much playing church, playing at reading and study of your war manual, the Bible, playing at communication with headquarters, probably better known by you Privates as prayer, and playing around at enlisting others into our army. This playing at being a soldier must stop NOW! This war is very serious. You have chosen to enlist in the Lord’s army, AND WE ARE GOING TO WIN! However, for a long time we here in America have been behind the front lines. We haven’t stared into the very face of the enemy, we’ve had it pretty soft, and many of you have become soft. Yes, we’ve helped many on the front lines in the past, and the General commends you for that, BUT the General says those times have come to an end. We are being called to the front! We’re going to see this war up close and personal! Are you ready? That was mighty weak! I say again, are you ready? That’s better!”

“You have been given the best of training for the task that awaits you. Some of you have had training for many years, it will be up to you to help those new recruits who haven’t had as much. Make sure you set a good example for them. Now is the time for each one of you to do a thorough check of your equipment, and make sure you understand everything needed to perform your position in this army! As far as equipment is concerned, check all your armor as per Ephesians Chapter 6 in your manual, make sure your communication equipment is in good working order, that your manual is with you at all times. Here’s hoping you have much of it committed to memory. As far as what is needed to perform in your position is concerned, check and make sure the power of the Holy Spirit is alive and well in you, otherwise you’re not going to make it. Understand whose you are, who the General is that we are fighting under, and what to do when you’ve done everything you know to do, again found in Eph.6 of the manual. And, I hope you have studied the leader of the other side, and his army, understanding his maneuvers. Your older ones can be a big help to the newer ones in this area.”

“Now, DON’T FEAR! We haven’t lost a true soldier of the cross yet. Which reminds me, we need to make sure that everyone here is a true soldier of the cross, it’s almost too late but ask yourself:

Am I a soldier of the cross, A follower of the Lamb, and shall I fear to own His cause, or blush to speak His name? Must I be carried to the skies on flowery beds of ease, while others fought to win the prize, and sailed through bloody seas? Are there no foes for me to face? Must I not stem the flood? Is this vile world a friend to grace, to help me on to God? Sure, I must fight if I would reign, increase my courage, Lord; I’ll bear the toil, endure the pain, Supported by Thy word.”

“Is everybody here a soldier of the cross? Then let’s go in the power and might of our God! We are more than conquerors through Christ our General!0

There literally is nothing to fear, but fear itself! This is WAR! Don’t give an inch of ground to the enemy, don’t turn to run from him either. Take a look at your armor, you have no protection for your back! If we live, we will be with Christ, if we die, we will be with Christ!! In this army there is no losing.”

Hallelujah, A-men! MARANATHA!

The Least of These

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Matthew 25:40: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

I remember when the economy crashed in 2008. Many people lost their jobs and things looked bleak. People were scared, and rightfully so.

I was one of the lucky ones. When the company I was working for went bankrupt, I was remembered by several former colleagues who had segued into management elsewhere. I had made good impressions upon them, and I received multiple job offers from them.

I ended up working in downtown Richmond. Every day on the way from the bus stop to my job, I passed people who were holding signs that said that they were hungry. I made it a habit to always carry dollar bills with me, and, while trying not to draw attention, I gave one to each needy person I passed. Well-meaning friends warned me that the money I gave would most likely go to drugs or alcohol.

Their warning made me think back to 1969, when I was hungry myself. I was unemployed and pregnant with my daughter. My husband (now ex-husband) was a self-employed musician. We never knew if we would make it from one paying gig to the next. At his gigs, my husband was usually treated to meals by his fans, or the club where he was working. I was living on Campbell's Soup for lunch and supper. I skipped breakfast.

A couple lived down the road from us, and I felt compassion for them because neither of them was working. One of their parents was helping out with the rent, "But we have no food," the wife told me. "We're starving."

I had no money to help with their situation, but I had stockpiled Campbell's Soup the last time I had found it on sale. I set aside half of my soup cans and watched and waited for a few days, until I saw the two of them leave their house together. Then I took the soup I had set aside to their house and pushed each can through their mail slot. This way, they would not know who their benefactor was, and they would not feel embarrassed around me. Knowing that I was helping them made me feel good. I had visions of their happiness when they came home and found the soup. They would be ecstatic.

The next time I saw the two of them, they were agitated. "Somebody put canned soup through our mail slot," the man complained. "I don't mind somebody helping us out, but getting canned soup is an insult!"

I was in shock. "I like canned soup," I told them. "I eat it every day."

"We'll give the soup to you, then," the woman offered. "Frankly, I'd rather have nothing at all to eat than to have to eat canned soup," she added.

"If someone really wanted to help," the man continued, "he would have given us the cash and let us buy what we like."

I went back home with the soup. I don't think they ever realized that I was the culprit. Throughout my pregnancy, I continued to eat that soup. I was glad to have it, too.

My intentions towards the couple were honest and sincere, just as my intentions towards the hungry people that I met in Richmond were honest and sincere. Some of those hungry people may have felt that a dollar was not enough. I have no way of knowing that.

What I do know is that my actions were motivated by scripture, by my personal memories of being poor, and by my desire to help those in dire straits. In Matthew 25:40, Jesus blesses those who come to the aid of "the least of these brothers and sisters of mine." I see no reason to cease doing so just because I don't know to what use the aid will be put. That is between the "least of these" and God.



November Roster

Committee of the Month: Worship
Mission of the Month: Operation Reach-Out

Nursery Workers:

- Nov 07 Debbie Rankin and Serenity Johnston
- Nov 14 Rhonda McManus
- Nov 21 Mark and Nanci Beebe
- Nov 28 Jessica Johnston

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

2021 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
Boyet Twitty	704-351-0833	Class of 2022
Betty Lou Mosley	704-764-3339	Class of 2023

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

2021 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	Marsha Stirton Frances Gamble	Sue Thornton

November 2021

	1	2 7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing	3 3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group	4	5	6
7 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Adult Choir Practice Communion All Saints Remembrance Clocks Fall Back	8 7:00 PM – Men’s Bible Study in Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM – Ladies Bible Study at Manse	9 7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing	10 12:15 PM Operation Reach Out Meal 3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group	11	12	13
14 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Adult Choir Practice Veteran's Day Remembrance	15	16 7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing	17 3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group 5:30-7:00 PM Little Angels Youth Group	18 5:00 PM Session Meeting	19	20
21 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Adult Choir Practice 11:15 AM Christian Education Meeting	22 5:00 PM Hanging of the Greens	23 7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing	24 3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group	25 Thanksgiving Day	26	27

<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Adult Choir Practice 1st Sunday of Advent</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">29</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing</p>				