



WALKERSVILLE EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6204 BRADY ROAD WAXHAW, NC 28173

NOVEMBER 2022

A note from the pastor...

For the first three Sundays in November, we will take on an absolutely impossible topic: answer the question, “Who is God?” On the one hand, we receive partial answers to this question as God reveals himself all through the pages of the Bible. On the other, some passages answer this question better than others.

When we turn to Exodus 3:13-15 Moses has turned to go take a look at a curiosity, a bush that’s on fire, but not being burned up. Throughout the Bible fire often happens when God is present. In this passage Moses asks God what his name is. The translation from the Hebrew is “I am who I am”, to be shortened to “I am”. In the Gospel of John this is the name Jesus used when he described himself in various ways through his “I am” statements.

In Exodus 5:2 Pharaoh asks a profound question and you *almost* have to feel sorry for Pharaoh. This is one of those situations when he needed to heed the warning, “Be careful what you ask for.” When Pharaoh asks, “Who is the LORD, that I should heed him and let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, and I will not let Israel go.” So...the LORD God Almighty answers in the first several verses of Exodus 6. It is in this chapter that we find one of the occurrences of the statement that runs throughout the entire Bible, Exodus 6:7: “I will take you as my people, and I will be your God...” Beyond anything else we might say about the LORD, he is a God who demands that we take him seriously.

It would be difficult to find anyone in the Bible or anywhere in church history who had the relationship Moses had with God. Even so, Moses desired to have a face-to-face encounter with the LORD. In Exodus 34:5-9 the name and description appear. We can only imagine the majesty and power that would have filled the air. And Moses made the only response anyone can give in an encounter with the only true and living God: he worshiped.

On the last Sunday of November, we completely change gears and enter into Advent. At Christmas have you considered the Psalms? During Advent we will consider some of the Psalms and see how they relate to the birth of Christ as well as what Christ accomplishes on our behalf. Psalm 80 is a prayer seeking Israel’s restoration, but also points to our own need for ‘restoration’. Three times the statement is made: “Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.” We can see the fulfillment of these words in the work of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Sermon passages for November 2022: Who is God?

November 6: (Daylight Savings Time begins) Exodus 3:13-15

November 13: Who is God? Exodus 5:2; 6:1-8

November 20: Who is God? Exodus 34:5-7

November 27: (Advent #1) Psalm 80:1-3

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 October 20, 2022

I. Prayer and Devotions (What it means to be Elders)

II. Approve: September 15, 2022 minutes (stated meeting)

III. Baptisms and new members

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

A. November 2022 Committee of the Month: Christian Education

B. November Elder of the Month (from the Committee of the Month): Larry Schott

C. Building & Grounds: *Bob Stirton*

-new projector in the Fellowship Hall: researching

-may require reliable Wifi/internet in Fellowship Hall

-a 10'x12' storage building will be purchased and placed behind the Fellowship Hall

D. Christian Education: *Larry Schott*

-next meeting: November 20, 2022

-Advent devotional materials will be available soon

-2023 VBS: August 6-9, 2023

E. Congregational Care: *Dennis Robinson*

F. Mission & Outreach: *Betty Lou Mosley*

-November 2022 Mission of the Month: Operation Christmas Child

-next meeting:

-2022 Chicken & Dumpling tentative dates: November 12

-2023 Chicken & Dumpling tentative dates: March 11, September 16

-Project2Heal yardsale: October 28, 2023

G. Worship: *Clara McGee*

-next meeting: October 30, 2022

-2022 tentative Communion dates:

Nov. 6, Dec. 4, Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve)

-2023 tentative Communion dates: (approved by session)

Jan. 1, Feb. 5, Mar. 5, Apr. 2, Apr. 6 (Maundy Thursday), May 7, June 4, July 2, Aug. 6, Sept. 3, Oct. 1, Nov. 5,

Dec. 3, Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve)

F. Finance Committee: *Betty Lou Mosley*

-Next Meeting: October 12, 2023

-September Financial Report

-The 2023 Church Budget has been accepted. The budget will be presented at a congregational meeting in January 2023.

V. Old Business

A. Presbytery Report

1. Next Presbytery meeting: January 27-28, 2023 (Centre Presbyterian Church, Mooresville, NC)

VI. New Business

- A. Congregational Meeting (to review the 2023 budget and form a Nominating Committee): A January 2023 date will be determined at the November Session Meeting.
- B. Toys for Tots has been approved.
- C. A sub-committee will be set up and a date to meet will be set to review the church's membership lists.

VII. Dates for use of the Fellowship Hall:

November 24, 2023—the McCain Family

January 21, 2023—Debbie Rankin

VIII. Close with prayer

Next stated Session meeting: November 17, 2022, 5:00pm 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 (walkersvilleepc@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	-Saltine crackers
-Instant potatoes	-Jelly or jams
-Peanut butter	-Spaghetti sauce
-Canned soups	-Juice in 64 oz to 1 gallon size
-Jello gelatin or pudding	-Pasta/spaghetti noodles 1 lb.
-Dried beans 1 lb.	

*Gently used clothing items:

-shirts	-pants	-blouses	-dresses
-sweatshirts	-sweaters	-coats.	

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, Travis Price, Beth Simpson, Rachel Brody, Sheldon Medlin, Martha Allen, James Gordon, Sandy Brady, Linda and Phil Goodman, Clara and Jim 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 Janet Tyson, Rudy Robinson, Ann and Grady Rose, Barry Joyner, Suzettte Barker, Ruby Rushing, Mark Mull, Jerry and Alice Griffin, Remington Hargette, Karen Trull, Billy Norwood, Lynn and Layne Dewlen, Bryan Dean, Walt and LeeAnn Ventuo, Chris Starnes, Walter Norwood, CB and Ann Griffin, Phyllis Norwood, Doris and Brooke Rhoden Mary Edwards, Richard and Tyler Lee, Lisa Echols, Fran Griffin, Maggie Thompson Joanne Hale, Richard Wieck, Pete Green, Jayden Stirton, Wyatt Melton, Dawn Culp, Karen Trull, Bob and Brenda O; Kelly and Claude Gamble.

We extend our sympathy to the families of Hazel 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

In Memory of

For Ruth Norwood

By Pansy Mosley

Rick and Sherri Simpson

Russell and Tammy Mosley

For Mike Mosley

By Russell and Tammy Mosley

Bob and Marsha Stirton

For Hazel Starnes

By Bob McCain

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

Congratulations on the engagement of Sarah Rankin and AJ Torgerson. They are planning an April 2023 wedding in North Dakota.

To all the Chicken & Dumpling Family:

We hope you have noticed that brand new mixer in the kitchen. It arrived this month with the following note:

"This mixer is given in memory of Frances Norwood Rogers by her children & their spouses. Mom always enjoyed the time & fellowship in helping with the Chicken & Dumpling Fundraisers. Thank you, Walkersville Church family, for always showing her kindness & love."

Dear Walkersville Family,

Thank you for the delicious meal you prepared and served to our family following mom's funeral service. Your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated. Thank you all for your sympathy, love and prayers.

The Family of Ruth Norwood

Daylight Savings Time

November 6 don't forget to change your clocks back one hour. Don't want anyone missing church.

A POTPOURRI

by Layne Dalen

This month I felt it was time to give a potpourri of what's happening in this crazy world of which we are a part, starting with this story.

First, Torben Syndergaard, a Danish evangelist of many years, going to over 40 nations and founder of a ministry called The Last Reformation, is still being detained by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for more than FIVE months.

He and his family came to the USA in January 2019 trying to find religious freedom. He and his family have been living in California. He was told to report to Homeland Security in Orlando, FL on June 1, having to do with his immigration status. When he arrived, he was accused of smuggling weapons from Mexico to the US. He told them his passport proves he has never gone from the US to Mexico, let alone smuggle weapons. He was told he wasn't going to be allowed to leave, put in handcuffs, and is incarcerated in Florida 3000 miles from his family. They will **not** let him out on bond, they will **not** charge him with anything. This sort of thing is what would be expected in China, but it's **here, now**.

For more information go to <https://www.friendsoftorben.com/> You can write him a letter of support from there.

Secondly, you may not have noticed, but our planet is becoming increasingly unstable. According to Volcano Discovery, 40 volcanoes around the globe are erupting right now, and only 6 of them are not along the Ring of Fire. If that sounds like a very high number to you, that is because it is a very high number. There was a total of 3,542 volcanic eruptions during the entire 20th century. When you divide that number by 100, that gives you an average of about 35 volcanic eruptions per year. So, the number of volcanoes that are erupting right now is well above the 20th century's average **for an entire calendar year**. And of course, we are witnessing a tremendous amount of earthquake activity as well. Nepal was just hit by the worst earthquake that it had seen in 80 years, and scientists are telling us that the Himalayas actually dropped by an astounding 3 feet as a result of that one earthquake. How much more does our planet have to shake before people start paying attention? Could this be one of God's wake-up calls? There's more.

A mass extinction event is reported across the planet as wildlife populations plunge nearly 70% in the last 50 years.

Snow crab population is down this year 90%. All fishing for snow crabs is prohibited.

Third, concerning the Ten Kings (the division of the world into ten groups of nations before the Antichrist appears): on Oct. 14, 2022, the Independent Sentinel posted an article that said, "A North American Union moves us quickly towards a one-world government under UN governance."

According to the article Matt Gaetz [a congressman from Fla.] reported that Secretary of State Antony Blinken called for a North American Union like the EU that would allow free transit across borders with Canada and Mexico.

As a side-note on this subject, I told my sister and her husband that these three nations were going to be merged into the North American Union over 15 years ago, they didn't believe me. Now it looks like it could come into existence at any time. Whether it will happen before or after we are called home is anyone's guess.

Fourth, Scripture talks about a great falling away of followers of Christ from the foundational truths of Christianity (2 Thess. 2:3. In a new survey by Arizona Christian University, who polled around 1000 Christian pastors and found:

> Only 37% hold a biblical worldview

>39% believe "each individual must determine their own truth,"

>38% do not believe "human life is sacred,"

>37% believe "having faith, in general, is more important than in what - or more specifically, Whom - one has faith."

With that view from the pulpit, what about the pew?

>7 out of 10 adults call themselves "Christians," and only 6%, (6 in 100) have a biblical worldview.

>56% believe "God accepts the worship of all religions, including Christianity, Judaism, and Islam."

>38% see Jesus as "a great teacher, but he was not God."

>60% say "The Holy Spirit is a force but is not a personal being."

>65% think "Everyone is born innocent in the eyes of God."

>37% agree that "Religious belief is a matter of personal opinion; it is not about objective truth."

Do I have to say that none of these beliefs fit what the Bible teaches? These were self-identified as "Evangelical Christians"!!! Either they haven't read the Bible or they reject what it says. This "falling away" from the foundational beliefs of the Christian faith, by those that profess to be Christians, is indicative of the world being on the verge of the seven-year Tribulation. Since the Bible says the rapture occurs prior to the Tribulation, (Rev. 3:10; 1 Thess 1:10 + 5:9), how close can we be to that trumpet blast and those wonderful words being said by our Lord, "Come up here!" (Rev. 4:1). Are you ready?? M-A-R-A-N-A-T-H-A, COME QUICKLY LORD JESUS!



November Roster

Committee of the Month: Christian Education

Mission of the Month: Operation Christmas Child

Nursery Workers:

Nov 06 Rhonda McManus

Nov 13 Mark and Nanci Beebe

Nov 20 Jessica Johnston

Nov 27 Debbie Rankin and Serenity Johnston

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

2022 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

2022 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	Frances Gamble	Sue Thornton

November 2022

		1 7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing	2 3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group	3	4	5
6 All Saint's Day Remembrance 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service Holy Communion 11:15 AM Adult Choir Practice	7 7:00 PM – Men's Bible Study in Fellowship Hall Ladies Bible Study in Bruce Powell Room	8 7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing	9 12:15 PM Operation Reach Out Meal 3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group	10 Chicken and Dumplings Prep Day	11 Veteran's Day Chicken and Dumplings Prep Day	12 Chicken and Dumplings
13 Honoring our Veterans 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Adult Choir Practice	14	15 7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing	16 3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group	17 5:00 PM Session Meeting	18	19
20 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes Sunday 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Adult Choir Practice	21 5:00 PM Hanging of the Greens	22 7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing Canceled	23 3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group	24 Thanksgiving Day	25	26

<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p>1st Sunday of Advent 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Adult Choir Practice</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">28</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p>11:30 Senior Luncheon 7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing Canceled</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group 5:30 PM-7:00 PM Little Angels</p>			
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