



WALKERSVILLE EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6204 BRADY ROAD WAXHAW, NC 28173

JUNE 2023

A note from the pastor...

During the summer we will be briefly looking into an often-neglected portion of Scripture: the minor prophets. What did they have to say? What were the conditions in which they were writing? To whom were they writing? Why were they writing?

As they wrote to specific people addressing specific problems, we can continue to be amazed at how relevant their words are for us today.

On the first Sunday of June Pastor Paul and Debbie will be away and Rev. Brian Martin will bring the message and lead the church in Communion.

Hosea 11:1-11 reminds us that a holy God will never condone sin, but a holy God will also never stop loving us. We are able to read about this “holy tension” in Romans 6-8. The amazing reality behind this is that we, as God’s people, are to do the same thing, never stop loving, and at the same time, never condone sin. This is one of the central messages as Hosea is prophesying about the coming Christ, who buys his people out from slavery, even though God’s people are perennially unfaithful.

Do we take God seriously enough? A person’s answer to this question will be same as their answer to, “Do we take sin seriously enough?” All too often we gloss over sin with a wishy-washy, “it’s not really that bad” attitude, which, in turn, could lead a person to say that a holy God might have the same opinion. Joel 2:12-17 is an answer to God’s people in all times and places, including us, of how we should have a great desire to be holy because we worship a holy God, in whose image we have been made.

Amos was an “average guy on the street”. He was a shepherd and a “dresser of sycamore trees” (Amos 7:14). In the passage we will look at, Amos 8:11-12, we find one of the direst warnings imaginable. A famine is coming, but not the kind everyone would think of, in terms of food. This will be a famine of “hearing the words of the LORD”. It is difficult for us to image this kind of famine or the greater ramifications of this, and yet, we are seeing evidence of this famine spreading in our country. Has a famine of the Word of God entered into your life? Within our areas of influence, what do we do about it?

Sermon passages for June 2023

June 4: (Brian Martin)

June 11: Hosea 11:1-11

June 18: (Father's Day) Joel 2:12-17

June 25: Amos 8:11-12

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 May 18, 2023

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

Shepherd: tend the flock, protect the sheep, help the limping sheep, track down the strays, feed the sheep

II. Approve: March 16, 2023 minutes (stated meeting)

March 19, 2023 minutes (called meeting)

-Heard testimonies and received into membership Quinton & Caitlin Richardson)

III. Baptisms, new members, and visitors

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

A. June 2023 Committee of the Month: *Congregational Care*

B. June 2023 Elder of the Month (from the Committee of the Month): *Dennis Robinson*

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

-new projector in the Fellowship Hall: a new projector has been purchased and should be arriving soon

-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.

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

-next meeting: May 21, 2023 (discuss VBS)

-2023 VBS: July 30-8/2

-Sunday School teachers: Debbie Robinson & Sherri Simpson: younger children; Debbie Rankin: older children

-Need a younger/older elementary Sunday School teacher; in the Fall we will need a High School teacher

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

Rick Moser, Joanne Hale, Clara Gordon, Family of Lynn Robinson, Family of Diane Starnes

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

-June 2023 Mission of the Month: Shepherd's Place

-Wesley King, from Shepherd's Place, will have a minute for mission on June 11, 2023

-next meeting: May 17, 2023

-\$500 will be sent to help with medical bills for Stephen McCain

-Next 2023 Chicken & Dumpling: September 16

-Project2Heal Yardsale: October 28, 2023

G. Worship: *Clara McGee*

-Next meeting:

-2023 tentative Communion dates:

June 4, 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

H. Finance Committee: *Betty Lou Mosley*

-Next Meeting: October 12, 2023

-Change in Paul's Terms of Call (Medicare): to be voted on by the congregation?

-March/April 2023 Financial Report

K. Fellowship Committee: *RE Representative*

-Next meeting: June 6, 2023, 7pm

V. Old Business

A. Presbytery Report

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

-Ruling Elders attending:

B. Pastor Paul (and Debbie) on vacation:

1. June 4: Brian Martin preaching, leading Communion

C. Ordination and Installation of Officers (Rick Gay, Ann Rose): June 25, 2023

VI. New Business

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

B. July Session Meeting time change? Return to 7pm?

This will be decided at the June meeting.

C. Can Patty Greene have a key to the Fellowship Hall for square dancing?

Since Harvey Hess will be stepping out of the leadership position, but still participating, and Bob Stirton will continue to be a part of the square-dancing group, it was decided that this would be fine.

D. At this point, Pastor Paul is not planning on going to GA (June 20-22, Highlands Ranch, CO).

E. Reminder of the October 15, 2023 Leadership Meeting.

F. All committee information needs to go through session. Special offerings need to be voted on by the session.

VII. Dates for use of the Fellowship Hall:

-June 11, 2023: Riley Trull Campbell baby shower, 2-4pm.

VIII. Close with prayer

Next stated Session meeting: June 15, 2023, 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 (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, Travis Price, 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 Langlely, Barb Salisbury, Betty Simpson Medlin, Mark McCain Jr., Clara Gordon and Doug Couick.

We extend our sympathy to the families of Diane Starnes, Gayle Mills, Eddie Mbanda, and Lynn Robinson.

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

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.

Worship Committee

The Worship Committee is sponsoring a covered dish lunch after church service on Sunday, May 21st, at 11:30 a.m. We hope that you all can come and bring your favorite family dinner dish to share with everyone. Drinks, plates, napkins, and utensils will be provided. Come and enjoy the fellowship and good food with our church family.

Good News and Praises

Happy Birthday and Anniversary

June

Todd Twitty-5

Joseph Wilson-4

Robert Laton-7

Tommy, Jr & Debbie Norwood-6/9/96

Brooklyn Hardy-14

Ivey Hardy-15

Paisley Richardson-15

Rachel Bartel-17

Savannah McManus-19

Hayley Norwood-19

Elizabeth Wilson-25

Sue Thornton-26

Mark & Allison Batson-6/26

Amy Thompson-27

Phyllis Norwood-28

Debbie Norwood-28

Natalie Rogers-28

Lindsey Presson-29

In April we collected special offerings for the tornado victims. Praise God that we were able to send \$7,026.00 to Samaritan's Purse in their work in these devastated areas. Franklin Graham sent us a note that begins with:

"I want to express my appreciation for the gift sent to Samaritan's Purse from Walkersville Presbyterian Church for U.S. Disaster Relief. Your prayers and partnership mean more than you know."

On Maundy Thursday we brought our "30 pieces of silver" as an offering that was sent to Turning Point. We were able to send \$291.05 to help them in their work with victims of domestic violence.

At the last Patty Greene concert an offering was collected that totaled \$608. The session had decided this would be given to the Missions & Outreach committee to be used at their discretion. \$500 was recently sent to a local family in need. Any future donations to this Missions Fund will be used in a similar way.

Memorials

For Wendy Trull

From Bob McCain

Baby Shower for Riley Trull Campbell

All Walkersville Women are invited to a Drop-In Baby Shower for Riley Trull Campbell on June 11, 2023 from 2:00 pm- 4:00 pm in the Walkersville Fellowship Hall. Riley is registered at Target and Amazon; we hope everyone can join us!

How do you approach God?

Kyle's Poem

Groeschel, Craig, *Hope in the Dark: Believing God Is Good When Life Is Not* (Zondervan: Grand Rapids, MI, 2018), 149.

God doesn't love me
You can't force me to believe
God is good
This is the One Truth in Life
This world is a product of chance
How can I believe that
God will use my life
I know with certainty that
God has left me
Never again will I say that
Christ is risen from the dead
I know now more than ever in my life that
Man can save himself
We must realize that it is ignorant to think
God answers prayers
Christians declare that
Without God this world would fall into darkness
This world can and will meet my needs
It is a lie to say that
God had always been there for me
I now realize that
No matter what I do
The Truth is
He doesn't love me
How can I presume that
God is good

Before you wonder what happened to Pastor Paul and whether or not he has jumped off the theological cliff of heresy, read this poem again line by line beginning at the end. If there were such things as verbal illusions (as opposed to optical illusions) this poem would surely fit into that category. The important question for every person on the planet is: Which version is yours? The answer has eternal consequences. If you want to share this poem, please do, but also please include the source immediately under the title. If this poem (from *Hope in the Dark: Believing God Is Good When Life Is Not*) piques your curiosity about the book, I have a couple of copies to lend out.



June Roster

Committee of the Month:

Congregational Care

Mission of the Month:

The Shepherd's Place

Nursery Workers:

Jun 04 Rhonda McManus

Jun 11 Mark and Nanci Beebe

Jun 18 Jessica Johnston

Jun 24 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

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 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

June 2023

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service Holy Communion		7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing	3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Father’s Day 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service		7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing	3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group			
25	26	27	28	29	30	
9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service Outdoors Installation of Elders		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			