

Walkersville Window

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A note from the pastor:

How familiar are you with 1 John? Many people are familiar with the Gospel of John, but this first of three short letters is not as well known. The author is not mentioned, but the early church fathers, who lived within 100 years of the time John wrote these letters, all agree the apostle wrote this. This letter tells of the author's eyewitness testimony that is consistent with "the disciple whom Jesus loved." In addition, this letter uses many of the same phrases and contrasts as the gospel: light and darkness, life and death, truth and lies, love and hate.

This letter also comes at a time when the church is under spiritual attack from teachings that are not the gospel. As a result, this letter can also be viewed as a series of tests to see if a person and their teaching is correct or filled with inaccurate and false heresies. This letter was written to warn and instruct churches to be alert!

If we compare 1 John 1:1-4 with John 1:1-5, we are told about both the human and divine natures that are present in the person of Jesus Christ. John testifies to the fact that he has seen, heard, and touched Jesus. John also wants us to know that at the heart of the gospel message he is sharing, a person will find joy.

In 1 John 2:1-6, we come to a vital test of a follower of Jesus Christ: obedience. Yes, we sin. No, we do not always get it right. But we know that Jesus is the "atoning sacrifice of our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world." The greatest way to show that we love

God is to back up our words with 1 John 2:5: "... if anyone obeys (God's) word, God's love is truly made complete in him."

When we move to the opposite of obedience to Jesus' commands, we arrive at 1 John 2:15-17. We each have to decide, do we have love for our heavenly Father, our love for the things of this world? We will all be one or the other, but we cannot be both. Once again, we hear the teaching that followers of Christ will be looking to the interests and needs of others before looking to their own (other-focused). A lover of the world will only be concerned with the "god of me" (self-centeredness). 1 John 2:17 contains the great warning: "The world and its desires pass away..." and great promise: "...but the man who does the will of God lives forever."

The antichrist. This description only appears in 1 and 2 John, and he is referring to anyone who denies that Jesus is the Christ. The greatest problem we find in 1 John 2:18-25 is that this is not a spiritual attack from outside the Body of Christ, but from inside. There will always be those who know what to say and how to act, at least on Sundays, but in the end, "they did not really belong to us." This is one more reason the church must be alert, knowing what we believe, and able to see falsehood for what it is. The greatest weapons we have are the Word of God and our Christian community.

The fact of the matter is that this letter is as relevant for the church today as it was in the first century. The problems being addressed here are still present in the church. And the blessing of eternal life continues to give us confidence.

Session Members & Committees

Building & Grounds:
Elder: Quinton Richardson
Chair: Russell Mosley

Christian Education:
Elder: Ann Rose
Chair: Caitlin Richardson

Congregational Care:
Elder: Eric Johnston
Chair: Tammy Mosley

Mission & Outreach:
Elder: Gretchen Presson
Chair: Clay Murray

Finance:
Elder: Eric Johnston
Chair: Fran Griffin

Worship:
Elder: Ann Rose
Chair: Frances Gamble

Fellowship:
Elder: Rick Gay
Chair: Debbie Robinson

Sermon Passages

- 10/5: 1 John 1:1-4
- 10/12: 1 John 2:1-6
- 10/19: 1 John 2:15-17
- 10/26: 1 John 2:18-25

Operation Christmas Child

Spreading Holiday Joy Worldwide

As the holiday season approaches, Operation Christmas Child continues to bring hope to children in need across the globe. This simple yet powerful initiative, organized by Samaritan's Purse, invites people to pack shoeboxes with gifts for children affected by poverty, war, and natural disasters.

How It Works

The process is beautifully simple: choose a standard shoebox, decide on a boy or girl and age group (2-4, 5-9, or 10-14), then fill it with toys, school supplies, hygiene items, and accessories. Include a \$10 donation to cover shipping costs and drop off your box in the Mary Ann room.

Suggested Items

Toys: small cars, dolls, stuffed animals, yo-yos.
School Supplies: Notebooks, pencils, crayons, calculators.
Hygiene Items: Toothbrushes, combs, bandages.
Other: Hats, flashlights, personal notes.

Making an Impact

Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has delivered over 198 million shoebox gifts to children in more than 170 countries. Beyond the gifts, many locations pair distributions with "The Greatest Journey," a program that teaches children about God's love. Each shoebox represents hope and may be the first gift a child has ever received. Join millions worldwide in making this holiday season special for children in need.



Thank you 

Thank you for the very generous donation to the Blessing Cart! We appreciate all of you so very much!
Love In Christ,
Tina McLemore/Blessing Cart

Chicken N Dumplings

Ready or Not here it comes....Chicken N Dumplings our largest fundraiser to support our missions is on OCTOBER 18!

Help is needed all week long!
Please sign up to be part of this fundraiser and time to show God's love to the community.



For: Virginia Brady Walkup
By: Charles Walkup Jr.



- 10/5: Chris & Jennifer Trull
- 10/12: Tiffany Presson & Lily Wilson
- 10/19: Debbie Rankin & Lexi Langley
- Gretchen Presson & Wilson Johnston



- Tommy "Wolfman" Norwood - 1
- Tom Salisbury - 2
- Ryan Campbell - 4
- Debbie Robinson - 4
- Rick Gay - 5
- Brock Clonch - 6
- Martha Allen - 7
- Rick Simpson - 9
- Phillip Carter - 10
- Russell & Tammy Mosley - 11
- Paul Dvorak - 19
- Bob & Marsha Stirton - 21
- Fran Griffin - 31



SESSION REVIEW

PRAYER & DEVOTIONS

COLOSSIANS 3:1; 2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-18.
WHERE IS OUR FOCUS..INDIVIDUALLY? AS A
CHURCH?

COMMITTEE INFO:

OCTOBER COMMITTEE OF THE MONTH: FINANCE
OCTOBER ELDER OF THE MONTH: ERIC JOHNSTON

BUILDING & GROUNDS

- HOMECOMING CLEANUP DAY WENT WELL.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

- NEXT MEETING: SEPTEMBER 28, 11:15
- NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY?
- VISITATION & COMMUNION: POSSIBLY THE ELDER OF THE MONTH WILL ASSIST PASTOR PAUL.

MISSION & OUTREACH

- NEXT MEETING: NOV. 17, 2025
- OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD - M.O.M. FOR OCTOBER- SAMARITAN'S PURSE IS LOOKING FOR PAID WORKERS FOR NOVEMBER
- NEXT CHICKEN N DUMPLINGS: OCT. 18
 - TENTATIVE 2026 DATES: 3/14; 10/17
- LOOKING AHEAD AT "WALKERSVILLE DAYS"
 - HELP PREGNANCY CENTER DAY: 8/19 - WENT VERY WELL
- HOUSE OF PEARLS ANNUAL BANQUET - 10/10/2025

OLD BUSINESS

- PRESBYTERY REPORT: NEXT MEETING IS SEPTEMBER 26-27, LOCATION: DAVIDSON, NC - ANN AND GRETCHEN WILL JOIN PASTOR PAUL ON SATURDAY.
- PASTOR PAUL'S RADIATION: M-F THROUGH 11/6
- WHO TO CALL IN AN EMERGENCY:
 - KEN THOMAS (980) 328-8702
 - MICHAEL KRAUTER (SILER) (330) 309-2311
 - JOE ROLISON (REHOBOTH) (704)301-1590
- STAFF EVALUATIONS: RICK GAY AND PASTOR PAUL WILL BEGIN MEETING WITH PAID STAFF.
- MESH WI-FI: SEARCHING FOR SOMEONE WHO KNOWS WHAT THEY ARE DOING

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- NEXT MEETING: NOVEMBER 16, 2025
- RALLY DAY (9/7) WENT WELL
- NURSERY - POSSIBLE NEW CURRICULUM
- BEGINNING TO DISCUSS VBS 2026: 7/12-15
- PASTOR PAUL'S NEW FALL BIBLE STUDY: OCTOBER 6, 7PM

WORSHIP

- NEXT MEETING: 10/12/2025
- COMMUNION DATES: 10/5; 11/2; 12/7; 12/24
- FUTURE DATES: ALL SAINTS DAY 11/2; VETERANS' DAY 11/9; HANGING OF THE GREENS 11/24; ADVENT, BEGINNING 11/30; CHRISTMAS EVE 12/24 (4PM, 9PM)

UC-EPC WOMEN

- PLANNING MEETING SEPT 20 AT SILER PRESBYTERIAN

FINANCE

- NEXT MEETING: 10/2
- AUGUST 2025 FINANCIAL REPORTS APPROVED
- SURPLUS IN THE GENERAL FUND FROM 2024: \$50,000
 - THE FOLLOWING HAS BEEN APPROVED:
 - \$35,100 (PLAYGROUND)
 - \$1,000 FOR TTA PROM (TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD/SPECIAL NEEDS)
 - \$2,320 FOR ONE YEAR AT BETHLEHEM PRESCHOOL (TO GO TO THEIR SCHOLARSHIP FUND)
 - \$2,000 TO KIDS FOR JESUS BUS (RONNIE AITON)
 - \$500 TO ORO FOR T-SHIRTS
- AMOUNT REMAINING TO BE DISTRIBUTED \$9,080

FELLOWSHIP

- FISH FRY: SEPT 27
- CONSIDERING A GOSPEL & CHOIR FESTIVAL, POSSIBLY IN MAY

NEW BUSINESS

- LEADERSHIP MEETING, OCTOBER 5, 2025 WITH SOUP AND SALAD LUNCH
 - ALL ELDERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS INVITED
 - COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP, INFORMATION & 2026 CALENDAR
 - DISCUSSION ABOUT BUS
 - SOUND AND VIDEO PEOPLE FOR SUNDAY MORNING
 - TOYS FOR TOTS
 - PASTOR PAUL & DEBBIE'S VACATION: NOVEMBER 11-18
 - OCTOBER 3, 6-8PM, GATHERING FOR SESSION & STAFF AND FAMILIES AT THE MANSE.

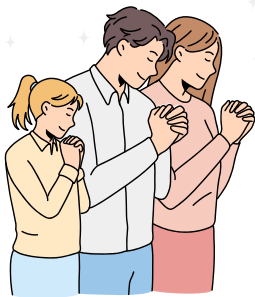
FELLOWSHIP HALL DATES

- BOYET TWITTY: OCTOBER 4
- DEBBIE ROBINSON: DECEMBER 6
- CLARA MCGEE: SEPTEMBER 28

EXTENDED PRAYER LIST:

Battling Cancer:

- Bricelyn Dorman (Daughter of Joey McCombs co-worker)
- John Cavallaro (Friend of Bob Stirton)
- Sandy Rea (Sister of Billy Thompson)
- Larry Norwood
- C.B. Griffin - Bone Cancer
- Tammy Huber - Chronic Myeloid Leukemia (Mother of one of Riley Campbell's clients)
- Paul Smith - (Friend of Nick & Gretchen Presson)
- Howard Moser - Kidney Cancer (Rick Moser's Brother)
- Ann King (Friend of Sue Thornton)
- Alan Mears - Rectal Cancer (Pastor at Mineral Springs UMC)
- Eric Munoz - Multiple Myeloma (Friend of Bob Stirton)
- Mark Mull - Brain Tumor (Friend of Nick & Gretchen Presson)



Various Concerns:

- Rick Moser
- Phil Keyes
- Fran Griffin - Pain Management
- Layne & Lynn Dewlen - Various health concerns
- Tanner Hasty - 10 year old with migraines & coned vision (Client of Riley Campbell)
- Jerry & Alice Griffin - (Community friends)
- Frankie Norwood - Dementia (Brother of Hazel Norwood)
- Monty Brady - (Relative of Rhonda McManus & Sue Thornton)
- Bart & Pat Jackson - Declining health (Cousins of Fran Griffin)

Assisted Living:

- Robby Griffin:
Lee Forest Group Home
1209 Pelham Dr
Laurinburg, NC 28352
- Nancy Thomas
Lake Park Rehabilitation
- Joann & Pat Cochran
Graceful Arms Asst. Living
7500 W. Camp Wisdom Rd
COW 150, Dallas, TX 75236

Active Military:

- Matthew Luke - Gretchen Presson's co-worker's son. Deploying to the Middle East.
- Chad Clonch - Lieutenant in the US Navy, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit at Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek. Chad is Scarlett Clonch's husband and son-in-law of Bob & Marsha Stirton. 4628 Larkwood Dr., Virginia Beach, VA 23464
- Luke Mault - Staff Sergeant in the US Army Reserve, A. CO 404th Civil Affairs Battalion Africa. Family friend of Ron & Lisa Tietjen.
- Garret Melton - US Marine stationed Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, NC. Grandson of Danny & Marlene Little, Grandson-in-law of Larry & Audrey Schott.
- Devin Moser - Senior Chief, US Navy. Out on a mission for at least a year. Son of Rick Moser.
- Peyton Maguffey - 3rd year of school to become a CTR (cryptologic technician collection). Great nephew of Bob & Marsha Stirton.
- Chris Rankin - Lieutenant Colonel in the US Army stationed in Ft. Drum, NY. Paul Rankin's nephew. 8612 A Hunter Loop, FT Drum, NC 13603
- Jarrett Setliff - US Air Force stationed in Florida. Friend of Nick & Gretchen Presson; Hazel & Gloria Norwood. 624 B W. Pine St., Mary Esther, FL 32569

Walkersville EPC Contact Information & Office Hours

Pastor Paul Rankin:
814-279-5055
walkersvilleepcpastor@gmail.com
Mon-Thurs: 8:30-5:00 or by appt.

Caitlin Richardson (Administrative Asst):
704-726-1045
walkersvilleepc@gmail.com
M-W-F 8:30 am - 2:15 pm