



## **WALKERSVILLE EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**6204 BRADY ROAD, WAXHAW, NC 28173**

**OCTOBER 2021**

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### **A note from the pastor...**

In October we will “travel” to the last four cities receiving a message found in Revelation 2-3: Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea. As we consider the messages to these cities, they all have to do with being faithful to Christ and living out his commands.

We are to approach life following these commands. This is completely impossible without the power of the Holy Spirit in us. At the same time, if the churches in Revelation 2-3 lived this out, Christ may not have had a message of criticism to some of them. It is when we forget “our first love”, allow the gospel of Jesus Christ to be watered down (become lukewarm), permit false teachers to come into the church as well as into our hearts and lives, that we experience problems.

There are many passages in the Bible that speak to this kind of thinking, but at the heart of the matter are Jesus’ words from Luke 6:36: “Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.”

The Greek word for “merciful” here means that there is a great concern for someone else’s unfortunate state, particularly living in a state of misery they can do nothing about. It is in this miserable state that God sent Jesus: “But God demonstrates his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8)

One way I like to think about it is to substitute “merciful” for “generous”. In his incredible mercy, our God is generous beyond our imaginations. In view of this we are to exhibit the same mercy to those around us in the most generous way, whether they deserve it or not.

When we forget God’s generosity toward us, we inevitably have problems. This pattern is seen all through the Bible and ultimately affects the reality that summarizes all of Scripture and gives meaning to life: relationships. When we remember to be merciful as our Father is merciful, and to be generous with that mercy, as our Father has been generous to us, we will continuously embrace our first love in Christ, we will see false teaching for what it is, and we will not be lukewarm, but rather, we will be passionate in our desire to tell others about a generous God.

## **Sermon Passages for October:**

October 3: Thyatira—Revelation 2:18-29

October 10: (*Paul & Debbie on vacation*) Chris Wiker preaching (the man who came on the motorcycle)

October 17: Sardis—Revelation 3:1-6

October 24: Philadelphia—Revelation 3:7-13

October 31: Laodicea—Revelation 3:14-18

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## **Weekly Reminders:**

**Prayer Group:** Wednesdays at 4:00 PM in the Youth Room

**Children's Choir Practice:** Mondays at 4:00 PM in the Sanctuary

**Adult Choir Practice:** Wednesday at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary

**Bible Study with Pastor:** Wednesday at 3:00 PM in the Library

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## **Walkersville's EPC Session Meetings Minutes**

Committee of the Month (October): Stewardship/Finance (Greeting and announcements)

Mission of the Month (October): Operation Reach-Out

### Building & Grounds

-One of the two picnic tables beside the playground behind the church has been falling apart. A picnic table was donated by Dennis and Debbie Robinson and the old one was removed.

-One of the door handles into the education wing needed to be replaced.

-A ceiling fan at the manse needed to be replaced.

-The covered sidewalk between the church and the Fellowship Hall has a drainage problem. Solutions are being considered.

### Christian Education

-Advent devotional materials will be selected and ordered.

### Congregational Care

-Please use the prayer insert in your bulletins.

### Mission & Outreach

-Because the September Chicken & Dumplings was cancelled, there will be a special collection the last two weeks of September to be sent to the school in Pochocuape.

### Stewardship/Finance

-There will be a committee meeting on October 7 to look at a proposed budget for 2022.

### Worship

-We will continue to meet at 10:00 for worship. In October worship will move inside.

-The session encourages people to wear a mask as you enter and exit the Sanctuary.

-November 7 is All Saints' Day. The congregation will have the opportunity to order flowers.

-Veterans' Day will be observed on November 14.

-Hanging of the Greens will be November 22.

### Fellowship

-There is no Fellowship Committee. Possible responsibilities:

-Coordinating a congregational dinner each quarter

-Coordinating special events (Christmas, Trunk or Treat, trips on the church bus)

### Old Business

- There is a new policy posted in the Fellowship Hall regarding the landing of tables and chairs.
- Pastor Paul & Debbie will be on vacation October 4-10. Chris Wiker (came on a motorcycle) will be preaching.

### New Business

- Session will continue to meet on the third Thursday of each month, but the time has been changed to 5:00.
  - There will be a Leadership Meeting after the worship service on October 17, in the Fellowship Hall. Session, committee members, Bible study leaders, and Sunday School teachers are encouraged to attend.
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### **The Men's and Ladies Bible Study**

They meet on second Monday of every month at 7:00 PM  
With Pastor Paul Rankin Wednesdays at 3:00 PM in Library.

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### **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.

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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, 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, Doug Laney, 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, Claudette Deputy family, 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 and Bart Jackson.

We extend our sympathy to the families of Joann Fowler, Kathleen Hargett and Lydia Barbon.

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

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### **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

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### **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.

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### **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.

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### **Mission/Outreach Committee Report on Chicken & Dumplings**

The traditional dates for C&D are September (3rd Saturday), November (2nd Saturday), January (3rd Saturday), and March (1st or 2nd Saturday). The group of volunteers who met Sunday, August 29th felt that it would be a mistake to host a "Dumplings Only"/ "Take Out Only" Event in September. Walkersville's next Chicken & Dumplings has tentatively been scheduled for Saturday, November 13th. It is the hope of the Mission/Outreach Committee that this will be a full-service event. We will meet in October with the volunteers to make our final decision. We're asking everyone to be in prayer as we seek God's guidance.

Remember our September Mission of the Month is The Pochocuape Christian Education Center in Nicaragua. Please allow God to guide your heart.

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### **Good News and Praises**

#### **Happy Birthday and Anniversary**

##### **October**

Tommy "Wolfman" Norwood-1  
Debbie Robinson-4  
Rick Gay-5  
Brock Clonch-6  
Zoe Bartel-9  
Rick Simpson-9  
Phillip Carter-10  
Russell & Tammy Mosley-10/11/86  
Paul Dvorak-12  
Eric & Amy Bartel-10/14/95  
Paul & Peggy Dvorak-10/19  
Bob & Marsha Stirton-10/21  
Amy Bartel -31  
Fran Griffin-31

Congratulations on the birth of William Archer Mosley to the parents of Nathan and Rachel Mosley, grandparents Russell and Tammy Mosley, great grandparent Betty Lou Mosley.

Congratulations to Jayden Stirton who was named to the Freshman Homecoming Court at Watauga High School.

Congratulations to our favorite Boy Scout, Brock Clonch for receiving 3 merit badges - swimming, chess, & kayaking!

October 4-10-Pastor Paul & Debbie Rankin on vacation

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**Jesus Rules the Rain**  
© Linda Goodman 9/11/2021

Jesus rules the rain  
Jesus rules the wind.  
Jesus calms the storm  
And makes us safe again.  
Put your faith in Jesus.  
He'll take care of you.  
He'll be at your side in all you say and do.

Jesus loves the children.  
He loves their moms and dads.  
His light will guide your hearts  
Through both the good and bad.  
Give your love to Jesus.  
He'll be true to you.  
He will give His blessing to all you say and do.

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**Where Are We?**  
By Layne Dewlen

When I became the teacher of the adult Sunday School class, I let it be known I would like the class to be relevant to what is happening in the world today. Therefore, we discuss things happening each week in light of what the Scriptures may have to say before going into our study of the book of Revelation.

The other day I was sent a short piece in the mail anonymously that was very relevant. I had come across it several times in the past but had no copy of it, nor had I thought about it, but when I read it, I knew it needed to be read to the class. After class I was approached with the idea of putting it out for all to read, in the newsletter, so here it is.

It has been said that for those who don't know history, they are bound to repeat it....

In 1787, Alexander Tyler, a Scottish history professor at the University of Edinburgh, noticed a continuing pattern in the advance and decline of the world's democracies.

He stated then that a democracy would continue to exist until such time that the voters discover that they can literally vote themselves gifts from the public treasury. From the moment that revelation is

made, the majority proceeds to vote for the candidates who promise the most benefits from the public treasury. The final result is that every democracy finally collapses due to lose fiscal policy. That collapse is always followed by a dictatorship.

Tyler charted the ages of the world's greatest civilizations from the beginning of history... an average existence of about two hundred years. Every single time, these nations progressed through the following sequence: from bondage to spiritual faith; from spiritual faith to great courage; from courage to liberty; from liberty to abundance; from abundance to complacency; from complacency to apathy; from apathy to dependence; and finally, from dependence back into bondage.

Now you know the reason for the title of this piece. I leave it to you to decide the answer for yourself.

Is this the end of it all? Is there no hope? I'm sorry to say there is none, .....BUT GOD!

Although we as a nation may have to go through all the stages mentioned above, still, God is with His children. But it does raise the question, where is your faith? If you will notice in the timeline above faith is quite a way back from where we now are as a nation, but what about your faith? How strong is your faith in the God of your salvation? Do you trust Him, I mean do you really trust Him? What about for the salvation of your children, your health, and protection from Covid, your financial needs, in every facet of your life?

One of my favorite names of God is El Shaddai, the God of plenty. There is a chorus we used to sing some years ago about that: "He's more than enough, He's more than enough. He is El Shaddai, the God of plenty. The all sufficient one, He's God Almighty. He is more than enough!"

Have you found Him to be so in your life? In this day we need to trust Him more and more. After all, it's only in exercising our faith that we make it stronger as the days get darker, and as they grow darker the world is going to need our light (faith). How else can we hope to show the world truth, as things grow darker, without strong faith? May God help each one of us to grow stronger in Him. Maranatha!



**October Roster**

**Committee of the Month: Stewardship**  
**Mission of the Month: Operation Reach-Out**

**Nursery Workers:**

- Oct 03 Debbie Rankin and Serenity Johnston
- Oct 10 Rhonda McManus
- Oct 17 Mark and Nanci Beebe
- Oct 24 Jessica Johnston
- Oct 31 Ivey Hardy

**Volunteers Needed**

**Newsletter Information**

If you have information to include in the newsletter, please send it to Harvey Hess by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. You may email the information to [harveyhess@bellsouth.net](mailto: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<br>Frances Gamble | Sue Thornton     |

# October 2021

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|  |   |  |  |                                     | 1  | 2  |
| 3<br>9:00-9:45 AM<br>Sunday School<br>10:00 AM<br>Worship Service<br>Communion                               | 4   | 5<br>7:00 – 9:00 PM<br>Square Dancing  | 6<br>3:00 PM Bible Study<br>4:00 PM – Prayer Group<br>No Choir   | 7<br>7:00 PM Finance<br>Committee M | 8  | 9  |
| 10<br>9:00-9:45 AM<br>Sunday School<br>10:00 AM<br>Worship Service<br>Homecoming                             | 11<br>7:00 PM – Men’s<br>Bible Study<br>7:00 PM – Ladies<br>Bible Study | 12<br>7:00 – 9:00 PM<br>Square Dancing | 13<br>12:15 PM Operation Reach<br>Out Meal<br>3:00 PM Bible Study<br>4:00 PM – Prayer Group<br>No Choir          | 14                                  | 15 | 16 |
| 17<br>9:00-9:45 AM<br>Sunday School<br>10:00 AM<br>Worship Service<br>11:15 AM<br>Leadership Team<br>Meeting | 18  | 19<br>7:00 – 9:00 PM<br>Square Dancing | 20<br>3:00 PM Bible Study<br>4:00 PM – Prayer Group<br>No Choir  | 21<br>5:00 PM Session<br>Meeting    | 22 | 23 |
| 24<br>9:00-9:45 AM<br>Sunday School<br>10:00 AM<br>Worship Service   | 25  | 26<br>7:00 – 9:00 PM<br>Square Dancing | 27<br>3:00 PM Bible Study<br>4:00 PM – Prayer Group<br>6:00 – 7:30 PM – Little<br>Angels Youth Group<br>No Choir | 28                                  | 29 | 30 |



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| <p>31<br/>9:00-9:45 AM<br/>Sunday School<br/>10:00 AM<br/>Worship Service<br/>11:15 AM<br/>Worship<br/>Committee<br/>Meeting</p> |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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