



**WALKERSVILLE**

**EPC**

**November 2023**

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Waxhaw, NC 28173

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## **A Note from Pastor Paul:**

I wonder how many husbands have heard these, or similar, words:

“How could you miss it?! It was right in front of you.”

When we encounter the religious leaders of Jesus’ day throughout the Gospels, we can easily ask the same question. As they are eyewitnesses of the teaching and miracles of Jesus, how could they not see him for who he was? He was right there in front of them.

As we see two sons, one seemingly insubordinate and the other seemingly obedient, only one of them ends up getting it right. Jesus’ parable in Matthew 21: 28-32 explains this poignantly, setting the ministry of John the Baptist in front of them. How could they miss it? It was right there in front of them.

As Jesus relates the events of the parable in Matthew 21: 33-42, he reaches into the Old Testament, using images from the Psalms alongside how God’s prophets were treated. The religious leadership realized what Jesus was saying when he talked about the wicked tenant farmers, actually talking about what was going to happen to him on the cross. How could they miss it? It was right in front of them.

For the original audience, the parable of the king giving a wedding banquet for his son in Matthew 22: 1-14 takes some unexpected twists and turns. From the insulting responses of the invited guests and the reaction of the king to the man who came, unprepared, Jesus points to those who should have seen him for who he was but didn’t. After all, he was right there in front of them, how could they miss it?

As we close out November, the parable of the ten virgins in Matthew 25: 1-13 reminds us that if there is one command that provides a foundation as Jesus teaches about the future, it is, “Be ready.” This is the message we keep hearing throughout these parables as well as every corner of the New Testament. It is right there in front of us.

Is church today listening? In this church, we come face to face with Jesus in Bible Studies, Sunday School, VBS, Little Angles, The Outsiders, Seniors’ Lunch, and worship services (to name a few). Christ is right there in front of us. Do we see him for who he is? Are we ready to stand before him? Are we helping others see Christ right there in front of us?

# ***Walkersville EPC Session Meeting Review for October 19, 2023***

- I. **Prayer and Devotions** (Spiritual Leadership by J. Oswald Sanders) -The Master's Principle
  - When describing biblical leaders, "servant" is used much more often in the Bible than "leader".
  - Isaiah 42: 1-7 Biblical Leaders
    - Must be dependent on God
    - Must be chosen and called by God
    - Need to be sensitive to those they are leading
    - Have been assigned to perform their work from God
- II. **Approved:** September 19, 2023 minutes (stated meeting); October 3, 2023 (Called Meeting)
- III. **Baptisms, new members, and visitors:**
  - Debbie Norwood gave her testimony. Voted and approved. She has been accepted into membership.
- IV. **Committee Reports:** "How is each committee fulfilling the Great Commission?"
  - A. **November 2023 Committee of the Month:** Christian Education
  - B. **November 2023 Elder of the Month (from the Committee of the Month):** Larry Schott
  - C. **Building & Grounds:** Bob Stirton
    - gathering information for an electronic message board for our sign.
      - We will need 2, one for each side. Taking measurements.
    - Education Wing Recommendations
      - painting classrooms in the Education Wing - approved as part of "Phase 1"
      - drywall and wainscoting in the hallway - approved as part of "Phase 1"
      - new carpet/flooring in the education wing
      - new faucets in education wing bathrooms - completed
      - new cabinet and countertop in the nursery- approved as part of "Phase 1"
    - Remodel Fellowship Hall - future discussions
    - Security camera upgrade - researching
  - D. **Christian Education:** Larry Schott
    - next meeting: November 19, 2023
    - Fall Sunday School teachers:
      - 0-4 year old: Debbie Rankin and Jennifer Trull
      - Younger Elementary: Debbie Robinson and Sherri Simpson
      - Older Elementary: Paul and Peggy Dvorak
      - Middle School: Gretchen Presson
      - High School: Caitlin Richardson
      - Adults: Rick Gay, Bob Griffin, Bob Stirton, Paul Ranking
    - Little Angels & The Outsiders (using Alpha Youth Series)
  - E. **Congregational Care:** Dennis Robinson
    - Next Meeting: November 1, 2023, 7 pm
    - Tammy Mosley is the new Chairperson of the Congregational Care Committee
    - care packages for shut-ins
  - F. **Mission & Outreach:** Bob Stirton
    - November 2023 Mission of the Month: Operation Reach-Out
    - next meeting: October 25 2023; November 5, 2023; (tentative 2024: 2/7; 5/29; 8/28; 11/20)
  - G. **Worship:** Ann Rose
    - Next meeting: October 29, 2023
    - 2023 tentative Communion dates: Nov. 5, Dec. 3, Dec. 24
    - benches outside on sanctuary porch discussion (coordinating with Building & Grounds)
    - New sanctuary banners (coordinating with Building & Grounds)
    - Christmas Eve services (Sunday, December 24): 10 am (no Communion); 9 pm (with Communion)
  - H. **Finance Committee:** Dennis Robinson
    - September 2023 Financial Report
    - The 2024 Church Budget was reviewed and approved.
      - This budget will be presented to the congregation at a January congregational meeting.
  - I. **Fellowship Committee:** Rick Gay
    - Next meeting: October 29, 2023, 11:15 am; December 5, 2023, 7 pm
    - November 4, 2023: Fall Get-Together; December 17, 2023: Christmas Party

## V. Old Business

### A. Presbytery Report

1. Next Presbytery meeting: January 26-27 (Benton Heights EPC, Monroe, NC)
  2. Hosting a presbytery meeting: September 2024?
  3. Presbytery would like to see as many RE's attending as possible (we never have a 2:1 ratio of RE:TE)
  4. Descending Overture from GA: Changes to the Book of Order, mainly in wording.
  5. Ascending Overture to the next GA: boundary lines should change to allow two churches in the Presbytery of the Southeast (to our west) to move to the Presbytery of the Central Carolinas.
    - A. Plumtree Presbyterian Church, Plumtree, NC
    - B. Buck Hill Presbyterian Church, Newland, NC
  6. Beginning in November Rev. Michael Krauter is the new pastor at Siler EPC
- B. Pastor Paul is on study leave: from November 6-12, 2023.  
-Ken Schmidt preaching on November 12, 2023.
- C. Continued discussion on communion reminders (congregational letter and confession)
- D. Set a date to review the membership list (active and inactive)

## VI. New Business

- A. Move current mailboxes into the church office - to be discussed at the November meeting.
- B. The memorial book and case have been moved into the "Memorial Hallway" with the pastors' pictures.
- C. Begin considering a church logo and vision statement
- D. A request from outside the church has been made to use the church kitchen on 5//18/2024. The church will be in contact with this group and see if they have a sponsor from within the church, per policy.

## VII. Dates for use of the Fellowship Hall:

1. Bob Stirton: October 21, 2023 (weather backup)
2. Debbie Robinson: November 18, 2023
3. Alice Gay: December 2, 2023, 2-4 pm
4. Gloria Norwood: December 2, 2023, 5-10 pm
5. Beverly Haney: December 3, 2023, 12-5 pm
6. Adult Sunday School Class Christmas Party: December 9, 2023
7. Debbie Robinson: December 16, 2023

## VIII. Close with prayer

Next stated Session meeting: November 16, 2023, 5 p.m. in the Library



## *Mission of the Month*

### **Operation Reach Out**

Providing Hope & Help to those in need  
in Monroe & Union County.

Please be in prayer about the monthly meals provided. Needs List:  
(Items can be placed in the designated basket in the Mary Ann Room.)

\*Peanut Butter\*Mac & Cheese\*Canned Chicken\*Grits\*Instant  
Mashed Potatoes\*Ramen Noodles\*Shampoo\*Men's  
Deodorant\*Bottled Water\*Sugar\*Instant Hot Chocolate\*Laundry  
Detergent\*Bleach\*Dryer Sheets

## ***ELDERS & COMMITTEES***

### **Teaching Elder:**

Pastor Paul Rankin

### **Building & Grounds:**

Elder: Bob Stirton

Chair: Russell Mosley

### **Christian Education:**

Elder: Larry Schott

Chair: Debbie Rankin

### **Congregational Care:**

Elder: Dennis Robinson

Chair: Tammy Mosley

### **Missions & Outreach:**

Elder: Bob Stirton

Chair: Clay Murray

### **Finance:**

Elder: Dennis Robinson

Chair: Fran Griffin

### **Worship:**

Elder: Ann Rose

Chair: Frances Gamble

### **Fellowship:**

Elder: Rick Gay

Chair: Debbie Robinson

## The Men's & Ladies

### Bible Study:

Nov. 17th at 7:00pm

Men: Fellowship Hall

Women: Caitlin

Richardson's House

### *SERMON SCHEDULE*

November 5:

Matthew 21: 28-32

November 12:

Matthew 21: 33-42

November 19:

Matthew 22: 1-14

November 26:

Matthew 25: 1-13

### *CHURCH HOURS*

Pastor Paul:

Mon-Thur 8:30-5:00

or by appointment

Caitlin Richardson

M-W-F 8:00 - 2:00

### **PRAYER CHAIN**

Please contact Clara McGee at 704-709-7125 or Gloria Norwood at 704-843-2352 if you have a prayer request. You can also fill out a prayer card in the church pew or email. [walkersvilleepc@gmail.com](mailto:walkersvilleepc@gmail.com)

## Fall Festival

Saturday, November 4th

5:00 pm

Bonfire, Hayride, Food!

The Fellowship Committee will provide Hot Dogs & Smore's!  
Bring your chair, favorite chili & and cornbread, or just yourself!



YOUTH NEWS & VIEWS

## LITTLE ANGELS & THE OUTSIDERS

### NEXT MEETINGS:

**-Wednesday, November 8, 2023: 5:30 pm**

We will be having fun packing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. If you would like to donate any items for these boxes please feel free to leave them in the church office.

**-Wednesday, December 13, 2023: 5:30 pm**

Youth Christmas party! Bring your family and a finger food to share, as we enjoy dinner together. We will hear God's amazing Christmas story and have a special guest!

## THE OUTSIDERS

### SESSION 2: JESUS: WHO IS HE?

**Big Idea** - Jesus Christ is the most famous person in history and there's evidence to suggest Jesus was more than a great religious teacher. His life, death, and resurrection is the centerpiece of the Christian faith. The resurrection not only suggests that God exists, but also that God has revealed himself through Jesus.

**Questions** - What would you want to be famous for? Why do you think Jesus was so famous? Who do people think Jesus is?

**Key Quotes & Scriptures** - "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." - Jesus, Matthew 11:28; "Christianity is not an emotion - it's not true because I want it to be true. It's true because the actual tomb is empty. It's based on a historical event." - Mark Clark; "I and the Father are one." - Jesus, John 10:3



**The Outsiders**



1 Samuel 17:47

# CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY PRAYER & ENCOURAGEMENT LIST

\*Sue Thornton\*Joe Wilson\*Bob McCain\*Robby Griffin\*Sheldon Medlin\*Sandy Brady\*Shirley Starnes\*Albert & Bo Starnes\*George Huntley\*Bart & Pat Jackson\*Barry Joyner\*Jerry & Alice Griffin\*Lynn & Layne Dewlen\*Chris Starnes\*Mary Edwards\*Maggie Thompson\*Wyatt Melton\*Bob O'Kelly\*Baby Kix\*Chris Beck\*Monty Brady\*Pat & Joanne Cochran\*Kim Dion\*Mark McCain Jr.\*Jackie Bennett\*Blakely Moore\*Katelyn Ohmes\*Rick Moser\*Sheila Medlin\*Beth Simpson\*Linda & Phil Goodman\*Reece Starnes\*Kaymon Carter\*Silas Simpson\*Rudy Robinson\*Suzette Barker\*Remington Hargette\*Bryan Dean\*Richard & Tyler Lee\*Richard Wiecek\*Dawn Culp\*Katya Newsham\*Tami Fowler\*David Pruet\*Barb Salisbury\*Eric Munoz\*Beth Handsel\*C.B. Griffin\*Larry & Audrey Schott\*Rachel Brody\*James Gordon\*Clara mcGee\*Frankie Norwood\*Pat Schlappich\*Mark Mull\*Billy Norwood\*LeeAnn Ventuo\*Doris & Brooke Rhoden\*Fran Griffin\*Pete Green\*Karen Trull\*Brenda Mosley\*Saylor Grace Hardy\*Logan Liuzzo\*Joyce Wooten\*Betty Simpson Medlin\*Phil Keyes\*Cameron Plyler\*Lily Pryor\*Alan Crum\*Donny Willbanks\*Mary Mosley\*Jack and Mary Rogers\*Faye Cox\*Ella Rogers

## NOVEMBER Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Assisted Living

Robby Griffin: Lee Forest Group Home  
1209 Pelham Dr., Laurinburg, NC 28352  
Travis Price: Brookdale Monroe Sq.  
Room 44918 Fitzgerald St, Monroe, NC 28112  
Linda Goodman: Arcadia Care Home  
7415 Walnut Crest Drive, Waxhaw, NC 28173

Braylen Batson - 1  
Noah Medlin - 1  
Tammy Mosley - 7  
Jordan Parr - 9  
Jase Helms - 11  
Cody Hardy - 12  
Pete Medlin - 13  
Caitlin Hardy - 15  
Billy Thompson - 16  
Eric Bartel - 18  
Larry Schott - 18  
Nick Presson - 22  
Sandy Brady - 26

Boyet & Lynn Twitty - 24  
Rick & Alice Gay - 27  
Paul & Debbie Rankin - 28

You are invited to Union County's  
**Christian Movie Night**  
A One Night Event on the Big Screen Showing

**God's Not Dead**

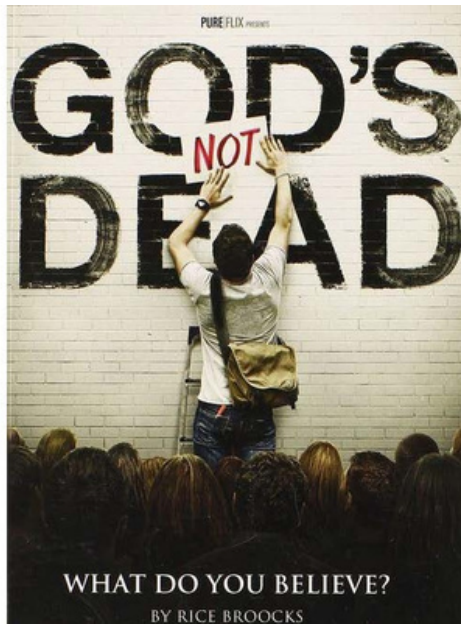
\*Free Admission\*

Show-time: 7:00 pm Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>

Doors open at 5:30 pm for fellowship  
Preshow Options: A Cause for Tea & The Oasis Sandwich  
Shop

The Dowd Center Theater  
120 S Main Street, Monroe NC

Seating limited to the first 568 participants.  
Brought to you by the Foundations Class of Siler Presbyterian Church,  
Wesley Chapel. Money-back guarantee.



**In Honor of  
Bob & Marsha  
Stirton**

BY: BOYET & LYNN TWITTY  
RICK & ALICE GAY

*Happy  
Anniversary*

# November

Committee of the Month:  
Christian Education

Mission of the Month:  
Operation Reach-Out

December 2023

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

| SUNDAY  | MONDAY   | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY | SATURDAY                                 |
|---|--|--|---|--|--------|--|
| 29  | 30   | 31   | 1<br>All Saints' Day<br>Bible Study-3 PM<br>Prayer Time-4 PM<br>Cong. Care – 7pm      | 2  | 3      | 4<br>Fall Festival<br>5pm                |
| 5<br>All Saints Day<br>Remembrance<br>Sunday School – 9:00<br>Worship – 10:00<br>Holy Communion<br>Chicken N Dumplings Mtg<br>11:15                                     | 6<br>Men's &<br>Women's<br>Monthly Bible<br>Study – 7PM  | 7<br>Square Dancing<br>Fellowship Hall<br>7-9:00 pm                            | 8<br>Operation Reach-<br>Out Meal -12:00pm<br>Little Angels & The<br>Outsiders-5:30PM | 9  | 10     | 11<br>Veterans Day                       |
| 12<br>Honoring our Veterans<br>Sunday School – 9:00<br>Worship – 10:00<br>Choir Practice-11:15  | 13<br>Men's &<br>Women's<br>Monthly Bible<br>Study – 7PM | 14<br>Square Dancing<br>Fellowship Hall<br>7-9:00 pm                           | 15<br>Bible Study-3 PM<br>Prayer Time-4 PM  | 16<br>Session - 5PM  | 17     | 18<br>Fellowship Hall<br>Reserved 4:30pm |
| 19<br>*Operation Christmas Child<br>Shoebboxes Sunday<br>Sunday School – 9:00<br>Worship – 10:00<br>Choir Practice-11:15<br>CE meeting-11:15<br>*Community Thanksgiving | 20   | 21<br>Square Dancing<br>Fellowship Hall<br>7-9:00 pm                           | 22<br>Bible Study-3 PM<br>Prayer Time-4 PM  | 23<br>Thanksgiving<br>(USA)<br>Fellowship Hall<br>Reserved | 24     | 25                                       |
| 26<br>Sunday School – 9:00<br>Worship – 10:00<br>Choir Practice-11:15   | 27<br>HANGING OF<br>THE GREENS,<br>6PM                   | 28<br>Senior Covered<br>Dish Luncheon<br>11:30.<br>Square Dancing<br>7-9:00 pm | 29<br>Bible Study-3 PM<br>Prayer Time-4 PM  | 30   | 1      | 2  |