



WALKERSVILLE EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6204 BRADY ROAD, WAXHAW, NC 28173

JULY 2021

A Note from the Pastor...

Have you ever taken a personality test? Many years ago (before the internet existed), when I was trying to “figure out life”, I took just about every personality test, inventory, or assessment I could find with the thinking that when I put several test results together, I would see some patterns. There weren’t any. Sometimes they even contradicted each other!

What I have realized over the years since then is that I was not alone in this search. Plenty of people were looking for a sense of identity. Of course, this is nothing new. As long as humans have been on the earth this search has been going on, and has actually intensified over the past several decades. People are more lost than ever. Identity Crisis is a real thing and has symptoms similar to depression.

The interesting thing about all this is that the crisis of identity seems to come at a time when people are leaving God out of their lives more than ever. This is no coincidence. The more we lose God, the more we lose ourselves. We were originally made in the image of God. The closer we are to God and the image we were made in, the better our sense of identity. The further we are from God and the image we were made in, the more there will be a loss of identity.

There are a multitude of Scripture passages that bear this out, including:

Genesis 1:27-28, 31—God created mankind in his image; in the image of God, he created them;

male and female, he created them. God blessed them...God saw everything that he had made,

and indeed, it was very good...

John 15:16—You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit,

fruit that will last, so that the father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.

Galatians 2:20—It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in

the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Philippians 3:20—But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a

Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:9—But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in

order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

But of all the passages I could put here, one of the greatest is found in Romans 8:14-17:

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Are you searching? For every one of us, our identity will ultimately be found in a relationship with the one in whose image we were originally crafted, Jesus Christ.

Sermons for July

July 04— (Jesse McDonald preaching) Psalm 116:1 "Why must we declare our love for God?"

July 11— (Jacob Roberts preaching) John 6:66-69 "Where to Turn in Tough Times"

July 18— Hebrews 11: Used by God: Sarah—Genesis 18:9-15

July 25— Hebrews 11: Used by God: Jacob—Genesis 32:22-28

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

Walkersville's EPC Session Meetings Minutes

No report from session meeting.

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.

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.

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, Fran Griffin, Doug Laney, Linda and Phil Goodman, Wilson Pierce, Paul and Peggy Dvorak, Phil Mosley, Brody Batson, Billy Thompson, Terry McManus, Wendy Rose, Francis Gamble, Clara 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, Eric Bartel, Claudette Deputy family, Hazel Norwood, Karen Skirpol, Tim Morgan and Brody Keen.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Ed Barber.

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

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

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.

Fellowship Committee

Please pray how you can serve the Lord Jesus and His ministry here at Walkersville EPC, especially as we look for people to be a part of the Fellowship Committee. If you have a talent for hospitality and organizing, please consider serving on this committee.

Remember Romans 12: 6-8: "We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; ⁷ if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸ if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully."

The Fellowship Committee is responsible for the encouragement of Christian fellowship through various events and activities that they plan and organize. The committee will have regular meetings to discuss these events.

Special events include organizing the quarterly Sunday Fellowship time.

Join us for a Cookout!



Sponsored by
the Men's & Women's Bible Study.

Date: Sunday, July 11

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Where: Church manse fire circle
(Fellowship Hall if Inclement weather)

Why: For Fellowship & Fun

Who: Anyone reading this announcement!

- Paper products, meat, buns, & drinks will be provided.
 - Please bring: side dish or dessert to share, & chairs
 - For more information or **to RSVP** call or text Rick Gay, 704-219-0921 or Debbie Rankin, 814-279-0612
-

Welcome to the family Mike & Mitzie Broome

Mike grew up in the Walkersville community. Mitzie lived in until 2000 then she moved to Texas. Mike & Mitzie knew each other prior to her move but became reacquainted a few years ago. They December 2018. Mike works for Methods Machine Tolls as an engineer. Mitzie is a certified medication aid at White Oak of Waxhaw. When Mike and Mitzie married Mike got an instant family, with her three children. Her oldest son lives in Charlotte and her daughter and youngest son live in Texas.

Mitzie recently started teaching Sunday School and her enthusiasm encourages the children each Sunday. Mike hopes to be involved in short-term mission trips in the future as time allows. As they join Walkersville, they look forward to being a part of the community and feel at home each Sunday.



Union County
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automation

Class of 2024 Elders

Larry Schott joined Walkersville EPC in November 2019. Larry & Audrey, his wife, visited several churches after Turner Presbyterian closed. After their visit here they realized how many people they knew and felt at home. They also wanted a church that believed the Bible is the authoritative of God. Larry was raised in the church and believed in Christ as the Son of God. However, he strayed in his late teens when he became disillusioned with pastors. He thought a pastor was supposed to be perfect just like God. In his late 50's a pastor helped him to realize pastors are human too and sin. Larry has been suffering with chronic illnesses for several years. Through the medical treatments he has become even closer to God and has a peace about now and his future.

Larry has a heart for missions and in the past did summer missions with a women's shelter in West Virginia. He no longer can physically help but hopes to serve in some aspect of the missions supported at Walkersville EPC as an elder.

Larry and Audrey have been married for 54 years. They have 2 sons, and 6 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandson. Larry goes for dialysis 3 days/week. However, he used to hunt and fish and has some really good stories to share, just ask.

Bob Stirton became a part of Walkersville in 1976 when he and Marsha moved back to Marsha's childhood community over the July 4th weekend.

Bob was raised an Episcopalian. Growing up he lived more in fear of God instead of the love of God. He became a Christian during a revival at Walkersville. His faith became even deeper after the death of his daughter, April, and a testimony from a friend of April's. The friend shared how April helped her get back to church and her faith in Christ. After the conversation Bob felt a calmness and knew April was with Christ and that one day he will be there also. Bob realizes he is a sinner; however, he tries to stay on the path that Christ leads him and accepts God's grace and forgiveness.

As an elder Bob wants to keep Christ foremost in his life and help others in need. He will continue to serve as a member of the Property Committee.

Bob & Marsha have been married for 48 years. They have two living children, one daughter in heaven watching over them, and three grandchildren. Bob loves his grandchildren and spending time with them. Bob likes to build things and sometimes he gets the project finished. His other pastime is traveling.

Walkersville EPC
Vacation Bible School



Date: August 1-4

Time: 6-8:00 p.m.

Who: Children ages 2 years - 8th grade?

Invite your friends, neighbors, nieces, nephews, & grandkids to discover how:

"Jesus' power pulls us through!"

Good News and Praises

Happy Birthday and Anniversary

July

Barb Castner-1

Tim Hardy-5

Audrey Schott-6

Mark Beebe-8

Peggy Dvorak-10

Phoenix Hardy-10

Samuel Norwood-13

Johnny & Betty Lou Mosley-7/15/49

Daniel Gay-16

Linda Hess-24

Mike Stinson-26

Tommy Norwood, Jr.-27

Boyet Twitty-29

CAN IT BE?

As I was going about my day, I was thinking about how wonderful it will be to see Jesus. The thrill of finally seeing Him who I've known basically my whole life spiritually but not seen.... well, it gets to being overwhelming. Through thick and thin he's been there, and oh, the times when His presence was so close, and overwhelming on me. You feel like you can reach out and touch Him. I hope you've had similar experiences. then you can understand of what I speak.

Anyway, as I was musing, I thought about the joy and excitement that will be mine at that great meeting in the air when all of a sudden, the thought hit me like a ton of bricks. JESUS WILL BE OVERJOYED AT SEEING ME AS WELL!!

Do you see the point? You and I, and every other true believer will be so happy to see our Savior and Lord. Jesus will be just as happy to see His bride! After all, we are the bride of Christ.

Somehow, I/we have been so myopic in outlook. We sing, "What a day that will be, when my Jesus I shall see." I can't think of a song that goes, "What a day that will be, when Jesus sees me." Forgive my ranting, but it's a new thought for me, and I believe there's scriptural reason to say it's true.

Psalms 116:15 states, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints." Why would death of a saint be precious to the Lord? Surly at least part of it is because their course has been completed, they have won the race, as Paul said, but I believe another part is because we are no longer separated, we are in His presence.

So....is it any wonder that Jesus will be filled with overflowing joy to see His bride together with Him?

It brings again to mind the Jewish wedding of Jesus' time. The groom would be told by his father that everything was ready, (the couple's new abode was finished), and he could go get his bride. There would be a procession to the bride's house, usually at night, and the bride was whisked away to her new home, where the ceremony was completed, the marriage consummated, and a great celebration for/by friends ensued for about a week.

At a marriage there is great joy on the part of both participants. Will it be any different when Christ and His bride, the church, are wed? How I look forward with great anticipation to the "Marriage Supper of The Lamb!" Maranatha!!



July Roster

Committee of Month: Christian Education

Nursery Workers:

- July 04 Ivey Hardy
- July 11 Rhonda McManus
- July 18 Jessica Johnston
- July 25 Debbie Rankin and Serenity Johnston

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!

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 Frances Gamble | Sue Thornton |

July 2021

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| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service Under the Oaks | | 7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing | 3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group No Choir | | | |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service Under the Oaks 5:00 PM Cookout | 7:00 PM – Men’s Bible Study 7:00 PM – Ladies Bible Study | 7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing | 12:15 PM Operation Reach Out Meal 3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group No Choir | 7:00 PM Session Meeting | | |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service Under the Oaks | | 7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing | 3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group No Choir | | | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| 9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service Under the Oaks | | 7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing | 3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group 6:00 – 7:30 PM – Little Angels Youth Group No Choir | | | |

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