



# WALKERSVILLE EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6204 BRADY ROAD, WAXHAW, NC 28173

SEPTEMBER 2021

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## A Note from the Pastor...

In September and October (except for Homecoming Sunday) the sermons will focus on the seven cities that received the messages found in Revelation 2-3. These cities are on the far western edge of present-day Turkey, along the Mediterranean Sea. In today's modern Turkey these cities either no longer exist or have been renamed. It would seem as though they didn't heed the warnings found in their respective messages. As we look at these churches, inevitably we will find both truth and warnings that also apply to us...here...today.

On a somewhat related topic, not far from where these cities were, and a couple of countries to the east, is another place that the entire world has been very aware of. Afghanistan. The people of this country are living in fear for their future. Anyone 25 years old or younger probably doesn't remember living under the Taliban rule of the 1990's. There are Christians in that country who have a complete uncertainty about their future, perhaps not very different from the churches mentioned in Revelation.

In the comfort and relative safety, we enjoy in this country, the most powerful action we can take on their behalf is to pray for them. So...how "big" do you pray? Remember that we pray to a God for whom nothing is impossible. We will never out-pray God's capabilities, so I encourage you to pray *big*, but only praying as Christ and the words of Christ dwell in us.

How have I begun to pray for Afghanistan? I pray for peace, safety, and security. I pray for calm in the middle of chaos. I pray that in the midst of fear Christians in Afghanistan will be filled with the peace of Christ. I pray that they would have a new opportunity to make an impact on their neighbors for the Kingdom of the living and true God. But what's my *big* prayer? That the Holy Spirit would stir in the hearts of the new Taliban leaders, finding a love, peace, and joy in Christ that leads to an assurance of eternal life. It is easy to view these leaders in a variety of ways, most of them negatively. Many would say that that prayer is unrealistically ridiculous. But if God chooses to work in the hearts of these leaders, can you imagine the miracle we would be witnessing? I think that's praying *really* big! But our God is that big. So, return to the question: How big do you pray?

"If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples." (John 15:7-8)

"...Very truly, I tell you, if you ask anything of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete." (John 16:23-24)

### **Sermon Passages for September:**

September 5: Ephesus—Revelation 2:1-7

September 12: (Homecoming Sunday) Ephesians 3:14-19

September 19: Smyrna—Revelation 2:8-11

September 26: Pergamum—Revelation 2:12-17

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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**

No minutes to report.

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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, 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, Claudette Deputy family, Hazel Norwood, 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 and Bart Jackson.

We extend our sympathy to the families of Dot Starnes, Patricia Stovall, Scott Stokes, Lisa Sowards, David Richardson, Jerry Hill, Tom Lathan, Woody Hayes Gary Starnes, Mother of Mitzie Broome.

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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### **Good News and Praises**

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

##### **September**

Phillip & Karen Carter-9/1

Pam Gordon-2

Gina Warner-5

Jim & Clara McGee-9/5/75

Caleb Hardy-6

Bob Griffin-7

Debra Twitty-7

Eric Johnston-11

Brian & Natalie Rogers-9/17/11

Bob Stirton-18

Mike & Sue Stinson-9/19

Hazel & Gloria Norwood-9/20/64

Chris & Jennifer Trull-9/20/92

Mitchell Gordon-21

Pete & Nicole Medlin-9/21

Chad & Scarlett Clonch-9/30/06

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JOIN IN THE 34th NATIONAL

# *Life Chain*

our 15th year in WAXHAW

God's Word in Psalms 139:13 - 14a reminds us ". . .you (God) formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made".

Recently I learned that over 60,000,000 of God's created beings (babies) have been aborted from what should have been the safest place in the world for them - their mother's womb!

Come, join others in being a silent witness for pro-life at WAXHAW'S 15th LIFE CHAIN.

THE DATE - Sunday, October 3, 2021

THE TIME - 2:15 - 3:30 PM

THE PLACE - Stand Along Sidewalks on Rt. 16 and Rt. 75

PICK UP SIGNS AT - Sherwin Williams Parking Lot on RT. 16  
opposite entrance to Alma Village

BRING - Lawn Chairs, Water, Umbrellas IF you desire

LIFE CHAIN is a peaceful and prayerful public witness of pro-life Americans standing to pray for our nation and for an end to abortion since ABORTION KILLS CHILDREN and HURTS WOMEN.

Are not you glad your mother did not choose Abortion for YOU?? I surely am!

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When? No!...Now?

One of the things that has always bothered me greatly in talking to Christians about the nearness of the Rapture, when Jesus will call His followers home, is that so many say or imply that it could be years away yet. Would you fall into this group? Do you think in terms of what will the world be like for your grandchildren? Well, I shall try to show you that the question should be, will we celebrate the next communion service here, or in Heaven? Will the pastor officiate, or will Jesus break the bread?

As we look at the prophecies of God about the end times, we see things that give clues to the timing of the fulfillment of said prophecy. For example, God told Daniel in 12:4 to close up the book until the time of the end. Then God was good enough to give us clues to when that will be, "many shall go to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased." Today answers both of these statements. Everyone is on the go. We complain about it, but buy a new car anyway. Airline aircraft going everywhere in the world are full. Go and come, to and fro. The last statement? The last thing I've read about knowledge increase, data which was several years old, was that man's knowledge is doubled EVERY TWELVE MONTHS! (However, in about 5 years it will be every 12 HOURS!) Young people go into debt for a college education and by the time they graduate what they learned is obsolete. Sooo, God gave us two good clues to now being time of the Rapture! Are there more clues? Oh, yes! For you old folks, like me, does this remind you of that board game years back, Clue? It was Miss Scarlet, with the knife, in the observatory!

Have you ever known a time when the whole world was in lockstep together concerning a global "crisis" like today? I believe you would agree with me, the answer is never. Could it happen again in the

future? Mmm, maybe. The fact is, if there is a next time it would probably be easier, we've been primed already. Whether this "crisis" or another will lead us into the New World Order doesn't matter, what matters is we see how easy it will be. Now for another thought.

The book of Revelation is a book of time sensitive prophecy. There are any number of things mentioned in the book that points to a specific time just as Daniel does, and that time is now, today. Rev 11 talks about two witnesses that are seen by the whole world. This is pointing to the technology of today, where we watch news around the world in real time. (I remember as a kid in grade school having 16 mm movie films about every month, put out by the two largest newspapers in the state showing the world news to the kids in school, of course what we saw was weeks old.) If today were the day for the two witnesses of Rev.11, to make themselves known, everyone in the world would see them on their cellphones immediately!

In Rev 13:15 it says the false prophet gives life to a statue of the anti-Christ. It talks and thinks for itself, commanding those that won't worship the image to be killed! That is a time stamp for TODAY! It's called singularity. Chapter 13 goes on to talk about a one world government, one world religion, and one world financial system, all of which is being formed right now. The global elitists of the world, the World Economic Forum, the UN, etc., are taking us to a one world government with a date of completion NO LATER THAN 2030. One world religion is being spearheaded by the Pope. Have you been following his actions and goings? One world financial system has been in the works for some time, of course. It is headed toward a digital currency as fast as it can go, when those in power can touch a button and you can't get to your bank account. It's zapped, gone, it doesn't exist! 2 Thess. 2:6+7 gives us the answer why these three things haven't already come to pass, they are being held back by the Holy Spirit working in the church. Once the church is out of the way, and in Heaven, watch out!!

Think about how far we've come in the last 30-40 years. Remember computers without a hard drive, no cell phones, etc.? Now with the speed things are changing in the technology field, what do you think it will be like in even ten years from now? Remember, all man's knowledge is doubling every twelve hours. For sure the technology will be way past what Revelation talks about.

So, what can we take from all if this?

1. There is a set time for future events on God's calendar.
2. God in His prophecies of the last days has given us keys to understand the time.
3. That time could not have been before now, if it had, we would already be in Heaven.
4. That time cannot be 10-15 years, or later, in the future, technology would be way beyond what we see in prophecy.
5. That leaves only one other possibility, MARANATHA!!!

PS- Am I setting the date of the rapture? No, what I'm saying is that it can't be years in the future, and there is every reason to believe it could be today! Look up, our redemption draws nigh!

## Kitty Talk

### *The Cat's Meow*

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I cannot remember a time that I did not love cats. When I was little, any kitty would do. I loved having a little ball of fur curled up on my lap while I scratched behind its ears and listened to the little motor inside it, the one that purred until my fingertips tingled.

In 1970 I was given a seal point Siamese cat as an engagement present. I named him Beau Garcon, and I did not expect to like him. I had seen *Lady and the Tramp*, and the Siamese cats in that movie were EVIL!!! Beau, however, turned out to be my dream cat. He followed me from room to room, and whenever I sat down, he jumped onto my lap immediately and stared up at me with his sky-blue eyes. He loved to have his ears scratched and his purr was a lullaby. Beau was also vocal. His *meows* and his *whyyys* filled our little apartment, especially when he was annoyed or excited.

After Beau passed on, I had three other Siamese cats, and they all possessed that same sweet temperament, that same degree of affection, and that same vocal hardness. It would have been impossible for me to not love them. In fact, I spoiled them rotten.

When my daughter was born, however, my cats had to play second fiddle. I could hardly believe that this delightful little red-headed infant who never stopped smiling was my child. I was so fascinated with her capacity for joy (an enigma to me) that nothing else seemed to matter. Every free minute I had was hers.

Years later, though, my daughter went to bed one evening a normal kid and woke up the next morning a teenager. Being seen in the presence of her parents was a rare form of torture to her. Trying too hard to win back her affection just made things worse.

Instead of mourning the time I had once spent with my daughter, I adopted a petite seal point Siamese cat that I named Marisa. She was the runt of her litter and had been neglected by her mother. Every other cat I ever had knew instinctively how to use the litter box. Marisa was the first cat that I had ever actually had to potty train. She was quite pitiful. She needed me, and I needed to be needed. I lavished all my pent-up affection on her. She adored being the light of my life and we became inseparable.

In 1988, my father passed away and my mother came to live with me. Mama did not like cats, and she wanted to make sure that I knew it. As we left her Virginia apartment and began driving the ten hours to my home in Connecticut, she asked, "Do you still have that cat?"

"Of course, Mama," I told her. "You know that I love that cat."

A few hours down the road, Mama said, "You know I don't like cats. They can take your breath away and smother you in your sleep."

"Mama, that is just an old mountain superstition," I insisted. "Marisa sleeps with me every night and hasn't smothered me yet."

A few more hours down the road, Mama warned me, "Cats will tear your furniture up with their long, sharp claws."

"Marisa has been with me for years and has never clawed any of my furniture," I assured her.

When we finally arrived at my house, I helped my mother to the kitchen door. Marisa was waiting for us. She and Mama glared at one another for a minute or two before Marisa retreated to the far side of the room.

The next day, while I was making dinner, Marisa rubbed her lean body against my leg, as Mama watched us with extreme distaste plastered all over her face. "I don't see how you can stand a cat in the kitchen!" she snapped.

"Mama," I said sweetly, an idea forming itself in my head, "what you don't understand is that Marisa is special."

"I don't see anything special about that cat," she retorted.

"Mama, that's because you don't know that Marisa can talk," I informed her.

"Huh!" she barked in disbelief. "Cats can't talk!"

As if on cue, Marisa walked slowly and elegantly to the kitchen door and cried "Meow!"

"See," I told Mama, "She said 'me out'."

Mama, her face as pale as a ghost, gasped! "Why, it did sound like she said "me out!"

I looked at Marisa and said, "No, Marisa, you can't go out."

"Whyyyy?" was her plaintive response.

I looked at Mama and said, "See, she wants to know why she can't go out."

"Why....it did sound like she asked you 'why!'" Mama was beside herself. "What else can she say?"

"Marisa is a cat of few words, Mama," I confided. "She mostly likes to listen. And she is really good at keeping secrets."

After I finished the dishes that evening, I went downstairs to the family room. As I approached the doorway, I could see Mama sitting on the sofa with Marisa curled up beside her. Marisa's sky-blue eyes stared up into Mama's as Mama gently rubbed the top of Marisa's head. Mama was whispering to Marisa, telling her about my father and how hard it had been to lose him.

They did not know that I was listening, and I did not want to interrupt this most special moment. I walked back upstairs, knowing that I would have to get used to sharing Marisa's affection for as long as Mama chose to live with us. I hoped that would be a long, long time.

*Jesus always gives us what we need, when we need it. In this story, He used an affectionate cat to soothe an elderly woman's grief.*

*"And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."*

*Philippians 4:19*



## September Roster

### Committee of Month: Mission & Outreach

#### Nursery Workers:

Sept 05 Debbie Rankin and Serenity Johnston

Sept 12 Mark and Nanci Beebe

Sept 19 Jessica Johnston

Sept 26 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 Frances Gamble	Sue Thornton



# September 2021

			1	2	3	4
			3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group No Choir			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service Under the Oaks Communion	Labor Day	7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing	3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group No Choir			8:00 AM All Church Work Day, inside & outside
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service Under the Oaks Homecoming	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	5:00 PM Session Meeting Chicken & Dumplings	Chicken & Dumplings	Chicken & Dumplings Take Out Only
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:00-9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service Under the Oaks 11:00 AM Christian Education Meeting		7:00 – 9:00 PM Square Dancing	3:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM – Prayer Group No Choir		12:00 to 8:00 PM Presbytery, Lake Forest Church, Huntersville, NC	8:00 AM to Noon Presbytery, Lake Forest Church, Huntersville, NC
26	27	28	29	30		
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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