

# McAllister Messenger

May 24, 2020

## Silver Linings

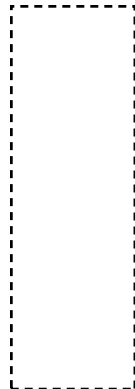
This past Sunday, the Session of McAllister Church met through a conference phone call. It was a little different than a typical in-person meeting, but we got through it and were able to make some important decisions for the church.

First, we decided to continue suspending worship through the end of May. This was determined through an abundance of caution, as we want to be sure that we don't put anybody at risk once we do start gathering in the sanctuary again. We will reevaluate at the end of the month, and decide what to do going forward. We also decided to postpone Vacation Bible School, which had been scheduled for the second week of June. We hope to have VBS later in the summer, perhaps in early August. It will depend on how things develop with this coronavirus, and with the world slowly reopening between now and then.

One interesting point made during the meeting was that we seem to be coming together more closely as a congregation because of this pandemic. Through the Facebook Live worship, through phone calls made between members, through this biweekly newsletter, and in other ways – we are finding ways to connect that we did not use before. Once we are able to meet together again, let's keep these new lines of communication going. Out of this difficulty that has been the coronavirus, we might find a silver lining.

It's actually the work of God to bring positives out of difficult situations. It's what happens with the crucifixion and the resurrection that we celebrate during this Easter season. So let us continue to persevere through these unprecedented times, and let us look for ways we can meet God and help bring about good things despite the difficulties.

McAllister Memorial Presbyterian Church  
900 North Alleghany Avenue  
Covington, VA 24426



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**PAID**  
Covington, VA  
Permit No. 67  
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McAllister Memorial Presbyterian Church

900 N. Alleghany Avenue  
Covington, VA 24426

(540) 962-2675

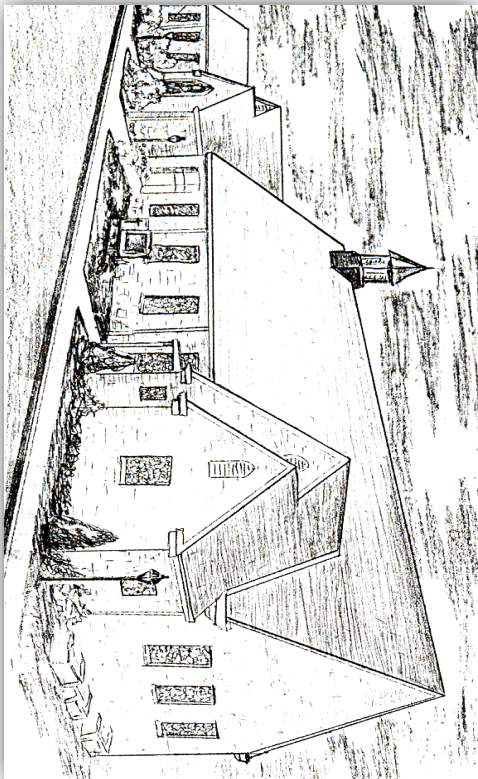
*e-mail* - [mcmpres@ntelos.net](mailto:mcmpres@ntelos.net)

*Website*: [mcallistermempcusa.org](http://mcallistermempcusa.org)  
(with online giving link)

Rev. James Edward Moss, Minister

Cell phone—434-738-8841

Email—[revjimmos95@gmail.com](mailto:revjimmos95@gmail.com)



## Notes from Pastor Jim:

- ◇ Because of ongoing social distancing requirements, I am still unable to make pastoral visits. But I would love to stay connected. Please feel free to give me a call if you need to talk, or just want to say, “Hello!” My number is 434-738-8841.
- ◇ We will continue with this biweekly newsletter as long as worship is suspended. It’s one more way we can stay connected during these times when we must physically distance ourselves from each other.
- ◇ Thank you to everyone who has kept up with their donations to the church by mailing it in or by dropping it off at the church office. We have been pleasantly surprised by the level of giving that the church has maintained. We are a very generous congregation!
- ◇ I continue to do my “Five-Minute Bible Study” each Wednesday evening at 6:00. Tune into the Facebook page at that time to get a summary of what we would have talked about if we could meet in-person. We continue to work our way through the Book of Genesis. Join us as we’re live or catch up with us later, as the live video is recorded and placed on the Facebook page.

**Day of Pentecost is May 31**  
*Wear red to symbolize the Spirit!*

## June Birthdays

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Joe Martin
7 <sup>th</sup>	Molly Parker George Stinnett
10 <sup>th</sup>	Kellen Sponaugle
14 <sup>th</sup>	Jennifer Horn Lodge Eric Webb David Keith
15 <sup>th</sup>	Hayli Givens
16 <sup>th</sup>	Maggie Webb
18 <sup>th</sup>	Howard Poague
19 <sup>th</sup>	Marlene Faidley
20 <sup>th</sup>	Robert Boone
21 <sup>st</sup>	Ed Gibson
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Brooke Carnevali
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Maddox Hale
24 <sup>th</sup>	Tarie Warlitner Katie Gibson
25 <sup>th</sup>	Leta Bartley Wayne Barksdale Linda Wickham
27 <sup>th</sup>	Aubrey Bowling Matthew Fleenor Silas Riley
28 <sup>th</sup>	Donna Tucker
29 <sup>th</sup>	Becky Hylton
30 <sup>th</sup>	Anita Boone Jeff Horn

## Anniversaries

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bobby & Anita Rice Rick & Leslie Downer
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Chris & Ruth Caul Jerry & Katrina Givens
7 <sup>th</sup>	Mike & Carol Fleenor
9 <sup>th</sup>	Lee & Lelia Faidley
12 <sup>th</sup>	Gail & Larry Washburn Marshall & Donna Fox
14 <sup>th</sup>	Danny & Rhoda Hill
21 <sup>st</sup>	Frank & Susan Sponaugle Gary & Beverly Bishop
29 <sup>th</sup>	Buddy & Margie Young



## Musical Minute:

In honor of the observance of Memorial Day, my prelude for this Sunday, May 24, is based on the hymn tune THAXTED written by famed English composer Gustav Holst. (Thaxted is a village in Essex, England where Holst lived for many years.) The tune is based on a theme taken from one of Holst’s most well-known suites, “The Planets.” It is most typically paired with the text, “I Vow to Thee, My Country,” a poem written by British diplomat Sir Cecil Spring Rice. According to Wikipedia, Spring Rice was appointed Ambassador to the United States in 1912 and had significant influence on America’s decision to join Britain’s fight against Germany in World War I. While initially written in the early 1900s, Spring Rice rewrote the poem in 1918 to immortalize the immense loss of life during the horrific conflict. The first stanza of the text addresses dedication to country and the ultimate sacrifice made by those who fought. The second stanza celebrates the Heavenly kingdom that awaits all believers. The words are as follows:

*“I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above,  
Entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love;  
The love that asks no questions, the love that stands the test,  
That lays upon the altar the dearest and the best;  
The love that never falters, the love that pays the price,  
The love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.*

*And there’s another country, I’ve heard of long ago,  
Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;  
We may not count her armies, we may not see her King;  
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;  
And soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,  
And her ways are ways of gentleness, and all her paths are peace.”*

You can find many stirring renditions of this hymn on YouTube. A particularly moving performance was in 2013 at London’s Royal Albert Hall. Just type in THAXTED and Royal Albert Hall in your browser. Both the text and the magnificent tune have proven timeless and provide a thoughtful framework around which to remember those who have died in sacrifice to our country. As an interesting bit of trivia for you royal fans out there, this hymn was sung at the wedding of Princess Diana and Prince Charles and was again performed at Princess Diana’s funeral. It was also played at the funeral of U.S. Senator John McCain.

## LECTIONARY

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May 24  
7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 1: 6—14  
Psalms 68: 1—10, 32—35  
1 Peter 4: 12—14;  
5: 6—11  
John 17: 1—11

~~~~~  
May 31

DAY OF PENTECOST



Acts 2: 1—21 or  
Numbers 11: 24—30  
Psalm 104: 24—34, 35b  
1 Corinthians 12: 3b—13  
or Acts 2:1—21  
John 20: 19—23  
or John 7: 37—39

## COPE Food Pantry says Thanks

The officers and staff of COPE Food Pantry extend heartfelt thanks to the session, members and friends of McAllister Church for their continued support during this time of uncertainty. The food pantry has remained open with modification in their service. Our volunteers are practicing social distancing and wearing face masks while working inside and delivering food to clients outside.

We are fortunate that donations of food and money have continued to come in so we can provide food to help area residents. Without the support of local churches, individuals, organizations and businesses the food pantry would not be able to operate.

Because the need never ends, all types of non-perishable food as well as monetary donations are still needed. They may be dropped off at the church during regular business hours. Monetary donations can also be mailed to: COPE Food Pantry 900 N. Alleghany Avenue, Covington, VA 24426.

And as always, please keep this important mission in your prayers.

## Sunday School Literature

Student and leader books for summer lessons are available in the church lobby. Those wishing to get a head start on studying may pick them up. Or you may call ahead for curb service and someone will bring the literature to your car.

## Memorials and Gifts

### In memory of

*Burdette Rupert  
Betty Jean Toombs  
Eddie O'Rourke  
Gerald & Stacey Gibson  
Darfow Rice  
And my mother, Wynona Hawkins Crush*

### by Lisa Hawkins

### In memory of

*Doris Jamison on her birthday,  
May 17th by*

**Kathleen Loan and Bonnie Patterson**

## Attention Presbyterian Women

Although our circles have not been able to meet for several months, some of our budgeted expenses continue.

Please consider sending your circle offerings along with your regular church contributions so we won't fall too far behind.

Indicate the amount to be given for your circle, either inclusive, or by a separate check made to "McAllister PW", and Janet will direct it to the PW Treasurer.

McAllister Church extends sympathy to the family and friends of:

*Norma Whitehead ~ member*

## Scott Scholarship Applications due May 29



Applications for the Scott Scholarship are now available. Anyone who is a member of McAllister Church and will attend college in the fall of 2020 is eligible to apply. Contact the church office to have an application mailed to you. The deadline to submit applications is Friday, May 29, 2020.

## Send Newsletter Information

Please submit newsletter information and prayer request by email, post mail, or by phone. We would love to hear from you and share you joys, laughs, and concerns.

**(Deadline for next newsletter is Monday ~ June 6 @ 4 PM.)**

The Church Office is open, but we encourage people to refrain from stopping by if a phone call or email will suffice. The office contact information is located on the back page. Also, please mail donations to the church address or donate online.



# Hope

- If you can look at the sunset and smile, then you still have hope.
- If you can find beauty in the colors of a small flower, then you still have hope.
- If you can find pleasure in the movement of a butterfly, then you still have hope.
- If the smile of a child can still warm your heart, then you still have hope.
- If you can see the good in other people, then you still have hope.
- If the rain breaking on a roof top can still lull you to sleep, then you still have hope.
- If the sight of a rainbow still makes you stop and stare in wonder, then you still have hope.
- If the soft fur of a favored pet still feels pleasant under your fingertips, then you still have hope.
- If you meet new people with a trace of excitement and optimism, then you still have hope.
- If you give people the benefit of a doubt, then you still have hope.
- If you still offer your hand in friendship to others that have touched your life, then you still have hope.
- If receiving an unexpected card or letter still brings a pleasant surprise, then you still have hope.
- If the suffering of others still fills you with pain and frustration, then you still have hope.
- If you refuse to let a friendship die, or accept that it must end, then you still have hope.
- If you look forward to a time or place of quiet and reflection, then you still have hope.
- If you still buy the ornaments, put up the Christmas tree or cook the turkey, then you still have hope.
- If you still watch love stories or want the endings to be happy, then you still have hope.
- If you can look to the past and smile, then you still have hope.
- If, when faced with the bad, when told everything is futile, you can still look up and end the conversation with the phrase...."yeah....BUT.." then you still have hope.
- Hope is such a marvelous thing. It bends, it twists, it sometimes hides, but rarely does it break. It sustains us when nothing else can. It gives us reason to continue and courage to move ahead, when we tell ourselves we'd rather give in.
- Hope puts a smile on our face when the heart cannot manage.
- Hope puts our feet on the path when our eyes cannot see it.
- Hope moves us to act when our souls are confused of the direction.
- Hope is a wonderful thing, something to be cherished and nurtured, and something that will refresh us in return. And it can be found in each of us, and it can bring light into the darkest of places.
- NEVER LOSE HOPE!

[ by: [Brenda K. Hager](#) Copyright © 2005 -- submitted by: Brenda K. Hager ]

Healing, Safety, Deliverance, Peace and a Cure.				
<b>Members &amp; family</b>	Linda Bogar Anita Boone Tonya Jones Sonya Milton B. R. Rupert Sandra Sayre Dwain Tyree Brenda Walker Joe Wimer	Andy Casey Richard Downer Pat Eads Samuel Hale Dr. Matthew Menefee Travis O'Rourke Teresa Powell Anita Rice Shirley Varner	Carl & Jean Irvine Pam Key Bobby & Debi Leitch George Leitch Martha Wilhelm Buddy & Margie Young  <i>Students</i> <i>Teachers</i> <i>Essential Workers</i> <i>Healthcare Workers</i>	Roger Akers Elwood Cadd Judy Jones Frankie Marshall Doris Mottern Marcy Thompson Terrie Vass Eddie Williams
	Randy Anderson Evan Groves Mary Holcomb Wade Leitch Family John May Lonnie McKinney Jess Rago David Rothwell Dee Dee Simpson Franklin Riley Glenn White	Tracey Crawford Roger Evans Kristen Helvey Gordon Hosey Meg Jackson Lynn Jeffries Pat Loving Charlotte Martin Mary Kern Morgan Joyce Kern Myers Guy Richards	Wayne Angell Sara Campbell Pearl Conner Richard Crowder William Hill Jim Howard Patty Nicely Pat Loving Berkley Persinger Edith Jerman Pettit	Debbie Amos Gloria Dressler Tom Greenwood Janet Hubble Jenny Lofton Scott Martin Nick Nickell Ellen Pearman Linda Ratliff Jean Shinault
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	Tillie Agnor Doc Altizer Bob Andrews Jan Taylor Armentrout Grayson Asboth Sherry Ayers Erskine Back Miki Ballengee Bob & Leta Bartley Steve Bennett Becky Bowers Jean Broughman Doris Burley Emily Byer Lee Cabaniss Elwood Cadd Jean & Harry Casey Betsy Caul Junior Clark Minnie Clark Sandra Clemmons Kenzie Cline Ricky Cooke	Harold Craft Steven Craft Calvin Crawford James Crawford Joey Crowder Bob Crush Phyllis Deacon Imogine Deeds Randell Dilley Joy Dodson Corky Downer Leslie Downer Irene Drumheller Bobby Eggleston Kaylee Elmore Joyce Emerson Lee & Lelia Fadley Jim & Barbara Flint Helen Deisher-Fox Ike Fox Marshall & Donna Fox Bo Fridley Courtney Fridley	Betty Gibson Eddie Gibson Robert & Gail Gibson Jonathan Gillette Don Hampton Jennifer Hannah Richard & Cora Hastings Danny & Rhoda Hill Joshua Hoel James Hoover Neil Horn Becky Hunter Charlie Jeffries Wendell & Judy Jones Butch Kemper Susan Kennedy Susan Lindstrom Bonnie Lockhart Connie Lowman David & Phyllis Lynn Bob/Winnie McAllister Doris Ann Miller Pearl Miller Katie Moody	Travis O'Rourke Bonnie Patterson Denise Pillow Billy Powell Betty Ray Frank & April Reyns Jim Reys Ray/Cathy Riddleberger Shelby Rock Joe Smith Pat Smith Tommy Smith Monzell Sovereign Angie Sponaugle Frank/Susan Sponaugle Kellan Sponaugle Sally Steele Gary Stone Bill Thompson Ethan Thompson Adena Tingler Carolyn Tolley Darrell & Donna Tucker Pete Turner
<b>BRIAN CENTER</b> —Bill Lockhart, Ruby Stull <b>VIRGINIA VETERANS CARE CENTER</b> —Charles P. Hall, Roy Reynolds <b>SCOTT HILL</b> —Norma Leech, Sara Mays, Mary Whitehead <b>SHUT-IN</b> —Joyce Bartley, Edna Buffaloe, Hallie Dressler, Shirley Ferris, Etha Hayslett, Jean & Carl Irvine, Sadie Landis, Louise Whitehead, Eddie Williams			<b>MILITARY</b> Kristen Bennett, Richard Bray, Kristopher Hoffman Ryan Pritts, Chris Whitehead,  <b>MISSIONARIES</b> Tom & Judy Harvey	