

# McAllister Messenger

June 7, 2020

## Look For The Helpers

These are troubling times that we are living through. With unrest in our cities and the pandemic still with us, we struggle to make sense of what is happening in our world. One quote I always return to in difficult times comes from Mr. Rogers, the beloved children's television host. He said the following:

“When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, ‘Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.’”

For the pandemic, it's easy to find the helpers. Doctors and nurses and other medical professionals on the front line. Pharmacists and grocery clerks. Truck drivers and restaurant workers. All of those who have kept working despite the risk of exposure to the virus in order to help supply us with what we need.

For the unrest related to the George Floyd killing, the helpers might be harder to find. But they are there, if we look for them. Those who are calling for peace. Those who are working to bring different parties into conversation with one another. Those who have tried to protect stores from looting and vandalism.

The quote gives us comfort, but it also challenges us. In our lives and our community, how can we be helpers? How can we be a voice for peace and love? How can we come together to show the grace of Jesus Christ? In these trying times, we are called to help out in whatever ways we can. May God be with us and inspire us through these difficulties.

McAllister Memorial Presbyterian Church  
900 N. Alleghany Avenue  
Covington, VA 24426



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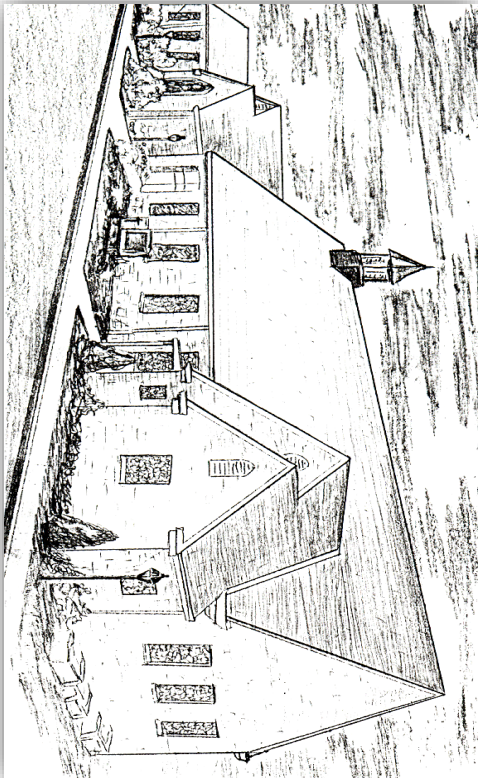
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## Philosophy of Housecleaning

I don't do windows because... I love birds and don't want one to run into a clean window and get hurt. (I am compassionate.)

I don't wax floors because... I am terrified a guest will slip, hurt themselves, I'll feel terrible and they may sue me. (I am careful and poor.)

I don't mind the dust bunnies because... they are very good company. I have named some of them, and they agree with everything I say. (I am imaginative.)

I don't disturb cobwebs because... I want every creature to have a home of their own and my family loves spiders. (I am kind.)

I don't Spring Clean because... I love all the seasons and don't want the others to get jealous. (I am fair-minded.)

I don't plant a garden because... I don't want to get in God's way, He is an excellent designer. (I am courteous.)

I don't put things away because... my family will never be able to find them again. (I am considerate.)

I don't do gourmet meals when I entertain because... I don't want my guests to stress out over what to make when they invite me over to dinner.

I don't iron because... I choose to believe them when they say "permanent press". (I am trusting.)

I don't stress much on anything because... "A-Type Personalities" die young and I want to stick around and become a wrinkled up crusty old woman!!!

[ Submitted by Orvie Jensen -- from 'WIT and WISDOM' ]

## June Birthdays

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Joe Martin                                       |
| 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Molly Parker<br>George Stinnett                  |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | Kellen Sponaugle                                 |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> | Jennifer Horn Lodge<br>Eric Webb<br>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<br>Katie Gibson                  |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> | Leta Bartley<br>Wayne Barksdale<br>Linda Wickham |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> | Aubrey Bowling<br>Matthew Fleenor<br>Silas Riley |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> | Donna Tucker                                     |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> | Becky Hylton                                     |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> | Anita Boone<br>Jeff Horn                         |

## Anniversaries

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



## Musical Minute:

While the church has been empty of late I've had time to reflect on the many wonderful and unique people who have filled McAllister's sanctuary and other spaces through the years. Many of the individuals with whom I had contact either as a child or young adult were involved in the music programs and unwittingly left behind what I have come to call "musical relics."

A trip to the music files in the choir room leads to visits with dear friends, many of whom are no longer with us. The names of these beloved members of the McAllister family are written in their own hand across the tops of anthems and cantatas, reminders of their dedication to the church's music ministry. We laugh during choir rehearsal when someone comes across a funny notation in an old score, something like, "BREATHE!!!!" also, of course, "DON'T BREATHE!" or simply, "WATCH!" or sometimes a pair of googly-eyes drawn in. One can date the notation from whom was conducting the choir at the time, "Watch Frances!", "Watch Anne!", "Watch Susan!", and more recently, "Watch Kathy!"

There is a piece of cardstock which remains permanently on the music rack of the organ with both the "Gloria Patri" and the "Doxology" taped to it, the tape amber with age. It is there for whomever happens to be playing on any given Sunday and I use it every single week. I'm not sure who put it together but I consider it another relic. It has been there for as long as I can remember and judging from the typeface of the text and the musical notation the pages were taken from a very old hymnal. While I can't date this relic exactly, I am certain that it dates back at least to the eighties.

My dearest relic is my personal copy of the old burgundy hymnal that was given to me by my father. It is meant especially for keyboard players and is spiral-bound so that its pages lay flat. Papa gave it to me when I began to play the organ at McAllister and my maiden name is written in his hand on the publisher's page. I was so proud when he presented it to me. It is now in tatters, the pages yellowed and the spine split. And it is always right next to my piano at home.

No matter which of McAllister's many activities you have taken part in over the years, I hope that you, too, feel surrounded by old friends when you enter the church and walk its halls. I take comfort in the 101-year history of our church and the strength of the members who came before us, and in many cases, raised us. They left their mark on McAllister and its future in tangible and intangible ways. Like us, they at times faced grave circumstances in our country and in the world and also dealt with personal loss, illness and other difficulties. Like us, they worshipped, they sang, they laughed, they worried, and they supported and loved their church family. Most importantly, we know where they put their faith.

Looking forward to a full church when we can all gather safely again,

*Beth*

## Notes From Pastor Jim

- ⇒ The Session met by conference call on Sunday, May 31. We decided to continue our hold on in-person worship at least through the month of June. The session will meet again to evaluate the situation on Sunday, June 28. We will continue to hold worship by Facebook Live on Sundays at 11:00 am.
- ⇒ Because of ongoing concerns over the coronavirus, I continue to be unable to make home visits. I am available for counseling or just to say “hello” by phone. Please give me a call at 434-738-8841.
- ⇒ A reminder that Vacation Bible School, which had been scheduled for the second week of June, has been postponed. We hope to be reschedule it for later in the summer, but that is uncertain. We will have to wait and see how things develop over the course of the summer.
- ⇒ Here is a portion of a message from our Presbytery’s Transitional General Presbyter, Carl Utley:

“In this very tumultuous time, the good news remains the same: Jesus Christ lived, died, and was raised so that we might be reconciled to God, and we have been given the ministry of reconciliation. (2 Corinthians 5:19). That, too, is good news. As the Apostle Paul put it,

***“For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.” (2 Corinthians 5:14-15)***

It is good news that Jesus Christ gives our lives a central focus: Reconciliation. It is the ministry of restoring relationships.”

*We will never know if we've done too much, but, we will know if we haven't done enough. Don't chance it!*

### 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. Stay safe. We will see you soon!

**Organ Restoration Update:** As of May 31, 2020, the Organ Restoration Fund stands at \$74,501.82. We are drawing ever near our goal of \$87,000! Currently, most of the pipes from the pedal division of the organ are being repaired and reconditioned in the workshop of Thomas Rohlfs. Following completion of the pedal division, work will begin on the organ’s wind system. While there are funds to pay for the restoration of the pedal division, we lack complete funds for the final two phases. If you are able and have not yet given, please consider making a gift to the Organ Restoration Fund. No gift is too small and any amount is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

### LECTIONARY

June 7—*Trinity Sunday*

Genesis 1: 1-2, 4a; Psalms 8

II Corinthians 13: 11-13

Matthew 28: 16-20

June 14

*11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Genesis 18:1 - 15 (21: 1-7)

Psalms 116:1—2, 12—19;

Romans 5:1—8

Matthew 9:35—10:8 (9—23)

### 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:

*Wanda Jean Hayslett Irvine ~ member*

### 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 15 @ 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.

# Congratulations Graduates for 2020

**Mikayla Lauren Webb** will be a graduate this summer once all COVID-19 is resolved and she can finish her clinic hours. Mikayla will graduate from Wytheville Community College with an Associate of Applied Science in Dental Hygiene.

She has accepted a job with Alleghany Highlands Dental Care in Hot Springs, VA.

Mikayla is the daughter of Eric and Amanda Webb. Also celebrating her success are siblings—Maggie, Rilee and Lennox; grandparents—Chuck and Jean Bartley; great grandmothers—Norma Ellis and Midge Akers.

Mikayla is saddened that her paternal grandparents, the late Dan Webb and the late Jane “Frosty” Webb, will miss her celebrations.



**Rachael Suzanne Kinsey** graduates from Alleghany High School with an advanced diploma.

While at AHS, Rachael was a cheerleader all four years—being selected Varsity Co-Captain her Junior Year and Captain her Senior Year. She was also a member of FFA and HOSA—Future Farmers of America and Health Occupations Students of America.

Rachael will attend nursing school at Dabney S, Lancaster Community College this fall and plans to continue her education to become a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner.

She is the daughter of Ronnie and Christie Kinsey. Her grandparents are Ricky and June Anne Cooke, Jakie Kinsey and the late Bonnie Kinsey.

Her best memories of McAllister Church is when a bat was flying in the church during Bible School and Rev. Fleenor was trying to catch it. Also the Christmas Eve Services are a special memory to Rachael.



**Justin Preston Leitch**, son of Robert and Debra Leitch, receives his diploma from Alleghany High School and a Carpentry Certificate from Jackson River Technical Center.

He plans to attend Dabney S. Lancaster Community College in the fall.

Justin’s best memory is going snow tubing with the people from McAllister Church.

| Healing, Safety, Deliverance, Peace and a Cure. |  |  |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| <b>Members</b>                                  | Anita Boone<br>Jean Casey<br>Charity Hale<br>Carl Irvine<br>Anita Rice<br>Gary Whitehead   | Linda Bogar<br>Sonya Milton<br>B. R. Rupert<br>Dwain Tyree<br>Brenda Walker  | Doris Mottern<br>Travis O’Rourke<br>Teresa Powell   | Pam Key<br>Bobby & Debi Leitch<br>Martha Wilhelm   |  |
| <b>Friends/Family</b>                           | Randy Gilbert<br>Tom Greenwood<br>Barbara Hayse<br>Shana Hotzapolous<br>George Leitch<br>David Rothwell<br>Marcy Thompson<br>Terrie Vass   | Randy Anderson<br>Andy Casey<br>Pat Eads<br>Evan Groves<br>Wade Leitch Family<br>John May<br>Dee Dee Simpson   | Mary Holcomb<br>Gordon Hosey<br>Meg Jackson<br>Lonnie McKinney<br>Franklin Riley<br>Glenn White   | <i>Essential Workers</i><br><i>Healthcare Workers</i><br><i>President Trump</i><br><i>Students</i><br><i>Teachers</i>  |  |
| <b>Hospice</b>                                  | Carl “Pete” Irvine   | <b>Deaths</b>  | Travis Braxton<br>Wanda Jean Hayslett Irvine  | Delano (Bruno) Jack  |  |
| <b>Continuing Prayer</b>                        | Tillie Agnor<br>Roger Akers<br>Doc Altizer<br>Jan Armentrout<br>Grayson Asboth<br>Sherry Ayers<br>Erskine Back<br>Miki Ballengee<br>Bob & Leta Bartley<br>Steve Bennett<br>Becky Bowers<br>Jean Broughman<br>Doris Burley<br>Emily Byer<br>Lee Cabaniss<br>Elwood Cadd<br>Jean & Harry Casey<br>Betsy Caul | Junior Clark<br>Minnie Clark<br>Sandra Clemmons<br>Kenzie Cline<br>Ricky Cooke<br>Harold Craft<br>Steven Craft<br>Randell Dilley<br>Joy Dodson<br>Corky Downer<br>Leslie Downer<br>Kaylee Elmore<br>Joyce Emerson<br>Lee & Lelia Fadley<br>Jim & Barbara Flint<br>Marshall/Donna Fox<br>Betty Gibson<br>Eddie Gibson | Robert/Gail Gibson<br>Don Hampton<br>Jennifer Hannah<br>Richard/Cora Hastings<br>Danny/Rhoda Hill<br>James Hoover<br>Neil Horn<br>Becky Hunter<br>Charlie Jeffries<br>Wendell/Judy Jones<br>Susan Kennedy<br>Susan Lindstrom<br>Bonnie Lockhart<br>David/Phyllis Lynn<br>Doris Ann Miller<br>Pearl Miller<br>Patty Nicely<br>Bonnie Patterson     | Denise Pillow<br>Billy Powell<br>Betty Ray<br>Frank/April Reyns<br>Jim Reys<br>Shelby Rock<br>Pat Smith<br>Monzell Sovereign<br>Angie Sponaugle<br>Sally Steele<br>Gary Stone<br>Bill Thompson<br>Ethan Thompson<br>Adena Tingler<br>Carolyn Tolley<br>Darrell/Donna Tucker<br>Pete Turner<br>Buddy Vass | Barbara Warlitrer<br>Danny Warlitrer<br>Gail Washburn<br>Dennis Whitehead<br>Pat/Larry Whitmer<br>Christy Wiley<br>Angie Wilkerson<br>Donna Wilson<br>Joe & Dot Wimer<br>Joey Wimer<br>Linda Payton Wolfe<br><br>Elected Officials<br>U.S. Troops<br>WRE |
|   |  |  | <p><u>BRIAN CENTER</u>—Bill Lockhart, Ruby Stull</p> <p><u>VIRGINIA VETERANS CARE CENTER</u>—Charles P. Hall, Roy Reynolds</p> <p><u>SCOTT HILL</u>—Norma Leech, Sara Mays, Mary Whitehead</p> <p><u>SHUT-IN</u>—Joyce Bartley, Edna Buffaloe, Hallie Dressler, Shirley Ferris, Etha Hayslett, Sadie Landis, Louise Whitehead, Eddie Williams</p> |  |  |
|   |  |  | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>MILITARY</u></p> <p>Kristen Bennett, Richard Bray,<br/>Kristopher Hoffman<br/>Ryan Pritts, Chris Whitehead,</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>MISSIONARIES</u></p> <p>Tom &amp; Judy Harvey</p>   |  |  |