

McAllister Messenger

August 30, 2020

Under Construction

Recently, I took a trip to Roanoke. Of course, I hit the construction zone on Highway 220. As I negotiated the zone with all its orange barrels and torn-up pavement, I had time to think about how our faith lives are like a journey through this construction zone. There are several similarities.

First, there are bumps in the road. We might be hoping for a smooth ride on smooth pavement, but instead we get a rough ride. This is like our faith journey. Like the disciples who face the wind and the waves when they are out in the boat, our discipleship has its rough patches. But God sees us through them.

Second, the road construction sometimes requires us to come to a stop and wait. At the time, it might feel like these stoppages serve no purpose but to put us behind schedule – but they are necessary for the construction to get done. In the same way, our faith journeys sometimes come to what seems like a screeching halt with no purpose. But just like the stoppage on 220, these waiting periods in our faith are often used so God can build the road that we will one day drive smoothly on. These stoppages, therefore, help us build patience and perseverance.

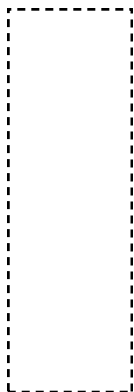
Finally, as I waited, I looked around. I noticed that the road through the construction offers a number of beautiful views of the mountains – if we are able to look around and see them. In the same way, God provides us with beautiful scenery on our faith journeys – what I call “God sightings.” Are we able to notice some of the beautiful things that God is doing in our midst, or do we have tunnel vision focused only on the rough road and the construction we are running into?

So the next time you drive to Roanoke, don’t just think about the road construction that can seem like a hassle. Think of the smooth and beautiful highway that will eventually be there, and about the ways that God is building up our faith. May we have the patience and the vision to wait for its completion!

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



BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Covington, VA
Permit No. 67
Non-Profit Organization



McAllister Memorial Presbyterian Church

900 N. Alleghany Avenue
Covington, VA 24426

(540) 962-2675

e-mail - mcmpres@ntelos.net

Website: mcallistermepcusa.org
(with online giving link)

Rev. James Edward Moss, Minister

Cell phone—434-738-8841

Email—revjimmoss95@gmail.com



Notes from Pastor Jim

1. The Session is looking at October 4 as a date to return to in-person worship. It all depends on how the virus is doing and whether we think it is safe to return. But we do hope to finally all be able to get together on that Sunday, which is World Communion Sunday. We have special communion kits which will allow us to share this special sacrament. The Session will make its final decision at its September 20 meeting.
2. The butterflies are in circulation! If they wind up on your doorstep, please follow the instructions and pass them along to another church member. We will hope to see this sign of new life appear at church on the day we come back together for in-person worship.
3. Be on the lookout for Vacation Bible School bags. Since VBS had to be cancelled, we are delivering to our kindergarten and elementary kids a bag full of lessons, activities, and even a snack. You can recreate VBS in your own home! Thank you to Pat Martin and Margaret Moss for putting these together and delivering them.
4. I am slowly getting back out in the community and making home visits, with precautions taken for mask wearing and social distance. If you would like a visit or know of someone who would benefit from one, please call me at 434-738-8841.

McAllister Church extends sympathy to the family and friends of :

Kathy Stinnett Agnor ~ *daughter-in-law of Evelyn Agnor*

Shirley Linkenhoker Pullen ~ *former member*

Doris Ann Welcher Miller ~ *sister of Pam Poague*

Our Daily Bread for September thru November have arrived.
Stop by and pick one up.

Members	Anita Boone	Gary Bishop	Edna Buffaloe	Charity Hale
	Jean Casey	Linda Bogar	Leslie Downer	Debi Leitch
Friends/Family	Terry Coffman	Luke Crawford	Frankie Marshall	Patsy Parker
	Gary Whitehead	Lee Fadley	Sonya Milton	Bonnie Patterson
Hospice	Louise Whitehead	Doris Mottern	Travis O'Rourke	B. R. Rupert
	Martha Wilhelm	Dwain Tyree	Teresa Powell	Natalie Sponaule
Deaths	Buddy Young	Carolyn Waugh	Brenda Walker	
	ReRe Bryant	Natalie Austin	Randy Anderson	<i>Covid—19 Patients</i>
Continuing Prayer	Jace Cantrell	Tom Greenwood	Andy Casey	<i>Essential Workers</i>
	Connie Holloway	Barbara Hayse	Pat Eads	<i>Healthcare Workers</i>
Deaths	George Leitch	Shana Hotzapolous	Randy Gilbert	<i>Non Believers</i>
	Justin Nicely	Margaret Nicely	Pat & Dottie Shumaker	<i>President Trump</i>
Deaths	Carl "Pete" Irvine	Eleanor Anderson	Kathy Agnor	<i>Prisoners</i>
		Isaac "Ike" Fox	Billy Groves	<i>Students/Teachers</i>
Deaths		Doris Ann Welcher Miller	Shirley Linkenhoker Pullin	
		Carolyn O'Conner	Ann Tingler	
Deaths			Shirley Powell Wright	
	Tillie Agnor	Junior Clark	Evan Groves	Danny Warlitrer
Deaths	Roger Akers	Minnie Clark	Don Hampton	Gail Washburn
	Doc Altizer	Sandra Clemmons	Jennifer Hannah	Dennis Whitehead
Deaths	Jan Armentrout	Kenzie Cline	Richard/Cora Hastings	Pat/Larry Whitmer
	Grayson Asboth	Ricky Cooke	Danny/Rhoda Hill	Christy Wiley
Deaths	Sherry Ayers	Harold Craft	James Hoover	Angie Wilkerson
	Erskine Back	Steven Craft	Neil Horn	Donna Wilson
Deaths	Miki Ballengee	Randell Dilley	Becky Hunter	Joe & Dot Wimer
	Bob & Leta Bartley	Joy Dodson	Charlie Jeffries	Joey Wimer
Deaths	Steve Bennett	Corky Downer	Wendell/Judy Jones	Linda Payton Wolfe
	Becky Bowers	Kaylee Elmore	Susan Kennedy	
Deaths	Jean Broughman	Joyce Emerson	Susan Lindstrom	Elected Officials
	Doris Burley	Lee & Lelia Fadley	David/Phyllis Lynn	U.S. Troops
Deaths	Emily Byer	Jim & Barbara Flint	Pearl Miller	WRE
	Lee Cabaniss	Marshall/Donna Fox	Patty Nicely	
Deaths	Elwood Cadd	Betty Gibson	Denise Pillow	
	Jean & Harry Casey	Eddie Gibson	Billy Powell	
Deaths	Betsy Caul	Robert/Gail Gibson	Betty Ray	
<p><u>BRIAN CENTER</u>—Bill Lockhart, Bonnie Patterson, 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><u>MILITARY</u> Kristen Bennett, Richard Bray, Kristopher Hoffman Ryan Pritts, Chris Whitehead,</p> <p><u>MISSIONARIES</u> Tom & Judy Harvey</p>

Walking Through Life

An unusual thing happened to me a few years ago. I spoke casually with a woman who served tables at a restaurant I frequented. We knew each other by first name only, but usually chatted for a few minutes each time I dined there.

One day, she asked me, "Do you have a son about eight years old?"

What has he done?' I thought. I nodded yes.

She pressed on. "Does he play soccer?"

When I said that he did, she asked if he played in a game the previous week at a particular field. Again, I answered, "Yes."

"I thought so," she smiled. "I saw him and thought he must be your son."

Since there were tens of thousands of young boys in the city, I was amazed and exclaimed, "I didn't know he looked that much like me!"

"Oh, I didn't see his face," she said smiling as if she were keeping a secret.

"Then how did you know he was my son?" Now I was puzzled.

"I was just sitting in the car, and I saw a little boy in a baseball cap walking across the field to join his team. He walks like you."

Walks like me? Now I was curious. How do I walk? Since I'm doing the walking, I don't notice how I look to others. Maybe I could watch him amble around to get an idea.

That said, how we walk down a street and how we walk through life are very different things. Perhaps I can't help how I walk down a street, but I want to be intentional about how I walk through life.

Through life, I want to walk gently. I want to treat all of life – the earth and its people – with reverence. I want to remove my shoes in the presence of holy ground. As much as possible, I want to walk in peace.

I want to walk lightly, even joyfully, through whatever days I am given. I want to laugh easily. I want to step carefully in and out of people's lives and relationships. I don't want to tread any heavier than necessary.

And throughout life, I think I would like to walk with more humility and less anger, more love and less fear. I want to walk confidently, but without arrogance. I want to walk in deep appreciation. I want to be genuinely thankful for life's extravagant, yet simple, gifts – a star-splattered night sky or a hot drink on an ice-cold day.

If life is a journey, then how I make that journey is important. How I walk through life.

But still I wonder how I look when I walk down a street.

~ Steve Goodier ~[by: [Steve Goodier](#) - from Steve Goodier (www.LifeSupportSystem.com)]

LECTIONARY

August 30

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 3:1-15

Psalms 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c

Romans 12: 9-21

Matthew 16: 21-28

September 6

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 12: 1-14

Psalms 149

Romans 13: 8-14

Matthew 18: 15-20

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 your joys, laughs, and concerns.

(Deadline for next newsletter is Tuesday ~ September 8 @ 4 p.m.)

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.

The Ideal Church

"I will build my church."
Matthew 16:18

1. A PRAYER CHURCH.
- *Acts 4:24*
2. FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT.
- *Acts 4:31*
3. UNITED.
- *John 13:34,35*
4. WITNESSING.
- *Acts 5:32*
5. WORKING.
- *Acts 2:46, and 5:42*
6. TRIUMPHANT.
- *1 John 5:4,5*

60th Anniversary

Come Celebrate with Us!

H. L. and Linda Wickham

will celebrate their

60th Wedding Anniversary on
September 27, 2020

from 2-4 p.m.

at Douthat State Park

Cards are appreciated,
but no presents please.

Actual wedding date September 30, 1960.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

4th	Eric Hayslett
6th	Shelby Rock
7th	Brenda Linkenhoker Rylee Grace Plott Benjamin Moss
8th	Callie Jane Uzzell
10th	Carol Fleenor Lennox Webb
11th	Priscilla Downer Darrell Tucker
12th	Donna Craft
13th	Deanna D'Arpa Kenzie Elizabeth Cline
15th	Eddie Williams
19th	Karen Arahovites
20th	Allena Brooke Curtis Wendy Poague Shane Reid
21st	Conner Patterson
22nd	Stephen Carper
24th	Greyson Young
25th	David Rodgers
27th	Samuel Moss
26th	Ashtyn Bishop
28th	Krist Walker
29th	Emilee Givens Nathan Hale

ANNIVERSARIES

1st	Larry & Pat Whitmer
4th	Paul & Brenda Linkenhoker
5th	Grady & Garlynda Haynes
7th	Chris & Sharon Rice
12th	Michael & Brigette Young
17th	Richard & Shelly Curtis
20th	Craig & Angie Poague
21st	Robbie & Melinda Weikle
22nd	Daryl & Phyllis Bartley
30th	Howard & Linda Wickham

COLLEGE ADDRESS

Makenzie Shifflett
250 Old Cedarfield Dr. #250
Blacksburg, VA 24060



Presbyterian Women

We need your support.

You can include your dues in
your regular offering envelope.

Vacation

The secretary, Janet Linkenhoker, will be on vacation August 31 thru September 4. Anyone needing assistance may call the church office at 962-2675 and leave a voice message. Someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

The Church Office Closed
on Monday, September 7th
in observance of



Musical Minute:

Pastor Jim's sermon last Sunday delved into Romans 12:1-8 and the unique, equally important role that each of us is suited to play in God's ministry at McAllister and in the world. Romans 12:6 states in part: "We have different gifts, according to the grace given us." I'd like to use this week's Musical Minute to express my thanks to the many vocalists who have shared so generously their unique gifts and valuable time to ensure that the joyful

sound of music continues to resound throughout our sanctuary even during this unusually quiet time in the life of our church.

After the shockingly abrupt cessation of in-person services in March, Pastor Jim quickly devised a way to communicate with most of our congregation by live-streaming Wednesday night bible study and Sunday morning services. It wasn't long until several suggested that the Sunday morning service would be greatly enhanced by music, not just instrumental music on the pipe organ and piano, but music from one of God's very greatest gifts, the human voice. Pastor Jim, Kathryn Crutchfield and I discussed it and decided that as long as we maintained proper distance and refrained from hugging (definitely a challenge at a "huggy" church like McAllister) it would be safe to add one additional person to our Sunday morning lineup. Kathryn began immediately to contact singers, first from our own choir and then from other churches. People were remarkably willing, and even eager, to use their talents to aid McAllister's ministry. Almost all mentioned how exhilarating it felt just to sing again at a time when communal singing is discouraged due to Covid-19. And the remarks from you, the congregation, have been so positive on Sunday mornings. I know personally how much your encouragement and kind words mean.

Please join me in thanking our dear, talented musical messengers, those who have brought God's word, and thereby joy and comfort, to us during the last five months: David Crosier, Nick Leitch, Ronnie Linkenhoker, Joe Martin, Rev. Jim Moss, Cathy Rowan, B.R. Rupert, Tammy Scruggs-Duncan, Tarie Warlitner, Linda Wickham, Dawn Walton Wilson. Pastor Jim, we appreciate you so readily sharing your musical gifts with your uplifting songs for the Children's Sermon. Those songs take many of us back to happy, sunny, youthful days. All of you have different gifts and you have shared them with us with such grace. Thank you.

Take good care, everybody.

Beth