

McAllister Messenger

May 30, 2021

A Word From Your Pastor Three Ways To Travel

This past weekend, my family and I took a trip on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Getting on near Buena Vista, we travelled north to Waynesboro. It was a gorgeous day, ideal to be travelling on this unique road that crisscrosses the ridges and gaps of the Appalachian Mountains.

As we travelled, I noticed that there are three basic ways to enjoy the parkway: In a car, on a motorcycle, or on a bicycle. Each mode of travel offers a distinct experience. Travelling by car offers a climate-controlled ride, free from any heat or cold or precipitation. Travelling by motorcycle allows more open exposure to the elements. And travelling by bicycle not only exposes one to the elements, but adds the additional challenge of having to power oneself over the long ups and downs of the Parkway.

These three different ways of travelling the Blue Ridge Parkway remind us of the different ways we negotiate our faith lives. Sometimes, we are cruising through life as if we are in a car – breezing up and down the hills and not even breaking a sweat. Life in this mode seems easy and comfortable.

At other times, our life is more like the motorcycle ride. We power up and down the hills, but we are more exposed to the environment around us. We are more affected by the different conditions that life throws at us. Finally, there are times when we feel like the cyclist – struggling over each hill, feeling the pain and wondering if we will ever reach the top.

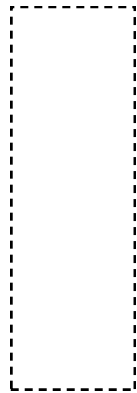
Which mode is your faith in right now? How are you experiencing the ups and downs of life? If you are like the car rider, are you appreciating the beautiful views and the luxuries that are yours? If you are like the motorcyclist, are you feeling grateful for the power that gets you up each hill? And if you are like the cyclist, are you simply hanging on and not giving up, having faith that the top of the hill will come.

Whichever mode we are in, we can take comfort in the presence of God around us. Every type of traveler gets to enjoy the beautiful views. Are you appreciating the beauty that is around you right now?

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

hello
JUNE

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



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Website: mcallistermempcusa.org
(with online giving link)
Rev. James Edward Moss, Minister
Cell phone—434-738-8841
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June Birthdays

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

Anniversaries

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

Congratulations Graduates Class of 2021 High School

Rachel Anne Madeline Reynolds

Rachel graduates from Covington High School. She will attend Dabney S. Lancaster Community College before transferring to James Madison University to continue her studies. Rachel is the daughter of Frank and April Reynolds, and the granddaughter of Betty Gibson and Irene Drumheller.

Maryemma Shifflett

Maryemma will graduate from Alleghany High School—one year ahead of schedule. Maryemma will attend Purdue University. She is the daughter of Patrick and Jill Shifflett-Ramsey, and the late John Shifflett. Her grandparents are Van and Brenda Walker, and Robert and Charlotte Shifflett.

John Edward Gibson

John Edward graduates from Cherokee Bluff High School in Flowery Branch, Georgia. He is the grandson of Edward W. “Ed” Gibson, Jr.

MEMORIAL DAY

is Monday, May 31.

The office will be closed.

Prayer Concerns:

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Tillie Agnor | Joyce Emerson | Becky Mann | Sandra Watson |
| Mildred Akers | Lee & Lelia Fadley | Jennifer Markham | Dennis Whitehead |
| Evelyn Scruggs Amos | Barbara Flint | Mike & Kathy McCauley | Pat & Larry Whitmer |
| Hershel Andrews | Marshall & Donna Fox | Pearl Miller | Christy Wiley |
| Jan Armentrout | Thomas Fridley | Sonya Milton | Martha Wilhelm |
| Mary Austin | Betty Gibson | Priscilla Moncus | Megan Williams |
| Erskine Back | Eddie Gibson | Doris Mottern | Donnie Williamson |
| Miki Ballengee | Robert & Gail Gibson | Lydia Nicely | Donna William |
| Bob & Leta Bartley | Carol Grady | Travis O'Rourke | Dot Wimer |
| Linda Bogar | Teresa Griffith | Berkley & Joyce Persinger | Joey Wimer |
| Anita Boone | Evan Groves | Billy Powell | Linda Payton Wolfe |
| Stacey Bryant | Scott Hamilton | Teresa Powell | Chuck Woodson |
| Sue Burns | Don Hampton | Paula Pruitt | Ray “Lumpy” Worley |
| Emily Byer | Richard & Cora Hastings | Betty Ray | Connie Wright |
| Elwood Cadd | Danny & Rhoda Hill | Frank & April Reynolds | Buddy & Margie Young |
| Benny Capps | Sandra Hill | Jim Reynolds | Kassie Young |
| Jean & Harry Casey | Robert “Buzzy” Hoke, Jr. | Carolyn Ross | |
| Betsy Caul | Connie Holloway | B. R. Rupert | |
| Anne Chalker | James Hoover | Shelldon Shue | <i>Our Nation</i> |
| Junior Clark | Neil Horn | Monzell Sovereign | <i>Caregivers</i> |
| Minnie Clark | Shana Hotzapolous | Angie Sponaugle | <i>Covid—19 Patients</i> |
| Sandra Clemmons | Lori Wolfe Isaacs | Matt Sponaugle | <i>Elected Officials</i> |
| Kenzie Cline | Charlie Jeffries | Natalie Sponaugle | <i>Essential Workers</i> |
| Ricky Cooke | Wendell & Judy Jones | Pat Tacy | <i>Non Believers</i> |
| Donna & Steven Craft | Susan Kennedy | Susan Terrell | <i>President Biden</i> |
| Luke Crawford | Mary Kern | Ethan & Marcy Thompson | <i>Prisoners</i> |
| Kathy Crutchfield | Pam Key | Adena Tingler | <i>U.S. Troops</i> |
| Pat Davis | Richard & Tammy Law | Carolyn Tolley | <i>Students/Teachers/WRE</i> |
| Katherine Dobbins | Debi Leitch | Darrell & Donna Tucker | |
| Corky & Janice Downer | George Leitch | Michael Tucker | |
| Leslie Downer | Susan Lindstrom | Pete Turner | |
| Priscilla Downer | Dianne Lockhart | Buddy Vass | |
| Kaylee Elmore | Jackson Lowe (age 7 ~ cancer) | Danny Warlitrer | |

BRIAN CENTER—Bill Lockhart, Ruby Stull

VIRGINIA VETERANS CARE CENTER—Roy Lee Reynolds

SCOTT HILL—David and Phyllis Lynn, Sara Mays, Mary Whitehead

SHUT-IN—Joyce Bartley, Jean Broughman, Hallie Dressler, Shirley Ferris, Etha Hayslett, Andy Howell, Frankie Marshall, Bonnie Patterson, Shelby Rock

DEATHS

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Victor Cucci | Richard Bowen |
| Chanda Higgins | Gary Wayne Jennings |
| Dr. Calvin McClinton | Terry Wayne Johnson |
| Robert Paitsel | Johnny Meadows |
| Sally Steele | Glenda Murray |
| Gladys Mae Tingler | Nancy Pearman |

MILITARY

Kristen Bennett
 Kristopher Hoffman
 Ryan Pritts
 Chris Whitehead

MISSIONARIES

Tom & Judy Harvey
 Esslinger/Lee

Newsletter Information

Please submit newsletter information and prayer request by email, post mail, or by phone.

(Deadline for the next newsletter is Monday ~ June 7 @ 4 p.m.)





Notes From Pastor Jim

◇ The Session has decided that those who have been vaccinated can attend worship without a mask. Of course, if you feel more comfortable wearing one, please feel free to do so.

◇ With Covid being less and less of a concern, I am now getting back out and making home visitations. If you have been vaccinated and would like a visit, or know somebody who could use one, please give me a call. (434-738-8841)

◇ Sunday school is starting back up on June 6. The adult classes will combine and meet in the Fellowship Hall. The youth will meet in their classroom downstairs, and the children ages 3-5th grade will meet together in the classrooms that open up downstairs. The time for Sunday school will be 9:45 to 10:30.

◇ The youth are having a picnic on June 13 at Fort Young. We will leave immediately following worship. Bring a side dish to share. The church will be providing chicken.



The Frog Race

There was once a bunch of tiny frogs, who arranged a running competition. The goal was to reach the top of a very high tower. A big crowd gathered around the tower to see the race and cheer on the contestants.

The race began...

No one in the crowd really believed that the tiny frogs would reach the top of the tower. They shouted, "Oh, way too difficult!!! They will NEVER make it to the top" and "Not a chance. The tower is too high".

The tiny frogs began collapsing, one by one except for those who, in a fresh tempo, were climbing higher and higher....

The crowd continued to yell, "It's too difficult! No one will make it!"

More tiny frogs got tired and gave up... But one continued higher and higher. This one wouldn't give up! And he reached the top.

Everyone wanted to know how this one frog managed such a great feat. His secret? This little frog was deaf!!

The wisdom of this story is:

Ignore the pessimism of others. It can take your dreams from you. Stay positive.

-Author Unknown
from *Heavens Inspirations*

College ~ Class of 2021

Kelley Susanne Tingler

Received her Masters of Science Degree in Counselor Education with a concentration in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Radford University. She received a position with Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital working as a mental health therapist. Her parents are Harry and Gina Tingler.

Adam Harrison Tingler

Graduated from James Madison University with a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences. He will attend Radford University in the fall to begin his Masters study in Occupational Therapy. He is the son of Harry and Gina Tingler.

College ~ Class of 2020 (COVID delayed)

Christopher Sayre

Christopher, the son of Sandy Sayre, grandson of Dorothy Wimer and the late Joe Wimer, Sr., received a Master of Science Degree (with High Distinction) in Cyber Security from Liberty University in December 2020. Due to COVID, graduation ceremonies was cancelled.

As a surprise for Chris, Sandy rented Vineyard Park, West shelter on April 5, 2021. and provided a catered meal for Chris' family and friends, followed by a private graduation. Chris wore his cap and gown, and brief "Pomp and Circumstance" played. The hooding took place and he was presented with his diploma by his Mom, the Master of Ceremonies.

Rachel VanLandingham

Rachel, the daughter of Charles and Susan (Jamison) VanLandingham and the granddaughter of the late Jack and Doris Jamison, received her Bachelor degree from Virginia Tech in 2020. During the "Most Unique Graduation" ever, Rachel put on her cap and gown and turned on the pre-recorded graduation program. As her name was called, she walked across the den to where her dad was holding a rolled up piece of paper and shook his hand. After months of job hunting online, Rachel was hired as a Technical Writer for ManTech, a defense contractor.



Musical Minute:

Silence is terribly underrated. You may find that an odd thing for me to say, as my primary role at McAllister is to make noise! As an organist, I still get a kick from sitting at the console, depressing a bunch of stops, hitting a chord and hearing the mighty roar of the full organ. The temptation to do this is particularly alluring for young and beginning organists. (It's basically the keyboard equivalent of driving too fast when you're a teenager.) My first organ professor often advised me, "Not everything has to be loud and fast!" Well—it may not be necessary, but it's a whole lot of fun! So some of you who may have found yourselves plugging your ears when I've played a particularly loud and bracing prelude or postlude may be surprised to learn that I'm actually a pretty quiet person, content to be alone with my own thoughts a good bit of the time. (A good friend once asked me, "Do you like being an organist because you like being alone or do you like being alone because you're an organist?" I'm not sure the answer to that question, but there's no doubt, we organists do spend a lot of solitary time in empty sanctuaries!)

Over the last two weeks I've had ample time outside planting my flower pots for the summer and working in the vegetable garden. The birdsong has been glorious with mating pairs calling to one another and hatchlings screaming to be fed, all of it punctuated by the drumming of the various woodpecker species which live around our place. The evenings are filled with the calls of peepers and the gray tree frogs that live high in the canopy around the house. There has to be silence to appreciate nature's abundant cacophony.

I certainly value the convenience of the now ubiquitous cellphone and the sense of security it provides, but I am particularly grateful to have been raised without one. There are days when I spend a good bit of time with my phone in my hand, but thankfully, there are more days when it stays in my purse or on the bench in the front hallway for the whole day. I may glance

at it, but I don't pick it up. It's too easy to intentionally look something up online (useful) and then waste an hour scrolling through internet headlines (not useful!). Scrolling may be a quiet activity, but it doesn't translate to silence, or time to think.

I returned to McAllister in 2017 for various reasons, but a contributing factor and one of the most poignant was hearing our Holtkamp played at Susan Parker Potter's funeral in 2013. The sounds of the beautiful flute stops on our organ are as familiar to me as my own voice, and I found them speaking to me as we communally grieved the loss of our dear Susan. There wasn't absolute silence in the music, but there was quietude and serenity, and space to contemplate loss, joy, and purpose. The tiniest germ of a seed was planted . . . (Could this have been one of those Pentecost moments that Pastor Jim spoke about in his sermon on Sunday?)

I'm going outside now to water my young tomato plants and listen to the birds sing. I hope that you're able to carve out some time this week for whatever brings you joy, calm, and time to think.

Take good care.

Beth

McAllister Church extends sympathy and prayer to the family and friends of:

Gladys Mae Bess Tingler ~ *aunt of June Ann Cooke*
Sarah Ellen "Sally" Shackleton Steele ~ *member (inactive)*

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|---|-------------------------|--|
| <p>In memory of: <i>Carl and Jean Irvine Berkley Key Louise Whitehead Eddie and Maxine Williams Joseph A. Wimer, Sr.</i> By Charlene Walker</p> | <p><i>Memorials</i></p> | <p>To the COPE Food Pantry In memory of: <i>James "Jim" Flint</i> By Gary and Drema Waters</p> |
|---|-------------------------|--|