

McAllister Messenger

March 2023

A Word From Your Pastor ~ Lenten Discipline

It's hard to believe, but the season of Lent is upon us. Lent is a time of 40 days in which we prepare ourselves for the celebration of Easter. It is a time for us to repent of our sins, and to turn toward Christ.

One way we observe the season of Lent is through the practice of spiritual disciplines. We use the ancient practices of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving.

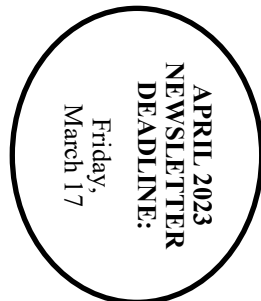
Fasting is often accomplished by the giving up of something for the 40 days of Lent – such as chocolate or sodas. I knew a man who gave up every other meal for Lent. The idea is to remind ourselves that we are dependent on Christ, not on material things.

Many people choose to focus on prayer as their spiritual discipline for Lent. One can adopt a routine of daily prayer, either in the morning, or at bedtime, or both. Prayer helps us focus on our need for Christ, as we confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

Finally, many people choose to focus on almsgiving as their spiritual discipline for Lent. Almsgiving is simply giving to charity, to those in need. My friend who gave up every meal focused on both fasting and almsgiving, as he added up the money he would have spent on those meals and donated them to a local food pantry. There are many creative ways such as this that we can practice our Lenten discipline.

However we choose to observe Lent, it should be a time when we draw near to Christ. It is a time to recognize our need for the salvation that he delivers on the cross and through the empty tomb. I encourage you to share with me the ways you choose to observe the season. May it be a meaningful time that gets us ready for the joy of Easter Sunday!

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



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McAllister Memorial Presbyterian Church

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Covington, VA 24426

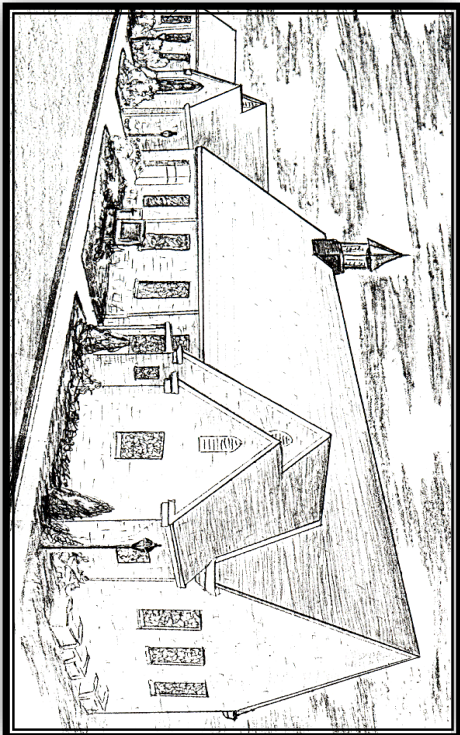
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Website: mcallistermempcusa.org
(with online giving link)

Rev. James Edward Moss, Minister

Cell phone—434-738-8841

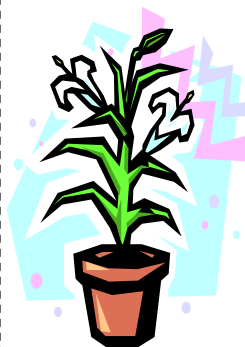


It has been ONE YEAR now since I was welcomed so graciously to the front office of McAllister Church as your secretary. Everyone I have met and interacted with have been so incredibly friendly, courteous, helpful, patient and kind. This past year has went so quickly—I cannot believe it. I have learned much in my first year and look forward to being able to connect even more McAllister “dots” by putting even more faces with names in 2023. I am in the office on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. if you are ever in need of assistance. As a reminder, the front doors are always locked but a simple push of the video doorbell button will have me there to assist you within seconds. Thank you all for your kindness and support over the past twelve months. It really does make a difference to love what you do and enjoy the people around you. May we all be so lucky to truly enjoy our work regardless of whether that is at home or in an official role. Being surrounded by wonderful people with open arms and warm hearts is such a blessing.
 ~April Rowland, McAllister Church secretary

Average FEBRUARY 2023 Sunday Worship Attendance: 77!
Average 2022 calendar year Sunday Worship Attendance was 62!!
 (A significant increase from 48 for 2021)



EASTER LILY FORM



Anyone wishing to place an EASTER LILY in Memory or Honor of a loved one(s), please complete the form below. Return the form to the church office by mail or place in the offering plate.

*******Ordering Deadline: Sunday, March 12th*******

Each \$12.00 order will supply one lily plant. Donors will be recognized in the worship bulletin on Easter Sunday. Lilies may be picked up after worship on Easter Sunday. Thank you.

Given By: _____

In Honor/Memory of: _____
 (circle one)

Number of Plants: _____ @ \$12.00 each = Total \$: _____

(For those wishing to give monetary gifts (no lily purchase) please use the portion below.)

MONETARY GIFTS (no lily requested)

Given By: _____

In Honor/Memory of: _____
 (circle one)



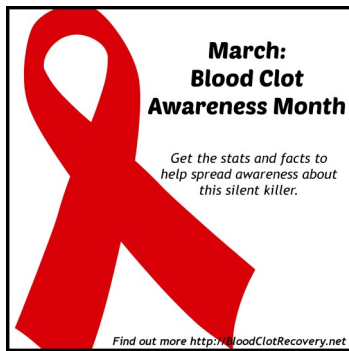
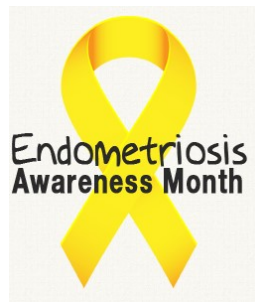
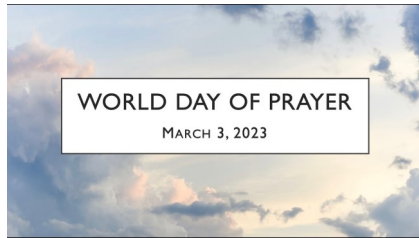
Increasing My Faith

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Day 1: Luke 17:5 | Day 22: John 1:12 |
| Day 2: Romans 10:17 | Day 23: Mark 10:52 |
| Day 3: Galatians 5:6 | Day 24: Romans 1:17 |
| Day 4: Hebrews 11:1 | Day 25: 1 Peter 1:21 |
| Day 5: James 2:17 | Day 26: Titus 1:2 |
| Day 6: 1 John 5:4-5 | Day 27: 1 Corinthians 16:13 |
| Day 7: John 6:29 | Day 28: Mark 11:24 |
| Day 8: Hebrews 11:6 | Day 29: 1 Timothy 6:11 |
| Day 9: James 1:6 | Day 30: 1 Thessalonians 1:3 |
| Day 10: Psalm 37:5 | Day 31: 1 Peter 1:7 |
| Day 11: Proverbs 3:5 | |
| Day 12: Matthew 6:30 | |
| Day 13: Matthew 17:20 | |
| Day 14: 2 Corinthians 5:7 | |
| Day 15: Acts 26:18 | |
| Day 16: Ephesians 6:16 | |
| Day 17: 2 Timothy 4:7 | |
| Day 18: Matthew 14:29-31 | |
| Day 19: John 20:29 | |
| Day 20: 1 John 5:13 | |
| Day 21: Galatians 3:22 | |



www.TheScribesPortion.com

Let's Celebrate in March...



Memorials & Gifts

In Memory of Melvin Munsey by Butch & Norma Curtin

In Memory of Gaynell Parker by Anita & Bobby Rice

In Memory of Etha Hayslett by Lee Ann Poague

Sympathy

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

Melvin Munsey ~ member, husband of Mary Munsey

Also, condolences to Debbie Rodgers on the passing of her uncle, *Roy Sharp*.
Condolences also to Gail Washburn for the loss of her cousin, *Pat Dunbrack*.

Thank You

Our "Souper Bowl" Sunday canned food drive for COPE was a success! We were able to provide the food pantry with many canned items. Debbie Rodgers also coordinated canned donations to COPE from Jeter Watson Elementary's Souper Bowl competition, yielding even more donations. Thank you to each and every one of you for your donations to this wonderful ministry!

The Valentine's Luncheon was a wonderful event that went well with loving fellowship and great food. Thank you to the Sunday School Department for supplying the meat, bread, and drinks and to those of you attending for the delicious side dishes and desserts. What a blessing!

I sincerely appreciate your kindness expressed during my recent surgery and recovery. The cards, food, phone calls, visits, and especially prayers were certainly a wonderful gesture. The people of McAllister Church are so loving and supportive. Your generosity was appreciated and most helpful. Thank you all. God is good!

Love,
Buzzy Riley

Musical Minute:



Looking through a stack of old photos last week, I came upon a couple of pictures from when I was in the Covington High School marching band. Judging from the other band members around me, I'm guessing I was in the eighth or ninth grade. We were dressed in Covington Cougar short-sleeved shirts and jeans or shorts instead of our usual woolen band uniforms and our cheeks were flushed, so I'm guessing the occasion was the annual Labor Day parade. We must have been approaching Casey Field as mom or dad snapped the photos. There were dozens of cars parked just off the parade route. I scanned the slightly blurry pictures and thought, "Wow. They must have had a vintage car show that day, too." Suddenly it dawned on me that those weren't vintage automobiles. They were simply the cars that people were driving in 1979 or 1980. Ouch!

Old photographs appeal to my sentimental nature and it's hard for me to throw them away. Oddly enough, the same goes for photos of people I don't even know. That means that in addition to the many pictures I have of my own family and friends, I have also collected pictures of other people's family and friends. (I told you it was odd.) There was a wonderful antique store/flea market not too far from where we lived in Austria. It was in an old mill with thick masonry walls situated on the bank of a small stream and it was owned by a lovely gentleman who, without fail, always greeted me warmly. He would ask if I needed any help and would then leave me to wander around the cavernous space for as long as I wanted. It was a good place to while away an hour or so on the weekend and I usually came out with a fun find or two—an old kitchen utensil, a candlestick—just something small. The length of my visit depended on the season as the place wasn't heated. It was refreshingly cool, even chilly, in the summer, and unbearably frigid for longer than 30 minutes in the winter.

During the years we were in Graz I picked up several small photo albums at the market. One is cloth covered and heart shaped with photos of smiling, well-dressed skiers, holidaying in the Austrian Alps. Although the images are black and white, I can see that the sun shines brilliantly in the background. Rather than thick puffer coats and nylon pants, the skiers, kept warm by their activity and the sun, don knickers, knee-high socks, ankle boots and short sleeves. One woman sports a demure, white, flouncy bow around the neck of her blouse. On the title page of the book someone carefully wrote the location of the adventure and the date, February 1936. They seem carefree and high-spirited. I have to wonder if they had any idea of what the coming years would bring. I have another album from around the same time, the Austrian backdrop stunning, as ever, and the fashionable dress equally so. The family photographs don't change too much—outdoor excursions, lakeside picnics, holiday gatherings— but as the thirties draw to a close, the men begin to appear in military attire rather than their dress suits.

Two albums from a different family feature dozens of pictures of a much adored daughter, Daisy. The earliest images are from May 1929 when Daisy was one and a half years old. The second album has photos through the summer of 1938. There's Daisy outside in the big, wooden washtub, Daisy with her beloved terrier (who ages right by her side until my glimpse into their lives ends in 1938), Daisy smelling the flowers in the garden, Daisy

NOTES FROM PASTOR JIM

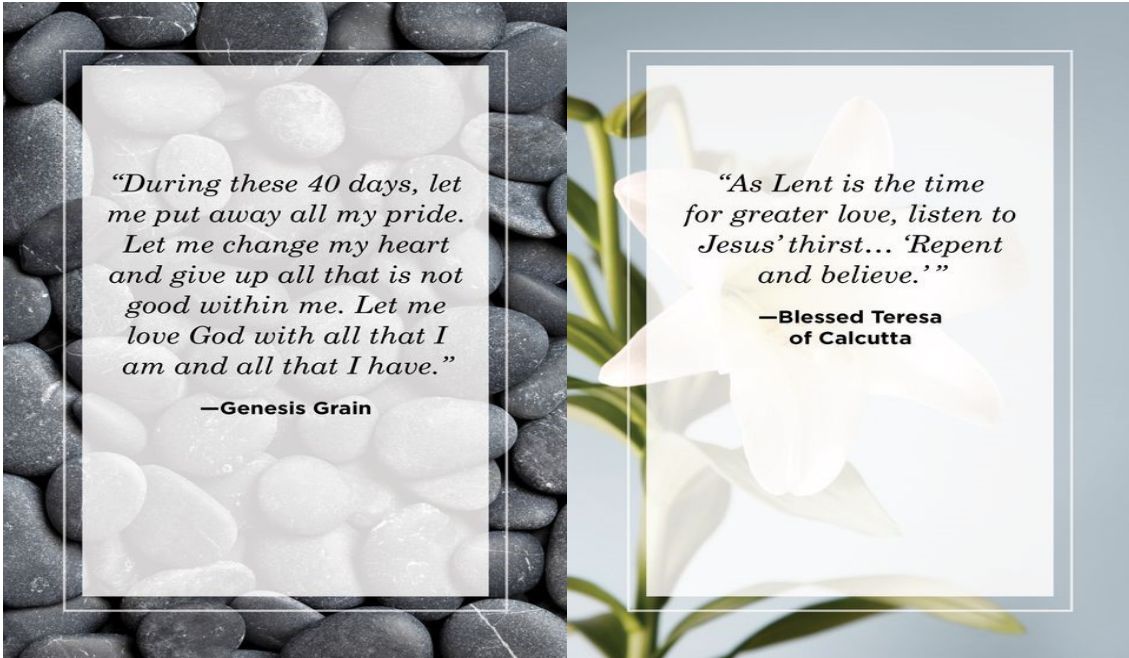


- * We are resuming the **Community Lenten Lunches** this year with the following schedule:

March 1 - McAllister Memorial Presbyterian
March 8 - First Christian Church
March 15 - Good News Christian Church
March 22 - Gospel Tabernacle COGC
March 29 - Mallow Presbyterian Church

All lunches begin at 12:00 noon and end prior to 1:00 p.m. A free will offering is collected each Wednesday to support a local mission or ministry. Each week a different minister will bring us a message. Join together with brothers and sisters of all denominations to worship and glorify God.

- * We will be having a **St. Patrick's Lunch** after worship on Sunday, **March 19**. Sandwiches will be provided. Attendees are asked to bring a side salad or dessert.
- * A **Lenten Prayer Breakfast** will be held with the Presbyterian Churches in the Highlands area. It will be **each Tuesday morning during Lent at 9:30**, beginning February 28. Come for a time of fellowship and prayer!
- * The **children of the church will be having a special activity on March 26** following worship. Stay tuned for more information.
- * We will be starting a **Confirmation Class on Sunday, March 5** during the Sunday school hour. This is a time for our young people to prepare themselves for membership in the church. Please pray for our confirmands!



“During these 40 days, let me put away all my pride. Let me change my heart and give up all that is not good within me. Let me love God with all that I am and all that I have.”

—Genesis Grain

“As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus’ thirst... ‘Repent and believe.’”

—Blessed Teresa of Calcutta

A Lenten Reflection...

- Give up complaining; focus on gratitude
- Give up harsh judgments; think kindly thoughts
- Give up worry; trust divine Providence
- Give up discouragement; be full of hope
- Give up bitterness; turn to forgiveness
- Give up hatred; return good for evil
- Give up negativism; be positive
- Give up pettiness; become mature
- Give up jealousy; pray for trust



the pictures of smiling Daisy with her little dog, proof that children across cultures, continents, and centuries have shared a timeless, loving relationship with their furry sidekicks.

One framed photograph I found shows four men in front of a barn, the snowy roof clad in scalloped terra cotta tile in typical Austrian style. They’re all dressed in suits with waistcoats and three are wearing high-domed hats. All are holding what appears to be a “celebratory libation,” maybe schnapps, wine, or hard cider. Any of the three would be right at home at an Austrian celebration. I have no idea the occasion and they’re all wearing serious expressions, but it struck me as funny. As one leans in precariously to toast from the back of a handsome horse, one is balanced on a small keg lying horizontally on a huge upright barrel. It’s somehow solemn and comical at the same time.



I don’t know why I have this fondness for the photographs of strangers. But they make me consider their lives—what they were like when the images were taken, and what they became in the future—a future that is now very much in the past. Anyway, maybe this inspires you to pull out an album that you’ve not seen in a while and spend a few minutes with your past. See if you can throw away the pictures that are out of focus and keep only the best. That’s what I’m *attempting to do*. *After you’re done, may I suggest that you then give it to another family member. Let them be responsible for your family history and its posterity! And whatever you do, don’t start collecting other people’s albums!*

Take good care. *Beth*



- 1 Robbie Wood
- 3 Pam Poague
- Howard Thompson
- 4 April Reynolds
- Jerry Taylor
- 5 Pearl Miller
- Richard Downer, Sr.
- 6 Marshall Fox
- Kelsey Young
- 9 Brielle Smith, Andy Dreszer
- 12 Jason Hill
- 13 Matt Sponaugle
- 14 Megan Boone
- 17 Gene Wood
- Casey Hicks
- 18 Donna Fox
- 19 Jennifer Hannah
- 20 Cindee Stinnett
- 21 Norma Curtin
- 23 Tiana Warlitner Hodge
- 24 Kathy Crutchfield
- 26 Mike Fleenor, Logan Hill
- 27 Chloe Reid
- Kaitlyn Potter
- Israel Boone
- Tara Uzzell
- 29 Lynn Whitehead
- 30 Maryemma Shifflett
- 31 Jeremy Bartley
- Brandi Carper Barr

Daylight Savings Time begins
 Sunday, March 12 @ 2a.m.
 This is also a great time to
 install new batteries in your
 smoke alarms & carbon
 monoxide detectors!



Circle #3—Tuesday, March 7
@ 5:30 p.m. (church)
Circle #4—Wednesday, March 8
@ 12:30 p.m. (church)

St. Patrick's SALAD & SOUP LUNCHEON

Sunday, March 19
 Directly following worship—sandwiches
 & drinks will be provided. Attendees are asked to
 bring a salad or dessert.

STATED SESSION MEETING

Sunday, March 19, 2023

Scott Scholarship

It's not too early to apply for the
 Scott Scholarship.
 Applications are available in the
 church office.
 Applicants must be a
member of McAllister Church!



Adult Bible Study:
Wednesday evenings, 6 p.m.

Adult Choir Practice:
Tuesday evenings, 5:30 p.m.

****Please know that we sincerely regret any error or
 omission that may occur in this publication. Contact our office at
 540-962-2675 with any corrections or updates. Leave a message if
 necessary as voicemail is checked
 several times per week. Thank you for your patience.



- 6 Bert & Betsy Caul
- 10 Jim & Margaret Moss
- 21 Robbie & Jeff Horn
- 29 Bucky & Doris Mottern

PRAYER CONCERNS

Gary Bartley
 Debra Bates
 Todd Campbell
 Mike Downer
 Barbara Flint
 William "Bo" Gann
 Pat Martin
 Carolyn Snead
 David Sponaugle
 Angie Sponaugle
 Mary Whitehead
 Webb Family
 Mt. Carmel Church
 Palestine, OH

Mickey Bowyer
 Patrick Cahoon
 Alfred Fox
 Buzzy Hoke
 PeeWee Kellison
 Patsy Lockhart
 Shirley Lyle
 Sarah Mays
 Mildred McCabe
 Buck Morgan
 Joyce Myers
 Mary Beth Nair
 Timmy Nicely
 Jim Plott
 Howard Poague

Gary Skidmore
 Betty Snead
 Dorothy Thompson
 Terry Thompson
 Mildred Wilson
 Gwen Wolfe
 MSU, El Paso communi-
 ties
 Earthquake victims (Turkey)

 Mac Dale
 Lisa Dickson
 Jim Faidley
 Victor Goldberg
 Meg Jackson
 Pearl Miller

Gail Craighead Arthur
 Norma & Butch Curtin
 Judy Morgan
 Mary Moss
 Amy Poe & children
 The Rohr Family
 Pat Smith

Non-Believers
Our Nation
Our Troops
Government Officials
Ukraine & Russia



Deaths

Jonathan Bostic
Judith Smith Cale
William Mason Fortune, Sr.
Samuel Dalton Lucas
Charles Herman Scott, Sr.
Doris Simmons Thompson
George Richard Tucker
W. A. "Bill" Young, Jr.



MILITARY - Kristopher Hoffman, Colton Poague, Chris Whitehead
MISSIONARIES - Tom & Judy Harvey, Kurt Esslinger, Hyeyoung Lee

BRIAN CENTER- Louise Humphries, David Lynn,
 Kara N. Asboth, Sarah Mays

SCOTT HILL - Phyllis Lynn
WOODLANDS - Gary Skidmore, Marilyn Lambert
THE GLEBE (Daleville)- Patsy Parker
TOCKWOTTEN (Rhode Island) - Shelby Rock

SHUT-IN - Bob & Leta Bartley, Joyce Bartley, Anita Boone, Jean
 Broughman, Ricky Cooke, Kinky & Lee Fadley, Betty Gibson, Andy
 Howell, Priscilla Moncus, Bonnie Patterson, Mary Whitehead (hospice)

CONSTANT NEED - Midge Akers, Erskine Back, Miki Ballengee,
 Gary Bartley, Linda Bogar, Todd Campbell, Harry & Jean Casey,
 Luke Crawford, Barry Daniel, Leslie Downer, Evan Groves, Barbara
 Flint, Don Hampton, Danny & Rhoda Hill, Lori Isaacs, Robert A.
 Jackson, Wendell & Judy Jones, Pearl Miller, Bucky & Doris
 Mottern, Denise Pillow, Linda Ratliff, Ethan Thompson, Buddy
 Vass, Shirley Wickline, Dorothy Wimer, Linda P. Wolfe, Buddy
 Young