

McAllister Messenger

MAY 2023

A Word From Your Pastor ~ The Forgotten Holiday

May is a month that is full of holidays. First, there is Mother's Day, which is always celebrated on the second Sunday of the month. Then, there is Memorial Day, which is celebrated on the fourth Monday. After that, we have Cinco de Mayo – the Mexican equivalent to the Fourth of July – which has been rising in popularity. And before Cinco de Mayo (the fifth Monday in May) is the Fourth of May, which is Star Wars Day (May the Fourth be with you). And finally, there is the National Day of Prayer, which is held on the first Thursday of the month.

Lost in the shuffle is a holiday on the Christian calendar which should, by all rights, be heartily celebrated. This day is Ascension Day, when we remember the ascension of Jesus Christ into heaven. Ascension Day occurs each year, forty days after Easter. It is based on the ascension story from Acts chapter 1.

In this story, the risen Christ is gathered together with his disciples. He promises them that they will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon them (which actually happens ten days later on the Day of Pentecost). He also says that the disciples will be his witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Then, as the disciples are watching, Jesus is lifted up, and a cloud takes him out of their sight. While he is going and they are gazing up, suddenly two men in white robes stand by them. They are angels. And the angels say this: "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

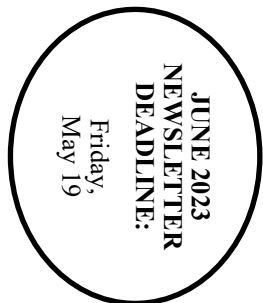
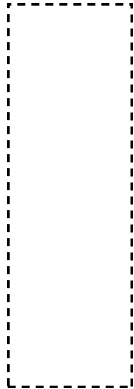
It is quite a story, and it is the basis for our belief that Jesus sits at the right hand of God as the King of Kings and the Everlasting Lord. Therefore, Ascension Day deserves our attention as much as those other important holidays on the May calendar.

So this year, on Ascension Day (May 18), set aside some time to read this story from Acts 1:6-11. Then, take some time to pray and give thanks to God that Jesus died on the cross, rose from the dead – and then on the fortieth day – ascended into heaven to be with God. And maybe, one of these years, we will have an Ascension Day gathering at the church. This would be a celebration worthy of this very important day on our Christian calendar.

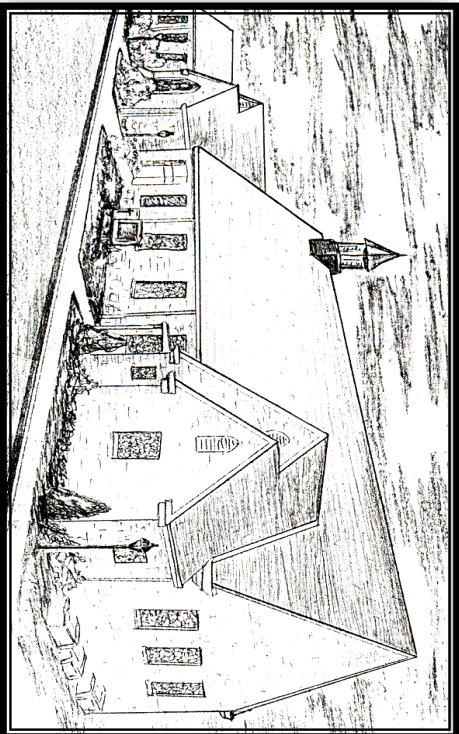
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*****We sincerely regret any error or omission that may occur in this publication. Contact our office at 540-962-2675 with any corrections or updates. Leave a message if necessary as voicemail is checked several times each week. Thank you.

Next Session Meeting

SUNDAY, MAY 21st
**immediately
following church service*

We hope all session members will be able to attend.

Presbyterian Women



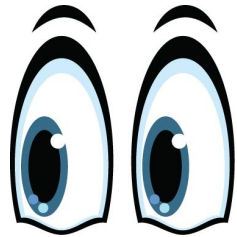
Circle #3*—Tuesday, May 23 @ 5:30pm at the church

Circle #4*—Wednesday, May 10 @ 1:00pm at the church

**BOTH SUBJECT TO CHANGE*

Circle members not attending a meeting are to send their offering to support the PW Missions.

LAST CALL



ATTENTION GRADUATES!!

Applicants for the Scott Scholarship may pick up an application in the church office—due back by May 14th, 2023 in order for the winner to be selected and announced in the June newsletter.

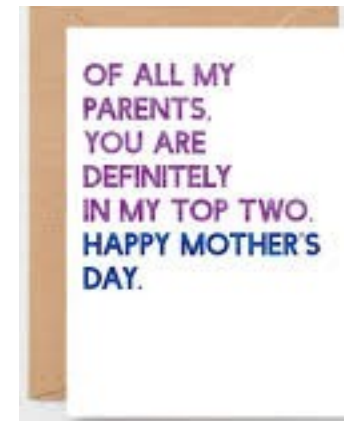
Also, we would love to recognize you/your 2023 graduates in the June edition. Please submit their name, school/degree, and any other noteworthy items you wish to the church office via phone, email, or mail.

AVERAGE SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:
APRIL 2023 = 83 (92 Palm Sunday/130 Easter/46/65)



The church office will be CLOSED on May 29th in observance of Memorial Day.

Some Mother's Day Truths & Humor...



(Church secretary's personal favorite) →



My son, keep your father's commands
and do not forsake your mother's teaching.
Bind them upon your heart forever;
fasten them around your neck.
Proverbs 6:20-21

Happy Mother's Day

DAYSTAR

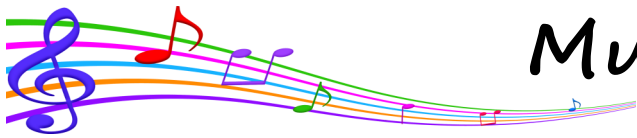
Happy Birthday!

- 3rd Shelly Curtis
Zak Nida
Carter Hudson
- 5th Erik Young
David Sponaugle
- 6th Angie Poague
- 8th Jeri O'Rourke
- 9th Doris Mottern
- 11th Gina Tingler
- 13th Carole Lemon
- 14th Jerry Whitehead
Darlene Thompson
Eric Webb
- 15th Van Walker
Rachel Reyns
- 16th James Bush, Sr.
Maggie Webb
- 17th Butch Curtin
Lee Fadley
- 19th Amelia Nicely
Kai Rowland
- 22nd Jenni Hinton
- 23rd Brenda Walker
- 24th Dwain Tyree
Gary Walker
- 25th Andrew Crawford
Jacob Downer
Tyler Bartley
- 26th Ruth Caul
Bunny King
- 28th Gus Hayslett
Jenny Crawford
- 31st Dusty Rowland



- 6th—Steve & Donna Craft
- 11th—Butch & Norma Curtin
- 22nd—Eric & Amanda Webb
- 30th—Cody & Katie Nida





Musical Minute

Everyone from nuts.com to Macy's to the chocolate-dipped fruit people are currently reminding us on-air, on-line and in any other way imaginable that Mother's Day is just around the corner. Likewise, the Stihl company, Old Spice, and again, the chocolate-dipped fruit people are already alerting us that Father's Day follows quickly in June. More and more ads are now sensitive to the fact that many individuals were not raised in the "traditional" or ideal parent/child relationship and merchandisers are advising shoppers to remember that "certain someone" (or those someones) who may have taken on highly influential roles in their young lives. As for our lives, Nick and I couldn't have had a more "traditional" upbringing. Mom and dad were there for us from the start, as were our grandparents and great grandparents, just down the street on Lexington and around the corner on Riverside.

I remember long, idyllic days spent with our pets—dogs, the occasional kitten (until it was discovered that I'm allergic), goldfish, gerbils, hamsters, parakeets, and even rabbits (Shaun, my rabbit, named after Shaun Cassidy, the love of my young life at the time, and Inky, Nick's rabbit, named for his distinctive pitch black coat). The rabbits arrived one year in a rare moment of parental weakness shortly following Easter. (It was no coincidence that at the time we lived directly across the street from that subversive retailer and bane of many a parent's existence, Barr's Critters, Crafts, and Cards!) In my recollection every day was one long stretch of absolute peace and harmony with two perfectly behaved children engaged in quiet, learning activities with only an occasional joyful titter disturbing the calm serenity. HA! According to recently uncovered evidence, a particular exception to that serenity occurred in July of 1969. I came across the following delightful letter, written in a blocky, angular, child's hand, a couple of weeks ago while going through an envelope of photos and other memorabilia from mom and dad's house. Since it adds to the charm, I've left punctuation and spelling exactly as it was written in the fury of the moment. It reads:

"To MOM

I hope you will be nicer some day. and I hope you know that I should have rights to. You are not the only one who shuld have rights. evre one has rights so I hope the Note tot you something and wrember it to.

From XXXXX"

(To protect the somewhat innocent, I won't tell you which of us wrote this indignant letter . . . I'll let you guess.)

Mom and dad must have found the letter humorous at the time and worthy of saving for posterity, because directly behind it I found a handwritten description in mom's hand detailing the day's events. Dated July 13, 1969 it reads as follows:

"We came home from vacation last p.m. late. Needless to say we all were short-tempered

Condolences

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

Buddy Young ~ member ~ husband of Margie Young, father of Mike (Brigette) Young, Kevin W. Young, and Renee Gann

Ed Gibson ~ member ~ father of Edward "Eddie" W. Gibson, III, brother-in-law of Betty Gibson, uncle of April G. (Frank) Reys and Gerald Gibson, Jr.

Jody Riley ~ father-in-law of Heather Rowan Riley

Mike Ayers ~ cousin of Chuck Bartley



Praying For You



The LORD is
near to the
brokenhearted
And saves those
who are crushed
in spirit.
Psalm 34:18

Honor & Memorial

In Honor of Andy & Beth Dreszer by:

~ Dorothy Wimer

In Memory of David & Bobbie Reynolds, Frank & Ethel Sponaugle, Buck & Kay Ray by:

~ Frank & Susan Sponaugle

In Memory of Emmett & Lillian Wood by:

~ Gene & Sue Ellen Hinton

In Memory of Joyce Stull Bartley by:

~ Sonny & Charlotte Stull (*cousins*)

In Memory of Arnold & Phoebe Hostetter by:

~ Robert & Vickie Gerow

In Memory of Woodrow M. "Buddy" Young, Jr. by:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| ~ Chuck & Jean Bartley | ~ Roscoe Humphries |
| ~ McAllister Church Sunday School Dept. | ~ Paul Riley |
| ~ Frank & Susan Sponaugle | ~ Karen Wenke |
| ~ Danny & Rhoda Hill | ~ Dorothy Wimer |
| ~ Howard & Pam Poague | ~ Lee Ann Poague |
| ~ Linda Wickham (H.L.) | ~ Bob & Leta Bartley |
| ~ Butch & Norma Curtin | ~ Michelle Tingler Green |
| ~ Sandy Persinger & Jennifer Markham | ~ Don & Nancy Hampton |
| ~ Richard & Priscilla Downer | ~ Don & Marcia Floyd |
| ~ Larry & Gail Washburn | ~ James Skelding |
| ~ Mr. & Mrs. Roger Tingler (<i>sister & brother-in-law</i>) | ~ Gary & Diane Walker |
| ~ Bucky & Doris Mottern | ~ June & Ricky Cooke |
| ~ Kathleen & Jerry Loan | ~ Pam Key |

and tired. After a long series of incidents with me yelling and the children saying, "I didn't do anything wrong," or "it was (his) or (her) fault," I finally sent home Nick's friend XXXXXX XXXXXXX (The Joker) and sent Nick and Beth to their rooms for the evening. They are asleep now and this was laying in my room on the cedar chest at the foot of our bed. We aren't sure how we're going to explain about rights yet, but we have decided that a list of household rules for family and friends will be posted upstairs and down."

I have a vague recollection of house rules being posted during our childhood, but I'm sure this first list was only one of many over the years. In addition to making expectations about behavior crystal clear, perhaps the posting of those early statutes also aided in our both learning to spell correctly, too. (Or should I say, to?!)

Nick and I were blessed that mom and dad were usually able to find humor and joy amid the everyday bumps and rumbles of raising little human beings. Thankfully for us, that resilience was a trait they both carried into our teen and early college years. In retrospect, I'm sure it helped save their sanity.

Loving parents and a community of other responsible adults are a true gift in a child's life and they deserve to be celebrated. To all of the parents and parental figures among you, whether you're currently in the thick of raising little ones as McAllister's young parents are, raising teenagers, or happily and contentedly in the grandparent or even great grandparent stage, Happy Mother's Day and Happy Father's Day.

~Beth





Notes From Pastor Jim

* **Thursday, May 4** is the **National Day of Prayer**. The churches of Covington will be gathering on the steps of City Hall for a time of prayer for our city, our state, and our nation. Please join us at noon.

* **Sunday, May 7** the **youth and children** will be having a **pizza picnic**. Immediately following worship, we will travel to the picnic area at the old Jeter-Watson school. This would be a great opportunity to invite a friend to get to know our church family!

* **Sunday, May 14** is Mother's Day. The children of the church will have a special gift to give to all of the women who are present. In addition, the Women of the Church will be leading the service and will hold the Birthday Offering.

* **Sunday, May 28** will be a very special day for our church. It is **Memorial Day** Weekend, it is **Pentecost**, and it is also **Confirmation Sunday**. We will welcome two of our youth – **Rilee and Lennox Webb** – into membership in the church.

* **Adult Bible Study** on Wednesday evenings has been **canceled** for the remainder of the school year and summer for lack of attendance. Study will resume in the fall.



Thank you to everyone who donated candy and helped bring other goodies to the Children's Easter Egg Hunt. Also, a big thanks to everyone who brought food for the Easter morning breakfast. Both events went very well!

To Our McAllister Church Family:

Thank you for everything—from the outpouring of love to Buddy and our family through prayers, cards, visits, food, calls, flowers and more. Also, thank you Pastor Jim for the beautiful service, Beth and the choir for their lovely music, and the "kitchen ladies" for the delicious meal afterwards. God is so good, he knew it was time to call Buddy to his eternal home. God Bless all of you!

~ Margie Young & Family

McAllister Church: Thank you for your continued support of the WRE (Weekday Religious Education) program. May God bless you! ~WRE Council

Prayer Concerns

Gary Bartley	Marshall Fox	Danny Austin	Butch Curtin
Betty Laws	Linda Hippert	Ronald Baker	Buzzy Hoke
JoAnn Ralsten	Margie M. Leavine	Tammy Scruggs-Duncan	Craig Nicely
Jonathan Travers	Steaven Lindsay	Nathan Goldberg	Buddy Reed
	June Merica	T.J. Hosey, Jr.	Carole Rule
	Anita Rice	Judy Jones	Lisa Carter-Wiley
	Debra Riley	K.C. Kershner Family	Heather Williams
	Dr. Charles Stanley	Mrs. McGrath	
	Brenda Walker	Benjamin Moss	
	Carolyn Waugh	Margaret Moss	
	Patricia White	Dick Wakefield	
	Shirley Wickline		
	Stephanie Clark's brother		
	Corbin <u>??</u>		

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

Shut-In

BRIAN CENTER - Louise Humphries, David Lynn, Kara N. Asboth, Sarah Mays
SCOTT HILL - Phyllis Lynn
WOODLANDS - Gary Skidmore, Marilyn Lambert
THE SPRINGS - Andy Howell
THE GLEBE (Daleville) - Patsy Parker
TOCKWOTTEN (Rhode Island) - Shelby Rock

Military & Missionaries

MILITARY - Kristopher Hoffman, Colton Poague, Chris Whitehead
MISSIONARIES - Tom & Judy Harvey, K. Esslinger/H. Lee

Deaths

<i>Mike Ayers</i>	<i>Juanita W. Boggs</i>	<i>JoAnn Carter</i>	<i>Anna M. Brooks</i>
<i>Todd Campbell</i>	<i>Wendy Browning</i>	<i>Helen L. Grimes</i>	<i>Wanda Fenderson</i>
<i>Charlotte Cook</i>	<i>Patricia "Peach" Branham</i>	<i>Edgar Johnson</i>	<i>Raymond Humphreys</i>
<i>Edna Craghead</i>	<i>Mary Ellen B. Loan</i>	<i>Marvin L. Jones</i>	<i>Walter L. Rogers, Sr.</i>
<i>Edward W. Gibson, Jr.</i>	<i>Patricia M. "Trish" Nicely</i>	<i>Nancy L. Lamb</i>	<i>Larry Taylor</i>
<i>Gary Mundy, Jr.</i>	<i>Robert Shahan</i>	<i>Jesse J. Mays</i>	
<i>Jody Riley, II</i>	<i>Woodrow "Buddy" Young, Jr.</i>	<i>Judy B. Parr</i>	
<i>Jennifer A. Owens</i>		<i>Anita S. Tingler</i>	
<i>Margaretta Robinson</i>			
<i>Larry Treynor</i>			
<i>B. "Bobbie" Lee Ward</i>			