

McAllister Messenger

July 2023

A Word From Your Pastor ~ “A Bulwark Never Failing”

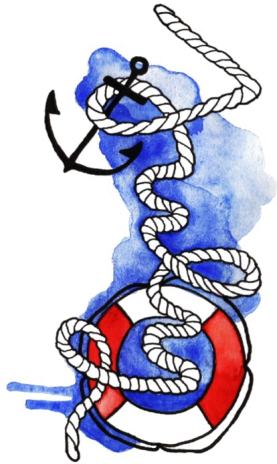
The second week of July, I am taking some vacation time to go to the beach with my family. It is chance to relax and recharge my batteries while also getting to see my parents, my aunt, my brother, and my nephew. It is also a chance to spend some quality time with my own wife and two sons.

One of my favorite things to do at the beach is to make sand castles. This is something that Benjamin and Samuel – now teenagers – have enjoyed doing with me since they were toddlers. Letting our hands become excavators, we dig into the sand and build up a castle that can grow to three or four feet in height. One thing we do to make the castle building more fun is to build it where the tide can come up and reach it. This presents the challenge of keeping the incoming waves from knocking the castle down and washing over it. To try to keep the tide at bay, we build a series of walls and moats.

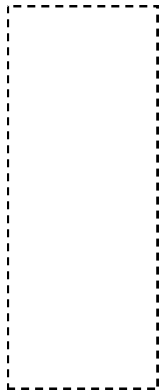
The tide, however, is relentless. In our many years of castle-building, we have never been able to successfully keep the onrushing waves from knocking our castle over. We try and try, scrambling around to build new walls as the waves knock them down, but the tide always wins.

Sometimes in life, it feels like the boys and I feel building sand castles. We feel like we are struggling against metaphorical wave after wave that threaten to knock us down. We build our walls to hold back the tide, but the waves just keep coming. There is, however, one big difference between the sand castles that the boys and I build and our faith lives. Because if we build our walls with God as the foundation, the tide doesn't win. When we build with God, our walls can hold back any series of waves that might hit us. Our faith in God will see us through any struggle or difficulty. It is just as the classic hymn says: “A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing; our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.”

So if you feel like the waves are relentlessly attacking your castle, give it up to God. God will bring you the comfort and the peace that you need to survive the onrushing tide. A bulwark never failing, indeed!



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 - admin@mcallistermempcusa.org

Website: www.mcallistermempcusa.org
(with online giving link)

Rev. James Edward Moss, Minister

Cell phone—434-738-8841

Email—revjimmos95@gmail.com



Happy Birthday

- 1st Abigail Poague
- 2nd Neil Horn
Rebecca Hudson
Evan Bishop
- 3rd Amy Bishop
- 4th Rilee Webb
- 6th Robbie Whitmer Horn
- 7th Judy Whitehead
- 10th Bert Caul
- 11th Amy Hoover
Sierra Daily
- 13th Brandon Sponaugle
- 14th Kyndle Koonce
- 20th Jerry Givens, Sr.
- 21st Chuck Bartley
- 22nd Dorothy Wimer
- 23rd Jeana Lee Colberg
- 24th Jagger Rowland
- 28th Margie Young
Larry Washburn
- 29th Parker Hudson
- 31st Tori Paxton

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 3rd Harry & Jean Casey
- 8th April & Dusty Rowland
- 15th Charity & Nathan Hale
- 20th Tracey & Terri Walker
- 25th Kylene & David Smith
- 31st Debbie & Steve Bennett

NEXT SESSION MEETING

July 23, 2023
following worship service
(formerly scheduled for July 9th)



Presbyterian Women

Joint Circle Meeting
Wednesday, 7/12/23
@ 6 p.m. tentatively

{potluck style - spouses welcome}

Reminder:

ADULT CHOIR & BIBLE STUDY

Adult Choir & Adult Bible Study will not meet regularly for the remainder of summer (Jun-Aug) - both will resume after Labor Day.



The church office will be closed for Independence Day, **TUESDAY, JULY 4TH**.
Jim & April have overlapping vacations also causing the church office to be closed on Mon. 7/10 – Thurs. 7/13. April will be in the office on Friday, July 14th.

New 2023 Church Directory Information Request

McAllister Church is putting together a new church directory. Please complete and place the following form in the offering plate or return it to the church office personally, by mail, or e-mail at admin@mcallistermempcusa.org. Thank you.

Names and Birthdays (for all members of household):

Address:

Email(s):

Home Phone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

Further details about the directory will be available in the future. Stay tuned.

AVERAGE JUNE 2023 SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:

67



Notes From Pastor Jim

- ◆ I will be on vacation July 10-16. Joe Martin will be filling the pulpit on Sunday, July 16.
- ◆ We will be having a pool party for all the children and youth on Sunday, July 23 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Please join us at the Covington City Pool for a fun time! This would be an excellent opportunity to invite a friend or neighbor to join us and to get to know our church.
- ◆ Thank you all the volunteers who helped make Vacation Bible School 2023 here at McAllister Church a success—we could not have done it without you! Our theme was “Hero Hotline—Called Together to Serve God!” We had a good turnout of kids and adults, and everyone had a great time.



2023 Vacation Bible School Sponsors:

★ <i>Mildred McCabe</i>	★ <i>Linda Wickham</i>	★ <i>Steve Craft</i>	★
★ <i>Betty Gibson</i>	★ <i>Diane Hicks</i>	★ <i>June Cooke</i>	★
★ <i>Debbie & Danny Rodgers</i>	★ <i>Pam Poague</i>	★ <i>Dorothy Wimer</i>	★
★ <i>Andy & Beth Dreszer</i>	★ <i>Debbie Bennett</i>	★ <i>Pam Key</i>	★
★ <i>Bucky & Doris Mottern</i>	★ <i>Chuck & Jean Bartley</i>	★ <i>Paula Stull</i>	★
★ <i>Frank & Susan Sponaugle</i>	★ <i>Norma & Butch Curtin</i>	★ <i>Kylene Smith</i>	★
★ <i>Gary & Diane Walker</i>	★ <i>Danny & Rhoda Hill</i>	★ <i>Gary Rice</i>	★
★ <i>Lee & Lelia Fadley</i>	★ <i>Harry & Jean Casey</i>	★ <i>Paul Riley</i>	★
★ <i>Terry & Dorothy Thompson</i>	★ <i>Mike & Brigitte Young</i>	★ <i>Ed Gibson</i>	★
★ <i>Marshall & Donna Fox</i>	★ <i>Greg & Lisa Dickson</i>	★ <i>Gary Bartley</i>	★
★ <i>James & Carol Bush</i>	★ <i>Richard & Leslie Downer</i>	★ <i>Lee Ann Poague</i>	★
★ <i>Terry & Dorothy Thompson</i>	★ <i>Pat & Aubrey Bowling</i>		★

★ ~ Also those who donated through the regular church offering and anonymously ~ ★



McAllister Church is forming a team to participate in this year’s event which will be held at Jackson River Sports Complex on Saturday, **August 5, 2023** (rain or shine). This year’s theme is “Rollin’ For A Cure.” Opening ceremony begins at 4:00 p.m. The luminaria ceremony will begin at 9:00 p.m.

McAllister Church is supporting this year’s event by making a donation AND assembling a team to participate in the walk. You may sign up to be a team member on the sign-up sheet located in the narthex or by calling the church at 540-962-2675.

Please leave a message no one answers. We will return your call as soon as someone is available in the office. Thank you.

McAllister Church Website Updates

As promised our website has been receiving some updates as training allows and information is shared. We appreciate your patience with this matter and welcome you to head over to www.mcallistermempcusa.org to check us out! Thank you to Andy Dreszer and Kim Woodson for their time and attention to this effort so far. We appreciate you!

COPE Food Pantry

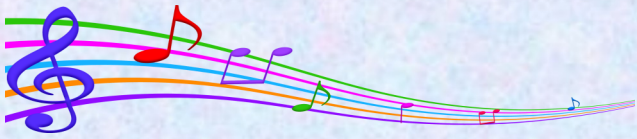
COPE food pantry has extended summer distribution hours. They will offer additional hours on the **1st & 3rd Thursdays, 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

These extra hours will be available through August. Thank you COPE volunteers for all you do and for going above and beyond for our community.



New Food Pantry

Alleghany-Covington Department of Social Services will be opening the Clayton Heath Nicely Memorial Food Pantry on July 1, 2023, to be housed at their 110 Rosedale Avenue location. It will be open Monday — Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. There are no financial requirements. Clients are allowed to obtain ONE, large grocery bag of food per household, per month. They plan to offer non-perishables, as well as some frozen foods, and fresh vegetables in season.



Musical Minute

This spring I've been spending some of my TV time with Magnolia Network. Its "gentle" programming spanning cooking, gardening, restoration, and home renovation is right down my alley and as Andy can tell you (or perhaps warn you), has me almost daily dreaming up new projects for our home and garden! My new favorite show is "Homegrown," a half-an-hour program featuring a young, urban gardener who farms on a little over an acre lot inside the city of Atlanta, Georgia. Not only does she grow exquisite edibles to sell at the farmer's market, she helps like-minded suburban residents convert their grassy expanses and underutilized yards into productive and beautiful oases for edibles and ornamentals. Many episodes center around young families seeking to impart a sense of self-sustainability and the wonder of nature to their growing offspring. One thing that comes up repeatedly with these beautiful families is the parents' desire to share with their children a taste of their own childhoods or their family heritage. I think it's a common desire to remember the pleasures of our childhood through food memories and to want to pass those memories on to others.

It's probably the same everywhere, but in the south, especially, we often hear about how delicious "mama's lemon pound cake" was, how melt-in-your-mouth tender "grandma's pot roast" was, and how dad made the "best cornbread ever." These childhood taste memories are forever linked, and blessedly so, with the events and people surrounding them. The smell of bacon frying will forever remind me of improbably long Saturday mornings on Lexington Avenue with dad starting the bacon long before fixing sunny-side-up eggs and biscuits for our family breakfast. If there were friends in from school, it just meant more bacon and eggs, and so much more the merrier for kids who were maybe too far from home to drop in for a weekend breakfast. For me, the aroma of cinnamon and apples baking brings back not the expected remembrances of fall and winter, but instead the summer memories of our camp on the Jackson River and mom's Apple Brown Betty bubbling away in the old camp oven. The tantalizing aroma and anticipation of good things to come energized us for a whole day of play in the river and adjacent fields. Her hot milk cake was unrivaled, and it was hard for us to wait for it to cool enough to be tipped from the pan. Whether served plain or topped with fresh fruit and a dollop of Cool Whip it was sweet heaven on a plate and will be ever linked to hazy summer days and inky nights filled with cricket song by the river. Now there's a food memory! Peach cobbler was another camp favorite as summer peaked in concert with the peach crop. And mom's spiced peach preserves, with the sugar taking a back seat to the fresh taste of the peaches, are still the best I've ever had. I thought after she passed that I had lost her recipe forever until I found it a year or so later in the stained pages of an old Ball canning book (published in 1966 with a cover price of 35 cents!). Whole cloves, a bit of allspice and a stick of cinnamon add the subtle spiciness. Making and later tasting that recipe was like having mom back in the kitchen. The tastes of home are an invitation to a family reunion, even if some of the family members are no longer present.

The T. Stratton & Helen J. Scott Scholarship Fund

MEMORIALIZED BY THE PROGRAM

Church Service: The Stratton & Helen Scott Scholarship was initially founded in October 1999 in honor of two pillars of McAllister Memorial Presbyterian Church. Stratton joined in 1925 while Helen was a member since 1934. The succeeding decades of the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st century witnessed the Scotts' extraordinary service to their church. Stratton served as a deacon and elder. Helen was a Sunday School teacher and rendered service as a deaconess, committee worker, circle chairman, Bible teacher and President of the Women of the Church. In the larger church community, Helen also worked with local Christian youth and served as District Chairman and Vice President of the Presbyterian, as well as Treasurer of the Synod of Virginia. They celebrated their 77th wedding anniversary in 2005 prior to Stratton's passing. Helen passed away ten years later in 2015.

Community Service: Both Stratton and Helen performed extensive civic outreach throughout their lives. Stratton served as past master of the Covington Masonic Lodge #171 and District Grand Master of the 23rd Masonic District. Stratton also was active with the city food bank and food pantry at McAllister Church. Stratton and Helen both volunteered with the Meals on Wheels program. Helen is a past President of the Covington Women's Club and served on the city planning commission. She was also past President of the VFW Auxiliary to Post 1033. Both were deeply rooted in the community and open to calls upon their expertise and energies.

Education Promotion: Both Stratton and Helen were educated at the old Jeter School and Boiling Springs High School, respectively, and their regard for the educational process and their assistance of those who sought to better themselves through education was lifelong. They donated money and clothing to students throughout the years, but Stratton and Helen also were generous in giving of their time and even of their privacy - advising, encouraging, and housing students as needed. In short, the Scotts' promotion of education was a special ministry of the couple, and it is appropriate that a scholarship fund bears their name.

NATURE OF THE FUND

Perpetuity – The Stratton and Helen Scott Scholarship is a perpetual fund. A base amount was donated by their two sons, Thomas Station Scott, Jr. and John Lewis Scott, which yields interest from which scholarships are provided. The principal will not be deleted; therefore, the Scholarship will persist as a memorial fund.

Amount – The current scholarship stipend is set to be \$1,500 per award. Anyone may reapply for funding for other academic years. The scholarship is a gift, not a loan. Donations to the fund are encouraged, as the increase of the principle invested will yield larger scholarship stipends in the future.

We would like to sincerely thank John L. Scott, Sr. and Thomas Scott, Jr. for their continued contributions over the years in memory of their parents after their establishment of this scholarship fund. McAllister Church also remembers and recognizes the late Edward Gibson, Jr. who kindly managed this scholarship since its inception in 1999. He is certainly missed by the McAllister Church family and will always be remembered fondly for his enthusiasm and volunteerism, especially with the Scott Scholarship program.

CONGRATULATIONS

2023 Scott Scholarship Recipients:

BENJAMIN MOSS

&

MASON KINSEY

McAllister Church congratulates you and covers you in prayer, promise, and inspiration in your future endeavors. God bless you!



*"May He grant you according to your heart's desire,
And fulfill all your purpose."*

~ Psalm 20:4

The same is true for our church family. Treasured tastes bring back memories of delicious meals shared in the company of McAllister friends and loved ones. It was a treat several years ago when Pam Poague made Jr. Parker's blue cheese dressing from the long-shuttered Old Forge Restaurant. Sweet Pam brought the dressing to a Soup and Sandwich potluck and even shared the recipe with me. I treasure it and have shared it with others who loved Uncle Jr. and have memories of the restaurant—as well as those who just love a good blue cheese dressing! If I remember correctly, it was Grisilda Perry who used to bake an elegant wreath, a yeasted sweet bread, I think, each year during the Christmas season. It was always a beautiful and festive finishing touch to the packed spread on the long buffet table. Please forgive if this memory should be attributed to another extraordinary McAllister baker, but I remember it as being Mrs. Perry's special treat.

At some point, most of us hanker for a taste of our childhood. Other than the fall/winter holiday season, I find that summer awakens those yearnings most for me. So in the spirit of sharing tasty church and childhood memories, I offer the following potato salad recipe. Perfect for summer picnics and potlucks it's from former member Rose Humphreys. Rose and her husband Jerry attended McAllister during my high school years and Rose sang in the choir. This recipe was a favorite in my family and Rose generously shared the recipe with us. It requires a quick cooked dressing, and while it takes a bit of effort—frankly, all potato salads do—if you like green peppers, this is tart and sweet and a nice change from the norm. It is written in the style of an experienced cook, so while I've given the recipe exactly as it's written in mom's hand on the inside cover of an old cookbook, I've also given some quantities that mom later shared with me.

Rose's Potato Salad Dressing

2 eggs, beaten
¾ cup of sugar
¾ cup vinegar

Cook over slow heat until mixture begins to thicken. Remove from heat and add a tablespoon of prepared mustard and two tablespoons of mayonnaise. Beat well. Pour over cubed, cooked potatoes, diced green pepper and pickle relish.

Quantities per mom:

- At least four pounds of potatoes and up to five
- One or two medium green peppers depending on your taste/quantity of potatoes
- Use sweet pickle relish to taste; start with ¼ cup
- Finely diced onion, optional
- Salt and pepper to taste; use white pepper if you don't want black specks

Happy picnic season! Bask in the warmth of summer memories past and get out there and make some sun-bathed new ones!

~Beth

With Deepest Sympathy

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

Anita Boone (member)

Wife of Rob Boone (member)

Mother of Izzy Boone & Megan Boone Plott (members)

Tanya Miller Gates

Niece of Pam Poague (member)

Cousin of Lee Ann Poague, Craig Poague & Stacey Bryant (members)

Memorial Gifts

Woodrow "Buddy" Young, Jr. by:

Andy & Beth Dreszer

Edward "Ed" Gibson, Jr. by:

Andy & Beth Dreszer

Anita Boone by:

Howard & Pam Poague

Betty Gibson & Family

Jim & Marlene Faidley

Butch & Norma Curtin

Circle #3

Joe & Pat Martin

Richard & Priscilla Downer

Danny & Rhoda Hill

Larry & Gail Washburn

Paul Riley, Kylene R. Smith, Katie Riley

Gerald Gibson, Sr. & Stacey Gibson by:

Betty Gibson and family



Prayer Concerns

Kinky Fadley

Lee Fadley

Pam Key

Kenny Kress

Wanda M. Martin

Pat McCauley

Reba Rapp

Tom Smith

Roger Williams

Westrock

Gary Bartley

Pat, Linda Caldwell

Bill Clark

Ricky Cooke

Lisa Dickson

Scott Fisher

Barbara Flint

Susan Hollenbeck

Freddie Martin Family

Harmon Family

Scotty, Karie Browning Family

Jan Barber

Jim Crawford

Frankie Dobbins

Adam Dunbar

Bo Fridley

James Rice

Mary Rice

Robert Shifflett

Dayton Stone

Penny Stone

Shirley Wickline

Joyce Armentrout

Faith (*Michael's Pizza*)

Jenni Fox Hinton

Cody Long

Jenna McFarland

Colton Poague

Angie Sponaugle

Gwen Wolfe

Non-Believers

Our Nation & Troops

Government Officials
Ukraine & Russia

Shut-In; Military & Missionaries

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

SCOTT HILL - Phyllis Lynn

WOODLANDS - Gary Skidmore, Marilyn Lambert

THE SPRINGS - Andy Howell

THE GLEBE (Daleville) - Patsy Parker

TOCKWOTTEN (Rhode Island) - Shelby Rock

Those at home—Bob & Leta Bartley, Ricky Cooke, Kinky Fadley, Jim Faidley, Betty Gibson, Priscilla Moncus, Bonnie Patterson, B.R. Rupert, Dolly Whitehead

MILITARY - Kristopher Hoffman, Colton Poague, Chris Whitehead

MISSIONARIES - Tom & Judy Harvey, K. Esslinger/H. Lee



Constant Need

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

Deaths

Ronnie Boswell

Larry Childs

Thelma Falls

Betty Forbes

Larry Griffith

Rickard C. Jones, Jr.

Martel Jordan

Brenda Lugar

Frederick McCormick

Elsie McFarland

Daneta Shoulders

Lucia G. Phillips

Jacqueline Underwood

Edna Mae Bolt

Charlie Deacon

Wanda Fenderson

S. Renee "Na" Hoke

Dickie Jordan

Kenny Lowman

Mike Martin

Virgie Rothwell

Betty Shepard

Joanne Austin

Sandy Beall

Libby Bernhardt

Rose "Pearl" Hilton

Steaven Lindsay

Sharon Martin

Pam Nicely

Diane Paxton

Judy Seabolt

J. "Dick" Wakefield

Barbara Warf

Tanya Winters

Beverly Tyree Angell

William Ford, Jr.

Tanya Miller Gates

George Kostel

Joseph Lockridge

Mary Ann D. Provost

JoAnn Lowe Ralsten

Clayton Lee Aldridge

Virgie W. Rothwell