

McAllister Messenger

August 2023

A Word From Your Pastor

~ *Constant Change* ~

This month, Margaret and I will be passing a major milestone on the journey of parenthood. We will be dropping our oldest son off at college.

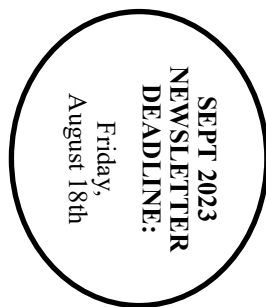
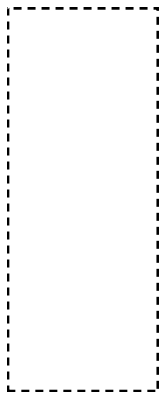
As we wait for the big day to come, we are feeling a variety of emotions. We are excited for Benjamin as he takes this first step into adulthood. We are proud of what he has accomplished to get to this point. But we are also sad because we will be losing his presence around the house. And we are nervous for him as he begins this new stage in his life.

All in all, this moment represents a major change in our lives, and even more so in Benjamin's. It reminds us that change, paradoxically, is the one thing that is constant in life. Children do not remain children forever. They grow up and move on out into their lives, as much as we would like to freeze them in time as precious little ones.

Jesus was someone who knew a little bit about change. When he meets with his disciples in the Upper Room and shares a meal with them, he knows that things are about to change in a big way. He is about to get arrested, and persecuted, and then crucified. Then, he will get resurrected from the dead. These are events that will bring about a glorious type of change, as they will ensure our forgiveness for our sins and will grant us the great gift of eternal life. Without these changes, we would be stuck in the grips of sin and death.

One of the great lessons we can learn from these changes that Jesus went through is that God was there with him through it all. When we read the stories of the crucifixion and the resurrection, we can see God's hand guiding the changes. It's the same for us as we go through changes in our lives. God is there with us, and God's hand is guiding us as we transition from one season to the next. Ultimately, that is what is allowing Margaret and I to let go as Benjamin goes off to college. We know that God is with us, and that God is with him. Let us give thanks for God's comforting presence as we go through all of life's changes!

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



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Website: mcallistermempcusa.org
(with online giving link)
Rev. James Edward Moss, Minister
Cell phone—434-738-8841
Email—revjimmos95@gmail.com




Happy Birthday

- 1st Charity Hale
- Debbie Kennedy
- Dianne Mahan
- Missy Reid
- 3rd Greg Dickson
- 2nd Aiden Riley
- 5th Kylene Riley Smith
- Jerry Givens, Jr.
- 7th Chase Carper
- 8th Robbie Weikle
- Lelia "Kinky" Fadley
- Levi Bartley
- 10th Mikayla Webb
- 11th Kevin S. Young
- 12th Branden Hill
- 14th Bob Crush
- Rachel Hannah
- 15th Cathy Rowan
- Holden Downer
- 16th Brigitte Young
- 18th Jim Faidley
- 20th Jennifer Markham
- 21st Marc Downer
- 22nd Larry O'Rourke
- April Rowland
- 23rd Darlene Taylor
- Craig Nicely
- 24th Reagan Paitsel
- 25th Bonnie Patterson
- Evan Nicely
- 26th Eric Hill
- Gary Whitmer
- Brandon Weese
- 27th Jill Shifflett
- Mike Whitehead
- 28th Beth Dreszer
- 29th Jean Casey
- 30th Susan Sponaugle
- 31st Stacey Bryant

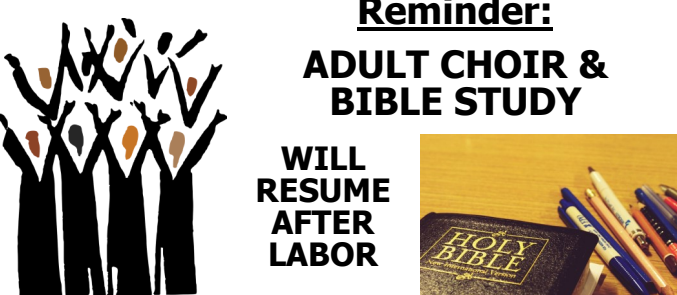
Happy Anniversary!

- 1st Stephen & Terri Carper
- Larry & Josephine O'Rourke
- Harry & Gina Tingler
- 6th Jerry & Lynn Whitehead
- Frank & April Reynolds
- 14th Richard & Priscilla Downer
- 15th Jim & Marlene Faidley
- 17th David & Shannon Rodgers
- 20th Brian & Heather Riley
- 21st Jerry & Susan Givens
- 22nd Darrell & Donna Tucker

NEXT SESSION MEETING
August 20, 2023
 ~ following worship service ~

 **Circle 3— NO AUGUST MEETING!**
Circle 4— Wednesday, August 9th, 12:30 at church

Reminder:
ADULT CHOIR & BIBLE STUDY
WILL RESUME AFTER LABOR



COPE extended summer hours
 (1st & 3rd Thursdays of month: 5 - 6pm) will end by September.
 The **last two evening sessions** for the season are:
Thursday, August 3rd & Thursday, August 17th.

CELEBRATED IN AUGUST/AUGUST IS...



Local children in the Allegheny Highlands Public School system will begin classes on **Wednesday, August 23rd.**



- August 6—Heroshima Day
- August 9—International Day of the World's Indigenous People
- August 14—Day of Prayer for Peaceful Reunification of Korean Peninsula
- August 19—World Humanitarian Day
- August 21- Public Education Sunday



Notes From Pastor Jim

◆ The children of the church are going to the Discovery Center on Sunday, August 6th. We will meet for lunch in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship, and then go proceed to the Center.

◆ The children and youth are having a lock-in on the evening of August 6. We will gather at 6:00 p.m. for supper, followed by games and a movie. The younger children will go home at 8:00 p.m., and the youth at midnight.

◆ First Presbyterian Church is holding a CPR class and has invited us to participate. The class will be on Tuesday, August 8th at 10:00 a.m. If you would like to participate, please call Margaret Moss at 434-738-8512.



A few contributors to our successful 2023 Vacation Bible School were left out of the June newsletter. Those kind individuals are:

Van & Brenda Walker Clyde Landis, Jr. Bobby & Anita Rice

2023 VBS collections were split evenly and donated to Weekday Religious Education (WRE) and Relay For Life via the McAllister Church Team led by Diane Hicks. They will be participating in the relay on Saturday, August 5 at the Jackson River Sports Complex.



AVERAGE JULY 2023 SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:



McAllister Church Website Updates

Updates continue on our website. We welcome you to check out the improved format at

www.mcallistermempcusa.org



THANK YOU to Kim Warlitner who has managed our website for several years. Andy Dreszer is now spearheading the effort and is sharing his training and knowledge with secretary April Rowland who will also be contributing to the revitalization effort. We appreciate your patience as this task continues.

Reverend Moss, Members and Friends of McAllister Church,

We sincerely appreciate the prayers and all acts of kindness shown us at the passing of Gary. God's love is infinite and is shown through you.

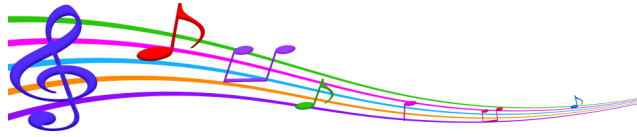
In Christian Love,

Wife - Vickie

Sisters - Priscilla and Lisa

Brother - Chuck





Musical Minute

Our garden, like many others from what I hear, got off to a slow start this year. I didn't harvest a single cherry tomato until the second week of July, and my pepper plants are still stubby and stubbornly pepper free. When I inspect them up close, they seem to sneer back at me with an apathetic and, frankly, contemptuous, attitude, as if to say, "You want a pepper so bad? Make it yourself." I harvested my first two cucumbers on July 21 (delicious!) and was about to give up on my rangy, rambling zucchini plant when I finally found a cute little zucchini, small and tender, hiding shyly under a big leaf. But we can't complain. We've been harvesting our own flowers since April, March, in fact, if you count the daffodils, and the spring and early summer garden has furnished us with an abundance of greens and aromatic herbs. I keep telling myself that the summer is young and there is plenty of time for things to flourish, but this week nature has provided two jarring signs of the inevitable return of fall.

We see deer around our home pretty much every day of every season and we were treated to the presence of at least four fawns this spring and summer. It's been a delight to watch "our" spotted babies develop and mature, if not as much of a delight to see them sample every "deer resistant" plant that we're attempting to grow. But we were stunned the other day to see a handsome buck with well-developed antlers head out of the woods to the field. It seems as if the bucks had just shed their antlers following winter and now it's time to start the whole cycle again. Likewise, I looked out to our back deck just yesterday to see a squirrel contentedly munching away on a bright green hickory nut, his facile "hands" spinning the nut this way and that while his razor sharp teeth shaved away the tough outer shell. I'm sure he left with a full belly, eager to get back to the hickory tree before his brethren discovered it. He left a sizable little heap of nut debris for us to sweep up.

McAllister Church Pending Directory

We have received many information forms (see below) to date. The directory will list both ACTIVE and INACTIVE members. If you have not submitted a form and wish to be included, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you.

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.

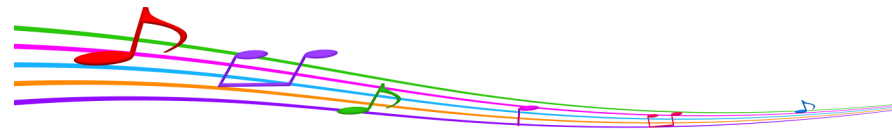


Jackson River Sports Complex – **Saturday, August 5.**
This year's theme is "Rollin' For A Cure."
Opening ceremony begins at 4:00 p.m.
The luminaria ceremony will begin at 9:00 p.m.

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 by calling the church at 540-962-2675. Diane Hicks is our team captain.

If you would like to make a donation, please write a check to American Cancer Society and give or mail to:

Diane Hicks
106 Maple Lane
Covington, VA 24426



All of the stores have their back-to-school aisles stocked and parents already have in hand the lists of items required by each teacher. Children and teenagers are working through their summer "bucket lists" of fun activities, knowing that they will be back behind their desks in a matter of weeks.

All of this attests to the fact that nothing lasts forever. Which is a good thing, really. If you love the summer heat, you've still got another month or two to enjoy it. Relish the birdsong and bask in the sunshine. Heat up the grill for a cookout or head to the beach, stream, or pool for a quick cool-down. If you can't grow your own summer veggies, head to the farmers' market—or to Wiley's Garden Center on Riverside Dr. Wiley's has had great tomatoes and melons this summer! On the other hand, if you've had enough of the high temperatures and humidity, fall is just around the corner. Start planning your trip to the pumpkin patch. Dream about the first cool evenings and crisp mornings of autumn. Envision pulling out your favorite mug for a cup of hot tea or apple cider when the temperature hits that "just right" mark. We all know the old idioms, "All good things must come to an end," "Time marches onward," "Time flies," "It was as if time stood still." All of these adages make time seem a little slippery, but I think we're the fickle ones. When we're happy, we're fine if time stands still for a bit. If we're not, we're anxious to flip the pages on the calendar. Regardless, time does its own thing. So get ready. Summer is here (for a while, at least) and fall is on the way! Enjoy!

~Beth

Cancer is a heavy burden, bringing discouragement,
pain, and heartbreak.
Help all who are touched by this disease to not grow weary.
Help us to not lose heart.
Empower us to overcome,
to lay aside every weight that would keep
us from this noble task.
Fill us with Your Spirit that we may run this race with
perseverance and joy and hope.



Strengthen us with the
promise that You go before
us and with us in this
good fight.
May this day draw us to
your great love.
May this day bring you
honor.
May this day bring victory
over cancer. Amen.

With Deepest Sympathy

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



Linda King
Cousin of Pam Poague (member)

Kaiden Brewster, 3
Young nephew of Gail Washburn
(member)

Gary Bartley
Brother of Chuck Bartley &
Priscilla Downer (members)

Steve Johnson
Cousin of Diane Walker (member)

Travis Smith
Nephew of Diane Walker (member)

Memorial Gifts

Gary Bartley by:

Butch & Norma Curtin
Marshall & Donna Fox
Paul Riley



Prayer Concerns

Richard Downer	Vince Bartley	Dwight Hanshew	Edgar Brinkley
Milton Helton	Ruth Gardner	Melvin Persinger	Roger Byer
Meg Jackson	Lyall Griffin (<i>Yvonne Miller's husband</i>)	Margie Young	Bo Bo Fridley
Heather Williams	Joe Martin & Family	C.F. police officer, victim & their families	Jean Casey
Lisa Dickson	Buzzy Riley	Brewster Family	Sandra Clemmons
Trish Cline	Jean Terry	Westrock	Lori Nicely
Clarissa Halsey	Joey Martin		Jane Pinkard
David Sponaugle	Aubrey Nicely	<i>Non-Believers</i>	Travis Smith
Art & Eline Rice	Jewel Jamison	<i>Our Nation & Troops</i>	Dayton Stone
Linda Perkins		<i>Government Officials</i>	Linda Wickham
R. "Flat Top" Johnson Family		<i>Ukraine & Russia</i>	

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

Constant Need

Midge Akers, Erskine Back, Miki Ballengee, 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

Clayton L. Aldridge	Bill "Sugar Bear" Clark	Lee Roy Moody, Sr.	Beverly Adkins
Beverly Tyree Angell	Darrell Combs	Earl Roles, III	Richard L. Grimes
William Ford, Jr.	Christopher Cook	Leonard D. Sizemore	Steve Johnson
Tanya Miller Gates	Chris Essex	Patricia C. Tucker	Ben Mauck
George Kostel	William Ford, Jr.	Mary Brooks Barber	Danny Austin
Joseph Lockridge	Susan Fridley	Darrell E. Combs	Earnest Meadows, Sr.
Mary Ann Provost	Guy Hensley	R. "Flat Top" Johnson	Doug Russell
Joann Lowe Ralsten	W. Milton Humphries	Steven E. Harris	Shelby C. Crizer
Virgie Rothwell	Nathan Stancil	James Heighter	Anna L. Fox
Mary Fish Jones	Linda King	Fay Rider Seay	Charlotte R.W. Goeke
Ellen Nicely Snead	Kaiden Brewster	Deborah Snedegar	Allen Hickman, 105
Gary Bartley	Noah Fertig	Charlotte J. Stull	Travis Smith
Imogene Boyette	Donna M. Hepler	B. "Sue" Thrasher	
Everett Hughes	Charlie Nelson, Sr.	Steve C. Wilmer	