

Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church  
4222 Mt. Clinton Pike, Harrisonburg, VA 22802  
cooks creekchurch.org  
cooks creekpres@gmail.com  
540.867.5117

October 2022  
Volume 137



COOKS CREEK  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

# Cooks Creek Courier



Let's Re-Connect! Sunday, October 2, 2022

See page 3 for more information!

## Ramblings from the Reverend

We are re-connecting in October! We look forward to seeing you on the 2nd for Re-Connect Sunday featuring worship with the celebration of the Lord's Supper for World Communion Sunday, music from the Dunns, a great meal, fellowship, a historical video, and a cemetery tour. Sunday School for all ages is at 9:30 and worship is at 10:30. Keep reading for more ways to connect!

Cont. on page 5

## Inside this issue

Monthly Schedule .....	2
Church News.....	3&4
Reverend Ramblings .....	5
Food Pantry Report.....	6&7
Outreach Ministry .....	8
Kid's Page .....	9
Calendar & Celebrations.....	10

# October

	Liturgist	SS Care	Nursery	Pre-school
2	Barret Dalrymple	Katherine Lyons	Charlie & Shelley Newman	Katherine Lyons
9	Tracy Bosserman	Katherine Lyons	Natalie & Brian Bocock	Katherine Lyons & Pam Bocock
16	Nancy Myers	Katherine Lyons	Paul & Whitney Eberly	Adonica Miller & Billy
23	Skip Wallace	Katherine Lyons	Jennifer & Brandon Fadeley	Katherine Lyons & Dianne Reynolds
30	Ken McNulty	Katherine Lyons	Katherine Lyons	Katherine Lyons & Nancy Miller

**Elders on Call:** Brenda Moyers 540-820-4722 and Gerald Harper 540-434-3327. If you have an urgent need and can not get in touch with Pastor Seth, please call the Elder on call.

### September Attendance:

4 - SS 19 W 65

11 - SS 27 W 72

18 - SS 33 W 53

25 - SS 23 W 74

We are also thankful for the 30-50 who faithfully watch online and listen via telephone.

## Prayer Needs

*Norman & Linda Smith, recovering from Covid and feeling OK*

Jeanie Will and family on the death of her husband, Jerry, and for recovery of the injuries Jeanie sustained in the car wreck.

Mary Ann Brown

Dylan Heatwole

Diane & JD's daughter, Brittany, and their grandson, Tucker.

Terry & Linda Morris

Dennis Early

Karen Moats

Ronald Miller

## Church Information

### Staff

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Seth Normington 540.236.2900

Office Administrator: Susan Browning

Organist: Teresa Simmers

Nursery Coordinator: Katherine Lyons

Custodian: Jean Will

### Session

Clerk of Session: Mark Williams

Administration Team: Mark Williams, Brenda Moyers

Mission Outreach Team: Terry Morris, Jeff Heatwole

Congregational Care Team: Becky Pierce, Fran Smith

Christian Education Team: Kate Dudley, Gerald Harper

Property and Grounds Team: Jim Suter, Brad Miller, Ray Heatwole

Worship Team: Don Myers, Skip Wallace

### Church Committee Leaders

Youth Advisor: Kate Dudley & Becky Pierce

Cemetery: Brad Miller

The Sunshine Gang: Craig & Nancy Miller, Bob & Patsy Scott

Sanctuary Decorations: Jana Miller

Historian: Nancy Myers

## Church News

### Prayer Ministry

Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God. 1 John 3:1a

O Lord, remind me that...

The risen living Christ  
Calls me by name  
Comes to the loneliness in me  
Heals that which is wounded in me  
Comforts that which grieves in me  
Seeks for that which is lost within me  
Releases me from that which has dominion over me  
Cleanses me from that which does not belong to me

Renews that which feels drained within me  
Awakens that which is asleep in me  
Names that which is formless in me  
Empowers that which is new-born within me  
Consecrates and guides that which is strong within me  
Restores me to this world which needs me  
Reaches out in endless love to others through me

Thank you, Lord, for indwelling me with your spirit.. Amen

*(Copied - Men's Thursday Morning Fellowship, Power Prayer Break 10-2-4)*

Prayer is the way we communicate with our Lord and Savior, anytime – day or night. Let us pray for Pastor Seth as he teaches God's word and that the Holy Spirit will empower us as His church to reach out to help others who are in need spiritually and financially. Pray for family and friends who have lost loved ones, individuals dealing with health issues, leaders of our country seeking God's direction, Ukrainian and Russian conflict, medical personnel caring for those who are sick, and educators teaching our children, youth, and college students. Let us give God all the glory and praise for hearing our prayers!

*Blessings,  
Becky*

## Reconnect Sunday

**Re-Connect Sunday** is almost here and we are hoping for a great turnout on Sunday, October 2. We have over 150 people who have signed up for the luncheon!

The Re-Connect Sunday Team wishes to express its appreciation for the many people who are involved in Re-Connect Sunday. Thanks to Craig and Brennan Miller for getting the chicken together for us; we appreciate Dayton Tavern for catering the event; the Congregational Care Committee has helped organize the luncheon; Jana Miller, Nancy Myers

and Shelley Newman have worked with Alan Showalter of King Photo to produce a video that everyone will enjoy over lunch; Becky & Bill Pierce for securing The Dunns, a NC gospel group performing during the worship service and following our luncheon; Bret Phillips and Brent Showalter for their technical help; Jim Suter for agreeing to lead a historical tour of the cemetery following our luncheon; and of course, Pastor Seth for planning and providing a meaningful worship service and message for us all. Plus, it's World Communion Sunday, which always adds a special

touch to our worship service.

We look forward to hosting our families and friends at Re-Connect Sunday on October 2. See you there!

Re-Connect Sunday Team

Tom Frye	David Scott
Jana Miller	Steve Smith
Bea Morris	Jim Suter
Nancy Myers	





## A New Season in the Office

We have hired a new administrative assistant/ treasurer! Susan Browning started working in the Office on Tuesday, September 20th. Many of you may have met Susan and her husband, David, as they have been worshipping with us since the spring. She will be getting a handle on the office admin side of things before tackling the financial responsibilities in the coming weeks. She has extensive experience in college administration and other fields and we are excited to have her on board!

We look forward to everyone getting to meet and work with Susan. A happy little reminder as we do that though... it has been a while since we have had a person in this position who also worships with us on Sundays and we need to be cognizant of allowing Susan and David to show up to worship on Sundays - she is not showing up to work on Sundays! *Please help establish this healthy boundary by being friendly and welcoming, but leaving the church business matters for the weekdays.*

## The Dick Miller Fund: A Local Mission

Dick Miller, father of Richard, Ronald, Pamela, and Craig, was an elder at Cooks Creek who had a passion for helping our neighbors who were going through a rough patch in life. He loved the Lord and often personally assisted people and encouraged the church to help those less fortunate. After his death in 1994, his family established a fund in his memory to carry on this work.

For over 20 years, this fund has been supported not only by the Miller family but by donations from others who want to help local struggling families. The goal is to help people facing a crisis usually brought on by an unexpected disruption of income. Those living from paycheck to paycheck, and especially those whose only income is from disability or Social Security, find it very difficult to catch up once they get behind in monthly bills.

The fund is not a budgeted item but depends solely on contributions and is administered by the Mission Team. Following about a 30-minute telephone interview, the amount requested is verified by a call to the landlord, utility company, etc. Based on the situation

and fund balance at the time, the team grants or denies the request. If it is granted, the payment is made directly to the provider of the service. Money is never given to the person making the request. Records of these requests are maintained. In 2021, a total of \$23,441.68 was spent helping 34 families. Two families were denied. So far in 2022, 29 families have received assistance and 9 have been denied. A few times requests were not processed because of a very low fund balance. A couple times churches or individuals in the West Rockingham Food Pantry network assisted with a request too large for us to meet alone.

Both large and small donations given to this fund over the years reflect the desire of members to express the love of God for all and gratitude for the blessings we have been given. Those wishing to support this mission may make checks payable to Cooks Creek and earmarked Dick Miller Fund.

**Presbyterians: Past, Present, Future** continues through October 30. There is still time to join us! This is an adult formation class I am leading looking at the distinctives of being Presbyterian. Each week we will look at an event in Presbyterian history and connect it to how we live today and how it impacts us going into the future. If you are interested in learning more about the history of Presbyterians, what it means to be a Presbyterian, how our congregation is run, and what the future might look like, this is for you. If you are a seasoned Jesus follower, but newer to a Presbyterian church, this could be an especially good way to get a feel for why we do what we do. This class is also available to listen to on Zoom and the recordings are posted on our website: [cook-screekchurch.org/sermons](http://cook-screekchurch.org/sermons).

**Bible Discussion Group.** If you are looking to be formed by scrip-

ture in community, this opportunity is for you. We will have a new bible discussion group on Wednesdays from October 19 through November 16 at 7:00pm in-person at church and on Zoom (look for Zoom info in the weekly update email and contact me ASAP if you'd like childcare at the church). We will look at a passage in 1 Peter with these questions each week: What does it say? What does it mean? What does it mean to me and us? Let's form each other into greater Christ-likeness around God's Word for five weeks this fall!

**Lunchtime Prayers.** We at Cooks Creek have a tradition of being a people at prayer and we will experiment with a new way to connect with each other in prayer! On Tuesdays from October 25

through November 22 from 12:00-12:30 we will gather at church and on Zoom for a time of prayer (look

for Zoom info in the weekly update email).

Let's Re-Connect!

Blessings



**New Office Hours:  
Tuesdays through Thursdays  
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

---

### COOKS CREEK – BULLETIN – HISTORY TIDBIT

Pastors have always depended on members of the congregation to keep them informed. An old bulletin announcement indicates the frustration of one pastor with this issue. Can you guess the name of this pastor? (For the answer see page 7.)

"NOTE WELL: We discovered for the first time this week, that a member of this congregation had been a patient in the Hospital in Harrisonburg 3 different times since Xmas. Somebody has fallen down on the job in not informing the minister, for he has no way of knowing these facts unless somebody tells him. The congregation has been good – but not good enough in advising him of sickness in the church. You can render a real service by informing the minister of needed visitation."

*Thanks, Bea*

# Food Pantry Report

<b>Beginning Balance August 1, 2022</b>	<b>\$15,156.87</b>
<b>DEPOSITS</b>	
Individual Contributions	\$1,320.00
Church & Religious Organizations & Businesses	\$5,840.00
Total Deposits	<b>\$7,160.00</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>	
Bread	\$358.75
Hot dogs & Hamburger	\$1,069.25
Food Purchases to fill Bags	\$3,905.88
Eggs (reimbursed by Briery Branch COB)	\$410.85
Milk Vouchers	\$797.55
Toilet Tissue	\$431.28
Produce Vouchers	\$1,115.29
Total Disbursements	<b>\$8,088.85</b>
<b>Balance as of August 31 2022</b>	<b>\$14,228.02</b>

As you can see, the balance at the end of August is a little over \$900 less than at the beginning of the month. Last month Sharp Shopper did not send us a bill for the milk and produce vouchers, so there are two months of those bills in the August report. One church had collections from members over a period of months and made a sizeable contribution. Making periodic contributions in our churches is a good way to heighten interest in the pantry and to provide an opportunity for people to give smaller but meaningful gifts. The cost of the eggs was reimbursed by the host church, and our generous donor again reimbursed the pantry for the hamburger. The bread total includes the cost of the hot dog buns. We are all well aware of the increased cost of food when we do our own

grocery shopping, so it is to be expected that the cost of items to fill the bags is increasing. Please be sure to keep members of your congregation informed about the costs incurred each month.

Approximately 1,794 pounds of food was given in the prepacked bags. In addition to the prepacked bags, each family received 2 pounds of hamburger, 1 package of hot dogs, 1 package of hot dog buns, 2 dozen eggs, a 12-roll package of toilet paper, and bread in the same quantity as the vouchers: 1-2 in the family received one loaf, 3-4 in the family received two loaves, and 5+ received 3 loaves. The pantry served a total of 65 households in August: 61 on Thursday evening which included 4 deliveries Thursday and 3 deliveries on Saturday, 1 emergency bag delivered Wednesday even-

ing, and on Saturday one picked up for herself and 2 others.

We thank the Briery Branch COB for hosting the August distribution. Fairview COB will host the pantry on September 22. They will provide an inspirational insert and eggs for each family. We will plan to serve 80.

Ira Byock recounts in a Facebook mailing anthropologist Margaret Mead's answer to a student who asked what she considered the first sign of civilization in a culture. Her answer is not what most of us would guess. "Mead said that the first sign of civilization in an ancient culture was a femur (thighbone) that had been broken and then healed. Mead explained that in the animal kingdom, if you break your leg, you die.

*Cont. on page 7*

## Food Pantry Report, Cont.

You cannot run from danger, get to the river for a drink or hunt for food. You are meat for prowling beasts. No animal survives a broken leg long enough for the bone to heal. A broken femur that has healed is evidence that someone has taken time to stay with the one who fell, has bound up the wound, has carried the person to safety and has tended the person through recovery. Helping someone else through difficulty is where civilization starts, Mead said. We are at our best when we serve others."

As we are inundated every

evening with the nightly news reporting of the many examples of man's inhumanity to man, we may be tempted to believe that civilization is on the decline, but when we realize we can have hope, even in the midst of this degradation, because there are millions of people across the world who are following the teaching of Jesus, our servant Lord, who taught us about the Good Samaritan and said that when we help those less fortunate we are helping Him. We don't equate what we do for others in our food pantry each

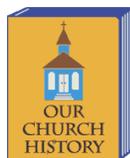
month or other small acts of service for those who are experiencing life's difficulties as having much effect on civilization because they seem so insignificant in the grand scheme of things. But we should be encouraged that our offerings of time, talents, and physical resources are used by God as part of His plan for the cultures He created. We can't give up!

*Bea*



## Announcement from Massanetta Springs

Christmas is just three months away, which means Christmas with Massanetta is getting close! Christmas with Massanetta Springs will be Saturday, December 3rd. Registration is now open. The concert will be performed by local JMU group, ReScored. The deadline to register is November 18th. For more information, go to: <https://massanettasprings.org/>



History Tidbit Answer: Mr. H.G. Allen – April 1955

# Cooks Creek Church Outreach Ministry

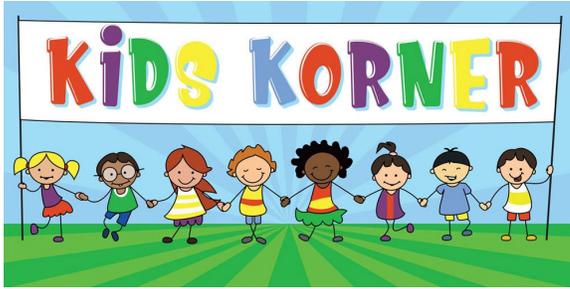
## Keeping in Touch with Members and Friends

One of our most important ministries is to love and care for one another. All of us can participate in this by reaching out with phone calls, cards, visits and prayer. We want to remember the words of our Lord:

"Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." John 13:34



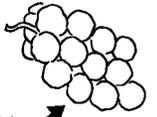
Dennis Early 2/2	Bridgewater Retirement Community 302 N. 2nd St. Room 353 Bridgewater, VA 22812	Lois Frye 10/25	White Birch Communities 847 Oakwood Dr. Rockingham, VA 22801 540-236-5918
Tom & Luanne May T 4/11	1235 Quince Drive Harrisonburg, VA 22801 540-476-3205	Pam Sonner 3/20	229 Emerson Lane Harrisonburg, VA 22802 540-217-0805
Jerry Miller 7/30	4463 Mt. Clinton Pike Harrisonburg, VA 22802 540-908-8316 millerhomestead@comcast.net	Terry & Linda Morris T 4/9 L 3/1	3935 Sunnyside Dr. Suite B Harrisonburg, VA 22801 540-568-8448
Ann Rhodes	624 Erickson Ave. Harrisonburg, VA 22801 540-434-9473	Curtis Long 11/23	6868 Mt. Clinton Pike Harrisonburg, VA 22802 540-867-5127
Wanda Ritchie 1/19	68 Cooks Creek Rd. Harrisonburg, VA 22802 540-434-1944	<b>CCPC MEMBERS AT VMRC</b>	
Mary Ann Brown 6/1	Bridgewater Retirement Community Unity Household Room 360 302 N. 2nd Street Bridgewater, VA 22812 540-564-0640	Lois Alexander 4/1	1401 Virginia Ave Crestwood, Cedar Room 101 Harrisonburg, VA 22802 540-564-3574
Eddy & Mary Ellen Wampler E 9/15 M 3/23	335 Westview Street Dayton, VA 22821 540-879-2257 Eddy – 540-383-5653	Nelson Alexander 11/24	1401 Virginia Ave. Walnut 330 Harrisonburg, VA 22802 540-564-6511
Mary Ann Morris 11/11	Summit Square Retirement Community 501 Oak Ave Waynesboro, VA 22980 540-941-3157	Jimmy & Evelyn Miller J 5/31 E 4/24	1401 Virginia Ave. Crestwood, Hickory Apt. 303 540-564-6527
Jean Ratcliff 5/23	5366 Snapps Creek Rd. Singers Glen, VA 22850 540-833-6604	Mabel Branner 4/3	1401 Virginia Ave. Redbud 224 Harrisonburg, VA 22802 540-564-3352



# Just for **KIDS**

## The Harvest

Harvest time was very important to the Israelites. They had three harvests each year: barley in spring; wheat in summer; fruits in autumn.



Find these foods that the Israelites harvested, and circle them.

- |         |        |        |              |         |
|---------|--------|--------|--------------|---------|
| GRAPES  | HERBS  | OLIVES | APPLES       | GOURDS  |
| BARLEY  | NUTS   | BEANS  | ONIONS       | LENTILS |
| ALMONDS | LEEKS  | FIGS   | CUCUMBERS    |         |
| WHEAT   | MELONS | RYE    | POMEGRANATES |         |



**Bible Quiz**

Jesus was known for using a certain type of speech in his teaching. What was it?

- A. soliloquy
- B. parable
- C. lecture
- D. riddle

Answer: B (See Mark 4:33-34)

H A C B R Y E B R V E N  
 G A U A S N O L E M S U  
 R L C R F I G S T A T T  
 A M U L I M B E H A N S  
 P O M E G R A N A T E S  
 E N B Y E S E L P P A K  
 S D E H R O N I O N S E  
 V S R E S G O U R D S E  
 T I S M E S L I T N E L  
 S E V I L O W H E A T H



# October 2022

**Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat**

						1
2 Re-Connect Sunday	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Session 6:30 PM	25 Courier Deadline 9 AM	26	27 Food Pantry 4-6 PM	28	29
30	31					

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 3 Vivian Burkholder
- 7 Cailin Dolack
- 7 Brett Heatwole
- 8 Linda Smith
- 9 Sophie Newman
- 10 Tom Frye
- 16 Fran Smith
- 17 Abby Harper
- 18 Kathy Dalrymple
- 19 Ryan Blosser
- 21 Andy Funkhouser

- 23 Brennan Miller
- 23 Blake Moats
- 25 Norma Bowman
- 25 Phyllis Miller
- 27 Flossie Andrews
- 28 Hollis Switzer
- 29 Wayne Swope

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 3 Kevin & Morgan Bocock
- 10 Timothy & Erin Earley
- 13 Eric & Tammy Browning
- 16 Bart & Michele Bridges
- 16 Wayne & Rhonda Swope
- 20 Chase & Kate Dudley

