

Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church
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September 2022
Volume 136



COOKS CREEK
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Cooks Creek Courier

Re-Connect Sunday, October 2, 2022

The time is now!

Time to plan to attend and sign up for this very special day in the life of Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church for Re-Connect Sunday, October 2, 2022.

This promises to be a day of worship, visiting with family and friends, a wonderful luncheon and terrific entertainment!

Look on page 3 for more info

Ramblings from the Reverend

September is here and it feels like the gears of life are due to shift again as the days get more noticeably shorter (and perhaps even cooler!). It was nice to see folks at the fair and heartening to see how many Cooks Creek folks contribute to that important week in the life of our community. Church was never meant to simply be a building were people go, but the Church – the Body of Christ – is the people of God in the world. We do such a wonderful job of living into that reality as a congregation in the many ways we serve the common good!

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

September

	Liturgist	SS Care	Nursery	Pre-school
4	Ken McNulty	Katherine Lyons	Whitney & Paul Eberly	Katherine Lyons & Pam Bocock
11	Don Myers	Katherine Lyons	Natalie & Brian Bocock	Adonica Miller & Billy Lilly
18	Steve Smith	Katherine Lyons	Robin & Skip Wallace	Katherine Lyons & Dianne Reynolds
25	Robin Wallace	Katherine Lyons	Jennifer & Brandon Fadeley	Katherine Lyons & Nancy Miller

Elders on Call: Don Myers: 540-435-1011 and Skip Wallace: 540-476-2475

If you have an urgent need and can not get in touch with Pastor Seth, please call the Elder on call.

August Attendance:

7 - SS 23 W 75

14 - SS 22 W 75

21 - SS 19 W 58

28 - SS W

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

Prayer Needs

- Dylan Heatwole
- Tucker-JD and Diane's grandson
- Terry & Linda Morris
- Karen Moats
- Dennis Early
- Ronald Miller
- Meredith Durham
- Jeanie Will and family on the death of her husband, Jerry, and for recovery of the injuries Jeanie sustained in the car wreck.
- Donald Custer and family upon the passing of his wife Bernie
- Mary Ann Brown

Church Information

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Seth Normington 540.236.2900
 Office Administrator:
 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
 Cemetery: Brad Miller
 The Sunshine Gang: Craig & Nancy Miller, Bob & Patsy Scott
 Sanctuary Decorations: Jana Miller
 Historian: Nancy Myers

Church News

Prayer Ministry

10 Ways to Prayer for Your Child

PRAY for:

Faith – Luke 2:52

Health – Psalm 103:2-3

Friendships – Proverbs 12:26

A future – Jeremiah 29:11

Character – 1 Corinthians 15:58

Safety – Psalm 4:8

Joy and Peace – Philippians 4:11

Their desire for things that matter –
Matthew 5:16

Purity – Philippians 4:8

Their future spouses – James 5:16

By Nancy Jergins

Let us continue to pray for our children, youth, college students and each other as we begin a new Sunday School year.

*Blessings,
Becky*

Mission and Outreach Team

Open Doors will be looking for shelters between November 7 - April 3. They are hoping to use churches in the city and the county as was the case before Covid.

We are willing to host when needed. As in the past we will need meals prepared and help with meal clean up. We will not need volunteers to stay as Open Doors has staff that will do that. There will be a sign up sheet at the connect table as soon as dates are secure.

Temporary Cleaning Help

As we search for a temporary custodian, we could use some help keeping the church clean. If you would like to take on a task or two, you can stop by the church Monday -Thursday 9:00-12:00 (or any time if you have a key). We have a clean-

ing check-off sheet at the main entrance. Thank you for your help and let us know if you have questions.

Supporting Jeanie

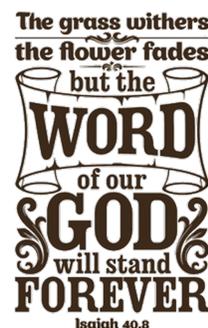
Please continue to lift up Jeanie and her family. If you would like to send her a card, please mail it to:

Jean Will

c/o Julianne Zerkel

8493 N. Valley Pike

Harrisonburg, VA 22802



Reconnect Sunday

If the responses on the sign-up sheet at the Connect Table are any indication, we will be having a great turnout. Dozens have signed up already and the Re-Connect Team encourages you to contact friends and family and let us know you'll be coming. We hope to fill the church on October 2, but we need your help to do so.

We will have a special time together at church that Sunday, so please join us to gather at worship, over lunch, and to be entertained! Thanks to connections of Becky Pierce, we will have the gospel music group, The Dunns--Dwayne, Martha and Jerry--to per-

form a brief concert after lunch in the Fellowship **Special Music** Hall. You don't want to miss this!

Plus, Jana Miller and Nancy Myers have been working on a new video filled with historical church photos of today and yesteryear that you'll thoroughly enjoy. Be sure to attend the luncheon following worship to see this exciting production.

An attendance sheet is on the Connect Table so make sure you sign up and let us know you'll be coming, as it is important that we get an accurate count of attendees. Sunday School will start at

the usual time of 9:30 am, worship service begins at 10:30 am, and immediately after the service, the luncheon will take place in the Fellowship Hall.

All are welcome to attend the events and service of Re-Connect Sunday, October 2, gathering to worship together in fellowship, friendship and to have good times together! See you there!

Re-Connect Team

Tom Frye

David Scott

Jana Miller

Steve Smith

Bea Morris

Jim Suter

Nancy Myers

Moving On

My journey at Cooks Creek began seven years ago, and it has been a pleasurable one all the way. Of course, there were bumps in the road, but you were always there to help in any way possible. Your thoughts, prayers and financial assistance when my son had his accident are just one example that will never be forgotten. Your patience, guidance, support, and love will always be treasured. I have grown to love you, the people of Cooks Creek, and this community.

Let me tell you a little about how I made the decision to leave, which was certainly not easy. I wasn't looking for a job, I was quite content here!

I have always enjoyed my visits to Stuarts Draft Retirement Community and thought it would be a great place to work, so when I was approached about taking a position there, I had to pursue it! I grew up in Stuarts Draft, with the owners of SDRC and our kids also grew up together. In fact, our dads grew up together in Iowa! So our roots go very deep and are very much like family!

So, while I will miss all my friends at Cooks Creek, I will be working with other friends and "family".

I would love to hear from any of you! My email address is: irisheyes59@gmail.com.

I pray God's richest blessings on you all as you continue to seek God's higher purpose for your lives.

Martha Shank

Note from Braeden Wallace

Hello, Cooks Creek family! I wanted to let you know that, as a kick-off to my seminary journey, I will be beginning the Peninsula Fellows Program in Yorktown, Virginia in September. As a fellow, I will get practical ministry experience at Peninsula Community Chapel, take multiple seminary-level courses, be involved in service work, and learn what it means to be part of a Christ-centered community as a newly-wed. My wife, Adelyn, and I would greatly appreciate your partnership through prayer, especially as I begin my Fellows year and she starts her first year of teaching. Thank you to the so many of you that have already agreed to support us in prayer and financial assistance; you are a blessing to us! I am also a little over three quarters of the way to my support raising goal. If you would like to support my Fellows year financially, I would be extremely grateful as well. If you are interested in keeping up with my journey or learning more about support, please e-mail me at bwallace@pccyorktown.com. Thank you so much for your support!

*In Christ,
Braeden Wallace*

History Tidbit

Did you ever think about the many stories and questions our cemetery contains? Cooks Creek Church moved to this site from Dayton in 1780; however, the oldest documented grave at this site is 1795. What happened in that 15 year span? It seems unlikely that no one died during that time. Will our history research provide answers to this question? Who were the people buried there in the early days? What are the stories behind the facts on the tombstones?

In the cemetery in front of the church near the section where there are no individually marked graves is one larger stone erected as a Memorial to the "Un-known." Oral history says that Confederate soldiers are buried there.

In 1921 Cooks Creek bought and started what is still referred to as the "new cemetery." Do you have any family stories or tidbits of information about relatives or others buried in our cemetery? If so, please let the history book committee or Jim Suter know about them.

*Thanks,
Bea*



Ramblings from the Reverend, continued from page 1

There are a couple of things that are not brand new news, but that I want to highlight for us this month.

Presbyterians: Past, Present, Future starts September 11. This is an adult formation class that I will lead 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 will run through Reformation Sunday, October 30.

We are sad to see Martha go but excited for her future at her dream job! Look in this newsletter for her message to us. This means that we are hiring an administrative assistant and treasurer. We are seeking a friendly, organized, detail-oriented person to be our next administrative assistant and treasurer. You can view the full job description here. The person who takes on this role will be comfortable planning for and executing multiple tasks/events each week and willing to learn church-specific computer software. This is a task-oriented position in a relaxed office environment. This position is 16 hours per week and there is the opportunity to do about half of those hours remotely after a brief introduction period. If you or someone you know is interested in this position, please contact Pastor Seth.

Office volunteers. We could use one or two people on Thursdays at about 10:30 to help with our weekly mailing to our non-internet members and friends. If you are willing to help out on a Thursday, please contact the office. Having someone help between when Martha leaves and our new hire arrives could mean the difference between folks getting these mailings and not getting them, so please help if you can, even if for only on Thursday.

May God's blessings be with you as you walk into the future planned before time began!

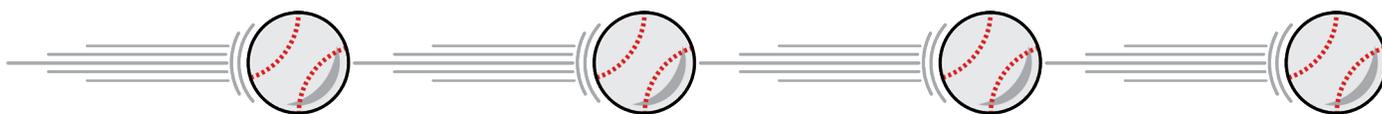
Seth

JUSTIN SHOWALTER SIGNS A DEAL!

Congratulations to Justin Showalter, who has just recently signed on with a professional baseball team! Justin is the son of Brent and Kerry Showalter and the grandson of Ray Heatwole and Martha Showalter. Below is an excerpt from an article that you can read in full at <https://www.breezejmu.org/>

“Former JMU starting pitcher Justin Showalter signed an entry-level contract with the Washington Wild Things, a member of the Frontier League.

The Frontier League is an independent league based in the Northeast and Midwest U.S., with some teams in eastern Canada. Showalter is the fifth former JMU player to sign with a team in the Frontier League and the third Duke from the 2022 roster to sign a professional contract...”



Food Pantry Report

Beginning Balance July 1, 2022	\$15,470.43
DEPOSITS	
Individual Contributions	\$495.00
Church & Religious Organizations & Businesses	\$3,814.43
Total Deposits	\$4309.43
DISBURSEMENTS	
Bread	\$332.50
Hot dogs & Hamburger	\$771.30
Food Purchases to fill Bags	\$2,665.42
Eggs	\$320.92
Milk Vouchers (Finder's Keepers 17 gal.)	\$76.57
Toilet Tissue	\$431.28
Annual Registration-State Corporation Commission	\$25.00
Total Disbursements	\$4,622.99
Balance as of July 30, 2022	\$15,156.87

We did not receive a bill from Sharp Shopper for the milk and produce vouchers this month. If we had, our balance would be about \$1,000 less. We will have to pay that next month with next month's bill. Mt. Olive's check for the eggs and a donor's reimbursement for the hamburger have not been deposited. All of us have felt the pain at the grocery store increase almost weekly, but imagine how you would feel if you were in the position of one of our clients whose social security check is less than \$900 a month, and she gets only about \$30 in food stamps. We are a great help to those with needs in our community. They thank us for what they get and are most grateful for milk, meat, eggs, and toilet tissue. As was reported, we served 65 families on Thursday evening including

5 deliveries and 4 new clients. I gave food to someone Saturday morning, so we really served 66 households. Because of this increase, we will plan to serve 80 in August. It's good to have some items left over in case there are emergencies during the next month, but we try to keep this a low number. The leftover number is considered when ordering items given every month. We all need to talk about this growing need in our congregations and encourage an increase in contributions.

Approximately 1,810 pounds of food was given in the prepacked bags. In addition each family received 2 pounds of hamburger, a package of hot dogs, 2 dozen eggs, a loaf of bread and a package of hot dog buns. Those with 3-4 in the family were offered a second loaf of bread if they wanted it

as well as one of the small turkey breasts Cargill gave us a couple months ago. Those with 5 or more in the family were given 2 loaves of bread and a third loaf if they wanted it. Those large families were also given one of the hams left over from Easter if they wanted it. Also, we had enough items not usually given in the regular bags for each family to choose one thing from a variety table.

We thank Mt. Olive for hosting the pantry this month. On August 25, Briery Branch COB will be the hosts. They will provide eggs and an inspirational insert for each family.

Recently, we have seen on the news horrible destruction caused by fires in the West and flooding in Kentucky and Southwest Virginia.

Cont. on page 7

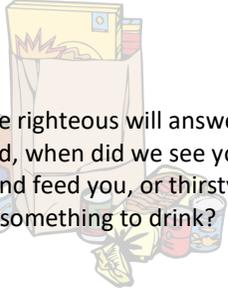
Food Pantry Report, Cont.

However, we have been blessed this summer with sunshine and rain accompanied by only a few storms. A July devotional in Our Daily Bread recounted a grandmother sitting on the porch one sunny summer afternoon with her four-year-old granddaughter. The child excitedly pointed to the yard and said, "Look at the puddles of sunshine!" Indeed, as the sunlight filtered through the tree leaves, there did seem to be "puddles" of light in the midst of the dark shadows. Good news seems in short supply these days as we are inundated with dark

reports of natural catastrophes, growing inflation, shootings and other examples of man's inhumanity to man, but Dave Branon, the author, remarked about what a beautiful image of hope these "puddles of sunshine" give us if we focus on the light in our midst. Even with increasing costs, several trailer trucks of donated items are being sent to Kentucky from our area. Vaccines are being developed as protection from strange new diseases that appear. When we pay attention, we can see God's hand in working out difficult circumstances people

find themselves in. The fourth Thursday is a light that gives hope to some, as one woman talked to me on the phone last week and said how much she was looking forward to our delivery Thursday since she was "about out of food." What an awesome responsibility and yet a treasured blessing to be a "puddle" of light and hope to others.

Bea



"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?'"

Love is the spark that kindles the fire of compassion.

Compassion is the fire that flames the candle of service.

Service is the candle that ignites the torch of hope.

Hope is the torch that lights the beacon of faith.

Faith is the beacon that reflects the power of God.

God is the power that creates the miracle of love.

-William Arthur Ward

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:

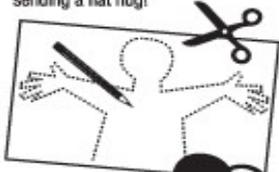
"Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." John 13:34



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
Pete & Ann Rhodes P 6/1	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	CCPC MEMBERS AT VMRC	
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 Morriss 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	Mable Branner 4/3	1401 Virginia Ave. Redbud 224 Harrisonburg, VA 22802 540-564-3352

Envelope EMBRACE

Show long-distance love to grandparents and other relatives by sending a flat hug!



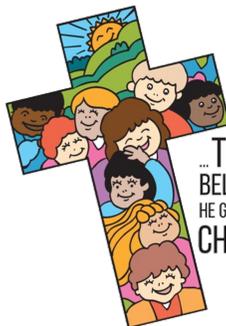
What you need:

- Craft paper
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Markers
- Envelope



What you do:

1. Roll out some craft paper (long enough to spread your arms across it).
2. Lie down on your back on the paper, with arms outstretched. Have someone trace around your arms, hands and head with a pencil.
3. Cut out the outline of your hug.
4. Draw your face and features on the paper. Use markers to color your hug to look like yourself. Write a note on the back.
5. Fold up and mail your two-dimensional hug to a loved one.



... TO THOSE WHO BELIEVED IN HIS NAME, HE GAVE THE RIGHT TO BECOME CHILDREN OF GOD.

JOHN 1:12, NIV

Bible Quiz

Besides being known for his proverbs about wise living, King Solomon was knowledgeable in other fields, including which of the following?

- zoology, including ornithology and ichthyology
- botany
- herpetology
- songwriting
- A and C
- B and D
- All of the above

Answer: G (See 1 Kings 4:29-34)

Puzzle!

Search for and circle all the bold words from Psalm 18:2, which reminds us where we find our strength.

The **LORD** is **MY ROCK**, my **FORTRESS** and my **DELIVERER**; my **GOD** is my rock, in whom I **TAKE REFUGE**. **HE** is my **SHIELD** and the **HORN** of my **SALVATION**, my **STRONGHOLD**.

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

GOD ROCKS!



Autumn



WORD SEARCH



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



- | | | |
|-------|---------|-------|
| SCARF | APPLE | BOOTS |
| TREE | FALL | RAKE |
| ACORN | PUMPKIN | PIE |
| HAY | SWEATER | LEAF |

September 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Courier Deadline	21	22 First Day of Autumn Food Pantry 4-6	23	24
25	26 Session @ 6:30	27	28	29	30	

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Beth Phillips
- 2 - Jennifer Heatwole
- 3 - Earnest Cornett
- 4 - Isla Eberly
- 9 - Donna Kay Ritchie
- 11 - Rick Moats
- 15 - Eddy Wampler
- 19 - Jacob Scott
Lucy Seymour
Carol Stilwell
- 20 - Timothy Earley
- 21 - Hunter Lilly
- 23 - Chase Heatwole

- 24 - Gabriel Shifflett
- 27 - Addison Bridges
- 30 - Carolyn Wampler

ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 - Terry & Natasha Pence
Matthew & Rachel Switzer
- 10 - Tom & Pam Bocock
- 15 - Steve & Fran Smith
- 16 - JD & Diane McCurdy
- 20 - Brandon & Jennifer Fadeley
- 22 - Tom & Gail Frye
Larry & Diane Reybolds
- 24 - Brad & Jana Miller



Dates to Remember

- 20 - Courier articles due by 9 am
- 22 - Food Pantry from 4-6 pm
- 26 - Session Meeting at 6:30 pm

Upcoming Events

- October 2 - Reconnect Sunday