



# Love in Action

*The Newsletter of Maggie Valley United Methodist Church*

Volume II, Issue II



November, 2018

From Pastor Ann

**“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness;  
and all these things shall be added unto you.” ~ Matthew 6:33 (KJV)**

Greetings Everyone,

I pray you and your family are healthy and have recently experienced the goodness of Christ in your lives. We find ourselves in the month of November with only a few short weeks before the end of the year. In these weeks, we'll experience colder temperatures and shorter days. We'll also be spending much time with family and friends as we celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas. Often the time goes quickly as we busy ourselves with many commitments and an ever-growing shopping list for food and gifts.



As your pastor, I want to encourage you to find time over the next weeks to slow down, enjoy your present moment, and hesitate when tempted to your fill your life with unneeded things. As I prepare my own heart and mind for the holiday season, I recalled this week a favorite song. The song, “Tis A Gift to Be Simple,” is a Shaker song written in 1848. The first verse reads as this:

‘Tis the gift to be simple, ‘tis the gift to be free,  
‘tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,  
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,  
‘twill be in the valley of love and delight.

The song invites us to turn our lives around, to get our priorities right, to put first things first, and to seek God’s kingdom. The promise is that if we do so, we will end up in the place God has prepared for us.

My prayer for us is that we end up in the place God has prepared for us. The place is a reality of happiness, health, and reliance on God. It means living a simpler life adopting simple activities to help all of us live more in harmony with God and our community. I invite you in the coming months, in the busyness of the holiday season, to live a simple life. Take a day of rest each week. Make healthy and fun recreation a priority. Eat sensibly. Buy and give things that are truly needed and not just added as more items in our homes. Come to worship and small group study. Spend time in prayer and fellowship.

May the next few weeks be a valley of love and delight for you and your loved ones. I look forward to spending time with you in our Christian community and wish many blessings for you and yours in the weeks to come.

Love,  
Pastor Ann

## From Pastor Erma

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On my way to church I pass the brick & rock building that is the Maggie Valley Post Office and visit it at least once a week. Nothing particularly exciting happens there, but occasionally I will meet someone I haven't seen for a time. Every time I go, I see someone standing by the trash can throwing the unwanted mail into the can, another buying stamps or mailing a package or returning a letter that did not belong to them. Can anything interesting or exciting come from this little brick & rock building?



The answer is yes. From that building, many get good news from loved ones. Others get a gift or a card that makes their day a little brighter. However, the post office is not the source of interesting or exciting news, it is only the messenger by which those visiting there come to receive news, whether good or bad. Look at our lives--you and I are like human post offices. Every day we give out some sort of message to the world. These messages do not come from us, they come from a loving place or an evil place. It is up to us to keep our hearts in tune with God so that we can deliver loving news.

What letters/messages go through the window of your life? Letters of truth and hope, something to cheer and brighten someone's life or do you hand out worthless trash and drivel—words that you wish you could take back or wish you had never said. Letters (words) that we should have dropped in the trash can before they came out of our mouths.

As disciples of Christ, we are given the responsibility of handing out Good News from our God. It is up to us as to how and when we do it. If the post office never handed out any mail, there would be no purpose for that little brick building beside our church. And if we never pass out any Good News, are we fulfilling our purpose as a Christian? "I have told everyone the Good News that you forgive men's sins. I have not been timid about it, as you well know, O Lord. I have not kept the Good News hidden in my heart, but have proclaimed your lovingkindness and truth to all the congregation." (Psalm 40: 9-10 Living Bible)

Wherever we are today, it is important that we keep our post office neat and clean as we deliver God's mail. Deliver words of love, hope, cheer, forgiveness and peace. My prayer for our church this month is that we may all be God's post office and deliver the Good News to those around.

In Christ's Service,  
Erma

## Prayer Concerns

**Our Kindred Spirits Prayer Group meets on Wednesday morning at 10 am at MVUMC. Come to Pastor Ann's office to join this group and please keep these in your prayers:**

Jay Banks	The Bathrobe Group	Jane & John Berrevoets	Bryan	Brian Burr
Greg Carpenter	Nita Childers	Gia Clouse	Jerri Collins	Mari Conneen
Kitty Crain	Angie Davenport	Joanie Devine	Kirk Duclos	Luke Evans
Frances	Frank	Bonnie & Larry Germaine	Crosby Giddens	Bill Glave
Harold Gray	Katie & Robert Griffin	Hadley	Bea Hawkins & Son	Carol Hart
Debbie Hembree's extended family member, Debra		Debbie Hembree's father, John	Michael Hinebaugh	Claude Jermain
Jocelyn	Connie Jones	Doris & Lydia Jones	Cheryl & Destiny Little	Joann Lowder
Parker Lynn	Marjorie	Matt	Denise McCullough	Sandra Morris
Steve Muse	Anne Neely	AC Pope	Lynn & Mark Rains	Lynn Rains' Mother, Margie
Ruby Rogers	Debbie Sanders	Robert Setzer	Lillian Stokes	Brian Toole
Unspoken Requests	Bill & Mary Ann Vignola	Colleen Williamson	Lurie Albritton	Kristin Biel
Hazel Bradshaw	Beth Brown's brother-in-law's brother	Kitty Bryant	Geraldean Caldwell	Jean Chamberlin
David	Debbie Cole	Don Collins	Della Cope	Kim Covey
Teresa Crocker	Rebecca de Paris	Anita Desmond	Edith Dockery's niece, Charlotte	Kim Dozier
Elaina	Maxine Farmer	Eddie Gardiner	Dr. Anne Garrett	Jay Gibson
Peyton Gully	Zelda Hanson	Marlon Harris	Jean & Joan	Jimmy
Martha & Lamar "Whitey" Marcum	Gary McCullough	Butch McGaha	Catherine & Phil Meeker	Sandy Mehaffey
Claud Messer	Debbie Mills	Stuart Monaghan	Rev. Jimmy Morris	Kitzi Murphy
Jim Murtaugh	Karen Neely	Janet Nelson	Phil Newport	Gene Peebles
Roy & Sandy Penwell	Jerry Planchock	Pete Planchock	Mary Pliate	Jack Porter
Ken Prague	Sheila Price & Family	Karen Reed	Renee	Jeremy & Tasha Rhinehart
Jerri Jordan Richards	Rhonda Riley	Jetta Roark	Robin	Rudy
Ginger Rutland	Cynthia Sabetto	John Saxton	Molly Schick	Ron Sellers
Don & Wanda Shoemaker	Sarah Smart	Jeff Smith	Jane Spell	Carrie Spivey
Carolyn Strickland	Amanda Sutton	Rev. Wayne Sutton	Kent Taylor	Greg Tiffany
Sam Tiger	Clarita Velasco	Curran Welch	Susan Wendel	Brian Whaley
Janene Young	Administrative Board	All Travelers	Better Unity Among Christians	Bishop Leeland
Bones, Balance & Stretch Class	Our Children & Youth	Our Choir	Our Church Becoming True Servants	
Clean Slate Coalition	Community Garden	Disaster Victims – Hurricanes	Food Pantry	Good Samaritan Clinic
Grace Circle	Haywood Pathways Center	Haywood Street Congregation	Homeless People	In God's Creation Hiking Group
Maggie Valley Nursing Home & Rehab		Manna Foodbank & Bi-Lo's	McCracken's Nursing Home	Men's Group
Missionaries	The Open Door	People Affected by Acts of Violence, Addiction & Mental Illness		
People looking for Work	People needing Medical Help	Refugees	Shepherd's Table	Shootings
Sisters in Christ	Our Staff	"Subject 2 Change" Christian Trio	Sunday School	United Methodist Church
World Events	Steve Litchford's first cousin,	David Major, his wife passed away		

### **College Students, Haywood County School Teachers and Students, Sunday School Teachers, Sunday School Subs, Children's**

**Church Workers and also** including Eli Bennett, Bill Chamberlin, Shelly Coker, Nathan Duncan, Eddie Ferguson, Emily Ferguson, Clarissa Fisher, Ellis Forga, Madison Herbert, Beverly Ketner, Cameron Lail, David Mackey, Wanda Messer, Jack Montgomery, Makayla & Makenzie Moore, Tyla Oellerich, Barb, Danny & Megan Planchock, Mark Rains, Shafin & Taylor Ross and Matthew Sutton.

**Emergency & Medical Workers, Missionaries & their families** including Amy Burke Family, Elizabeth Carmichael, Joe Conneen, Jeff Mackey & the MV Police Dept., Massey Family, Jake Muirhead, Linda Palmer, Lynn & Mark Rains, Susan Snyder and Mitch Truesdale.

**Our Country, Government, Service men, women & their families** including Melissa Boris, Jesse Brestle, Amanda Bryson, Joshua Cruse, Andrew Davis, Melissa & Seth Gardiner, Christopher & Michael Garrand, Kathryn Boris Glance, Clayton Hardy, Samuel Hunter, Ian Hutton, Makenzie Moore, Michael Morris, Kane Pinkston, Joe Stroupe, Luke Turner, Camille Tyler, Michael Woodard, 211<sup>th</sup> Military Police Company, Prisoners of War, Those Injured & MIA.

**Those in Nursing Homes** including Judi Jenkins → Autumn Care; Sally Ketner → The Brian Center; Billy & Georgia Butler → The Crossings at Reynolds Mountain; Wanda Winecoff → Haywood Lodge; Hattie Sue Bonham, Mary Ann Hall, Lady Hughes, Way Mease, Doris Plott, Robena Russell, Mathias Serwas, Myrtle Sutton, Sarah Sutton → Maggie Valley Nursing & Rehab; Gail Pace → Silver Bluff; Edith Dockery → Spicewood; Jane Beaver → Tore's Home and Martha Lee.

**Those who are Homebound** including Tom Bennett, Claude Caldwell, Joseph Cullen, Willard Dockery, Helen & Joe Duke, Lillian Figueroa, Linda Grasty, Zelda Hanson, Delia Hollingsworth, Shirley & Tom Mann, Paul Mehaffey, Shirley Moody, Hilda Palmer, The Pickens Family, Doug Ramsey, Joel Setzer, Maureen Shaw, Sue Shepherd, David Stroud, Terri Waddell and Jackie Wicks.



## Service & Missions, Announcements Update

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**Some of the events happening at Lake Junaluska for November are:**

***Transitional/Intentional Interim Ministry, Phase III***

**When:** *November 6-8*

**Where:** *Lake Junaluska Conference Center*

**Category:** An interim minister is an experienced, mature United Methodist pastor trained for the specialized ministry of the interim period. Learn tools and techniques designed for this unique ministry.

***IGC Confirmation Retreat Weekend***

**When:** *November 9-11*

**Where:** *Lake Junaluska Conference Center*

**Category:** The focus of this action-packed, interactive weekend is to augment the curriculum taught in the local church, focusing on providing tools that will help youth keep their promise when they are confirmed in The United Methodist Church.

***Experience the World of the Bible I***

**When:** *November 12-14*

**Where:** *Lake Junaluska Conference Center*

**Category:** Join renowned Biblical historian, archaeologist and scholar, Dr. James Fleming as he explains Scripture as related in Biblical times and its continued relevance today.

***Experience the World of the Bible II***

**When:** *November 14-16*

**Where:** *Lake Junaluska Conference Center*

**Category:** Join renowned Biblical historian, archaeologist and scholar, Dr. James Fleming as he explains Scripture as it related in Biblical times and its continued relevance today.

***Thanksgiving at Lake Junaluska***

**When:** *November 21-24*

**Where:** *Lake Junaluska Conference Center*

**Category:** Start a new tradition and savor an exquisite Thanksgiving meal with family and friends. Add a Biltmore Estate ticket or visit other local area attractions.

***Balsam Range Art of Music Festival***

**When:** *November 30 – December 1*

**Where:** *Lake Junaluska Conference Center*

**Category:** Join award-winning bluegrass group Balsam Range as they perform alongside friends for a two-day festival featuring some of the top bluegrass and acoustic musicians in the nation. Come early for the Art of Music Institute, November 28-30.

## Service & Missions, Announcements Update (Continued)

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**Our Bones, Balance and Strength Class meets on Thursdays at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.** Cost is \$4.00 per person. Anyone can come and participate. We will NOT have class on November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Thanksgiving Day.

If you are interested in helping us out going to get food from **Manna Foodbank in Asheville at 10:30 am on Thursdays** or help putting the food up **when it arrives at 1:00 pm on Thursdays**, please see Erma or Renee. We also need help in collecting the food **on Mondays and Fridays at 11:00 am from BI-LO's in Waynesville.**

**The UMW Grace Circle meeting will meet on Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.** All women are welcome! Hope to see you there!

**The Men's Group** will meet on Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 pm at Sagebrush Restaurant.

**We have an "AA" Group Meeting every Saturday evening in the Grace Classroom at 7:00 pm.**

**Make a Christmas Wall Basket! Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Fellowship Hall from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm.** The total cost is \$35. Bring your lunch and drink. If interested, call Shelly Coker at 828-564-6785.

**Don't forget to turn your clocks back an hour. Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>.**

**Communion Sunday & All Saints Sunday will be November 4<sup>th</sup>.** We have a **Children's Church** here at Maggie Valley UMC. **Our Children's Church** starts after the children's sermon. **We welcome our visitors** to take advantage of these services.



*Daylight Saving Time Ends*

**The Maggie Valley Lions Club thanks you for giving any unused and unneeded eyeglasses, hearing aids and cell phones to the Lions to be recycled for use by need individuals here in NC, the US and across the world.** Please continue to do so. Your MV Lions collection box is located by the door that Rev. Bond stands.

**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Haywood County is currently seeking volunteers for their site-based mentoring program.** There are currently students at Jonathan Valley Elementary and Shining Rock Classical Academy that are on the waiting list for an adult mentor. This involves 1 hour per week, at the school, during the school season. Adults are matched one on one with a child and do simple activity such as reading, math, craft, color, board games, and anything the teacher may suggest.

**For more information, please call Martha Barksdale at (828) 273-3601.**

**Our Church Food Pantry operates on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00 am until noon.** We are asking that everyone in the congregation **bring OATMEAL this month.** Personal hygiene items are appreciated also. Thank you for helping!

**The Shepherd's Table meal is at MVUMC Fellowship Hall every Monday from 5:30 pm until 7:00 pm.** We serve families, seniors and singles in need of a good meal and fellowship. If you would like to help, call the church office or contact Erma.



**If you would like someone to sit with your family member for a short period of time (3 hours or less) while you do errands/appointments, please call Clarissa Fisher at 828-377-1576. There is NO CHARGE!**

## Service & Missions, Announcements Update (Continued)

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**Staff Meetings are held every Tuesday at 10:00 am.**

**Administrative Board Members, we will have our Charge Conference on Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.**

**Please remember while scheduling activities at the church, we clean the church every Wednesday morning from 7:00 am until noon.**

**MVUMC Volunteers** are needed to work at the **OPEN DOOR** on **Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>**. Volunteers are needed from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm to prepare and cook the meal and from 11:15 am to 1:30 pm to serve and clean up. Please sign up in the foyer.

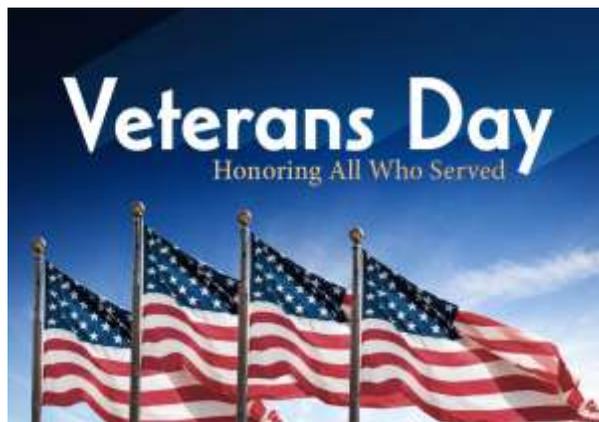
**Pastor Ann's Bible Study meets on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm in the Grace Classroom.** Everyone is welcome. **We will NOT have Pastor Ann's Bible Study on Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> or November 21<sup>st</sup> due to the Community Thanksgiving Eve Service.**

**Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup> is Veterans Day.** Don't forget to say thank you to those who served our country so bravely.

**The SPRC will meet on Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the Grace Classroom.**

**Rev. Jeremy Troxler will be giving our message on Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at the 11:00 am Worship Service.** Be sure to come worship with us on that Sunday.

**Don't forget about our Community Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm at Peachtree United Methodist Church in Maggie Valley. We will let you know soon who our guest pastor is for that evening.**



**On Thanksgiving Day, we will be serving a Community Thanksgiving Meal** for those who would like to spend the day with their church family and friends. This meal will be provided by the five area churches from **11:00 am until 2:00 pm**. Our church is responsible for two baked turkeys, one baked ham, eight sweet potato casseroles, four gallons of milk and three desserts. Please let Erma or Renee know if you can supply any of these on the list. These should be delivered to the church before 9:00 am on Thanksgiving Day. If you know of anyone needing a meal who cannot attend, please call the church before Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, so we can deliver a meal to their home on Thursday. **Happy Thanksgiving!**

**"Sisters in Christ" will meet on Tuesday, November 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.** Please fix your favorite soup for our meal. We need to bring BARS OF SOAP for our mission project as well as \$5.00.



**“No Trial Is Beyond God’s Ability To Help”**

**(Taken from The Bible in One Year; InTouch.org)**

Though scripture is filled with promises from the Lord, we often struggle to accept them as true in our own life. But the Father wants us to believe that He’s willing and able to do whatever He has said.

God has assured us that we don’t have to give in to the lure of sin, as He sets a limit on temptation and provides a way out (1 Corinthians 10:13). Jesus experienced this truth when the Holy Spirit led Him into the wilderness for an encounter with Satan (Matthew 4:1-11). Our Savior successfully resisted the devil’s enticements by recalling who the Father is and what He promised. God limited the temptation to three challenges, and the way out was through Scripture’s powerful truth.

The Lord has also pledged to keep us from stumbling. We live in a world that is full of landmines, which are either hidden from sight or disguised as something good. We do not seek the out, but once triggered, they lead to ungodliness. For example, Peter had a conversation with a servant girl and ended up denying that he knew Jesus Christ (Matthew 26:69-74). Like the apostle, we sometimes have trouble recognizing a situation’s potential danger, but our heavenly Father understands what is involved – and He knows just how we should respond.

When you face temptation or encounter an unexpected difficulty, the approach needs to be the same. Turn your attention to the Lord, and keep it there until your mind is filled with the knowledge of Him. Allow the Scriptures to guide your prayers, and stand firm until the promised help comes.

**Jude 1:24-25 (NIV)**

***“To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy - to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.”***

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**“Reading furnishes the mind only with materials of knowledge; it is thinking that makes what we read**



# ours.” -John Locke

From Ken Brown, Administrative Board Chairperson

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## “Glass Houses”

*Matthew 7:3-5 (NIV)*

***“Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.”***

Elias built beautiful custom homes to suit his client’s every dream. He did not specialize in a specific style or size. Elias built large mansions, small cottages and every imaginable configuration in between. Regardless of a project’s scope, it was meticulously hand crafted. Every architectural feature was authentically interpreted. The construction materials were hand selected for quality. The fit and finish of Elias’s handiwork was impeccable, able to bear time’s test. Each visual texture, each color was chosen to complement the aesthetics of a space and each space enveloped any who entered with a warm embrace. No matter a room’s purpose, it besought you to sit a spell, soaking in its ambiance. And, for your time, you would be filled with a sense of belonging in that moment.

As you might imagine, Elias was a highly sought-after craftsman. Rarely did he have downtime, even during difficult economic cycles. He was, by any measure, successful. Like the cobbler’s children though, the home Elias lived in with his family was not of his own hand. It was modest, and bright. Too bright, in fact, for Elias’ taste. He often joked of living in a glass house. It seemed there were never adequate window coverings to afford privacy regardless of where he found himself within its walls.

As many of us do, Elias one day realized this earth had circled the sun more times than he had paid any heed. His kids no longer lived at home. He had long promised his wife Adriel, he would one day build a house for themselves. The fullness of time had come. And so, it began.

Having often lamented the lack of privacy afforded by their prior house with all its glass, privacy became a preeminent goal for the new one. They were able to acquire a relatively large lot where their new home could nestle serenely into a mature wood. Elias laid out the foundation to minimize disruption to the tree’s grandeur there standing. Doing so would afford them the greatest privacy and allow the building to harmonize with the land. They chose to build a French Provincial design covering a post and beam sub-structure. The exterior was an amalgam of stone, brick and wood finishes. Stonework was strategically placed at corners, around and under windows, and at what would seem random spots, artistically mimicking an old-world style. The majority of the home’s façade was bricking to contrast and highlight the stonework. Any porches, columns and other architectural insets



were wood, finished naturally. Gable ends received cedar shakes. The finished product exuded charm and appeal.

## From Ken Brown, Administrative Board Chairperson (continued)

The house's interior was glorious! The post and beam work centered around four hammer-beam trusses resulting in a space resembling a miniature cathedral. Each truss and the cross-members joining them, were assembled using mortice and tenon joints, held fast by pegs. The most prominent of the four trusses was emblazoned with "Sanctuary" routed conspicuously into the Douglas-fir timber. Atop the timber frame, the ceilings soared, clad with tongue and groove pine. The juxtaposed floors were finished in a combination of hardwoods, stone and ceramic, each simultaneously complementing and contrasting the other. The walls were a combination of rich earth-tone hues combined with more tongue and groove natural pine. Like the many homes Elias had built over the years, this one beckoned to the very soul of all who entered. It was his labor of love, it was his masterpiece, it was the denouement of his career.

Fourteen months after beginning the project, Elias and Adriel crossed the threshold of their newly completed home. Standing in the center of the hammer-beamed room, Elias slowly turned in every direction taking it all in for the first time not as the craftsman, but as the resident in a moment of epiphany. All that wood, brick and stone. All those timbers, siding and paint. All those solid, opaque surfaces. Still, his goal eluded him.

For you see, Elias discovered this house too, was made only of glass, as is mine, as is yours.

### **John 8:3-8 (NIV)**

***The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him.***

***But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." Again, he stooped down and wrote on the ground.***



p.s. Have you ever wondered what it was Jesus wrote on the ground? Though we don't know for sure, here's an interesting read for you:

[www.crosswalk.com/blogs/dr-julie-barrier/what-did-jesus-really-write-in-the-](http://www.crosswalk.com/blogs/dr-julie-barrier/what-did-jesus-really-write-in-the-sand.html)

[sand.html](http://www.crosswalk.com/blogs/dr-julie-barrier/what-did-jesus-really-write-in-the-sand.html)

## From Renee, Choir Director & Pianist

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I have been at this church for 21 years and have been in church music for about 50 years (most of my life.) I have grown in my walk with God at this church while growing close to all who attend here. You are and always will be my church family. I have learned much but nothing as important as how to serve and walk with the Lord. I have a new challenge in my life that the Lord has tasked me with doing. "Subject 2 Change" Christian Trio has grown beyond the "once-a-month" venue. Churches are calling our group to sing and spread God's word through song. The majority of these requests are for Sunday mornings and for special services such as Revivals and Homecomings and Weekend events.



While directing the choir here has been a driving mission in my life, the Lord has lain a path before me that is fruitful yet time consuming. I have tried to do both - directing the choir and performing the missionary work of "Subject 2 Change." I love doing both and thought it was possible. Under the circumstances at the present time, I cannot. The walk with our Lord is taking me out of the choir so I can lead through music in areas where I am needed. This is not a choice that I feel I can make rather than a choice that the Lord has made for me. I want to serve Him like He wants and is leading me. John 12:26 says, "Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant shall be also. My Father will honor the one who serves me." It is clear that I can't do both without giving less than 100%. That is not me, it has always been 110% in everything I do.

Please except my resignation as choir director and pianist as of January 1, 2019. I still plan to be here in my Administrative Assistant position and will sing in the choir when "S2C" is not involved in a concert. I hope that all will understand that by listening to the Lord and through faith and prayer and talking with all that are concerned, this decision was made. Thanks goes to those that have supported me over these wonderful years. I couldn't have asked for a better choir and organist to work with throughout the years. They are the very best. You as a church don't realize what a gift we have in our choir. May the peace of Christ be with all of you.

I love you from the depths of my heart,

Renee

## **Psalm 96:1-2 –**

**“Sing a new song to the Lord! Sing it everywhere around the world! Sing out His Praises! Bless His name. Each day tell someone that He saves.”**

From Denise McCullough

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### **“Tempting Fate”**

Ever since I became 90 years old and the oldest person in the church, I have been quite smug and jokingly said, “I’ll make a date for a lunch party with my Bible Study on my 95<sup>th</sup>.” When THAT date came and I went, I laughingly said, “Well, it looks like I’m going to live to a hundred,” not realizing I was tempting fate in a dangerous manner.

The 96<sup>th</sup> came and went and I continued to work in my garden, planting and weeding, dead-heading and watering. With many potted plants, there was a lot of time spent filling water jugs and watering them.

Suddenly, everything changed when one morning as I stepped out of bed and was hit by excruciating pain. Everyday, it increased until after several weeks I was practically bedridden. I had x-rays and MRI and found two vertebrae crushed and pinching a nerve that went all the way to my toes. Finally, after two months, I was slated for an epidural injection. On Friday, September 22, 2017, I had it done.

We started the procedure at 1:00 pm. The practitioners were two wonderful girls. They explained everything to me all along the way, when I might feel a slight prick, etc. The most difficult time for me was getting on my stomach, something I’d not been able to do for years. There was no pain or discomfort while waiting for any reaction to the injection.

They asked me questions about all my family to take my mind off what was going on. I told them all about our life. It was funny how they asked me how old my sister was and when they learned the difference in our ages, they wanted to know how old Mama was when Bonnie was born. They asked what all the family died from and showed real interest in everything, saying it was a fascinating story and that I should write about it all. I told them I had.



No pain at any time – all over by 1:45 pm and home by 2:30 pm. Rested with an ice pack and no pain in the leg or back.

Saturday – slight pain in leg, some numbness and tingling.

September 29 – have helped at the church food pantry, able to get around with just light pain getting into bed and out and sitting down and getting up. Still have bad pain when I first stand up in morning. Can’t lean over sink so I just don’t....Later, I limber up and get along fine.

This is not expected to last but about 4 months, so I'll have them as often as needed. I can't have surgery so.....

**GOD IS GREAT! HE HELPS JUST ENOUGH!!!**

**Maybe this is to keep me humble...**

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

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### HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

2	Chris Montgomery	21	Dan Dry
2	Lewis Hanson	21	Kaylee Highsmith
2	Henry Sutton	22	Brandon Meadows
4	Nathan Roth	23	Pam McMillan
4	Lorraine Cook	23	Beth Brown
4	Donna McElroy	25	Janet Dry
6	Erma Bond	25	Shirley Kelley
6	Bill Chamberlin	25	Shelly Coker
7	Kathryn Brannen	26	Kathryn Boris Glance
7	Bruce Kossman		
7	DeVere Williams		
8	Lili Meadows		
9	Belinda Ferguson		
11	Carolyn Pilgrim		
11	Jack Montgomery		
12	Will Caldwell		
12	Meredith Koebley Snider		
12	Kayla Queen Green		
13	Sue Campbell		
13	Roy Sapough		
16	Rachel Bennett		
16	Lynn Walsh		
17	Bryanna Mackey		
17	John Miller	28	Julius Rountree
19	Pat Burton	28	Barbara Baity
19	Makenzie Moore	28	Nancy Frank
19	Matthew Sutton	29	Elita Stamp
20	Sandra Knight	30	June Johnson
20	Joan Kennedy Kocsis		



### HAPPY NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARY!

6	Bonnie & Lew Hanson
14	Shelda & Scott Muirhead (1980)
18	Twila Medford & Steve Muse (1998)
19	Carol & Chip Eifler
19	Erna & Sten Lundgren
21	Cynthia & DeVere Williams (1979)

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**We are asking the congregation to send cards or letters to certain college students each month. This month we are remembering Tyla Oellerich and Shafin Ross. Their addresses are:**

**Tyla Oellerich  
c/o Gardner Webb University  
P.O. Box 5196  
110 South Main Street  
Boiling Springs, NC 28017**

**Shafin Ross  
247 Eli Hartley Drive  
Boone, NC 28607**

## Thank-you's

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Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the use of the church and the delicious meal prepared and brought to the family. We so appreciate all of your kindness and thoughtfulness during this time.

Thank you,  
Hattie Davis Family

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Dear Church Members,

Thank you so much for being so kind and pleasant serving our meals every day. After 11 days, you felt like family. We loved the brownies and the cookies were delicious. We have never been treated this good. Thanks again!

Love you all,  
Rosemary Engleman

Ps - Please say "love to Debbie & Gail."

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Thank you so much for your amazingly generous gift to our needy children's food fund. The need is great but you have helped more than you know.

All our gratitude,  
Jonathan valley Elementary School Cafeteria Staff

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Dear Maggie valley UMC Friends and Neighbors,

The Maggie valley Lions Club again thanks the congregation of Maggie valley

UMC for the many eyeglasses that were collected over the past many months. Please know that the eyeglasses donated by your congregation will be greatly appreciated by those that receive them after they have been recycled. Eyeglasses can change another person's life. If you wear glasses, imagine if you did not have them. As long as you keep collecting them, we will keep accepting them for Lions Club International. If you should have any questions, or as your box gets full again, please give me a call.

Blessings and our sincerest thank you!

Lion Bill Chamberlin

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Dear Renee,

Just a quick note to say thank you for getting the altar flowers in honor of our son Rick. We so appreciated that and the flowers were beautiful. We so enjoy your church and your talents. Thank you!

Dick & Lois Oehme

### Thank-you's (continued)

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Thank you for allowing us to use your barn for our Martin Family Reunion that was held on Saturday, August 14<sup>th</sup>. You have a beautiful facility and we're very grateful for your generosity!!

Sincerely,

Jeff Plemmons

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Maggie valley UMC,

Just got my "Love In Action." Thank you for faithfully sending it to me. I always enjoy.

Thanks,

Maureen Shaw

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To Pastors Erma and Ann,

Bill and I are so grateful for MVUMC for many reasons:

1. Friends made instantly.
2. Many, many volunteer opportunities.
3. Wonderful, wholesome and memorable music and choir.
4. Generous caring from Pastor Richard over many health issues.
5. Our very favorite event, among many was the "wedding vow renewal ceremony" several years ago. Family attended.

Penelope now has some health issues. So between Bill's and Penelope's, we have been absent from church. We hope to return soon.

Kindest regards,

Bill Standley and Penelope Miller

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This is to honor my good friends Ruth & Betty Wesley. They enjoy your church so much. I also feel very welcome when I visit with them. Take care and enjoy your cooler weather and the changing trees. I do miss fall.

Sincerely,  
Linda Weaver

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Maggie valley UMC,

Thank you for the delicious meal at Wesley! It was amazing! It was so good!

Thank you so much,  
Wesley Foundation at WCU

**Maggie Valley UMC    Worship Service 11:00 am/Sunday School 9:45 am & 10:00 am**

***4192 Soco Road***

***Maggie Valley, NC 28751***

***Office Phone (828) 926-8036***

***Fax (828) 926-3932***

***[renee@maggieumc.org](mailto:renee@maggieumc.org)***

***Rev. Ann Duncan, Rev. Erma Bond, Pastors***

Renee Mackey, Pianist/Choir Director/Administrative Assistant

Janice Rogers, Organist

**"Knowing Christ, Growing Faith, Serving Others"**

Maggie Valley United Methodist Church

"LOVE IN ACTION" Newsletter

4192 Soco Road

Maggie Valley, NC 28751

On the web at [www.maggieumc.org](http://www.maggieumc.org)

