



# Love in Action

*The Newsletter of Maggie Valley United Methodist Church*

Volume 14, Issue 9

September, 2021

From Pastor Cole

***Maybe it was for a moment like this...*** (Esther 4:14, CEB)

Have you heard that verse before from Esther 4? During the last 18 months while the world has been dealing with all the challenges and heartache that COVID has inflicted on us, I've seen that line from Esther all over the place. In fact, it's become a near daily prayer for me.

This season of life isn't only bad — there have been milestones, celebrations and reasons to be glad too! But there have been many days for many of us where we have been challenged by the reality of our lives in this moment.

"Maybe it was for a moment like this..."

Esther was an Israelite woman who ended up, unexpectedly, as the queen of Persia, a powerful nation in that time. She didn't want the job. She didn't mean to become queen or be married to a non-Israelite man. She just sort of ended up there. (You should read the book for yourself! It's a short but fascinating story.)

I think we can relate to how Esther must have felt. We didn't choose to be in this moment of distancing. We don't want to be monitoring the news to watch numbers of cases in our community or see how we are being asked to act to curb the rise of COVID. We didn't plan on this... but here we are. And I can't help but hear those words from Esther, "Maybe it was for a moment like this..."

If you and I have had a conversation in the last 18 months, you've likely heard me say something along the lines of, "this isn't a surprise to God." The state of our world, I think, breaks God's heart, but it's not a surprise. And you and I being exactly where we are isn't an accident either.

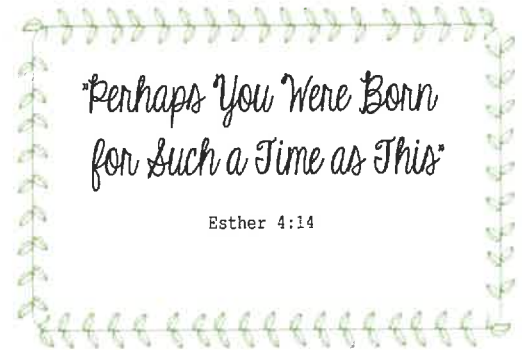
Like Esther, we likely would not choose our current global circumstance, but here we are. And I believe it is no accident. I believe your love, your kindness, your compassion, your determination, your gifts and graces are *exactly* what is needed right now. Maybe it was exactly for a moment like this that you have been put where you are. To love like only you can love. To share compassion like only you can. To be the uniquely wonderful reflection of God in our world.

Esther was stretched beyond her comfort zone, but she (I believe) was made for exactly the time and place she was. So it is for us. We are being stretched (way) beyond our comfort zones, but you and I have been made for this moment.

So take courage. Be not afraid. Know that in this exact moment — as hard as it might be — God wants to use your uniqueness and beauty to share hope and peace, justice and mercy, righteousness and truth in our world.

I am praying with you and for you. We have been called and equipped for this season and I can't wait to see what God is going to continue doing through us all.

*Grace & Peace,*  
Pastor Cole



## Prayer Concerns

**Our Kindred Spirits Prayer Group meets on Wednesdays at noon at MVUMC. Come to the Grace Classroom to join this group and please keep these in your prayers:**

Bruce Arrow	Lovia & Tom Barefoot	Jim Bauden	Audrey Baxter	Jane Berrevoets
Robert Scott Blackadder	Erma Bond	Savannah Brigman	Jonathan Burr	Joe & Mari Conneen
Diana Duclos	Kirk Duclos	Vickie Dykhuizen	Earwood Family	Cory England
Clarissa Fisher	Carol Gardner	Bonnie & Larry Germaine	Gracie Heger	Michael Hinebaugh
Carolyn Hobson	Holt Isom	Phyllis Jackson	Connie Jones	Allen Kitchens
Jay Langford	Cheryl & Destiny Little	Devoice Medford	Sandra Morris	Jim Neely
John Planchock	Courtney Quick	Kelly Reed	Scott Reed	Angela Reid
Charlie & Mildred Rich	Randy Rogers	Roger Sneed	Betty Sutton	Sammy Sutton
Brian Toole	Unspoken Requests	Jessica Cothorn	Bubba Kelley	Ginger Revis
Iris Silvers	Kelly Aldridge	Eileen Bogo	Larry Bogo	Greg Boyd
Hazel Bradshaw	Wendell Burchfield	Stokey Caldwell	Colton	Teresa Crocker
Donya Cummings	Rev. Paul Davenport	Connie Dennis	Anita Desmond	Willard Dockery
Dorothy Gardner	Brenda Griswold	Peyton Gully	Bud Hanselman	Grace Heger
Michael Hill	Jim Hunt	Jimmy	Lewis Lowder	Lynn Martin
Jack McElveen	Paul Mehaffey	Brenda Messer	Tom Miller	Bob Molina
Ruby Moore	Jim Murtaugh	Karen Neely	Lois Oehme	Norann Planchock
Pete Planchock	Pola	Mike Rickman	Rhonda Riley	John Saxton
Candie Sellers	Ron Sellers	Don & Wanda Shoemaker	Elizabeth Smallwood	Sarah Smart
Annie Smith	Jane Spell	Carolyn Strickland	Kent Taylor	Greg Tiffany
Sam Tiger	Martha Bradshaw Trull	Audrey Waters	Ted Watts	Aaron White
Tom Wynch	Janene Young	All Travelers	Bishop Paul Leeland	Our Children & Youth
Our Choir	Clean Slate Coalition	Community Garden	Disaster Victims – especially those with Flooding	
District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Jae Lee		Food Pantry	Haywood Pathways Center	
Haywood Street Congregation	Homeless People	In God's Creation Hiking Group	Manna Foodbank & Publix	Men's Group
Missionaries	One Board	The Open Door		
People Affected by Acts of Violence, Addiction & Mental Illness		People looking for Work	People needing Medical Help	Refugees
Schofields Ministries – MOM Program		Shepherd's Table	Sonshine Recovery Ministries	Our Staff
Sunday School	UMW – "Grace Circle"	Van Ministry	United Methodist Church	World Events & Peace



**Haywood County School Teachers and Students, College Students, Sunday School Teachers & Subs, Children's Church Workers and also including** Bill Chamberlin, Shelly Coker, Anna Coleman, Eddie Ferguson, Beverly Ketner, Kristin Litchford, Jenny McPhaul, Wanda Messer, Annie Palmer, Barb, Danny & Megan Planchock, Gail Quick, Lynn & Mark Rains, Shafin & Taylor Ross, Rev. Mike & Sue Shirley and Luke Williamson.

**Emergency & Medical Workers, Missionaries & their families** including Elizabeth Carmichael, Jeff Mackey & the MV Police Dept., Linda Palmer, Lynn & Mark Rains and Susan Snyder.

**Our Country, Government, Service men, women & their families** including Jesse Brestle, Amanda Bryson, Joshua Cruse, Andrew Davis, Clayton

Hardy, Samuel Hunter, Ian Hutton, Makenzie Moore, Zachary & Gabriella Moore, Michael Morris, Kane Pinkston, Joe Stroupe, Luke Turner, Camille Tyler, Michael Woodard, 211<sup>th</sup> Military Police Company, Prisoners of War, Veterans, Those Injured & MIA.

**Those in Nursing Homes** including Lou Baker, Shirley Mann → Haywood Lodge; Becky Bender, Hattie Sue Bonham, Jane Cable, Lady Hughes, Margaret Smith, Betty Sutton → Maggie Valley Nursing & Rehab; Gail Pace → Silver Bluff; Sue Shepherd → Smoky Mtn Nursing Home; Haywood Lodge, Maggie Valley Nursing Home, McCracken's Nursing Home, Silver Bluff Nursing Home and Smoky Mountain Health & Rehab.

**Those who are Homebound** including Kathryn Brannen, Joseph Cullen, Wanda Deutsch, Willard Dockery, Helen & Joe Duke, Betty Ferguson, Nancy Lott Gerald, Zeldia Hanson & her cat-Patches, Bea Hawkins, Mary Beth Johnson, Paul Mehaffey, Hilda Palmer, The Pickens Family, Doug Ramsey, Ken Roach, Linda Rondecial, Maureen Shaw, Irene Sutton, Charlie & Rena Upright, Bill & MaryAnn Vignola, Terri Waddell, David & Donna Wagner, and Aaron White.

**Just a reminder that Pastor Cole's cell number is 828-577-9906. You can call or text him at that number. If you have an emergency, he is available 24/7.**

# September

2021

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
				3	4	5
			6	7	8	9
		10	11	12	13	14
		15	16	17	18	19
		20	21	22	23	24
		25	26	27	28	29
		30	31			

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
Sunday School (9am) — Daisy Room Worship @ Barn (10:30)			Open Door (9:30 am) Kindred Spirits Prayer Group (12-1) Food Pantry (10-12)	Bible Study (9am) — Fellowship Hall UMW Meeting — (1pm) Grace Classroom Girl Scouts (6pm)	Sunday School Class AA — (7pm) Fellowship Hall — Fellowship Hall	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Sunday School (9am) — Daisy Room Worship @ Barn (10:30)	LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED All Activities Cancelled		Kindred Spirits Prayer Group (12-1) Food Pantry (10-12)	Bible Study (9am) — Fellowship Hall UMW (12:30pm) - Grace Classroom	Sunday School Class AA — (7pm) Fellowship Hall — Fellowship Hall	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Sunday School (9am) — Daisy Room Worship @ Barn (10:30)	Food Pantry (10-12) Shepherd's Table (3:30)	One Board Meeting (6pm) — Fellowship Hall & Zoom	Kindred Spirits Prayer Group (12-1) Food Pantry (10-12)	Bible Study (9am) — Fellowship Hall Men's Group (5:30pm) - Daisy Room Girl Scouts (6pm)	Sunday School Class AA — (7pm) Fellowship Hall — Fellowship Hall	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Sunday School (9am) — Daisy Room Worship @ Barn (10:30)	Food Pantry (10-12) Shepherd's Table (3:30)		Kindred Spirits Prayer Group (12-1) Food Pantry (10-12)	Bible Study (9am) — Fellowship Hall — Fellowship Hall	Sunday School Class AA — (7pm) Fellowship Hall — Fellowship Hall	
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
Sunday School (9am) — Daisy Room Worship @ Barn (10:30)	Food Pantry (10-12) Shepherd's Table (3:30)		Open Door (9:30 am) Kindred Spirits Prayer Group (12-1) Food Pantry (10-12)	Bible Study (9am) — Fellowship Hall — Fellowship Hall		

## Service & Missions, Announcements Update (Continued)

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

**The Open Door will be on Wednesday, September 1<sup>st</sup> and September 29<sup>th</sup>.** Please contact Shirley Saxton if you can help. Thank you for your help feeding the hungry amongst us!

**Pastor Cole's Bible Study meets on Thursday mornings at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.**

**We have a Girl Scout Troop Meeting every other Thursday evening from 6:00 – 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Our meeting this month will be September 2<sup>nd</sup>, September 16<sup>th</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup>.**

**The Adult Sunday School Class will meet on Fridays at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall.**

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

**Pastor Mike & Sue Shirley invite you to a new Adult Sunday School Class. We will meet every Sunday at 9:00 am in the Daisy Classroom. Bring a Bible and join us! All are welcome!**

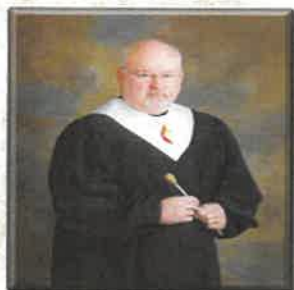
**We will NOT have Food Pantry or Shepherd's Table on Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup> due to the Labor Day Holiday. The Church Office will also be closed.**

**Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> is the last day to get agenda items on the list for the One Board.** Please send requests to Ken Brown.

**The Grace Circle of the United Methodist Women will hold their meeting Thursday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 pm in the Grace Classroom.**

**Don't forget National Grandparents Day on Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.**

**We will have our One Board Meeting on Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall or via Zoom.**



*Jeff Ingle*  
Minister of Music

**The Men's Group will meet in the Daisy Classroom at 5:30 pm on Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup>.** Men, please come enjoy a time of Bible study and fellowship.

**All "Love In Action" articles are due to Renee by Tuesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>.**

**If you do not have a permanent nametag, please put your name on the sign-up sheet in the Sanctuary or call the office.**

**Please welcome the choir from First UMC of Mt. Holly under the direction of Jeff Ingle as they provide music for our Worship Service on Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup>.**





From Bill Chamberlin, Treasurer

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	July	Jan - July
<b>Projected Budget Need</b>	<b>\$24,041.39</b>	<b>\$168,289.73</b>
<b>Actual Expenses</b>	<b>\$42,755.74</b>	<b>\$186,289.73</b>
<b>Offerings Received</b>	<b>\$32,567.50</b>	<b>\$202,099.82</b>
<b>Over/Under</b>	<b>(\$10,188.24)</b>	<b>\$15,810.09</b>



Thank-you's

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Dear Church Family,

Thank you all so much for your thoughts and prayers for our family during the loss of my mother, Celia. Your loving support and calls, cards and messages have helped me more than you know. I thank God for you.

Love,  
Shelly Coker

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Dear Bill (Chamberlin),

Thank you for your kind invitation you sent. Unfortunately, our health issues prevent our travel. To say we miss MVUMC would be a giant understatement. I was at one time dishwasher and Bonnie was a cook/server at Shepherd's Table. I was also Erma's head gopher. We try to keep in touch!!

Our love to all,  
Larry & Bonnie Germaine

PS - Say hi to Renee and all for us!

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*“You may teach anyone who is ignorant.” - Ezra 7:25*

## From Beth Brown, Lay Leader

### “Why Is So Change So Elusive?”

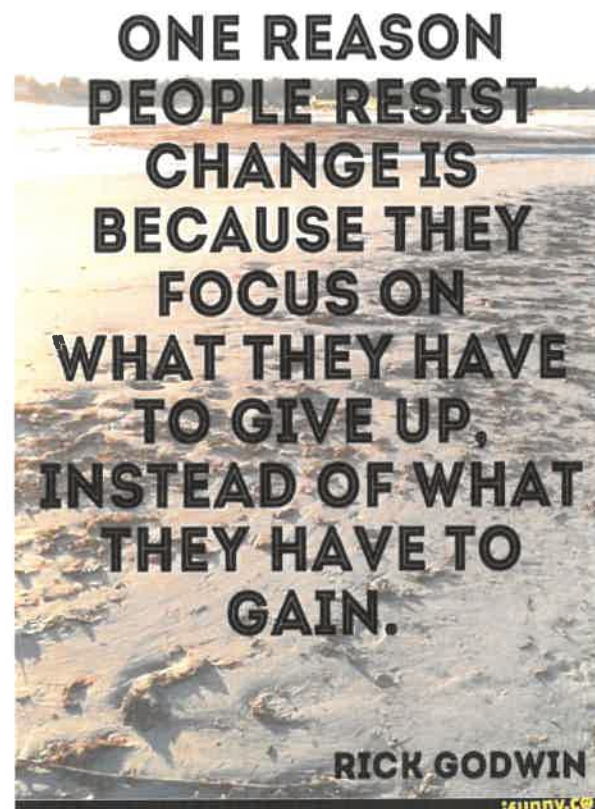
Over the last couple months, we’ve been reading a series on, “Yes, You Really CAN Change. What to Do When You’re Spiritually Stuck”, by Chip Ingram, teaching pastor and CEO of Living on the Edge, an international teaching and discipleship ministry. Many of us, me included struggle with change. It is so much easier to stay in the well-worn path. The path is known, easy to follow, there isn’t much to think about. But is this what our Lord and Savior had in mind when he formed us, gave us life? I like to think life is more like a challenge. Instead of the same old line of thinking or course of action, what if instead, we paused and considered something different, a different response, a different path, a new train of thought, a new perspective? Might fear play a big part in this as well. Learning to take a leap of faith, trusting in our all-knowing Heavenly Father and reaching out is the opportunity God wants for us. I pray that if you’ve been looking for a change, this month’s reading will shed some light onto your path and provide you with an opportunity to make a positive change in your life. Let’s read some thoughts from Chip.

Why are so many Christians missing out on authentic, supernatural, spiritual transformation? Why is there such a gap between the picture we are given in Scripture and the picture of so many Christians’ lives? Why does transformation seem so difficult and beyond our reach?

Jesus met a man who had been paralyzed for thirty-eight years (John 5:1-15). The man had been lying near the pool of Bethesda, where the waters were thought to have healing power whenever they were stirred by an angel. Many blind, paralyzed, and sick people positioned themselves at the pool’s edge so they could be the first one in when the water moved. But this man had a problem. He said he couldn’t get to the water first because he had no one to help him. He had managed to put himself in proximity of a major transformation but not close enough to actually experience it. So, he remained paralyzed, unable to do anything about his condition, with change just out of reach.

Does this sound familiar? That’s not a bad description of the dilemma many people face, longing for the idea of change but perhaps reluctant or even paralyzed to take the steps that would actually create it. Jesus, who had looked into the hearts of so many other people and pointed out their true thoughts and motivations, clearly understood this man’s predicament. He knew the problem, and He knew how to fix it. But He asked the lame man a penetrating question: “Do you want to get well?” (John 5:6). And the man never really gave Him a straight answer. He responded only with an excuse for why change wasn’t possible.

Jesus’s questions seem obvious on the surface. Anybody seeing a paralyzed man at the edge of a pool known for healing would assume he wanted to get well. But the human desire for change is rarely that simple. Change means leaving some familiar things behind, and many people are afraid to do that. That’s one reason so many people feel stuck in dysfunctional relationship and avoid dealing with the dysfunction, or why employees discontent in their work don’t go to the trouble to seek a new position and instead remain where they are. It’s what they know. The benefit of change is that it allows for a new way of life. The problem with change is that it demands a new way of life. It isn’t an easy fix.



## From Beth Brown, Lay Leader (continued)

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We also have to battle our own physiology. Our brains are wired for habits. That is very helpful most of the time; it means we don't have to relearn everything we know and do every single day. But it also means that developing new ways of thinking and doing things can be very difficult. Neurologists tell us that established neural pathways work to overcome new, developing pathways and that the only way the new ones can become established is through strong conviction and persistence in renewing our minds. That's why time and consistency are so important in our change processes. Far too many people give up before the new becomes a part of their lives.

Motivation and neurology aside, I think there are at least three primary reasons Christians fail to change as thoroughly as Scripture promises: spiritual ignorance, spiritual isolation, and spiritual myopia.

Next month we will learn about Spiritual Ignorance and the role it plays in our inability to grow in spiritually. Until then, I pray you continue to enjoy your summer! God Bless!

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## More From Pastor Cole

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### 2021 Hopes & Goals

At the beginning of 2021, I shared 2 main goals with the One Board for this year: intentionally developing our faith and 35 → 70.

Intentional Faith Development — You have likely heard talk of this numerous times throughout this year, hopefully that underscores just how important I think this is. In John 4, Jesus meets with a woman by a well and tells her that he offers "living water." This living water is available to you and me today as well. We can quench our thirst — our soul's thirst — by taking seriously the state of our souls.

How do you pray? How do you read your Bible? Are you thinking about your spiritual life with others? As a church, I hope we can continue to take this seriously, because it changes everything when we do! Plug into a Bible study, reach out to me for ideas for devotions, come to prayer group. Take your faith development seriously and know that God is waiting, always nearby, wanting to give you a drink of Living Water.

35 → 70 — The second goal I laid out for us as a church was increasing the number of active volunteers. Maybe you've heard that old adage about churches, "20% of the people do 80% of the work." We have so many wonderful, committed, talented folks here at MVUMC and I am so grateful for all you do. Even still, there are many ways we could use YOUR help. If you have a talent or desire to help your community, reach out to me so we can get you plugged in, and we can continue to be a blessing to those around us.

These 2 goals are not the only priorities at MVUMC, but if we finish the year with a serious devotion to them, I believe God is going to continue doing amazing things. Thank you for your commitment to being part of what God is doing in and through the community of Maggie Valley UMC.

Grace & Peace,  
Cole



**“No Condemnation In Christ”**  
(Taken from *The Bible in One Year*; InTouch.org)

Peter was devastated when he realized he’d denied Christ not once but three times, as Jesus had foretold (Luke 22:61-62). This was the man who just hours earlier had bravely vowed to die for his Lord (v.33). I doubt he ever forgot the horror of such utter failure. He probably spent the next few days suffocating under a weight of guilt.

Maybe you know exactly how heavy that burden feels. The weight of your sin goes everywhere with you, ragging your heart into a pit of despair. God’s disfavor seems to bear down on you. In a word, you feel condemned. However, for all who have trusted in Jesus’ atoning death on their behalf, the feeling of condemnation is just that – *a feeling*. It isn’t the truth.

The fact is that believers are not condemned for iniquity, no matter how terrible or habitual their transgression may be (Romans 8:1). Condemnation is reserved for the unbeliever, who is declared guilty of sin and punished (John 3:36). We may judge ourselves harshly because our actions and motives fall short of a holy standard. But when God looks at the Christian, He sees only the righteousness of Christ, which clothes us the moment we say yes to the Savior’s sacrifice on our behalf. No one can do enough good to merit his own salvation. Jesus alone removes the believer’s sin and guilty verdict.

God understands our heart’s burdens, even self-inflicted ones. That’s why the Lord sent Peter a message: The disciple needed to know Jesus had risen – conquering sin and death – and was waiting in Galilee (Mark 16:7). God’s hope is for all believers to understand there is no condemnation in Christ.

**Mark 16:5-7 (NIV)**

***As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. “Don’t be alarmed,” he said. “You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.’”***

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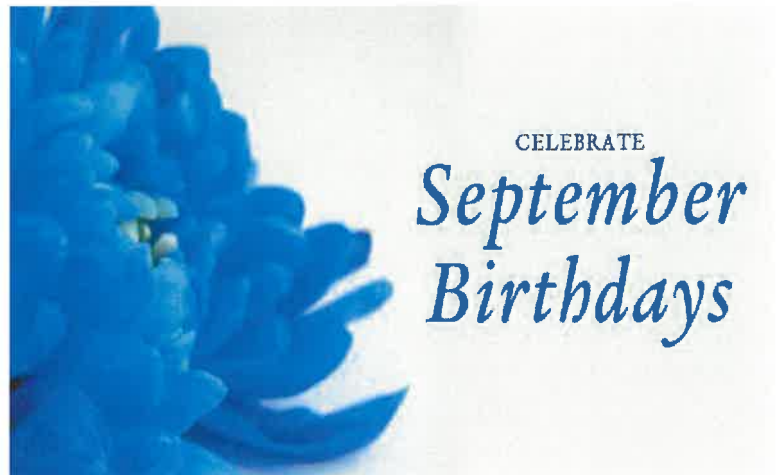
*“God appoints our graces to be nurses to other men’s weaknesses.”*  
- Henry Ward Beecher



## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### HAPPY SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

- 1 Grace McGaha
- 1 Judy Wall
- 2 Jane Berrevoets
- 2 Maston Buff
- 3 Hannah Cabe
- 3 Tina Oellerich
- 6 Donnie Hannah
- 7 Carol Eifler
- 7 Regina Locker
- 7 Joe Plott
- 8 Lauren Dubuke
- 9 Roy Childs
- 9 Mike England
- 9 Megan Planchock
- 11 Peggy Collins
- 11 Becky Revis
- 13 Mary Coker
- 14 Dan Planchock
- 15 Iris Silvers
- 16 Kathy Bogo
- 16 Zeata Ruff
- 17 Austin Mackey
- 18 Jesse Caldwell
- 18 Harvey Hintzman
- 18 Daryl Ross
- 19 Charles Pellicier

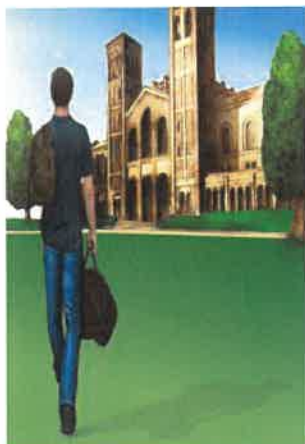


- 21 Ellis Forga
- 23 Alaska Presley
- 24 Judi Ferris
- 26 Kristin Buff
- 27 Tom Barefoot
- 27 Taylor Beasley
- 27 Richard Boris
- 28 Jim Grenfell
- 29 Lurie Albritton
- 29 Sarah Braley Davis

### Happy September Anniversary!

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 Donna &amp; David Wagner</li> <li>5 Joan &amp; Dennis Kocsis (2015)</li> <li>9 Chrystal &amp; Victor Carver (2000)</li> <li>16 Mitty &amp; Charles Courtoy</li> <li>21 Judy B &amp; Sammy Sutton</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>23 Belinda &amp; Eddie Ferguson (1972)</li> <li>25 Wanda &amp; Bart Campbell</li> <li>25 Lorri &amp; Keith Smith (1993)</li> <li>27 Lillianne &amp; Bill Chamberlin (1980)</li> </ul> |
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**We are asking the congregation to send cards or letters to certain College Students and Other Members each month. This month we are remembering College Students – Anna Coleman and Luke Williamson and Other Members – Tom Bennett and Betty Ferguson. Their addresses are:**

**Anna Coleman  
1000 Longfellow Blvd #367  
Lakeland, FL 33801**

**Luke Williamson  
PO Box 424  
Maggie Valley, NC 28751**

**Tom Bennett  
PO Box 201  
Maggie Valley, NC 28751**

**Betty Ferguson  
487 Julia Lane  
Maggie Valley, NC 28751**

## Thank-you's (continued)

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Dear MVUMC,

Thank you for the many prayers, notes of care and concern. While recovering at the Maggie Nursing Facility, it was a great comfort to know I'm in your thoughts. Bless you all as you prepare meals for our community.

Love You and May the Lord Bless You,  
Brenda O'Keefe

## More From Pastor Cole

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### NOT Going to Israel in 2022

With the recent turmoil in the middle east and with the unpredictable nature of COVID, we have decided to postpone the Israel 2022 trip until February of 2023. The dates have yet to be determined, but please be on the lookout next spring for more information. Truly, this trip can be life changing so hopefully an extra year to plan and prepare will give many of us the opportunity to go.

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### Finances of the Church

Friends, as you are no doubt aware, COVID has had an impact on many churches, and we are not immune to that. One of the ways the last 18 months have been difficult for us is financially. Through your generous giving and God's never-ending faithfulness, we have managed to do OK. However, for the last few months we have received in tithes and offerings about half of what we need each month to meet our budgeted goal.

Again, through the grace of God we have received occasional and larger gifts that have resulted in us staying on track, but we cannot count on surprise gifts alone to truly thrive.

If you are already giving regularly, THANK YOU! It is your support that makes the ministries of MVUMC so meaningful to all those who are part of this community. If you are not a regular giver, please prayerfully consider how you might become a financial supporter of what God is doing in and through this church.

Talking about money in church is never easy, but the reality is we need your continued support to do more than just keep the lights on. We need your support to help flood victims, to feed the hungry, to serve those in poverty and so much more that we do every day. Thank you for being part of this blessed community and thank you for your gifts!

Grace & Peace,  
Cole

\*If you would like to make a financial contribution, please visit <https://maggieumc.org/donate/> or mail your gift to: 4192 Soco Rd., Maggie Valley, NC 28751\*

“Old Folk’s Corner” by Denise McCullough

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**“Am I Really Saved?”**

This is how we know we remain in Him. Because He has given us the Holy Spirit to guide us through the process. The Father sent His Son to save the world, and if we confess that we believe that Jesus is the Son of God, then God will dwell in us. That’s all we have to do.

God is love – and this love is made perfect in us so that on judgement day we will be perfect in our faith and be received by God into heaven. Perfect love for Jesus drives out fear because you cannot love a person and fear them too. To fear God only meant to respect Him as the most high God of all the earth. You don’t need to be frightened of him.

The most important commandment – “You shall love your God, believe in Jesus as His Son and Love your neighbor as yourself” is all you really need to believe to be saved of your sins and to eventually be welcomed into heaven.

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**“The Bearers Of The Word”**

Having patience when life’s adversities strike takes more faith in the promises our Heavenly Father has given us than some can muster. We think when life is placid that we are strong enough to cope with anything but when pain and troubles come, we find we are as helpless as those with no foundation of faith.

When a person is so incapacitated that there is no way for them to do for others as the Spirit commands us to do; it’s easy for us to be useless and alone.

We are told that we are not the producer of the fruit, that’s not our responsibility – the Holy Spirit is the producer, we are merely the bearers of the fruit of the vine. The fruit of the Spirit was never meant to be a demonstration of our dedication or resolve. It is the evidence of our dependency on and sensitivity to the promptings of the spirit.

Faith in the truth of the words of God is the only help then life seems useless.

Hang in there, suffering ones, the Lord is taking care of everything you need and will answer your prayers in His time.

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**“Fear And Faith”**

Fear and faith are two sides of the same coin and they’ll always be part of your thinking.  
The one you choose to be your guide will always determine your future.

**HALLELUJAH!!**  
**YOU GET TO CHOOSE!!**

**Maggie Valley United Methodist Church - Worship Service 10:30 am**

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***4192 Soco Road***

***Maggie Valley, NC 28751***

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

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

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

**Rev. Cole Altizer, Pastor - Cell (828) 577-9906**

Rev. Mike Shirley, Assistant Pastor – Cell (804) 714-6319

Jason Jones, Pianist & Choir Director

Janice Rogers, Organist

Renee Mackey, Administrative Assistant

**“Knowing Christ, Growing Faith, Serving Others”**

Maggie Valley United Methodist Church

“LOVE IN ACTION” Newsletter

4192 Soco Road

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