

# Love in Action

*The Newsletter of Maggie Valley United Methodist Church*

Volume 15, Issue 8

August, 2022

## FROM PASTOR COLE...

*Clear lots of ground for your tents! Make your tents large. Spread out! Think big! Use plenty of rope, drive the tent pegs deep. You're going to need lots of elbow room for your growing family. (Isaiah 54:2-3, MSG)*

If you have been to a worship service lately or if we've had a conversation, it's likely that you've heard me say something like this: "God is doing amazing things here! There is so much going on!"

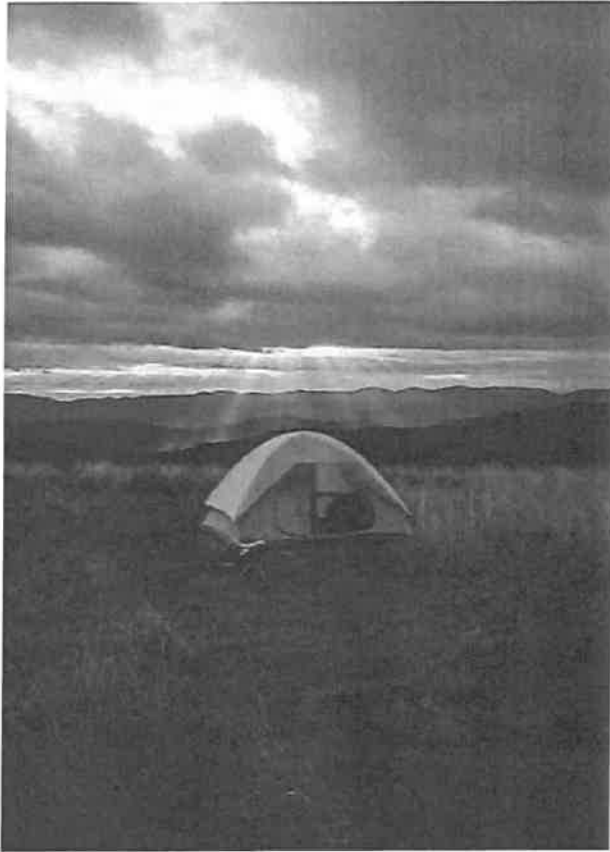
God IS doing something amazing here at Maggie Valley UMC, just as God has since this church opened up more than 150 years ago. As I think about the growth pattern we are in right now, I can't help but think at the same time about where we've come from too.

The passage above from Isaiah 54 was given to the Israelite people during a time of new growth for them as well. They were on their way back from a long period of time in a faraway land. A land that was not their home. As they made their way back to their homeland, the prophet tells them to get ready for what God is about to do. God was about to grow their numbers, deepen their faith, call them closer together and to God. In fact, the prophet was so sure of this growth, he told them to go ahead and make bigger tents and take up more space in preparation — even before it happened!

I love those couple of verses for us to hang onto right now. We ARE growing — praise God! This won't happen, though, without some "growing pains." We are re-imagining what our space is being used for. We are welcoming new people into the church and into leadership positions. We are trying new things, hoping again, loving as boldly as we can muster.

We are also being invited to act in faith, to "enlarge our tents" before the growth has completely happened — just like the Israelites. I wonder what that looks like for you? What does it mean for your life to move the boundaries of your faith out just a little further in preparation for a season of growth? What would it mean for you to open up a little more, trusting that God was taking you into a season of newness?

I also wonder what that means for us as a church? We are seeing that "enlarging our tent" right now means opening the doors of a new preschool. It meant welcoming more than 200 children to our campus for a "Back 2 School Bash." It means continuing to hope and trust for a new Music Director. Trusting that God is doing something with our still burgeoning youth group. It means being faithful to the ministries at hand while keeping our gaze upward towards God's possibilities in us and through us.



"Clear lots of ground for your tents! ... Think big!" I believe this may be God's word to us right now. Don't get me wrong though, this won't always be easy. As I've already said, there will be growing pains. But as Barbara Brown Taylor once said: "Prophets always get their tenses wrong." We are trusting that even with the division and rancor that seems so prevalent around us, God's word is a guarantee. God's word of love, hope, peace and so much more for us is already here, still on the way.

So, go ahead and make your tent a little bigger. Go ahead and trust that no matter what comes, God is calling us into deeper relationship with each other (even those we don't like) and with God.

I am so very grateful to be in ministry with such thoughtful, compassionate, loving and bold people like you. I am looking forward to growing together — deeper (always deeper) into God's sweet grace.

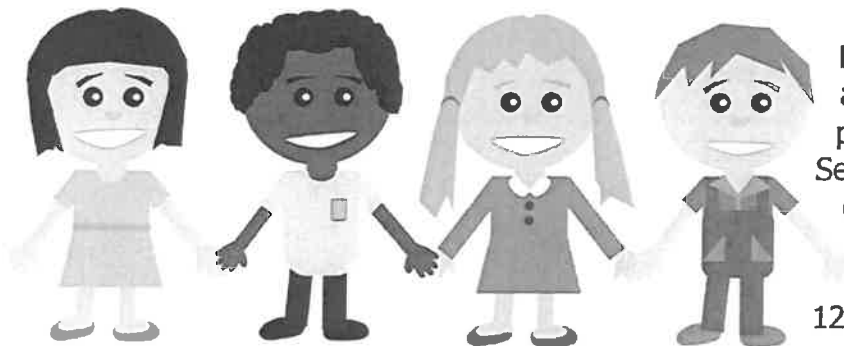
Grace & Peace,

Pastor Cole

### BACK TO SCHOOL BASH...

Thank you to everyone who came out and volunteered for the more than 200 children who joined us.





Hello My Church Family! As you may already know, we have a new preschool. We will open our doors on September 6<sup>th</sup> for three- and four-year-olds. Our scheduled school week will be on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 8:30am to 12:00pm.

I am so excited to get this new ministry started this fall. Our program will promote a nurturing, Christian environment. Students will have fun as they learn and discover through hands on experiences. We will teach subjects by using art, music, dramatic play, and creativity which will help us introduce our students to an adventure in learning.

What does a week in Preschool consist of? It will be packed full of scheduled learning activities. We will teach subjects in phonics, reading, small and large motor activities, history, math, science, Spanish, and the Bible. We will have scheduled extra activity times also. Tuesdays will be our Mad Scientist Day where we will perform hands on science experiments. Wednesdays we will have Chapel with Pastor Cole. We will learn all about the Bible and its stories. Thursdays will be our Show and Tell day where children will bring in an item to discuss with the class. Our days will be filled with so much fun; our students will not even realize that they are learning. There will be opportunities for you to volunteer, read and love on the kids this year, but right now we could use your help. Please consider joining alongside us in any of the following ways:

1. Please keep our little school in your prayers. Pray for our students, their families, and the teachers. Pray that we always follow God's plan in every decision that we make for our preschool.
2. This is an outreach ministry. We are reaching out to families who are struggling financially. We want to keep our tuition low to allow these children to come to a wonderful preschool. Our tuition is \$125.00 a month. To provide this ministry to low-income families in our community we will need additional financial support from our members. If you are interested in committing to 12 months of giving to the preschool, please reach out to Pastor Cole.
3. We want our preschool to be a big part of our church. We are asking for volunteers to enrich our program even more. We would love to schedule volunteers to help in reading stories, instructing an art project, gardening, etc. If you feel led to volunteer, please let me know.

My biggest goal, as your preschool director, is connecting our church with our preschool families. We invite you to come by and check out our classrooms. We hope you love what you see. I am looking forward to an exciting first year!

Thank You!  
Gail Quick



## CREATION CARE CORNER...

Creation Care is about growing an attitude of caring for God's "very good" creation, and then translating this attitude of caring into **intentional acts of caring and justice**. The Lord created the world we live in for ALL – humans and non-humans alike – to have equal access to its bounty and life-giving abundance. Then Our Creator entrusted its care to humanity, giving us the role of loving stewards of this remarkable gift. Through our intentional acts of caring and justice, we are witnessing

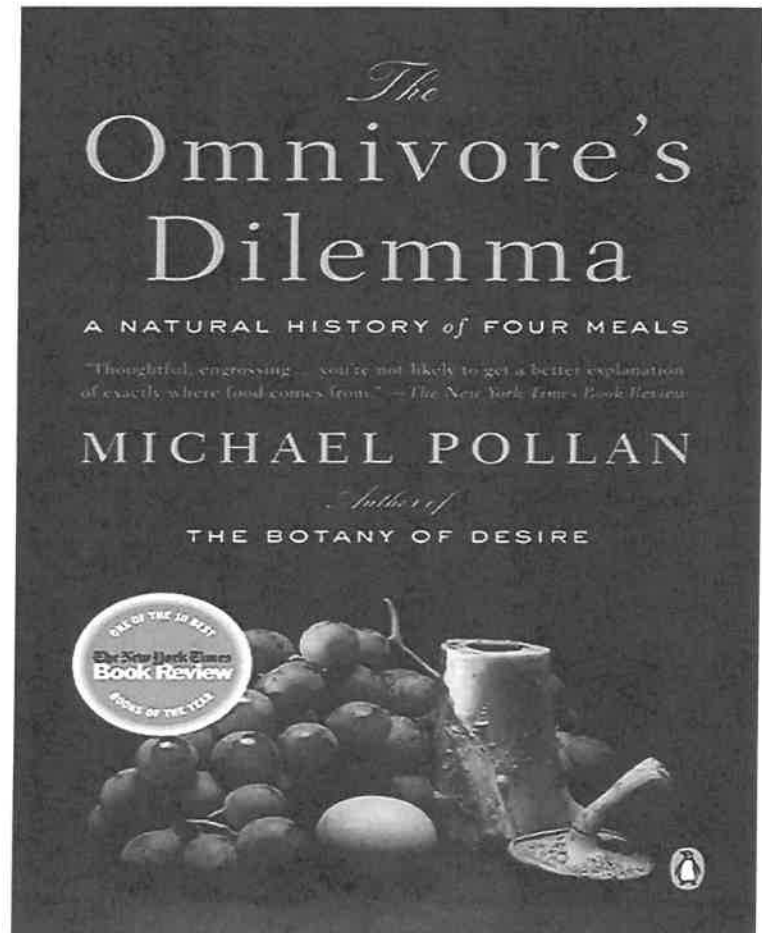
to others our obedience to, and love of, God – showing our neighbors in a very visible way that we value what God gave us, that we are willing to take care of it, and that we will work to assure that the Lord's bounty is shared with everyone!

If you would like to get involved with anything related to Creation Care, contact Judi Ferris.

If you are looking for a good read that approaches creation care in a different way, check out Michael Pollan's Best Seller, *The Omnivore's Dilemma*.

In this wonderful book, Pollan examines how our food (and the systems our food comes from) will impact the whole of creation.

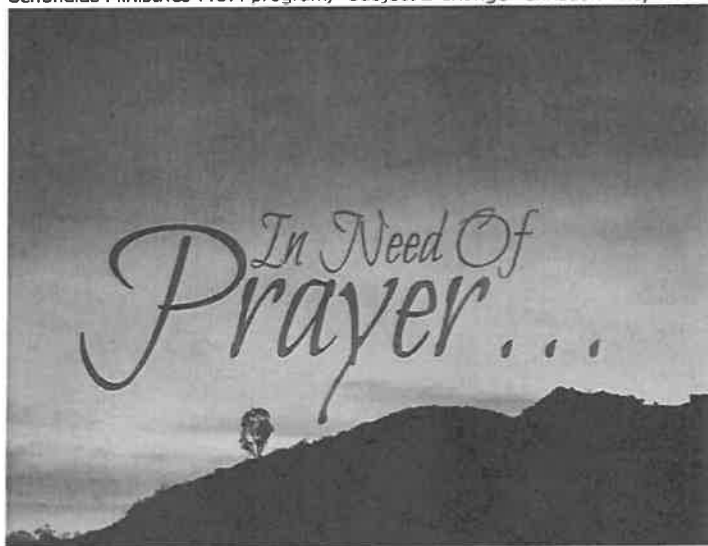
This book will challenge you to consider what you put on your plate and why.



## PRAYER CONCERNS...

Donald Atkins	Bruce Arrow	Jim Bauden	Audrey Baxter	Gary Cormann	Lee Miller
Robert Scott Blackadder	Eileen Bogo	Larry Bogo	Erma Bond	Greg Boyd	Colton
Hazel Bradshaw	Savannah Brigman	Wendell Burchfield	Jonathan Burr	Stockey Caldwell	Connie Dennis
Joe & Mari Conneen	Lance Conway	Jessica Cothorn	Teresa Crocker	Rev.Paul Davenport	Brian Bradley
Anita Desmond	Willard Dockery	Diana Duclos	Kirk Duclos	Earwood Family	Bonnie & Larry Germaine
Cory England	Clarissa Fisher	Vicky Flynn's Family	Carol Gardner	Dorothy Gardner	Michael Hill
Brenda Griswold	Peyton Gully	Bud Hanselman	Grace Heger	Edith Highsmith	The Ensley Family
Michael Hinebaugh	Carolyn Hobson	Jim Hunt	Holt Isom	Kim Itvere	Seth Smith
Jimmy	Connie Jones	Bubba & Shirley Kelly	Gail Kevenk	Allen Kitchens	Karen
Cheryl & Destiny Little	Lewis Lowder	Lynn Martin	Devoice Medford	Paul Mehaffey	Jim Neely
Brenda Messer	Tom Miller	Ruby Moore	Sandra Morris	Jim Murtaugh	Lisa
Michael O'Gorman	John Planchock	Norann Planchock	Pete Planchock	Mary Ann Vignola	Angela Reid
Pola	Sheila Price	Susan Purvis	Courtney Quick	Scott Reed	Patricia Rowell's Family
Ginger Revis	Charlie & Mildred Rich	Mike Rickman	Rhonda Riley	Gerry Robinson	Dustin Smith
John Saxton	Ron Sellers	Don & Wanda Shoemaker	Elizabeth Smallwood	Sarah Smart	Sammy Sutton
Nan Smith	Annie Smith	Jane Spell	Carolyn Strickland	Betty Sutton	Brian Toole
Hilda Taylor	Kent Taylor	Kim Tilley	Sam Tiger	Pietro Tondini	Janene Young
Martha Bradshaw Trull	Audrey Waters	Ted Watts	Aaron White	Tom Wynch	

**Please continue to pray for the following as well:** Administrative Board, Bishop Carter, COVID 19 Pandemic, Disaster Victims, All Travelers, Our Choir, Haywood Street Congregation, Homeless People, Open Door, In God's Creation Hiking Group, Haywood Pathways Center, Manna Foodbank & Publix, Men's Group, Missionaries, People looking for Work, Shepherd's Table, Sisters in Christ, Sonshine Recovery Ministries, United Methodist Church, World Events & Peace, Sunday School, Refugees, Food Pantry, Community Garden, Blue Ridge Health, Our Children & Youth, Schofields Ministries-MOM program, "Subject 2 Change" Christian Trio, District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Jae Lee, UMC Grace Circle, Van Ministry



**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, Clarissa Fisher, Beverly Ketner, Cameron Lail, Kristin Litchford, Jenny McPhaul, Renee Mackey, Wanda Messer, Annie Palmer, Barb, Danny & Megan Planchock, Gail Quick, Lynn & Mark Rains, Shafin & Taylor Ross, Mike & Sue Shirley, and Luke Williamson.

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

**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, Injured & MIA, Our Country, The President, and Our Leaders.

**Those in Nursing Homes** Becky Bender, Jane Cable, Lady Hughes, Betty Sutton → Maggie Valley Nursing & Rehab; Gail Pace → Silver Bluff; Phyllis Jackson → 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 Tom Bennett, Kathryn Brannen, Joseph Cullen, Wanda Deutsch, Willard Dockery, Helen & Joe Duke, Betty Ferguson, Nancy Lott Gerald, Tom & Vivian Gerard, Zelda Hanson, 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 & Mary Ann Vignola, Terri Waddell, David Wagner and Aaron White.

# August

## 2022

July

September

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
Connections Sunday School (9am) — Grace Room Worship (10:30am)	Food Pantry (10-12) Shepherd's Table (3:30pm)	"Sacred Seeing" (7:30am) — Parking Lot	Food Pantry (10-12)	Bible Study (9am) — Fellowship Hall UMW Grace Circle (2pm) — Fellowship Hall	Grace Bible Study Class (9:30am) — Fellowship Hall	AA (7pm) — Fellowship Hall
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Connections Sunday School (9am) — Holy Communion & Worship (10:30am)	Food Pantry (10-12) Shepherd's Table (3:30pm)		Food Pantry (10-12)	Bible Study (9am) — Fellowship Hall	Grace Bible Study Class (9:30am) — Fellowship Hall	AA (7pm) — Fellowship Hall
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Connections Sunday School (9am) — Grace Room Worship (10:30am)	Food Pantry (10-12) Shepherd's Table (3:30pm)	Becoming Rooted Book Club (10am) — Fellowship Hall One Board Meeting (6pm) — Fellowship Hall	Food Pantry (10-12)	Bible Study (9am) — Fellowship Hall	Barn Set Up (9am) Grace Bible Study Class (9:30am) — Fellowship Hall	Barn Sale (7am-2pm) AA (7pm) — Fellowship Hall
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Connections Sunday School (9am) — Grace Room Worship (10:30am)	Food Pantry (10-12) Shepherd's Table (3:30pm)		In God's Creation Hike (9am) — Parking Lot Food Pantry (10-12) Disciple Bible Study (6pm) — Fellowship Hall	Bible Study (9am) — Fellowship Hall	Grace Bible Study Class (9:30am) — Fellowship Hall	Men's Breakfast (8am) — Fellowship Hall Playground Clean Up (9am) AA (7pm) — Fellowship Hall
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
Connections Sunday School (9am) — Grace Room Worship (10:30am)	Food Pantry (10-12) Shepherd's Table (3:30pm)	Preschool Open House (5:30pm) — Preschool Classrooms	Food Pantry (10-12) Disciple Bible Study (6pm) — Fellowship Hall	Bible Study (9am) — Fellowship Hall	Grace Bible Study Class (9:30am) — Fellowship Hall	AA (7pm) — Fellowship Hall

## ANNOUNCEMENTS...

**Our Church Food Pantry operates on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00 am until noon.** We are asking that everyone in the congregation **bring INSTANT GRITS PACKETS, INSTANT OATMEAL PACKETS, RAMEN NOODLES, and TOOTHPASTE** this month. Personal hygiene items are appreciated also. **We are also in need of PLASTIC GROCERY bags.** Thank you for helping!

**The youth group will NOT meet during the month of August.**

**The church office, Shepherd's Table, and Food Pantry will be closed on Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup> for Labor Day Holiday.**

**The One Board will meet on Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.**

**All "Love in Action" articles for September are due to Belinda by Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup>.**

**The Men's Group WILL NOT meet in July or August but will have the Men's breakfast on Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am in the fellowship hall.** All men are invited.

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

**The UMW Grace Circle meeting will meet on Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.** The program will be by Marilyn Medford. All women are welcome!

**"Sacred Seeing" is a way of seeing the world with the eyes of the heart.** If I'm being honest, that sounds like something that may be hard to do or only for "really spiritual" people (whatever that means), but it's a practice I hope we can all try! **We will meet on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 7:30am in the Fellowship Hall.**

This year's date for the **Holiday Boutique is Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. October 1<sup>st</sup>,** we will begin accepting donations of slightly used men and women's clothing, handbags, shoes, jewelry, scarfs, Christmas, and nice gift items.

This is an important mission here at Maggie Valley UMC with proceeds going to our food ministries. Last year the boutique raised over \$5,000. The money was given to the Shepherd's Table and the Food Pantry.

Please contact Judi Ferris at 828.734.0156 or Pastor Cole for any questions.

**"In God's Creation Hike" will hike the Occonaluftee River Trail on Wednesday, Aug 24<sup>th</sup>, leaving church at 9:00am.** We will be taking the van. It is a nice level woodland trail along the river, about 4.25 miles round-trip if we go to the ice cream place for our refreshment stop. Often, we see elk on this trail. It is an in and out trail so anyone who doesn't want to do the entire hike can go back to the Visitor's Center and wait for the rest in comfort. All are welcome to join the fun. You'll want to bring water, a snack, cash for ice cream, and I recommend a poncho just in case.

**Pastor Mike & Sue Shirley invite you to join them for Connections 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!**

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

**If you do not have a permanent nametag, please call, or email Belinda and she will get you one made.**

**The next barn sale will be Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup> from 7am to 2pm.** Proceeds will benefit our church ministries. On Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, we'll meet at 9am to set up for the sale. If you have any gently used items to donate, please contact the church office. **If you can help with set up or at the sale, please contact Barb Planchock at 828.400.3144.**

**Disciple Fast Track Old Testament 2022**  
**Begins: Wednesday August 24, 6:00 -7:45 PM**  
**Ends: Wednesday, November 16**  
 Room: To Be Announced  
 Study Manual: \$15

Disciple Fast Track is a United Methodist Bible study series for busy individuals. If you would like to gain a better understanding of the Old Testament and want to grow as a disciple, consider participating in this weekly study led by Mike and Sue Shirley.

**Please register by calling the church office (828) 926-8036. If you would like additional information about the study, please call/text Sue Shirley (804) 714-6320.**

**BILL CHAMBERLIN, TREASURER'S REPORT...**

	MONTH	FOR THE YEAR
	JUNE	JAN - JUNE
<b>PROJECTED BUDGET NEED</b>	<b>\$ 23,085.64</b>	<b>\$ 138,513.84</b>
<b>ACTUAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 32,854.25</b>	<b>\$ 156,013.34</b>
<b>OFFERINGS RECEIVED</b>	<b>\$ 19,721.14</b>	<b>\$ 147,633.36</b>
<b>OVER/UNDER</b>	<b>\$ (13,133.11)</b>	<b>\$ (8,379.78)</b>



**Treasurer Report**



## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES...

### HAPPY AUGUST BIRTHDAYS!

1	Scott Highsmith	18	Erna Lundgren
2	Jim Davis	19	Stephen Litchford
2	Linda Palmer	19	Julie Messer
4	Nancy Yocom	19	Barbara Owen
5	E L Ayers	20	Danielle Moore
5	Roger McElroy	20	Shelda Muirhead
8	Mary Dixon	22	Zeb Forga
8	Dottie Horton	22	Zach Smith
8	Codi Mauch	22	Myrtle Thomas
8	Caryl Damico	23	Barbara Cole
9	David Ferguson	23	Pam Montgomery
10	Jimmy Allen	23	Keith Smith
10	Amos Plott Rich	24	Yvonne McVann
11	Don Shoemaker	24	Patricia Rowell
12	Bryanna Falk	25	Cyndi Messer
12	Makayla Moore	26	Ken Brown
12	Pete Chandler	26	Mike Hudgens
13	Charlie Upright	27	Stoney Caldwell
13	Robert Thompson	27	Cameron Lail
14	Lana Lowe	29	Bonnie Blackketter
15	Ernest Laster	30	Barb Planchock
16	Tammy Brown	30	Charles Gentry Kirby
16	Janice Rogers	31	Larry Bogo
17	Beverly Krause	31	Bobbie Toole

### Happy August Anniversary!

3	Mari & Joe Conneen (1965)		
3	Julie & William Messer		
3	Colleen & Johnny Williamson		
6	Lynn & Mark Rains (1977)		
8	Bettie & Carroll Avera (1953)	19	Linda & Mark Liverett (1995)
9	June & Gene Johnson (1997)	22	Clarell & Stephen Litchford (1970)
11	Barb & Pete Planchock	23	JoAnn & Jim Chilakos (1998)
18	Sherry & Ernest Laster (2018)	23	Lovia & Tom Barefoot (1963)
19	Barbara & Jim Baity	23	Charlene & Lee Miller (1988)
19	Susan & Sandy Giles	24	Linda & Tom Palmer (1991)
		31	Iris & James Silvers



*THANK YOU'S...*

*Dear MVUMC,*

*Thank you so much for the food donation we received in the month of May. Your kindness and giving means so much to us.*

*Haywood Christian Ministry Staff and Volunteers*

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*Dear Friends,*

*The Haywood Waterways Board of Directors and staff would like to thank you for supporting our 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Plunge. Your donation of \$270.00 was received on 7/5/22. These funds will enable us to continue our Kids in the Creek and other environmental education programs, which give the Haywood County community unique opportunities to explore and learn about their waterways.*

*With Best Regards,*

*Preston Jacobsen*

*Executive Director*

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*Dear MVUMC and Shepherd's Table,*

*Please let everyone know that I really appreciate the boxes I received from you all. The meals are absolutely amazing!!! Have a wonderful Blessed Night... Proverbs 3:4-6 Trust in the Lord with all thine own understanding in all thy ways, acknowledge him and he shall direct bypass, be not wise in thine own eyes.*

*Have a Wonderful Blessed Week,*

*Dave Pickens*

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*Dear Barb Planchock and MVUMC,*

*The Pisgah Health Foundation board would like to express our appreciation for the accomplishments of your organization during our grant year together.*

*We appreciate the hard work you have done to support those you serve. Pisgah Health Foundation recognizes your passion and dedication and feels we are a stronger foundation because of our relationship with Maggie Valley UMC. We wish you the best in future endeavors.*

*Sincerely,*

*Susan Kicklighter*

*Social Outreach and Scholarship Lead*



As I reflect on my summer with you guys, I see great friendship. If only I had time to squeeze in more house visits and hikes with you all. I have grown so much through this community, and truly consider it my home church. There has not been a moment I felt unwelcome, and I thank you immensely for that. This church loves like Jesus loves- on a personal level.

Last summer, I mentioned that I learned the coexistence of vulnerability and consistency from this church. This year, I have learned how to love. From lunch time at Shepherd's Table to seeing you guys take action at the Back to School Bash, I have been blown away by your love.

Watching you all attempt to convince me to change my major from math to ministry has been a highlight that makes me giggle and smile. I still feel that today I am meant to study math. Who knows tomorrow's calling? The Lord tells us not to worry about it, so I will not. However, knowing that you all support what I have done this summer enough to try and convince me to study ministry, has given me the confidence to love boldly and to be loud about my love for Christ in my daily life. Sometimes, to love is to be loud. Other times, to love is to listen. It is a both/and of things that this church practices. I love you all so dearly. This summer was deeper and on a more connected level with you all. Thank you for loving and loving well. Please continue to keep in touch while I am at school! Your letters always mean the world to me. God bless friends, and I cannot thank you enough!

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

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

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

Janice Rogers, Organist

Belinda Marr, Administrative Assistant

**“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)

