

Macland Press

A Publication of Macland Presbyterian Church



January 2016

January 3
11:30-Potluck Lunch

January 6
Wednesday Night Dinner
& Classes Begin

January 18
MLK Jr. Day
Church Office Closed

January 24
Youth Sunday

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Dear Friends:

Happy New Year! 2016 brings exciting opportunities for all of us. One that is most exciting to me is serving as your Bridge Interim Pastor, beginning January 19.

Some of you may be asking: What exactly is a "bridge interim"? A bridge interim pastor is called to serve a congregation between the time when the Pastor Nominating Committee's ministry is already well underway and when the congregation calls a new installed pastor. My colleague and friend Richard Hill has done amazing interim ministry with you this past year. I look forward to continuing that great work as we prepare to welcome the person Christ has called to Macland.

That's a little bit about the position. Now allow me to share a little about myself. I was born in Atlanta and raised in Dunwoody. After high school, I attended Davidson College, where I pursued a degree in French with plans to teach at the high school level. But God had other plans. Throughout college, I had volunteered with Young Life, the ministry through which I came to know Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior in high school. After graduation, Christ called me to an internship with Young Life. That was the start of an eight-year vocation in youth ministry with Young Life in Shelby, NC, and two Presbyterian congregations in Charlotte, NC, and Norfolk, VA. While on the staff of the First Presbyterian Church of Norfolk, VA, I discerned Christ's call to ordained ministry and enrolled at Princeton Theological Seminary.

My husband and I moved back to the Atlanta area in 2008 when I received my first call as Associate Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Snellville. In June 2014, my position was dissolved due to budget cuts. Since that time, I have worked on a contract basis for the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta. Most recently, I served as the Temporary Stated Supply Pastor of Providence Church in Dallas, GA.

Throughout Christ's call, I have enjoyed serving the larger Church, including the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta's Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Coordinating Council, and currently our Examinations Commission. In addition, I am actively engaged in conversation with various denominational groups through my involvement with The Fellowship Community as we seek to be Jesus' Church together in the midst of the joys and challenges we face. Finally, I am pursuing my Doctor of Ministry in Transforming Congregations with a focus on worship: How do we faithfully proclaim the gospel in worship in a way that it sends us out to join in Jesus' gospel mission in our community?

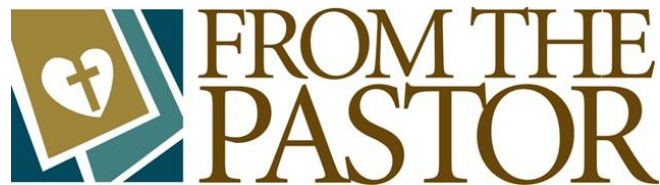
That question shapes my vision for ministry. My passion is helping people connect to Christ and to one another both within the congregation and throughout its community. In short, I love exploring the needs of a community – local, national, and global – and how Jesus has uniquely equipped a congregation to meet those needs. I look forward to dreaming these God-sized dreams together.

My husband James and I have been married for almost ten years. He works for J.P. Morgan Chase and will complete his Masters in Business Administration in May. We live in Grayson with our two fun-loving cats. An active runner and volunteer running coach with the Atlanta Track Club, I have completed two marathons and thirteen half-marathons. I am also a diehard college basketball fan, especially when the Davidson Wildcats or Carolina Tar Heels are playing, or, as my husband would say, when *any* team is playing during the Madness of March.

That's some background about me. I look forward to getting to know each of *you* in the coming weeks and months!

May 2016 be a year when the Spirit shows us in fresh ways what it means to be the body of Christ at Macland, in Powder Springs, and beyond.

In Christ,
Nicole Lock



I will begin teaching the Wednesday night class on January 20 and the Parents' Sunday School class on January 24. These dates are designed to be a fun time for us to get to know one another and discuss topics for our upcoming classes. Mark your calendars, and make plans to join us for one – or, better yet, both!

What's Up Macland?



Macland Presbyterian Preschool

Wishes you a very
Happy New Year!

Registration for the fall will be the week of
February 1st.

Please stop by for a visit any time!

For more information either call the
preschool office 770 439-1548

Or email the director
preschool@macland.org



Many thanks! I echo the words of the Apostle Paul with "I thank my God every time I remember you!" You have been my church family for the last year and a half, and we have weathered the storms together and rejoiced together and become family. I cherish this time together. I pray the church is stronger since I arrived and I believe 2016 looks like a bright new horizon. It will take a lot of work and steadfastness, but Christ has great plans for Macland. Thank you for continued prayers and support for me, Penny and our boys. You have lifted us up on wings of eagles ever since she was diagnosed in December 2014. May Christ continue to be so obviously present for every person who steps through the threshold. And I hope you will support Nicole Lock as the new Interim, as well as your new permanent pastor who is soon to be chosen. Blessings for 2016!
With love, Richard Hill



Financial Update:

2015 Income: \$354,574.21
2015 Expense: \$374,370.97
2015 Total: -\$19,796.76



January Birthdays

1/1 Don Yates
1/2 Eileen Stoya
1/3 Yuka Hirose
1/3 Paige Hubert
1/3 Jason Scott
1/4 Jim Kuykendall
1/5 Sharron Duff
1/5 Janet Robison
1/5 Bill Russell
1/7 Donna Hill
1/7 Pat Richardson
1/10 Poli Brunot
1/11 Doug Michalke

1/11 Bill White
1/16 Brian Foley
1/16 De Anne Foley
1/18 Meredith Carter
1/18 Jim Tabb
1/20 Haley Coyle
1/24 Tristen Hubert
1/25 Greg Yaramishyn
1/27 Frank Spain
1/29 Jack Tucker
1/31 Heather Scott

The Session met on December 8, 2015 in the Family Life Center. The main focus of the December meeting was to examine incoming officers

Team News

Worship:

- The team will begin planning Lent and Easter January 5th.
- January 3, 2016 will be Reverend Hill's last day.
- Youth Sunday is January 24, 2016

Christian Education:

- Youth Christmas party will be at the Bolin's house on December 13th. Parents will have a gathering at the Smith's.

Mission:

- Christmas Angel Tree collected about 90 gifts for children served by programs at Sweetwater Mission. A final total will be given for the year- end report. Santa Express collected about \$200.00 worth of items for Presbyterian Village and has delivered them.
- Macland's Youth Group led by Garrett Campbell purchased coats, new outfits, and 2 toys each as Christmas gifts for a Compton Elementary family with 2 boys and a girl. In addition they bought shoes for the girl and provided wrapping paper and a \$60 gift card with the remaining money.
- Thornwell Offering so far is \$627.11 including \$218.87 raised by Paul Bartlett with a bake sale held at the church.
- We will be collecting the Joy Gift offering on Sunday December 20. This special offering benefits the ministries of the PCUSA Board of Pensions and racial ethnic education.
- The 2015-16 Presbyterian Giving Catalog has been placed in the narthex with additional posters on the Mission board..

Congregational Care/Evangelism:

- The grief share program is going well.
- A postcard has been developed for members to invite friends and neighbors to Christmas services

Finance/ Administration:

- Please remember to submit your pledge card. Thanks to those that have already made their pledges.

Building and Grounds:

- The HVAC system in the sanctuary will be replaced
- General maintenance continues on the building

Session Actions

- **Approved motion by the bridge interim committee to employ Nicole Lock as interim pastor with a salary package similar to the former pastor beginning January 18, 2016.**
- **Approved funds from the Bequest money to replace HVAC.**
- **Approved Debbie and John Wells to preach on January 10 & 17, 2016.**
- **Motion approved to sustain the examination and approve the incoming officers.**