

Macland Press

A Publication of Macland Presbyterian Church



May 2016

May 8
Mother's Day

May 15
Senior High Recognition
Sunday

May 19
5:00-Preschool
Graduation

May 30
Memorial Day
Church Office Closed

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Dear Friends:

It is hard to believe that just four months ago we began serving Christ's Church at Macland together when I was called as your bridge interim pastor. What an extraordinary gift this time has been for me personally! I have greatly enjoyed getting to know each of you. Leading alongside our wonderful Session and staff. Worshipping our Triune God and studying God's Word together. Collaborating with our gifted choir and ESC. Laughing and talking around the table at our Wednesday night dinners. Seeing your love for our children and youth through our exciting evening VBS initiative, World of Disney fundraiser, Preschool activities, and more. Seeing your love for our community through the Spring Chicken Run, Sweetwater Mission, and more. They say time flies when you're having fun. Indeed, I have, and time has.

As many of you know, my initial contract was for a period of four months. As many of you also know, I have continued to seek a pastoral call while serving at Macland. Recently, I was extended a call to serve as the interim pastor of the Presbyterian Church of the Resurrection in Conyers, Georgia, where I will begin serving on June 19.

This news is bittersweet to me. While I am excited about the next chapter in Jesus' call on my life and ministry, I will greatly miss each of you and our ministry together here. Serving as your bridge interim pastor has been one of the greatest gifts from the Lord. I have seen Christ in each of you in countless ways, and I have learned much about what it means to be his disciple by walking the way with you. Thank you.

My last Sunday will be May 22. Our Interim Pastor Nominating Committee and Pastor Nominating Committee continue to serve faithfully in discerning whom Christ is calling to serve as your next pastor. I commend them for their prayerful ministry and ask that you continue your own ministry of prayer on their behalf.

As I reflect back on these four months, I count it a joy that my very first Sunday was Youth Sunday. Throughout worship our youth reminded us of the words of Jeremiah: "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope" (Jeremiah 29:11). We don't always know God's full plan. We don't always get all the details – the when's, the where's, the why's. We might not even know the who's.... but we do get to know The Who: Jesus Christ, the One who surely – surely! – knows the plans he has for us. He holds every detail of those plans just as surely – surely! – as he holds each of us in the palm of his hand as those plans unfold. And while we wait for what's going to happen next, he gives us a glimpse of the end of the story: It's the gift of a future with hope.

I surely know a bright future awaits, not only because of Jeremiah's words, but because I have glimpsed that future in each of you. It is with eager anticipation that I look forward to watching God's plan unfold for each of us as we continue to serve Jesus Christ together wherever he leads us. To God be the glory.

In Christ,
Nicole Lock
Bridge Interim Pastor

Reaching, Raising Relieving*Making a Difference One Child, One Person at a Time***Mother's Day Special Offering
Sunday, May 8th**

Let us lift up our hearts and hands to God in heaven! Lamentations 3:41

Our Macland congregation will join hands on May 8th to show our gratitude for all those who have helped to “mother” us along the way. We will with other Presbyterian churches throughout Georgia generously give our support to the *Caring Hands Fund* through our annual Mother's Day Offering.

When you commit your heart, your hands give expression to your heart's intention. Each day folks like you lift up their hearts and put their hands to work through their support for the Caring Hands Fund.

The Caring Hands Fund provides daily care for more than 400 of our over 1,000 residents at Presbyterian Homes of Georgia who, through no fault of their own, have outlived their savings. This year, the Caring Hands Fund will provide more than \$3 million in skilled nursing care and support for these residents, assuring them that they will always have a home, regardless of their financial circumstances.

For 67 years, Presbyterian Homes of Georgia has stood as a living witness of love, supported by those who have devoted themselves to helping to create a safe, supportive and caring environment for older adults. Such a legacy of care is a gift not only to be treasured but re-affirmed daily through our gifts.

Today, commit yourself to lift the hearts of vulnerable older saints with your gift to the Caring Hands Fund. Your generous support will remind them that they are neither alone nor forgotten.

Lift up your hearts and hands and give generously! And know that God will bless you for it.

What's Up Macland?



**Macland Presbyterian Preschool
Spring and Summer events are coming up!**

**May 19 Trike A Thon (10-12)
Graduation (5:30pm)
May 19 Last day of School
July 18-22 Preschool Summer Camp
Register before May 15th for a discount!**

*Registration for 2016-2017
school year is now!
Help us fill our spots!!
Spread the word!
Come by and see for yourself!*

If you would like to make a donation to St. Jude Children Research Hospital or participate in our Trike a Thon please contact Laura. We'd love to have you!!

Please contact the preschool office 770 439-1548 ext. 226 or email preschool@macland.org with questions.

Wednesday Night Dinner

Only two weeks remain, join us for great food, fun and fellowship.



Wednesday, May 4th - Annual cook out with grilled burgers and dogs followed by a Sing Along that will surely bring joy to the heart



Wednesday, May 11th - Pizza, salad and ice cream bar. "Bring your own topping". Interactive games such as people Bingo. See you there!



Wow what a deal! Please place RSVP in collection plate or email Lauren by noon Monday at admin@macland.org.

SUNDAY, JUNE 12TH - THURSDAY, JUNE 16TH



VBS

“Kickoff Celebration”

Spaghetti Dinner

Sunday, June 12th at 5PM

VBS classes will follow at
6PM

Vacation Bible School coming soon!

Our theme this year is Cave Quest: Following Jesus, the Light of the World. Register now for night time adventures for children 3 years old through rising 5th graders. Classes will run from 6PM – 8:30 PM Sunday through Thursday in the Family Life Center. The entire congregation is invited to welcome our “Cave Crews” and their families during a church wide Spaghetti Dinner and “Kickoff Celebration” on Sunday, June 12th at 5PM. Registration forms for both volunteers and participants are available at church or you may register online at www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/MPChurch

Luke (ESV) 18:16 – “Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God.”



May Birthdays

5/5 Nancy Conger
5/6 Buddy Carlton
5/7 Tim Barrett
5/9 Alex Hodges
5/10 Donna Littrell
5/10 Andy Puterbaugh
5/11 Freida St. Germain
5/12 Tyler Mendez
5/12 Callie Smith
5/13 Jeanne Fraser
5/14 Marion Savic
5/15 Libby McAliley
5/21 Anne Ransom

5/22 Carol Reed
5/24 John Chase
5/25 Ann Cromer
5/25 Amy Smith
5/26 William Cromer
5/28 Hannah Bartlett
5/29 Kim Joyce
5/29 Margaret Menz
5/31 Chamini Doluweera

Session News and Notes- April 2016



The Session met on April 25, 2016 in the copy room.

The meeting was opened with prayer and a devotional by Reverend Lock.

Committee Reports

Bequest Team

- Two requests for funds were submitted. One request from B & G and one from Christian Education. The B & G was approved for two lawn mowers. The Christian Ed was sent back to the committee for further information. It is anticipated that CEs will be approved in the near future.

Worship

- With Reverend Lock's departure, the committee is working to fill the pulpit until a bridge interim can be found.
- We want to thank Nicole for her leadership and wish her the best in her new position.

Christian Education

- VBS – Christina Wier is coordinating VBS. Sunday, June 12th-Thursday, June 16th. Sunday @ 5PM, Spaghetti Kickoff dinner, classes then follow from 6-8:30PM. Then, Monday – Thursday classes are 6PM-8:30PM. Task assignments and timelines were established for registration forms and flyers. We want to establish online registration as well as print. We discussed ways to advertise including our website, Facebook, banner and community flyers. This year we felt it important that VBS be free to all participants. Therefore, we will be asking for both volunteers and donations to help offset the cost of VBS. Planning meeting at Bonnie's house on April 24th after church. Committee members will be making contact with potential volunteers to Youth update – Garrett
- Middle School Maryville (Wednesday, July 20th – Sunday, June 24th) Garrett will contact Andrew McIntosh – Youth Leader at First Marietta Presbyterian, as recommended in last session meeting to find a pairing
- High School trip (Sunday June 5th – Saturday June 11th) – now looking for vans, 20 youth and three chaperones

Finance/ Administration

2016 MARCH	vs Last Year				vs Budget		
	YTD	LYTD	Delta	% Change	YTD Budget	Delta	% Change
Income	\$101,481	\$96,696	\$4,785	5%	\$93,167	\$8,314	9%
Expenses	\$94,326	\$97,415	(\$3,088)	-3%	\$93,780	\$546	1%
Net Income	\$7,155	(\$718)	\$7,873	-1096%	(\$605)	\$7,759	-1284%

Building and Grounds

- Two new lawn mowers will be purchased.

Mission

- Spring Chicken Run: We are still waiting for totals participation and funds raised on the success of this program.
- One Great Hour of Sharing: Macland members raised \$255 for this special offering. A note of thanks was submitted for inclusion in the April 23rd bulletin.
- 2016 Mission Trip Opportunities: A trip date wasn't available due to scheduling conflicts and a shorter school summer vacation for a mission trip to Wytheville. The Va. coordinator asked that we submit several trip dates to help them plan a time when we could come in 2017. An alternate trip to Rogersville, Tn. to work with the Of One Accord Ministries fell through because their group volunteer calendar is full for this year.
- Events promoted: Camp Cherokee Work Day, 4/30th, Coffee with Stated Clerk Nikki MacMillan on 4/28, and the Rome Unity Fest and Silent Protest.

Fellowship and Evangelism

- The Deacons will now assist in set up/clean up for the Sunday pot luck dinners. Our next three are tentatively June 26, Rally Day, and November 13, 2016.
- Ways to get our church's name out in the community were discussed. Suggestions included a Boy Scout Car Wash (free car wash – ask for donations), and having a "Tag"/Community Yard sale and sell space.
- Joni volunteered Mike and herself to help with anything we need in the way of advertising – especially in newspapers.

Session Actions

- Approved the removal, at their request with much regret, of Art and Ellie Petersen from the rolls.**
- Approved purchase of two lawn mowers**
- Accepted into membership by transfer of letter: Sally Smothers and Chevelle Hicks**
- Approved the purchase of an LCD projector.**
- Approve Bonnie Little as Commissioner to Presbytery meeting on May 24, 2016.**