

Macland Press

A Publication of Macland Presbyterian Church

Dear Macland,

Life when I was younger was much simpler.

Rules were clear. Do right and be an outstanding boy. Have faith, don't doubt. Be good, don't misbehave. Be respectful, and don't be mean. Be truthful, and don't lie. Study hard, become a good student, get a good job, and be happy.

Ah, yes, the simpler days.

As I grew older and became a pastor, I learned the opposite was sometimes true. In my book, *Enough*, I wrote about the power of *sometimes* in the lives of many of us, at least as I noticed.

Sometimes doubt is the opposite of faith, but sometimes doubt can be a pathway to faith.

Sometimes weakness is the opposite of strength, but sometimes weakness can be the pathway to strength.

Sometimes addiction is the opposite of sobriety, but sometimes addiction can be the pathway to sobriety.

Sometimes infidelity is the opposite of fidelity, but sometimes infidelity can be a pathway to fidelity.

Sometimes failure is the opposite of success, but sometimes failure can be the pathway to success.

As I have aged even more, I've learned that *sometimes* applies to helping as well.

Sometimes when someone has questions, the best thing to offer is answers. But sometimes, when people have questions the best thing to offer is silence, because there are no easy answers. Simple silence can be the most respectful thing you to offer.

Sometimes, when people are in trouble, you know exactly what to do and the best thing is to do exactly what is needed. But sometimes, when someone needs help, you have no idea what to do, so you either do nothing, or do something that is clearly not a solution, but it is what you can offer. For example, if you can't bring healing to a hurting soul, at least bring a meal to a hungry belly. Sometimes a quiche is all you've got. Sometimes, when you don't know what to do as a church congregation we can all wear pink. There is no rational reason for that pink shirts offer healing, but then again, there is no rational reason to think they won't either.

As I age, the times I have less and less to offer seem more and more, so I offer less and less when it's all I have. Sometimes all I have is nothing so I give it up. After all, according to Genesis 1, all God needed to create the world was nothing. Sometimes, nothing seems to be enough.

See what you have, offer it up, and sometimes a miracle can happen.

JOY!

David



November 2017

November 5
Daylight Savings Time
Ends
Stewardship Sunday

November 12
Youth Sunday

November 14
11:45-Preschool
Thanksgiving Feast

November 23
Thanksgiving Day
Church Office Closed

November 26
Decorate Church for
Christmas

In This Issue

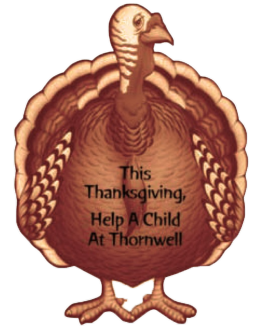
- Pastor's Note
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TURKEYS FOR THORNWELL

It is that time of year again in which we will be giving out cardboard turkeys for our congregation to fill up with coins for Thornwell Childrens Home. This is a 140 year old tradition of giving hope and healing to children and families in crisis.

The first time that I stepped onto Thornwells 35 acre campus I was so impressed that our Presbytery had a beautiful safe place for children that have been abused, abandoned and neglected. Most of these kids are orphaned not because of the death of their parents but because of unthinkable abuse. Each cottage at Thornwell has house parents with up to 8 children. Thornwell provides residential care for up to 104 children.

If you are able to give to this mission, please take a couple of turkeys home and fill them up with coins or if your heart leads you to give more an envelope for checks will be available.



Thank you,
Karen Gooden
Ambassador for Thornwell Childrens Home

The Santa Express



It's that time of year again! The Santa Express is here for the month of November collecting gifts for Presbyterian Village to be distributed at their annual Christmas party in December. In November the joyous task of collecting gifts for our residents begin. Please look for the big boxes wrapped in Christmas paper in the Narthex and FLC downstairs. Whether carefully selected in a store or lovingly made by hand these gifts remind the residents of the joys of the holiday. Throughout the year these gifts are given to honor birthdays and to welcome new residents, and are treasured prizes for games and therapy sessions. Please place your unwrapped gifts in clear plastic baggies and place them in the boxes.

Season of Giving

Sweetwater Mission wants to make sure that every family in our community has food on their table for the holidays. Please consider a donation of just \$10 to help provide a meal. Sweetwater Mission takes each \$10 donation and turns it into groceries and holiday food items including a turkey for each family. The more \$10 donations we receive, the more families we will feed! Please make your check out to MPC and designate as "Holiday Food". Thank you for your generosity!



Angel Tree



Macland will again be participating in the Angel Tree project with Sweetwater Mission. Last year we participated by donating coats. We plan on starting our project in mid November. As soon as we hear from Sweetwater regarding their needs for this year we will let you know. Thanks so much for your participation.

What's Up Macland?



Macland Presbyterian Preschool

We have some really cool events coming up!!

On November 2nd Farmer Darlene will be here with her farm animals. If you would like to join us please do! She will be in the front of the church around 9:30. The cost is \$7 per child.

November 14th is our Thanksgiving Feast!! Feel free to email me to let me know you would like to join us in fellowship and a fabulous Thanksgiving meal!!

We have some spaces still available in Preschool. Help spread the word about our school and church!!

For more info regarding the school or any of our events please email preschool@macland.org



The Fellowship & Evangelism Team will be placing an order for T-shirts and Polos in November just in time for Christmas presents. If you are interested in either or both, please contact Doug Michalke with your order and size(s) no later than November 15th. We are thinking of

a "salmon" or "coral" color for both with our great logo on the left breast. The price for the t-shirt will be around \$12-14 and the polos around \$30-40 (depending on our numbers).

Doug's e-mail is dougmichalke@yahoo.com.

Decorating for Christmas will be the Sunday after Thanksgiving, November 26th, after the church service. The first Sunday of Advent is December 3rd. All help is greatly appreciated. Let us know if you will be available. Thanks! Linda Puterbaugh home phone 770-439-8487 or cell phone 678-524-9667.



November Birthdays

11/3 Ilene Hodges	
11/4 Abbie Jones	
11/6 Al Baumgartner	
11/7 Allen Robison	
11/7 Marjorie Zerby	
11/8 Kevin Williams	11/20 Sydney Bolin
11/10 Dalton Cole	11/20 Ric Coyle
11/10 Sumith Doluweera	11/21 Sandra Aufderheide
11/11 Dale Crump	11/22 Joni Clark
11/11 Linda Gravley	11/23 Luz Lopez
11/12 Liz Ledbetter	11/28 Fleet Lester
11/12 Jill Puterbaugh	11/28 Wesleigh Michalke
11/17 Jan Collier	11/30 Leslie Bolin
11/20 Sarah Barge	



SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS: Wondering how you will survive the weeks surrounding Thanksgiving and Christmas? Are you dreading these holidays, knowing everything has changed and happy memories from past years can't be recreated? Our Surviving the Holidays seminar is especially for people who are grieving a loved one's death. You'll learn how to deal with the many emotions you'll face during the holidays, what to do about traditions and other coming changes, helpful tips for surviving social events and how to discover hope for your future. Please join us **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13 at 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm**. Whether your loss is recent or in the past, this seminar is full of helpful information and emotional support. If you have questions, contact Lanette Hatfield (lanettehatfield@gmail.com) or Carolyn and Al Baumgartner (caral35@bellsouth.net).



AND ON EARTH PEACE

*In the beginning was the Word.
The Word - Holy - Sacred - Just - Eternal.
God in Christ, Christ in God. In the beginning.
And suddenly, the Word was flesh -
Incarnate - Human - Breakable - common.
Morning light into darkness.
And that life-light blazed out of the darkness.
And the darkness could not put it out.
Redeemer - Savior - Messiah - Lord! His name - Jesus.
This is the story of the birth of the Prince of Peace.*

*Christmas Musical Presentation
Sunday, December 10th
7:00pm— Sanctuary
Reception to Follow*



The Compassionate Friends Worldwide Candle Lighting is held the second Sunday in December at 7:00pm for one hour local time around the globe. It unites family and friends, by commemorating and honoring the memory of children of any age who have died from any cause. It transcends all ethnic, cultural, religious and political boundaries.

It is believed to be the largest mass candle lighting on the globe. It creates a virtual 24-hour wave of light as it moves from time zone to time zone. Thousands of people around the world gather in remembrance of children who have died, but will never be forgotten.

We will sponsor a Candle Lighting this year at Macland Presbyterian on Sunday, December 10th, at 7:00pm in conjunction with the Christmas Musical Program, "And on Earth, Peace". All who have lost a child are invited to light a candle in memory of their child. The candles will be lit at approximately 7:00pm and will burn throughout the Christmas program.

If you know someone you would like to invite to also participate, please do so. For planning purposes, could you please let Carol Thomas (cthomas5250@yahoo.com) know if you, and/or others you invite, will be lighting a candle so we can be sure there will be a proper number of candles available. This would be a great time to invite people to our Christmas program with a reception following.

**Session News and Notes
October 2017**



The Session met in the copy room on October 23, 2017.

Team reports
Finance

	Sept YTD 2017	Sept LYTD 2016	Change	% Change	YTD Budget	Delta vs Budet	% Change
Revenue	\$286,686	\$289,864	(\$3,178)	-1.1%	\$301,929	(\$15,243)	-5.0%
Revenue less Pam Brotherton and BQ Funds	\$271,549	\$271,376	\$173	0.1%	\$263,217	\$8,332	3.2%
Expenses	\$287,869	\$299,505	(\$11,636)	-3.9%	\$320,055	(\$32,186)	-10.1%
Net Income	(\$1,183)	(\$9,641)	\$8,458	2.8%	(\$18,126)	\$16,943	-93.5%
Net Income less PBF	(\$16,320)	(\$28,128)	\$11,809	-3.9%	(\$56,838)	\$40,518	-10.1%

Worship

- Carol Thomas is planning to have the Christmas Music Program on 12/10/17.
- December 3-First Sunday in Advent
- December 10- Christmas Musical presented at the church under the direction Carol Thomas
- A reception will follow the Christmas musical.

Building and Grounds

- Mowing Season is winding down and went well.
- New thermostats have been purchased and the install is starting this week.
- Damaged door to FLC has been replaced and hardware upgraded.
- Emergency Plumbing repairs completed on Friday... water heater time bomb.
Researching the potential for automated paper towel dispensers for paper product cost savings.

Christian Nurture

- Youth/kids:
 - Vespers:
-Confirmed for November 5th. Music and restaurant after are chosen. Transportation - Adults will drive
 - Youth and music:
-There is a group that is playing hand bells for the Christmas program.
 - Youth Sunday:
-November 12 – will go out for lunch. There will not be youth that evening.
 - Sunday night:
-T-shirts were made for breast cancer (in honor of Laura Sinyard).
- Garrett is now teaching the Affirmation class.
- Sunday School/Wednesday night:
 - Angela is teaching Wednesday night class for Buddy. Classes are going well.
 - Young adult class is going well and meets when the kids are in town. Will try to plan a weekend activity.
- **Outreach**
 - Sweetwater Mission
-Quarterly Food Pantry Program
Food pantry date is November 4. Two more volunteers required.
Discussions were held regarding The Season of Giving. It was agreed to continue this program this year.
Macland Foursome tied for first at golf tournament
 - Rescue, Repurpose, Redeem
-The fall craft show was cancelled due to low attendance.
- Red Cross Blood Drive
-Drive was successful –we collected 20 units of blood which potentially will save 60 lives
Nancy Russell has dates for next drive

- Men's Extension
-Groups to serve is covered for rest of the year
-Notice will be in the newsletter as to Items needed for fall
A box will be available in the Narthex to deposit items at any time
A better sign listing needs will be attached to the box
- Compton Elementary
-There was a great turnout for The Volunteer Breakfast in September
- Hurricane Relief/PDA
-Send to David Jones to have the check written

Fellowship and Evangelism.

- The Team unanimously agreed to increase our fees for the Gym and FLC and put in place rules for payments, cancellations, and refunds – effective January 1st. ***See complete revised policy on the Macland Website.***
- The golf foursome of Tom Camp, Doug Michalke, Mel Morrison and Bill White competed in the Sweetwater Mission Charitable Golf Tournament at The City Club on Monday, September 25th and tied for 1st place (against 24 other foursomes)!!
- Also, our semi-annual Men's Golf outing was also held at The City Club on Friday, October 6th and we had 14 golfers. The winning team was Bill Thompson, Steve Martz, John Chattin, and Tom Thach. Longest drive winner was Eric Michalke and Closest-to-the-Pin winner was Tom Camp.
- Our next outing is tentatively scheduled for Friday, April 29th at a site to-be-determined. For future planning purposes, we will make the Fall outing on the first Friday in November and the Spring outing the last Friday in April.
- T-shirts and Polos will be available for ordering through Doug Michalke.

Session Actions

- **Approved the baptism of Giff Dieterich (date to be determined later).**
- **Approved the baptism of Pierce Haley on November 12, 2017**
- **Approved the revised fee schedule and guidelines for Facility Use at Macland effective January 1st, 2018 with friendly amendments.**
- **Approved "Grandfathering" the Harrison Winter Guard to continue with the current rate of \$15.00 through April 2018.**
- **Approved that the task force be able to work with the Harrison Winter Guard on billing and modifications of scheduling as in the past.**
- **Approved establishing a Lauren Pike memorial fund (music teacher at Compton).**

Calendar of events

- November 4-Sweetwater food pantry
- November 5-vespers
- November 12 – Youth Sunday
- December 3-First Sunday in Advent
- December 10- Christmas Musical
- December 17 - Youth Christmas Party
- February 4- Souper Bowl Sunday
- March 4 - Youth Fundraiser
- April 15-Potluck lunch
- May 20 – Senior Sunday and Preschool Sunday
- June 3 – 9, 2018-Montreat
- June 11-15- Vacation Bible School

