

Macland Press

A Publication of Macland Presbyterian Church



February 2018

February 4
Scout Sunday

February 14
Ash Wednesday
7:00-Worship Service

February 15
2:00-Blood Drive

February 19
President's Day
Church Office Closed

February 19-23
Cobb County Winter
Break

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Dear Macland,

In the summer of 1996, just before midnight, the youth and adults on our Mission Trip to Lexington, Kentucky were bunking down for sleep while I was out driving the church van around the same three blocks in what seemed to me a never-ending track of exhaustion. Cayla, a little over a year old, on her first mission trip, was in her car seat behind me slowly losing the battle between wake and sleep. She wouldn't go to sleep in the church where we were staying, so I put her in the van and went hoping the driving wheels and the hum of the road would lull her to sleep. That was her first of many 'mission trips' to come. By age 12, she'd been on 13. As she graduated from high school, she planned a trip to Russia. In college, she coordinated projects for our Haiti partnership that will end up providing ongoing health care to thousands of children in Haiti. Now, she threw her cap in the air and her gown aside after finishing Berry College and is off in Morocco with The Peace Corps.



As parents, Carrie and I have worked very hard to make a home for our family. That's what we do, as parents, we work to make a house a home not knowing that our children are conspiring against us all along. While we tell them, "Settle down!" making that our life's goal, having found each other and settled down, our children are, year after year, with every birthday, cranking it up. No matter what age, as soon as you think you've mastered being a parent, they grow to a new stage in their development and your incompetence. I had always heard, "Give your children, roots and wings." Well, guess what. The wings are far more powerful than the roots.



I should have seen it coming with Cayla. She put on her backpack for school, but school wouldn't be enough. She chose horseback riding as a hobby but going around in circles only satisfied her for so long.

Yes, I should have seen it coming. Every Sunday she heard me charge a congregation to go out in the world, that's what we do as pastors. But congregations are expected to come back a week later (or at least next Christmas or Easter). Even so, every once in a while, you get someone who does more on a mission trip than get a small dose, they catch fire. Every once in a while, you get someone in church who actually listens to the gospels and the words of Jesus who says 'build' 11 times but 'go' 111 times. Look at church facilities and budgets, I think we reversed the ratio. Not Cayla. Even though we seldom preach about the Great Commission where Jesus tells his followers to descend the mountain and "Go into all the world," apparently on those Sundays, she's been listening.



Looking back as full-time parent and part-time pastor in my daughter's life, I guess I should warn you. Be careful if you come to worship on Sunday, the warm coals of your heart might catch fire – then, as Dr. Seuss says, "Oh, The Places You'll Go."

JOY!

David

p.s. for more about Cayla, read her correspondence with Carol Reed later in the newsletter

What's Up Macland?

Macland Youth cordially invite you to our annual Fundraiser Dinner in...



The Amazing World of Dr. Seuss Sunday, March 4th at 5:30 p.m.

"You're off to Great Places! Today is your day! Your Mountain is waiting, so... Get on your way!" And join us for a fun evening in the World of Dr. Seuss.

We will have delicious food, **our famous dessert auction**, games, and much more. We will sell tickets beginning Sunday, February 4th.

All proceeds will go to support our trip to Montreat. This retreat is always an amazing week where the youth grow closer to God and each other. We hope to see you all there Sunday, March 4th at 5:30 p.m.



Macland Presbyterian Preschool

Is gearing up for registration!

Check out the website for classes and tuition rates.

Registration for church members and current students is Feb 5th - Feb 7th

Registration opens to the public on Thursday February 8th

We offer classes from 9-1 for Infants, toddlers, twos, threes and fours

For information about Macland Presbyterian Preschool, email preschool@macland.org
www.macland.org

Brochures can be found in the Narthex
Please take a couple to share with friends and neighbors.
Help spread the word about our preschool!

February Birthdays

2/1 Will Cromer
2/6 Angelia Yates
2/7 Dylan Cole
2/8 Andrew Scott
2/9 Terry Curtis
2/12 Russ Conger
2/13 Alli Smith
2/17 David Savic
2/19 Jeff Pierce
2/19 Alex Scott
2/19 Steve Zerby
2/20 Ben Hodges
2/20 Erin Michalke
2/21 Mark Beebe
2/25 Richard Estes
2/27 Barry Haugh
2/27 Lauren White





Sweetwater Mission Food Pantry Service Dates: The following are our food pantry service dates for this year: Feb 10th, Apr 21st, June 16th, Aug 18th, Oct 20th, and Dec 8th. Sign-ups will be held in the Narthex 3-4 weeks prior to each date. Please be sure to sign-up so we can ensure enough volunteers for each Saturday. Sign-ups are limited to 10 volunteers each date and volunteers must be age 16 or older. If you have any questions please contact Carol Reed at reed4512@bellsouth.net.

Macland's winter blood drive will be held February 15th from 2:00 p.m to 7:00 p.m. in the gym. To celebrate Valentine's Day and as a gift to your loved ones, I urge all eligible donors to give now. The need for blood is critical this time of year with winter weather and illness making it difficult for the American Red Cross to maintain a sufficient blood supply. The ARC must collect 13,000 blood donations EVERY DAY for patients in need. Do you know someone who has never donated before? Please encourage them to make an appointment with you. To make an appointment, there will be a signup table in the narthex or go online to www.redcrossblood.org and use the code maclandp



Save time by using RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history online from a mobile device or computer before you come to your appointment. Learn more at redcrossblood.org/rapidpass. For detailed donor eligibility questions, please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org.



The Men's Extension Needs Your Help!

Macland Presbyterian Church has been supporting The Extension for over 19 years. We provide and serve them a meal on the first Sunday evening of every month. We are looking for individuals and groups to sign up to help out each month. Typically, we provide a meat entrée, side dish, a vegetable and dessert along with sweet tea and lemonade for approximately 60 men. Anyone who has served at The Extension can attest to the life changing work that takes place there. The men in the program share a bond that is a great example of how God works in communities to support and encourage them to change their lives. If you or your group is interested in serving a meal there is a sign-up sheet on the Outreach bulletin board in the Main Hallway of the Church. We need sign-ups starting in March and running through the remainder of the year. Contact John Polacheck or David McCarl if you have any questions.

Session News and Notes January 2018



The Session met in the choir room on January 22, 2018

The main purpose of the meeting was to examine incoming officers and to adopt the budget for 2018.

After the examination of the candidates, a motion was made and seconded to accept the slate for Ordination and Installation on February 4, 2018.

**Deacons-Marjorie Zerby, Jimmy Smith, Peggy Dhonau, Suzanne Kelly, Barbara Hayes
Elders-Don Yates, Ken Collins (TBD), Debbie Hennings, Michael Clark, Penny Estes**

Session Committees for 2018 are as follows:

Clerk of the Session-Gayle Kuykendall

Administration and Finance-Bill White, Don Yates

Building and Grounds-Sandra Aufderheide, Ken Collins

Christian Nurture-Julie Bolin, Kelly Barge

Congregational Care/Evangelism-Doug Michalke, Bonnie Little

Worship-Penny Estes, Michael Clark

Team reports

Finance

	Dec YTD 2017	Dec LYTD 2016	Change	% Change	YTD Budget	Delta vs Budget	% Change
Revenue	\$411,447	\$401,452	\$9,995	2.5%	\$415,095	(\$3,648)	-0.9%
Revenue less Pam Brotherton and BQ Funds	\$379,322	\$380,963	(\$1,641)	-0.4%	\$364,480	\$14,842	4.1%
Expenses	\$411,447	\$406,155	\$5,292	1.3%	\$415,288	(\$3,841)	-0.9%
Net Income	(\$1)	(\$4,703)	\$4,703	1.2%	(\$194)	\$193	-99.7%
Net Income less PBF	(\$32,125)	(\$25,192)	(\$6,933)	1.3%	(\$50,808)	\$18,684	-0.9%

Building and Grounds

• **Operation Facelift:**

We have started the projects for the "facelift". The chairs were completed this month and look great. Thanks to all who helped. Plumber and electrician meetings are scheduled this month. The paving bids have come in and look to be lower than expected which will free up funds for the balance on the work. Also, a member has made a donation to pay for the Ice machine, new kitchen outlets, and possibly a drink station for the FLC. Project list is below:

*Exterior Lights: Lights around building, in trees and on sign

*Parking Lot: Seal and stripe, repair damaged areas, repair curve on road including curbing

*Sanctuary: Chancel area-wood flooring, sound engineering

*Exterior painting: Main building only, front door trim, reseal wooden doors

*FLC/Fellowship Hall: Chair update

*Session Meeting Room: Table and chairs

*Minister's Office: Paint

*FLC Kitchen: Water heater (4K)

*Sanctuary Kitchen: Icemaker

Completed:

- chairs \$40 each (10K),

Outreach

• Sweetwater Mission

Quarterly Food Pantry Program dates for 2018 are February 10, April 21, June 16, August 18, October 20, and December 8

Save the date for Chicken Run on April 14

Rescue Reuse Redeem

Planning Meeting will be March 6th at 9:30 a.m.

- **Red Cross Blood Drive**
Nancy Russell has potential dates for 2018
Save the Dates are February 15 and September 20 and will be placed in the bulletin
- **Men's Extension and Women's Extension**
A sign-up sheet is available in the bulletin board for meal schedule for 2018
A box is available in the Narthex to deposit needed items
- **Compton Elementary**
 1. Jessica, school nurse, has requested a need for underwear, pants and women's hygiene items
Discussions were held regarding cost of items and the possibility of cost being charged to Miscellaneous in 2018 Budget

Fellowship and Evangelism- Goals for 2018

- Work to create deeper relationships with those in and out of our building and community
- Remind people to wear name tags throughout the year
- Divide greeting responsibilities and follow-up, Barbara and Bonnie will brainstorm, and Joni will help to contact folks as well
- Extend a personal invitation to the congregation to Wednesday Night Dinners during every Sunday morning service
- Continue to invite all visitors to a free Wednesday Night dinner meal (invitation already in welcome mug)
- Meet with Girl Scout leaders to pursue other supporting rolls or joint venture as we have with Cub Scouts
- Create a welcome card or pamphlet of informational opportunities
- Advertise to the entire congregation those special events happening within our church of those groups using our facility, i.e. Pinewood Derby, Trunk or Treat, World Thinking Day, etc.
- Since most visiting groups utilize the family life Center, the Fellowship Team will establish and maintain a bulletin board that advertises the church calendar and other engagement opportunities for visitor

Session Actions

- **Approved Gayle Kuykendall as Clerk of the Session for 2018.**
- **Approved February 4, 2018 for Ordination/Installation of new officers.**
- **Approved serving Communion each Sunday.**
- **Approved the collection of special offerings, if needed.**
- **Approved 2018 budget.**
- **Approved Congregational Meeting for February 11, 2018 for presentation of the budget.**

Calendar of events

- February 4- Souper Bowl Sunday
- February 10- Food pantry Sweetwater
- February 14-Ash Wednesday-dinner and worship service
- February 15-Blood drive
- February 21- CCSD winter break-no Wednesday night activities
- March 4 - Youth Fundraiser
- March 6-Planning meeting for Rescue, Reuse, Redeem
- March 29-Maundy Thursday meal, in lieu of Wednesday night dinner
- Good Friday-worship service
- April 1-Easter Sunday
- April 4-CCSD spring break-no Wednesday night activities
- April 15-Potluck lunch
- April 29-Golf outing
- May 16-Last Wednesday night dinner
- May 20 – Senior Sunday and Preschool Sunday
- June 3 – 9, 2018-Montreat
- June 11-15- Vacation Bible School

NEWS FROM MOROCCO

Carol Reed is The Outreach Team's Ambassador for Cayla Jones, our Peace Corps Volunteer Missionary. Here is their recent correspondence.

Cayla,

I'm your official Ambassador from Macland Presbyterian Church. I don't do social media but your dad said that you check this e-mail occasionally. Don't know if you remember me since you have had so much on your plate for the past several months.

In case you can't remember what I look like, attached is a photo of me doing one of the many things I enjoy ... teaching archaeology to 3rd graders in the Cobb County school system.

Anyway, let's correspond while you're in Africa. I will pass on to the congregation any needs/concerns you have and share your adventures with them. I'm so proud of you for just being you, Cayla, for making decisions that will continue to educate you and enrich your life. So please pass that education on to me and that will enrich MY life.

Love and Peace,
Carol Reed

Hi Carol,

I could never forget you! You gave me some fossils that you found close to Berry.

Thank you for your curiosity about my experience and willingness to share with everyone back at home at Macland. By doing so you are helping me achieve the third goal of the Peace Corps Mission which is "to help promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans".

Having been in Morocco for the past five months I have definitely learned a lot in terms of the language, culture, and how I can serve those here. The first three months were spent living in a community along with five other volunteers and a Moroccan Language and Culture Teacher. We had class six days a week for about six to seven hours a day and then would return to our host families to practice what we learned and essentially become part of the family. My host family during this time and I are very close and I'm lucky that my permanent sight is about 30 minutes away so I can go back and visit them often.

I moved into my permanent site for the next two years on the first day of December. I lived with another host family for a month as I adjusted to the community and then on January 1st I moved into my own house. I have loved living on my own for the first time this past month as I have had plenty of time to cook, read, and do yoga. My site is fairly advanced in the sense of Youth Development and projects as they have had different volunteers live here over the past six years who have started different groups that are still ongoing. The youth center has a handful of dedicated volunteers who come in to lead a Model UN group every week that will go compete against other groups in April and they also lead activities and songs for the younger kids every Sunday morning. Having such opportunities for all age groups in the youth center keeps them busy. I participate in these and also teach a beginners English class three times a week. My site mate, Matt, who I am very lucky to have as many other volunteers are on their own, teaches an advanced English class three times a week as well. Matt has been here for a year already so he has been a great help in getting me settled in and has introduced me to many of the community members. In addition to the Youth Center, I also have been tutoring a group of girls and leading exercise classes at a Girls' Boarding School twice a week. There are about 30 girls who all come from surrounding towns to live there during the week and go to the local middle and high schools. As I understand it, to live there they have to go through an application process. These boarding school type places are common for boys and girls across Morocco as many schools have a limit to the number of students so students sometimes have to go to other towns to go to school.



Life here has been wonderful so far, even though there have been some very cold rainy days. The people are very kind and hospitable. Their hospitality has been one of the most striking things to me as they are always willing to take you in and feed you like it's Thanksgiving. This is something different from the U.S. that has stood out to me and a lesson that I will hopefully bring into my life when I return home. Many young people here who travel across Morocco can do it without ever staying at a hotel and eat most of their meals with strangers who just invite them in to their homes. There are several parts of the Koran that instruct them to feed the hungry and its sinful to be full while your neighbor is hungry. I think this plays a strong part in why they are so hospitable to strangers. The culture here has such a strong influence from Islamic beliefs and customs. From everyone eating couscous on Fridays, pausing conversations or muting TVs when the Call to Prayer Sounds, to their greetings and a lot of the language that they use is all based around Allah. The Call to Prayer is an amazing thing to me as I hear it sound across the town from the six different mosques, but it also sounds at the same time across the country calling everyone to pray. Not everyone prays the five times a day, but most of the fathers do. The preparation for prayer consists of washing one's feet, hands, and face. They have such dedication to their prayers that it has made me ask myself, if there is anything that I do five times a day or with that much dedication?



This has been a summary of my experience so far along with some of my favorite things about the culture that I have noticed so far. You don't have to share it all, but I love to talk about my experience as every day is filled with high points and often some miscommunication as I continue to learn the language.

Love,

Cayla

