

november

2022



Sunday November 6
at 2:00 a.m.
Remember to set your
clocks back 1 hour.



Happy Thanksgiving
Thursday Nov. 24

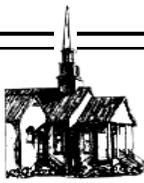
Send address corrections to:
Macedonia Baptist Church
PO Box 18
Edenton, NC 27932
252-482-3059
macedonia1004@gmail.com
Website: mbcedenton.com

Senior Pastor.....Chris Gravning
Associate Pastor of Families.....Chris Lindsey
Deacon Chairman.....Tom Bass
Co-Music Directors.....Carolyn Smithwick & Phil Huey
Secretary.....Rachel Gregory
Custodian.....Joyce Jack

Deacons of the Week:

6th Larry Jones, Mike Jones
13th Chris Layton, Al Walker
20th Phil Huey, Richard Kern
27th Tom Bass, Heath Hughes

MBC Office Hours
Monday – Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm



We continually do things that provide us with some sort of benefit. We work, and the benefit is money. Our money provides for us food, vehicles, houses, etc. We take the long road to Elizabeth City, and the benefit is Walmart. We study in school with the perceived benefit that our hard work and dedication will provide a good job. We look for benefit in all things that we do. While preaching, Martyn Lloyd-Jones pondered why people enjoyed going to other places more than the local church. His verdict was that they "feel that they get more benefit there (other places) than they do in their chapels and churches." So what benefit is there in the local church? I plan to provide for you three benefits of the local church from Hebrews 10:19-25

"Therefore, brothers, since we have the confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."

First, we benefit because we can enter into the presence of Christ. In the previous chapters, we are shown that Jesus is the better Prophet and High Priest. If you remember, once a year, the High Priest would cleanse himself, offer sacrifices, and go into the Most Holy place, behind the veil, to sprinkle the blood of the sacrifice on the mercy seat. The Most Holy place was where the High Priest would meet with God. Jesus was the High Priest who did not need a sacrifice for himself to enter God's presence. He was able to do this because he was sinless. For those of us in Christ, we can now confidently enter God's presence. We have complete trust to enter into the presence of God. We may enter into the presence on our own through prayer and personal worship. We may also enter into the presence of God through corporate worship. (Matthew 18:19-20) We hear from God through the preaching of the Word. This is why the preaching of the Word is central to our worship.

Second, we benefit because we are forgiven in Christ. All of our sin (past, present, and future) has been forgiven in Christ. We now have "true hearts in full assurance of faith." These true hearts allow us to draw near to our savior. Peter puts it this way, "For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God" (1 Peter 3:18). Our unrighteousness, our sinfulness, our evil consciousness. Our sin kept us from the most holy God. We have been saved, changed, and made new because of Christ. This newness gives us a renewed consciousness and mind that now reminds us of our assurance in Christ. Our assurance is grown in community with one another. Our forgiveness brings us into a community with people gathering together with one hope. All forgiven. All together. All can enter the presence of God through Jesus Christ.

Third, we benefit because of each other in Christ. The writer of Hebrews says, "let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." As those who gather together benefit because we "stir one another up to love and good works", and we "encourage one another." Notice something important here. We do not gather here because we are stirred up or encouraged. However, We gather because WE are the ones who stir up and encourage. This command is a reminder that Christianity is meant to be lived in community with one another. We need other Christians in our lives to love us and for us to love them. In Christ, we are given a vibrant community to live in this world as we await the day to draw near. Where we will live in a perfect community with one another in Christ.

If you would notice, the benefit that there is in the church is all found in Christ. How beautiful is that? Being able to be in the presence of God is a benefit in Christ. Forgiveness is a benefit in Christ. Community is a benefit in Christ. No one else but Christ and his church benefits us more.

-Pastor Chris Lindsey

MBC Family wishes HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the following who were born in

November! 1 Alfred Walker 3 Ginger Skinner 4 Sallie Hare 10 Carol Copeland

11 Rana Layton, Eden Gray 13 Judy Chappell 14 A.J. Layton 15 Richard Blanchard, Carolyn Forehand
16 Linda Keeter, Ashley Byrum 18 Lorraine Bass 19 Mike McArthur, Randy White 21 Ellison Hughes
24 Joshua Ainsley, Braden Coker 25 Ann Forehand 27 Lillian Lindsey 28 Virginia Jones, Courtney
Woodley 29 David Earley 30 Michelle Bass



Nov. 6 - Daylight Saving Time ends at 2:00 am. Set clocks back one hour, Breakfast & Fellowship 9:00 am, Observance of the Lord's Supper during Morning Worship

Nov. 7 - Senior Adult Dinner at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Nov. 7-8 - NC Baptist State Convention Annual Meeting

Nov. 11 - Veteran's Day

Nov. 12 - Fellowship Hall Reserved

Nov. 13 - Deacons Meeting 7:15 pm

Nov. 15 - Ora Harrell Prayer Group at MBC 12:00 pm

Nov. 16 - Helen Mitchell Bible Study at MBC at 1:00 pm. Business Meeting 8:15 pm

Nov. 21 - December Newsletter info due

Nov. 23 - Thanksgiving Communion Service at MBC 7:00 pm

Nov. 24 - Thanksgiving Day; Church Office Closed



Upcoming Student Ministry Fall Events

Widows lunch Nov. 19 10 am—1 pm

Thank you church family for your kind gifts that were presented to me and Bethany for Pastor Appreciation. I am very thankful for your love, prayers, and patience with me. It truly is an honor to pastor here at MBC and we love you all very much. **Pastor Chris Gravning**

Dear Macedonia, Thank you so much for the Pastoral Appreciation Gift and flowers for my bride. We are encouraged and grateful to serve with you all.
By His Grace, Pastor Chris Lindsey

Thank you from the WMU for 191 pairs of socks for the women prisoners
"Red Box Christmas Ministry".

Dear Macedonia Baptist WMU, I'm so glad it worked out for me to visit your church this trip. I was encouraged by your Sunday night attendance. It is always good to get those Macedonia hugs!! I appreciate the years of prayer support. You are so kind and thoughtful to also send me a love offering. Thank you for partnering with me in this journey.
Until all have heard – Your missionary, Melanie Edwards

Operation Christmas Child!



We have 100 boxes to be packed for children across the world that, in most cases, will receive nothing for Christmas. Pre-assembled shoeboxes can be picked up from the table in the hallway heading into the fellowship hall or from the sanctuary foyer. A brochure with instructions on how to pack a box that also contains the shipping label have been placed inside the pre-folded boxes. It is requested that \$10 to help with the cost of shipping be included. Information on ways to donate are listed in the provided brochure.

Packed boxes are due back to the church by Sunday, Nov. 6.

The Deacons will be collecting monetary donations on Nov 13 to purchase Food Lion gift cards for our widows. Please place donations in a designated envelope to "White Christmas". Checks should be made payable to Macedonia Baptist Church.



Senior Adults

Monday November 7th Senior Adult Dinner at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will be having a soup dinner and will have music. Please contact Joyce Jack if you need a ride to the dinner and back.