

The Shorelines

February 2021

*Macedonia Lutheran Church
49 Macedonia Church Road
Prosperity, SC 29127*

Established 1847, 173rd Year of Ministry





‘Just Give It Away’

If you do not already know, I am a big country music fan. I can sing (not in tune) George Jones, Tim McGraw, Johnny Cash, Reba, Patsy, Conway, Willie, and Alan Jackson (maybe my favorite).

George Strait has a song titled ‘Just Give It Away.’ It is a song about a wife leaving her husband. She tells him she is leaving and she does not want anything from their marriage. No pictures, no ring, no nothing, and she tells her husband to ‘just give it away’.

In our lives, we are all given the same number of minutes each day, 1,440 minutes. God has also given us the same goal – to be more like Jesus.

We all strive throughout our lives to be like Jesus. We do this, we do that, and the more we do, the more we find out that we have not come close to reaching the goal to be more like Jesus.

If we want to be more like Jesus, we need to try and understand who Jesus was and who He still is. If we use one word to describe Jesus, that word would be unselfish. Pastor Rick Warren said, “the whole goal of life is learning how to become more and more unselfish because to be unselfish is love – and Jesus is love.”

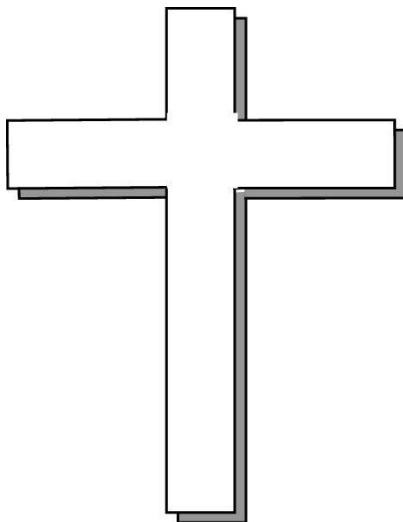
Each of us was put on earth for a purpose and that purpose is summed up in Jesus’ commandments to love God and to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. With this, one of the most significant things you can do with your life is to ‘just give it away’. Be generous with all the blessings God has given you. This includes your time,

your abilities, your resources, and (the words we do not like to say) your money.

Our gift of life is a gift from God. And as it is with all gifts, we should be generous in our giving. Think about it. We give kids toys, we give clothes, money, we may even give 4 wheelers, jewelry, boats and fishing poles. All of that is great; however, all of that does wear out, become rusty and old, and sometimes we may even forget we have it.

BUT, the time we give to others is never forgotten. It is not forgotten by the person with whom we spend time. It is not forgotten by us. It is never, ever forgotten by God our Father.

Our time is precious. Our life is precious. It is a precious gift from God. Why not 'just give it away'. Imagine what Jesus will do with you and the other person that you 'just give your life, your time away'. And remember, what did Jesus do for you with His life – He 'just gave it away'.





And a voice came from heaven: "You are my dear son; in you I take great delight". - God, Mark 1: 11, NET

Positive praying is more effective than positive thinking. Rick Warren

When the whole world is running towards a cliff, he who is running in the opposite direction appears to have lost his mind. - C. S. Lewis

You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending. - C. S. Lewis

Being a Christian is more than just an instantaneous conversion; it is like a daily process whereby you grow to be more and more like Christ. - Billy Graham

A real Christian is the one who can give his pet parrot to the town gossip. - Billy Graham

How can you think and hit at the same time? - Yogi Berra

There never was a good war or a bad peace. - Benjamin Franklin

Better slip with foot than tongue. - Benjamin Franklin

Do I not destroy my enemies when I make them my friends? - Abraham Lincoln

My concern is not whether God is on our side; my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right. - Abraham Lincoln

There is no more lovely, friendly and charming relationship, communion or company than a good marriage. - Martin Luther

As matchmakers, it is not our job to make people Christians. Our role is simply to connect people to Jesus. We set up the date. God's grace lights the fire. And the Holy Spirit takes it from there. 'Why Nobody Wants to Go to Church Anymore', - Thom and Joani Schultz

Come and See. - Philip and the pastor

Then a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came from the cloud, "This is my dear Son. Listen to him!" - God, Mark 9: 7, NET

Send the pastor your favorite quotes. Thank you and God bless!



Adolescence

Adolescents are generally considered to be youth between 10 and 17 years old. It is a time of enormous transition. Although adolescence may appear to be a turbulent time, it's also a period of great potential as young people engage more deeply with the world around them. Adolescents

typically grow physically, try new activities, begin to think more critically, and develop more varied and complex relationships.

Major developmental changes occur in adolescence. There are five areas of adolescent development:

- Physical (hormonal changes and development)
- Cognitive (changes in the way the brain functions)
- Emotional (how adolescents process emotions and stress)
- Social (changes in familial, social, and romantic relationships)
- Morals and values (how adolescents regard their place in the world)

It's important to note that these five areas often overlap and intersect. For instance, adolescents who are struggling with depression and/or anxiety also can experience problems with their school work, parents, peers, and physical health, and may lose interest in activities they used to enjoy. Adults need to understand this complexity, respond in a supportive way, and seek professional help for such adolescents if needed.



It is also important for us as parents and the church to realize the importance of Jesus in our young peoples' lives. As parents and as adults, we need to sometimes realize that all of us went through adolescence to become adults. As a result of this, we can relate to some of the feelings they are having and also some of the questions they may have.

We need to talk to our youth. We need to talk about their lives, their questions, their feelings, and their faith. I know these conversations may not be easy; however, they are needed. They are needed by all of us, young and old, parents and youth.

This pandemic has changed many things in our lives. In some ways, it has put families at least physically closer. Let's make it a time when we are also spiritually closer. Let us make it a time when we are all closer to Jesus. Talk to Jesus. Pray together. Read scripture together. Talk about your feelings and your thoughts. Listen to each other. Be honest with each other asking Jesus to be with you and you may be surprised what you learn and that it was not as difficult as you thought. Our Savior has amazing ways to get us through this wonderful life he has given us.

As always, let me know how it is going with all of you. Call with comments and questions. God bless.



February

BIRTHDAYS

1	Jacob Bearden	14	Cruz Wessinger
1	Dovie Franklin	16	Eddie Fulmer
1	Abbi Livingston	18	Leeanna Robertson
2	Kash Wessinger	19	Tammy Bearden
3	Carl Fulmer	19	Paul Moore
3	Ruthie Hamm	19	Jimmy Shealy
5	Melissa Amick	21	Melissa Williams
6	Dorothy Berenbrok	22	Melanie Hawkins
7	Mary Witakowski	22	Betty Seibert
10	Harold Fulmer	22	Katie Slice
12	Allie Kirk Moore	23	Reagan Woods
12	Sue Vieira	25	Dale Barbour
13	Mary Kathryn Gardner	25	Olivia Fulmer
14	Pat Dominick	26	Frank Lyerly



FEBRUARY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Date		Years
14	Tom & Carol Longshore	23
18	Tommy & Janet Brown	59
19	Linda & Ranse Miller	38
23	Timothy & Sharon Graham	36

Anniversary of your baptism

<i>Lyle Fulmer</i>	02/05/2006
<i>Carli Rollins</i>	02/09/1992
<i>Sydney Willingham</i>	02/14/1999
<i>Jennifer Ayers</i>	02/16/1969
<i>Mary Lipsey</i>	02/23/1975





Date	Events
2	- 10 am Goldies meeting & lunch at Dempsey's
14	- A love offering will be collected during both services for Shrove Tuesday in lieu of our traditional Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper - 11:30 am Council meeting
16	- Shrove Tuesday
17	- 11 am Ash Wednesday early service - 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday late service
20	- 9 am Confirmation class
21	- 1 st Sunday in Lent - Holy Communion
24	- 11 am Lenten service - 6:30 pm Lenten service

Macedonia Lutheran Church
Statement of Income and Expenses
For the Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2020

	YTD Actual	Annual Budget	Over (Under) Budget
Income			
Offerings	\$296,904	\$290,010	\$6,894
Use of facilities	400	0	400
Total income	297,304	290,010	7,294
Expenses			
Professional – pastor	57,849	126,655	(68,806)
Professional - worship	16,470	21,850	(5,380)
Professional – administrative	23,574	22,275	1,299
Worship – outreach	32,072	31,950	122
Worship – witness	2,620	2,350	270
Worship – worship	7,340	5,150	2,190
Worship – growth in faith	3,158	8,000	(4,842)
Worship – property	36,949	42,050	(5,101)
Worship – administrative	8,379	9,730	(1,351)
Capital expenditures - property	1,947	20,000	(18,053)
Total expenses	190,358	290,010	(99,652)
Income less expenses	\$106,946	\$0	\$106,946

This statement does not contain the account detail. That account detail is available; please contact the church office for a copy.

Offerings for Macedonia remained strong for 2020. Despite the pandemic, giving was very good. We thank you for that. We were able to control expenses primarily by being underbudget for pastoral expenses, property items, and capital expenditures.

Your input is very important to us! If you would like to contribute to this publication by sharing your ideas, upcoming event information, photos and/or favorite quotes, please send them to the church office email address – macedonialutheranchurch@gmail.com. Thank you!