

The Shorelines

September 2021

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

Established 1847, 174th Year of Ministry



FROM THE PASTOR



In the foreword to the first edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous The Big Book*, it states the following. "We are not an organization in the conventional sense of the word. There are no fees or dues whatsoever. The only desire for membership is an honest desire to stop drinking. We are not allied with a particular faith, sect, or denomination, nor do we oppose anyone. We simply wish to be helpful to those who are afflicted."

Please read that again and think about it. Not a conventional organization, no fees or dues, not opposed to anyone, and just want to be helpful to those that are afflicted.

What other group or organization might that also reference? Bingo! You are correct. That could also describe in many aspects the church; The Church of Jesus Christ, for that is what a Christian church is. It is the church of Jesus Christ. And all of us are thrilled to be members of that church.

If we are so excited to be members of Christ's church, why are we so afraid of reaching out to others and inviting them to come. In all of this, I have finally got to that word we like to talk about but do not do well; that word is OUTREACH.

Why are we so afraid of that word, OUTREACH? It is just a word, but it is a word in the church that we want others to do. People will say, "I do not know how to do outreach. I can't do that."

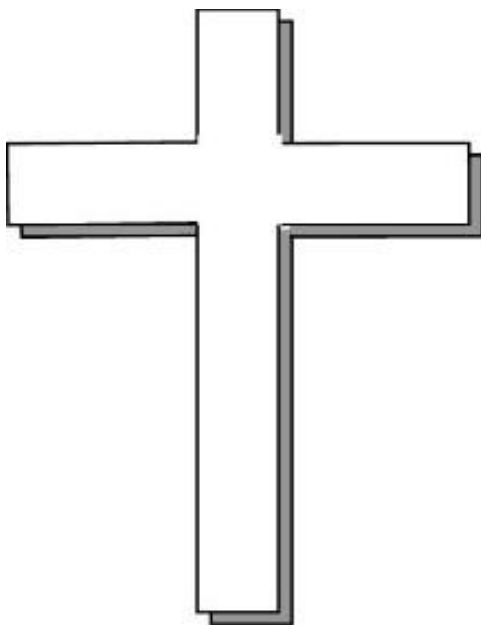
My response to that is "well, why not." You can all tell a story. Outreach is simply telling your story to others. As Christians, we do not have just one story. Each one of us has many stories. These stories are about God's power and presence in our lives. As Kevin Harney says in *Organic Outreach for Ordinary People*, "Every day brings fresh stories of God's goodness and grace." Every day is a fresh new story in each of our lives. We just need to tell it.

Rebecca Pippert in *Out of the Saltshaker*, "Every Christian has a personal story...God has called you to be a very specific, very special person, and your story, your life, is a testimony to God's goodness, his grace, his forgiveness. So share who you are with people. Let them know you have struggles but that God has made a difference."

God has given every one of us incredible stories. These are stories that others are waiting to hear. That is what OUTREACH is all about. It is about us telling our stories to all of the people in our communities, in our families, and sometimes to each other.

Tell our stories to each other. That helps you get more comfortable telling them and helps strengthen your ability to share them. People are out there that want to hear and need to hear your story, your stories because you have more than one.

Please, please, pray about this and ask God, as Kevin Harney says, "make my relationship with Him so intimate and rich that when I tell others my story, I sound like I am talking about my closest friend – because I am."
Amen.





Things Better Said by Others

God blessed Job's later life even more than his earlier life...He had seven sons and three daughters. There was not a woman in that country as beautiful as Job's daughters. Their father treated them equal with their brothers, providing the same inheritance. Job 42: 12-16, Eugene H. Peterson, The Message, the Bible in contemporary Language

When Satan reminds you of your past, you remind him of his future. He doesn't have one; you do. Rick Warren

On account of His infinite love He became what we are, in order that we might become what He is. Irenaeus, Adv.haer., V praef.

This son perfectly mirrors God, and is stamped with God's nature. He holds everything together by what he says – powerful words. Hebrews 1:3, Eugene H. Peterson, The Message, the Bible in contemporary Language

People in their right minds never take pride in their talents. Harper Lee, To Kill a Mockingbird

Until I feared I would lose it, I never loved to read. One does not love breathing. Harper Lee, To Kill a Mockingbird

We are the Bibles the world is reading; we are the creeds the world is needing; we are the sermons the world is heeding. Billy Graham

Every man must do two things alone; he must do his own believing and his own dying. Martin Luther

You can observe a lot by just watching. Yogi Berra

Next to the word of God, music deserves the highest praise. The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to man that he should proclaim the Word of God through Music. Martin Luther

Baseball is about talent, hard work, and strategy. But at the deepest level, it's about love, integrity, and respect. Pat Gillick

FOCUS – Keep Your Eyes on Jesus

Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. Hebrews 11:1

Send your favorite quote. It will be an inspiration next month.

Anniversary of your baptism

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Jan Acquisto | 09/01/1950 |
| Judy Bobb | 09/01/1943 |
| Judy Graham | 09/06/1956 |
| Kade Livingston | 09/08/2013 |
| Mary Bedenbaugh | 09/12/1948 |
| Erin Miller | 09/12/1983 |
| Wayne Fulmer | 09/13/1942 |
| Mark Hipp | 09/13/1970 |
| Tanner Bundrick | 09/20/2015 |
| Jason Fulmer | 09/25/1986 |
| Patrick Hawkins | 09/25/1966 |
| Ashley Ruff | 09/25/1985 |
| Julie Alewine | 09/27/1987 |



Reading the Bible with Your Kids

We read childhood classics with our kids. You might recall reading “Three Little Pigs” or “Little Red Riding Hood” with your parents. Why not start reading the Bible together with your kids.



Stories like “Noah and the Ark,” “Moses and the Red Sea,” or “Jonah and the Whale,” or “The Birth of Jesus” might become childhood favorites and encourage our kids and ourselves to read the Bible more. Here is some guidance.

1. Give them a good reason to read the Bible.

Kids always ask, “Why?” Give them a purpose statement. Tell them it is for both of you to know and love God and to live our lives to His glory and the good of others. This can help get both of you motivated.

2. Establish a routine.

Make it a routine. It takes some time to build a habit by doing something at the same time in the same place with the same person. There will be ups and downs and catchup times, but it will become part of your life that each of you looks forward to doing. By it becoming a routine, it is more likely that you will do it.

3. Be realistic.

Begin reading stories they may be familiar with or can more easily understand. Daniel and the Lions’ Den is much better than trying to read from the book of Numbers or Revelation. Sometimes reading less helps our kids learn more.

4. Be systematic.

Reading whole books may not be possible at first, but try to pick one with lots of stories. Genesis has much in it; the creation story, the flood, the Tower of Babel, many stories on Abraham and Sarah, and Joseph and his many brothers. This can also help them wrestle with some difficult questions and how the Books of the Bible are connected.

5. Ask good questions.

Asking our kids questions about what they read increases their concentration and helps them apply it to their lives. What, Where, When and Who questions are very good at this. As children get older, you can ask questions focused more on content and meaning. You can also ask, "What does this teach us about God" and "What does this teach us about salvation".

You may even let them ask questions. If you do not know the answer, simply state that is a good question, and let's find the answer. You can read a good study Bible, a commentary, ask a Sunday school teacher or the Pastor. He is a good guy.

6. Ask God for help.

By praying before you read, you demonstrate to your kids that all of us need heavenly help to benefit from our reading. It shows more of our dependence on God as we ask him to help us understand His Word. After reading together, help your child turn what you read into prayers. We can even thank God for giving us this time together to read His Word, enjoy His presence, and enjoy reading together.



- **Join us for bible study** in person or via Zoom every Wednesday at 11:00 am!
- **Our youth group will be in the parking lot in front of the church** after worship service each Sunday (weather permitting) to sell donation tickets for our fundraiser. If you would like to purchase tickets, please drop by and see us! Tickets are 1.00 each and all proceeds will go directly to our youth to offset the cost of their upcoming weekend retreat. Thank you for your support!
- **Macedonia's Homecoming celebration will be held on October 10th**! There will be one service on Homecoming Sunday. Sunday School will be held at 9:30 and church service at the lakeshore will be held at 10:30. We are planning a picnic lunch; however, that is subject to change based on COVID issues.
- **Lakeshore services for 2021 will be extended through November 14th**. There will be one service at the Lakeshore on November 14th to bring our congregation together for the annual Congregational Meeting. Sunday School will be held at 9:30 and church service at the lakeshore will be held at 10:30. Macedonia's normal schedule will resume on Sunday, November 21st with service in the sanctuary at 8:30, Sunday School at 9:30, and the second service in the sanctuary at 10:30.
- **Golden Agers (75+)**: You should have received a letter asking you to write or update your story for the Golden Agers Booklet. If you are 75+ and did not receive a letter, please call or email the office and let Jeannie know. Please return your story to the office via email, USPS, or give it to an usher any Sunday by September 12th. Thank you all for your help and participation!
- **Samaritan's Purse reminder**: Now is a good time to think about purchasing Samaritan's Purse items while school supplies are plentiful! Information regarding items needed is available online at samaritanspurse.org. Updated brochures are available in the parish hall. Thank you for your support!

Summary of July 11, 2021 Council Meeting

The following motions were passed.

1. We need a cloud backup for the church's computer files. The annual cost is \$69 for 1 terabyte. This was approved.
2. The City of Newberry Fire Department was seeking donations to purchase fire prevention material for distribution. The council approved \$90 for this.
3. Donald Wise's adult Sunday school class will be hosting a first responders appreciation dinner on July 22nd. Council approved spending up to \$500 for the meal.

The following other items were discussed.

1. Steve Long and Jimmy Moore replaced ballasts in the Administrative Assistant's office.
2. A downed tree was clear by Grady Fulmer with the help of Mark and Missy Hipp's wrecker.
3. The youth are planning a trip to Tennessee in October. They are planning on raising as much money as they can for the trip. Due to lack of CDL drivers and the condition of the church vehicles, the vans needed for the trip will be rented.
4. The bus committee has met and will be coming up with recommendations for the van and the bus. Both are old and both require the driver to have a CDL to drive them. Recommendations from the committee are coming soon.
5. The Executive Committee met with church employees to discuss their responsibilities and their job performance. They were also asked to share any concerns. The Executive Committee will report to the Finance Committee for any salary adjustments for the 2022 budget.
6. Kids For Christ will start back in August. Angela Bowers is using the VBS contact list to invite more kids to the August kick-off.
7. All council people were thanked for what they do and Jimmy Moore especially thanked Emma Bundrick and Bethany Day for representing the youth on council.

Macedonia Lutheran Church
Statement of Income and Expenses
For the Seven Months Ended July 31, 2021

| | July Actual | 7-Month Actual | 7-Month Budget | Over (Under) Budget |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Income | | | | |
| Offerings | \$29,401 | \$208,755 | \$155,933 | \$52,822 |
| Use of facilities | 1,000 | 2,341 | 0 | 2,341 |
| Total income | <u>30,401</u> | <u>211,096</u> | <u>155,933</u> | <u>55,163</u> |
| Expenses | | | | |
| Professional - pastor | 7,641 | 56,306 | 59,764 | (3,458) |
| Professional - worship | 1,873 | 12,764 | 11,947 | 817 |
| Professional - administrative | 1,971 | 13,845 | 13,796 | 49 |
| Worship - outreach | 7,850 | 23,055 | 23,675 | (620) |
| Worship - witness | 122 | 392 | 116 | 276 |
| Worship - worship | 677 | 3,577 | 3,063 | 515 |
| Worship - growth in faith | 2,469 | 6,419 | 4,667 | 1,752 |
| Worship - property | 5,061 | 22,274 | 25,165 | (2,891) |
| Worship - administrative | 590 | 5,945 | 5,915 | 30 |
| Capital expenditures - property | 0 | 33,317 | 11,667 | 21,650 |
| Total expenses | <u>28,254</u> | <u>177,894</u> | <u>159,773</u> | <u>18,121</u> |
| Income less expenses | <u>\$2,147</u> | <u>\$33,202</u> | <u>(\$3,841)</u> | <u>\$37,043</u> |

Offerings continue to remain strong. We have been blessed with your giving.
Thank you for your faithful financial support of the ministry at Macedonia Lutheran Church.
Expenses would be under budget except for paying the new roof on the lakeshore building.

Since we do not do a monthly budget, the pastor calculated a seven-month budget for this statement.
If you want a more detailed statement, please contact the church office.

Let us continue to give to God with our offerings and talents for 2021
God continues blessing us and loving us. God bless all of you at Macedonia Lutheran Church.



| | | | |
|----|----------------|----|---------------|
| 2 | Randy Suber | 19 | Lindsay Hanks |
| 4 | Janet Ramsey | 19 | Richard Koon |
| 6 | Frances Rampey | 21 | Clyde Jackson |
| 9 | Payton Hughes | 21 | Aria Ruff |
| 9 | Steve Layne | 23 | Marc Sloan |
| 10 | Sal Acquisto | 25 | Jason Fulmer |
| 12 | Andie Jumper | 25 | Julie Woods |
| 18 | J.D. Cassady | 29 | Ann Amick |
| 19 | Joshua Bowers | | |

September Wedding

Date

Anniversaries

Years

| | | |
|----|-------------------------|----|
| 2 | Monroe & Juanita Fulmer | 65 |
| 6 | Erick & Sara Wessinger | 13 |
| 15 | Amy & Greg Dorroh | 14 |
| 15 | Randy & Patti Suber | 48 |
| 18 | Dovie & Dave Franklin | 28 |
| 18 | Mark & Missy Hipp | 28 |
| 19 | Erin & Jason Miller | 1 |
| 21 | Donnie & Dianne Amick | 52 |



HELLO September

| Date | Events |
|------|--|
| 1 | - 11:00 am Bible study / - 7:00 pm Choir practice |
| 2 | - 10:00 am Line dancing - 6:30 pm Dance Fitness w/Julie |
| 6 | - Labor Day – Office closed |
| 7 | - 10:00 am Mid-Carolina Ministerial Fish Fry |
| 8 | - 11:00 am Bible study / - 7:00 pm Choir practice |
| 9 | - 10:00 am Line dancing - 6:30 pm Dance Fitness with Julie - 7:00 pm Evangelism Committee meeting in the library |
| 12 | - 7:00 am Council meeting - 9:30 am Sunday School Breakfast - 5:00 pm KFC & Youth |
| 13 | - 6:30 pm Dance Fitness with Julie |
| 14 | - 7:00 pm History Committee meeting |
| 15 | - 10:00 am Senior Bass Club - 11:00 am Bible study / - 7:00 pm Choir practice |
| 16 | - 10:00 am Line dancing - 6:30 pm Dance Fitness with Julie |
| 19 | - HOLY COMMUNION |
| 20 | - 6:30 pm Dance Fitness with Julie |
| 21 | - 10:00 am Staff meeting |
| 22 | - 11:00 am Bible study / - 7:00 pm Choir practice |
| 23 | - 10:00 am Line dancing - 6:30 pm Dance Fitness with Julie |
| 26 | - 11:30 am Youth spaghetti lunch fundraiser & bake sale - 5:00 pm Kathy Derrick Circle - 5:00 pm KFC & Youth |
| 27 | - 6:30 pm Dance Fitness with Julie |
| 28 | - 7:00 pm Fellowship Circle - 7:00 pm LMM |
| 29 | - 11:00 am Bible study / - 7:00 pm Choir practice |
| 30 | - 10:00 am Line dancing - 6:30 pm Dance Fitness with Julie |