



January 2021

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
Deacon Chairman.....Mathew Simons
Co-Music Directors.....Carolyn Smithwick & Phil Huey
Secretary.....Rachel Gregory
Custodian.....Joyce Jack

Access to sermons and videos/content
posted during the week:

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1mhDC9ucVQCcxKqd2REUJA>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MacedoniaBaptistChurchEdenton/>

mbcedenton.com/sermons

MBC Office Hours
Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.



Happy New Year!

Deacons of the Week:

3rd Heath Hughes
Elmer Overton
10th David Earley
Mike Layton
17th Eric Goodwin
Chris Layton
24th Carroll Skinner
Tom Bass
31st Curtis Byrum
Lonnie Coker





2020 has come and gone. What. A. Year. It was challenging, difficult, and heartbreaking. It seemed to be one of the worst years in a long time. Now we come into 2021, and many think that because the clock hits 12:00 midnight on January 1st, all of the bad stuff around us is going to go away suddenly. COVID will be gone, people will stop doing bad things and the year will be worry and challenge-free. Spoiler alert: It won't. I hate to be the pessimist in this newsletter, but I am in regards to the world's way of thinking. But, we don't think like the world, or at least we shouldn't. God is still on the throne, still working in the midst of this darkness.

I can look back on 2020, and in the midst of all that came and went, I saw God's people band together and adjust creatively to new ways of doing things. I have also seen that those that truly follow Jesus will do whatever it takes to continue to be involved in the local church. Whether that is faithfully watching online because of health issues, heeding social distancing guidelines so we can gather together in a safer manner, and doing *whatever* it takes to love God and love others in these times. I've seen men and women as leaders in the church step up to the plate and really get creative in ministry to continue to proclaim the Word of God and disciple others.

God uses the tough times even for His glory and our good. And Joseph said to his brothers in Genesis 50:20 "*You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good.*" God is still in the saving business. And He will continue to be in that business into 2021. Church, let's continue in endurance to faithfully serve the Lord our God, to proclaim Jesus, and to make disciples. Let's think outside the box, let's love our neighbors and our community, and let's put forth Jesus from our lips every day. As Paul says to Timothy about his own life "*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.*" (2 Timothy 4:7). Let that be our heartbeat for 2021. Fight. Finish the race. Keep the faith. Endure to the end, whenever that may be!

- Pastor Chris



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

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

2 Jerry Parrish 4 Scott Alons 5 Louis Nixon
7 Adam Hughes 10 Stuart Morris 11 Gray Goodwin, William Skinner 13 Logan Overton
16 Danny Forehand 19 Emmett Jones 22 Liz Alons 23 Bailey Banks, Elizabeth Huey, Finlee Overton
26 Lauren Jones White 28 Bryant Goodwin
30 Thomas Bass, Landen Parrish, Lindsay Young 31 Glen Smith, Christopher Young, William Farless



Don't forget to pick up your cards left for you or your family from The Christmas Card Post Office. For picking up cards, this year they are spread out on tables in the fellowship hall in separate stacks. If you have multiple cards, they will be rubber banded together. We ask everyone to check the tables for cards with your name and pick them up by January 10. Cards are placed on a designated table by the initial of your last name. We will arrange for cards to be delivered for members who are not able to come to church to pick them up.

Edenton Chowan Food Pantry Collection

Begin the New Year giving generously to our community Food Pantry. MBC family will collect **JELLY** for the month of January 2021. Donate any flavor or perhaps a jar of your favorite preserves. HAPPY NEW YEAR!

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 25, 2021
3:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.
MACEDONIA
BAPTIST CHURCH
FELLOWSHIP HALL



JAN. 1 New Years Day - Church Office Closed

JAN. 2-3 Fellowship Hall Reserved

JAN. 6 Fellowship Hall Reserved

JAN. 17 Deacons Meeting

JAN. 19 Executive Committee Meeting. Due to Covid, details of the meeting are TBA.

JAN. 20 Fellowship Hall Reserved 1:00 pm
Business Meeting 7:30 pm

JAN. 21 February Newsletter Info. Due

JAN. 23 Fellowship Hall Reserved

The Helen Mitchell Bible Study
will meet at MBC Wednesday, January 20
at 1:00 pm with Alice Perry.

Thank You

Thank you church family for your calls, texts, and cards of encouragement after my surgery. Also, thank you for your continued kindness and support for me and my family during this past year through Pastor Appreciation, our Christmas gift, and what you feel like are small things like treats and thoughtful cards throughout the year (they are big in our eyes!) Pastoring here is a privilege and honor, and you are precious people to us! We love you all. - **Pastor Chris, Bethany, Lily, and Riley**

Dear Church Family, The staff at MBC thanks you for our generous Christmas bonuses. We love and appreciate you and wish you a Happy New Year! -**Pastor Chris, Joyce Jack, Carolyn Smithwick, Phil Huey, and Rachel Gregory**

Thank you Macedonia Church family for your prayers, calls, and cards during the time of my sister's death. You are always a thoughtful and caring congregation and we thank God for your love. God Bless. -**Sylvia and Tom Brooks**

Dear Church family, I want to thank everyone for their kindness and love during the difficult time of my mom's passing. I appreciate all of the calls, cards, visits, prayers etc. It means a lot to my family. -**In Christ's Love, Joyce Jack**

Macedonia Church Family! Thank you so much for my Food Lion gift card and for remembering me. Keeping you all in my prayers. Thank you! - **Dot Titus**