

Good News

Macedonia Baptist Church

14221 Southfield Road
Detroit, Michigan 48223
313-837-5040
www.mbcdet.com

A monthly publication for Members of Macedonia Baptist Church

Volume 20 Issue 11

December 2022

Rejoice!

And thou shalt
have joy and
gladness;
and many shall
rejoice at his
birth.

Luke 1:14, KJV

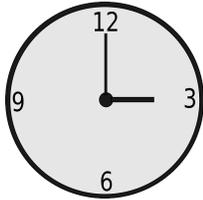


Inside This Issue

Announcements.....	2
Sermons / Time for a Spiritual Assessment.....	3
Writing Our Life With God's Help / A Collaboration Across Time and Place.....	4
Data on Black Economics and Spending / A Prayer for Christmas / Christmas Crack Ups / Bible Quiz.....	5
Leave the Light On. / Bible & Book Corner / Bible Quiz.....	6
Invitation to Sunday School.....	7

Announcements

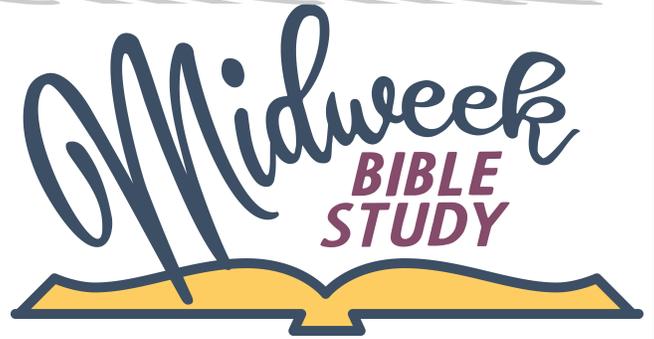
Church Office Hours



PRAYER SERVICE
is held every Wednesday
at Noon & 6:00 p.m.
in the Chapel.



The Nursery will reopen on Sunday, December 4. Volunteers serve one select Sunday per month during the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service. If interested, please contact Sis. Maxine Gardner at 313-255-4643



Bible Study is in progress. Please plan to attend weekly at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. If you are unable to attend in person, tune in via live stream.

*Millennial Sunday School for
Teens & Young Adults 9:30-
10:30 In Person—Meet in the
MBC Parlor*

The Bus ministry will be back in service in the new year. The bus ministry will be servicing the east-side and Westside of Detroit and the surrounding communities. If you need a ride, please call the church office to schedule pickup. Also, we are in need of drivers. If you are interested in joining the Bus Ministry, please see Trustee Henry Chestnut. We look forward to bringing our members back to church.



WEEKLY SERMONS

CDs and DVDs are available through the Audio Ministry. Visit www.mbcdet.com/media or via the **MBCDET app** to listen to archived sermons.

📖 November 6, 2022, 11:00 a.m.
“Worship and Witness”
John 4:20-26
Pastor Terry Minor

📖 November 13, 2022, 11:00 a.m.
“Thank You For Your Service”
Matthew 20:25-29
Pastor Terry Minor

📖 November 20, 11:00 a.m.
“Thanking God For The One”
Luke 17:11-19
Pastor Terry Minor

📖 November 27, 2022, 11:00 a.m.
“Jesus Can Bring Hope To A Hopeless Situation”
Mark 5:1-20
Pastor Terry Minor

Time For A Spiritual Assessment

“Hardly anything else reveals so well the fear and uncertainty among [people] as the length to which they will go to hide their true selves from each other and even from their own eyes,” says A.W. Tozer. For insights into who we really are as Christians, the theologian proposes “rules for self-discovery.” According to Tozer, “we may be known” by these seven things:

- what we want most
- what we think about most
- how we use our money
- what we do with our leisure time
- the company we enjoy
- who and what we admire
- what we laugh at

The “wise Christian” will find other tests, says Tozer, but these are a starting point to reveal if our desires and priorities conflict with God’s will. “Our self-judgment is almost certain to be biased and imperfect,” he adds, yet there’s “every good reason for us to work along with the Holy Spirit in His benign effort to locate us spiritually in order that we may make such amendments as the circumstances demand.”

Source: newsletternewsletter.com

Writing Our Life With God's Help

A journalist once said you can measure the quality of a piece of writing by the quality of what has been cut. No matter how beautiful or interesting a phrase or sentence is, the piece may be stronger without it.

Evan Moffic applies this wisdom to life in general. Too often we refuse to let something — a habit, a memory, a process — go, even when it no longer serves us. Thinking of our life as a book, we can cut out, edit or rearrange some pages or sentences to reflect our new learning's and growth.

This is not always easy, but we don't have to do it alone. "God is our 'editor-in-chief,'" says Moffic, "and we are part of God's story. [While] God ... gives us free will to decide what to write on the pages of our lives, ... God is always there for conversation and consultation. And God left us a great guidebook called the Bible. Its lessons make our writing shine with truth and beauty." With God's guidance, what will you "write" in the new year?

Source for both articles: Newsletternewsletter.com



A Collaboration Across Time and Place

For Christmas Day worship, many churches use Psalm 98. It is fitting, then, that Isaac Watts, who interpreted 132 psalms as hymn texts, based a now-beloved carol on it.

Watts (1674-1748) was a student of language, religion and philosophy. He wanted to make Scripture more relevant to lay people and thought hymns could help. Watts composed more than 600 hymn texts, many still in use. But Psalm 98:4-9, "Joy to the World," needed music to fit its words.

Enter Lowell Mason (1792-1872), an American choir director. He came across Watts' Psalm 98 hymn text and sought inspiration for a melody from the famous oratorio *Messiah* by George F. Handel (1685-1759). Mason pulled musical phrases from sections of Handel's work, resulting in the tune we now recognize as "Joy to the World."

So it is that three men who lived across three centuries and never met — along with the composer of the original psalm more than two millennia earlier — together produced a hymn to the Christ-child, which millions have sung and continue to love.



Data On Black Economics And Christmas Spending

Submitted by: Wendell Smitherman

“Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., in his last public message before he was assassinated talked about redistributing the pain through Economic Withdrawal. We have a purchasing power of over one trillion dollars. But in our sometimes reckless and wasteful spending habits we have failed to pool our resources in a collective manner. It is always wise to watch our spending and stay within our means. By strategically engaging in economic withdrawal during the Christmas season, we could build a better reality. Merchant wealth comes oftentimes by manipulation and exploitation of the emotions of children, parents, families and those we love. These pagan practices have nothing to do with the celebration and observance of Jesus Christ, which is the real reason for the season.

A Prayer for Christmas

The internet reveals little about Wilda English, only that she lived from 1916 to 1997 and once resided in California. No details exist about her family, work or interests. Just this prayer, widely shared online. And it is no small thing. Indeed, the prayer tells much about her faith.

God bless Wilda English for sharing these words with the world. May they continue to inspire many!

*God grant you the light in Christmas, which is faith;
the warmth of Christmas, which is love;
the radiance of Christmas, which is purity;
the righteousness of Christmas, which is justice;
the belief in Christmas, which is truth;
the all of Christmas, which is Christ.*

Christmas Crackups

Enjoy these kid-friendly holiday jokes!

What did Adam say the day before Christmas?
It's Christmas, Eve!

What does the gingerbread man put on his bed?
Cookie sheets.

What do you sing at a snowman's birthday party?
"Freeze a jolly good fellow!"

What is a Christmas tree's favorite candy?
Ornamints.

What goes "Oh, Oh, Oh"?
Santa walking backward.

Why did Rudolph get a bad report card?
Because he went down in history.

What is an elf's favorite kind of music?
Wrap music!

How much did Santa pay for his sleigh?
Nothing. It was on the house!

What kind of photos do Santa's helpers take?
Elfies.

Bible Quiz

Complete this Bible verse: "The (1)____ (2)____ in the (3)____, and the (3)____ has not overcome it."

- A. (1) Word; (2) speaks; (3) silence
- B. (1) light; (2) shines; (3) darkness
- C. (1) kingdom of God; (2) reigns; (3) world
- D. (1) Spirit of God; (2) shines; (3) world
- E. None of the above



Answer: B (See John 1:5)

Leave the Light on

"We'll leave the light on for you," a motel chain once promised. In other words, they were expecting you and looking forward to your stay.

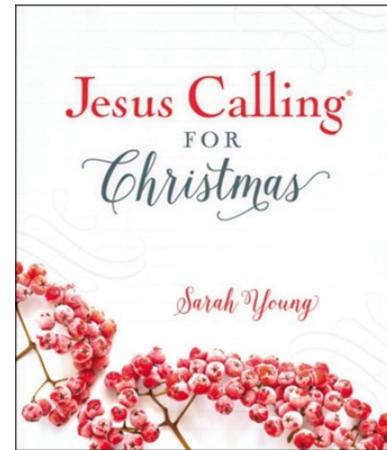
During the time of the high priest Eli, "the lamp of God had not yet gone out" (1 Samuel 3:3). Eli oversaw the tabernacle, so some people say this refers to an actual lamp. But the passage could have a deeper meaning. Although Eli had turned a blind eye to his sons' sins and neglected his duties, God knew that Eli could still be a divine instrument. God knew not to turn off Eli's light. God was expecting Eli to still shine brightly for him, and eventually Eli figured out that Samuel, his young charge, was hearing God's voice.

So if your light seems dim or even burned out, be assured that your pilot light remains on! God has left the light on not just *for* you but also *in* you.

Source: Newsletternewsletter.com



Macedonia Baptist Church Bible and Book Corner Book Review



Savor the season with this beautiful Christmas edition of *Jesus Calling* by Sarah Young, a perfect gift that includes 50 seasonal devotion selections along with Scripture, quotes, and festive and breathtaking color photography. *Jesus Calling for Christmas* is a treasure your family will enjoy for years to come. From the beginning of Advent to Christmas Day and beyond, enjoy the presence of the One who understands you completely and loves you perfectly. This devotional is available at the Christian Book Website: (www.christianbooks.com) and on Amazon.





Superintendent of Sunday School: *Rev. Brady Bennett*

Director of Christian Education: *Rev. Eric Shumate*

The Sunday School classes will be conducting lessons via Zoom for the time being.

Note: The Juniors Sunday School Class Zoom Information, Effective October 2, 2022, has changed, Please see below.

Macedonia Baptist Church Zoom Technical Support Contacts:

Rev. James O' Rear	Adults & Men's Class	Phone: 734-308-0056 Email: jjalo@hotmail.com
Sister Terry Mann	Adult Women's	Phone: 313-801-4765 Email: temaka79@hotmail.com
Brother Michael Moore	Teens & Young Adults	Phone: 313-312-4044 Email: mmore@3iconsulting.info
Sister Mary Ann Windham	Juniors, Beginners & Primaries	Phone: 313-418-8830 Email: maryann.windham@yahoo.com

We invite you, your family, friends and neighbors to join our Sunday School Classes; you will be blessed! All classes are being held onsite and virtually with the exception of the Beginners and Primaries. They are online only.

CLASSES	ZOOM ID'S	PASSWORDS	CLASS TIMES
Adult Men and Women	927 219 5591	4Y06SC	9:30-10:30 AM (ET)
Adult Women	801 855 9447	646902	9:30-10:30 AM (ET)
Millennial Sunday School for Teens and Young Adults	314 202 2102	503816	9:30-10:30 AM (ET)
Juniors (10-12 yrs.)	755 2646 4085	3WCNis	9:30-10:30 AM (ET)
Primaries (7-9 yrs.)	830 6987 0617	primary	10:00-10:55 AM (ET)
Beginners (4-6 yrs.)	246 295 5225	5TykPq	10:00-10:40 AM (ET)

The list of lessons for November includes the following:

DATE	LESSON	SCRIPTURE
December 4	The Promise of Messiah's Forerunner	Luke 1:8-20
December 11	God's Promise to David	Exodus 31 12-18
December 18	God's Promise of a Savior	Luke 1:26-38
December 25	The Birth of the Savior (Christmas)	Luke 2:1-17



Macedonia Baptist Church

14221 Southfield Road, Detroit, Michigan 48223

"Come over into Macedonia and help us." ACTS 16:9



www.mbcdet.com

