



The MADISON MESSENGER

January 2018, Volume 53-1

HAPPY NEW YEAR! 2018, Wow!

I love January and New Year's Day because I love new beginnings. It's great to reflect on the past year and to rejoice in the successes and to learn from the failures we have had during the year. As Christians, we know that the Lord is the God of second, third, and fourth chances. He continues to love us even as we have failed Him or have sinned against Him. Our God is the God of new beginnings.

The Koreans have a curious New Year's custom. Desiring to forget unpleasant things and make a fresh start, each person determines what bad habits he would like to eliminate and what past deeds he wants forgiven. Then he writes the names of these evils on a kite and flies it high into the air. When it is almost out of sight, he cuts the string. As the "paper bird" takes a nosedive and disappears from sight, he thinks that all his faults and previous transgressions are forever removed.

Our God is a God of new beginnings. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"* Now is the time for us individually and as a church to set new directions, to plot new courses, to repent of wrong choices and actions. God forgives and forgets and directs us in the way we should go. Will you walk with Him more closely in 2018? Will you trust Him and obey the leading of His Spirit? Will you be a bold witness for Christ in 2018? *"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."* (Hebrews 10:24-25)

God bless you and may we all have a Happy and Godly New Year!

With New Beginnings,
Pastor Randy

Special January Events

January 7

2:00 pm
Church Council

January 14

8:00 am
Baptist Men & Women
Breakfast

January 16

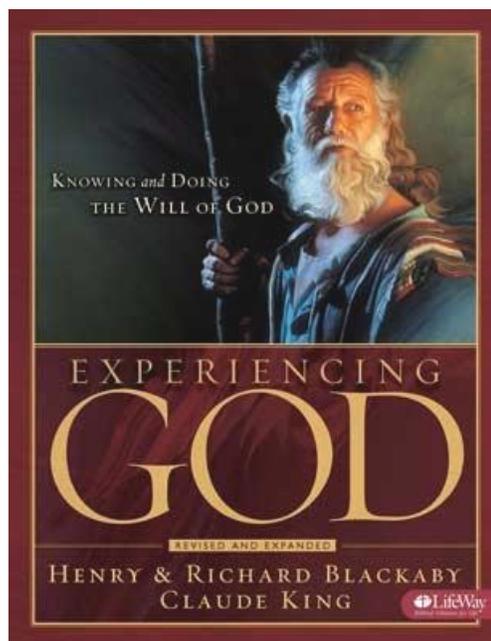
7:00pm
Deacon's Meeting

January 22

11:30am
Very Special People
Meeting

January 24

6:45pm
Church Conference



Join us each Wednesday evening for this newly revised study based on Henry & Richard Blackaby's book, *Experiencing God*. We meet in the Fellowship Hall following our Family Night Meal (6:00) and prayer time (6:30).

"Through examination of biblical and contemporary illustrations, participants will understand and apply seven realities of experiencing God. Churches will be helped to better function as the body of Christ, as members understand how to experience God as a church."

Notes from Our Music and Senior Adult Ministries

Christmas has always been a special time for us at Madison Avenue. A big thank you is in order for the many who worked behind the scenes for the benefit of us all. I won't mention names for fear of leaving out someone, but a big thank you goes to:

- ◆ Those who decorated our buildings so appropriately, and put the decorations away
- ◆ Those who provided food and set up for the special events we enjoyed in December
- ◆ Those who led the special Christmas program at Lincoln Homes
- ◆ Those who helped with the Morning Worship and Christmas Eve Service, including the Advent Wreath, special music, great preaching, and audio/visual operators
- ◆ Sunday School teachers who taught the Christmas message each Sunday

It takes many hands for a church to function properly. Actually, it takes every hand of every member. And it will always be that way, because that's the way Jesus created the church. I encourage everyone to join the special study on Wednesday nights based on the book, *Experiencing God*. This has the potential of transforming our church as we seek to join God in His work here.

Our senior adults will meet on Monday, January 22, at the Home of Ed & Jan Kroboth. They recently moved to 177 Titleist Drive. Jan is preparing a special Ham Bone Soup. We are suggesting a \$4 donation for the meal. If you would like to car-pool to their home, please meet at the church at 11:15.

The Deacon Corner

It is a good time at the beginning of a new year to reflect on the year 2017, especially as the year relates to Madison Avenue Baptist Church. In spite of the retirement and loss of Pastor Bob's leadership for nine plus years prior to his departure at the end of August, the church has been blessed to undergo a smooth transition with Pastor Randy Outland.

Much of the smooth transition with our current transitional pastor as with the smooth transition following the resignation of Jeff Wisdom and Phillip Hunter is due in large measure to Edwin Jewell who has been our constant and our strong arm for the past eighteen years. I wonder sometimes how many of us have any real concept of the magnitude of Edwin's total ministry among us. What he does on a daily basis to make things run smoothly goes so far beyond his official responsibilities as minister of music and senior adults. It is no secret that Edwin has reached the point in his life that he would like less responsibility and more freedom to enjoy a bit of retirement. He and Elisabeth have always put their service to Madison Avenue as top priority, and when the times comes for him to break that official tie, the church will have a difficult time adequately expressing its love and appreciation. Edwin and Elisabeth, we love you, and as inadequate as the words are, thank you for what and who you are and what you mean to Madison Avenue Baptist Church.

I.K. Williamson, Diaconate Chair



January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 6:00p Covered Dish Supper & Special Conference	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 8:00a Baptist Men/ Women Breakfast 2:00p Church Council	15	16 7:00p Deacon's Meeting	17	18	19	20
21	22 11:30a VSP at Kroboth home	23	24 6:30p Quarterly Church Conference	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Church Purchases Bus

At a called Church Conference on January 10, the church approved the purchase of a new bus to replace the van. Both vehicles are 15 passenger. The bus will be much more convenient and safer than the van. It will also be much easier to get in and out of than the van, which is very welcome by our senior adults. Just like the current van, it is available for all age groups in the church, and there are no changes in the current policy regarding the use of the van. We look forward to its use in the ministry of our church and for the glory of God.

January Birthdays

Please notify the church office for corrections and additions.

- 5 Leo Daughtry
- 6 Gladys Thornton
- 8 Delores Lail
- 9 Karen Outland
- 13 Geraldine Rouse
- 17 Joyce Frederick
- 17 Ed Kroboth
- 18 Loretta Grant
- 21 Betty Holloway
- 21 Doug Tart
- 24 Faye Carawan
- 27 Donnie Frederick
- 28 Sherwood Tyndall
- 31 Marsha Compton



Regular Sunday Activities

- 9:45a Sunday School
- 11:00a Morning Worship

Regular Wednesday Activities

- 6:00p Family Night Supper
- 6:30p Prayer Meeting
- Children In Action for grades 1-6
- Mission Friends for preschoolers

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Madison Avenue Baptist Church
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Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530

Phone: 919-734-3761
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WEB: mabcgoldsboro.org

Church Staff

Dr. Randy Outland	<i>Transitional Pastor</i>
Rev. Edwin Jewell	<i>Minister of Music and Senior Adults</i>
Peggy Bartlett	<i>Secretary</i>
Dave Periconi	<i>Organist</i>
Susan Edwards	<i>Pianist</i>

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday	8:30 am— 4:30 pm
Friday	8:00 am— 4:00 pm

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Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530

Permit No. 82

Our Mission

*To glorify God by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus
Christ through love, discipleship, and service.*

Thank You!

Your Church Staff greatly appreciates each of you this Christmas Season, and thanks you for the support and love you have shown through this past year. We look forward to another year of God-filled ministry within 2018.

Nursery Ministry

(Ages Birth—2 yrs.)

9:30-10:45 Sunday School

10:45-12:15 Worship

S.S. Teacher: Della Frederick

We need Nursery Workers for: January, February. Sign-up sheets are on the board outside the nursery.

Christian Sympathy is extended to Becky Aldrin on the death of her aunt, Linda Edwards on the death of her sister, Mildred Renfrow on the death of her husband, Roy, and to Mary Bissette's family on her death.

Thank You Notes have been received from Susan Edwards, Edwin Jewell, and the Roy Renfrow family, and are on the bulletin board.