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ROLL OUT THE WELCOME MATS!

One of the leaders I met early in ministry who has impacted my work is Brian Foreman. Brian now works for CBF to help train churches to do ministry effectively, and he's one of the more innovative and creative leaders I've met in my time in ministry. And one of Brian's most meaningful realizations that has stuck with me is this—churches aren't as good at being hospitable and welcome as we like to think.

Instead, he posited that churches should learn from folks in the hospitality business, and invited hotel employees to come and do training sessions for his church. As it turned out, they were missing MANY opportunities to make people feel welcome. As warm and loving as you are at MHBC, especially as we move toward Palm Sunday and Easter, I wonder if there aren't lessons we could lean into as well! Let me flesh out a few:

They have a CHOICE.

Churches aren't much different than hotels in this regard. There are churches on almost every corner, with different beliefs, practices, and styles. What made them choose ours? Maybe they know someone—a personal "Google Review" if you will! Maybe it's proximity—location matters! Maybe our star rating online was the tipping point. Maybe they researched us, saw some "amenities" (or core beliefs and ministries!) they liked, and decided to give MHBC a try. Whatever it is, NEVER forget this when you see a visitor in our congregation—they could have gone ANYWHERE else. It is our privilege to have them in worship with us for the morning!

They have a NEED.

When you stay at a hotel, it's because you need lodging in a new place—simple! It's not as easy for a church, but there are needs all the same. Maybe they want their kids and teens to be part of what we offer! Maybe they grew up in an intergenerational church, and the fellowship speaks to their heart! Maybe they've been running life's race, only to realize that Easter is right in front of them—and they need church to speak to their soul. Maybe they've experienced hurt or trauma in a previous church, and they've finally stepped out in faith to trust us as a place to care for them. Maybe LIFE has been full of bad choices, suffering, and/or heartbreak, and they are hoping that Jesus offers the relief they seek. NEVER forget this when you see a visitor—they are a beloved child of God, in NEED of His love and our offering it to them.

They have a SAY.

Hotel visitors leave reviews—church visitors do also. Whether they take the time to do so online, or simply by word of mouth. For many folks, we get one chance to be the hands of Christ to them. I don't say this to get you in your best clothes, or to make your face hurt from a morning of fake smiles! All I'm saying is that, as those visitors come to us these next few Sundays, let's have our eyes open to be sure to see them. And let's have our hearts open to greet them as Christ. Remember: they have a CHOICE and they CHOSE to worship with us—what a privilege! They have a NEED, and they've trusted us to help meet it—what an honor! Let's do all that we can to make sure that, when they leave, all they have to say is they saw Jesus in the folks around them. **-Josh**

SUNDAY MORNING

9:45 AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL

11:00 AM - MORNING WORSHIP

SPECIAL ELEMENTS

Holy Communion

Reverend Josh Beeler - "Lost/Found"

Luke 15:1-10

Chancel Choir - "Splendor of Heaven"

2-3 Year Old Children's Choir



MISSIONS

CHRISTMAS CHEER BASKETS

April items are canned hams and meats.

WOM APRIL PROJECT - DAILY BREAD

Boxes of cereal and individual packs of snack crackers and chips.

MISSION TRIP

Pray for the mission team as they travel to Nickelsville, VA. April 6-11
Mission projects include construction and music ministry.



FELLOWSHIP

WEDNESDAY EVENING FAMILY MINISTRIES

6:30 p.m. Music & Mission Kids,
Acteens and Man-Up
6:45 p.m. Adult Bible Study

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 19
Madison Heights Library front lawn
2:00 p.m.

LOTS of individual packs/pieces of candy are needed - no chocolate.
Collection containers are by the bulletin board in the main hallway.
Collection ends April 15.



CHURCH LIFE

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

April 6 Les Irvin & Michael McPhatter

DEACONS SERVING APRIL 6

Mary Ellen Bryant Tracey Garrett
Steve Owen Ellen Saunders
Jesse Staton Billy Williams

SHUT IN COMMUNION

Caren Jefferson Angela Sale
Sharon Walters-Bower Irene White

MARCH 30, 2025 OFFERINGS

Budget Envelopes.....	\$	16,873.50
(Weekly Budget Needs \$9510.00)		
Plate Offering.....	\$	76.00
Designated Offering.....	\$	5,778.07
TOTAL DEPOSIT.....	\$	22,727.57.00
Find Us Faithful.....	\$	1,430.00

USHERS FOR APRIL

John Mann & Claude Mays

LENTEN SERVICES

April 9 - Madison Heights BC
(lunch following service at MHBC)

IN THE HOSPITAL

Barbara Stokes - LGH

MADISON HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH
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