

Prayers for Deliverance

by *Pastor Doug*

Most of us are familiar with the story of Jonah, especially the part about the whale. Jonah was a prophet who refused the Lord's command to go to Nineveh and instead boarded a ship headed in the opposite direction. While Jonah could run, he could not hide from God. Do you ever feel that way? Running from God is impossible because of God's love and pursuit of us.

When the ship encountered a storm, Jonah was tossed into the sea (1:12). And, sure enough, when he was thrown overboard, "the raging sea grew calm" (1:15). Later we are told that when Jonah felt his life was ebbing away he cried out to the Lord in prayer. He said, "I remembered you, Lord, and my prayer rose to you."

In the middle of the sea, Jonah came to the realization that his life was going to end unless he submitted himself to the Lord. The Lord provided a way for Jonah not only to be transported to Nineveh but also an opportunity to cry out to the Lord. Jonah 2:1 tells us that "from inside the fish Jonah prayed to the Lord his God."

Jonah's prayer is a psalm of thanksgiving for deliverance. While clinging to life, scripture was on his mind. In his prayer, he recites the Psalms at least three times (Ps. 18:6; 111:5; 120:1). God's Word was the foundation of his prayer, and it ought to be ours as well. Dietrich Bonhoeffer writes, "The richness of God's Word ought to determine our prayer, not the poverty of our heart."

Jonah testifies to God's deliverance in verses 3-7 in what appears to be almost a play-by-play account of what happened. It climaxes in verse 7 when he finally surrendered his life to the Lord's will. He realized that he had been clinging to the worthless idol of selfishness and safety. In doing so, he was turning from the grace of God's love available to all (vv. 8-10). Thankfully, he realized: "Salvation comes from the Lord" (v. 9), and the Lord provided a way for him to share that with the world.

Like Jonah, I hope we can all share those times of deliverance where God showed up at just the right time. We all have a story to share with a world in need of God.

Worship Schedule

Sundays • 9:30 & 11:00 am

Medina Community Church exists to help people begin and grow in their relationship with God. Our relaxed, contemporary style provides an enjoyable atmosphere where you can investigate the claims of Christ, deepen your faith and meet some great friends along the way.

JONAH SERIES:

- October 6 —
God's Plans Are Wrecking Mine
- October 13 —
When You're Waiting On God
- October 20 —
God's Not Done With You
- October 27 —
Guest Speaker - Simon Bartos

Contact Us

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Doug Davidson — Sr. Pastor
Donna Spitzer — Family Ministry
Kristen Green — Intern



BUILDING CAMPAIGN FOR OUR PICNIC PAVILION

Please pray about a one time gift or a regular gift over and above your tithe for the building fund. We are looking to raise \$30,000 for the pavilion we would like to build next spring. So far we have \$3,000. Mark your checks or an envelope— "Building Fund." Thanks for considering this project.

Women's Ministry Update

•**Bible Study**— We're about halfway through our current study on the names of the Holy Spirit. It's been a good study and it is an easy one to do on your own with the videos on Right Now Media. Please let Kathy know if you want to do that. We haven't yet discussed our next study, so watch for that info. We will take a break during the holidays and Winter, but we'll do some random Saturday get togethers to keep in touch.



•**NOVEMBER 2ND** is the date for MCC's third annual craft fair (10 a.m.—4 p.m.). There are flyers on the information desk at church, along with postcards. Please take some and pass them around. Also, we still have room for more vendors. If you're interested in selling some things you make there are vendor applications at the information desk. We could also use a few volunteers to sell hot dogs, man a craft room for the kids, set-up, and clean-up. If you can help out or have questions please contact Kathy Summers (contact info below).



•**NOVEMBER 9TH** is the date for this year's annual craft get together. This is an activity that the ladies of MCC have done for several years. It got missed last year because of life getting in the way for several of us, but we're bring it back on Saturday afternoon, November 9th. We'll get together for brunch at 11:00 a.m. followed by our craft time around noon. Please bring a breakfast item to share (something easy). Look for a sign up sheet on the information table soon with a picture of what the craft will be.



•**December 1st** is this year's ladies Christmas luncheon at 12:30 p.m. following second service. Lunch will be provided. Please bring one of your favorite holiday desserts to share. We'll have a gift exchange following lunch. We'll have a great time getting to know one another better. Watch for details on the gift exchange. As we get closer, there will be a sign up sheet on the information table.

•**Jail Ministry**— We're working on some new ideas on how to continue this important ministry. Watch for details soon.

If you have questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact Kathy Summers at kathyksummers@gmail.com or (330) 461-1081. If you're not receiving regular emails from Kathy please let her know and she'll get you on the list.



We are pleased to announce that MCC will be hosting drive-thru Community meals on **Saturday, October 19th** from 6-7 pm for those in need. Meals will be handed out in a drive-thru lane. Volunteers will help guide guests to the meal pickup area. (All guests will be asked to remain in their vehicles.) We can always use drivers for meal deliveries at 5:00 pm and others to help with the drive through. Please consider how you could serve in this ministry. For more information or to sign up please call or text Emily Winans at (240)405-4003.

MEN'S MINISTRY

Breakfast • October 12 • 9:00 a.m.

Contessa's on The Lake
7364 Lake Road
Chippewa Lake, Ohio

MISSIONS LUNCHEON

Join us for lunch to discuss a possible summer mission trip to the Bahamas for 2026. We will meet after church on October 20th . If you have been thinking about going on a mission trip, why not come and explore how a week of missions would look. Pray and come join us for lunch. Sign up at the information table or talk to Rob Saba or Teresa Medley.

Fall Spruce Up at MCC



October 19, 2024
9:00 am - Noon



Harvest Party

October 23, 2024 • 6-7:30 pm

Join us for MCC's annual Harvest Party. The church will be transformed with games, the amazing maze, and so much more. Dress up in the costume of your choice and come join the fun. All are welcome . . .

Harvest Party is for the young and the young at heart!





JINGLE

all the way

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A
**GINGERBREAD HOUSE
DECORATING PARTY**

Saturday, November 16th
at 10:00 am
Medina Community Church
416 South Broadway
Medina, Ohio 44256

*This is a great activity for kids and their parents (both moms and dads).
Look for signup sheets on the information table.*

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR VARIOUS GINGERBREAD ACTIVITIES:

- baking the gingerbread houses prior to the 16th
- putting the gingerbread houses together
- working on the day of the event
- set-up / clean-up for the event

*If you can help out, please contact:
Kathy Summers at kathyksummers@gmail.com or
Deanna Saba at rdsaba@zoominternet.net*

