

Murphy Church of Christ
P. O. Box 511
Murphy, NC. 28906

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here

TIME OF SERVICES

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Sunday Morning Bible Class | 10:00 a.m. |
| Sunday Morning Worship | 11:00 a.m. |
| Sunday Evening Worship | 6:00 p.m. |
| Wednesday Evening Bible Class | 6:00 p.m. |

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

“ May the God of hope fill you with all
joy and peace in believing, so that by the
power of the Holy Spirit you may abound
in hope. Romans 15:13

BULLETIN



**MURPHY CHURCH OF CHRIST
CHURCH OF CHRIST ROAD**
(Located above King Ford on Highway 64 West)

**P. O. BOX 511
MURPHY, NC 28906**

Website: murphychurchofchrist.com

**Minister/Counselor
Roy Stephenson**

Cell Phone: 828-557-8882

E-mail: MurphyNCchurchofchrist@gmail.com

NOVEMBER 26, 2023

WELCOME

We welcome you to the Murphy Church of Christ where every visitor is our special guest, and we want to make sure you always remember that. If you are looking for a “family” that will offer you the most important things in life, then why not give us a chance to be part of your family?

Please fill out a visitor’s form and drop it in the collection box.

Please do not hesitate to ask any of our members for assistance.

Please join us for the first Sunday evening prayer time at 6:00 PM. Any changes will be announced.

Wednesday 6:00 PM devotional class sign in instruction is included in the bulletin.

On the 5th Sunday of each month, we get together for potluck fellowship meal immediately following morning worship.

Website: murphychurchofchrist.com

The bulletin is posted on the website and hard copies are in the foyer for members and visitors.



Be sure to check out the website for articles by Roy Goodlet.

The bulletin hardcopy cover is designed so you can mail a copy to a shut-in, friend, or family member. If you have any suggestions for the website or see an error or want to make a change, please contact Lula Williams.

Greeters
Sheri Goodlet and Connie Diaz

Welcome/Song Leader
Jerry Queen

Opening Prayer
Donald Jewell

Lord’s Supper Thoughts
Roy Goodlet

Scripture:
Isaiah 9:6
Read by Gregory Jones

Sunday Sermon:
“Jesus is . . .”
By Roy Stephenson

Announcements
Roy Goodlet

Closing Prayer
Dean Wray



Affirmation of Faith

When you affirm your faith in Jesus Christ, you are saying YES to the transforming love of God and your identity as a beloved child of God. You are deciding that the way to experience life to the fullest is not to follow your own ways or the ways of the world, but the ways of Christ.



PRAYER REQUESTS

- Sandy Parmer asked that we keep the following people in our prayers: Erik and Ashley Brown, Kailyn, who is Sandy’s 16 year old granddaughter as she struggles with life challenges. Linda Raymond is suffering with kidney disease and ‘long haul’ COVID.. Phyllis Bryant pancreatic cancer is in remission. Shirley Linne treatment for eye disease. Rob’s brother, Harold Parmer has Parkinson and kidney problems.
- Mindy Scaffe continues to recover from her knee replacement surgery. Because of multiple health issues there are some days she just doesn’t feel well. She is waiting to hear the result of tests to learn if she will need to start kidney dialysis. She would love to have phone calls from members of our congregation. Many of you follow her on Facebook and she enjoys reading your comments!
- Darlene Queen continues to have good and bad days. The doctor is treating her congestive heart failure with diuretics. She has trouble managing her balance and has fallen on several occasions.
- Justin Sutton, Darlene Queen’s son is hospitalized in Asheville.
- We are happy to see Jeanne Horton back with us. The doctor is monitoring her closely after her chemotherapy series. We pray she remains cancer free!
- Jim Sexton has decided to no longer take chemotherapy, and they

have called in hospice. We know this is a difficult time for him and his family.

- Sheilah Queen requests prayers for her husband Johnnie and herself.
- Richard Hicks, the brother of Norma Leiby, has requested prayers as he goes through chemotherapy.
- Our minister, Roy Stephenson, continues to recover from a foot wound and is seeing doctors weekly until he completely recovers. Last week he was being treated for the flu and extends his thanks to Jerry Queen for teaching bible studies and Roy Goodlet for presenting the sermon in his absence.
- DJ periodically has bouts of bronchitis flare ups.
- **You or family member or friend may not be on this list but, we are all in need of prayer.** The pandemic and flu season has taken and continues to take its toll on many. Depression, homicides, suicides and gun violence are increasing as well as the impact of climate changes. Take time to check on your neighbors!.

Be Thankful for the Little Things



Just Christians

Come grow with us. If you need the help of the church in any way, please don’t hesitate to ask. If you have any questions or want to start a home study, contact our minister, Roy Stephenson.



REACH of Cherokee and Graham County, Inc. is an outreach program for victims of domestic violence.

As the staff travel to the schools to discuss domestic violence, they have identified a need for children's shoes, underwear, and socks of varying sizes. They have also adopted some families to help as well. **Teens frequently request a fleece blanket.** If you have items of clothing (clean and in good condition), children's books, etc. to donate please place them in the blue bin located in the pantry. Check out the clearance section at Walmart next time you go shopping.

Stacy can always use some **small tote bags** and small travel size items to fill them with, e.g. travel size shampoo and conditioner, toothbrushes, tooth paste, travel size deodorant, hand sanitizer, etc.

Please contact the REACH office staff if you have furniture you want to donate to arrange pickup by the Thrift Store volunteers. They also ask for cooking utensils to help victims start over. So, if you have something you no longer want, they could use it. Often the victims leave home with only the clothes on their back, so they are given clothes, furniture, and items for the home from the Thrift Store until they can get back on their feet. They also can use items to help with their self-esteem and pass the time until they can be placed in a safe environment. You can provide puzzles (500 pieces or less), adult coloring books, reading material, word puzzles, make -up, nail polish, hair clips, etc.

Volunteers and donors are always needed. Call the office at 828-837-2097 or 828-837-8064 for more information. Local REACH covers Cherokee and Graham County.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

We need your help to keep our pantry stocked. If no organization, family, or individual has made a special request; then, Lula pulls items off the shelves and takes them to the Cherokee County Food Bank, Inc. in Andrews, NC. The food bank is open to the public on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 10-12. **For the month of November, we are asking members to bring a box of stove top dressing, cranberry sauce, and canned and powdered mashed potatoes in preparation for the holidays. You are not limited to these items but make sure items have a long shelf life because they may not be donated right away.**

You can also write a check payable to the Andrews Food Bank, P. O. Box 843, Andrews, NC 28901.

*December 25th
How will you celebrate?*



News and Announcements

Our church's 2023 weekly budget is set at \$1,232.00.

November 12 – \$771.00 is under budget by \$461.00.

November 19 - \$990.00 is under budget by \$242.00.

Bible Study Attendance – 7
Morning Worship Attendance – 20

Members are asked to please check their temperature and stay home if you are not feeling well, especially since many of our members are considered high-risk because of age and/or chronic health issues. Chairs are set up to help us maintain social distancing in keeping with current guidelines for COVID, seasonal flu and RSV.

We will start telephone contacts to let you know if anything changes regarding church services. **STAY SAFE!**

Wayne's Outreach Ministries

If there are folks who would like to participate in the prison ministry, please contact Nell Ard. Wayne was the only person that some of these men had reaching out to them. Upon his death, Wayne's requested that Nell continues to correspond with some of these men since they truly have no one else. Thanks to Dean and Karen Wray for working with her to keep Wayne's prison ministries going.

Wayne was also active with World Bible Study. If you need help with WBS (World Bible Study) or

know someone who has indicated an interest in WBS, please contact Roy Stephenson.

Sundays at 10:00 am.



Thanks to Jerry Queen for bible study last Sunday in the absence of our minister who was home with the flu. We discussed how 1 Thessalonians 5: 15-16 impacts us in today's society. **We will focus on the minor prophets for the remainder of the year. Today we will look at Zephaniah. Over the next 3 weeks we will be studying:**

Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi

This will take us through Sunday, December 17th. Please pick up any handout put together by Roy for discussion when you arrive. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask. We want the class to be interactive.

Nursery Assignments

If you can help with or relieve DJ in the nursery some Sundays during bible study and/or morning worship please let her know which Sundays you can be available. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in back of the church.

6:00 PM Wednesday Bible Study

We invite you to join us at the church building for the Wednesday devotional. If you have a topic, you would like us to discuss please let Roy Stephenson know. **We stopped the regularly scheduled conference call.** If at any time you wish to call in for the study, please notify our minister at least 20 minutes before class for instructions.

Building Maintenance

Dean Wray continues to keep us updated on the status of projects, so if you want to help or if you notice something that needs repair, please let him know.

Special thanks to Roy Goodlet for the sign on HWY 64 welcoming people to the church. And for maintenance of the grounds.

Our next biggest expense will be the replacement of the fluorescent lights with LED lights and arranging to have the carpet cleaned and removal of the carpet at the entrance under the breeze way and in front of the minister's office entrance.

Directory Updates

Contact Nell Ard if you need a picture taken for our picture directory located in the foyer or need changes made to the directory printout provided for your reference. **Complete the form provided on the back table and give it to Nell upon completion.**

Please make sure the directory has your current contact information. It is important so we can initiate telephone or text notifications to keep members informed, especially during the winter based on the condition of the roads.



Toy donations, fundraiser and financial donations will be collected for Murphy the entire month of November. Last year our congregation filled six large trash bags so let's try to at least maintain last year's donation level. The second bag for 2023 was delivered 11/16/2023. We have one more week to collect toys for this year. Distribution of toys is scheduled for December 15th from 9a-5p and December 16th from 8a-12n. Information also appears in the local newspaper, the Cherokee Scout

regarding parents and guardian registration.

If you would like to volunteer to help with sorting and distributing toys, please contact the coordinator Jeana Conley at jeanaconley33@gmail.com or call her at 828-361-2161 or the assistant coordinator Sue Evans at 828-837-3035. For more details, please visit the website: <http://murphy-nc.toysfortots.org>.



November Birthdays

| | |
|---------------|----|
| David Windsor | 30 |
|---------------|----|

December Birthdays

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Ronald Wilkins | 1 |
| Jerry Queen | 5 |
| Linda Trusty | 11 |
| Sheri Goodlet | 13 |
| Mike Terrill | 29 |



December Wedding Anniversaries

None Listed

If you do not see your birthday or wedding anniversary listed or the date is incorrect, or your name is misspelled please let Lula know. NOTE: Some of the people listed are frequent visitors or former members that like to stay in touch.



A Night in Bethlehem 2023

This is the time when local churches and local organizations outreach to the community to

celebrate the birth of Christ and let them know what services are available. The fairground on the West end of US 64 will be set up to resemble the marketplace at the time of Christ's birth. Each church and organization that volunteers agrees to bring food and crafts for the children especially. **Please remain a few minutes after morning worship today, November 26th** to hear from Roy and Sheri Goodlet the details of what has been planned and any special last-minute requests to help make this year a success. **If you stay you may want to bring your own lunch.**

On November 28th volunteers are needed to meet at 6 pm at the Mountain Folk Center west of Murphy for a quick clean-up of the facility to prepare for use for the 'Night in Bethlehem. At 7 pm there will a last quick meeting for instructions and prayer time.

So far, there are twenty-seven churches committed at this time. We are hoping for over 1,000 people this year on December 9th. **The organizers of a Night in Bethlehem will have a float in Murphy Christmas parade on December 2nd. Volunteers are needed to ride the float or walk the parade route handing out invitations to people in attendance.**

Murphy Church of Christ members volunteered to bring cookies, it should be noted the chocolate chips were the most popular so you might want to keep that in mind when donating cookies (make sure you put 3-4 cookies into small baggies). If cookies have nuts in them, please make a note on the

outside of the baggies. Sign the sheet on the back table to let us know how many and the kind of cookies you will be donating. **Please bring your cookies to the church on Friday, December 8th between 11:00 & 1:00 pm**

Thanks to your generosity we have 156 books to give away. If you want to help with crafts, please let DJ know.

The activities will be held December 9th from 5 – 8 pm. All volunteers are asked to dress in period clothing, but it is not a requirement. Your support by your presence is most important!

Please check with Roy and Sheri Goodlet for directions. This is just another way we can reach out to our community.



We Will Dance

Sing a song of celebration
Lift up a shout of praise
For the Bridegroom will come
The glorious one
And oh we will look on His face
We'll go to a much better place

And dance with all your might
Lift up your hands and clap for joy
The time's drawing near
When He will appear
And oh we will stand by His side
A strong pure spotless bride.

Oh, we will dance on the streets that are golden
The glorious bride and the great Son of Man
Let every tongue and tribe and nation
Rejoice in the song of the Lamb.