

## DECEMBER 20, 2020

### 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 Sunday evening service at 6:00 pm. **First Sunday** is always set aside as a special evening of prayer.

Wednesday 6:00 PM devotional classes have been postponed until January 6, 2021 due to the uncertainty of the weather during this time of the year. We want everyone to be safe!

**Website:** [murphychurchofchrist.com](http://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 news, upcoming events, and 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 Nell Ard and Lula Williams.

**Greeters**  
Lula Williams  
DJ Stephenson

**Welcome/Song Leader**  
Jim Eubanks

**Opening Prayer**  
Jerry Queen

**Lord’s Supper Thoughts**  
Roy Goodlet

**Scripture**  
**Matthew 2:1-6**  
Read by Robert Parmer

**Sunday Sermon:**  
***What Made the Wise Men Wise?***  
By Roy Stephenson

**Announcements**  
Roy Goodlet

**Closing Prayer**  
Roy Goodlet

***How do you respond when a crisis comes? What’s your reaction when you come through it?***

### Daily Prayer

*Thank You, Father, for the gift of speech. In my times of doubt, be with me to strengthen my faith. Help me learn how to use language to draw near to and honor You.*

*Revelation 4*

***There is absolutely nothing we can do which will separate us from God’s compassion and love.***



- Please continue to send cards to Wayne and Nell with words of encouragement. Keep his parents in prayer as they help Nell through this difficult time. Wayne is under hospice care and is slowly getting weaker, but he remains in good spirit. **We will check with Nell to see if we can come by at 3:30 PM for caroling.** Please make plans to join us. Because Wayne tires easily we will limit our singing to about 30-minutes.

P. O. Box 746  
Mineral Bluff, GA 30559

- Sandy Parmer’s three friends are positive for Covid-19 virus live in Spanish Fort, AL and she is requesting prayers for Mr. and Mrs. Howard (Betty) Rivers and their son, Rob.

- A friend of Sandy Parmer, David Beck, has had a stroke.

- Darlene Queen’s sister, Tonya Woltermothe, has cancer. Her aunt, Mavis Graves fell and broke her hip and hit her head causing a brain bleed (Springfield, Ohio). Her aunt, Mary Jo Dockery went home to Duckworth, TN.

- Jerry Queen continues to improve after his surgery. Glad he able to join us on Sunday during morning worship.

- Chappie Chapman, former church member, was diagnosed with lung cancer. He remains hopeful. Please let him know we are thinking of him.

- Mindy Scaffa shared that she has Chronic Kidney Disease. She is in the beginning of stage 3 so that means her kidneys are functioning between 40- 50%. She is okay to go out and be around people - she must keep her mask on.

- Gail Garland is still visiting with her son who is in the Navy stationed in Bahrain. We continue to pray for a safe visit and a safe return to her home in Georgia and her two-month-old grandson after his surgery.

- Chris and Jill Kirby who have been active with our 3M summer outreaches, both tested positive for COVID-19 along with one of their children in Nashville, TN.

- Mark Sanders (Lee Sander’s cousin) please add him to your prayers. He had a heart attack and had to have stincts put in.

- Lee Sanders broke his foot Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>.

- Ute had surgery to remove the metal plate from her foot because of repeated infection. She said it feels better but it will be a long term recovery.

- Melvin Ryan is a diabetic and the wound on his foot is not healing well.

- We are all in need of prayers as we manage our daily lives during these uncertain times in America and around the world and personal health issues.

***ENJOY TODAY, IT WILL NOT COME AGAIN....***

**Grace E. Easley**



**REACH, Inc. – Community Project**

The ladies made a commitment to supply the Cherokee County domestic violence shelter with cleaning supplies and laundry detergent. **Please do not forget them when you are out shopping.** If you have items of clothing (clean and in good condition), children books, etc. to donate please place them in the bin provided in the pantry area or you can take them to the REACH office located behind the thrift store on HWY 64. We can always use some small tote bags and small travel size items to fill them with, e.g. combs, hand sanitizer, toothbrush, travel size toothpaste, deodorant, etc. for their clientele. Recommended size for the tote bags is 9”X9”. Put them on the table in the pantry and we will fill them as time permits. **Please contact the Thrift Store if you have furniture you want to donate and arrange pickup.**

Often the victims leave home with only the clothes on their back, so they are given clothes and furniture from the Thrift Store until they can get back on their feet. They can always use volunteers to help with some of their community outreach activities and local fundraiser events. Call the office at 828-837-2097 or 828-837-8064 for more information.



**Toys for Tots**

We started collecting in October for the 2020 holidays. Cherokee county Toys for Tots

has been blessed with great weather for fundraising, and generous people who live here and pass through here.

**You are awesome!** Last year we collected 4 bags and with everything that is going on there is even a greater need to help our neighbors. **Lula delivered the last bag of toys from our church for the 2020 campaign December 4<sup>th</sup> for a total of 6 bags.**

The last pick up from Eller and Owens warehouse was December 12<sup>th</sup>. The volunteers sorted the gifts by age and gender. Application information for families was posted in the Cherokee Scout newspaper regarding distribution date and time.

**If you wish to continue to donate throughout the year or get more involved contact the local coordinator for Cherokee County, Barbara Hudson at barbarahudson727@gmail.com for more information or visit the Toys for Tots website.**



Please read the thank you note from the coordinators for Toys for Tot here in the town of Murphy posted on the bulletin board.

No matter the circumstances of this world, every child deserves a little Christmas. **Just 5 days until Christmas** and then our thoughts turn to welcoming in the new year – 2021. Let us pray that 2021 will be a good year for everyone throughout the world.

 **News and Announcements**

**Our church’s weekly budget is set at \$1,296.00.**

**December 6** - \$905.00 is under budget by \$391.00.

**December 13** – \$680.00 is under budget by \$616.00

**Sunday Bible Study** – 9  
**Morning Worship Attendance** – 19

*Members are asked to please check their temperature before deciding to leave home and wearing a mask while inside is optional. Chairs have been set up to maintain social distancing in keeping with current guidelines. We pray that vaccines will be available soon to help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus. We will start telephone contacts to let you know if anything changes. STAY SAFE!*

**Wayne’s Outreach Ministries**



If there are folks who would like to participate in the prison ministry, please contact Nell, she can share contact information with you. Wayne was the only person that some of these men had reaching out to them. They are sending some amazing words of encouragement as well as telling Wayne about the positive impact he has been on them. At Wayne’s request, Nell will be continuing to correspond with some of these men since they truly have no one else. Let her know if you have any questions.

Wayne was also active with World Bible Study and had several people he was corresponding with. If you need help getting started with WBS (World Bible Study) or know someone who has indicated an interest in WBS, please contact Roy Stephenson.

***Sunday Morning Bible Study at 10:00 am.***



***The Winter issue of the Gospel Advocate is now available. We began with the book of Genesis in September and will continue the winter series with the book of Genesis. Please pick up a copy off the table in the back of the church. Please don’t forget to bring your Bible and your questions.***

**6:00 PM Wednesday Bible Study**

**Classes have been postponed until January 6, 2021.** Roy Stephenson began this October a ten-week Wednesday night series devoted to a study of the Holy Spirit. Topic series include – God in Three Persons, Receiving the Holy Spirit, Walking After the Spirit, Empowered, by the Holy Spirit, Grieving the Holy Spirit, Spiritual Gifts, Misconceptions About the Holy Spirit, and The Holy Spirit – Then and Today.

After a brief song and prayer, we delve into our study in each class for most of our hour together. Please come and bring your study bible and questions! If you have another series topic you would like presented, please let Roy Stephenson know.

## Just Christians

**I ♥ MY CHURCH**  
Come grow with us. If you have any questions or would like to start a home study, contact Roy Stephenson, Minister/Counselor. Phone (828) 557-8882 or email: [murphychurchofchrist@yahoo.com](mailto:murphychurchofchrist@yahoo.com)

Do you need the help of the church to help strengthen you in your belief? Whatever you need, please join us each Sunday morning for Bible study followed by morning worship in prayer and song.



### December Birthdays

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



### December Wedding Anniversaries

Ed and Sue Raber	22
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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.

### Directory Updates

Contact Dean Wray if you need a picture taken for our picture directory located in the foyer.

Nell Ard is working to keep our directory notebook updated so let Dean know of any changes and he will share the information with her.

## Kitchen Repairs

Repairs for water damage in the fellowship room and bathrooms are now completed. Thanks to everyone who helped to finalize the repairs and the painting. Special thanks to Dean and Karen for spearheading this project.

Dean reminded us that he has several projects that require attention to help maintain the building, so if you want to help please let him know.

## Pantry Items



We need your help to restock our pantry. If no family or individual has made a special request; then, at the end of each month Lula pulls items off the shelves and take them to the Cherokee County Food Bank, Inc. in Andrews since they have access to the Cherokee County community at-large and average about 100 clients a week but has seen a three-fold increase in need during the COVID-19 pandemic and increase in unemployment. NOTE: **We give out food only if someone is here when an individual comes to the church or special arrangements have been made to meet someone.**

The food bank is open to the public on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 10-12. They have requested empty dozen size egg cartons so they can divide the large crates of eggs they receive from other organizations and from people who raise chickens.

## You Are Invited!

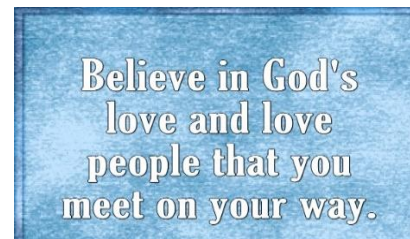
Roy and Sheri Goodlet extend an invitation to come to their home around 4:00 PM on December 24<sup>th</sup>. We will be singing Christmas songs

an enjoying each other's company. You are welcome to bring something to share. Directions are located on the back table.

## THINGS YOU CAN DO TO HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF VIRUSES AND BACTERIA

- Regularly wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer with an alcohol content of 60% or more
- Cover your sneeze or cough with a tissue or elbow to reduce spread of droplets
- Wear a mask when you are out amongst the public or large crowd, it helps to prevent the spread of the virus. Make sure your mask covers your nose and mouth
- If you are not feeling well or having symptoms, e.g. coughing, feeling tired, aching, have a temperature, etc. stay home and if symptoms get worst contact your physician.

Please continue the CDC's guidelines for your health and protection for those around you.



Enjoy the beauty of God's handy work! Invite someone to worship with us. We all need to feel connected. Let us continue to count our

blessings and help those less fortunate during these stressful and uncertain times.

## Decorations are up in some neighborhoods.



He is the reason for the season! We may not know exactly when he was born but we celebrate His birth every year on December 25<sup>th</sup>.

## Happy birthday Jesus!

