

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

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**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](http://murphychurchofchrist.com)**

**Minister/Counselor  
Roy Stephenson**

**Cell Phone: 828-557-8882**

**E-mail: [MurphyNCchurchofchrist@gmail.com](mailto:MurphyNCchurchofchrist@gmail.com)**

**MAY 21, 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 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month, we get together for potluck fellowship meal immediately following morning worship.**

**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 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**  
Lula Williams and Sheri Goodlet

**Welcome/Song Leader**  
Jerry Queen

**Opening Prayer**  
Dean Wray

**Lord's Supper Thoughts**  
Dean Wray

**Scripture:**  
**I John 1:8 - 2:2**  
Read by Jeff Leiby

**Sunday Sermon:**  
**"Jesus, Our Defense Attorney"**  
By Roy Goodlet

**Announcements**  
Roy Goodlet

**Closing Prayer**  
Roy Goodlet



**Always pray to have  
Eyes that see the best  
In people  
A heart that forgives  
The worst,  
A mind that forgets  
The bad, and  
A soul that never loses  
Faith in God.**



**PRAYER REQUESTS**

- Sandy Parmer asked that we keep the following people in our prayers: Erik and Ashley Brown, and Jim Smith, Kailyn, who is Sandy's 16 year old granddaughter as she struggles with life challenges. Linda Raymond is receiving chemo therapy for inflammation as a result of COVID. John, Sandy's friend in Illinois is starting chemo for cancer. Phyllis Bryant pancreatic cancer is in remission. Shirley Linne treatment for eye disease. Harold Parmer has Parkinson and kidney problems.
- Mindy Scaffa is slowly adjusting to her new medication. She tries to keep us up to date on how she is feeling, offers us some words of inspiration and an occasional recipe on her Facebook page.
- Darlene Queen tires easily and has trouble maintaining her balance Jerry says she has some good days.
- Darlene's daughter, Tabitha Sutton is still needing a heart transplant.
- Jeanne Horton has finished her second round of chemotherapy. Her husband recently found out his cancer has returned. They found spots on his vertebrae and lungs.
- Jim Sexton, minister of the Cherokee congregation is still battling stage 4 cancer, he has moved with his wife to northern Mississippi.
- Sheilah Queen requests prayers for her husband Johnnie and herself. She is doing what she can to avoid having a shunt placed to remove the toxins not being removed by her kidney.
- Richard Hicks, the brother of Norma Leiby, has requested prayers as he goes through chemotherapy.

- Cheri Meaders, of Blairsville, friend of the Stephensons is in hospice.
- Ute Chewning's great-granddaughter, Aria Lopez, had a successful liver transplant last year. She has been released from the hospital but will need to be on medication for the rest of life.
- The Goodlet's ask that we pray for their son Andrew's safety because of the potential dangers involved in his special assignments in law enforcement.
- Roy Stephenson is being treated for a left foot infection that affected his Bone and overall well-being,. He is having less pain and was referred to a wound management specialist. His orthoscopic knee surgery will be rescheduled depending on the progress of his foot infection.
- Glenda Kirby asked for prayers for Tammy Berrong whose daughter died recently. Her grandchildren are having a hard time adjusting.

**You or family member or friend may not be on this list but, we are all in need of prayer.** Pray for all victims of violence which seems to be increasing. The pandemic and flu season has taken and continues to take its toll on many and depression, homicides and suicides are increasing as well. Take time to check on your neighbors!,

**Just Christians**



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: [MurphyNCchurchofchrist@gmail.com](mailto:MurphyNCchurchofchrist@gmail.com)



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

**Staff are requesting Clorox swipes, cleaning supplies and laundry detergent for the Safe House.**

As the staff travel to the schools to discuss domestic violence, they have identified a need for children's underwear and socks of varying sizes. They have also adopted some families to help as well. 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. She is having difficulty finding small bottles of hand sanitizer so next time you go shopping pick up a few extra bottles..

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 them 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, 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.

**2022 Year-End Statistics**

**Crisis Calls – 4236**

**Males – 52**

**Females – 417**

**Child – 38**

**Sexual Assault – 447**

**Senior Attendance – 159**



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 the last or first Tuesday of the month she takes them to the Cherokee County Food Bank, Inc. in Andrews, NC.

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

The food bank is open to the public on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 10-12.

**News and Announcements**

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

**May 5** – 820.00 is under budget by \$422.00.

**May 14** - \$420.00 under budget by \$812.00.

**Bible Study Attendance – 6**

**Morning Worship Attendance – 15**

*Members are asked to please check their temperature before deciding to leave home and wearing a mask while inside is optional. especially if you are considered high risk because of age or chronic healthcare diseases. Chairs are set up to maintain social distancing in keeping with current guidelines for COVID and seasonal flu,*

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. At Wayne's request, Nell will be continuing 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.**

The spring series is titled **Gospel Personages.** The study in biblical personages enables the student of the Bible



to value lessons learned and warnings heeded in the numerous accounts found in the bible. *Please pick up a copy of the Gospel series Advocate located on the back round table and don't forget to bring your Bible and your questions.*



**6:00 PM Wednesday Bible Study**

You can sign in from anywhere. All you need is access to a phone and now that the weather is warmer, we are meeting at the church. **If you have trouble signing in let Roy Stephenson know so, he can contact the conference sponsor to troubleshoot.**

Bible Studies via a phone conference call is as easy as calling your friends or family. **About 3-5 minutes before 6:00 PM, dial 1-425-436-6324. You will be asked for your access code. Dial 5155915#. Identify yourself after you dial in and place your phone on mute. Remember to take the phone off mute if you have any questions or want to make a comment.**

**Building Maintenance**

Dean 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.

Our next biggest expense will be the replacement of the fluorescent lights with LED lights and arranging to have the carpet cleaned.

**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.

We will initiate telephone or text contacts if services are cancelled. Please make sure the directory has your current contact information.

**Weather Can Be Unpredictable!**

Heed the weather alerts. Make sure you have the recommended items to survive at home should there be a blackout and the stores are closed. Make sure you know the location of shelters should you not be able to remain at home.

People are still suffering through the impact of severe weather changes.



**May Birthdays**

Glenda Kirby	8
Stephanie Wilkins	19
Shirley Ryan	26
Glenn Wilkins	27



**May Wedding Anniversaries**

Mike and Caron Terrill	5
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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. NOTE: Some of the people listed are frequent visitors or former members that like to stay in touch.



**Do you know someone who is graduating?** They are embarking on a new phase in their life. Let's pray they will be successful as they face the world.



**May 29<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day**

We honor those men and women who have died serving in the United States Armed Forces on [Memorial Day](#).

**Navajo Code Talkers**

It was one of the best kept secrets of World War II. For over 23 years their special mission retained a "top secret" classification. They are the Navajo Code Talkers. The Navajo made an invaluable contribution to the War through the development of the Navajo language as a secret code that proved indecipherable to the enemy. Major Howard M. Connor, communications officer for the Fifth Marine Division commented, "Without the Navajos, the Marines could never have taken Iwo Jima". We salute their remarkable achievement.

**Women in the military**

Women have been serving in the military since the inception of organized warfare, in both combat and non-combat roles. Their inclusion in combat missions has increased in recent decades, often serving as pilots, mechanics, and infantry officers.

**Freedom is not free!**

*Not all veterans served in combat but those who didn't are just as important. They make sure the troops are trained and receive what is required of them to complete their mission and move about on land, sea, and air. Take care of them when they return with physical and mental injury. Make sure they receive mail from loved ones. They make every effort to retrieve those who have fallen in combat.*

**Maya Angelou, 'Life Doesn't Frighten Me'**

We're all going to fear something at some point in our lives – perhaps many things. This is a powerful poem about overcoming fear and not allowing it to master you, a declaration of self-belief and the importance of facing one's fears.

Shadows on the wall  
Noises down the hall  
Life doesn't frighten me at all

Bad dogs barking loud  
Big ghosts in a cloud  
Life doesn't frighten me at all

Mean old Mother Goose  
Lions on the loose  
They don't frighten me at all

Dragons breathing flame  
On my counterpane  
That doesn't frighten me at all.

I go boo  
Make them shoo

I make fun  
Way they run  
I won't cry  
So they fly  
I just smile  
They go wild

Life doesn't frighten me at all.

Tough guys fight  
All alone at night  
Life doesn't frighten me at all.

Panthers in the park  
Strangers in the dark  
No, they don't frighten me at all.

That new classroom where  
Boys all pull my hair  
(Kissy little girls  
With their hair in curls)  
They don't frighten me at all.

Don't show me frogs and snakes  
And listen for my scream,  
If I'm afraid at all  
It's only in my dreams.

I've got a magic charm  
That I keep up my sleeve  
I can walk the ocean floor  
And never have to breathe.

Life doesn't frighten me at all  
Not at all  
Not at all.

Life doesn't frighten me at all.

Godly fear isn't the same as fear of a tyrant, or a dictator. We don't need to fear His anger unless we fear punishment due to a bad conscience and impenitent heart because of sin. **(Romans 2:5-9)** To fear God is absolute reverence and awe for an Almighty God, the Creator of all things.