

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

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TIME OF SERVICES

Sunday Morning Bible Class
Sunday Morning Worship

9:30 a.m.
10:30 a.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

JANUARY 19, 2025

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 church “family” that will offer you the most important things in life, then why not give us a chance to be part of our Christian 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.

The first Sunday Prayer evening was moved to today, Sunday, January 12th @ 6:00 PM.

Wednesday Bible devotional and regular Sunday evening service is temporarily on hold.

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

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
Theresa Brehm

Welcome/Song Leader
Jerry Queen

Opening Prayer
Dean Wray

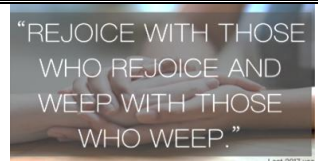
Lord’s Supper Thoughts
Roy Goodlet

Scripture:
2 Kings 7: 3-9
Read by Bruce Corcoran

Sunday Sermon:
“A Day of Good News”
By Roy Stephenson

Announcements
Roy Goodlet

Closing Prayer
Chuck Brehm



It might be hard to believe but it’s true – we’re turning the page on another year! No matter what you went through last year, perhaps a good way to start 2025 is by embracing the word rejoice.

When we think of rejoicing, we might think of being in a state of constant happiness and celebrating every detail of life with exuberance. But what about when we are sad, angry, confused, or tired? In Philippians 4:4 (NIV), the apostle Paul declares that we “Rejoice in the Lord, always, I will say it again: Rejoice”!



PRAYER REQUESTS

- Sandy Parmer asked that we keep her family and friends in our prayers. Her daughter, April, who lives in Mobile, Alabama had a seizure and a single car crash as a result. Now, she cannot drive for a month and is to wear a heart monitor for a month.
- Mindy Scaffa continues to have multiple health problems. She fell twice at home and hit her head. Many of you follow her on Facebook and she enjoys reading your comments!
- Darlene Queen is adjusting to her new pacemaker. As her husband Jerry likes to say, “she has her good and bad days”. She also has the flu.
- Darlene Queen’s daughter, Michelle Dockery Holloway, and granddaughter, Tory Dockery, are both sick. Michelle has pneumonia and Tori has the flu.
- Roy Stephenson had successful right knee replacement surgery on November 20th at Northside Cherokee Hospital in Canton, Georgia. He and DJ thank and appreciate all the prayers offered on his behalf as he continues with rehab. therapy.
- Jeff Leiby continues to have health issues. He currently being treated for a blood clot.
- Buddy Fitton and Vaugh Day, friends of Roy Stephenson going through second round of chemotherapy.
- Sheri’s friend Debbie and Cayle have cancer. Debbie has received her final chemotherapy, and plans are being made for potential surgery in January 2025. Sheri’s sister, Lori, had a pacemaker inserted and is breathing better.

- Lloyd and Lee Durham, friends of Roy and DJ Stephenson, had a one-car accident in which they both sustained broken bones.
- **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 continues to take its toll on many. Depression, homicides, suicides, gun violence and wars and civil unrest are increasing as well as the impact of climate changes. Take time to check on your neighbors and keep our country in your prayers!
- **Pray for Mark E. Dickey** who is studying with Roy Stephenson, that Mark will be open to new Biblical truths that he is learning.!

List the people who gave you joy even when you can’t see them. Ask Jesus to increase your belief until you see Him in eternity.



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 note that because the bulletin is uploaded to the website, we do not include details regarding home address and phone information for privacy reasons.

Just Christians

Come grow with us. 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. List of programs the organization supports are posted on the bulletin board in the hallway.

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. 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 and other stores 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. **Place items on the table located in the pantry on your left as you enter.**

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. 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.

January is Human Trafficking and Stalking Awareness month. *Reach is leading our community in **eliminating domestic violence and sexual assault through education, advocacy, self-empowerment, and community awareness.***

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

We need your help to keep our pantry stocked. If no family, or individual has made a special request; then, items are taken off the shelves and taken 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.

Most of the clients are homeless and/or senior citizens living on a fixed income, so they can use small bottles of laundry detergent to wash their clothes, hygiene items, e.g. shampoo & conditioner, toothpaste, soap or body wash, etc. **Lula also includes assorted chips and crackers to give to the homeless who sit outside next to the food bank.** The food bank has a bakery that donates bread, and the local Walmart provides fresh produce.

You can also write a check payable to the Andrews Food Bank, P. O. Box 843, Andrews, NC 28901, and they will supplement items that are not being donated.

To whom much is given, much will be required (Luke 12:48). If you have heard that line of wisdom, you know it means if we have been blessed with talents, wealth, knowledge, time, and the like, it is expected that we benefit others.



Our church's 2024 weekly budget is set at \$1,250.00.

December 29 - \$2,095.00 is over budget by \$845.00.

January 5 - \$625.00 is under budget by \$625.00.

Bible Study Attendance – 10
Morning Worship Attendance – 18

Members are asked to please check their temperature and if you are not feeling well stay home, 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.

Sunday Bible Study at 9:30 am

NO - Weekday Bible Devotional

Wednesday devotional is postponed until Roy Stephenson's doctor lets him know when he can resume more activities.

Murphy Homeless Shelter Donations

The Hurlburt Johnson Homeless Shelter is requesting donations for the month of February through December. There are eleven churches in the area that also donate. They are requesting paper products: paper towels, bathroom tissue, paper napkins and paper plates. Please place items in the fellowship room and Roy Stephenson will deliver them.

Cell Phone Donations

Woody Scaffa has requested that if you have any old cell phones you are willing to donate to the homeless shelter, please bring them to him next time you are in church. He will make sure that all your personal data has been removed before giving it to the homeless shelter staff for one of the clients. Please note the church has a basket in the back to help him.

Sign-up sheets on the back table Nursery Assignments

If you can help in the nursery some Sundays during bible study and/or morning worship if we have any children visiting please indicate what date(s) you are available.

Communion

If you are willing to help prepare communion and clean-up the trays please indicate your willingness by putting your name next to the month your are available.

Building Maintenance

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

He is in the process of doing some touch up painting in the main auditorium and the minister's office will be set up as our library. Once all the boxes have been removed you may again begin placing food donations for the food bank in the pantry. The bin for clothing for REACH donations is to the left in the pantry when you open the door.

Dean Wray can use our help with any last-minute details to help complete all projects. Please contact him for dates and time to meet him at the church building. Upon completion of things inside the church, he will begin working on the breeze way concrete repair and painting the concrete. He can't begin until warmer weather so it will be a few months.



January Birthdays

Michelle Dockery Holloway	29
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January Wedding Anniversaries



Johnny and Shelah Queen	9
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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.



Toys For Tots

If you missed the collection deadline we keep the empty boxes in the back classroom for next year. **Please do not wrap the toys.** Look for special sales throughout the year.

For the year 2024 the church was only able to donate two bags of toys. **Jean Conley shared with the Cherokee Scout that the county gave out 1,221 kids gifts.**

If you would like to volunteer, 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. There is also a Facebook page and website <http://murphy-nc.toysfortots.org> with more information and instruction on how to donate funds.



A Night in Bethlehem 2024

This year there were 300 more visitors than last year for a total of 1442 attendees. We had 30 local groups who served as vendors for a total of 39 booths.

For those who represented the Murphy Church of Christ or was there as a visitor if you have any suggestions for next year. Please contact Roy Goodlet.

Lula has posted a few pictures on the bulletin board in the hallway.

"I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live." Psalm 104: 33 (NIV)



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.

There are four major steps of Christ

Incarnation - the incarnation of Christ simply means the mingling of God with humanity. Mingling is much more than mixing together; it is an intrinsic union. A strange and wonderful event took place. A child was born, a child who was called the Mighty God ([Isa. 9:6](#)). Can you believe this — a child called the Mighty God!

Crucifixion - The death of Christ on the cross is, on one hand, the judgment of God and, on the other

hand, redemption. Herein lies the wisdom of God. God seized hold of the work of Satan and turned it to His own account.

Resurrection - We now come to the third major step of Christ: His resurrection. After His death, Christ was resurrected. Death can never hold Christ ([Acts 2:24](#)), for He is the fountain of life. He went into death willingly, and He stepped out of death boldly.

Ascension into heaven - It was by baptism in the Holy Spirit that all the members were formed into one Body ([1 Cor. 12:13](#)). After His ascension He also gave many gifts: apostles, prophets, evangelists, and shepherds and teachers ([Eph. 4:8, 11-12](#)). The purpose of these gifts was to build up the Body.

40th ANNIVERSARY

Murphy church had its' beginning on September 3, 1984. Services were held at the home of Dan and Linda Kirby until construction was completed on the church building.

Because of the water damage to the flooring in the kitchen and the back of the main auditorium, we had to change the 2024 date twice.

We are still in the discussion phase pending feedback from the congregation as to whether to plan to have a Homecoming in 2025 to celebrate 41 years.

It was somewhat of a homecoming for Dan and Glenda Kirby and several of the Kirby family members were in attendance on Sunday December 29th, the last Sunday in the year 2024.