

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

FEBRUARY 23, 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 of the month is set aside for a devotional and an evening of prayer @ 6:00 PM.

Sunday evening devotional service is scheduled to resume March 9th at 6:00 PM.

On the 5th Sunday of each month, we get together for potluck fellowship meal. Our next meal will be held March 30th.

Website: murphychurchofchrist.com

 The bulletin is posted on the website, and hard copies are in the foyer for members and visitors. **In the month of January 188 people visited the site. As of 2/16/25 February total is 57.** 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 or see an error please contact Lula Williams.

Greeters
Sheri Goodlet
Lula Williams

Welcome/Song Leader
Jerry Queen

Opening Prayer
Dean Wray

Lord’s Supper Thoughts
Roy Goodlet

Scripture:
Matthew 27:3-10
Read by Bruce Corcoran

Sunday Sermon:
“Five Thieves at the Cross”
By Roy Stephenson

Announcements
Roy Goodlet

Closing Prayer
Roy Goodlet

The art of forgiveness is one of the most humanizing of all our abilities. It can soothe our hurts, remove irritations, and heal resentments.

*Why God Calls Us
to Remember
and Forgive*



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. The doctor said she cannot drive until May. Her neurologist said she must stay on her current meds.
- Mindy Scaffa continues to have multiple health problems. She was scheduled for an endoscopy but she was too dehydrated so they couldn’t find a vein to insert the IV. Many of you follow her on Facebook and she enjoys reading your comments!
- Darlene Queen has a pacemaker and fibromyalgia. As her husband Jerry likes to say, “she has her good and bad days”.
- Roy Stephenson on January 14, 2025, he developed a fever and was admitted for a staph infection and a second surgery. They inserted a PICC line to administer the antibiotics at home every 8 hours. He is making progress slowly.
- Jeff Leiby continues to have health issues. He currently is being treated for a blood clot.
- Sheri’s friends Debbie and Cayle have cancer. Debbie has started a second round of chemotherapy. Her last tests results were not good.
- Chuck Brehm admitted two weeks ago on a Wednesday to Union General for kidney infection and dehydration. He was discharged home Sunday, February 2, 2025. He still is feeling weak.

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, 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!

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.

**ALL GROWTH
THAT IS NOT
TOWARD GOD,
IS GROWING
TO DECAY.**

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.

Reach is leading our community in eliminating domestic violence and sexual assault through education, advocacy, self-empowerment, and community awareness.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

We haven't been able to use the pantry because of the boxes stored but if you have an item to donate just give them directly to Lula and she will take 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.

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.

 **News and Announcements**

Our church's 2025 weekly budget is set at \$1,250.00.

February 9 - \$975.00 is under budget by \$275.00.

February 16 - \$1,460.00 is over budget by \$210.00

Bible Study Attendance – 9
Morning Worship Attendance – 16

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

Today we will be studying Matthew 18-20. Next Sunday we have Matthew 21-22 scheduled if you want to read ahead.

6:00 PM Sunday Evening Service

Starting the first Sunday in March we will resume 6:00 PM evening services. The first Sundays we will continue to have a short devotional with an evening of prayer. If you have a special prayer request, please let Roy Goodlet know.

Wednesday devotional is still 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 from us: 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 the 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 you 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.



February Birthdays

Tori Dockery	26
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March Birthdays

Chris Astoria	1
Ute Chewing	3
Woody Scaffa	4
Lee Sanders	7
Michael Sutton, Sr.	13
Doris J. Stephenson	22
Robert Parmer	26

March Wedding Anniversaries



Robert and Sandy Parmer	11
Dean and Karen Wray	21
Chuck and Theresa Brehm	23

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 2024 deadline we keep the empty boxes in the back classroom for next year. Look for special sales throughout the year. **Please do not wrap the toys.**



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 2025

For those who represented the Murphy Church of Christ or was there for the first time December 2024, Lula has posted a few pictures on the bulletin board in the hallway. If you have any suggestions for this year, please contact Roy Goodlet.

If you want to donate funds to help with purchases for the 2025 annual community outreach event please note on the bottom of your check "Night in Bethlehem".

Agnus Dei

Alleluia, alleluia
For the Lord God
Almighty reigns
Alleluia, alleluia
For the Lord God Almighty reigns
Alleluia Holy,

Holy
Are You, Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb
Worthy is the Lamb
You are holy, holy,

Are You, Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb
Worthy is the Lamb
Amen



March 30th – 5th Sunday Potluck Fellowship

We are still in the discussion phase of planning a brief acknowledgement of the church's beginning as part of the 5th Sunday potluck fellowship on March 30th to celebrate the beginning of 41 years with a sheet cake instead of everyone bringing desserts but if you want to bring a special dessert you are welcome to do so.

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.

We were unable to have a Homecoming celebration in September 2024 but now that the water damage to the church flooring in the kitchen and the back of the main auditorium has been completed, we can now resume our 5th Sunday's fellowship meals.



Thanks, to all who contributed to a Special Contribution to help us cover our unexpected medical expenses when I had to have emergency knee surgery on January 14th.

The doctor said that a second knee surgery will take twice as long for me to recover. DJ has been my Florence Nightingale by helping me with my antibiotic injections every 8 hours around the clock.

DJ and I extend to our deepest thanks. May the Lord bless you richly...

In Christian love,
Roy and Doris Jane Stephenson