

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

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TIME OF SERVICES

Sunday Morning Bible Class	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 a.m..
Wednesday Evening Devotional	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

MAY 4, 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 "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 during morning worship.

Wednesday Bible devotional has been changed back to 6:00 PM

On the 5th Sunday of each month, we get together for potluck fellowship meal immediately following morning worship. Our next potluck will be held June 29th.

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.** As of April 30th, we had a total of 178 visits this month. 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
Theresa Brehm

Welcome/Song Leader
Jerry Queen

Opening Prayer
Bruce Corcoran

Lord's Supper Thoughts
Jerry Queen

Scripture:
2 Corinthians 3: 1-6
Read by Bruce Corcoran

Sunday Sermon:
"A Letter from Christ"
By Roy Stephenson

Announcements
Roy Stephenson

Closing Prayer
Jerry Queen

I Will Never Forsake You

When Jesus was dying suffering on that cross, yelling to God "why have you forsaken me?" the Father was writing this letter to us. Hoping that as many as possible will read it.



God thank you for your letter from your heart.

PRAYER LIST

PREQUESTS

- 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 issues and keeps friends up-to-date through her Facebook page.
- Darlene Queen saw her cardiologist last week, and received a very good report from the doctor. Her pacemaker is doing great and she wouldn't have to return to see him until seven years from now. But her kneecap is swollen, which makes it hard for her to walk. As her husband Jerry likes to say, "she has her good and bad days".
- Roy Stephenson has completely recovered from his knee surgery in January, but lately has developed a bone spur on his left foot. He and DJ thanks and appreciate all the prayers and contributions given on his behalf.
- Jeff Leiby continues to have health issues.
- Chuck Brehm continues at home as he deals with multiple health issues.
- Sheri's friends Debbie has cancer. Debbie was started on a new chemotherapy drug. Her last tests results were not good.
- 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!



Condolences

Sheri Goodlet shared that her friend Cayle Aldridge died at 5:30 am on April 26th after a 2-year battle and treatment for cancer. Please keep him and his family in your prayers. He will be missed.

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. It most important that you make sure your information is current.

Cell Phone Donations

Woody Scaffa has requested that if you have any old cell phones you are willing to donate to the homeless shelter, 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.**



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. 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.

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, 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.

Suggested items based on Lula's discussion with some of the female staff: they can always use feminine hygiene products and other personal hygiene items, e.g. toothpaste, toothbrushes, bars of soap, wipes, small bottles of shampoo, soups that can be heated over a small fire, small jars of peanut butter and items that do not require a stove for cooking. Most of the clients are homeless and/or senior citizens living on a fixed income, so they can use small bottles of laundry detergent and Clorox to wash their clothes. 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.



News and Announcements

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

April 20 – \$1,230.00 is under budget by \$20.00.

April 27 - \$815.00 is under budget by \$435.00.

Bible Study Attendance – 9
Morning Worship Attendance – 23

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. Wearing a mask is optional!

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 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 Studies at 9:30 am

Today we will begin with an introduction to Luke and start our study with Luke 1 and 2.

6:00 PM Wednesday Devotional

We have resumed 6:00 PM **evening devotional**. If you have a special request, please let Roy Stephenson know.



On Wednesday evening, April 30, we will begin a study on discipleship with the help of the book, "Turning Church Members into Disciple Makers." It will be a four-month study and we will discuss one chapter per week. This will not be a lecture, but a discussion of what we read in each chapter led by Roy Goodlet. Everyone will need a copy of the book. Here are different options on how to obtain one. Amazon sells it new for \$14.99, or you can get the Kindle version for \$2.99. College Press sells it new for \$11.99. You can get a used book on Ebay for about \$8.50.

This book is divided into two sections: (1) God's Purpose for Every Christian and (2) Engaging My Neighborhood with Good News. The first section defines God's purpose for every believer. Turning members of the church into disciple makers begins with the member understanding and embracing his or her new identity in Christ. Jesus said, "I will build my ekklesia (church)" (Matthew 16:18). Members are Christ's body, his "called out ones to be trained to do God's work." Christ empowers the members of his body with his Holy Spirit to expand his kingdom family by sharing the

gospel. Those added to the ekklesia are to be equipped to make more disciples. We are to continue the process until Jesus returns. The second section moves the disciple makers into the neighborhoods to fulfill their purposes and make disciples within their circles of influence. Sharing the gospel message can be a little complicated. There's more to it than just telling somebody what the gospel is and how to respond. Each person has his or her own baggage— cultural, intellectual, and emotional barriers—that need to be removed before the simple gospel can take root in the heart.

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.

Homeless Shelter Thrift Store

The homeless shelter need volunteers at the thrift store. If you are interested and want more information on what is expected please contact Carol Paul at 518-321-4190.

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 **whenever 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.

Dean Wray can use our help with any last-minute details to help complete all projects. Please contact him or Karen for dates and time to meet 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.



May Birthdays

Glenda Kirby	8
Chuck Brehm	4
Bruce Corcoran	16
Shirley Ryan	26
Don Jewell	26

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.*

MAY 11TH - MOTHER'S DAY

Mother's Day is a cherished tradition, a time to honor and celebrate the incredible contributions of mothers around the world.

Mother's Day 2025 theme revolves around the celebration of love, history, and flowers. This year's focus will be on acknowledging and appreciating the unique bond between mothers and their families.

There is no specific color associated with Mother's Day. However, some popular colors that are often used for Mother's Day decorations and gifts include pink, red, white, and purple. Pink and red are often associated with love and affection, while white represents purity and innocence. Purple is often associated with royalty and can symbolize admiration and respect for mothers. Ultimately, any color can be associated with Mother's Day as long as it is chosen with the intention of honoring and celebrating mothers.



May 17. Armed Forces Day is celebrated on the third Saturday in May each year to honor and recognize the men and women who

serve in the United States Armed Forces. This day was established in 1949 to replace separate Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force Days and to promote unity among the military branches.

May 26 - Memorial Day is a day for reflection and remembrance, with many people visiting cemeteries to decorate graves with American flags and flowers.

What not to do on Memorial Day?

- Don't wish anyone a "Happy Memorial Day". This is not Christmas – Memorial Day was not founded in joy with the promise of bringing glee each year.
- Don't thank the current troops.
- Don't disregard its importance.
- Don't forget it exists.
- Don't let politics keep you from rendering respect.

Area-Wide Singing

For those of you who like to mark your calendar for future events, there will be four opportunities for Christians to sing together with our sister congregations in this area every other month.

June 8th – Franklin NC Church of Christ

August 10th – Murphy NC Church of Christ

October 12th – Hiawassee GA Church of Christ

All of the singings will begin promptly at 3:00 pm each respective Sunday. We encourage all attendees to remain afterwards for refreshments to meet and fellowship with other Christians from the surrounding area.