

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

TIME OF SERVICES

Sunday Morning Bible Class
Sunday Morning Worship

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

stamp
here

“ 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 2, 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 an evening of prayer @ 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. **As of January 27, 2025 in the month of January 165 people have visited the site. 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
Lula Williams

Welcome/Song Leader
Jerry Queen

Opening Prayer
Bruce Corcoran

Lord's Supper Thoughts
Roy Goodlet

Scripture:
Matthew 13: 44-46
Read by Dean Wray

Sunday Sermon:
"God's Hide and Seek"
By Roy Stephenson

Announcements
Roy Goodlet

Closing Prayer
Jeff Leiby



Growth in the knowledge of Jesus Christ

"... in order that you may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom is hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine sounding arguments. For though, I am absent from you in body, I am present with you in spirit and delight to see how orderly you are and how firm your faith in Christ is. (Colossians 2: 2-5 NIV)



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 meds.
- Mindy Scaffa continues to have multiple health problems. She is scheduled for an endoscopy February 3rd to see if they determine why she is having difficulty swallowing. 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 is still recovering from the flu.
- Roy Stephenson had successful right knee replacement surgery on November 20, 2024. 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.
- Connie Diaz developed a fever last Sunday and was taken to the ER by ambulance to run some tests. Test results revealed she has COVID. She is home after being rehydrated with IV therapy. She says she still feels lousy and her temperature still fluctuates up to around 103.
- Jenny Corcoran has been feeling sick for over a week.
- Sheri's friend Debbie and Cayle have cancer. Debbie has started a

second round of chemotherapy. Her last tests results were not good. Sheri's sister, Lori, had a pacemaker inserted and is breathing better.

• Chuck Brehm admitted Wednesday to Union General for kidney infection and dehydration.

• **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.

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.

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.

News and Announcements

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

January 12 – cancelled due to the weather and icy road condition

January 19 - \$1,300.00 is over budget by \$50.00.

January 26 - \$1,460 is over budget by \$210.00.

Bible Study Attendance – 8
Morning Worship Attendance – 17

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. He developed a staph infection and was admitted to the hospital for antibiotic therapy.

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 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.



February Birthdays

Dan Kirby	1
Michael Sutton	10
Mindy Scaffa	14
Stacey Packer	24
Tori Dockery	26

February Wedding Anniversaries



David and Joyce Ellis	8
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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 2024 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.

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

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.



(My Chains Are Gone)

Verse 1

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see.

Verse 2

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed,

Chorus

My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace.

Verse 3

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

Verse 4

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine.



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.

Special Benevolent Donations

There is a box on the table in the back if you would like to contribute funds to help the Stephenson with their unexpected medical expenses. If you write a check make it payable to Murphy Church of Christ and at the bottom write "For Roy & DJ Stephenson".

Friday, February 14, 2025

VALENTINE'S DAY

