



The Messenger

A Newsletter of the
Murfreesboro Baptist Church
January 2019



WORDS FROM THE PASTOR...

I hope that each of you was able to enjoy a warm and festive Christmas season marked by plenty of food, time with family, and joy at the birth of the Christ child. Susan and I spent our Christmas at my home with my mom, my grandparents, and my two brothers. I always enjoy the opportunities I have to return home - Murfreesboro is a long way from Monroe, and so long visits are few and far between.

As much as I love the chance to see my family and to eat my fill of Maw Maw's fantastic treats and goodies - she makes the best Chex Mix in the world - one of the things that makes going home so enjoyable for me is the chance to get outside and do some work.

Over my past several visits, which span several years, I have been working to replace a split-rail cedar fence that runs along both sides of my mom's driveway. Every time I go home, I am met with a small pile of cedar logs that my grandpa has cut down and cut to size.

Weather permitting, I will spend several hours with a hatchet, a couple of wedges, and hammer splitting each timber lengthwise into halves or quarters so that my grandpa can come behind me and assemble the fence. It's definitely physical work - enough to put a couple of blisters on fingers that spend most of their time on a keyboard - but it isn't overly difficult.

Well, this trip home was no different. When we arrived Tuesday evening my mom told me about the timbers and on Wednesday morning I was at work. The only difference, though, is that this time my grandpa was out there to help. As soon as I would get one end of a log split enough to be held open, he would stand there and place another log in the growing crack to keep it open. This dramatically sped up the process. I was splitting timbers in half the time all because he was there holding that log in place.

There is quite a lesson to be learned. We all know that we should help, but more often than not we want to help by being busy and active - we feel like we need to be talking or cooking or cutting grass in order to have truly helped. In other words, we want to be the one out

there swinging the hammer. Sometimes, though, the best way to help is just by being there - by listening and by being available.

My grandpa knew that he didn't need to swing a hammer to help out. He knew that all he had to do was to be there, standing still, holding that log in place. So, I encourage you, as we all return to our normal, non-holiday lives to see if you might help someone out by simply being present. Perhaps you can be a listening ear to a sorrowful story. Or maybe you can offer a knowing and caring smile to one who is enduring heartache.

In this new year, I hope that you will be present with one another, remembering, as the Apostle Paul wrote to the Galatians, to bear one another's burdens.

Grace & Peace in 2019,

Lane



BLESSING MINISTRIES...

FOODBANK OF THE ALBEMARLE
Volunteers are needed and January 8 by 2:30 p.m. in the church parking lot to distribute food.

FOOD PANTRY

We were fortunate enough to be able to provide 16 White Christmas Boxes to families in need in our community. While this was great, our food pantry has been dramatically depleted. If you have committed to help us keep our pantry filled, please remember to bring twelve of your selected items to the church before the last Monday of each month. As always, any donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support of this important ministry.

FREE PIANO

If you would like to have or know someone who would like to have an upright piano, the church has one you may have for free. It is located by the elevator on the second floor. You would be responsible for moving it.

BIG WEDNESDAY JANUARY 9



MARY ETTA'S MENU IS

Baked Spaghetti
Salad, Garlic Bread & Dessert

Adults: \$8 Children: \$4
To make a new reservation, or change your reservation from November, please call the church office at 398-3613.

SPECIAL THANKS...

To Ben McLean for organizing and to the many of you who donated to a special Christmas Offering.

The money that was collected was used to help 11 families pay for home heating costs that they might otherwise have been unable to pay. A portion was also given to the MBC Community Missions Fund. If you would like to contribute, please make check payable to MBC and mark your donation "Fuel Assistance". Thank you all again for this gift.

UPCOMING DATES IN JANUARY

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|---------|--|
| Jan. 6 | Communion |
| Jan. 8 | Food Bank of the Albemarle |
| | Deacons' Meeting |
| Jan. 9 | Big Wednesday |
| Jan. 21 | Martin Luther King Holiday - Office Closed |

SAVE THE DATES:

| | |
|------------|--------------------|
| Apr. 17 | Easter Egg Hunt |
| May 8 | Kids' Club Cookout |
| June 16-21 | Passport |
| Jun. 24-28 | VBS |

USING THEIR GIFTS TO SERVE IN JANUARY

Deacon of the Month
Debbie Hill

Opening the Church
Charlie Gallop

Ushers
Johnny Jenkins, Gilbert Tinkham,
Bob Lee, Tim Place

Radio Ministry Sponsor
Bruce and Liz Brown

Communion
Jan. 6 Charlie and Frances Cole

Worship Leaders
Jan. 6 Debbie Hill; Jan. 13 Judy Clark;
Jan. 20 Sean Timmons; Jan. 27 Available

Caregivers
Dec. 23 - Jan. 5 Yvonne Warren Jan 6-19
Earlene Futrell and Lynn Gray; Jan. 20-
Feb. 2 Dave and Carole Farnham

Children's Sermon
Jan. 6 Lane Bass; Jan. 13 Judy Clark; Jan.
20 Brooke Reich; Jan. 27 Sean Timmons

Nursery Caregivers
Jan. 6 Jen Place, Keith Reich, and Pat
Torres; Jan. 13 Brooke Reich, Claire
Revelle, and Pat Torres; Jan. 20 Sarah
Davis and Pat Torres; Jan. 27 Ed Snyder,
Amber Anderson, and Pat Torres

Acolytes
Jan. 6 Nate Place; Jan. 13 Will Revelle;
Jan. 20 Jimmy Boone; Jan. 27 Elizabeth
Brown

Sound System
Jan. 6 Ciera Cox; Jan. 13 Matty Grace
Gilliam; Jan. 20 Cody Peterson; Jan. 27
Justin Peterson

Flowers
Jan. 6 Sarah Davis; Jan. 13 Charlie and
Frances Cole; Jan. 20 Available; Jan. 27
Keith and Brooke Reich

STEWARDSHIP REPORT DECEMBER 2018

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Ministry Plan YTD | \$52,499.00 |
| Gifts and Offerings | \$50,056.20 |
| Other | \$4,587.81 |
| Over(under) Min. Plan | \$2,175.01 |
| | |

A detailed financial statement is available in the church administrative office.

FIFTH SUNDAY OFFERING...

In 2019 we will be restarting our 5th Sunday offerings. These offerings will be used to help fund various missions projects in our community and around the world. The first offering for 2019 will be on March 31. The money raised will be given to Chowan Campus Ministry to help provide diapers for the Door of Hope Children's Mission in South Africa when they go on their mission trip in May.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY...

It's the winter season yet again and we've already been met with an unexpected snowy morning. As a reminder, church activities will be cancelled if Hertford County Public Schools have been cancelled or dismissed early.

For Sunday mornings with inclement weather, our policy is to have Sunday school and worship as normal unless otherwise notified. However, if you feel uncomfortable driving or walking into church, please stay at home. Use your best judgement and stay safe.

NOTE OF APPRECIATION...

Thank you notes to the church were received in November from Chowan University

Church Office Hours
Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
252-398-3613
www.murfbc.org

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN DECEMBER



| | |
|------------|-------------------|
| January 1 | Dodson Doughtie |
| January 1 | Rosemary Royce |
| January 5 | Don Johnson |
| January 6 | Carol Piper |
| January 7 | Bynum Brown |
| January 8 | Mamie Ballance |
| January 12 | Jessica Torres |
| January 15 | Jack Cole |
| January 15 | Patty Joyner |
| January 16 | Addie Grace Reich |
| January 18 | Becky Dickerson |
| January 16 | Chris Sumner |
| January 22 | Emma Wood Boone |
| January 23 | Claire Revelle |
| January 27 | Pansy Storey |
| January 30 | Charlie Cole |
| January 30 | John Page Revelle |
| January 30 | Tristan Miles |

Don't see your birthday? Please call the church office and let us know when your special day is.

CHURCH STAFF

REV. LANE BASS
PASTOR

PAULA PRESSNELL
ORGANIST & CHOIR DIRECTOR

SEAN TIMMONS
YOUTH MINISTRY INTERN

TOM CAULKINS
PASTOR EMERITUS

TERESA MARTIN
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

KIDS' CLUB NEWS...

Kids' Club will once again participate in



Please bring cans of soup to the box in the connector by Sunday, Feb 3. The cans of soup will go in our church food pantry. Thank you.

2019 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES...

are in the Church library available for pick up. If you do not see a box with your name, please contact the church office. - 398-3613.

Murfreesboro Baptist Church
200 West Main Street
Murfreesboro, N. C. 27855

Return Service Requested