



The Messenger

A Newsletter of the
Murfreesboro Baptist Church
November 2018



WORDS FROM THE PASTOR...

If summer seems to have held on a little too long, then winter seems to have arrived a little too early. And I don't know many of us who are happy to have seen it come so soon. We've missed entirely, it seems, the glorious days of autumn's bright sun, brilliant leaves, and brisk mornings. Instead, when we look outside, we find winter's gloomy shades of gray and brown already present.

But I think winter gets a bad rap. Don't get me wrong, I thoroughly enjoy fall, and winter is by no means my favorite season. But winter does have something to offer us. And I'm not talking just about cozy fires, warm cups of cocoa, and dazzling Christmas lights - although, those certainly do make the season more enjoyable. What I think winter offers us, and what I hope you will seek to find in this coming winter season, is the chance to be reflective and to prepare.

I have always been struck by the desolate beauty of a leafless wood; I'm mesmerized every time I walk along a trail in the winter. No matter which way I look, I can see deeper and further into the forest that surrounds me. A rock formation or a clearing that might have otherwise been hidden away by the lush foliage of summer now stands in the open, ready to be approached and explored. In the winter, we can see things that we would have never been able to see in some other season.

But that truth is not so for nature only. In our lives as well, winter offers us a chance to glimpse at things that lie a little deeper; to ponder things that might otherwise get lost in the shuffle of another season. The mere fact that winter has arrived, however, does not mean that reflection is sure to follow. With the rush and stress of Thanksgiving and Christmas, of the end of one semester and the beginning of the next, winter can easily become as busy as the other three.

But in the midst of that busyness I hope that you will carve out some time for yourself to sit quietly and look through the leafless trees to see what might be there. Has God shown up somewhere unexpected? Are there new, unseen ways that God might be calling you to discipleship? Can you now see God's presence where you once thought him absent?

And in the act of winter's reflection you will also be preparing for the return of spring and summer. You'll know what lies hidden behind the leaves. Though you may no longer see as clearly, you'll remember where God showed up or what God was calling to you. So, I hope that you will meet the gray, gloomy, leafless days of winter with a heart and a mind ready to reflect and to keep an eye peeled for God.

Lane Bass



NURSERY REPAIR...

Thank you to all who have been faithful to their commitment to give so that our nursery repair project might be fully funded by the end of the year. With two months left to meet the goal of \$20,524.96, we have raised \$17,677.87, which leaves only \$2,847.09 left to raise. Please help us reach this goal by December 31!

HURRICANE RELIEF...

As a church, we have raised a total of \$1320.00 to donate to recovery efforts for Hurricane Florence. This money was donated to North Carolina Baptist on Mission where 100% of the funds given will be used to continue and support those who are working to cleanup and rebuild after the hurricane.

Additionally, the children have done a fantastic job with their toy drive. The toys they've donated will be delivered to children of Onslow County who lost their toys during the storm.

BIG WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 7



MARY ETTA'S MENU IS...

Teriyaki Chicken

Pineapple Casserole, Crowder Peas, Rolls, and Better Than Almost Anything Cake

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

UPCOMING DATES IN NOVEMBER

- Nov. 4 Communion All Saints' Sunday
- Nov. 6 Deacons' Meeting
- Nov. 7 Big Wednesday
- Nov. 13 Food Bank of the Albemarle
- Nov. 20 Community Thanksgiving Service
- Nov. 22 Thanksgiving Church Office Closed
- Nov. 23 Thanksgiving Church Office Closed
- Nov. 25 Christ The King Sunday Hanging of the Greens
- Nov. 27 MBC Food Pantry



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD... SHOEBOXES



We still have a handful of Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes available to be picked up and filled. The deadline to return the boxes is Sunday, November 11. Please bring your box filled with hygiene items, educational/art supplies, toys, and other gifts to the library by this date. Don't forget to include \$9 to cover shipping and other costs.

USING THEIR GIFTS TO SERVE IN NOVEMBER

Deacon of the Month
Bruce Brown

Opening the Church
Colon Ballance

Ushers
Steve Fowler, T.K. Warren, Mike Alston, and Freddie Bazen

Radio Ministry Sponsor
Jay and Elicia Revelle

Communion
November 4 Bonnie Boone
December 2 Charlie and Dell Aycock

Worship Leaders
Nov. 4 Bruce Brown; *Nov. 11* Available;
Nov 18 Sean Timmons; *Nov 25* Available

Caregivers
Oct. 28-Nov. 10 Gertrude Revelle; *Nov. 11-24* Brinson and Lorene Paul; *Oct Nov. 25-Dec. 8* Eley Whitehead

Children's Sermon
Nov. 4 Rev. Lane Bass; *Nov. 11* Dr. Keith Reich; *Nov 18* Charlie Cole; *Nov 25* Dr. Mollie Madden

Nursery Caregivers
Nov. 4 Dell Aycock, Susan Bass, and Pat Torres; *Nov. 11* Emma Wood Boone, Elizabeth Brown, and Pat Torres; *Nov. 18* Charlie Cole and Pat Torres; *Nov. 25* Ciera Cos, Sarah Davis, and Pat Torres

Sound System
Nov. 4 Ciera Cox; *Nov. 11* Matty Grace Gilliam; *Nov 18* Cody Peterson; *Nov 25* Justin Peterson

Acolytes
Nov. 4 Matty Grace Gilliam; *Nov. 11* Logan Harders; *Nov 18* Cody Peterson; *Nov 25* Justin Peterson

Flowers
Nov. 4 Linda Hassell; *Nov. 11* Colon and Jane Ballance; *Nov 18* Ronnie and Betsy Coltrain; *Nov 25* Fal Burnette and Daynelle Trent

STEWARDSHIP REPORT SEPTEMBER 2018

Ministry Plan YTD	\$238,000.00
Gifts and Offerings	\$219,457.60
Other	\$4,394.72
Over(under) Min. Plan	(\$14,147.68)
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A detailed financial statement will be available in the church office.

SENIOR ADULTS....

Please mark your calendar for Tuesday, December 4, 12 noon for the Senior Adult Christmas Luncheon in the church fellowship hall. Feel free to invite a guest. Mary Etta Flowers will be serving and the cost for lunch is \$8.00. Please make your reservations by calling the church office by noon November 30.

PLEASE JOIN THE CHOIR!

The choir has been presenting some new anthems, and we would all love to have new members! Choir rehearsal is a time of fellowship, working on approximately four anthems each week, joking around, and praying for each other and those in the community.

Daniel H. Pink has written a book called "When: The Scientific Secrets of Perfect Timing." In it he says "Choral singing calms the heart and boosts endorphin levels. It improves lung function."

More importantly, we sing for the Lord and praise His name, which brings joy to others. Please consider joining us during this special time of the church year.

Paula Pressnell

NOTES OF APPRECIATION...

Thank you notes to the church were received in October from Chowan **University International Students** for the International Student Lunch on October 18, from **Irina Certan**, Chowan University student who received a scholarship funded through Murfreesboro Baptist Church, and from **Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina**.

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN NOVEMBER



November 3	Dell Aycock
November 4	Ashley Revelle
November 5	Christiana Sawyer
November 6	Fal Burnette
November 6	Yolanda Faile
November 10	Rebecca Willson
November 11	Dock Boone
November 13	Lynn Gray
November 14	Billy Thornton
November 16	Tim Place
November 17	Aldeen Gatewood
November 20	Gus McLean
November 24	Katelyn Sumner
November 26	Katherine Brett
November 28	Corey Forbes

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

LOOKING AHEAD TO CHRISTMAS...

December 19	Children's Play
December 23	Lessons & Carols

CHURCH STAFF

REV. LANE BASS
PASTOR

PAULA PRESSNELL
ORGANIST & CHOIR DIRECTOR

SEAN TIMMONS
YOUTH MINISTRY INTERN

TOM CAULKINS
PASTOR EMERITUS

TERESA MARTIN
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

BLESSING MINISTRIES...

Foodbank of the Albemarle
•Volunteers are needed and November 6 by 2:30 p.m. in the church parking lot to distribute food.

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
252-398-3613 www.murfbcb.org

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

Return Service Requested