



The Messenger

A Newsletter of the
Murfreesboro Baptist Church

January 2017

WORDS FROM THE INTERIM

My thanks to all who made the season of Advent and Christmas so meaningful for everyone who attended the church services. The church was beautifully decorated, Christmas music was wonderful, and to be present with a "full" sanctuary on Christmas Eve was very special. Truly, we celebrated the Birth of the Savior and I am grateful for this Holy Season. I will remember these services for a long time!

We now begin a new calendar year. Welcome to 2017! It is my hope and prayer that this will be a year of renewed commitment to the church-a year when we will see some folks return to the church who have not been actively present-a year when the Pastor Search Committee will work diligently fulfilling their mission in the search for a pastor-a year when deacons will be working even more to meet needs of the congregation- a year when we will witness the power and presence of God at work in people's lives to reach out beyond the church into the community with more support, new mission opportunities, and a greater passion for outreach. I believe great things are ahead for us as we serve together, pray together, and worship together.

There is always lots of talk at the beginning of a New Year about New Year resolutions. This year, I would like to suggest we all make New Year Commitments (that is a Baptist word for resolutions!). I ask that you pray about what your New Year Commitments for your life and your role at Murfreesboro Baptist Church will be for 2017. Then, share your commitment with someone else who will hold you accountable.

I look forward to seeing you and your family in worship,

Dennis N. Bazemore

FOR THE LIFE OF
PAT EDWARDS
MAY 10, 1939-JANUARY 1, 2017
THANKS BE TO GOD.

BIG WEDNESDAY

JANUARY 11



Mary Etta's
Menu

This Month

Beef Stew, Rice, Garden
Peas, Broccoli
Cornbread and Coco
Cola Cake (*Choc. on Choc.*)

Adults: \$8
Children: \$4

To make a new reservation, or change your reservation from last month, please call the church office by Jan. 9., 12 Noon.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

For the second year, our children are participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring on Feb 5. Please bring cans of soup to the church by Feb 5 to support the church food pantry. Last year in one week, the children with the help of the congregation collected over 150 cans of soup. Our goal this year is to at least double that number. Help the children reach their goal and provide soup for those less fortunate.

QUARTERLY CHURCH CONFERENCE ON JAN. 22

On the agenda (as of December 31): Treasurer's Report and Search Committee. There will be lunch following this conference.

MINISTRY FAIR 2017

Still trying to discern how you can best serve the Kingdom of God and His purposes through this church in 2017? On Sunday, **January 22**, the ministry deacons are sponsoring this year's Ministry Fair to help connect you with ways to serve and contribute to God's mission in our community and world. The ministry fair is an opportunity to join ministry teams and sign up to serve others in Jesus' name through Murfreesboro Baptist Church. Hunter Brown will prepare lunch and tables will be set up throughout the fellowship hall for you to choose a way to serve. There will be sign-up sheets for the four primary teams at MBC: Children's Ministry Team, Missions Team, Worship and Arts Team, and Youth Team. Sign-up sheets will be available for providing flowers in the sanctuary, helping with bereavement meals, caregivers, ushers, opening/closing the church, church garden, maintaining flower beds, church food pantry, and more. Please prayerfully consider where you feel God is calling you to serve. Opportunities to use your gifts this year include (but aren't *limited* to):

•**Children's Ministry Team:** The children's ministry team supports the ministry of the children's programs of the church. Those programs are Nursery, Children's Sermon, Children's Church, Kids' Club, WOW, and Vacation Bible School. Nursery caregivers stay in the nursery during the worship service to watch our children from infancy to kindergarten. Volunteers are given a schedule and currently serve once a quarter. Volunteers are asked to provide children's sermons in the worship service weekly. Kids' Club meets on Wednesdays during the months of Sept. -May. Additional volunteers are needed to help on Wednesday nights with crafts and/or games. Vacation Bible School volunteers will be needed to assist with VBS during one week in the summer. Dates for 2017 have not been determined yet. If you would be willing to help with any part of the church's Children's Ministry, please let Sarah Davis know and sign up at the ministry fair.

WORSHIP AND ARTS TEAM

The worship and arts team works with the pastor, deacons, and congregation to glorify God in all things. The team considers ideas for worship services and oversees decorating for Advent, Christmas, and Easter. The team works with the music director and organist to prepare music for the worship services. Recently the worship and arts team oversaw the capital campaign to purchase new choir robes and hymnals for the enrichment of the music program. New members of the team are welcome and should contact Erin Faile and sign up at the ministry fair.

YOUTH TEAM

The youth team supports the ministry of the youth programs of the church. The team encourages, supports, and works closely with our youth intern, Sean Timmons. Volunteers are asked to provide a monthly meal for the youth in their home. The youth team coordinates the fundraising opportunities to send our youth to Passport in the summer. The team helps coordinate the Passport experience: snacks, transportation, etc. If you are interested in volunteering to serve on the youth team, please contact Sean Timmons or sign up at the ministry fair.

MISSIONS TEAM

2016 has been an outstanding year for the Missions Team and Murfreesboro Baptist Church should be very proud of the team and their hard work.

Chowan International Student ministry - This fall as usual we provided a meal for the International Students of Chowan University. This year we took a twist on the traditional way of eating at the China Garden Restaurant and picked up the food ourselves, providing a wonderful opportunity to have a buffet of many of the Chinese dishes as well as a better opportunity to fellowship and communicate with each other that was not as easy a task in the restaurant setting. Look to see some pictures taken of this event on the missions bulletin board at the church in the new year. This spring we will have another way to help the International students as we will be collecting donations so that Chowan University International students will be able to attend a retreat at Fort Caswell in April 2017.

Samaritan's Purse - We prepared 22 boxes for boys and girls to be sent all

over the world to other countries so a child's life might be brighter during the Christmas Season. Many members signed up on-line so that they could track the destination of their box.

White Christmas Boxes - We were able to deliver 9 boxes for White Christmas to various community members in need for various reasons. Again, thanks for all the donations of food to make this mission possible.

Angel Tree - We served 17 children with various gifts from willing members of our congregation donating their time and money to find gifts from the wish list of children that might not have had as many gifts to open during the Christmas holidays. One child even received a bicycle. Praise God for all your gifts.

Christmas Dinner - With the help from many volunteers who gave of their money, time, cooking and cleaning skills as well as some who were fortunate enough to enjoy the food and fellowship on our First Ever Christmas Day Lunch at MBC, we served 25 or so people including 3 persons passing by just stopping to inquire about our service times. Thank you to everyone who gave and a special thank you to Joni & Mike Saner who helped me to nurture and bring to reality a seed that was planted by a member of our church who is no longer with us here on earth. Another special thanks to my grandson for frying the two turkeys on Christmas Day.

Food Bank - Thanks to all the people who show up each second Tuesday of every month of the year to help with Mobile Food Bank. Anywhere from 88 to 125 families have extra help with the high cost of food because of your donation of time each month.

Food Pantry - A special thanks to Colon Ballance & Gene Hardin for being available to man the Food Pantry on the last Monday of each month. Also, thank you to all members of the church who give food to the pantry each month. Again, we are able to help families with their food needs.

International Missions - Thank you to Phil & Rosemary Royce for serving in Haiti. Ask them about their trip and how rewarding it was to serve God there. The mission team also decided to help the Royces with the expense of checking a suitcase full of the toiletry supplies our members so generously gave for this need.

Clothing Ministry - during the month of October we collected our vintage clothing and sent many bags of clothes to the Union Mission in Roanoke Rapids.

Peggy Lowe K & C Group - The ladies continue to meet every Monday

morning at 10:00 am to get together for a time of fellowship. These ladies have provided sweaters to children in Zambia, lap blankets for persons in Creekside Nursing home in Ahsoskie as well as other projects by giving of their time crocheting. Stop by and see them one Monday morning or better yet, plan to meet with them each week and they will teach you how to crochet if you do not already do so or help you to perfect your stitches if you already K & C. You will soon here of a need from these ladies as they have just completed 60 or more sweaters and K & C will need help with the high cost of shipping these sweaters to Zambia.

Coins for Clean Water - Bob Turner so graciously accepted the responsibility of dispersing the bottles for coin collection so that people in Zambia can have clean drinking water. We collected \$2,954.11. Remember it will soon be time to start filling a bottle for the new year.

Canadian Mission to Chatequay - Last summer six persons went to Canada to help our partner church directed by Daniel Simone with their weekly Food Ministry. This trip is a very rewarding experience. A great time of hard work, fellowship and actually a time to meet people from Canada as they host you in their homes. There is also a fun day to tour a city in Canada before you return home. Even without our pastor, plans are being made now to provide an opportunity for some type of Mission Trip this summer.

Upcoming Event - we plan to kick off our Community Café again on January 15th. This mission project is designed to provide fellowship and a hot meal to members of our community that do not have those advantages as well as to members of our congregation. Mark your calendar so you can attend this 5 pm supper on Jan 15th.

If you are interested in joining the Missions Team, please see Patty Joyner or Lou Ann Gilliam or sign up at the Ministry Fair.

THANKS TO YOU

... **Wayne Brown and his staff** for making the necessary arrangements and for painting the Pastor's office and storage room beside the library.

... **Bruce Brown, Ronnie Coltrain and their staff** for securing cabinets in the storage room and other maintenance projects

... **Everyone who gave to support** our special Christmas missions: Operation Christmas Child, White Christmas, Angel Tree, and Christmas Day Dinner.

USING THEIR GIFTS TO SERVE IN JANUARY

Deacon of the Month: Patty Joyner
Opening the church: Charlie Gallop
Ushers: Johnny Jenkins, Hunter Brown, Bob Lee, Ben McLean

Caregivers

Jan 1 Patty Joyner; *Jan 8* Diane Dixon;
Jan 15 Dave & Carol Farnham; *Jan 22*
Yvonne Warren; *Jan 29* Judy Clark.

Children's Sermon

Jan 1 Dr. Bazemore; *Jan 8* Mollie Madden; *Jan 15* Chelsea Duffy; *Jan 22* Dr. Keith Reich; *Jan 29* Sean Timmons.

Nursery Caregivers

Jan 1 Dell Aycock, Mamie Ballance, Pat Torres; *Jan 8* Emma Wood Boone, Charlie Cole, Pat Torres; *Jan 15* Ciera Cox, Pat Torres; *Jan 22* Sarah Davis, Brian Duffy, Pat Torres; *Jan 29* Chelsea Duffy, Mariah Gallop, Pat Torres.

Sound System

Jan 8 Ciera Cox; *Jan 15* Jimmy Boone; *Jan 22* Matty Grace Gilliam; *Jan 29* Steve Harders.

Worship Leaders

Jan 1 Patty Joyner; *Jan 8* Mariah Gallop; *Jan 15* Bob Turner; *Jan 22* Mike Alston; *Jan 29* Tim Place.

Lightbearers

Jan 1 Jimmy Boone; *Jan 8* Elizabeth Brown; *Jan 15* Molly Brown; *Jan 22* Landon Burgess; *Jan 29* Charlotte Cole.

Flowers

Jan 8 Sarah Davis; *Jan 15* Ronnie and Betsy Coltrain; *Jan 22* Clifton and Patty Joyner; *Jan 29* Open.

NOTES OF APPRECIATION

Thank you notes to the church were received in December from: Paula Pressnell, The Family of Sara Whitley Hill, Chowan University's Chowan Christian Service Association Scholarship, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Campbell University, and Union Mission of Roanoke Rapids.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY...

In the event of inclement weather on a Sunday, we will cancel Sunday school and proceed with worship as planned for those that can arrive safely. If you have any questions, please contact deacon chair Sarah Davis at 396-8445 (h) or 398-7227 (c). In the event of inclement weather on Wednesdays, we will not meet if HCPS is dismissed early or closed.

UPCOMING DATES

Jan. 9
K&C Group

Jan. 10
Food Bank Of the Albemarle

Jan. 11
Big Wednesday

Jan. 15
Community Café
5:00 p.m.

Jan. 22
Quarterly Conference
Ministry Fair

Jan.30
MBC Food Pantry

BLESSING MINISTRIES

...Foodbank of the Albemarle
Volunteers are needed January 10 by
2:30 p.m. in the church parking lot to
serve in this community ministry

CHURCH STAFF

DR. DENNIS BAZEMORE
INTERIM PASTOR

PAULA PRESSNELL
ORGANIST &
INTERIM
CHOIR DIRECTOR

SEAN TIMMONS
YOUTH MINISTRY INTERN

TOM CAULKINS
PASTOR EMERITUS

TERESA MARTIN
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

NEW CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

OPEN MONDAY -
FRIDAY: 9:00 am-2:00 pm
252-398-3613

www.murfbc.org

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
JANUARY 16
IN HONOR OF MLK, JR., DAY**

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY



January 1	Dodson Doughtie
January 1	Sue Helsel
January 1	Rosemary Royce
January 5	Don Johnson
January 6	Carol Piper
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 19	William Lawrence
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

Regretfully we failed to list the following Birthdays in December...

December 1 David Farnham
December 27 Carol Farnham
We wish you a belated Happy
Birthday!

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

Now you can
give

Online

to support the
church's mission and
ministry at

murfbc.org/give

- Set up a schedule for regular giving
- Make a one-time contribution
- Give a donation in memory or in honor of someone

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

Return Service Requested