



# The Messenger

A Newsletter of the Murfreesboro Baptist Church  
September 2017

## WORDS FROM THE INTERIM

I am excited about the decision made last Sunday morning by this congregation to vote and call Rev. Lane Bass as the next pastor of Murfreesboro Baptist Church. The work of the Pastor Search Committee along with your prayers and support led to this important day in the life of this church and in Lane's life believing that this is God's will and plan. Now we can spend the days ahead getting ready to welcome Lane and Susan to the church and to Murfreesboro.

I have always looked forward to September in the church as the new church year begins, summer is over, school has started, cooler weather is on the way, activities and programs at church get started after being "off" for the summer and people return to some important routines for life. I hope you will be present for the opportunities this church offers to you and your family in this month and the months to come.

Later this month, we will celebrate the Ordination of a newly elected deacon and have the installation of the deacons who were recently elected. This is a very important time in the life of this church as these men and women serve in this role as deacons. I have had the wonderful experience of serving alongside outstanding deacons in all the churches I have been in as they have mentored me, prayed for me, supported me, encouraged me, and served me in fulfilling their role as servant leaders. It is such an important responsibility of service that finds its beginnings in the scriptures.

I look forward to seeing you on Sunday mornings,

Dennis N. Bazemore

## NOTES OF APPRECIATION

Thank you notes to the church were received in August from: Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina, and Chowan University.

**Administrative  
Office  
Will Be  
Closed  
September 4  
In Observance of  
Labor Day**

## MESSAGE FROM LANE BASS

There is much that I could say in my first newsletter article. I could tell you a formative story from my childhood that served to shape my faith in a major way. I could write of the first time I felt God tapping on my shoulder and pointing me towards the path that I am now on. I could even tell you how sure I am that God has led me to serve as your pastor. Of course, I'm sure that I will get around to telling those stories and more sooner rather than later. What I will tell you, though, is my favorite Bible verse. I've decided to share this because I can't think of a pastor in my life that has shared his favorite verse, and I think that doing so can go a long way in giving you an idea about my approach to Scripture and to ministry.

My favorite verse, actually two verses, can be found in Paul's letter to the Philippians. One of his letters written from prison, my favorite verses, Philippians 3:20-21, come from a section in which Paul is advocating for the faithful to follow the example of those who are mature in their faith. Paul identifies himself as one whose example and life ought to be followed. I find this especially insightful for the fact that Paul writes these words from a prison cell. He concludes this brief section with verses 20 and 21:

But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

For me, these two verses go a long way to getting at the heart of our faith. It is informative for us when we look around and see wars, and natural disasters, and injustices, and hatred and everything else that makes us exclaim to ourselves and to our neighbor, "This isn't how it should be!" Paul affirms this for us. He reminds us that this isn't how it should be or how it will be. Paul's words are a comfort to those who find themselves on the wrong end of a world filled with hurt - there will be reconciliation and redemption. There is a great deal of hope to be heard. Nevertheless, there is also a call to be active. Since our citizenship is in heaven, we should live that way. Looking out for our neighbor, feeding the hungry, loving the hated, and hosting the outcast, are all things that we, as citizens of heaven, should be doing as we eagerly await our Savior.

May the God of all peace bring you hope for what you cannot change and conviction to change what you can. Amen.

- Lane

## Big Wednesday SEPTEMBER 6 6 P.M.



### MARY ETTA'S MENU THIS MONTH...

*Fried Chicken Potato Salad  
Deviled Eggs Butter Beans  
Dessert*

**Adults: \$8 Children: \$4**

To make your reservation for this night,  
please call the church office By  
Tuesday, Sept 5 at noon at 398-3613.

## RESULTS OF DEACON ELECTIONS

On August 13, the congregation elected **Bruce Brown, Wayne Brown, Judy Clark and Brooke Reich** to serve as deacons for the next three years. They will begin their three-year terms on October 1. Alternates are **Frances Cole, Booker Daniel, and Tim Place**. On September 24, we will ordain Brooke Reich to the deacon ministry during worship and have the deacon installation for all newly elected deacons.

## QUARTERLY CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

We will have a quarterly conference immediately following worship on Sunday, September 10. Items on the agenda are ministry team continuation, church budget for 2017-2018, nominating committee report, treasurer's update, and personnel update. After the quarterly conference, we will have a covered dish lunch in the fellowship hall. Meat and bread for the lunch will be provided by the church.

## USING THEIR GIFTS TO SERVE IN SEPTEMBER

**Deacon of the Month**  
Steve Fowler

**Opening the Church**  
Freddie Bazen

**Ushers**  
Raymond Benthall, Ronnie Coltrain,  
Jay Revelle, Eley Whitehead

**Radio Ministry Sponsor**  
Lloyd and Tommie Hill

**Worship Leaders**  
*Sept. 3* Linda Hassell; *Sept. 10* Steve  
Fowler; *Sept. 17* Sean Timmons; *Sept. 24*  
Mary Etta Flowers

**Caregivers**  
*Sept. 3* Earlene Futrell and Lynn Gray;  
*Sept. 10* Lisa Forbes; *Sept. 17* Brinson and  
Lorene Paul; *Sept. 24* Judy Clark

**Children's Sermon**  
*Sept. 3* Dr. Dennis Bazemore; *Sept. 10*  
Sarah Davis; *Sept. 17* Frances Cole; *Sept.*  
*24* Sean Timmons

**Nursery Caregivers**  
*Sept. 3* Brooke Reich, Claire Revelle, Pat  
Torres; *Sept. 10* Joni Saner, Leslee  
Sumner, Pat Torres; *Sept. 17* Ed Snyder,  
Pat Torres; *Sept. 24* Susan White, Dell  
Aycock, Pat Torres

**Sound System**  
*Sept. 3* Patty Joyner; *Sept. 10* Nate Place;  
*Sept. 17* Claire Revelle; *Sept. 24* Will  
Revelle

**Lightbearers**  
*Sept. 3* Charlotte Cole; *Sept. 10* Ciera  
Cox; *Sept. 17* Matty Grace Gilliam; *Sept.*  
*24* Claire Place

**Flowers**  
*Sept. 3* Sarah Davis; *Sept. 10* Aldeen  
Gatewood; *Sept. 17* William Lawrence;  
*Sept. 24* Sallie Surface

## THANKS TO RANDY WHITLEY, BOB TURNER & T.K. WARREN

...Randy Whitley for coordinating the Pancake and Sausage Breakfast on August 5 and for organizing our hospitality ministry to welcome Chowan University Class of 2021 on August 19. Thanks also to everyone who came out to cook, serve, baked brownies and cookies to give away, contributed money, and prayed for God's blessing on these community events.

... Bob Turner for his generous gift to radio ministry to enable it to continue throughout 2017.

...T.K. Warren for the framed bulletin from April 16, 1967 that he donated to the church and is placed in the library.

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT AUGUST 31, 2017

Ministry Plan YTD	\$220,518.26
Tithes & Offerings YTD	<u>\$187,126.17</u>
Other	\$6,701.71
Over(under) Min. Plan	(\$26,690.38)

....  
*A detailed financial statement will be available in the church office.*

## YOUTH MINISTRY

This is an exciting time for the MBC Youth! During last school year, we had Bible study, messy games, and got to help with the Community Cafe as a team of believers. Over the summer, we took 10 students to Passport. Do Justice, Love Kindness and Walk Humbly (Micah 6:8), was the camp theme and challenge for the week. On Wednesday night of camp, we enjoyed dressing for dinner in the latest youth apparel. Check out our pictures on the bulletin board by the media center.

Along with our usual events, we are planning new activities as we welcome several new students to the Youth! Thank you to the entire church for supporting the Youth and we can't wait to see how God is going to work this year!

## MISSIONS TEAM

Murfreesboro Baptist Church Missions Team has been busy planning upcoming activities.

- We are currently collecting school supplies for Hertford County School children as well as accepting donations to aid with the new technology fee that many students might be unable to pay.

- Also, a box is in the connector to collect XL twin sheets and mattress pads for our International students.

- As always, our Knitting & Crocheting ladies are meeting every Monday to provide beautiful works for many groups.

- The Mission Team sent a monetary donation to our Partnership church in Canada since we could never quite work out a trip to Canada this summer to assist them with their weekly Food Bank.

- Murfreesboro Baptist Church will be collecting a special offering throughout September for Hurricane Harvey relief. Our area knows the devastation that a hurricane can cause. Please donate and mark the donation Hurricane Relief. Donations will be sent to the NC Baptist Men to help with the relief efforts.

- In October, we are planning a luncheon for our International students of Chowan. Please plan to come & join us on Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup> for a good meal and good fellowship. Call the church office and make a reservation so we will know how many to plan to attend.

- Also remember that October is the month to donate all your unwanted, non-fitting or out of style clothing to help Union Mission in Roanoke Rapids. Please start cleaning out your closets now.

## CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN SEPTEMBER



September 2	Zakk Royce
September 7	Leah Faile
September 7	Jen Place
September 7	Allen Revelle, Jr.
September 8	Margaret Murray
September 9	Eleanor Boyd
September 9	Terry Miles
September 10	Clif Collins
September 11	Kyleen Burgess
September 12	Jo Revelle Murray
September 14	Alice Hassell
September 14	South Moore
September 15	Alexandra Piper
September 16	Chloe Duffy
September 16	Steven Ruddy
September 17	Danielle Coleman
September 18	Larry Futrell
September 2	Christina Mitchell
September 23	Erin Faile
September 23	Christina Torres
September 25	Sara Frances Hill
September 26	Clara Britt
September 28	Lynn Johnson
September 28	Will Revelle
September 30	Steve Beatty

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

## FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY

If you would like to volunteer to place flowers in the sanctuary on October 8 or October 15, please call the church office to reserve the date.

## BLESSING MINISTRIES FOODBANK

### OF THE ALBEMARLE

Volunteers are needed September 12 by 2:30 p.m. in the church parking lot to distribute food.

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TEAM NEWS

### KIDS' CLUB RESUMES WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 6 AT 6:30 P.M.

All children from age 2 to 5<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to attend. Kids' Club includes Bible study, crafts and/or games, and music. Kids' Club meets weekly from 6:30 to 7:30 in the children's suite.

### CHILDREN'S CHURCH RESUMES SUNDAY, SEPT. 17

Children's church is for children aged 2 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade and meets on the third Sunday during the worship hour after the children's sermon. This year, the children will be studying the parables of Jesus.

## UPCOMING DATES

Sept. 4	Office Closed for Labor Day
Sept. 5	Deacons' Meeting
Sept. 6	Big Wednesday
Sept. 10	Church Conference
Sept. 12	Food Bank of the Albemarle
Sept. 24	Deacon Ordination/Installation
Oct. 3	Deacons' Meeting
Oct. 4	Big Wednesday
Oct. 10	Food Bank of the Albemarle
Oct. 25	Trunk or Treat
Oct. 29	Dr. Bazemore's Last Service
Nov. 5	Lou Ann Gilliam, Guest Speaker All Saints' Sunday
Nov. 7	Deacons' Meeting Rev. Bass' First Day
Nov. 8	Big Wednesday
Nov. 12	Rev. Bass' First Service
Nov. 29	Hanging of the Green
Dec. 10	Kids' Bazaar

## MUSIC AT MBC

Choir practice has begun and we would be so happy to have new members who are interested in singing and praising God with us. Rehearsals, which include fun, fellowship and learning anthems, are on Wednesday nights from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. We begin a little later on Big Wednesday (the first Wednesday of each month) so that we all have time to digest Mary Etta's delicious food before we head upstairs. Please see Paula Pressnell or any choir member if you're interested or just come to rehearsal.

## SPECIAL EVENT FLUTE AND PIANO RECITAL

Paula Pressnell, our organist/pianist, will be in recital with Wayne Hedrick, flutist, on Sunday, September 24th at 3:30 p.m. in Chowan's Turner Auditorium in the Columns Building. Mr. Hedrick was the principal flutist of the US Air Force Heritage of America Band for over 20 years, where he retired in the rank of Chief Master Sergeant in 2004. His extensive discography of over 70 albums includes albums on the Klavier label, the Telarc label (including a 1993 Grammy Award winner), and the Wilson Audiophile label. He has performed or recorded with the USAF Heritage of America Band, The U.S. Air Force Band in Washington D.C., the National Chamber Players, the National Symphonic Winds, the Virginia Symphony and the Williamsburg Symphony and several other USAF Regional Bands.

This recital features works by Bach and Debussy, among others, and will end with "The Ashokan Farewell." It is free and open to the public.

## CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Dennis Bazemore.....	Interim Pastor
Paula Pressnell.....	Organist and Interim Choir Director
Sean Timmons.....	Youth Ministry
Teresa Martin.....	Administrative Assistant

## CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

Monday -Friday 9 A.M. - 2 P.M.

[www.office@murfbc.org](http://www.office@murfbc.org)

200 W. Main Street

398-3613

Murfreesboro