

The flowers that were placed in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 31, were placed in honor of Erin and Garth Faile’s 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on December 28<sup>th</sup> by Yolanda and Bill, their daughter and son-in-law. Please join us in congratulating Garth and Erin.

Using their Gifts to Serve in January:

Deacon of the Month of January:	Susan Alston
January Radio Ministry Sponsor:	Colon and Jane Ballance
Opening of the Church in January:	Johnny Jenkins
Ushers for January:	Johnny Jenkins, Freddie Bazen, Bob Lee, and Bob Turner
Ushers for February:	Colon Balance, Armando Torres, Charlie Cole, and Garth Faile
Caregiver for December 31 – January 13:	Lynette Bunch
Communion Today, January 7, 2024:	Sarah Davis

This Week at Murfreesboro Baptist Church . . .

Sun.	Radio Broadcast, 98.3	10:00 A.M.	Tues.	Deacons’ Meeting	6:00 P.M.
	Worship	11:00 A.M.	Wed.	Prayer and Bible Study	6:15 P.M.
				Choir Practice	6:00 P.M.
				Kids’ Club	6:00 – 6:45 P.M.

The Deacons will meet on Tuesday, January 9 at 6:00 p.m.

The Installation Service for our pastor, Dr. Mark Gaskins, will be held on Sunday, January 14, 2024. There will be a covered dish luncheon afterwards. The church will provide the meat. We ask that you please bring a covered dish, vegetable, or dessert. Please join us for the special occasion.

For anyone that may be a bit chilly during worship service, throws are available and are on the steps to the right (used to go to the choir loft) just outside the sanctuary on the elevator side.

If anyone with children under the age of five desires a nursery during the worship service, please speak to an usher and they will let Sarah Davis know, and she will go to the nursery. Thank you.

The 2024 offering envelopes are in the church library available for pick-up. If you do not see your name on a box and would like envelopes, please contact the church office.

The children will once again participate in the Souper Bowl of Caring. We will collect cans of soup until Feb 11. Please place your cans on the table in the connector. Our goal this year is 250 cans.

If you are looking for a way to help local families, the church food pantry is in need of volunteers willing to donate food items. The sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board next to the pantry in the fellowship hall.

Please remember these friends who cannot worship with us regularly:

Phil Royce    Janet Collins    Bern Davenport    Tom and Ann Caulkins  
Randy and Cheryl Whitley

200 West Main Street    Contact us at:    252-398-3613    Murfreesboro, NC 27855  
Email: office@murfbc.org    Website: www.murfbc.org

MURFREESBORO BAPTIST CHURCH



The Lord’s Day, January 7, 2024  
Epiphany Sunday

Dr. Mark E. Gaskins, Pastor  
Mrs. Paula Pressnell, Organist and Choir Director  
Rev. Thomas Caulkins, Pastor Emeritus

We Gather to Worship

Prelude	Communion with Thee	Franklin Ritter
Gathering Hymn	Worship the Lord	JANICE
Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness! Bow down before Him, His glory proclaim; With gold of obedience and incense of lowliness, Kneel and adore Him; the Lord is His name!		
Fear not to enter His presence in poverty, bearing no gifts to present as Your own. Bring truth in its beauty, and love in its purity. These are the off’rings to lay at His throne.		
Words of Welcome	Dr. Mark Gaskins	
The Lord be with you! And also with you!		

Ministry Opportunities		Dr. Gaskins	Message in Song	<i>Beautiful Star of Bethlehem</i>	R. Fisher Boyce
Call to Worship		Psalm 72:1-2, 4, 10-14 (NRSV)	Scripture and Sermon	Ephesians 3:1-12 The Mystery of Togetherness	Dr. Gaskins
Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king’s son. May he judge your people with righteousness, and your people with justice. <b>May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,            give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.</b> May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute, may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts. May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service. <b>For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper.            He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.            From oppression and violence he redeems their life;            and precious is their blood in his sight.</b>			<b><i>We Respond to God’s Word</i></b>		
Invocation		Dr. Gaskins	Holy Communion	Invitation to the Lord’s Table Quiet Meditation and Reflection Communion Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer ( <i>trespasses</i> ) The Bread and Cup	
			*Hymn of Response No. 163	<i>Wonderful Words of Life</i>	WORDS OF LIFE
<b><i>We Hear God’s Word</i></b>			<b><i>We Go Forth with God’s Blessing</i></b>		
*Hymn of Praise No. 150	<i>As with Gladness Men of Old</i>	DIX	Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment		Dr. Gaskins
Children’s Sermon		Ms. Sarah Davis	Commission and Benediction		
Old Testament Lesson	Isaiah 60:1-6	Dr. Gaskins	**Postlude	<i>Festal Piece</i>	G. F. Handel
The Word of God, for the People of God. <b>Thanks be to God.</b>			<hr/> <i>*Please stand as you are able.      **Please remain seated until the conclusion of the music.</i>		
The Church at Prayer			<b>To our guests this morning . . .</b>		
*Hymn of Thanksgiving No. 151	<i>We Three Kings</i>	KINGS OF ORIENT	In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you to worship today at Murfreesboro Baptist Church. We believe that worshiping together is one of the most important activities we do as a church, strengthening our faith and drawing our attention to God, who created us, calls us, and sustains us by the power of the Holy Spirit. In keeping with New Testament practices, we believe that worship rightly involves every member of the congregation, not just the few people in leadership roles. We encourage active participation in worship through responsive readings, corporate prayer, giving our tithes and offerings, and singing the hymns together.		
Thanksgiving with Our Tithes and Offerings			As Baptists, we emphasize the reading and preaching of the Bible, God’s written word. We also practice believers’ baptism. Toward the end of each service, we invite those who are not already believers to make a public profession of faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior. We frequently share the Lord’s Supper, which is open to all baptized Christians.		
Offertory Sentence		Dr. Gaskins	As members of the larger body of Christ, we affirm our kinship with our fellow believers in other traditions and around the world by following the seasons of the Christian year. Today is Epiphany Sunday. The color for today is white, symbolizing the light and joy that Jesus Christ has brought as the Lord of all nations.		
Offertory	<i>Son of God</i>	Smith/Hayes			
*Doxology 706	<i>Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	OLD 100 <sup>TH</sup>			
*Offertory Prayer		Dr. Gaskins			
New Testament Lesson	Matthew 2:1-12	Dr. Gaskins			
The Word of the Lord. <b>Praise His Holy Name!</b>					