



The Messenger

Murfreesboro Baptist Church

March 2024 Newsletter

FROM THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE . . .

Easter comes early this year, and so does Holy Week, which begins Sunday, March 24.

During Holy Week, we remember how Jesus rode into Jerusalem as the royal Son of David to shouts of praise on Sunday, only to be rejected by the Jewish leaders, falsely accused by them, turned over to the Romans, and crucified on Friday. But we also remember that his crucifixion was not the end; for on Easter Sunday we celebrate our Lord's glorious resurrection!

Holy Week reminds us that we can't simply go from the royal entry to the resurrection without going through the Upper Room, the Garden of Gethsemane, the trials before the Sanhedrin and the Roman governor Pontius Pilate, and to the cross on Golgotha.

When Jesus first began to teach his disciples what was going to happen to him, they didn't get it (Mark 8:27-38). He asked them who people were saying he was. They replied that some were saying he was John the Baptist or Elijah or one of the other prophets. Then he asked them point blank, "But you, who do *you* say that I am?" And Peter responded, "You are the Messiah!" Jesus then began to teach them that he had to suffer greatly and be rejected by the Jewish religious leaders, be killed, and after three days rise again. Peter took him aside and told him that wasn't how it was supposed to be. Jesus responded to Peter by saying, "Get behind me, Satan, for you're not thinking God's thoughts, but human thoughts."

Then Jesus called the crowds to him along with his disciples and told them those who want to follow him must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow him. In other words, Jesus was saying, "Here's where I'm going and how I'll get there—suffering, rejection, death, then resurrection! If you want to follow me, it's the same for you; you have to follow me in the way of denying yourself and dying to yourself and the world, in order to follow me to resurrection."

We want resurrection, but we don't want how you get there. We want to share in Christ's glory, to live eternally, but we don't want to share in his sufferings. In Philippians 3:10-11 Paul wrote, "I want to know Christ and the

power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead." Paul knew that we experience Christ's resurrection power *now*; in Ephesians 1 and 2 he said that God is working in believers' lives *now* with the same power that he used to raise Jesus from the dead. But he was also looking for the resurrection at the last day, when our salvation will be brought to its full completion in the resurrection of our bodies when Christ returns in glory. We don't know everything about what our resurrection bodies will be like, but we do know they'll be like Jesus' resurrection body, and fitted for the new creation, not subject to disease or decline or disability or death or decay!

Jesus not only said, "Deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow me"; he also said, "Because I live, you also will live." Remember his suffering and death. Celebrate his resurrection. And experience his hope, even in the midst of whatever trials you may be facing.

Grace and peace,

Mark E. Perkins

HOLY WEEK

SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday
Sunday, March 24

Maundy Thursday Service
Thursday, March 28 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday
March 31

NOTICE

A short church meeting will be held on Sunday, March 17 following worship service to present a proposed change to the Murfreesboro Baptist Church By-Laws.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Almost thirty years ago, I was choir director and pianist/organist at a church where one of the choir members was blind and had been since birth. Since I worked full time also, she would call someone else for words to the songs, type it out in Braille and then sing in the choir "reading" with her hands. Holly has always been an inspiration to me. I am thankful for two new members in our choir and want to let everyone know that you don't have to read music to join! God bless.

Paula Pressnell



LENTEN LUNCH SCHEDULE 12:00 UNTIL 1:00 P.M.

† March 6

**First Baptist Church
of Murfreesboro**

Rev. Robert Richardson, Pastor
230 US-158 BUS, Murfreesboro, NC 27855

† March 13

Nebo Baptist Church

Rev. James K. Brown
10555 US-258, Murfreesboro, NC 27855

† March 20

Chowan University

Rev. Mari Wiles
1 Jones Drive, Murfreesboro, NC 27855

† March 27

Meherrin Baptist Church

Rev. John Porter
519 Meherrin Lane, Murfreesboro, NC 27855

EASTER LILIES

The deadline to place
Orders for Easter Lilies
Is Wednesday, March 20

Cost: **\$23.00** per lily

Please call the church office
398-3613
to place your order.

**REVIVAL
SUNDAY**

Save the Date
April 14, 2023

Morning Service 11:00 A.M.
Covered Dish Supper 5:00 - 6:30 P.M.
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

Murfreesboro Baptist Church's Annual Revival has been scheduled for April 14. Our Revival pastor will be Dr. Roger Gilbert of Mt. Airy, N.C. Dr. Gilbert is a retired pastor and former moderator of CBFNC. During the evening service we will have special music from Middle Swamp Baptist Church.

There will be a covered dish supper from 5:00 until 6:30p.m. The church will provide the meat and we ask that you please bring a covered dish or dessert. Please mark your calendar for Sunday, April 14.

For The Life Of

Bern Griffin Davenport

February 13, 1957 - February 10, 2024

Thanks be to God.



Wednesday, March 27 at 6:00 pm.

Please pick up Easter eggs from the box in the connector and fill them with candy, money, stickers, small toys, etc. for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Return eggs by Wednesday, March 27 at 5 p.m. to the

KIDS' CLUB

March 6 Kids' Club

6:30-7:15

March 13 Kids' Club

6:00-6:45

March 20 Kids' Club

6:00-6:45


March 24 Palm Sunday—

Children process with palms and sing
The Banner Over Me is Love

March 27 Easter Egg Hunt/Pizza Dinner

6:00

ATTENTION GRADUATES

 Murfreesboro Baptist Church would like to recognize the graduates of 2024.

If your son, daughter, or grandchild will be graduating from high school or college this year, please contact the church office with their full name, school, and degree of the graduate by Sunday, March 10, 2024.

Congratulations...

Congratulations to Ridgcroft School and MBC members Molly Brown on the girls' basketball team and Charlotte Cole and Elizabeth Brown of the cheerleading team for their Tarheel Independent Conference season and tournament championships!

BLESSING MINISTRIES

FOODBANK OF THE ALBEMARLE

Volunteers are needed Tuesday, March 19 by 1:30 p.m. in the church parking lot to distribute food.

MBC FOOD PANTRY

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 15th of each month.

Any and all donations are welcome.

NEW COMMUNION SCHEDULE	
March 28	Maundy Thursday
May 19	Pentecost Sunday
June 23	
August 4	
October 6	World Communion Day
November 3	All Saints Sunday
December 24	Christmas Eve

Please Remember to Bring

Flowers to church on Easter Sunday

To flower the cross in front of the church



Youth Kitchen Contributions

The youth group is in the process of refurbishing the kitchen near the youth room. Donations are welcomed to help purchase kitchen supplies. Please mark your donation “Youth Group”.

USING THEIR GIFTS TO SERVE IN MARCH

DEACON OF THE MONTH

Bardin Torres

OPENING OF THE CHURCH

Charlie Cole

USHERS

March

Jay Revelle, Ronnie Coltrain, Charlie Aycock, and Charles Gallop

April

Hal Thomas, Lloyd Hill, Thomas Bird, And Jay Revelle

RADIO MINISTRY SPONSOR

Bob and Ann Lee

CAREGIVERS

February 25-March 9 - Diane Dixon and Alice Hassell

March 10-March 23 - Gertrude Revelle and Daynelle Trent

March 24-April 6 - Aldeen Gatewood

NURSERY

Patricia Torres

UPCOMING DATES IN MARCH

MARCH 6

Big Wednesday

6:00 p.m.

MARCH 10

Daylight Saving Time Begins

MARCH 12

Deacons' Meeting

6:00 p.m.

MARCH 17

Church Meeting after Worship

MARCH 19

Food Bank of the Albemarle

MARCH 24

Palm Sunday

7:00 p.m.

MARCH 27

Easter Egg Hunt

6:00 p.m.

MARCH 28

Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m.

MARCH 31

Easter Sunday



CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH

March 1

March 1

March 6

March 7

March 8

March 8

March 9

March 10

March 15

March 16

March 20

March 23

March 26

Susan Bass

Brice Burgess

Jenni Chao

Sarah Brown

Patti Llewellyn

William Myers

Danny Moore

Gene Flowers

Sandra Fowler

Mary Harris

Judy Clark

Jo Cimini

Claire Place

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

CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Mark E. Gaskins

PASTOR

PAULA PRESSNELL.....Organist & Choir Director

TOM CAULKINS.....Pastor Emeritus

TERESA MARTIN.....Administrative Asst.


CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 8:30 - 1:30

252-398-3613

www.murfbc.org

Our Shared Commitment to Supporting Missions and Ministry for February 2024						
	Feb. 4	Feb. 11	Feb. 18	Feb. 25	Monthly Total	For the Year
Weekly Budget	\$4,905.66	\$4,905.66	\$4,905.66	\$4,905.66	\$19,622.64	\$107,924.52
Weekly Tithes & Offerings	\$4,523.16	\$4,568.00	\$3,160.00	\$2,328.00	\$14,579.16	\$89,407.64
Other Income						
Over (Under)	(\$382.50)	(\$337.66)	(\$1,745.66)	(\$2,577.66)	(\$5043.48)	(\$18,516.88)



Murfreesboro Baptist Church

200 West Main Street

Murfreesboro, N. C. 27855

Return Service Requested