



## FROM THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE...

What special times of worship and fellowship we experienced during Holy Week and Easter!

Thank you to all who were involved in preparing for and leading these services and for the children's Easter Egg Hunt, and to all who participated in any of these services or events!

For us as Christians, Easter Sunday is our highest and holiest day! What happened that Sunday morning nearly 2,000 years ago changed everything! It ushered in the beginning of the age to come. Because Jesus is risen, we have the assurance that at the last day, we also will be raised. Then our redemption will be brought to perfect completion as even our mortal bodies are redeemed, and we are given a body suited for eternity in the new heavens and new earth. Because Christ conquered death and Hades and now holds their keys (Revelation 1:18), we have the confident hope that death is not the end for us. Not only do we look forward to being with the Lord in heaven when we die; we also look forward to the resurrection and the new creation! The further I go in life and ministry, the more precious this blessed hope becomes to me.

In the Christian Year, Easter Sunday is the *beginning* of the Easter season, which continues seven weeks until Pentecost. Accordingly, we'll be thinking together in these weeks of Eastertide about the significance of Jesus' resurrection and what it means for us as his church.

It was good to see more people here on Easter Sunday. But MBC family, I look forward to seeing you *every* Sunday morning for worship, because as the church through the centuries has put it, *every* Lord's Day is "a little Easter." In the words

of the psalmist King David, "O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together" (Psalm 34:3, NRSV)!

We'll have a very special worship opportunity this month with our annual Revival Sunday on April 14! Dr. Roger Gilbert will be our guest preacher for these services. He and his wife Deidra have been dear friends to JoAnn and me for many years. Roger retired from the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Mt. Airy, NC. He also served as pastor of several other churches in North Carolina through the years. He was very active in North Carolina Baptist life in previous years, and served as the moderator of CBF North Carolina and on the Coordinating Council of CBF national. Since his retirement, Roger has served numerous churches as interim pastor. He is an outstanding preacher, and will be a blessing and encouragement to our

congregation.

In addition to outstanding preaching, we'll also be blessed by wonderful instrumental music in our morning service as Chowan senior Malachi Cobb will share a beautiful saxophone rendition of "Amazing Grace," accompanied by our own Paula Pressnell on the piano. Then in the evening service, we will welcome the Middle Swamp Baptist Church Choir to lead our musical worship. And in addition to all this, we'll have a wonderful fellowship meal prior to the evening service. It will be a wonderful day!

Please be in prayer for these services. And make your plans to be present for these revival services. I look forward to seeing you here that Sunday and every Sunday!

Grace and peace,

*Mark E. Perkins*

# REVIVAL SUNDAY

JOIN US  
SUNDAY, APRIL 14

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.

## MUSIC MINISTRY

Have you noticed our choir is growing? Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Thank you to our choir for doing such a beautiful job every Sunday. There is always room for you to join.

On Sunday night, April 14<sup>th</sup> the Middle Swamp Baptist Church choir will sing for our Revival service. Claire Whitehurst is the director/pianist, and I've known her my whole life. She is an amazing pianist and singer and leads a very large choir in Gates County. Please come out and hear their beautiful heartfelt singing. Bring a friend! Our Revival will be a wonderful worship service.

Paula Pressnell

## USING THEIR GIFTS TO SERVE IN APRIL

### DEACON OF THE MONTH

Steve Fowler

### OPENING OF THE CHURCH

Charlie Cole

### USHERS

April

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

May

Steve Fowler, T.K. Warren, and Mike Alston

### RADIO MINISTRY SPONSOR

Sara Frances Hill

### CAREGIVERS

March 24 - April 6      April 7-April 20  
Aldeen Gatewood      Lisa Forbes

April 21-May 4

Colon and Jane Ballance

### NURSERY CAREGIVER

Pat Torres

### SANCTUARY FLOWERS

All Dates are Open

Please call the church office to reserve a date!

## SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The following dates are available to place flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday Worship service:

- April 7
- May 26
- July 7
- April 14
- June 2
- July 14
- April 21
- June 9
- July 21
- April 28
- June 16
- July 28
- May 5
- June 23
- Aug. 4
- May 12
- June 30
- Aug. 11
- May 19
- July 7
- Aug. 18

Plus... many other dates!

Please call the Church office to reserve a date if you're interested in placing flowers.



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



VBS 2024 will be held 9:30 am-12 noon July 22-26. This year's theme is Camp Firelight: A Summer Camp Adventure with God. The memory verse is Psalm 56:3, "Whenever I'm afraid, I put my trust in you." Children from age 3 to the completion of fifth grade are welcome to attend. Dr. Mark Gaskins will provide the daily Bible study. Leaders for snacks, music, and crafts are already in place. Volunteers are needed to lead crews, lead recreation, or assist with crafts. What can you do to help MBC prepare for VBS 2024? 1. Volunteer to assist. 2. Invite members of the community to attend. 3. Pray for a successful week. If you are interested in volunteering, please let Sarah Davis know.

## UPCOMING DATES IN APRIL

- APRIL 9      Deacons' Meeting
- APRIL 10     Kids' Club- 6-6:45
- APRIL 14     Revival
- Morning Service
- Covered Dish
- Supper
- Evening Service
- APRIL 16     Food Bank
- of the Albemarle
- APRIL 17     Kids' Club- 6-6:45
- APRIL 21     Quarterly Conference
- APRIL 24     Kids' Club- 6-6:45

## CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN APRIL



- |          |                  |
|----------|------------------|
| April 2  | Colon Ballance   |
| April 2  | Gibson Hill      |
| April 4  | Jane Ballance    |
| April 4  | Elaine Snyder    |
| April 5  | Lynne Moore      |
| April 7  | Hunter Brown     |
| April 10 | Karen Cavin      |
| April 10 | Joe Murray       |
| April 11 | Molly Brown      |
| April 11 | Sarah Davis      |
| April 12 | Liz Brown        |
| April 13 | Susan Benthall   |
| April 13 | Ben McLean       |
| April 14 | Elizabeth Brown  |
| April 14 | Thomas Hill      |
| April 18 | Clifton Joyner   |
| April 22 | Lauren McCormick |
| April 22 | Lou Vann         |
| April 22 | Lynn Miles       |
| April 24 | Grace Harders    |
| April 28 | Lori Harders     |
| April 29 | Mariah Gallop    |

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

## BLESSINGS MINISTRY FOODBANK OF THE ALBEMARLE

Volunteers are needed Tuesday, April 16 by 1:30 p.m. in the church parking lot to distribute food.

### MBC FOOD PANTRY

Please remember to bring your selected food items before the last Monday of each month.

## 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](http://www.murfbc.org)

### Our Shared Commitment to Supporting Missions and Ministry for March 2024

	Mar. 3	Mar. 10	Mar. 17	Mar. 24	Mar. 31	Monthly Total	For the Year
Weekly Budget	\$4,905.66	\$4,905.66	\$4,905.66	\$4,905.66	\$4,905.66	\$24,528.30	\$132,452.82
Weekly Tithes & Offerings	\$4,475.00	\$2,289.00	\$2,797.00	\$2,120.00	\$4,650.00	\$16,331.00	\$105,738.64
Other Income							
Over (Under)	(\$430.66)	(\$2,616.66)	(\$2,108.66)	(\$2,785.66)	(\$255.66)	(\$8,197.30)	(\$26,714.18)



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Return Service Requested