

FROM THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE...

Summer has a way of slipping up on us, then slipping away quickly. Here at the beginning of August, it will soon be gone.

Though summer has been mostly dry, God answered our prayers and sent us refreshing sustained rains over the past three weeks or so, and we are grateful. He poured out spiritual blessings on us during the third week of July in this year's Vacation Bible School. Though our group of children was not large, they were very attentive and engaged. **Important** kingdom seeds were planted in their lives. We pray that God's Spirit will water and tend those seeds so that they sprout into faith responses in these dear children, and that they will in time follow Jesus and bear much spiritual fruit for him. Thanks to all those who led or helped in any way in this year's VBS, and special thanks to Sarah Davis for leading our VBS efforts each year.

August is full of kingdom opportunities as well.

The annual North Carolina Watermelon Festival is going on at the time of publication of this edition of The Messenger, and Annual Pancake Sausage Breakfast will take place on Saturday, August 3. The proceeds from this event go to support our participation in Backpack Buddies as a ministry to elementary age children who experience food insecurity on the weekends. Backpacks filled with ready-to-eat or easy-toprepare foods are sent home with children whom our local school leaders identify as being in need of such a service. We donate to the Backpack Buddies



organization to help purchase food, then pick up the packages of food and deliver them to the school each week. If you can volunteer to help with the breakfast on August 3, please let Colon Ballance or Mary Etta Flowers know. If you'd be willing to help with the deliveries of the food packets, please call or email the church office.

We will participate in Holy Communion on Sunday morning, August 4. Join us for this special time of worship!

Wednesday evening Prayer and Bible Study will resume on August 7, as will weekly Choir Practice. I will lead "A Crash Course in Christian Theology," a study of the foundational teachings of our faith. I hope you'll make an effort to attend and learn more about what we believe as Christians in the Baptist tradition.

We will also be collecting school supplies for the Hertford County Schools throughout this month. There is a collection box in the connector for these items. Details of specific items that are needed are in the announcement elsewhere in this edition of *The Messenger*. If you have questions, contact Sarah Davis.

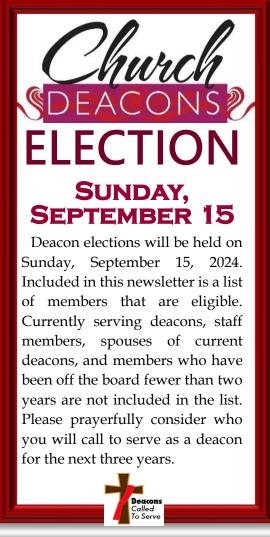
On August 18 we will have our Blessing of the Backpacks to help prepare our students of all ages as they start back to school. We encourage our youth and children to bring their backpacks that Sunday morning and participate as our church blesses you for the new school year.

September and October will bring some special opportunities as well, but more about those later.

In the meantime, I hope to see you in worship this Sunday!

Grace and peace,

Mark E. Gaskins





"Thank You" Vacation Bible School Volunteers Camp Fieldshipsam 563

Thanks to all who helped with VBS and made it a great success for our youth. A special Thank you to Sarah Davis for organizing our week of Bible School, and thank you to all of our volunteers: Mike Alston, Bruce and Liz Brown, Wayne Brown, Judy Clark, Charlie, Frances, and Charlotte Cole, Booker Daniel, Sarah Davis, John and Sarah Davis, Garth and Erin Faile, Mary Etta Flowers, Taylor and Stephanie Furlough, Mark and JoAnn Gaskins, Sophia Hale, Alice and Linda Hassell, Snowlyn and Gabriel Higgins, Debbie Hill, Don Johnson, Patty Joyner, Teresa Martin, Paula Presnell, Christina Pruitt, Gertrude Revelle, Janet Skinner, John and Tracey Vick, and TK Warren.



We are excited to announce the return of Big Wednesday on September 3. This will be a time to once again to engage with our church family and connect with our community while enjoying a home cooked meal prepared by Mary Etta Flowers. Invite your neighbors, family, friends, and their children.

The cost is \$10.00 per plate.

Please call the church office each month
(398-3613) to make your reservations.

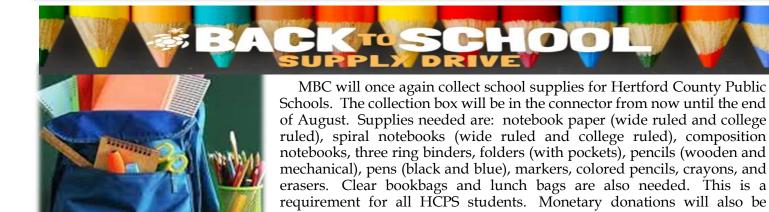
We look forward to seeing you.

STATE MUSIC MINISTRY

We are in the middle of Bible School as I write this, and it is so much fun singing songs with children! Music is such a great unifier- holding hands to move in a circle or jumping up and down as we sing about Jesus' love for us, as well as our joy and our salvation. Music is such an important part of our worship, and I invite you to be a part of our adult choir. We have fun, we laugh, we enjoy the fellowship, and we work hard to learn new music. I appreciate all of our choir folks, our soloists, and all who worship at MBC. Our church is truly blessed and I am truly blessed to be a part of it all. Please see me or any choir member if you'd like more information. Choir practice resumes August 7th at 6:00 p.m. You will be welcomed with open arms!

Plus...The Reverent Quartet is coming back on Sunday, October 13th at 5:00 pm. Bring many friends!

Paula Pressnell



please see Sarah Davis.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Come Join Us!

Sunday, August 18
Blessing the
Backpacks

All children and youth are encouraged to bring their backpacks and participate as the church blesses you for the new school year.



accepted and clear bookbags will be purchased. If you have any questions,

Eligible for Deacon Elections

Deadline: Friday, August 30, 2024

If your name appears below, but you will be unable to complete a 3-year term as deacon (October 01, 2024 thru September 30, 2027), you must call the church office by12:00 noon on Friday, August 30 to have your name removed.

Awani, Jill Johnson, Don Johnson, Lynn

Benthall, Susan Joyner, Patty

Brett, Kathy Copeland
Broadhead, Christopher Lee, Ann Susan Alston
Broadhead, Genevieve Bruce Brown

Brown, Hunter McLean, Ben Wayne Brown
Brown, Sarah McLean, Peg Lynette Bunch (Rotating Off)

Bunch, Mike Mitchell, Christina Charlie Cole (Rotating Off)
Bunch, Vanessa Mitchell, Jennifer Booker Daniel (Rotating Off)
Moore, Danny Sarah Davis (Alternate)

Currently Serving

Cavin, Karen Moore, Hallie Steve Fowler
Cole, Frances Moore, Lynne Charlie Gallop
Coltrain, Betsy Moore, South Debbie Hill

Coltrain, Ronnie Murray, Margaret Bardin Torres T. K. Warren

Davis, Sarah Rainey, Verlie
Dilday, Mabel Revelle, Elicia

Dixon, Diane Revelle, Jay Revelle, John Page

Faile, Erin
Faile, Garth
Surface, Sallie
Not eligible Until 2025
Flowers, Gene

Forbes, Lisa Taylor, Gerald Colon Ballance
Forbes, Tommy Taylor, Jennifer Mary Etta Flowers
Thomas, Hal Linda Hassell

Gatewood, Aldeen Thomas, Kay Bob Lee

Torres, Christina
Harders, Lori
Harders, Steve
Turner, Bob

Torres, Christina
Not eligible Until 2026
Turner, Bob

Hassell, Alice Lynette Bunch Hill, Carol Vincent, Janet Charlie Cole Hill, Sarah Frances Booker Daniel

Warren, Yvonne



USING THEIR GIFTS TO SERVE IN AUGUST

DEACON OF THE MONTH
Charlie Gallop

OPENING OF THE CHURCH

Sarah Davis

USHERS

August

Colon Ballance, Armando Torres, Charlie Cole, and Garth Faile September Jay Revelle , Ronnie Coltrain, Hal Thomas, Charlie Gallop

RADIO MINISTRY SPONSORS

Armando and Bardin Torres

COMMUNION

August 4

CAREGIVERS

July 28- August 10

Lynette Bunch

August 11-24

Charlie and Dell Aycock

August 25-September 7
Booker Daniel

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Sarah Davis

FLOWERS

Aug. 4, Available Aug. 11, Booker Daniel Aug. 18, Available Aug. 24, Gene and Mary Etta Flowers

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN AUGUST



Caleb Peterson August 1 August 3 **Gertrude Revelle** August 6 Johnathan Vick August 9 **Rachel Peterson** August 10 Liam Ballance August 10 Paula Pressnell August 12 John Revelle, III August 14 **Barbara Myers** August 14 Elicia Revelle August 15 **Gabriel Higgins** August 16 **Bardin Torres** August 18 **Phil Royce** August 20 Lloyd Hill August 22 **Lisa Forbes Nate Place** August 22 **Mary Etta Flowers** August 23 August 29 **Chris Torres**

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

NOTES OF APPRECIATION

A Thank you note was received in July from The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and Chowan University

CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Mark E. Gaskins

PASTOR

PAULA PRESSNELL
Organist & Choir Director

TOM CAULKINS

TERESA MARTIN Administrative Assistant

UPCOMING DATES

- Aug. 3 Pancake & Sausage Breakfast
- Aug. 4 Communion
- Aug. 7 Bible Study Resumes Choir Practice Resumes
- Aug. 13 Deacons' Meeting
- Aug. 18 Blessing of the Backpacks
- Aug. 20 Food Bank of the Albemarle
- Sept. 2 Office Closed for Labor Day
- Sept. 4 Big Wednesday Kids' Club Resumes
- Sept. 15 Deacon Elections
- Sept. 17 Food Bank of The Albemarle Deacons' Meeting

BLESSINGS MINISTRIES

FOOD BANK OF THE ALBEMARLE

Volunteers are needed Tuesday, August 20 by 1:30 p.m. in the church parking lot to distribute food.

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 last Monday of each month. As always, any donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 8:30 - 1:30 252-398-3613 www.murfbc.org

Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 2 in observance of Labor Day

Our Shared Commitment to Supporting Missions and Ministry for July 2024

	July 7	July 14	July 21	July 28	Monthly Total	For the Year
Weekly Budget	\$3,826.92	\$3,826.92	\$3,826.92	\$3,826.92	\$15,307.68	\$168,384.48
Weekly Tithes & Offerings	\$ \$5,562.00	\$4,986.00	\$1,610.00	\$4,906.00	\$17,064.00	\$170,059.64
Other Income		\$946.35			\$946.35	\$946.35
Over (Under)	\$1,735.08	\$2,105.43	(\$2,216.92)	\$1,079.08	\$2,702.67	\$2,621.51

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