



FROM THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE . . .

Summer's here! Well, maybe not officially, but for all practical purposes—weather and otherwise—once Memorial Day has passed and school is out, it's summer.

For most of us, summer is a season that involves some changes. Days are longer, allowing more outdoor activities. Students are out of school, unless they're catching up or trying to get ahead. Schedules often change for the summer, including church schedules (Kids' Club, Youth, and Wednesday evening Bible Study are taking a break until August). Some things stay the same—our schedule for our Sunday School and Worship Service on Sunday mornings is unchanged.

Along with schedule changes, for many families and individuals there will be a change of pace, because along with summer often comes some vacation time. And that's a good thing. Some of you have already taken some vacation time; for others it's coming up. We all need to take some time to step back from our regular routine, to relax and reflect and rest.

But when you go on vacation, it's important to remain faithful to Christ and his church. *There is no vacation from following Christ.* Paul's advice in Colossians 3:17 (NRSV) is good for all of life, *including vacations*: "And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

You know what I mean, don't you?

Sometimes when church members are away from home, they may tend to behave a little differently. They may engage in activities they wouldn't take part in back home where other folks know they profess to be Christians. Rest assured, though the folks back home may not know, the Lord they profess to follow does. There's

nothing wrong with relaxing from our regular labors; that's what the concept of the Sabbath was about. But there is something wrong with relaxing from our commitment to Christ! Our commitment is to be constant—"And *whatever* you do . . . do *everything* in the name of the Lord Jesus . . ."

I want to encourage you who will go on vacation this summer to be conscious of your commitment to Christ. Continue to live out your faith daily. Find a church to worship with while you are away. Take some time to reflect on your relationship with the Lord while you're in a more relaxed setting.

And don't forget your church here at home. Pray for us while you are away. And when you return—or even before your go—make up on your tithes and offerings for the time you will be away. Christian stewardship of our possessions is a year-round grace. The ministries of our church continue in the summer as well as the rest of the year.

I pray your summer will be both relaxing and productive as we follow Christ together as the Murfreesboro Baptist Church family, seeking to love God, follow Jesus, and serve others.

Finally, on another note, our congregation is saddened by the death of our beloved Pastor Emeritus, Rev. Tom Caulkins. We remember with gratitude his twenty-five years of service as Pastor of Murfreesboro Baptist Church and the way his and Ann's life and ministry together touched so many lives in our church and community and beyond. So for God's servant Tom Caulkins, we say, Thanks be to God!

Grace and peace,
Mark E. Perkins

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

If you are interested in placing
Flowers in the Sanctuary
on any given Sunday, please
call the church office to reserve a date.
398-3613




Every Memorial Day Weekend, the Sunbury Ruritan Club invites the public to a meaningful service in the small park. The money maker portion is done ahead of time where anyone can have a loved one's name printed and read out loud: mothers, grandmas, or veterans, etc. This year, someone paid to have Jesus Christ's name added. I whispered to my niece, "Jesus isn't dead."

As much as I've shaken my head over this, we can rejoice daily that Jesus is alive and loves us!

Singing is a wonderful way to worship, either by congregational singing or by singing in the choir. I am thankful for our dedicated choir members. If you are interested in joining us, please see me or just come to practice Wednesdays at 6:00!

Children's Summer Ministry

Noah's Ark, What Can We Learn?



Wednesday, June 11
5:45 Until 6:30

Wednesday, July 16
5:45 Until 6:30

UPCOMING DATES

June 8	Pentecost Wear Red to Church
June 10	Deacons' Meeting
June 11	Children's Ministry
June 15	Father's Day
June 17	Food Bank of the Albemarle
June 15	Trinity Sunday and Communion
June 30	MBC Food Pantry
July 4	Administrative Office Closed
July 16	Children's Ministry
Aug. 2	Pancake & Sausage Breakfast

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE

June 6	Charlie Gallop
June 15	Jay Jenkins
June 15	Gerald Taylor
June 17	Cliff Forbes
June 18	Jill Awuni
June 19	Vanessa Bunch
June 19	Steve Fowler
June 23	Linda White
June 26	Ciera Cox
June 29	JoAnn Gaskins

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

APPLY FOR COLLEGE Scholarships

ROBERT E, LEE, III SCHOLARSHIP AND DR. BRUCE E. WHITAKER SCHOLARSHIP

Applications are now being accepted for two scholarships available to Murfreesboro Baptist Church Members and their children. The Robert E. Lee, III Scholarship is awarded to Chowan University Students. The Dr. Bruce E. Whitaker Scholarship is awarded to students attending any institution of higher education, with a preference toward those studying at Chowan. Applications are available in the church office and must be completed by July 31. The finance committee will award the scholarships and notify the recipients.

BLESSINGS MINISTRIES FOODBANK OF THE ALBEMARLE

Volunteers are needed Tuesday, June 17 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 15th of each month. As always, any donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support.

Thanks Be To God For The Life Of Thomas Herbert Caulkins

June 27, 1928 – May 16, 2025

USING THEIR GIFTS TO SERVE IN JUNE

DEACON OF THE MONTH
Ronnie Coltgrain

OPENING OF THE CHURCH
Colon Ballance and Wayne Brown

USHERS
June
Don Johnson, Wayne Brown, Bruce Brown, Hunter Brown
July
Johnny Jenkins, Freddie Bazen, Bob Lee, Hunter Brown

RADIO MINISTRY SPONSOR
Mike and Susan Alston

CAREGIVERS
June 1 - June 15 Gene and Mary Etta Flowers
June 15 - June 28 Patty Joyner
July 29 - July 12 Garth and Erin Faile

SANCTUARY FLOWERS
June 1 Cecil Holloman
June 8 Available
June 15 Sarah Davis
June 21 & 29 Available

CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Mark E. Gaskins
PASTOR

PAULA PRESSNELL **TERESA MARTIN**
Organist & Choir Director *Administrative Assistant*

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Monday – Thursday 8:30 – 1:30
252-398-3613 www.murfbc.org

Our Shared Commitment to Supporting Missions and Ministry for May 2025						
	May 4	May 11	May 18	May 25	Monthly Total	For the Year
Weekly Budget	\$4,038.46	\$4,038.46	\$4,038.46	\$4,038.46	\$16,153.84	\$137,307.64
Weekly Tithes & Offerings	\$3,114.40	\$2,395.00	\$2,476.00	\$2,845.00	\$10,830.40	\$142,194.64
Other Income						
Over (Under)	(\$924.06)	(\$1643.46)	(\$1,562.46)	(\$1,193.46)	(\$5,323.44)	\$4,887.00

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

Return Service Requested