



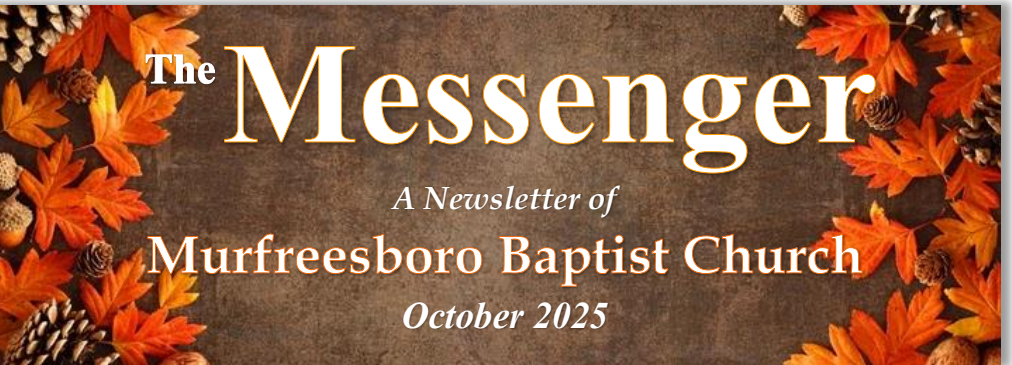
FROM THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE...

October is here, and it brings with it the beauties of autumn—crisp mornings, the vibrant colors of the changing leaves, and settling into the rhythm of regular schedules.

In our church, October also brings the start of a new church year with the rotation of Deacons, other leadership positions, committees, and teams, as well as the start of a new budget year. Our Deacons have chosen officers for the new year. Sarah Davis will serve as chair of Deacons, Debbie Hill will serve again as Vice-chair, and Bardin Torres will continue as secretary. Our new budget goes into effect on October 1, and on behalf of our staff, let me say a heart-felt and hearty “Thank You!” for the generous salary adjustments you approved as a congregation. A new year of work starts for our committees in October. What’s left is the formation of our various ministry teams to carry out the many areas of ministry activities in our church.

You can see elsewhere in this edition of *The Messenger* the details about our Ministry Fair that will take place on Sunday, October 19. We’ll have a fellowship lunch for everyone (church members and their families, regular attendees, and others joining us for worship that day). After the lunch, we request that you visit the various tables where there will be sign-up sheets for the different ministries of our church. Please approach this very prayerfully, asking God sincerely how and where he wants you to be involved in the life, ministry, and mission of MBC. You do *not* have to be an “official member” to sign up for a ministry team; if God is placing one of these areas on your heart, we welcome you to be a part of that ministry or those ministries!

Remember that while the Pastor and staff serve important functions in the pastoral, music, youth, and administrative ministries of our church, and our Deacons in their elected roles take on many responsibilities, they can’t do it all. As Baptist Christians, we profess a strong belief in the *priesthood of all believers*. This priesthood not only means the privilege of direct access to God through Christ; it also means



the responsibility to serve Christ, one another, and the community around us in his name! *Every believer* is to serve in the ministry and mission of Christ’s church!

I encourage you to be here, and to sign up prayerfully as God leads you. You may be saying, “I’ve done my part” or “I just can’t do what I used to do.” That may be true. But you can still be involved through prayer, through being an encourager, or by serving in a less demanding role. Ask God to guide you, consider the opportunities to serve, and respond as God leads you.

On another note, October also brings an important milestone with it—the second anniversary of our ministry together as Pastor and People. I have long been a reflective person. It’s important to me to look back and reflect on how God has been working, what he has been doing, and how he has been forming me and those around me through what he has been and is doing.

From the beginning of our time together, you have made JoAnn and me feel like part of the MBC family. You welcomed us into the church and into your lives, and we are grateful. You’ve given me a special gift in this last season of my full-time ministry, allowing me to be the kind of pastor God made me and called me to be—a shepherd caring for the flock of God under the direction of the Great and Good Shepherd, focusing on the word of the Lord and the welfare of his people. I’ve told several of my minister friends that if I could have chosen the kind of church I wanted to serve as my last full-time assignment, MBC is about as close as you could get.

The Lord is working among us. And for that I say, Thanks be to God! And thank you for another wonderful year together! We love you all and look forward to the coming years.

Grace and peace,

Mark E. Perkins

For The Life Of

Randolph Woodard Whitley

March 4, 1952 – September 13, 2025

Thanks be to God.

Memorial service will be held on October 16, 2025
at 2:00 p.m. at Murfreesboro Baptist Church.

Murfreesboro
Baptist Church



**MINISTRY
FAIR**
And Fellowship Lunch

Sunday, October 19, 2025

Connect • Grow • Serve

“Bring Our Faith Into Focus”

Here’s your opportunity to find that “perfect fit”!

Talk to ministry leaders and members of
various Church ministries

Learn more about the different ministries
and volunteer groups in our church



Share what you love and
see where you might fit in

Ask questions and discover where God
is calling you to share your faith,
time and talents

MBC will hold its annual ministry fair on Sunday, October 19 immediately following worship. We will have a fellowship lunch as part of the ministry fair. The church will provide the fried chicken, Mary Etta’s rolls, and drinks. Please bring a side dish or dessert if you can. You are still able to stay for lunch even if you don’t bring a dish. The ministry fair and lunch is for everyone: members, regular attendees, and guests. After lunch, please visit the tables in the fellowship hall to sign up to assist in the ministry and operations of MBC. There will be sign-up sheets for placing flowers in the sanctuary, opening/closing the church, sponsoring the radio ministry, choir, building/grounds, Food Pantry, Food Bank of the Albemarle, assisting with youth, caregivers, hospitality, bereavement, and teaching Sunday School. There will also be a table to download our new app (if you haven’t already) or create an account on the new app. Remember that creating the account is a requirement for you to receive notifications and communicate within the church family. If you have any questions, please see Sarah Davis. We look forward to everyone enjoying lunch and the ministry fair on Oct 19.

October is



PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12 IS PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY

This season is a special time to honor our pastor who ministers to us and to celebrate the impact he makes on our lives! A special basket will be outside the pastor's office for anyone who would like to leave a card, message, gift, etc. to show Mark how much he is appreciated in our church family!

**USING THEIR GIFTS
TO SERVE IN
OCTOBER**

DEACON OF THE MONTH
Lynette Bunch

OPENING OF THE CHURCH
Colon Ballance and Wayne Brown

USHERS
October
Charlie Aycock and
Lloyd Hill
November
Steve Fowler, T.K.Warren,
and Mike Alston

RADIO MINISTRY SPONSOR
Mark and JoAnn Gaskins

CHILDREN'S SERMON
Sarah Davis

CAREGIVERS
Sept. 21 - Oct. 4
Diane Dixon and Alice Hassell
October 5 - Oct. 18
Judy Clark
Oct. 19 - Nov. 1
Dave & Carole Farnham

FLOWERS
Oct. 5 Mary Etta and Gene Flowers
Oct. 12, 19, and 26 Available

Trunk or Treat



Kids' Club Halloween Event

**Sunday, October 26
5:30 p.m.**

Trunk or Treat will be held on Sunday, October 26 from 5:30-7:00 pm in the church parking lot. All children from birth to 5th grade are welcome to attend. Costumes are encouraged but not required. We will have a pizza dinner from Napoli's and then the children will visit the trunks. Drinks and chips are needed for dinner. Trunks with candy or small prizes are needed in the parking lot. If you would be willing to provide food for dinner or a trunk for the children, please let Sarah Davis know.

Kids' Club Special Dates:

Oct 1	6:30-7:15
Oct 8	6-6:45
Oct 15	6-6:45
Oct 22	6-6:45
Oct 29	6-6:45

UPCOMING DATES

October 5
Communion-World Communion Day

October 14
Deacons' Meeting

October 19
Ministry Fair and Fellowship Lunch

October 21
Food Bank of the Albemarle

October 26
Kids' Club Trunk or Treat


October 27
MBC Food Pantry

COMING SOON...



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Shoeboxes



Celebrating Birthdays In October

October 4	Ann Lee
October 4	Eley Whitehead
October 6	Annie McLean
October 9	Mark Gaskins
October 16	Chris White
October 23	T.K. Warren, III
October 25	Freddie Bazen
October 27	Nicholas Bunch
October 27	Jay Revelle

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

BLESSINGS MINISTRIES

**FOODBANK
OF THE
ALBEMARLE**

Volunteers are needed Tuesday, October 21 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.

CHURCH STAFF


Dr. Mark E. Gaskins
PASTOR

KAYLEIGH LANCE
Director of Youth Ministry

PAULA PRESSNELL
Organist & Director of Music Ministry

TERESA MARTIN
Administrative Assistant

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



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

Return Service Requested