



FROM THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE...

We're about two-thirds of the way through summer and our summer schedule. August brings us some special events and the resumption of our regular schedule.

Saturday, August 1, the last day of the NC Watermelon Festival here in Murfreesboro, brings our annual Pancake and Sausage Breakfast in the fellowship hall. The proceeds from this event support our participation in the Backpack Buddies nutrition program for students in need at Riverview Elementary School in Murfreesboro. Thank you to all who work so diligently to make this effort a success each year and to those who help deliver the food boxes to the school throughout the school year!

Our choir will start weekly practice on Wednesday, August 5, and will resume singing in our Sunday, August 9 worship service. Choir practice will be at 6:00 p.m. each Wednesday. Paula would gladly welcome new choir members! We appreciate Paula and our choir's ministry as they lead us in our musical worship each Sunday!

Saturday, August 15 will be "Welcome Chowan Freshmen Day." This is an opportunity for us to have a presence on campus and to meet incoming freshmen students, provide a snack bag they can take for later, and invite them to church. There's more information in this edition of the *Messenger* about what we need for the bags. We also need volunteers to staff our tent that morning as well.

As has been a custom of our congregation, I as pastor will also be teaching at Chowan again this fall. When I was in conversation with your pastor search committee three years ago, they shared with me about the shared history of our church and the school, and how many of the pastors throughout our history have also served the school in some capacity. I am honored to continue in

that tradition, and I'm grateful for the privilege of trying to help young people to understand how to read and interpret the Bible in a faithful, responsible, and meaningful way. I will be teaching a section of Religion 101 (Understanding the Bible: Cultures and Contexts of the Bible) in both sessions of the fall semester. In our setting, as a pastor with an academic bent, I view this as an important and valuable extension of my ministry as your pastor.

In addition to all this, our Wednesday Evening Prayer and Bible Study will resume on August 19 at 7:00 p.m. Come study God's word with us each week! Kids' Club will start up a little later and with a different schedule this year. Weekly Youth group meetings on Sunday evenings will also be starting back soon with the new school year.

And remember that we are collecting school supplies for Hertford County Schools and items for international teachers serving in Hertford County Schools during August. There's more information about these collections elsewhere in this month's *Messenger*.

All these events, efforts, and activities don't just happen. They require prayer, planning, preparation, and people! Whether it's church members serving in elected positions, or members and attendees serving on ministry teams, or people volunteering to help when needs arise, it takes the active involvement of our members and regular attendees to be fully functioning as a congregation. Some of you may be saying, "But I'm not physically able to be actively involved anymore." Oh, but you can still be involved with one of the most important aspects of our ministries—*prayer*! And you can offer gratitude and encouragement to those who are actively involved in our efforts as we seek to fulfill our mission to *love God, follow Jesus, and serve others*.

Thank you for the joy and privilege of serving as your pastor!

Grace and peace,

Mark E. Perkins

Murfreesboro Baptist Church
Pancake and Sausage
Breakfast



Saturday, August 1
8-10 am.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Proceeds benefit Backpack Buddies. If you would like to purchase a ticket, you may call the church office or see a deacon.



Welcome Chowan Freshmen

Saturday, August 15

MBC will once again participate in "Welcome Chowan Freshmen." The date is August 15. This year, we are going to provide snack bags for the students to take back to their dorm rooms. Please bring items for these bags to the church by August 10. Items can be bottled water, Gatorade, chips, Little Debbie snacks, Hostess snacks, nabs, cookies, candy (but no chocolate), gum, etc. Bags will be packed at 10:00 a.m. on August 11. Volunteers are needed to pack bags and then to distribute bags at Chowan on August 15.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Our choir has taken a well-deserved break, and we will welcome them back on Sunday, August 9th. Our first choir practice back will be Wednesday, August 5th at 6:00 p.m. Anyone is welcome to join us!

Thank you to all who filled in during the choir's absence. Each Sunday worshipping at Murfreesboro Baptist is a true blessing.

Paula Pressnell

Church DEACONS

ELECTION

**SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 20**

Deacon elections will be held on Sunday, September 20, 2026. Included in this newsletter is a list of members that are eligible. Currently serving deacons, staff members, spouses of current deacons, and members who have been off the board less than one year are not included in the list. Please prayerfully consider who you will call to serve as a deacon for the next three years.



MAKE YOUR RESERVATION FOR

Big Wednesday

Wednesday, September 2 6:00 p.m.

Fried Chicken Dinner

Includes Potato Salad,
Butterbeans, Deviled Eggs,
Rolls, & Dessert!



We are excited to announce the return of Big Wednesday on September 2. 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.



For the last several years, Hertford County Schools has employed many international teachers. The international teachers arrive in Hertford County with very few possessions. To assist these teachers with the adjustment from their homes to HC, we will be collecting items for them. Items needed are hygiene items (soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, razors, hand sanitizer, shampoo, conditioner), household items (laundry detergent, hangers, dishwashing detergent, dishes, glasses, cups, dish cloths, kitchen utensils, cutlery), or small appliances (microwave, toaster, blender, coffee pot, pots, pans). If you have any questions, please see Sarah Davis.



We will collect school supplies for Hertford County Schools from now until the end of August. Supplies needed are pencils, pens, crayons, markers, glue sticks, binders, composition books (college and wide ruled), notebook paper (college and wide ruled), and clear book bags. HCPS only allows clear bookbags.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Come Join Us!

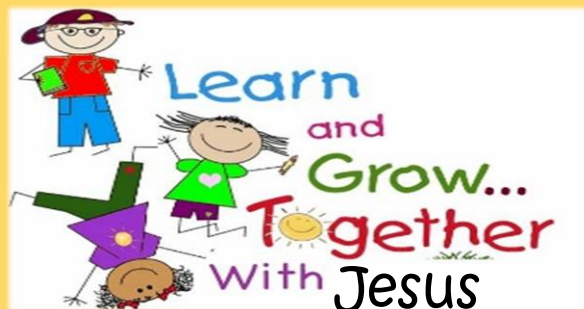
SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

Blessing of the Backpacks



All children, youth, and college students are welcome. Plan to attend this service to receive a blessing for the new school year.

KIDS' CLUB RESUMES SEPTEMBER 2



Eligible for Deacon Elections

Deadline: Monday, August 31, 2026

If your name appears below, but you will be unable to complete a 3-year term as deacon (October 01, 2026 thru September 30, 2029), you must call the church office by 12:00 noon on Monday, August 31 to have your name removed.

Awuni, Jill

Ballance, Colon

Ballance, Jane

Benthall, Susan

Brett, Kathy Copeland

Broglin, Joanie

Brown, Bruce

Brown, Liz

Brown, Shirley

Brown, Suzanne

Brown, Wayne

Clark, Judy

Daniel, Booker

Dilday, Mabel

Dixon, Diane

Forbes, Lisa

Forbes, Tommy

Gallop, Mariah

Gatewood, Aldeen

Harders, Lori

Hassell, Alice

Hassell, Linda

Hill, Sarah Frances

Johnson, Don

Joyner, Patty

Lee, Ann

Lee, Bob

Long, John

Rainey, Verlie

Revelle, Claire

Thomas, Kay

Torres, Armando

Turner, Bob

Warren, T.K.

Currently Serving

Steve Fowler (Rotating Off)

Charlie Gallop (Rotating Off)

Debbie Hill (Rotating Off)

Bardin Torres (Rotating Off)

Mike Alston

Lynette Bunch

Frances Cole

Ronnie Coltrain

Sarah Davis

Mary Etta Flowers

Linda Hassell

Jay Revelle

Not eligible Until 2027

Charlie Gallop

Steve Fowler

Bardin Torres



USING THEIR
GIFTS TO
SERVE
IN AUGUST

DEACON OF THE MONTH
Mary Etta Flowers

OPENING OF THE CHURCH
Colon Balance and Wayne Brown

USHERS
August
Colon Ballance, Armando Torres, and
Charlie Cole
September
Jay Revelle , Ronnie Coltrain,
and Charlie Gallop

RADIO MINISTRY SPONSORS
Bob and Ann Lee

COMMUNION
August 23

CAREGIVERS
July 19 - August 1
David and Carole Farnham

August 2 - August 15
Mary Etta Flowers

August 1 - August 29
Aldeen Gatewood

August 30 - September 12
Colon and Jane Ballance

CHILDREN’S SERMON
Sarah Davis

FLOWERS
Aug. 2 , 9, and 30 Available
Aug. 16, Booker Daniel
Aug. 23, Gene and Mary Etta Flowers

CELEBRATING
BIRTHDAYS
IN AUGUST



August 1	Caleb Peterson
August 3	Gertrude Revelle
August 6	Debbie Hill
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
August 23	Mary Etta Flowers
August 29	Chris Torres

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

Kayleigh Lance
Director of Youth Ministry

PAULA PRESSNELL
Organist & Director of Music Ministry

TERESA MARTIN
Administrative Assistant

UPCOMING
DATES

Aug. 1	Pancake and Sausage Breakfast
Aug. 5	Choir Practice Resumes
Aug. 11	Deacons’ Meeting
Aug. 15	Welcome Chowan Freshmen
Aug. 16	Blessing of the Backpacks
Aug. 18	Food Bank of the Albemarle
Aug. 19	Bible Study Resumes
Aug. 23	Communion
Aug. 31	Hertford County School Supplies Deadline
Sept. 7	Office Closed for Labor Day
Sept. 2	Big Wednesday
Sept. 2	Kids’ Club Resumes
Sept. 15	Food Bank of the Albemarle
Sept. 22	Deacons’ Meeting
Sept. 20	Deacon Elections

BLESSINGS
MINISTRIES
FOOD BANK OF THE
ALBEMARLE

Volunteers are needed Tuesday, August 18 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 - Thursday 8:30 - 1:30
252-398-3613
www.murfbc.org

Church Office will be closed on
Monday, September 7
in observance of Labor Day

The missions and ministry July 2026 financials were unavailable at the time of printing the August edition of the MBC Messenger. Financials will be posted in the Murfreesboro Baptist Church Order of Worship when completed.

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

Return Service Requested