



## FROM THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE...

Last week was a special time for JoAnn and me as we welcomed our new granddaughter, Ava Grace Elizabeth Gaskins, to the world. God has entrusted our son Jeffrey and his wife Bronwyn with a precious little girl who has already brought joy to our hearts!

As we continue to move rapidly through the Lenten season, we're approaching a most special time of the Christian Year, Holy Week. During Holy Week, we remember and reflect on that last week of our Lord's earthly life, focusing on his suffering and death on the cross, then celebrating his glorious resurrection on Sunday morning! We'll have numerous opportunities for reflection and celebration that week.

We'll begin with our Palm Sunday celebration in our regular worship service on April 13. Chowan University will be having a Holy Week campus revival that week in the chapel, and I'll be preaching for the Sunday evening service on Palm Sunday.

On Wednesday, April 16, we will host the final Lenten Lunch for this year at noon. Then at 5:30 that evening, we'll have an Easter Egg Hunt and pizza supper for the children.

Then on Thursday, April 17, we'll have a Maundy Thursday Communion Service at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. At the end of this service, we will move to the fellowship hall to move through the Stations of the Cross that our youth group and leaders will have prepared for the congregation.

Then on Easter Sunday morning, we will celebrate Christ's resurrection in our regular worship service!

Now for us as Christians, Easter Sunday is our highest and holiest day! The reason is obvious: it's when we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Without his resurrection, his life and death would have been in vain. We'd still be in sin and without hope (1 Corinthians 15:13-20). In his death and resurrection, Jesus conquered Satan, sin, and death. It's not only joy but



victory that we celebrate when we proclaim: "Christ is risen; he is risen indeed!"

What happened that Sunday morning nearly 2,000 years ago changed everything! It ushered in the beginning of the age to come. Because Jesus was raised, we have 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; 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 history of the church, Easter Sunday has been the *beginning* of the Easter season, which runs for seven weeks until Pentecost (when we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the church, Acts 2). 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.

Make plans to join us for all these special worship opportunities, and for worship each week here at MBC!

Grace and peace,

*Mark E. Gaskins*



**Palm Sunday**

*Sunday, April 13*

**Maundy Thursday Service**

*Thursday, April 17 7:00 p.m.*

**Easter Sunday**

*April 20*



**LENTEN LUNCH SCHEDULE**  
**12:00 UNTIL 1:00 P.M.**

† **April 2**

**Chowan University**

Mr. Jason Fowler, Interim Campus  
Minister

*1 Jones Drive, Murfreesboro*

† **April 9**

**Nebo Baptist Church**

Rev. James K. Brown, Pastor  
*10555 US-258, Murfreesboro*

† **April 16**

**Murfreesboro Baptist Church**

Dr. Mark E. Gaskins, Pastor  
*200 W. Main Street, Murfreesboro*

## KIDS' CLUB



**April 2 Kids' Club 6:30-7:15**

**April 9 Kids' Club 6-6:45**

**April 13 Palm Sunday**

*Children process with palms*

**April 16 Easter Egg Hunt**

**5:30-7:00**

**April 23 Kids' Club 6-6:45**

**April 30 Kids' Club 6-6:45**

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TEAM

## Easter Egg Hunt



The annual Easter Egg Hunt with a pizza dinner from Napoli's will be held on April 16 at 5:30 pm. If you picked up eggs to fill, please have them back to the church in the media center by April 16 at 4:30 pm. If you would like to help hide eggs or provide fruit or drinks for the dinner, please let Sarah Davis know.

# Easter Lilies

Deadline to place orders for Easter Lilies in honor or memory of a loved one in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday is

Thursday,  
April 10

Cost: \$26.75  
per lily

Please call the church office  
398-3613  
to place your order.



## USING THEIR GIFTS TO SERVE IN APRIL

### DEACON OF THE MONTH

Jay Revelle

### OPENING OF THE CHURCH

Charlie Cole

### USHERS

April

Jay Revelle, Hal Thomas, Lloyd Hill

May

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

### RADIO MINISTRY SPONSOR

Lynette Bunch

### CAREGIVERS

March 23 – April 5

Alice Hassell and Diane Dixon

April 6-April 19

Colon and Jane Ballance

April 20-May 3

Judy Clark

### NURSERY CAREGIVER

Pat Torres

### SANCTUARY FLOWERS

All Dates are Open

Please call the church office to reserve a date!

## MUSIC MINISTRY

There is a song that we sing in Kids’ Club that starts out, “My God is so great, so strong and so mighty, there’s nothing my God cannot do.” Isn’t that so comforting to know that God has no limits on what He can do? We just need to believe that and trust in His plan for us.

I grew up with my cousin Steve, who was so loving and kind. Steve never developed mentally beyond being a child and couldn’t read or write, but he never met a stranger. He spoke well and had a great memory! He loved going to church and singing hymns. In February he went with to be with Jesus, and I am so comforted by that fact. He’d go up to folks and say, “I’m a Christian.” He kept the faith and love of a child. What a blessing!

The choir has grown to a nice size, and I’m so grateful for all that they do. Thank you all for your encouragement.

Paula Pressnell

## SANCTUARY FLOWERS

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

- |            |          |           |
|------------|----------|-----------|
| • April 27 | • May 25 | • June 15 |
| • May 11   | • June 1 | • June 29 |
| • May 18   | • June 8 | • July 27 |

Plus... many other dates!

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



## UPCOMING DATES IN APRIL

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| APRIL 2  | Big Wednesday<br>Kids’ Club- 6:30-7:15<br>Bible Study |
| APRIL 8  | Deacons’ Meeting                                      |
| APRIL 9  | Kids’ Club- 6-6:45<br>Bible Study                     |
| APRIL 13 | Palm Sunday   |
| APRIL 15 | Food Bank<br>of the Albemarle                         |
| APRIL 16 | Lenten Lunch<br>Easter Egg Hunt                       |
| APRIL 17 | Maundy Thursday<br>Service<br>Communion               |
| APRIL 20 | Easter Sunday   |
| APRIL 24 | Kids’ Club- 6-6:45<br>Bible Study                     |
| APRIL 30 | Kids’ Club- 6-6:45<br>Bible Study                     |

## 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 18 | Clifton Joyner  |
| April 22 | Lou Vann        |
| April 24 | Grace Harders   |
| April 25 | Tracey Vick     |
| 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 15 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 – Thursday 8:30 – 1:30  
252-398-3613      www.murfbc.org

### Our Shared Commitment to Supporting Missions and Ministry for March 2025

	Mar. 2	Mar. 9	Mar. 16	Mar. 23	Mar. 30	Monthly Total	For the Year
Weekly Budget	\$4,038.46	\$4,038.46	\$4,038.46	\$4,038.46	\$4,038.46	\$20,192.30	\$104,999.96
Weekly Tithes & Offerings	\$4,331.00	\$1,922.29	\$6,547.00	\$5,245.00	\$5,788.00	\$23,833.29	\$113,386.99
Other Income							
Over (Under)	\$292.54	(\$2,116.17)	\$2,508.54	\$1,206.54	\$1,749.54	\$3,640.99	\$ 8,387.03



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

Return Service Requested