



FROM THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE...

September is upon us! School is back in session for students of all ages. Autumn will soon be here. And decisions will soon be made about important matters in the life of our church.

Each year we choose four people to serve as deacons for a three-year term, so that we have twelve deacons serving at any given time. This is an important decision we should always approach carefully and prayerfully. This year's election is on Sunday, September 20.

I hope you'll make it a point to be present on September 13 and 20. On September 13, I'll be preaching from 1 Timothy 3:13-18 about the *qualifications* of deacons. Then on September 20, the Sunday we nominate and elect deacons, I'll be preaching from Acts 6:1-8 about the *work* of deacons. There is a list of potential deacon candidates included with this issue of *The Messenger*. As we elect deacons for the coming year, prayerfully consider these names in light of the biblical qualifications we'll consider on September 13, and seek God's guidance as you vote.

On Sunday, September 27, we will have our Quarterly Church Conference. Items on the agenda include approving the proposed 2026-2027 budget and the recommendations of the Nominating Committee. We will also vote on a recommendation from the Deacons regarding a missions opportunity.

Following the conference that Sunday, we will join together for a Fellowship Meal and this year's Ministry Fair. While the church will provide the meat, we ask that everyone bring something—vegetables, a covered dish of some kind, or a dessert. After we share the meal and fellowship

around the tables, you'll have the opportunity to sign up to help with the various ministries of our congregation. So make plans to be here a little longer on the 27th!

On another subject, we are sad to have lost Kayleigh Lance as our Director of Youth Ministry as she has taken another job in Virginia Beach and moved back there. But we are already looking for another Director of Youth Ministry and hope to secure a quality candidate soon. Please be in prayer for this search and for our youth in this interim period.

Last fall the churches in our region who are affiliated with CBF (Cooperative Baptist Fellowship) and CBFNC came together for a Northeastern NC Regional Gathering at First Baptist Church, Ahoskie. This year, we will host this event at MBC on Sunday afternoon, October 25 at 4:30. Rather than the breakout sessions and a meal along with the worship service, this year we will only have a worship service and refreshments following the service. But this will be a special time of worship that will include a joint commissioning of Matty Grace Gilliam, whom we and several other of these churches are supporting financially in her mission work with Welcome House Raleigh. Mark your calendar and plan to be part of this special gathering. A strong presence from our church will be a sign of our commitment to Matty Grace, to our congregation, and to the fellowship of the CBF churches in our region. This Gathering is for *all* the members of our churches, and especially our leaders. I hope you'll plan to participate!

Please be praying for this effort. It holds great promise for future fellowship and cooperation in mission efforts in our region.

Grace and peace,
Mark E. Perkins

It's Back!
Wednesday, September 2
6:00 p.m.

BIG WEDNESDAY

Mary Etta's Menu **Fried Chicken**
Served with Potato Salad, Butterbeans, Deviled Eggs, Rolls and Dessert

Adults... **\$10** Per Plate
Please call the church office to make your reservations.

Church DEACONS

ELECTIONS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Deacon elections will be held on Sunday, September 20, 2026. In this newsletter there is a list of members that are eligible. Please prayerfully consider who you will call to serve as a deacon for the next three years.

Save the Date...

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27

QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

To approve 2026-2027 budget and Nominating Committee Recommendations

Please Plan To Attend
Murfreesboro Baptist Church

MINISTRY FAIR

AND FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

Sunday, September 27
Here's your opportunity to find that "perfect fit"!

Connect • Grow • Serve

Learn more about the different ministries and volunteer groups in our church
Discover where God is calling you to share your time and talents

The Church will provide the Meat for lunch. We ask that you bring a vegetable, covered dish, or dessert.



Kids' Club

Resumes September 2nd at 5:00

Kids' Club is a kid-friendly time of Bible study, music, prayers, and crafts. Kids' Club is for children from age 2-5th grade. This year we will meet once a month from 5:00-5:45. Those dates are Sept 2, Oct 7, Nov 4, Dec 2, Jan 6, Feb 3, Mar 3, Apr 7, and May 5. We will study the creation story, Noah's Ark, thankfulness, the Christmas story, God's love, calling the disciples, the Resurrection story, and John 3:16. Invite children to come and learn about God's love for us all. If you have any questions, feel free to ask Sarah Davis.



Choir rehearsals are back in full force and we are enjoying praising God through music. I am grateful for each singer. We welcome anyone who would like to come and join us!

Paula

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN SEPTEMBER



September 2	Zakk Royce
September 7	Leah Faile
September 8	Margaret Murray
September 12	Jo Revelle Murray
September 14	Alice Hassell
September 15	Alexandra Piper
September 21	Christina Mitchell
September 23	Erin Faile
September 23	Christina Torres
September 25	Sara Frances Hill
September 28	Lynn Johnson
September 28	Will Revelle

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

UPCOMING DATES

September 2
Big Wednesday 6:00

Kids' Club (see times above)

September 6, 13, 20, and 27
Youth Group 5:30 p.m.

September 15
Food Bank of the Albemarle 1:30

September 20
Deacon Elections

September 22
Deacons Meeting 6:00

September 27
**Quarterly Conference
Ministry Fair
Fellowship Lunch**

USING THEIR GIFTS TO SERVE IN SEPTEMBER

Deacon of the Month
Sarah Davis

Opening of the Church
Charlie Cole

Ushers
September
Jay Revelle, Ronnie Coltrain,
and Charles Gallop

Radio Ministry Sponsors
Susan Benthall

Children's Sermon
Sarah Davis

Caregivers
Aug. 30 - Sept. 12
Colon and Jane Ballance

Sept. 13 - Sept. 26
Judy Clark

Sept. 27 - Oct. 10
Alice and Linda Hassell

Flowers
September 6 - Sarah Davis
September 13 - Church
September 20 - Booker Daniel
September 27 - Available

CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Mark E. Gaskins
PASTOR

PAULA PRESSNELL
Organist & Director of Music Ministry

TERESA MARTIN
Administrative Assistant

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 8:30 - 1:30

252-398-3613

www.murfbc.org

BLESSINGS MINISTRIES FOODBANK

OF THE

ALBEMARLE

Volunteers are needed Tuesday, September 15 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.

BUDGET REMINDER

September is the final month of our 2025-2026 fiscal year, and we are thankful and grateful your faithful and continued support of our church and its ministries.

As we prepare to close out this year, if you find you may have overlooked a regular gift, or you may be willing and able to be a little extra generous, we would be grateful.

As always, we are appreciative of your support of our church whether it be through financial gifts or with gifts of time, presence, or prayer.

The August financial statement was unavailable when the messenger went to press. When completed, the report will appear in the church bulletin and copies will be available in the church office.



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

Return Service Requested



ELECTION

Sunday, September 20, 2026

Eligible for Deacon Elections

This insert is included in the September newsletter in keeping with our church by-laws regarding deacon elections. The by-laws require a letter informing the congregation of the date scheduled for deacon elections and the individuals in the congregation who are eligible to serve. This insert fulfills these requirements.

Please prayerfully consider the names on this list, asking the Holy Spirit's guidance in discerning who among us has the spiritual gifts, sound judgement, and Christian character needed for leadership at this time in our church's life. On September 20, we will call four church members to serve three-year terms as deacons. Church staff members, their families, spouses of currently serving deacons, and former deacons whose terms ended less than one year ago are not eligible and do not appear on this list.

Awuni, Jill

Joyner, Patty

Currently Serving

Ballance, Colon

Lee, Ann

Steve Fowler (Rotating Off)

Brett, Kathy Copeland

Lee, Bob

Charlie Gallop (Rotating Off)

Broglin, Joanie

Long, John

Debbie Hill (Rotating Off)

Brown, Bruce

Rainey, Verlie

Bardin Torres (Rotating Off)

Brown, Shirley

Revelle, Claire

Mike Alston

Brown, Suzanne

Thomas, Kay

Lynette Bunch

Brown, Wayne

Torres, Armando

Frances Cole

Daniel, Booker

Warren, T.K.

Ronnie Coltrain

Dixon, Diane

Sarah Davis

Forbes, Lisa

Mary Etta Flowers

Forbes, Tommy

Linda Hassell

Jay Revelle

Harders, Lori

Not eligible Until 2027

Hill, Sarah Frances

Charlie Gallop

Steve Fowler

Bardin Torres

