



First United Methodist Church of Murphy

P. O. Box 86 (73 Valley River Avenue) Murphy, NC 28906

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Email: <u>admin@murphyfirstumc.org</u>
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Facebook: www.facebook.com/fumcmurphy/



Our **Mission** is to:

Live as a community transformed by God's grace, sent to love and serve like Jesus.

Our **Vision** is to:

Build communities of hope where all people experience belonging and abundant life.

Meet Jonathan Franz, Our Duke Divinity Summer Intern

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ! My name is Jonathan Franz, and I briefly want to introduce myself, share some of my call story, and say that I am very excited to serve Murphy First United Methodist Church this summer as the Duke Divinity field education student. I was born in San Antonio, Texas, but I have lived in Starkville, Mississippi, a small college town, for most of my life. I attended Mississippi State University (Hail State!) for my undergrad and graduated with a double major in history and classical languages (Latin and Greek.) A few fun facts about me: 1) My hobbies include flower gardening (specifically roses,) history (specifically church history and Wesley), and hiking. 2) I spent last summer studying abroad in England and crossed the North Atlantic on a ship. 3) I am the proud parent of a cat named Livia.

I also briefly wanted to share some of my call story. I have grown up in the United Methodist Church, and have always been a Church kid, however, it was during my time in college that I received a call to ministry. I was very active in the MSU Wesley Foundation and my home church where I participated in leading youth group, creating a college ministry, and serving on a preaching team through MSU's Wesley Foundation. It was also during my college years when I was diagnosed with cancer. Conversely though, it was through the experience of cancer and its treatment that I began to truly trust in God and his calling for my life. Cancer forced me to formulate my an-

swer to the question of, "is God good?" If I was able to answer that God was good, then I would be able to trust God even during the greatest trials of life. Though the true process of figuring out my own answer was long and still ongoing, the moment I hold onto came suddenly. I remember sitting at the MSU Wesley Foundation during a bible study and staring at a picture of Christ crucified, and I thought to myself, "Yes, I can trust God. I can trust God even in chemo because he has shown us who he is. Christ, who died and was resurrected for us. Christ shows the love of the father, and it will not fail." I discovered that I did deeply trust in the goodness of God, and I could trust him no matter where he called me to go. This trust and God's calling has led me to Duke Divinity School and now to Murphy. I am excited to figure out with everyone at Murphy First United Methodist Church what God's calling for this summer is!



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Church Our next church picnic will be held @ Cherokee Lake on June 4th from 4pm—6pm

Bring a meal, chairs & blankets and your toys for a day of out-door fun and fellowship!





The church joins Hayden and Tori Hughes in welcoming their daughter, Harper James, into the family! Harper was born on April 28th! We're so glad you are here!



There will be work days at the church on **June 20, 21 and 22** to paint handrails, clean the outside of the building, pressure wash the steps and walkways, trim bushes and more!. Join in and volunteer, even for a few minutes! Contact Trustee Diane Barfield (828-557-9408) for more information.

FINANCIALS:

Total Operating Budget for 2023: \$423,665

Donations needed weekly: \$8,147

As of April 30, 2023:

General Oper. Funds Received YTD: \$ 98.435.40 **Designated Funds Received YTD:** \$ 39,560.40 **Total Oper. Funds Avail. thru 4/30/23:** \$ 113,087.91 Total Desig. Funds Avail. thru 4/30/23: \$ 99,294.31

NOTE: (1) Copies of the monthly financial statements are available in the church office for those who wish to review them. (2) The financial figures reflect the basic checking and savings funds of the church, plus Designated Funds for Trustees, Harshaw Chapel, New Staff, Music and Miscellaneous. They do not include any information on Foundation funds.

SERVING IN WORSHIP



Serving in Worship

If you are interested in serving as a Liturgist, Crucifer or Acolyte (age 7+), please contact Kathryn Jenkins at (404) 395-2390 or

rkjenkins330@gmail.com.



AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT COMMITTEE NEWS

The committee members are working with the Trustees to improve things in our church. There will soon be a rearrangement of the parking lot spaces which will make it safer and easier to access for many of our members. One thing that ALL of us can do is to keep our areas clean and neat. This will prevent falls and help members with limited mobility move around our church more easily. "A place for everything and everything in its place" makes a big difference.



The Greeting Card Ministry will meet at 11am before the Willing Hands Circle meeting on Wednesday, June 21st in Fellowship Hall. If you can use a glue stick, come and lend a hand. We make cards for our members who may not be able to attend church or need a kind word. Contact Sharon Francis if you have any questions (828-646-1105) or sharonk1017@gmail.com.



FUMC KAYAKING & HIKING GROUP



We are excited to be active again. We have done Panther Top and Cherokee Lake. We hope to add several outings this Summer. If you want to be on our email group, send your email address to cobbyb@yahoo.com or follow us in our Facebook group:





Explore the THIRD Floor!

Did you know our church has beautiful rooms for use on the top floor of the Education Building? We have several clean, newly painted classrooms that are not being used. If you or your group does not have a problem with stairs, PLEASE consider taking advantage of these spaces for your activities.

REMEMBER THE SUPPLY ROOM!

We are always adding materials to the supply room on the third floor of the education building. Teachers and leaders of activities can check out materials and find ideas on the shelves there. If we need something to be replenished, please contact Diane Barfield.

Trustee on Call for June: Rob Robertson (770-598-5638)



Keep the following in your thoughts and prayers:

Ruth Vespasian; Scott Adams; Tony Licata; Matt Licata; Trina Iurilli; Christine Iurilli; Karen Bateman; Carl Swanson; Ukraine and its

people; Paul Britten; Raven Chiong; Karey & Eric Sneed; Chris Hett; Veronica Bright; Arlene Murphy; Alexis; Harrell Barfield; Becky Blair; David Hotchkiss; Craig Nelson; Allen Durant; Nannette & Family; Stephen & Kayla Kirby; David Chapman; Family of Tammy Jones; Mandy Agudong; Marty Ward; Susie Pauley.

If you have specific prayer needs, fill out and submit a blue Prayer Request Card, or call the church office or pastor (828-837-2718), or email the Prayer Team at: prayfumc@gmail.com.



OFFICE VOLUNTEERS	OFFERING COUNTERS
Monday, June 5: Liz Pipes	June 06: Janie Forrister/Karen Watson
Tuesday, June 6,13,20,27: Linda Ray	June 13: Catherine Brown/Dottie Wershing
Wednesday, June 14,28: Marilyn Jones	June 20: Catherine Brown/Anita Sloan
Thursday, June 8: Marilyn Jones	June 27: Karen Watson/Janie Forrister
Thursday, June 15,22,29: Dottie Wershing	
Monday, June 12,19,26: open	
Wednesday, June 7,12: open	



STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENTS FOR JUNE***

We ask that you come to church on Sundays or continue to watch our Sunday worship livestream platform and stay in touch with your friends and family.

Cross Bearer: Becky Nelson *** Acolytes: open ***

Lay Reader/Liturgist: Thomas Nelson *** Offering Prayer: Kathryn Jenkins ***

Greeters: Blake & Julie Hughes***

Pew Maintenance: Welcoming Committee

Communion Preparation: Worship Committee **Fellowship Lunch Host:** N/A **Counters:** Janie Forrister, Karen Watson, Dottie Wershing, Catherine Brown, Anita Sloan

Office Volunteers: Linda Ray, Dottie Wershing, Marilyn Jones, Liz Pipes

TRUSTEE On Call: Rob Robertson (770-598-5638)

Communications Team: Sue Bell, Nancy Jo Willis, Lori Nicholson, Diane Barfield, Marji Hill

*** Substitutes can occur.

MISSIONS = L N

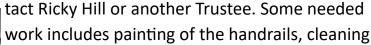


The Mission Team has been busy helping at The Still Place in Hayes-ville. Members of the team cleaned the hiking trail, installed benches and put up educational signs along the trail. They also hiked at Fires Creek with one of the families and plan on going again soon. Some members will be working in the gardens and helping out with meals. Anyone in the congregation who wishes to volunteer at The Still Place can contact a member of the Mission Team. There are many opportunities! There will be two families each week coming to Hayesville for a peaceful and fun time in the area.

Service Sunday went very well and we plan to do it again next year. The Mission Team also voted to give \$500 to the Pregnancy and Parenting Center to help them move into their new home (the old Sears building).



There has been progress made on the basement area! The Community Room has a new look. Volunteers have painted part of the room and cleaned the pipes. The room is now clean and fresh and groups can enjoy using it. HUGE thanks to Dottie Wershing, Cobby Barfield, Grace and Becky Nelson for their hard work. Future plans include completing the wall repairs and installing a full kitchen. The Trustees ask that anyone who has the time and wants to help with church projects, please con-







of the front steps, removal of old furniture and cleaning of the cobwebs around the windows. Watch for the announcement of work dates.







Congratulations to all of our high school and college graduates!

- * John Allen, Murphy High School
- * Lochlan Rogers, Murphy High School
- * Nadia Svitil, Murphy High School
- * Chloe Nicholson, UT Chattanooga, Masters Degree
- * Kathryn Keily Jenkins, Appalachian State
- * Nikki Roberson, Western Carolina University
- * Kayla Clonts, Eastern Carolina University
- Patrick Allen, Young Harris College









Moms' Small Group Bible Study A new small group for moms is beginning June 14th from 9:30-11:30am at the church, led by Lea Posey and Kendra Fokakis. Child care will be available.

For more information, please contact Lea at leajsposey@gmail.com or Kendra at rehnerk@gmail.com.

Congratulations to Asher Brinke and Patrick Allen for their latest academic achievements! Asher has been named to the President's Honor Roll at the University of North Georgia, and Patrick has been named to the Dean's List at Young Harris College!

TRIVIA QUESTION: What is the difference between the Soul Table and a church Pot Luck?

There is NOTHING better than "church lady food" and we all enjoy such delicious choices when we get together for a church dinner. Fellowship is so important within the church and our dinners are a huge part of that. The Soul Table is a little different. We are feeding the public as well as members of our congregation and the rules are more restrictive. We must abide by Health Department Regulations when it comes to food preparation and serving. Temperatures must be kept at proper limits of hot and cold, sanitation measures must be in place including using gloves while in the kitchen and cleaning dishes in the dish sanitizer. We are so blessed to have chef J.P. who is certified in ServeSafe to guide our efforts as we reach out to the community. Because of all of the rules, congregational food donations have to be limited (unfortunate for all of us who LOVE church cooking), spices have to be managed, food allergies have to be considered and much, much more. The Soul Table team welcomes all members of the congregation to come help cook in the church kitchen, serve our guests on the first Thursday of each month and visit with our neighbors as they eat. Desserts and bread are welcome as donations.





Youth are now in summer mode, with pop-up gatherings happening throughout the summer.

In June, **FLOWERS**

for the altar each Sunday will be provided by:

June 4—OPEN June 11—OPEN June 18—OPEN June 25—OPEN

To reserve a Sunday in 2023 to provide altar flowers, please call the church office at 828-837-2718. Thank You!



Contacts

Pastor Wil Posey pastor@murphyfirstumc.org

Jonathan Franz—Duke Summer Intern
Jif101@duke.edu

Music—Suzanne West music@murphyfirstumc.org

Maggie Corrigan—Admin Asst admin@murphyfirstumc.org

Patty Singer—Nursery Assistant
Mary Lee—Nursery Assistant



Adult Sunday School meets at 10am in Fellowship Hall led by Wally Avett.

The Nursery (Room 202) is available for children aged 0-2yrs from 10am-Noon.

Children's Music and Play (on break for the summer)

Children's Church (Room 205) Children aged Kindergarten through 2nd grade are invited to attend Children's Church after they are dismissed from the worship service. All other children should remain with their parents in worship.



WILLING HANDS Caring: Our next Willing Hands meeting will be on Wednesday, June 21st, at 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall. The Greeting Card Ministry will gather at 11:00 am to create more special cards for our church members and friends. At this meeting, we plan to discuss summer activities and

will be collecting needed items for The Still Place.

We just completed putting together 26 Comfort Bags and Pastor Wil blessed them in church. These Comfort Bags have been taken to REACH and the Sheriff's Dept so they can

be given out to children in rough situations.



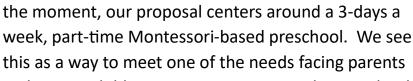


nity are invited to these meetings. Feel free to contact any member of our United Women in Faith group or call Karen Watson (828-361-9520) or Nancy Jo Willis (850-428-3636) with questions, comments, ideas, etc.

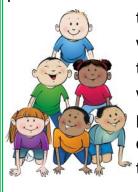


Experimenting with solutions for families needing childcare.

Our Preschool Cohort continues to meet to explore how FUMC might be part of the solution for families needing childcare in our community. At



with young children in our community. The Preschool Cohort will deliver a proposal to a called Administrative Council meeting on June 12, and the conversation will continue from there. We invite your prayers for this initiative and effort to live into our mission.





Meet our new nursery workers!

Ms. Patty Singer

&

Ms. Mary Lee
Let's make them feel welcome!



We've started planning for our 2023 VBS scheduled for July 30—Aug 3rd, 5:30-7:30pm.

We need everyone's help!
Please reach out to Lea Posey at leajsposey@gmail.com to get involved.



06/01—Catherine Thorley

06/02—Leah Palmer

06/07—James Jallah

06/09—Alice Lewis

06/11—Marilyn Jones

06/13—Brooks Brown; Sue Parker

06/15—Adam Clonts

06/16—Terri Stroup; Gary Thompson

06/19—Sasha Mendoza; Micah Nelson

06/20—David Sumpter

06/23—Kathryn Keily Jenkins

06/25—William Madden

06/26—Tom Payne

06/27—Diane Barfield

06/29—Karen Crump; Maria McLeod

06/30—Tim Nicholson; Sandy Sumpter





for submitting information for the July edition of the newsletter!

Monday, June 26th, 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 10am Adult SS Class 10:55am Worship 11:15am Children's Church (K-2nd) 5pm AA Mtg	29 MEMORIAL DAY, OFFICE IS CLOSED 11:45am Chair Exercises	30 10am Preschool Theater	31 11:45am Chair Exercises	1 10am Quilters 11am Soul Table 5pm Finance Committee 6pm Oaks Academy Graduation	2 11:45am Chair Exercises	3
4 COMMUNION SUN 10am Adult SS Class 10am Playground Church 10:55am Worship 11:15am Children's Church (K-2nd) 4-6pm Church Pic- nic, Cherokee Lake 5pm AA Mtg		6	7 11:45am Chair Exercises 5:30pm Choir Rehearsal	8 10am Quilters	9 11:45am Chair Exercises	10 8am UMM Mtg
11 10am Adult SS Class 10am Nursery 10:55am Worship 11:15am Children's Church (K-2nd) 5pm AA Mtg	9:30am Little Melodies 11:45am Chair Exercises 5:30pm Admin Council	13	14 9:30am Mom's Bible Study 11:45am Chair Exer- cises	15 10am Quilters	16 11:45am Chair Exercises	17
18 10am Adult SS Class 10am Nursery 10:55am Worship 11:15am Children's Church (K-2nd) 5pm AA Mtg	9am VAYA Heath 9:30am Little Mel- odies 10am Wood Carv- ing 11:45am Chair Exercises 12pm Mission Team	20 9am Church Work Day	21 9am Church Work Day 9:30am Mom's Bible Study 11am Greeting Cards 11:45am Chair Exercises 12pm Willing Hands Meeting	9am Church Work Day 10am Quilters	23 11:45am Chair Exercises	24
25 10am Adult SS Class 10am Nursery 10:55am Worship 11:15am Children's Church (K-2nd) 5pm AA Mtg	9:30am Little Melodies 11:45am Chair Exercises 5:00pm SPPRC	27	28 9:30am Mom's Bible Study 11:45am Chair Exer- cises	29 10am Quilters	30 11:45am Chair Exercises	1





STAFF:

Rev. Wil Posey, Pastor

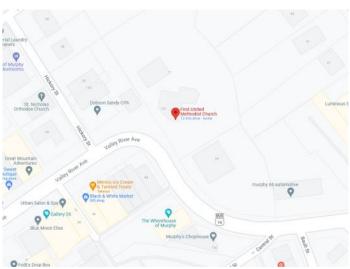
pastor@murphyfirstumc.org

Maggie Corrigan, Admin. Assistant

admin@murphyfirstumc.org

Patty Singer & Mary Lee, Nursery Assts.

Suzanne West, Director of Music music@murphyfirstumc.org



OFFICE HOURS:

The church office is open Mondays thru Thursdays from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

If you wish to speak with a member of our church staff, please call the church office at 828-837-2718 and leave a message, or call the desired individual on their cell

The mission of First United Methodist Church is to live as a community transformed by God's grace, sent to love and serve like Jesus.