

*The Sunday after Epiphany*

Memorial Baptist Church  
Buies Creek, North Carolina

Come, then, let us hasten yonder;  
There let all, great and small,  
Kneel in awe and wonder.  
Love him who with love is yearning!  
Hail the Star that from far  
Bright with hope is burning.

~ "All My Heart This Night Rejoices,"  
Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676 (ad.),  
trans. Catherine Winkworth,  
1829-1878

## MUSIC FOR GATHERING

WELCOME Meredith Lanier Craddock, *Associate Pastor*

For the Lord is a great God;  
**The Lord reigns above all other gods.**  
 In God's hand are the depths of the earth, and also the heights of the mountains.  
**The sea is the Lord's, who made it, and the dry land, whose hands formed it.**  
 O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!  
**For the Lord is our God;**  
**and we are the people of God's pasture, and the sheep of God's hand.**

† INVOCATION Mrs. Craddock

CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF GRACE Edward Beddingfield, *Pastor*

OLD TESTAMENT	Isaiah 60: 1-6	Mr. Beddingfield
	The wealth of the nations shall come to you . . .	
	They shall bring gold and frankincense,	
	And shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.	

GOSPEL	Matthew 2: 1-12	Mrs. Craddock
On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage.		

ANTIPHON                      *Come, Let Us Worship and Bow Down*                      Dave Doherty

*\* At the end of the Antiphon, the children may leave with Mrs. Meredith from the rear of the sanctuary for Kids' Church.*

SERMON	<i>Paying Our Respects</i> (A sermon for Epiphany)	Mr. Beddingfield
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VOCAL WITNESS	<i>Some Children See Him</i> Michael Lester, <i>vocalist</i>	Alfred Burt
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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and The Lord's Prayer ( <i>unison</i> )	Mr. Beddingfield
<p>Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.</p>	

INVITATION TO GIVE and OFFERTORY      *We Three Kings*      arr. Tim Doran

† HYMN OF INVITATION and SENDING FORTH 117 DIX  
*As with Gladness Men of Old*

† LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY Mr. Beddingfield

† BENEDICTION *Ad. fr. John Claypool* Mr. Beddingfield

Go now into God's world as those who are called to be God's people, remembering as you go that by God's goodness you were born into this life, by God's grace you have been kept to this very hour, and by God's love, fully revealed in Jesus Christ, you are being redeemed, now and forevermore. Amen.

POSTLUDE *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* James Mansfield

**Members:** Susan Morrow, David Price, Will and Christine Roberts, Harriet Enzor, Betty Wallace, Jimmy Jung, Carolyn Walker, Linda Smith, Mary Lou Ellen, Pauline Calloway

**Family and Friends:** Family of Kathleen Whatley (*mother of Jac Whatley*), Family of Beth Johnson (*mother of Adriane Karlinski—daughter of Randall Johnson*), Family of Mary Ann Tomlinson (*mother of Meredith Williams*), David Lanier (*brother of Meredith Craddock*), Sandy Howard (*friend of Susan Cannady*), Brian Worth (*friend of Cindy Avrette*), Frank and Peggy Giunta (*grandparents of Heather Giunta*), Laura Yarbrough

**Emerald Health and Rehab Center (Lillington, NC):** Pat Stiller

**Prayers of Comfort** are extended to the family of Anne McClain in the death of her mother, Virginia Blackwell, on Monday, January 2nd.

*In order to keep our prayer list current, we will place names on the list for one month. After one month we will remove names from the list. If there is a need for a name to be on the list for a longer period, please notify us and we will be happy to comply.*



You may place your offering in the offering plate during the service, or use this QR code to donate using your phone, or click the *Donate* tab on the website. Thank you for giving to Memorial Baptist Church.

**Deacons for January 2023:** Theresa Batten and Trinity Kelly  
**Deacons for February 2023:** Brandon Brown and Bob Cisneros

**Ushers Today:** Siu-Ki Wong, Brandon Brown, Beverley Howard and Matthew Sadler

**Ushers January 15:** Jeff Pope, Derek Hogan, Ron McLamb and Joshua Taylor

Kid's Church Today: Meredith Craddock

**Memorial Baptist Church**

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meredith@memorialbcnc.org  
ashley@memorialbcnc.org

Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm  
Other Staff: By Appointment

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† *The congregation is invited to stand.*


**TODAY, January 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**Friends Class - Sunday School:** 8:45 a.m. (In Person & Online)  
**Sarah’s Open Door Class - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m. (In Person & Online)  
**Children - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Worship Service:** 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
**Kids’ Church:** 10:15 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
**Youth - Sunday School:** 6:00 p.m. (Online)  
*The Floral Committee will be taking down Christmas decorations today following the worship service. All are welcome to stay and help.*

**MONDAY, January 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**Deacon’s Meeting:** 7:00 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, January 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**Children’s Choir:** 5:30 p.m. (Choir Room)  
**Simple Supper - Nacho Bar:** 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
**Mission Kids:** 6:30 p.m.  
**Youth Activity:** 6:30 p.m.  
**Adult Bible Study - Materiality (Money):** 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
**Chancel Choir Rehearsal:** 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

**JANUARY 2023**

- 15 **Friends Class - Sunday School:** 8:45 a.m. (In Person & Online)  
**Sarah’s Open Door Class - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m. (In Person & Online)  
**Children - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Worship Service:** 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
**Kids’ Church:** 10:15 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
**Youth - Sunday School:** 6:00 p.m. (Online)
- 18 **Children’s Choir:** 5:30 p.m. (Choir Room)  
**Simple Supper:** 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
**Mission Kids:** 6:30 p.m.  
**Youth Activity:** 6:30 p.m.  
**Adult Bible Study - Materiality (Food):** 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
**Chancel Choir Rehearsal:** 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)
- 22 **Friends Class - Sunday School:** 8:45 a.m. (In Person & Online)  
**Sarah’s Open Door Class - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m. (In Person & Online)  
**Children - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Worship Service:** 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
**Kids’ Church:** 10:15 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
**Youth - Sunday School:** 6:00 p.m. (Online)
- 25 **Children’s Choir:** 5:30 p.m. (Choir Room)  
**Simple Supper:** 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
**Mission Kids:** 6:30 p.m.  
**Youth Activity:** 6:30 p.m.  
**CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING:** 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
**Chancel Choir Rehearsal:** 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)



**WINTER  
MID-WEEK  
DISCUSSION  
GROUP**

**Wednesday Evenings at 6:30 p.m.**

***MATERIALITY:***  
***Five Ways for Real People to Be Moral***  
***in the Real World.***

*(Based on a 2020 book with a similar title by theologian and author Walter Brueggemann)*

Nobody ever accused Jesus of being a “materialist,” Dr. Brueggemann writes. But that doesn’t mean he neglected the real material problems of real material people in the real material world. Just read Jesus’ summary of his own work, the proof as he saw it that he was acting on behalf of God. When John the Baptist sent word from prison, “Are you the On who is to come, or should we look for another?”, Jesus answered, “Go and tell John what you see and hear: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news preached to them” *(Luke 7:19, 22). That’s real, here-and-now stuff.*

When we Christians think about “morality,” we often envision activities that are personal, private, inward, and above all, other-worldly in their results. We are preparing ourselves, especially our souls, to go to heaven when we die. Jesus preached “Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,” but not just “in the sweet by-and-by.” How did he say it? . . . “On earth as it is in heaven.” Morality, as Jesus taught and lived it, was as much about navigating this world as it was about charting our way to the next.

So how do we do that? Join us on Wednesday nights this winter as we discuss it together. Here’s a list of dates and topics:

January 11: <i>Money</i>	February 1: <i>Bodies</i>
January 18: <i>Food</i>	February 8: <i>Time</i>
January 25: Bi-monthly business conference	February 15: <i>Place</i>
	February 22: Ash Wednesday; Lent begins



**Thank you**

**Missions Mailbox**

Thank you so much for the outstanding support of our MBC Missions Mailbox.

Due to your generosity, the Mission Kids will have \$931 to put toward the purchase of animals and/or other items to benefit families in needy areas of our world. We will select our offerings from World Vision and report back to you soon.

~ With appreciation, MBC Mission Kids

*\*\* Please check the table in the foyer to see if you have any Christmas cards left from **Missions Mailbox**.*

**CHURCH MISSION PROJECTS**

- Clothes Closet:** Date TBA
- Harnett Food Pantry:** collecting **non-perishable foods** and **egg cartons**  
**Needed for January - - Canned Mixed Vegetables**  
*You may also make a monetary donation to Memorial Baptist Church and put ‘Food Pantry’ on the memo line.*
- Buddy Backpack:** collecting “**nab crackers**”  
*[cheese with cheese or cheese with peanut butter]*  
*You may also make a monetary donation to Memorial Baptist Church and put ‘Buddy Backpack’ on the memo line.*



*The Sunday after Epiphany*  
*January 8, 2023*

*Memorial Baptist Church is an inviting, inclusive, Christ-centered community of faith open to all persons who want to walk with us in following the way of Jesus. If you mourn and need comfort; if you’re weary and need rest; if you feel friendless and need friendship; if you need a Savior; if you need love; if you need help; whoever you are and whatever your circumstances, we open the door and in the name of Jesus bid you come.*

The Rev. Edward Beddingfield, Pastor  
Meredith Lanier Craddock, Associate Pastor  
Dr. Phillip and Susan Morrow, Ministers of Music  
Anne McClain, Organist  
Mariamarta Conrad, Worship Assistant  
Ashley Nelson, Administrative Assistant  
Wayne Smith, Custodian