THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 23, 2023 Ten O'clock in the Morning Memorial Baptist Church Buies Creek, North Carolina

Hope isn't something I find, or stumble upon. Hope is the act of walking itself. It's the determination fueling the search for joy, the dogged pursuit of something other than what I already know.

Whatever keeps me trying, that's hope – what can't give up on God or love or good in precisely the moment that giving up seems like the only reasonable thing to do.

~ Ad. fr. an online journal by Libby Howe, staff member at the Wisconsin Council of Churches, written in March, 2020, at the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

The Solid Rock
Anne McClain, organ

arr. Douglas Wagner

WELCOME

Edward Beddingfield, Pastor

† INVOCATION

Ad. fr. *The Encyclopedia of Prayer and Praise* Nark Water, ed., Hendrickson Pub., 2004.

Mr. Beddingfield

O God, the author and fountain of hope, help us this day and always to rely with confident expectation on your promise of peace and strength and joy.
O God, who never forsakes those who trust in you, may that hope preserve us sure and steadfast, unshaken and secure,

in all the difficulties and disappointments of life.

O God, who knows the plans you have for us, even when we do not, remind us that the trials and hindrances of this present time

are not worth comparing with the glory that shall be revealed.

Help us, O God, to hope where we have not seen,

then to believe where we have hoped, then to walk where we have believed, until our footsteps bring us at last and forevermore to your eternal presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray, **Amen.**

† GATHERING HYMN

The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA (alt. text)

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ our Lord; We are his new creation by water and the Word; From heaven he came and sought us that we might ever be His living servant people, by his own death set free.

Called forth from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth; Our charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth. One holy name professing, and at one table fed, To one hope always pressing, by Christ's own Spirit led.

Though with a scornful wonder the world sees us oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, "How long?"
But soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

We now on earth have union with God the Three in One,
And share, through faith, communion with those whose rest is won.
Oh, happy ones, and holy! Lord, give us grace that we
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF GRACE Brittany Montgomery, Ministry Intern

PROCLAIMING

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 40: 28-31

Adam English

Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength: they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

PSALTER (responsively)

Psalm 139: 1-12a, 23-24 (para.)

Mr. Beddingfield

O Lord, you have searched me and known me!

You know when I sit down, and you know when I stand up; you know what I am thinking from far away.

You know where I walk and where I lie down to rest; you are familiar with all my ways.

Before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you already know it.

You hem me in, behind me and ahead of me, and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me!

It is high; I could never attain it.

Where can I go from your Spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

If I ascend to heaven, you are there;

if I make my bed in the grave, you are there.

If I take the wings of the morning and dwell at the utmost limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,

and the light around me be as night,"
even the darkness is not dark to you, and the night is as bright as day.

Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me, and know my thoughts!

And see if there be any wicked way in me,

and lead me in the way everlasting. Amen.

† SONG OF TESTIMONY Th

That's What Faith Must Be

To hear with my heart, to see with my soul
To be guided by a hand I cannot hold
To trust in a way that I cannot see

That's what faith must be.

EPISTLE

Romans 8: 18-25

Charissa English

Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what can be seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

SERMON

Wait and See

Mr. Beddingfield

RESPONDING

VOCAL TESTIMONY

Safe Within Your Arms
Jonathan Lazenby, vocalist

Mark Hayes

Michael Card

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Meredith Lanier Craddock, Associate Pastor

and The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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.

INVITATION TO GIVE and OFFERTORY

To Walk in Faith

David Paxton

SENDING

† INVITATION and HYMN OF SENDING FORTH

Hymn of Promise

PROMISE

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; In cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody; There's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me. From the past will come the future; what unfolds, a mystery, Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity; In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity. In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory, Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

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

Mighty Maker of All

Rachel Sawyer

PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

<u>Members</u>: Jac Whatley, Will and Christine Roberts, Betty Wallace, Jimmy Jung, Linda Smith, Pauline Calloway

Family and Friends: Dwight Stephenson (brother of Neil Stephenson); Olivia Wooten (goddaughter of Claudia and Stan Cole); Lacy Massey (step-dad of Jeff Pope); Wayne McLamb (brother-in-law of Jeff Pope); Brian Worth (friend of Cindy Avrette); Josephine Simpson (neighbor of Pastor Ed); Glenn Johnson; Parker Wilson (Sylva, NC); Donna Haynes and her brother, Michael Warren; David Lanier (brother of Meredith Craddock); Maurice Johnson (brother of Randall Johnson and Shelby Stancil); Aaron Bowers (brother of Charissa English); Peggy Giunta (grandmother of Heather Giunta); Noah Rayon (student from CFCA)

Aldersgate senior living center (Charlotte, NC): Louise Taylor

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

 \dagger The congregation is invited to stand.

Deacons for July 2023: Theresa Batten and Trinity Kelly

Deacons for August 2023: Brandon Brown and Tammy Scarborough

<u>Ushers Today</u>: Nancy Brady, Bob Cisneros, Barrett Kesling and Miles West <u>Ushers Iuly 30</u>: Al Hardison, Randall Johnson, Susan Johnson and Linda Lunney

No Kids' Church during the month of July

Financial Position for the Period 1/1/23 - 6/30/23 » Total support, 1/1/2023 - 6/30/2023 \$ 200,653 » Total expenditures \$ (187,088) » Support exceeded expenditures 13,565 » Total 2023 Budget Proposal \$ 413,084 » Percent of year passed 50% » Support needed to meet budget \$ 204,844 » Undesignated support received as of 6/30/2023 \$ 182,719 » Budget support shortfall as of 6/30/2023 \$ **(22,125)** » Principal due on line of credit for church renovation \$ 75,929

TODAY, July 23rd

Friends Class - Sunday School: 8:45 a.m.

Sarah's Open Door Class - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.

Children - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (Library)
Youth - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)

* No Kids' Church during the month of July

WEDNESDAY, July 26th

Simple Supper: 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

BUSINESS MEETING: 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Summer Choir Rehearsal IV: 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

JULY 2023

30 Friends Class - Sunday School: 8:45 a.m.

Sarah's Open Door Class - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.

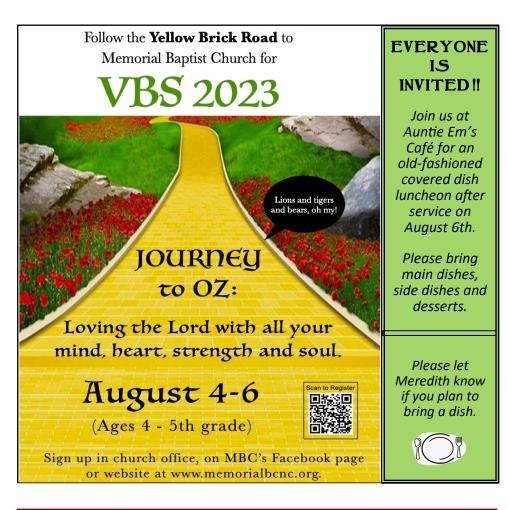
Children - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (Library)
Youth - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)

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AUGUST 2023

- 2 * No Wednesday Night Activities
- 4 VBS ~ JOURNEY to OZ: 4 p.m. 7:30 p.m.
- 5 VBS ~ JOURNEY to OZ: 10 a.m. 2:30 p.m.
- 6 VBS JOURNEY to OZ: 10 a.m. 12:30 p.m. (including church-wide lunch)





For July, we are collecting **Brushes**, **Combs** and **Deodorant**.

We also welcome monetary donations to go toward the purchase of backpacks and Bibles. Designate your donation as 'Backpacks.'

Here are items we will be collecting in the near future: candy (no chocolate), pop-top canned food items (such as ravioli, tuna, beef stew, vegetables, fruit, etc.)

CHURCH MISSION PROJECTS

Harnett Food Pantry: collecting non-perishable foods and egg cartons
 Needed for July - - Applesauce

Monetary donations to MBC are also welcome. Designate 'Food Pantry' on the memo line.

Memorial Baptist Church

271 Leslie Campbell Avenue/P.O. Box 485 Buies Creek, NC 27506

Telephone: 910-893-4162 Fax: 910-893-2167

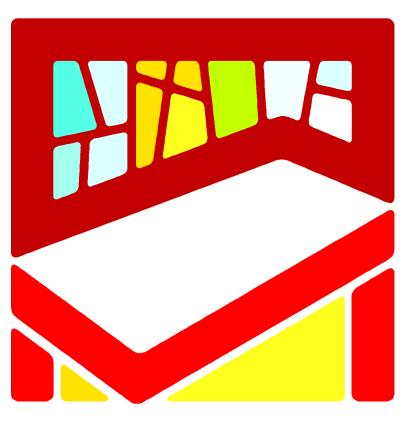
Website: www.memorialbcnc.org

Emails: edb@memorialbcnc.org

meredith@memorialbcnc.org

ashley@memorialbcnc.org

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



MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 23, 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
Brittany Montgomery, Ministry Intern
Mariamarta Conrad, Worship Assistant
Ashley Nelson, Administrative Assistant
Wayne Smith, Custodian