

Hope

Memorial Baptist Church
Buies Creek, North Carolina

~ “Christmas Carol” (ad.), by Phillips Brooks (1835-1893),
Episcopal clergyman and rector of Boston’s Trinity Church,
perhaps best known as author of “O Little Town of Bethlehem.”

PRELUDE	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i> Anne McClain, organ	James Mansfield
---------	--	-----------------

**God is faithful, by whom we have been called
into the fellowship of God's Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Almighty God, merciful Savior, and indwelling Spirit: You are the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, who created all things, who sustains all things, and who is drawing all things to fulfillment in you. The coming of your Son was long-expected and joyfully-awaited by your people. We ourselves have believed in his coming and have experienced his living presence, and we, too, long for his return with hopeful anticipation. In that Last Day, when Christ comes again to judge the living and the dead and to call his people home, may we be found in him, blameless and watchful; in his name we pray, **Amen.**

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down . . .
Now consider that we are all your people.

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.

Teachers are still needed for Kids' Church and Nursery.
The sign up sheet is located on the bulletin board.
Your help is **much** needed and appreciated!



“Advent is a season to linger in longing. This poses a challenge in our tired, time-tabled culture. We are used to having what gratifies...”
This is the beginning phrase from our Advent devotional booklet, which begins **TODAY**. Please take a devotion book & spend a few moments everyday praying, reading & reflecting. During this time of longing, as we wait for our Savior’s birth, let’s spend some time waiting with God.

TODAY, December 3rd

First Sunday of Advent

Friends Class - Sunday School: 9:00 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
Chancel Choir Cantata Rehearsal: immediately following worship service
Buies Creek Christmas Parade: 4 p.m.

TUESDAY, December 5th

Christmas at Campbell: 7:00 p.m. (Hobson Performance Center)

WEDNESDAY, December 6th

Children’s Choir: 5:00 p.m. (Choir Room)
Simple Supper - Breakfast for Dinner: 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
Chrismon Tree Decorating: 6:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)
Everyone is invited to attend!
Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

DECEMBER 2023

10 Second Sunday of Advent

Friends Class - Sunday School: 9:00 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)
Kids’ Church: during worship (Library)
Children’s Christmas Musical Dress Rehearsal:
immediately following worship service
Advent Dinners: 5:00 p.m.
“Good King Wenceslas” Children’s Christmas Musical: 7:00 p.m.

13 * No Children’s Choir

Simple Supper - Pizza & Salad: 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
Gingerbread House Decorating: 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
This event is for ALL ages! The church will provide the gingerbread house. Please bring any of your favorite decorating candy to share. Some candy, snacks & icing will be provided.

Financial Position for the Period 1/1/23 - 10/31/23

» Total support, 1/1/2023 - 10/31/2023	\$ 351,769
» Total expenditures	\$ (326,451)
» Support exceeds Expenditures	\$ 25,318
» Total 2023 Budget Proposal	\$ 413,084
» Percent of year passed	83%
» Support needed to meet budget	\$ 344,048
» Undesignated support received as of 10/31/2023	\$ 308,239
» Budget support shortfall as of 10/31/2023	\$ (35,809)
» Principal due on line of credit for church renovation	\$ 69,487



CAPITAL DEBT CAMPAIGN

A generous donor has agreed to match any donations made to our capital debt between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31 up to \$20,000.

Thanks to the donor and to all of you for your faithful giving to MBC.

Goal	\$20,000.00
Gifts Received as of 11-26-23	\$15,734.45
79%	

Missions Mailbox



MBC Mission Kids are hosting their annual Missions Mailbox through Sunday, December 24th.

Missions Mailbox is offered for you to be able to “mail” a Christmas card to someone in our congregation. The mailbox is set up in the narthex. The cost to “mail” a card is only **25¢** per card.

All the money raised will go to support a mission project.

CHURCH LIBRARY CLEANOUT

Please take time to look at the discarded books on the cart in the Narthex. They are free to take. Books by authors such as Billy Graham, Corrie ten Boom, Catherine Marshal & Charles Allen to name a few.

CHURCH MISSION PROJECTS

- **Harnett Food Pantry:** collecting **non-perishable foods and egg cartons**
Needed for November & December - - **Peanut Butter**
Monetary donations to MBC are also welcome. Designate contribution as ‘Food Pantry.’
- **Buddy Backpack:** collecting “**nab crackers**”
[cheese with cheese or cheese with peanut butter]
Monetary donations to MBC are also welcome. Designate contribution as ‘Buddy Backpack.’

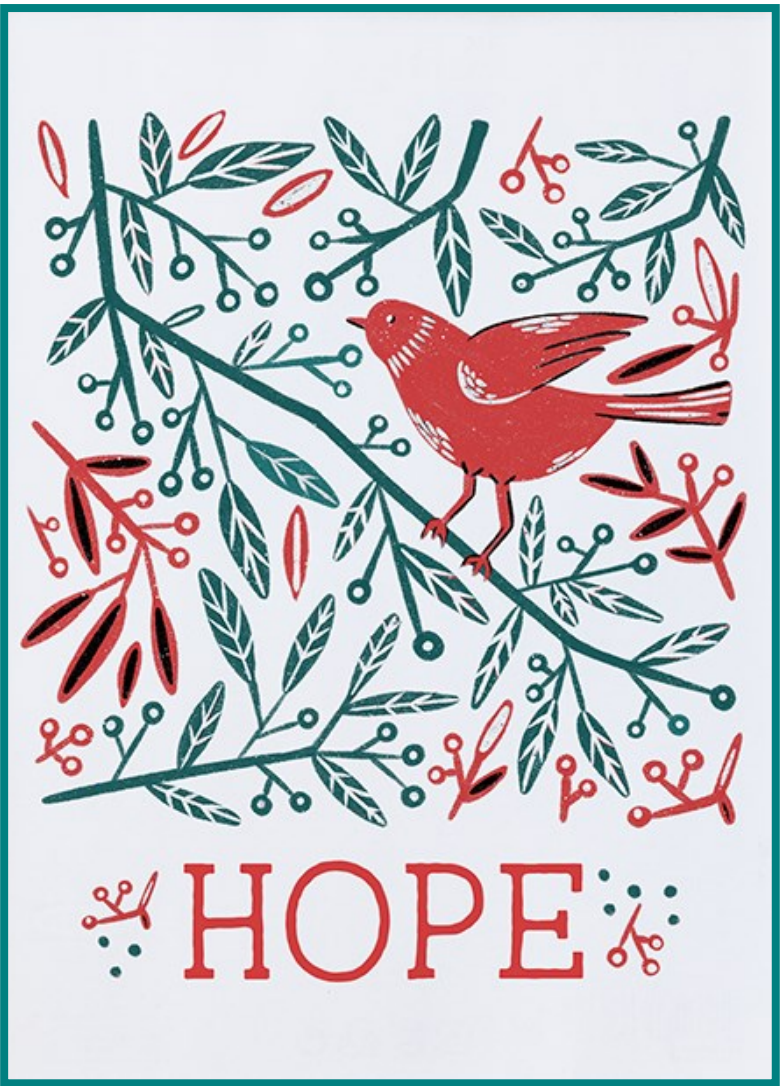
Memorial Baptist Church

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



First Sunday of Advent
Hope

December 3, 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