

## Joy

~ John of Damascus (c. 675 – c. 749), an Arab Christian monk, priest, hymnwriter (some still used today), theologian and teacher.

† *The congregation is invited to stand.*

Readers: Temple Cannady,  
Conrad Riewestahl, Garrett Riewestahl,  
Nate Rich and Carlie Snyder

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!

TODAY, December 17<sup>th</sup>

Third 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)  
Chancel Choir Cantata-Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
Kids' Church: during worship (Library)  
Fireside at Memorial: 7 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
*Please bring a Christmas dessert or treat to share afterward.*

WEDNESDAY, December 20<sup>th</sup>

\* No Children's Choir  
\* No Simple Supper  
Church-wide Caroling: Meet at MBC at 5:30 p.m.  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

DECEMBER 2023

24 Fourth Sunday of Advent

\* No Sunday School  
Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
\* No Kids' Church  
Christmas Eve Service: 5:30 p.m.  
Lessons and Carols, Candles and Communion

25 Church Office Closed for Christmas Holiday

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27 \* No Wednesday Night Activities

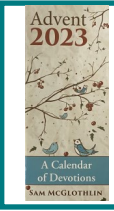
31 Friends Class - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.  
Sarah's Open Door Class - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.  
Children - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (Library)  
Youth - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
\* No Kids' Church

JANUARY 2024

1 Happy New Year  
Church Office Closed


Check the bulletin board for community announcements.

\* **Year-End Giving:** In planning your year-end giving, please be reminded that your contributions must be received in the church office by noon on **December 29, 2023** (or post-marked by **December 31, 2023**) in order to be reported as a 2023 gift.



“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...”

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.



**CAPITAL DEBT CAMPAIGN**

Thanks to the donor and all of you for your faithful giving to MBC, our Capital Campaign goal has more than been met!!

Goal	\$20,000.00
Gifts Received as of 12-15-23	\$20,320.45

102%

**CHURCH MISSION PROJECTS**

- Harnett Food Pantry:** collecting **non-perishable foods** and **egg cartons**  
Needed for 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](http://www.memorialbcnc.org)  
Emails: [edb@memorialbcnc.org](mailto:edb@memorialbcnc.org)  
[meredith@memorialbcnc.org](mailto:meredith@memorialbcnc.org)  
[ashley@memorialbcnc.org](mailto:ashley@memorialbcnc.org)  
Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm  
Other Staff: By Appointment



Third Sunday of Advent  
Joy  
December 17, 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