

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 16, 2025
Ten O'clock in the Morning

Memorial Baptist Church
Buies Creek, North Carolina

In the hour of my distress,
When temptations me oppress,
And when I my sins confess,
Sweet Spirit, comfort me!

~ Robert Herrick, *English poet and cleric (1591-1674)*

GATHERING

PRELUDE *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* David Paxton
Anne McClain, *organist*

WELCOME and † INVOCATION Edward Beddingfield, *Pastor*
Ad. fr. The Book of Common Prayer,
Collect for the First Sunday in Lent

Almighty God, whose Son was led into the wilderness by the Spirit to be tempted: Come quickly to help us when we, like him, are assaulted by so many temptations. We ask not so much for you to take away all wicked enticements, but that you decrease our inclination and desire for them; not that we may never falter and fail, but that in our own weakness we may find you faithful to forgive and mighty to save; and when you have restored within us the joy of our salvation, that you would also increase our strength and willingness to persevere. This we ask through that very same Jesus Christ our Lord who overcame temptation, endured the pain and shame of the cross, and is now seated at your right hand, interceding for us through all our struggles and sorrows; **Amen.**

† HYMN OF PRAISE 20 *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* MIT FREUDEN ZART

CALL TO PRAYER (*responsively*) Hebrews 4: 14-16 Mr. Beddingfield
Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, even Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect was tempted as we are, yet without sin.
Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Meredith Lanier Craddock, *Associate Pastor*

ASSURANCE OF GRACE (*responsively*) Psalm 32: 1-6a, 10-11 Mrs. Craddock
Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
While I kept silence my body wasted away, and I groaned all day long. Day and night your hand was upon me, and my strength was dried up as in the summer's heat.
Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you.
Many are the torments of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.
Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you who are righteous, and shout for joy, all you who are upright in heart.

† SONGS OF TESTIMONY Mariamarta Conrad, *Leader*

Hymn 71 *On Eagle's Wings* ON EAGLE'S WINGS
The leader will sing the stanzas, and the congregation will join on the refrain as printed in the hymnal.

Praise Chorus *Your Grace Is Enough* Matt Maher
Great is your faithfulness, O God
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart
You lead us by still waters into mercy
And nothing can keep us apart.
(So) remember your people, remember your children
Remember your promise, O God.

Chorus:

Your grace is enough, your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for us.

** Following the Songs of Testimony, children from age 3 through 3rd grade may meet Mrs. Tammy Scarborough at the back of the sanctuary to leave for Kids' Church. Parents may pick up their children in the church library after the service.*

PROCLAIMING

OLD TESTAMENT Genesis 2: 15-17 and 3: 1-7 Wayne Smith, *Reader*
So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate.

GOSPEL Luke 4: 1-13 Mr. Beddingfield
Jesus was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil . . .
When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

SERMON *Opportunity Strikes* Mr. Beddingfield

RESPONDING

ANTHEM *Softly and Tenderly* arr. M. Culloton

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and The Lord's Prayer (*unison*) Mr. Beddingfield

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 Mr. Beddingfield
What a Friend We Have in Jesus arr. Zach James
Mrs. McClain

SENDING

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP Mr. Beddingfield

† HYMN OF SENDING FORTH 552 *Jesus Is the Song* SIMPSON

† LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY Mr. Beddingfield

† BENEDICTION Mr. Beddingfield

POSTLUDE *Praise with the Trumpet!* Gerald Peterson

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in honor of Sarah's Open Door Sunday School Class by Linda Lunney.

PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Members: Carolyn Walker, Doris Eller, Rex Pope, Linda Smith, Betty Wallace

Family and Friends: Debbie Johnson (*friend of Cindy Avrette*); Paul Stiller (*father of Susan Morrow*); Tony Means (*friend of Jeff & Lorrie Pope*); Nate Lars (*step-father of Charissa English*); Shannon Farr & Melanie Anderson (*nieces of Darla Reed*); Kelly McLamb (*daughter of Jerry & Betty Wallace*); International teachers & their families

Aldersgate Senior Living Center (Charlotte, NC): Louise Taylor

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

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.

Deacons for February 2025: Dayna Scarborough and Joe Turlington
Deacons for March 2025: Trinity Kelly and Dave Steegar

Ushers Today: Randall Johnson, Ron McLamb, Scotty Scarborough and Lee Turlington

Ushers Feb. 23: Cherry DeVane, Chad Godwin, Derek Hogan and Jeff Pope

Kids' Church Today: Tammy Scarborough
Kids' Church Feb. 23: Gracie Jonas

Nursery today: Carrie Royal
Nursery Feb. 23: (*need volunteer*)

† *The congregation is invited to stand.*

TODAY, February 16th

- 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. (Family Life Center)
- Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)
- Kids' Church: during worship (Library)
- Chili Cook-off / Valentine's Party: 5:30 p.m.**

WEDNESDAY, February 19th

- Children's Choir: 5:30 p.m. (Choir Room)
- Simple Supper - Chili and Baked Potato: 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
- Mission Kids: 6:30 p.m. (Mission Kids Classroom)
- Youth Activity: 6:30 p.m. (Library)
- Bible Study: 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

FEBRUARY 2025

- 23**
- 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. (Family Life Center)
 - Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)
 - Kids' Church: during worship (Library)

- 26**
- Children's Choir: 5:30 p.m. (Choir Room)
 - Simple Supper - Ham and Vegetables: 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
 - Mission Kids: 6:30 p.m. (Mission Kids Classroom)
 - Youth Activity: 6:30 p.m. (Library)
 - Bible Study: 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)


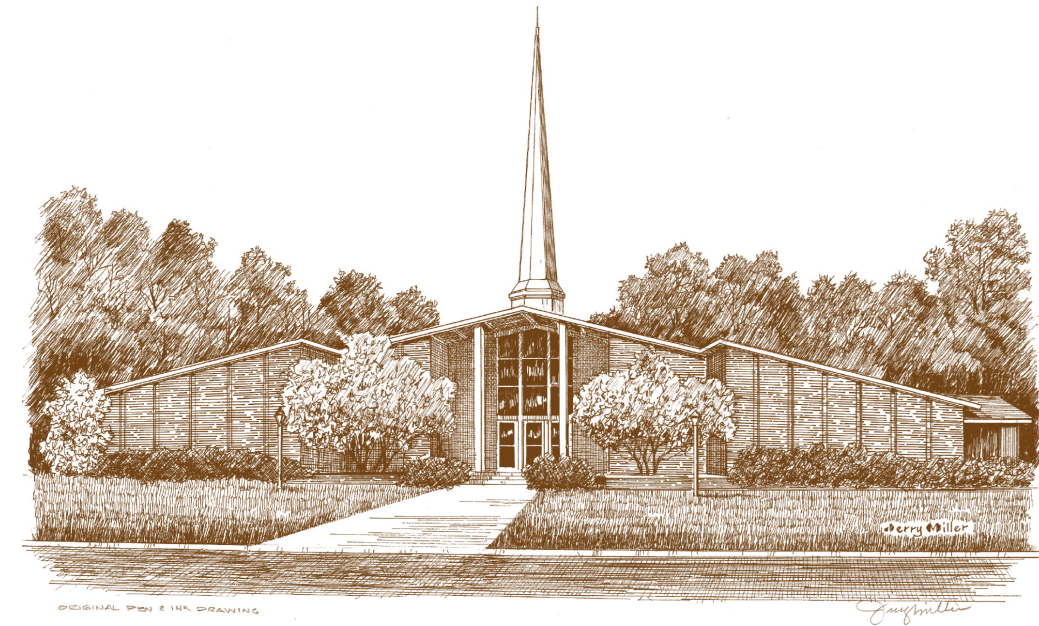
Financial Position as of 12/31/24

» Total support, 1/1/2024 - 12/31/2024	\$ 423,882
» Total expenditures	\$ (431,473)
» Expenditures exceed Support	\$ (7,591)
» Total 2024 Budget Proposal	\$ 418,220
» Percent of year passed	100%
» Support needed to meet budget	\$ 418,220
» Undesignated support received as of 12/31/24	\$ 374,150
» Operating expenses offset received from Stokes Day Care	\$ 10,150
» Budget support shortfall as of 10/31/24	\$ (33,920)

Ways to Donate to MBC:

- **Offering plates** during the Offertory portion of our service.
- Mailing a **check** payable to: *Memorial Baptist Church*
P.O. Box 485
Buies Creek, NC 27506
- *Our website at www.memorialbcnc.org by clicking the **Donate** tab.
- *Scanning the **QR Code** shown here on your mobile device.

*(If you want 100% of your donation to benefit MBC, please increase your gift by 3% to help cover the transaction expenses.)

APPALACHIAN CHRISTMAS BACKPACKS

For February, we are still collecting warm clothing which includes: **winter hats, gloves, scarves and socks.**

Place items in the plastic tote in the hallway.

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

CHURCH MISSION PROJECTS

- **Clothes Closet:** Next date TBD
- **Harnett Food Pantry:** collecting **non-perishable foods**
(Egg cartons are no longer needed at this time.)
Needed for February -- **Applesauce**
Monetary donations to MBC are also welcome; designate as 'Food Pantry.'
- **Buddy Backpack:** collecting **sandwich crackers "nabs"**
Monetary donations to MBC are also welcome; designate as 'Buddy Backpack.'
- **Belts for HCMS:** *Donations of used men's or boys' belts that can be used for students at the school.*

MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany
February 16, 2025

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.

CHURCH LIBRARY NEWS

Mark your calendars!
Memorial's Library Open House
Sunday, March 2, 2025 after worship

Wednesday, March 5th 6:30 p.m.
In the Sanctuary

ASH Wednesday SERVICE

Supper will be served at 5:45 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Memorial Baptist Church
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Buies Creek, NC 27506

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ashley@memorialbcnc.org

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

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