

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 28, 2025
Ten O'clock in the Morning

Memorial Baptist Church
Buies Creek, North Carolina

Hope is two old people rocking on a porch in East Texas and looking at a dogwood seedling they planted in the front yard, even though they know they won't live to sit under it.

~ Paraphrased from Bill Moyers (1934-2025) in a Good Friday commentary on the CBS Evening News with Dan Rather, 1981-1986.

GATHERING

PRELUDE *How Deep the Father's Love* arr. Mark Hayes
 Susan Simpson, *Organ*

WELCOME and † INVOCATION Meredith Lanier Craddock, *Associate Pastor*

† HYMN OF PRAISE 334 *Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine* ASSURANCE

CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF GRACE Mrs. Craddock

PROCLAIMING

OLD TESTAMENT 1 Jeremiah 32: 1-3a, 6-15 Mrs. Craddock
 For thus says the Lord of Hosts, the God of Israel:
 Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land.

OLD TESTAMENT 2 (*responsively*) Job 14: 1-2, 7-17 Steve DeVane, *Deacon*

A person, born of a woman, is of few days and full of trouble;

We come up like a flower, and wither; we flee like a shadow, and do not last.

There is hope for a tree, if it be cut own, that it will sprout again,
and that its shoots will not cease.

Though its roots grow old in the earth, and its stump die in the ground,
yet at the scent of water it will bud and put forth branches like a young plant.

But a person dies, and is laid low; we breathe our last, and where are we?

**As waters fail from a lake, or a river wastes away and dries up,
so we lie down and do not rise again;**

till the heavens are no more we will not awake, or be roused out of our sleep.

O, that you would hide me in the grave, and conceal me until your anger is over!

Then you would appoint a set time, and remember me.

But if a person die, shall that person live again?

However long it takes, I would wait, until my release should come.

Then you would call, and I would answer;

you would long once again to see the work of your own hands.

Then you would number my steps, but not keep watch over my sin;

my transgressions would be sealed up,

and you would cover over my iniquity forever.

ANTHEM *Lord, I Give My Heart to You* Joseph M. Martin

Lord, I give my heart to you, heal me, fill me, make me wholly thine.
Lord, I give my heart to you, reach me, teach me, with your love divine.
In the breaking of the bread, break my heart of stone,
in the pouring of the wine, pour into me your grace alone.

I surrender all, I surrender all, all to thee my blessed Savior, I surrender all.

Lord, I give my heart to you, take me, make me, all I need to be.
Lord, I give my heart to you, mold me, show me, how to live for thee.
As we hold the sacred bread, we're held in your embrace.
As we raise the cup of life, we're raised upon your wings of grace.

** Following the Anthem, children from age 4 through 2nd grade may meet Mrs. Meredith at the back of the sanctuary to leave for Kids' Church. Parents may pick up their children in the church library after the service.*

EPISTLE Hebrews 11: 1-2, 13 and 12: 1-2 Edward Beddingfield, *Pastor*
Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for,
the evidence of things not seen.

SERMON *What If?* Mr. Beddingfield

RESPONDING

† WITNESS IN SONG *We Believe* Hooper/Fike/Ryan
 Gracie Jonas, *Leader*

We believe in God the Father, we believe in Jesus Christ
We believe in the Holy Spirit, and He's given us new life
We believe in the crucifixion, we believe that He conquered death
We believe in the resurrection, and He's coming back again
We believe . . . we believe . . .
(Repeat)

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
 Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart arr. Douglas E. Wagner
 Mrs. Simpson

SENDING

INVITATION TO FAITH AND DISCIPLESHIP Mr. Beddingfield

† HYMN OF SENDING FORTH (*insert*) *Hope of the World* O PERFECT LOVE

† LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY Mr. Beddingfield

† BENEDICTION Mr. Beddingfield

POSTLUDE *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* arr. Mary Ellen Kerrick
 Mrs. Simpson

PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Members: Duwayne Grimm, Earl Savage, Sean Cunningham, Kay Hedgepeth, Betty Wallace, Hilary Morrow, Kathryn King & Maxie Gleaton (*husband of Kathryn King*), Theresa Batten, Jeanne Barker, Michael Cogdill, Doris Eller, Linda Smith

Family and Friends: Michelle Brugger (*niece of Lalia Turlington*); Johnny Rowe (*brother-in-law of Joyce Sills*); Mike Hodgin (*brother-in-law of Tricia Scarboro*); Shane & Stephanie Pattillo (*parents of Skyler Pattillo*); Tammy McNeil (*friend of Jeanne Barker*); Roberta Blackwell (*sister of Anne McClain*); Kelly McLamb (*daughter of Jerry & Betty Wallace*); International teachers & families

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 September 2025: Steve DeVane and Olivia Scarborough
Deacons for October 2025: Sonya Godwin and Randall Johnson

Ushers Today: Cherry DeVane, Chad Godwin, Derek Hogan and Jeff Pope
Ushers Oct. 5: Randall Johnson, Susan Johnson, Linda Lunney and Siu-Ki Wong

Kids' Church Today: Meredith Craddock
No Kids' Church Oct. 5

Nursery Today: Charlotte Riewestahl
Nursery Oct. 5: (*need volunteer*)

† *The congregation is invited to stand.*

TODAY, September 28th

- 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)

WEDNESDAY, October 1st

- Children's Choir:** 5:30 p.m. (Choir Room)
- Simple Supper - Spaghetti, Salad & Bread:** 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
- Mission Kids:** 6:30 p.m. (Classroom)
- Youth Activity:** 6:30 p.m. (Library)
- Adult Bible Study:** 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal:** 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

OCTOBER 2025

- 5 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)
- * No Kids' Church Today**

- 8 Children's Choir:** 5:30 p.m. (Choir Room)
- Simple Supper - Roast Pork & Potatoes:** 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
- Mission Kids & Youth:** 6:30 p.m.
- Visit & deliver supplies to Nourish Market (CU Food Pantry)**
- Adult Bible Study:** 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal:** 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)



The Global Missions change boxes may be placed in the appropriate baskets in the church foyer when they are full.



CUSTODIAN POSITION

Wayne Smith plans to retire at the end of the year. As much as we hate to see him leave, we wish him happiness in his retirement.

We, the Personnel Committee, are now actively pursuing the best person to replace Wayne. If you know of a good quality candidate, please make the Personnel Committee aware.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Ron McLamb, Chair
- Cindy Avrette
- Mike Cogdill
- Wanda Hardison
- Glenn Jonas
- Tom Spainhour
- Joe Turlington

Financial Position as of 8/31/25

» Total support	\$ 327,967
» Total expenditures	\$ (347,896)
» Total expenditures exceed total support	\$ (19,929)
» Total 2025 Budget Proposal	\$ 418,220
» Percent of year passed	67%
» Undesignated support needed to meet budget	\$ 278,431
» Undesignated support received as of 8/31/25	\$ 246,443
» Operating expenses offset received from Stokes Day Care	\$ 5,100
» Shortfall undesignated giving compared to budget	\$ (26,888)

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.




For September, we are collecting **POP-TOP Canned Food Items *** such as Vienna sausage, ravioli, beef stew, tuna, vegetables, fruit, etc. (*no plastic containers*)

*** [3 canned food items are required for each backpack] ***

AND

INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED CANDY
(*no chocolate or candy with nuts*)

*** Please make sure all expiration dates are after December 2025. ***

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

- **Harnett Food Pantry:** collecting **non-perishable foods**
(Egg cartons are not needed at this time.)
Needed for September -- **Peanut Butter**
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
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ashley@memorialbcnc.org

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



MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

*Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 28, 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.

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