

Non-Profit Org.  
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Welcome  
2016!



## Upcoming Events in January

**A.S.K. HOMEWORK ASSISTANCE**  
3:30 pm Every Monday & Tuesday,

### MID-WEEK EVENTS

Wednesdays, January 6,13,20,27  
3:30 pm A.S.K. 4 Jesus  
5 pm Family Dinner  
6 pm FBC Kids  
6 pm Rock Solid  
6 pm Adult Bible Study  
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

### CROSSFIRE YOUTH MINISTRIES

7 pm Mondays, H.S. Guys Group 1  
6:30 pm Tuesdays, H.S. Girls Group  
7 pm Tuesdays, H.S. Guys Group 2&3  
7 pm Thursdays, H.S. Guys Group 4  
5 pm Sunday Night Live, Jan. 10,17,31  
12 pm Sat., Winter Jam Concert, January 23

### SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING

11:15 am Sunday, January 10

### PRIMETIME TRIP TO CHESTER

10 am Tuesday, January 12

### CHILI COOK-OFF

11:30 am Sunday, January 24

### LEADERSHIP COUNCIL RETREAT

12:30 pm, Sunday, January 24

### YOUTH LEADERSHIP AFTER CHRISTMAS PARTY

5 pm Sunday, January 24

**FBC MURPHY**  
C o n n e c t . G r o w . G o .  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MURPHYSBORO  
401 NORTH FIFTEENTH STREET  
MURPHYSBORO, ILLINOIS 62966  
WWW.FBCMURPHY.ORG

SHAKER SAMUEL, PASTOR  
KAY REIMAN, EDITOR

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

# FBC MURPHY

C o n n e c t . G r o w . G o .  
JANUARY 2016 BAPTIES NEWSLETTER

## RANDOM THOUGHTS OF YOUR PASTOR FOR THE COMING YEAR

*"Come near to God and he will come near to you."*  
-James 4:8a

First of all, isn't it wonderful to know that we are a year closer to heaven than we were last year. This alone excites me because very seldom do we look and think about being in the glorious presence of God.

As the above verse says we need to get close to God and He will draw near to us. So we need to set priorities, unlike resolutions we make each year and break them within a week. I want to suggest we make priorities.

Love must be one of the most important priorities. Love is essential in the life of a child of God. Paul says that most eloquently in 1 Corinthians 13:1-3, *"If I speak in the tongues of men or*

*of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing."*

Jesus takes the entire law and sums it up with two statements about one word "Love." Jesus also says that we must love the Lord without pretense. Our love for Jesus Christ must be authentic. This is a love which goes beyond words and is seen in our actions.

Secondly, we should make worship a priority. We are to spend time in



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WANT TO HELP KIDS  
GO TO CAMP?  
COME BE A PART OF THE  
**CHILI COOK-OFF**  
SUNDAY, January 24, 11:30 am



Just bring a pot of Chili made from your favorite recipe ... A panel of judges will taste test, and you could be the new **2016 FBC Chili Champ**

After all the pomp & ceremony ... it will be time to eat great chili! Just make a donation ... any donation which will help send the FBC kids to Summer Camp.



For more information or to participate in the cook-off, please contact Bill or Marci Boudet.

For those non-chili lovers, soup will be available.

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meditation and prayer and praise because we love Him. We must make a conscious choice to love the Lord. We shouldn't love God because we were taught to or even because it is the right thing to do, but because of who HE is and what HE has done for us.

Thirdly, evangelism should be a priority. Evangelism is simply defined as the spreading of the "good news" to the people who are lost. When we love our neighbors, we will reach out to them near our homes, work and around our church. We need to display a positive attitude toward others.

Fourthly, we need to prioritize the value of time. It is important because we live in a limited time frame. We begin with infancy, then go to adolescence, adulthood, middle age, old age and you know the rest. We measure life in segments of time. Paul said, "The top priority in my life is to press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has

called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:12).

As a church, we could make these our priorities for the coming year:

1. To love God and get closer to him.
2. To make our worship and praise of Him who has given us life.
3. To reach our neighbors and neighborhoods for Christ.
4. To make service to our community a priority.

In his book, C. S. Lewis wrote, "Do not waste your time bothering whether you "love" your neighbor, act as if you did. As soon as we do this, we find one of the greatest secrets. When you are behaving as if you loved someone, you will presently come to love him. If you injure someone you dislike, you will find yourself disliking him more. If you do him a good turn, you will find yourself disliking him less."

As our priorities are sound, our future is bright.

God bless,  
Pastor Shaker



"Ed! You've decided to be baptized!"

**OUR CHURCH FINANCES FOR NOVEMBER 2015:**

	<u>This Month</u>	<u>To Date</u>
Needed	\$ 30,165.47	\$ 312,619.49
Given	\$ 33,561.73	\$ 316,361.73
Over (Under)	\$ 3,396.26	\$ 3,742.24

## WORDS OF APPRECIATION TO THE CHURCH FAMILY

We would like to say "thank you" for your generous and thoughtful gifts this holiday season. We appreciate the love and support that you give throughout the year. May God bless each and every one of you, and may 2016 be safe and happy.

Your Church Staff: Pastor Shaker,  
Kay, Jesse, Barb, Karen, Lynn,  
Traci, Ron, Kathie, Jonathan,  
Moses, & Jessi

\*\*\*

Dear FBC Family,

We wanted to send you our most sincere thanks both to Pastor Shaker and FBC. We are so blessed to have this church family as a part of our family.

We love each and everyone of you. Your kindness and compassion has meant the world to me.

We appreciate all of the phone calls, texts, prayers and of course Mike really appreciated the meals that were brought. But I must say he has become quite the chef these past few months. He'll never admit to that though.

I'm looking forward to being able to come back to church in the next few weeks. I miss my church family.

Love to all of you,  
Mike, Kelly, Dalton, & Taylor Rose

Dear Church Friends,

As I was reviewing the daily gift report, I saw your gift to Camp Echoing Hills. I want to personally thank you for your continuing support of the ministry Jane and I began almost 50 years ago.

Thank you again for your gift to Camp Echoing Hills. May you and yours have a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Rev. Cordell Brown

\*\*\*

Thank you for the white rose you sent to the funeral home. We also appreciated Pastor Shaker's visit and all of your thoughts and prayers.

The Reiman Family  
(Family of Patrick Reiman)

\*\*\*

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the unexpected beautiful red rose for the loss of my brother, John Etherton. It brightened my day and really cheered me up. Thanks also for the cards.

Love you all,  
Carolyn Kee-Bailey

\*\*\*

First Baptist Church,

Thank you very much for the beautiful rose which has brightened my days.

I really appreciated your thoughtfulness.

Kathryn Etherton



## PRIMETIME ON THE ROAD TO CHESTER

All active senior adults are invited to have a leisurely lunch at the Reid's Harvest House in Chester on **Tuesday, January 12th**. The bus will leave the church at **10:00 am**. The cost is \$4 for transportation and lunch is dutch treat. If you would like to go, the sign up sheet is available on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall or contact the church office to have your name added to the list.

## 2016 SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING

There will be a special business meeting on **Sunday, January 10th** immediately following the worship service at approximately **11:15 am**.

The 2016 budget, new officers, deacons, and council members are on the agenda.



## RETREAT FOR THE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL IS SCHEDULED

All members of the 2016 Leadership Council are asked to attend the annual retreat on **Sunday, January 24th** at **12:30 pm**. Eat your fill at the Chili Cook-Off and the meeting will begin immediately following the meal.

If you cannot attend, please contact Pastor Shaker or Vicki Ardrey.



## FBC GROWS IN NOVEMBER

November 15th was a wonderful Sunday of celebration when six individuals joined the FBC family of faith by baptism and statement of faith.

**Allison Hickam, Dalton Marnati, Mackenzie Watson, Mayah Kelley, and Cody Whehmeyer** were baptized during the morning worship service. **Michaela McNeill** joined by statement of faith.

It was a wonderful Sunday to see how God is working in the lives of all these young people.

Please pray for all our new members and may they continue to seek God's direction in their spiritual walk.



CROSSFIRE YOUTH  
THE 2016 ANNUAL

**VALENTINE'S DINNER**  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13**

Mark your calendars for an evening of wild, wild west fun with great food. Singles, couples and groups are invited.

Make reservations by contacting Kathie Grob or Jesse Boudet. There will be childcare provided. All proceeds from the evening will go to sending the youth to summer camp.

# Crossfire

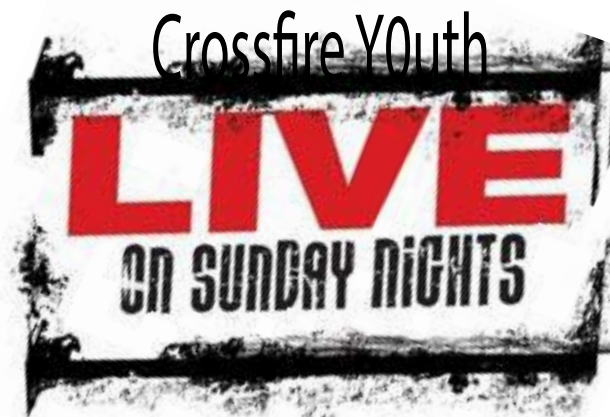
STUDENT MINISTRIES

YOUTH WINTER JAM  
FOR MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS



**JANUARY 23RD**  
**SATURDAY**  
COST: \$20 + DINNER  
LEAVE CHURCH AT NOON  
BACK AROUND MIDNIGHT

CONCERT IS IN ST. LOUIS...REGISTER BY WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20TH  
GOT QUESTIONS, TEXT OR CALL JESSE AT 713-7505



**It's Back**

**SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE**  
**JANUARY 10, 17, & 31**

Our youth program has grown so much (40-50 students, Praise God!) that Crossfire youth's Wednesday night Bible study needed more space. The Youth Leadership Team decided to move it to Sunday nights so that the entire church building and fellowship hall can be used for the study groups as well as their fun and games.



## NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

### January 3

Kathie Grob, Ashley Brown, Heidi Oploh

### January 10

Kathie Grob, Connor McBride,  
Cameren Grob

### January 17

Kathie Grob, Elli Oploh, Taylor Rose

### January 24

Kathie & Cameren Grob, Diane Reader

### January 31

Kathie Grob & Carmella Schumann

Unable to help? Please contact  
Kathie Grob at 924-7017.

## COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

### January 3

Jeanne Goforth & Kristy Dunning

### January 10

Leah Rowe

### January 17

Keith & Carol Klaine

### January 24

Albert & Trish Boudet

### January 31

Pat & Jan Etherton

If you are unable to help, please  
contact Patty Koenig at 687-3142



## MEALS ON WHEELS

### January 25-29

#### Monday

Lou Polsgrove & Mary Leady  
Gayle Gillmore

#### Tuesday

Christina Smith & Frank Aldridge  
Lou Polsgrove & Mary Leady

#### Wednesday

Candy Watt & Alice Berry  
Mark & Darlene Pautler

#### Thursday

Jane Beese & Alice Berry  
Lou Polsgrove & Mary Leady

#### Friday

Lou Polsgrove & Mary Leady  
Jane Beese & Alice Berry



# January

POST THIS ON YOUR  
REFRIGERATOR!

## HAPPY JANUARY BIRTHDAYS!

1	Nancy Edgar	25	Brent Woosley
2	Gene Ebersohl	26	Carolyn Ewbank
3	Wilma Brewer	28	Pam Lipe
3	Kathy Doerr	29	Debbie Penrod
3	Jo Graeff	30	Harper Waddington
4	James Carlock	31	Patsy Roberts
4	Chuck Grammer	31	Gina Hunziker
8	Dick Kiel		
8	J. J. Pieron		
9	Betty Allard		
13	Lorrayne Puttman		
17	Claude Stanton		
19	Avery Guthman		
20	Cody Brashear		
21	Brad Sims		
24	Mandy Herring		



## GREETERS

### January 3

Paul & Sheila Echols

### January 10

John & Kiersten Edgar

### January 17

Buddy & Helen Payne

### January 24

Van & Angie Robinson

### January 31

Marsha Heiple & Joan Mifflin

If you are unable to help, please  
contact Cindy Stamm at 319-0781.

## WELCOME CENTER

### January 3

Vic & Patty Koenig

### January 10

Volunteer Needed

### January 17

Glenann Kiel

### January 24

Jeff & Linda Wright

### January 31

Ed & Terri Miller

# VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to our many