

Non-Profit Org.
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on the
HORIZON
IN MARCH

MID-WEEK EVENTS

Wednesdays, March 1,8,15,22,29
3:30 pm FBC Kids Club
3:30 pm Crossfire Youth
5 pm Family Dinner
6 pm Bible Study w/ Pastor
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

CROSSFIRE YOUTH MINISTRIES

5:30 pm Mondays, M.S. Girls Group
6:30 pm Tuesdays, H.S. Girls Group
7 pm Tuesdays, H.S. Guys Groups
Fri.-Sat. Making Peanut Rolls, March 24-25

3 ON 3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

9 am Saturday, March 4

PRIMETIME TRIP

10 am Tuesday, March 7

CHICKEN & DUMPLING DINNER

11:30 am Sunday, March 12

COMMUNION SERVICE AT RIVERTORIVER

6 pm Thursday, March 16

BUSINESS MEETING

11:15 am Sunday, March 19

PAINTING PARTY FUNDRAISER

2 pm Sunday, March 19

SELLING & MAKING PEANUT ROLLS

Friday & Saturday, March 24-25

Check out the details inside

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 .
MARCH 2017 BAPTIES NEWSLETTER

PRISON OF JUDGEMENT

"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven."
-Luke 6:36-37

"Guilty as sin! It happened just a few years ago. The banks in New Jersey had been robbed systematically, one after the other. What made the robber stand out was his politeness. He just gave the tellers a note which said, "Please place your money in this bag. Thank you." The newspapers called him the GENTLEMAN BANDIT.

The widespread publicity led to a very unlikely arrest - the suspect was a Catholic priest. His church was appalled but stood beside him, saying they knew he could not be the bandit. They signed petitions, held protest marches and came up with his bail. But the police were certain they had their man. All of the eyewitnesses positively identified him. And the news media dug into his past, to find that in a previous church he had left under a cloud because of financial irregularities in the parish. For a priest he had a pretty expensive lifestyle - his own apartment and a fast car. His church was prob-



ably standing up for him because otherwise they looked like dupes.

As people across the country watched the story unfold on the news, they were positive this priest had pulled a fast one. He probably had a sociopath personality so he could rob banks and preach the next Sunday without feeling any guilt. No one outside his congregation was standing up for this guy. But then a funny thing happened. The REAL Gentleman Bandit was caught red-handed. As it turned out, he was the spitting image of the priest. It's just that he WASN'T the priest. The priest was released, his church threw him a big party, and the news media and those who had prematurely judged him felt a little sheepish."

Source: Rev. David Holwick
First Baptist Church
Ledgewood, New Jersey

The other day in my devotion, I came across these verses, Luke 6:36-37 and it made me think how many times we make criticisms or judgements without complete knowledge of circumstances. Many times the criticisms we feel or speak are based on facts; we can be right and wrong at the same time if our attitude is not one of mercy.

(continues on page 11)

Calling All 3rd - 8th Grade Students

2017

BASKETBALL

TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, MARCH 4TH

\$6 PER PERSON

STARTS AT 9AM

3 ON 3

3RD-8TH GRADERS



TOURNAMENT WILL BE HELD AT THE MURPHYSBORO MIDDLE SCHOOL GYMS

REGISTER NOW!!!

REGISTRATION FORMS
are available at the
Welcome Center & Church Office
Make Checks payable to **FBCMURPHY**

OR

GO TO:
WWW.FBCMURPHY.ORG
AND CLICK ON "REGISTER"

(continued from the front page)

A critical spirit is harmful to our witness because the world is watching and listening to us and they will not believe that we show a God of mercy and kindness unless we show those traits ourselves.

Jesus begins by saying "Do not judge and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven." Many people believe that Jesus was saying that we should never make any kind of judgement or evaluation about right or wrong in other people's lives. When Jesus commands us not to judge others, he does not mean that we should not evaluate others actions, beliefs or teachings. What He is forbidding is an unmerciful, critical, fault finding evaluation of others. This is the attitude of harsh condemnation and not of loving correction. This attitude tends to hurt more than to heal. Jesus wants us to be very careful and be very loving in our evaluation or judgement of others faults.

Jesus in effect is saying that we are to evaluate and respond to other people's shortcomings with mercy. We are to lovingly correct when it is necessary but we are not to condemn people or disparage them. We are not to look down upon them in our hearts or tear them down with our words because when we do that we are judging

them in the very way Jesus said not to judge them.

Our goal in life in Christ is to build up people who are like Jesus. We are to be a people who show mercy, kindness and forgiveness to others especially when they fall. We should not condemn the weakness or failures of others. But neither will we ignore or excuse sin. We need to be understanding, compassionate, merciful people who will lend a helping and hopeful hand. Jesus tells us that we should not judge unmercifully so that we will not be judged unmercifully.

God's abundant mercy in my life allows me to walk in freedom, peace, and joy. If we don't show mercy and have a critical attitude, we will forfeit those things ourselves.

Jesus is saying that we can be especially blessed to receive mercy in the same way. He says that we will have mercy poured into our life abundantly, "a good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over."

When you are kind, positive, good toward your enemies, and merciful, withholding judgement, we share the image of God. We are kind of like God, compassionate, tender hearted, and forgiving, we manifest Godly qualities.

My prayer is God will free us from the prison of our judgement so that we can receive and share His grace. We want to give a good measure of grace so we can in turn

receive a good measure back from our ever merciful God.

Enjoy a wonderful spring.
God bless.

In His steps,
Pastor Shaker



OUR CHURCH FINANCES FOR JANUARY 2017:

	<u>This Month</u>	<u>To Date</u>
Needed	\$ 28,750.00	\$ 28,750.00
Given	\$ 31,782.84	\$ 31,782.84
Over (Under)	\$ 3,032.84	\$ 3,032.84

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL JANUARY 2017 MINUTES

Last Meeting's Minutes: The December 20, 2016 minutes were approved by consensus. A correction to the November, 2016 minutes: The 3 on 3 basketball tournament is for 3rd-8th graders, not 3-8 year olds.

Financial Report: The December, 2016 Financial Report was approved by consensus. Jesse presented a more concise financial statement format that he and Jeff put together.

Deacons' Report: The January 2017 Deacon's fund balance was \$1,934.82. Lou P. will be scheduling the River to River Communion Services dates for 2017. Several donations were made. Several thank you notes were received.

Ministry Team Members for 2017:

Outreach & Evangelism: Elaine Hardwig, Helen Payne, Vicki Ardrey

Missions: Emily Reiman, Kristy Dunning

Children Discipleship: Angie Robinson, Melinda Guthman

Adult Discipleship: Vicki Ardrey

Youth Discipleship: Angie Robinson, Kristy Dunning

Staff Relations/Policies: Vic Koenig

Finance & Stewardship: Sheila Echols, Helen Payne

Buildings & Grounds: Judy Rawls, Ed Miller, Chuck Gramer, Darrell Ewbank

Special events: Melinda Guthman, Elaine Hardwig, Cathy Porter

Worship Ministry Team: Vicki Ardrey

College Discipleship: Kristy Dunning, Gina Hunziker

Kitchen/Dinners: Cathy Porter, Gina Hunziker

Strategic Action Team: Vicki Ardrey,

Nominating Team: Chuck Grammer, Elaine Hardwig

Security: Judy Rawls, Ed Miller

Meetings time will remain on 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 pm. Moved Sheila Echols to the Class of 2018 term.

Youth Discipleship: Winter Jam is January 28th, Valentine's Dinner is Feb. 11th; 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament is March 4th at the Murphysboro Middle School gym with Kevin Kelly leading the event. Potential concert with the Ministerial Alliance. They have \$2000 to put toward the event but will need all area churches involved.

Strategic Action Team: Presentation by Dave Ardrey to update all new council members as to what has been and is currently being done.

Pastor's Report: Would like to have another 30 days of prayer. Suggested that the council should get together informally to get to know one another. A congregational spring/fall church cleaning is needed with a suggestion made to have each class clean their room. Suggested that each family be given a plant to take home and bring back the produce to donate to the food pantry. Ron McLaughlin is still going to have a community garden. New members classes will start on Feb. 5th.

Miscellaneous Items: A closing prayer sign-up rotation sheet will be passed around on Sunday mornings. A letter from the new Chief of Police requesting financial support for the Child Safety, Bullying and Drug Education Program. He has asked to address the council in February. Lighting technician will be retuning to get the lighting back on the computer. Two more cameras have been installed, one in the kids area hallway and at the door. Council approved by text message to vote a payment of \$700 to White and Borgognoni for consulting with the Strategic Planning Team

PAINTING PARTY

With Artist Chris Deshazo



Sunday, March 19th 2 pm @ FBC
Hosted by the FBC HS Girls Small Group

Cost: \$35 Adults \$20 Children (smaller canvas)
Price includes all supplies, snacks, and drinks

To Register:

WWW.FBCMURPHY.ORG by March 12th
Contact Kari Graff at 618-303-5274 with questions.



CHICKEN & DUMPLING DINNER FUNDRAISER

**SUNDAY, March 12
11:30 AM - 1 PM
FELLOWSHIP HALL**

Everyone is invited to get their fill of FBC's finest chicken and dumplings. (Baptists are known for making the best.) It's all you can eat for a donation, any donation, pay what you think they are worth. Your generosity will help someone go on the summer mission trip. Be sure to show some of that Baptist hospitality and invite your family, friends and neighbors.

LIGHT KIDS CONFERENCE

RESCUED



The Light
Kids Conference

KIDSCONFERENCE.ORG

**Aldersgate UMC
in Marion, IL
Saturday, April 1
7:30 am - 3:00 pm**

Kids 1st through 5th grade will be traveling to Marion for a spirit filled day of fun & learning. The bus will leave the church at 7:30 am and will return at approximately 3:00 pm. If you have questions or would like your children to attend, please contact Barb Troutman.

TRIMESTER BUSINESS MEETING SCHEDULED

The trimester business meeting will be **Sunday, March 19th**, immediately following the worship service at approximately 11:15 am. Please plan to stay.



OFF TO CAPE AND THE CRACKER BARREL

All active senior adults are invited to have a scenic ride to Cape Girardeau, MO for a leisurely lunch at the Cracker Barrel on **Tuesday, March 7th**. The bus will leave the church at **10:00 am**. Lunch will be 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. Everyone is welcome. Invite your friends.

PEANUT ROLLS FOR SALE!

**A Summer Camp Fundraiser
Cost is \$12 per dozen**

**Place your order by contacting Jesse Boudet,
Kristy Dunning or the church office.**

Pickup is March 24th - 25th

Please consider adopting a box of peanuts for \$50.

Powdered sugar, butter & Imperial margarine donations are also needed.



COMMUNION AT RIVER TO RIVER ASSISTED LIVING

Our Deacon Team is planning their quarterly Communion Service at the River to River Assisted Living facility on **Thursday, March 16th, at 6:00 pm** in the east building. Everyone is invited to be a part of the service. The residents love having the fellowship, so please plan to attend.



IT'S DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

On Sunday, March 12th, Daylight Savings Time springs forward. Be sure to turn your clocks **forward one hour** before going to bed Saturday night, March 11th. You want to be sure to be on time for church Sunday morning!



Nursery Attendants

March 5

Kathie Grob & Carmella Schuman

March 12

Kathie Grob & Katie Tolbert

March 19

Kathie Grob & Savannah Schuman

March 26

Kathie Grob & Myah Kelley

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

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

March 5

Chuck & Kim Grammer

March 12

J. Goforth, K. Dunning & G. Hunziker

March 19

Leah Rowe

March 26

Keith & Carol Klaine

If you are unable to help, please
contact the church office 687-1769.



MEALS ON WHEELS

March 27-31

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

Jane Beese & Alice Berry
Lou Polsgrove & Mary Leady



March

POST THIS ON YOUR
REFRIGERATOR!

VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to our many

GREETERS

March 5

Scott & Tina Evans

March 12

Ed & Terri Miller

March 19

Bill & Kim Oploh Family

March 26

Matt & Elaine Hardwig Family

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

WELCOME CENTER

March 5

DeAnn Stillely

March 12

Chuck & Kim Grammer

March 19

Lou Polsgrove

March 26

Betty Cox

HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS!

2	Adrienne Hardwig	15	Addilyn Reiman
2	Logan Evans	16	Christina Oldham
3	Mindy Byram	17	David Coleman
4	Scott Evans	17	Barb Troutman
4	Amy Reiman	17	Brad Blaise
5	Darrell Verbal	18	Trey Troutman
6	Herb Dougan	20	Frank Aldridge
6	Melinda Holland	26	Grant Brown
6	Jan Etherton	27	Andy Baggott
6	Myah Kelley	27	Jeff Reiman
9	Pat Etherton	27	Judy Rawls
11	Patty Koenig	28	Jerry Nance
12	Patricia Boudet	29	Jared Blandford
14	Ed Miller	30	Becky Doerr
14	Jonathan Hunziker	30	Kylie Martin
15	Tina Shinskey	30	Rachel Edgar