

Non-Profit Org.
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Permit No. 72
Murphysboro, IL



UN-DECORATE THE CHURCH

After Worship, Sunday, January 10th

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9 AM LIVING OUT GOD'S WORD SMALL GROUP

NEW GENERATION SMALL GROUP

FBC KIDS CLUB

4Years-2nd Grade
3rd-5th Grade

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10 AM

Worship

Children will be dismissed to Kid's Church

WEDNESDAYS EVENINGS 6-7 PM

Starting January 6th

The Men's Bible Study

is led by Steve Wilkerson
studying John.

Women's Bible Study

is led by Kathie Grob
studying Isaiah.

CROSSFIRE YOUTH SMALL GROUP

6th-12th

Wednesday Evenings 6-7 PM

MEALS-TO-GO

Starts back up in February

FBC MURPHY

Connect. Grow. Go.
JANUARY 2021 BAPTIES NEWSLETTER

DON'T BE A FROG

Here we are again in a brand new year. Last year was one of the most difficult years for all of us. Obviously we were living in a very, very uncertain year. As I was writing this I was thinking that I should list all the negative things which happened, but the Spirit was nudging me letting me know that it was a year of growth. As Paul says in Romans 5:3-4. *"Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, Character; and character, hope."* (NIV) Trials, difficulties and adversities are often God's way of developing a Christ like character in us. None of us likes trials, but the Lord can use them for our good, if we will trust Him.

Let us see what blessings we can glean from last year. We were forced to spend more time with the family. We spent a little more time in the Word, and we were able to communicate with loved one's more. Since we could not meet together we talked to them via the phone, skype, zoom, etc. In my case, since we could not go out to eat, we saved a few dollars.

The most important part was the spiritual growth. This made me think of a story I read: A boy told his father, "Dad, if three frogs were sitting on a limb that hung over a pool, and one frog decided to jump off into the pool, how many frogs would be left on the limb? The dad replied, "Two." "No," the son replied. "There are three frogs and one decides to jump, how many are left?" The dad said, "Oh, I get it, if one decides to jump, the others would too. So, there are

none left." The boy said, "No dad, the answer is three. The frog only DECIDED to jump." Does that sound like last years resolution? Great inspiration and great resolutions, but often times we only decide, and months later we are on the same limb of do-nothing.



The first thing you have to do, if you are going to have balance in your life is: You have to discover your PURPOSE.

The second thing you have to do, if you are going to have balance in your life is: You have to establish your PRIORITIES.

The third thing you have to do, if you are going to have balance in your life is: You have to make your PLAN."

We need to have a purpose, priorities, and a plan for the new year. Let us look at the passage in Ephesian 5:15-20, *"Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise,*

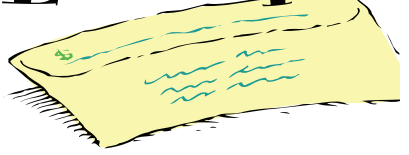
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FBC MURPHY
Connect. Grow. Go.
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SHAKER SAMUEL, PASTOR
GAYLA JONES, EDITOR

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Offering Envelopes



2021 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES NOW AVAILABLE

The 2021 contribution envelopes are available for pick up at the Welcome Center. If you cannot find a box designated for you and/or would like to have a set, please contact Denise McDowell or the church office.



Looking ahead to summer, plans are in place to go to Youth Camp & Kids Camp.

HAPPY JANUARY BIRTHDAYS!

| | | | |
|----|-----------------|----|------------------------|
| 1 | Nancy Edgar | 28 | Pam Lipe |
| 2 | Gene Ebersohl | 29 | Debbie Penrod |
| 3 | Wilma Brewer | 30 | Harper Lynn Waddington |
| 3 | Kathy Doerr | 31 | Patsy Roberts |
| 3 | Jo Graeff | 31 | Gina Hunziker |
| 4 | Chuck Grammer | | |
| 4 | Jim Carlock | | |
| 9 | Taylor Clemmons | | |
| 19 | Avery Guthman | | |
| 20 | Cody Brashear | | |
| 21 | Brad Sims | | |
| 24 | Mandy Herring | | |
| 25 | Brent Woosley | | |
| 26 | Carolyn Ewbank | | |



29 Households combined for \$129.65 in donations. THANKS!

In the Kroger App look for Rewards, Community Rewards. Then search for First Baptist Church Murphysboro



Building Projects are starting soon: Youth house renovations, Worship Office carpet and paint, and wall mounted hand sanitizing stations. If you feel led to help with the costs, donations can be made to the Building Fund.

(continued from page 1)

making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." (NIV) There are three things we can see here for the new year.

1. Be careful how we represent our Lord and Savior with our time, be wise in how we use it because it is His any way, the past year has shown this to me very clearly. It is not the material things which matter, but my relationship with God, and people. If we are honest we are not spiritual-minded as we should be. In Colossians 3:1-4, *"Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God," (NIV)* Paul again says it much more clearly than I could.

2. Be thoughtful--we need to be aware that God's spirit lives within us. If we are not intentional we can become too self-focused and forget about others. Instead of self-centered, we should be spirit centered. If we will set our minds on prayer, scripture and praise, we will serve others and have a better new year, Galations 6:2, *"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ, (NIV)* reminds us to do this.

3. Finally, be thankful--living a grateful life will keep us on the straight and narrow. We need to be aware of our blessings and be grateful, otherwise we will always look for more and not be satisfied. Psalm 103:1-3, *Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits-- who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases," (NIV)*

This scripture reflects a positive person is a great witness to the world. A world that is looking at our Christian walk. Our light should shine for the Lord. I would rather hear someone say things like "praise the Lord," or "thank you Lord," than complain about every situation

So, this coming year let us set our purpose, priorities and plan to have balance in our life. As we saw in the little boy's story we can all decide on many things, but we need to take action on what we decide.

I'm hoping for a great year with God leading us. Let me close with what Paul had to say in I Thessalonians 5:18, *"give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (NIV)* Walking with the Lord, doing things His way, is the way to be blessed.

Have a blessed and prosperous New Year from the Samual family.

In His Steps,
Shaker



"He's today's greeter."

NOVEMBER 17, 2020 LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MINUTES

The meeting was called to order with prayer by Pastor Shaker.

Devotional: Pastor Shaker shared from Experiencing God written by Henry Blackwood.

Last Meeting's Minutes: October minutes were approved by consensus.

Financial Report: September report was approved by consensus.

Deacon's Report: The Deacon's met on November 9.

Ministry Team Reports:

Missions: Reviewed monthly giving commitments, will restructure for 2021. Will collect toys, coats and food, in the Fellowship Hall for Key Club's Annual Food Drive.

Children's Discipleship: Sunday morning ministry attendance is small and going well. Seeking a teacher for the 3rd-5th graders. Children's Church is going well, too.

Adult and Family Discipleship: Men's small group taking a break until January. Women's small group has been meeting weekly.

Staff Relations: Committee changed the title to from Director of Youth and Children Ministry, to Ministry Director and interviewed Jesse Boudet, for the position. The Council approved the the title change and the hiring of Jesse, with the start date of Wednesday, October 21.

Financial and Stewardship: With Scott Evans working on the accounts this past year the funds in the Audit Line #520, were to be donated to him. However, he asked that the funds directed to the Orphan Fund.

Building and Grounds: Drain on North side of building has been repaired. Need to replace broken refrigerator. Getting bids on the following repairs:

- * Water leaking in the Deacon Care Team closet, it's unclear where the leak begins.

*Roofing/Brick flashing leaks on Education Wing Windows.

*Exposed bricks in the stairwells.

*Parlor Sound-proof dividers

Special Events(Outreach): Was pleased with the number of Trick or Treaters on Halloween. The United Methodist Church's Community Christmas Dinner will be held on Sunday, December 27 at the KC Hall.

Worship Ministry: Hanging of the Greens, during morning worship service November 29. Christmas Worship service December 20. Christmas Eve Service December 24. Sunday Services continue to be aired online on the FBC Murphy Facebook page. Was asked if another online streaming service/provider could be used for those who don't have or use Facebook. Technology Team will research other options.

Kitchen and Dinners: Wednesday night To-Go Meals are serving about 50.

Strategic Planning and Action: A draft of the revised Constitution will be on display for members to review.

Technology Team: The team will work on getting the new camera installed. A Sound and Lighting tech will be working with Bradley. Volunteers are needed to run the sound booth. New computers and a laptop may need to be purchased next year.

Senior Pastor: Pastor continues to visit members.



WORDS OF APPRECIATION TO THE CHURCH FAMILY

The Ministry Care Team wishes to thank all those that contributed cookies and candies for our shut-ins Christmas bags. We were blessed with an abundance. Thanks for the funds given throughout the year to our care fund, We have been able to help so many.

Thank you for your generous donations! You've helped brighten so many people's lives this holiday season!

MHS Key Club

Thank you for making a very merry Christmas for some really needy families.

Jackson County Health Department

Thank you so much for the goodie bags!

Jackson County Health Department

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 everyone of you and may 2021 be a safe and happy year.

In Christ love,
Your Church Staff



2021 LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Moderator: Kristy Dunning

Clerk: Linda Wright

Treasurer: Vicki Ardrey

Leadership Council

Kari Graff

Tammy Davis

Judy Rawls

Kevin Penrod

Tina Evans

Tony Stamm

Steve Wilkerson

Francis Reiman

Ministry Care Team

Lou Polsgrove

Sylvia Carvell

Diane Reader

Sue Lynn Johnson

Linda Wright

We extend a special thanks to those leaders who have completed their leadership terms:

Dale Blaise, Christina Smith,
Jessica Grammer, and David Brooks.

Thank you for your time, energies and a job well done! God bless you all!

JANUARY 2021

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|-----------|
| 27 8:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 8:40 AM Praise Team Rehearsal 9:00 AM FBC Kids Club 9:00 AM Living Out God's Word Small Group 9:00 AM New Generation Small Group 10:00 AM Worship 10:15 AM Kid's Church | 28 Meals on Wheels 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 10:00 AM Ladies Exercise Class 7:00 PM Crossfire HS Guys Group | 29 Meals on Wheels 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study | 30 Meals on Wheels 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 5:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal | 31 Meals on Wheels 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study | 1 | 2 |
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