



Muncy Baptist Church Newsletter



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Drawing Closer: A People of Prayer

with Rev. Rob Rice, Pastor

Last year, we held a unique service in the life of our church. One Sunday morning in November, we planned to devote an entire service to Thanksgiving and Prayer. During this service of prayer and healing, we offered the opportunity for people to come and receive prayer and anointing. Together, we lifted up our hearts to God, giving Him thanks for hearing our prayers and trusting that He would bring healing and hope to those in our congregation and greater community.

I knew it would be a different type of service that would push us out of our comfort zones. I wasn't prepared for the lights to go out! Yet even that was a reminder that God was asking us to do something different, to remember that we didn't need to depend on technology or the familiar; we simply needed to enter His Presence together. As the service ended and the lights came back on, it was a reminder of God's faithfulness, and everyone who attended the service left changed in some way or another.

Traditions for a church begin in different ways. Some happen over time, while others spring up quickly as God calls a group of people to continue a service or event that has become particularly meaningful. We just finished with one tradition at Muncy Baptist, our Halloween Outreach.

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It serves as a reminder that we need to reach out to our community with the Gospel, and it continues to bring us together as we work side by side to serve others. Later this month, we'll continue a new tradition that started last year, our service of Prayer and Healing.

At our core, we have been a people of prayer, and this is a great opportunity for us to live out that value. Through a time of intentional prayer for those in need and those in our community, we believe that God will hear and act. He will meet our needs, and we will give Him glory. As we prepare for this service, which will be held on Sunday, November 30, I encourage you to think about the ways God has answered prayers this year, and encourage others who need healing to join us so they can be lifted up in prayer. Pray that God will ready your heart for a different service, and ask Him to act in mighty ways! Most importantly, plan to be here on November 30, and join us in prayer!

Save the Dates

Thursday, November 6: 12:00 p.m. Widows/Widowers and Singles lunch at Hoss's. Please let Esther Henninger if you are planning to attend.

Sunday, November 9: Council meets, following the worship service.



Tuesday, November 11: 11:00 a.m. Veterans' Day Service at Montoursville Cemetery.

Friday, November 14: Kids and parents are invited to join us for an evening that includes pizza and seeing Blippi at the Community Arts Center.

Sunday, November 23: Touch A Heart sign up

begins. Gifts should be brought to church by Sunday, December 14.

Sunday, November 30: Service of Prayer and Healing.



A Willing Witness

Forgotten Key to Biblical Evangelism
with Rev. Dr. Don Edwards, Associate Pastor



Romans 7:9 – “Once I was alive apart from the law; but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life, and I died.”

“I was alive without the law once; but when the commandment came, sin revived (Romans 7:9). So, it is with the work-righteous and the proud unbelievers. Because they do not know the Law of God, which is directed against them, it is impossible for them to know their sin. Therefore, also they are not amenable to instruction. *If they would know the Law, they would also know their sin; and sin to which they are now dead would become alive in them.*” – Martin Luther

Have you heard it said, “I’m as good as any Christian!” A Christian, by himself, isn’t good. Jesus said that God alone is good. The only “goodness,” or righteousness, that the believer has comes from Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 5:21; Phil. 3:9). The Bible tells us that, without Christ, man is corrupt and filthy: “All have turned away, all have become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.” (Psalm 14:3)

Can you see that we need the Law before the Gospel can move a person’s heart? Today, many pastors in their preaching avoid the use of the Law to placate the “itching ears” of their congregants. Can you see this forgotten key to evangelism allows us to call evil good and good evil! This is what we have done wrong for decades – we have not allowed the Law to speak clearly to our hearts, we then think much more of ourselves than we should!

Charles Spurgeon, called the Prince of Preachers, stated, “**I do not believe that any man can preach the Gospel who does not preach the Law.**” The Law is the needle, and you cannot draw the silken thread of the gospel through a person’s heart unless you first send the needle of the Law to make way for it.

Sola Christus,
The Rev. Dr. Donald P. Edwards

God at Work

Noise in the Silence *with Felicia Sheets*

There's noise in the church even when it's quiet, even when nobody is around. Sometimes, that can be when it is the most noisy. Think about that for a second, think about all the people, past and present who have been in church and have said a silent prayer, think of all the people who have said a prayer out loud, think of all the noise, the worship, the fellowship that Sunday service brings to the church, the noise from all the children. That is a lot of stored up noise, but where do you think that noise goes?



Well, I have an idea. I think it lives within the walls of the church. I don't think it ever leaves the church. I think all that noise is always circulating throughout the church, even if you can't necessarily hear it with your ears. Sometimes you have to listen with your heart. There will be moments I am up at the church throughout the week and I will, out of nowhere, think of members of the church that have passed away, some of them have been gone for many years while others more recently, but maybe that was one of their prayers over the years floating through the church walls. That feeling fills me with comfort, knowing that they live on through my memory of them, their floating prayers can live on, and their joy they had on Sundays singing hymns can live on within the noise that is currently living within the walls of the church. The church is a living building, it has stories to tell, you just need to open your heart and sit in the silence sometimes to be able to listen to it.

The bigger the church grows, the more generations the church sees, and the louder the church gets, truly the livelier the church becomes. So get noisy! Let your prayers be heard within the walls of the church, silent or out loud. Worship in song, join us for Fellowship Time, and come to a Bible Study or group. Let the church hear you; let your prayers and worship float around the walls for generations to come.

There's life in the church, and as long as there's a church standing, there will be noise, even in the silence.

Anniversaries & Birthdays

Birthdays in November

Denise Wilson	11/02
Crist Stringfellow	11/03
Amos Reese	11/04
Matthew Johnson	11/06
Helen Smith	11/06
Mercedes Taylor	11/06
Gayle Snyder	11/08
Esther Henninger	11/09
Tara Breneisen	11/09
Alexis Moyer	11/10
Eric Bartlow	11/12
Robert Bailey	11/15
Ryan Burke	11/16
Althea Smith	11/17
Clayton Gottschall	11/18
Royce Boyles	11/20
Anna Beth Fisher	11/21
Daniel Fisher	11/23
Donald Miller	11/24
Cindy Edwards	11/26
Arthur Gottschall	11/28

**Don't see your anniversary or birthday?
Please let us know, so we can celebrate with you!**

