

## City of Munford, Tennessee

1397 Munford Avenue Munford, TN 38058 City Hall (901) 837-0171 www.munford.com Dwayne Cole, Mayor

Mayor's Report January 24, 2022

Around 11:25 PM on January 6, 2022, I was awakened by a call from a friend who told me that his son had just passed River of Life Church on Beaver Road and it was on fire! Sheila and I jumped out of bed and sped to the scene. When we arrived, flames were breaking through the roof of the "old sanctuary" portion of the building. Our hearts sank as we saw our church beginning to be consumed by flames.

Our valiant firefighters battled flame and extreme cold that night as departments from all over Tipton County responded to the call. Chief Reeves was in command of the scene and managed it like a seasoned veteran, though he has only been Chief for a few months. To every Firefighter from every Department, to every Law Enforcement Officer, to friends who offered consolation I personally want to thank you.

The loss that night was devastating for our church family as well as the community, however River of Life Assembly of God Church will continue to minister, serve our community, and impact the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are currently holding services in the Family Life Center until future plans become clear.

There seems to be much confusion about the Congressional redistricting plan being considered by the state legislature during this session. The plan divides Tipton County into two parts and moves areas west of Highway 51 into the 9th Congressional District. Redistricting is required after every national census and adjusts due to population growth and migration. If passed by both houses of the Legislature, Munford will be represented in Congress by Representative Steve Cohen of Memphis.

This does **NOT** mean Munford becomes part of Shelby County. It does **NOT** mean our utilities will be provided by MLGW. Your taxes will **NOT** go to Shelby County, nor will they rise as a result of redistricting. We are still Tipton County and are still governed by Tipton County Government and the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Munford. While many of our citizens do not approve of this plan, and I have contacted our representatives to express our sentiment, the final decision resides with the State Legislature. Final vote is scheduled for tonight in Nashville.

Many of our employees have been affected by sickness during this season and has affected all departments. Please keep our city employees in your prayers as they are vital to the operations of our city.

Business continues to be very good in the City of Munford and sales tax collections continue strong. Thank you for shopping locally.

Warm winter regards, Dwayne Cole, Mayor