

CHURCH MATTERS

APRIL

2015



MORRISVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH

3824 Swamp Rd., P.O. Box 178, Morrisville, NY 13408

www.morrisvillechurch.org

morrisvillechurch@frontiernet.net

Sunday School 9:00 AM

Sunday Service 10:30AM

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 9 am- 12pm

Office 684-3314

Clothes Basket 684-9970

Fax 684-7817

April Birthdays

- 1 Ann Batchelor
- 2 Amanda Miller
- 5 Maxine Hunter
- 5 Harriet Stevens
- 6 Robin Suarez
- 7 Nick Hunter
- 12 Karen Holbert
- 19 Paul Mockovak
- 19 Adrianna Griffin
- 20 George Fearon
- 20 Dakota Merkle
- 21 Ron Brodeur
- 25 Jacalyn Groves
- 30 Joel Bush

April Anniversary

- 3 Tom and Jill Leamer

FYI: Pulpit Schedule

- April 5 Easter Sunday,
the Rev. Dr. Harvey Sindima
- April 12 Esther Davis
(Service of Scripture and Hymns)
- April 19 Ellen Davis
- April 26 Maxine Hunter
- May 3 Open
- May 10 Ellen Davis (Mother's Day)
- May 17 Nancy Douglas
- May 24 Nancy Douglas
(Day of Pentecost)
- May 31 Katie Bracy (Trinity Sunday)

April 2015 Calendar of Events

- 1 Zumba 5:30 pm Fellowship Hall
- 2 Tae Kwon Do 6 - 8 pm Fellowship Hall
- 3 **American Red Cross Blood Drive**
1 - 6 pm Fellowship Hall
- 5 Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Church Library
- 5 **Easter Sunday Service 10:30 am**
- 6 Cerebral Palsy 10 - 11 am
- 6 CE Committee Mtg. 5:30 pm SS Room
- 6 Deacons Mtg. 6:30 pm Library
- 7 Ethel's Needlers 10 - 11:30 am Library
- 8 New Hope Circle 6:30 pm Library
- 8 Zumba 5:30 pm Fellowship Hall
- 9 PW Ministry Team 6:30 pm Library
- 9 Tae Kwon Do 6 - 8 pm Fellowship Hall
- 12 Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Church Library
- 13 Cerebral Palsy 10 - 11 am
- 13 Worship Committee Mtg. 6 pm Library
- 13 Outreach Committee Mtg. 6:30 pm SS Room
- 13 Property Committee Mtg. 7 pm Fellowship Hall
- 14 Ethel's Needlers 10 - 11:30 am Library
- 14 Rebekahs 2 pm Fellowship Hall
- 15 Zumba 5:30 pm Fellowship Hall
- 16 Finance Committee Mtg. 7 pm Library
- 16 Tae Kwon Do 6 - 8 pm Fellowship Hall
- 18 **Memorial Service for Scott J. Miner 11:00 am** (luncheon)
- 19 Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Church Library
- 20 Cerebral Palsy 10-11 am
- 20 Session Mtg. 7 pm Library
- 21 Ethel's Needlers 10 - 11:30 am Library
- 21 Faith Circle 12:00 at M. Vair's
- 22 WIC 9:30 - 3:00 pm Fellowship Hall
- 22 Zumba 5:30 pm Fellowship Hall
- 23 Book Read 12:30 to 2 pm "The Prayer Box " at M. Herrick's
- 23 Tae Kwon Do 6 - 8 pm Fellowship Hall
- 26 Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Church Library
- 27 Cerebral Palsy 10 - 11 am
- 28 Ethel's Needlers 10 - 11:30 am Library
- 28 Rebekahs 2 pm Fellowship Hall
- 29 Zumba 5:30 pm Fellowship Hall
- 30 Tae Kwon Do 6 - 8 pm Fellowship Hall

Easter Sunday: A Day of Celebration

Easter Sunday is a day of rejoicing and celebration for all Christians. It is the day we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. As Cory Olney of our Sunday School said, "Easter is the day that Jesus rose from the grave. Jesus is with us---he is like the flower bulb, because like the flower from a bulb which returns each spring, so Jesus is new and fresh in our life each Easter." (Amen to that)

How we celebrate the day is enhanced by many customs that have been passed along over the generations. Here are some stories, thoughts and remembrances from our congregation.

New Clothes: Since the Roman Emperor Constantine made an official decree that new clothes should be worn on Easter, new clothes for Easter have been a part of the celebration. Irene Akers remembers the first Easter suit she made: "Way back in the 1950's, I took up sewing all my own clothes. One year, with Easter coming up, I decided to make a spring suit. I selected a dark green material. It took weeks of sewing, and with the sewing-on-of- the-buttons, I completed the outfit the day before Easter. I selected a pair of light green high heeled sandals and a matching green hat to go with this suit. I was very proud of my accomplishment, and my mother-in-law-to-be, who was an accomplished seamstress, gave me thumbs up. What could be better than that!!"

Although in our contemporary life, new clothes seem almost common place, there is still an excitement about a new special outfit for Easter. If you don't believe me just listen to Delaney Graves. Smiling and wiggling with excitement she told me this: "I have a new Easter dress! It has a purple top and blue-green bottom!"

Chicks---symbols of new life: Who remembers the chicks? Marlene Miner does: "Peep, Peep, Peep": The first Easter Sunday that my brother and I heard that sound as we came down stairs is very memorable. We quickly headed toward the sound coming from a cardboard box placed next to the wood burning part of our kitchen stove. Looking in the box we saw 6 little puffs of feathers---colored feathers---pink, blue, purple and yellow! Six colored baby chicks! We were excited to say the least! Each Easter after that, we listened for that sound and headed right to the kitchen stove. From the box our chicks eventually went to the chicken house in the backyard, and then...

Easter is a time to feast: What special Easter foods do you remember? Some of the answers surprised me: Sue Leamer---raised in Pennsylvania--- said, "Pickled eggs and beets. Oh, that is very Pennsylvania...remember the Pennsylvania Dutch." Lorraine Maggio (Needlers Group) and Nancy McPherson, spoke of a special Italian Easter bread. The bread is baked with raw colored eggs on top. (Google this bread---it is really pretty) Lorraine said her grandmother used to make an individual loaf for each grandchild. It was what she most look forward too. Well~~I was expecting at least one person to mention ham and vegetables (such as fresh asparagus smothered in a Hollandaise sauce).

Easter eggs and candy: What kind of a celebration would it be without the tradition of the Easter egg hunts, the Bunny and the candy? I was reminded of its importance by two of our Sunday School children: Reme Lee: "The Easter Bunny gives us candy"; Abbie Leamer: "We hide Easter eggs". Their smiles reminded me of the importance of this.



Circa 1988, Brett Groves and Erin Jacobs (Dutcher)...even in the light falling snow their smiles tell it all...Look what we found!!

In Closing: Although I don't have a hand count concerning this from the congregation, I have often be told, "The one hymn I look forward to on Easter morning is the singing of "Christ the Lord Has Risen Today!". I agree. No variety needed when it comes to this hymn...lets sing it!!! Al-le-lu-ia!

Respectively submitted on behalf of the Worship Committee,
Maxine Grace Hunter

Church Officers

ELDERS

Class of 2015

Jeff Cring
George Fearon
Vacancy

Class of 2016

Ellen Davis
Nancy Douglas
Priscilla Suits

Class of 2017

Henry Douglas
Sylvia McKinnon
Mark Shepard

DEACONS

Class of 2015*

Sue Bartow
Calla Miller
Marlene Miner

Class of 2016

Naydene Ames
Ron Brodeur
Tom Lemery

Class of 2017

Connie Shepard
David Link
Roberta Link

Officers' Retreat

Saturday, March 7, your church officers met with the Rev. Earl Arnold for an officers' retreat at our church. Who are the officers? Your elected elders and deacons - see the list in this and future newsletters.

Elders and Deacons are expected to meet together at least annually but we recognize that more frequent get-togethers will help us serve our church better. Each group has duties assigned to it by our church's bylaws and by our Book of Order. However, one criticism we have encountered over the years is the need for better communication in our church. Retreats such as this past one and other combined meetings are intended to improve communication.

We started the day by reviewing past retreats and their goals. We looked at our church's strengths and weaknesses. What are the things we do well? What do we need to improve. Session has been working on these lists with Rev. Arnold. This allowed Deacons to share our thinking and to add their insights.

We recognized that in past retreats suggestions were made and goals established but without a plan to follow up, to measure progress, to identify weaknesses. To that end, we plan to meet as a group regularly - next time in June. Session also will be following the different ideas put forth.

After a lunch (thanks to Jeff Cring and Ellen Davis for arranging for and delivering sandwiches. Others supplied snacks and soda. Like an army, we travel better on our stomachs!

We identified several areas where our church could be strengthened and/or where we felt there were specific needs: students and the college, work with community, young people/families, spiritual awakening, worship - participation

and variety, unity, and finance. From that list we each chose an area of particular concern. Four groups looked at targeted areas: young people/families; worship; pastor; community.

The young people/young families group has identified several such families who have attended, whose children have been baptized, and/or whose children attended Sunday School. There is a goal to meet with these families and further involve them in the life of the church.

The worship group wants to see a bigger variety in worship as well as encourage participation by more people.

One group is going to investigate what we might look for in a part-time pastor.

The group looking at our relationship with the community wants to encourage more involvement from residents as well as make residents more aware of what we are doing here.

There are more specific plans but until they are more concrete, wait till next month for more details.

Everyone left the retreat feeling it had been profitable and looking forward to the next steps.

Submitted by Nancy Douglas, Clerk of Session

From the Financial Secretary

We have three checking accounts; each account needs a separate check.

1. Current Funds:

For operating fund, per capita, loose plate, initial offering reimbursements for items purchased or donated. These can be put into one check with explanation where the monies are to be credited.

2. Designated Funds

For Sunday School offering, special offerings, OGHS, Hunger, Pentecost, Peacemaking, Christmas, Easter and Christmas plants, Memorials.

3. Building Fund

Monies used to pay off our mortgage.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marcia Vair

Statistics for March

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Regular Offering</u>	<u>Building Fund</u>
Mar 1	47	\$2720.00	\$650.00
Mar 8	50	\$2774.00	\$610.00
Mar 15	50	\$3132.00	\$395.00
Mar 22	48	\$ 455.00	\$000.00
Mar 29	50	\$1120.00	\$250.00

According to Gallagher and Ventura, the most important words of personal responsibility are as follows:

The 10 most important words:

I won't wait for others to take the first step.

The 9 most important words:

If it is to be, it's up to me.

The 8 most important words:

If not me, who? If not now, when?

The 7 most important words:

Let me take a shot at it.

The 6 most important words:

I will not pass the buck.

The 5 most important words:

You can count on me.

The 4 most important words:

It IS my job!

The 3 most important words:

Just do it!

The 2 most important words:

I will.

The most important word:

Me

Outreach & Evangelism Committee

Covered Dish & Fellowship

The Outreach and Evangelism Committee would like to invite you to a covered dish dinner on Saturday, May 2 at 5:30 pm in Fellowship Hall of Morrisville Community Church. Please bring a dish to pass. We will provide place settings. We have invited neighboring churches, so come for food, fellowship and fun!

BAZAAR BUZZ

"Country Crossroads 2015"

It's time to start planning for our Bazaar! The date has been set for November 7, 2015. Mark your calendars. For those who are new to the church, the Bazaar is held the first Saturday in November, every other year. It is sponsored by the Presbyterian Women and the proceeds are used to support home, local and world missions. All items for the bazaar are donated by members and friends of the church.

We will have the following booths----

Grandma's Attic: treasures from the past and present

St. Nicholas' Place: Christmas decorations and items

The Country Peddler: Sseasonal items & decorations

The Stitchery: knitted, crocheted, and sewn items

The Twisted Vine: plants, decorative items from natural materials

The Bake Shop: a variety of homemade goodies

Mrs. Claus' Cafe: serving lunch during the bazaar

We hope all our crafters are thinking about projects they can do and are willing to donate. We have lots of craft supplies and even kits available in our Bazaar Workroom downstairs. Before you purchase supplies for your craft projects you should check and see if we have what you need. Just ask Sylvia McKinnon or Karen Jacobs for a tour.

More information and suggestions will continue in each monthly issue of the church newsletter....look for the "Bazaar Buzz" column for up-to-date information as it becomes available.

Time to start crafting!!!!