



# CHURCH MATTERS

## MORRISVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

[www.morrisvillechurch.org](http://www.morrisvillechurch.org) morrisvillechurch@frontiernet.net

FB - Morrisville Community Church, PCUSA

### APRIL 2020

Sunday School 9:30 am

Sunday Service 10:30 am

Church Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00 am - noon Office: 315-684-3314

Pastor's Office: 315-684-9971 Clothes Basket: 315-684-9970

**Unfortunately for the safety of our community,  
we will be closed until further notice.**

**We wish you and your family health and peace  
during this trying time.**



**Chapel at Morrisville Community Church** is open for your use of prayer and reflection 24-7 everyday, Monday thru Sunday.

**Adult Bible Study** is not being held until further notice.

**Clothes Basket** is closed until further notice.

**Food Pantry** will be open every Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 to 12 noon and the 1st Saturday of every month from 10 to 12 noon, unless otherwise noted.

- Calendar of Events
- 1 Set up for Bazaar in Fellowship Hall
- 2 PW Bazaar - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
- 3 Adult Bible Study - 8:45 am - Fellowship Hall
- 3 Communion/No Coffee Hour/lunch after worship
- 4 C.E. Comm. Mtg. - 5:30 pm
- 4 Deacon's Meeting - 6:30 pm
- 7 Tae Kwon Do 6-8 pm
- 10 Adult Bible Study - 8:45 am - Fellowship Hall
- 11 Office Closed in observance of Veterans Day
- 11 Worship Comm. Mtg. - 6 pm
- 11 Property Comm. Mtg. - 7 pm
- 12 Rebekah's - 2:00 pm
- 13 Renewed Hope Circle - 6:45 pm - E./ Crane's
- 14 PW Ministry Team Mtg. - 6:30 - Lib.
- 14 Finance Comm. meets - 7 pm
- 14 Tae Kwon Do - 6-8 pm
- 17 Adult Bible Study - 8:45 am - Fellowship Hall
- 18 Personnel Comm. Mtg. - 6:30 pm
- 18 Session meets - 7:00 pm
- 19 Faith Circle - Noon -
- 21 Book Read - 12:30-2 pm -Lib.- "The Great Gatsby"
- 21 Finance Comm. Mtg. - 7 pm
- 21 Tae Kwon Do - 6-8 pm
- 22 Food Sense - 9:30-10:30 am
- 25 Red Cross Blood Drive - 11-7

## A Poem to Ponder

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.” Romans 12: 12

### Pandemic

What if you thought of it  
as the Jews consider the Sabbath—  
the most sacred of times?

Cease from travel.

Cease from buying and selling.

Give up, just for now,  
on trying to make the world  
different than it is.

Sing. Pray. Touch only those  
to whom you commit your life.

Center down.

And when your body has become still,  
reach out with your heart.

Know that we are connected  
in ways that are terrifying and beautiful.

(You could hardly deny it now.)

Know that our lives  
are in one another's hands.

(Surely, that has come clear.)

Do not reach out your hands.

Reach out your heart.

Reach out your words.

Reach out all the tendrils  
of compassion that move, invisibly,  
where we cannot touch.

Promise this world your love—  
for better or for worse,  
in sickness and in health,  
so long as we all shall live.

—Lynn Ungar 3/11/20\*

On Behalf of the Worship Committee,  
Maxine G. Hunter

*\*Lynn Ungar serves as a minister for Church of the Larger Fellowship,  
an on line congregation for Unitarian Universalists.*

# Happy Birthday

## April Birthdays

1	Ann Batchelor	19	Adrianna Griffin
2	Amanda Miller	19	Paul Mockovak
2	Pat Olsson	20	George Fearon
5	Maxine Hunter	20	Dakota Merkle
5	Harriet Stevens	21	Ron Brodeur
6	Robin Suarez	25	Jacalyn Groves
7	Nick Hunter	26	Christopher "Duane" Martin
12	Karen Holbert	26	Christina Martin
		30	Joel Bush

## Happy Anniversary

## April Anniversary

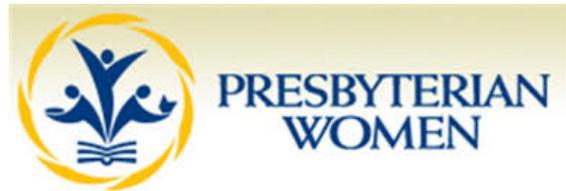
4 Tom & Jill Leamer

**PRAYER LIST:** Emmett (Rachael Armstrong's brother), Lloyd Jones (son-in-law of Ann Berlew), Joan Winkler and family, Russ Duncan, Zimmerman Family, Savannah (Calla Miller's co-workers daughter), Ruth (friend of Malinda Tucci), Isabella (Ann Batchelor's daughter's best friend's daughter), Christine Treece (Rachael's niece), Brad Babcock, LaVia Wedge (Calla's sister), Ron Stanley (Sam & Karen Tucci's friend), Debbie Rifenburg (Priscilla Suits' daughter), Sharon Townsend (Ron Brodeur's sister-in-law), Jim & Linda Taylor (requested by Sam & Karen Tucci), Robin Suarez's mom, Martha Tyre (Maxine's friend), Deanna Moyes (Norma's sister), Jeanna Acosta (Norma's niece), Pat Parker, Tammy Hutchinson (Tara Truett's sister), Shirley Ford, Eleanor Horton (Claudia's sister), Sue Bristow (Hank Douglas' daughter), Fred & Gail Banks, Dave & Gerry (co-worker of Tom Lemery), Paul Mockovak, and Service men and women

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Unfortunately for the safety of our community we will be closed until further notice.**

**We wish you and your family health and peace during this trying time.**



The Presbyterian Women provided a nice chicken and biscuit meal for the family and friends of Nancy Douglas, following the memorial service on March 14th. Nancy was very active in our church and she will be missed. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the Douglas family.

We thank the following for their help with the memorial luncheon; whether you helped set up, brought in a dessert, or helped serve and clean up, we deeply appreciate all you did: Rachael Armstrong, Sue Bartow, Ron Bush, Janice Button, Ellen Davis, Norma Galbreath, Maxine Hunter, Karen Jacobs, Sue Leamer, Sylvia McKinnon and Dick Richardson.

Submitted by Naydene Ames, PW Secretary

## From the Property Committee

The Property Committee met on Monday, March 6, 2020.  
Present: Charlene and Ron Bush, Sylvia McKinnon  
Excused: Nate Miller



The bid letter for mowing was revised for 2020. Letters were sent out to Bohndorf, Brown, Colvin and Groves. Requested reply was April 3.

A new lease (four years) for a new copier was signed and sent to Scott Meriwether (Usherwood). It will be installed in April. We need to remember to put the new ID# on our insurance. We need to check to see if it is compatible with our computer.

The codes inspector approved all but identification of two breakers. Also, a new law requires an extinguisher in the sanctuary(\$54.00).

Our Tax-Exempt Certificate(ID#) has been updated with addresses. It will be sent soon.

Sylvia needs to talk to Jeff Gay about the W9 forms that should be filled out by workers being paid over \$600.

We will be discussing the damage on the side of the building and the planter boxes.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sylvia J. McKinnon  
Property Chairperson



## From the Food Pantry

Many of the grocery stores had joined the Feeding America Program some years ago and, in our area, The Food Bank of CNY. I went over to see the Produce Manager at Price Shopper to see if they would be willing to assist us with produce. Hamilton Food Pantry picks up on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We have asked for a Monday pick up. My volunteer Seth Downen, along with Jason Stastny, have offered to pick up on Mondays. It might be only every other week since our first donation was four cases of produce, some of which we had to discard.

Mark Shepard has assisted us, occasionally, on Wednesdays when he has been back in Morrisville until his final move. Seth has agreed to provide some help and take over the desk on Wednesdays and get the cardboard and trash out.

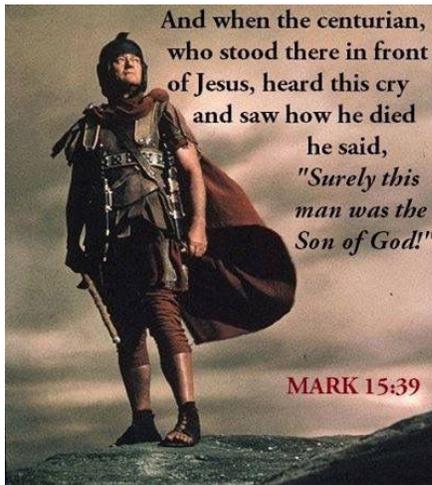
February Statistics:  
32 families visited the pantry  
2 New Enrollees  
\$44 Monetary donations  
192 food and other products donated\*

\*The Edward R. Andrews Elementary Six Pillars Character Education Program Collected 153 items for the Pantry.

The Pantry will not be accepting any food or other products, at this time. However, we will gladly accept monetary donations.

Thank you.  
Sue Bartow, Coordinator Food Pantry





CENTURION:  
BAPTIZED AND WASHED IN THE BLOOD

By: Pathrik L. Olsson A.K.A. Mr. Bonnie

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[Psalm 104:34](#)

May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice  
in the LORD.

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It is well known that the four Gospels each talk about the soldiers tormenting Jesus, gambling for His clothes, mocking Him, etc.

And it is also well known at least one of the soldiers becomes a “believer”. John calls him a “soldier” while Mathew, Mark, and Luke refer to him as a centurion. A centurion is just a higher rank than a “soldier”.

Neither Mathew, Mark, nor Luke give a specific “reason” for the soldier’s transformation to a believer other than what he witnessed. I believe there is more to it...

John does not record any soldier’s transformation but does, I believe, give the reason for the soldier or centurion becoming a believer.

By combining the four Gospels the story of the transformation from soldier to believer comes out...

Matthew 27:54: “When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, “Surely He was the Son of God!””

Mark 15:39: “And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, saw how He died, he said, “Surely this man was the Son of God!”

Luke 23:47: The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, “Surely this was a righteous man.”

Matthew says the centurion and “those with him” were transformed when “they saw the earthquake and all that had happened”.

Mark and Luke only mention the centurion. I think if all the soldiers had been transformed Mark and Luke would have also mentioned the “mass transformation”.

The three Gospels do all say that the transformation was because of what was “seen”. Personally, I think it was just one soldier or centurion that was transformed and John gives us the reason that the soldier was transformed by what he “saw”.

John tells us in chapter 19 verses 32 through 34 that “The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus’ side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water.”

Jesus had been whipped, beaten and nailed to a cross. The blood loss would have been severe. He was also already dead. The blood loss from the torture and the absence of a beating heart would have limited the possibility of “sudden flow of blood”. Dehydration from being imprisoned, beaten and crucified, remember he was offered only a sponge full to drink, would also have limited the “water flow”.

I believe that the “sudden flow of blood and water” that John mentions was a miracle and served not only to “baptize” the centurion but “wash away his sins in the blood of the savior”. The Baptism and the washing by the blood allowed him to “see” the truth of who Jesus was as recorded by Matthew, Mark, and Luke.

The transformation of the soldier/centurion should serve as a reminder that Baptism and the Washing Away of Sins by the Blood of Jesus are for everyone and anyone can become a believer.

AMEN

## Statistics for March 2020



<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Regular Offering</u>	<u>Building Fund</u>
1	44	\$ 3,192.00	\$130.00
8	47	\$ 429.00	\$600.00
15		\$ 347.00	0
22	Service Cancelled		
29	Service Cancelled		



We have an active Facebook page - Morrisville Community Church, PCUSA. There will be regular postings about our church and the events held or hosted there. It is important that those of you who have a Facebook page look at our page and **"like"** AND **"share"**. We need to get the word out there that we are live, active and moving forward. If you have any suggestions for a posting please let us know. Thank you for your support and *help*.

### From the Deacons

The Deacons wish everyone who will be celebrating a birthday or anniversary in April that you have a wonderful day. Deacons celebrating birthdays this month are George and Ron and Tom and Jill Leamer have an anniversary to celebrate.

The Deacons will be keeping regular contact with those on their caring list as we all struggle though the Coronavirus Pandemic. Anyone needing something, or someone to talk to, please feel free to call your Deacon, or any Deacon. God loves you and so do we. We are here for each other.

Your Deacons are: Naydene Ames, Rachael Armstrong, Ron Brodeur, George Fearon, Norma Galbreath, Tom Leamer Jr., Tom Lemery, Calla Miller and Marlene Miner.

Respectfully submitted,  
Naydene Ames, Secretary



## Deacon Ministry

### CHURCH OFFICERS

#### ELDERS

**Class of 2020**  
Sylvia McKinnon  
Tom Leamer, Sr.  
Sheila Bartlett  
Ellen Davis

**Class of 2021**  
Lois Thurston

**Class of 2022**  
Pathrik Olsson  
Claudia Loomis  
Maxine Hunter

#### DEACONS

**Class of 2020**  
George Fearon  
Tom Lemery  
Ron Brodeur

**Class of 2021**  
Calla Miller  
Marlene Miner  
Naydene Ames

**Class of 2022**  
Norma Galbreath  
Rachael Armstrong  
Tom Leamer, Jr.