

April 2021 Calendar of Events

- 1 April Fool's Day Observed
- 2 Good Friday Observed
- 4 Communion/Easter Sunday 11:00 a.m.
- 5 Deacons Meeting 7pm Fellowship Hall
- 12 Worship Committee 6 pm Library
- 12 Property Committee - Online
- 19 Session 7 pm Fellowship Hall

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 will be open on Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 12 noon, and the 1st Saturday of every month from 10 to 12 noon, unless otherwise noted.

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.



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.



CHURCH MATTERS

MORRISVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

Rev. Charles Vollmer, Pastor

www.morrisvillechurch.org

morrisvillechurch@frontiernet.net

FB - Morrisville Community Church, PCUSA

APRIL 2021

Sunday School 9:30 am

Sunday Service 11:00 am

Church Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00 am - noon

Office: 315-684-3314

Pastor's Office: 315-684-9971

Clothes Basket: 315-684-9970





The World Awakens: Stop, Look, Listen

“See! The winter is past...Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come; the cooing of doves is heard in the land.”

Songs of Songs 2: 11-12

It is spring. The world around us slowly awakens. The high bright sun brings warmth to the earth. Spring growth is fed by the melting snow. If we stop and look, we can see that flowers are appearing “on the earth.” The hardy flowers that slept peacefully under a blanket of snow, now awaken and push up to reach the sun. First to appear are the ever-persistent Crocuses and the tiny white angel winged Snowdrops. Next comes a tiny bell-shaped blue flower, the Glory-of-the-Snow. Daffodils and Forget-me-nots soon follow.

As the world fills with flowers, if we stop and listen, we can hear that “the season of singing has come.” First is the song of the Cardinal. The cardinal, perched in the highest tree top, sings a new song telling the world, “Here I am and this is my territory.” Robins and blue birds are often sighted in late February and early March. A sighting of a red-winged blackbird, the true harbinger of spring, indicates that spring is happening in spite of snow and chilly winds. Soon the air is filled with the twitter and singing of returning song birds that had fled south for the winter.

This is a happy time for us, because we have journeyed through the wilderness of Lent and arrived at the springtime of Easter—a time of new life filled with flowers and singing. Song writer, Kurt Kaiser expresses it this way: “What a wondrous time is spring—when all the trees are budding. The birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming; That’s how it is with God’s love, once you’ve experienced it: You want to sing, it’s fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.” To open our hearts to God’s love and enjoy, all we have to do is stop, look and listen. And then “pass it on.”

On Behalf of the Worship Committee,
Maxine G. Hunter

Happy Birthday

April Birthday

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

Happy Anniversary

April Anniversary

3 Tom & Jill Leamer

PRAYER LIST

PRAYER LIST: Margaret Kenyon, (Sue Bartow's mom), Kurt Virkaitis (son-in-law of Karen and Sam Tucci), Jill Dougherty (Linda Dougherty's daughter), Jenna Weinschreider (Charlotte Hill's grand-daughter), Dianna Zatto (Sue Bartow's cousin), Ellen Davis, Jackie Groves, Andrea Loson (Calla Miller's friend), Lisa Stopchick, Theresa (Lisa Stopchick's sister), George Fearon, Esther & Stan Davis, Sue Droege (cousin of Karen Jacobs), Peggy Czyznikewicz, Calla and her family, Bruce Larabee (Calla Miller's friend's Dad), Terry Moore (Calla Miller's friend), Catharine Andrews, Adrien Brodeur, Dick Loomis, Tom Lemery, Sue Rowley (Calla Miller's friend), Howard Wilkinson (Norma's brother), Gratia Burleigh's daughter, Joan Winkler and family, Savannah (Calla Miller's co-workers daughter), Debbie Rifenburg (Priscilla Suits' daughter), Jeanna Acosta (Norma's niece), Tammy Hutchinson (Tara Truett's sister), Fred Banks, Dave & Gerry (co-worker of Tom Lemery).



ANNOUNCEMENTS

April Liturgist

- 4 Tom Leamer, Sr. (Communion/Easter Sunday)
- 11 Tom Leamer, Jr.
- 18 Sylvia McKinnon
- 25 Ann Berlew

From the Deacons

The Deacons honored our four newest young ones on Sunday, March 21, 2021. The roses on the alter were in honor of Cassian, grandson of Ellen Davis; Theodore, great grandson of Sandy Merkle; Mackenzie, granddaughter of Bonnie and Pat Olsson; and baby Ellie, great grand niece of Eric and Debbie Hansen. Baby Ellie had some health issues at birth, but infection cleared up and hole in her heart is getting smaller. **Praise the Lord!**

Update on Financial Secretary Position

After over thirty years of service as our Financial Secretary, Marcia Vair has retired from the position as of December 31, 2020. Her stewardship and service has been greatly appreciated and she will be missed.

Filling the position was a concern, but we have good news. The Financial Secretary position is now in the hands of Naydene Ames. Thank you Naydene.

Contact Information: Morrisville Community Church, P.O. Box 178, Morrisville, NY 13408, Attention Naydene Ames, Financial Secretary, **or** Naydene Ames, 2469 Lebanon Hill Rd., Eaton, NY 13334.

Morrisville Community Church Blood Drive Results

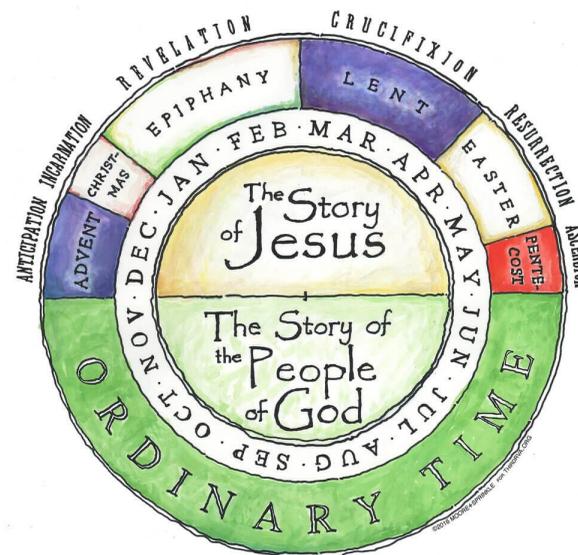
Despite the power outage, we welcomed 1 first time donor and collected **13 units of life saving blood** including 1 POWER RED donation. The products from this drive can touch up to **36 lives!**

Per Capita for each member in **2021** is \$38.50.



The Celebration of Easter

Rev. Charles Vollmer, Pastor



I like the Christian calendar so much more than the civil calendar. On the Christian calendar, the holidays are always longer giving us more time to celebrate. Think of it! We have twelve days of Christmas and who doesn't like Christmas? And when it comes to Easter, we get a whopping 50 days (49 days if you don't count the day of Pentecost). And if that doesn't get your attention, we have some neat seasons. We just came out of the season of Lent, which was 40 days. Before that was Epiphany which takes us up to Lent and don't forget, the Christian New year begins on the first Sunday of Advent, which lasts four weeks. Ordinary time is the longest season running just after Pentecost all the way up to Advent. What's kind of neat about the Christian calendar is the year pretty much divides into two parts. The first part from Advent through Pentecost is about Jesus and the second part is about the people of God.

But really... how many of you will actually spend time celebrating Jesus' resurrection all the way up to the day of Pentecost? I fear that for many, after the Easter dinner is complete life returns to normal. That's not the way it was for the early church! They were talking, and in some cases arguing, about Jesus and his resurrection.

"Have you seen Jesus?"

"Yeah, he just appeared out of nowhere while we were eating some fish."

"Yeah, I saw him on the beach over at Lake Galilee! How cool is that?!"

Perhaps the church today needs to remember more than ever, we have new life in Christ. We have been spiritually resurrected. Eternal life is forever. It doesn't end after Easter dinner or after the sun goes down on Pentecost. It lasts beyond the here and now into the endless future in the Kingdom of God. Now the really good news about that is, our future life will never get boring—it's boring-proof! It reminds me of Jeremiah's acclamation in Lamentations:

The faithful love of the LORD never ends!^[a]

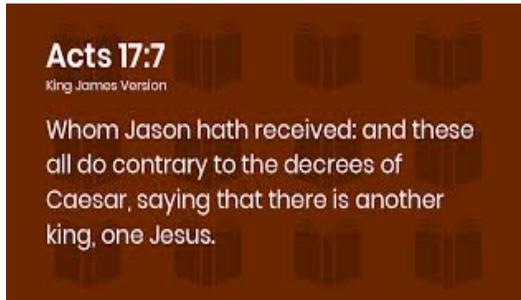
His mercies never cease.

Great is his faithfulness;

his mercies begin afresh each morning.

(3:22-23 NLT)

Did you get that? "His mercies begin afresh every morning." Just as each new day here on earth offers hope, the glory of heaven is that there is an eternal newness that never fails! So, let's continue to celebrate our long holiday, for today is the beginning of the rest of our eternal new lives.



JASON

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

Psalm 104:34

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

Some Biblical characters have many words dedicated to them others very little...

It is the ones who do not have much said about them that interest me. If everything in the Bible was put there by God for a reason then what is so important about some of these “minor” characters? They are important enough to mention by name but only get a few verses dedicated to them...

For instance Jason from Acts 17...

Chapter 17 starts with Paul and Silas preaching in a synagogue in Thessalonica. After converting many Jews, God-fearing Greeks and quite a few prominent women we pick up the story in verse 5 where Jason is mentioned for the first time...

⁵ But other Jews were jealous; so they rounded up some bad characters from the marketplace, formed a mob and started a riot in the city. They rushed to **Jason's** house in search of Paul and Silas in order to bring them out to the crowd.

⁶ But when they did not find them, they dragged **Jason** and some other believers before the city officials, shouting: “These men who have caused trouble all over the world have now come here,

⁷ and **Jason** has welcomed them into his house. They are all defying Caesar's decrees, saying that there is another king, one called Jesus.”

⁸ When they heard this, the crowd and the city officials were thrown into turmoil.

⁹ Then they made **Jason** and the others post bond and let them go.

The only other place Jason is mentioned is in [Romans 16:21](#) “Timothy, my co-worker, sends his greetings to you, as do Lucius, **Jason** and Sosipater, my fellow Jews.”

There is not much to go on concerning Jason. The important thing is not what we can learn *about* Jason but rather what we can learn *from* Jason...

So here goes...

This is what we learn *about* Jason...

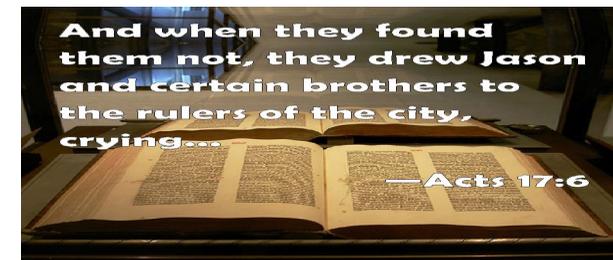
When the Jews formed their mob, they “rushed to Jason's house” so it was evidently common knowledge that Jason, a Jew as we learned from Romans, was a “Christian”. Jason was an “outward” Christian in a time when “Christianity” was at least unpopular if not an outright crime. It is unclear to me if Paul and Silas were ever even in his house. At any rate, the mob assumed Paul and Silas would be there and even though they could not find Paul or Silas there they arrested Jason anyway and accused him of “harboring a fugitive” saying he “welcomed them into his house”. “Then they made Jason and the others post bond and let them go.” And that is all there is about Jason until he is mentioned in a greeting in Romans 16:21.

So, what can we learn *from* Jason...?

The lesson is that we should always be “outward” Christians. ... Jason was an outward Christian and Even though he was accused of “harboring a fugitive” his only punishment that we know of was to “post bond”. In a day and age when death was a common punishment, Jason and the others seemed to have gotten off light. We know he survived whatever else was done to him because he sends his regards later on in Romans.

As “outward” Christians we are setting the examples. God will ensure we will not be punished and, furthermore, since Jason's name means “healer” we can, by following Jason's example and being outward Christians, help heal this ailing world in which we live.

It seems we can learn a lot from characters with only a few verses dedicated to them...



CHURCH OFFICERS

ELDERS

Class of 2021

Lois Thurston

Class of 2022

Pathrik Olsson
Claudia Loomis
Maxine Hunter

Class of 2023

Ann Berlew
Tom Leamer, Jr.
Sheila Bartlett
Tom Leamer, Sr.

Clerk of Session

Tom Leamer, Jr.

DEACONS

Class of 2021

Calla Miller
Marlene Miner
Naydene Ames

Class of 2022

Norma Galbreath
Rachael Armstrong

Class of 2023

Tom Lemery
Ron Brodeur
Bonnie Olsson



Spring Shop Hop
April 9th, 10th & 11th, 2021
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Spring Into the 2021 Season
As you Hop from Shop to Shop
Along Route 20 in Bouckville & Madison, NY

Participating Shops
Canal House Antiques
Cider House Antiques Store
The Cobblestone Trading Company
The Depot Antique Gallery
The Gallery Antiques at Pinebrick
The Gingham Patch Madison Inn Antiques
Turnpike Antiques Valandrea's Venture
Victorian Rose Wellington Woods
Whistle Post Antiques Whistle Post Creations

GREAT SELECTIONS!
Antiques, Art, Primitives, Vintage Furniture, Collectibles & More
Prize Drawings!
Follow us on Facebook @ Madison Bouckville Antique Week

**Shops will be following
COVID Guidelines
Mask Required!**



From the Property Committee

The "texting" meeting of the Property Committee was held on March 8, 2021, with Ron & Charlene Bush, Sylvia McKinnon and Nate Miller in attendance.

- The letter for mowing bids had been reviewed by all before the texting meeting. It was agreed that letter date would be 3/9/21 and the return date would be 3/29/21. The letter is to be sent to Bohndorf, Brown, Colvin, Groves, Szewczyk and Davis. Kaaren will prepare the letters for sending. When bids are returned they will be copied and sent to committee for review. They will be discussed at the April texting meeting.
- On March 5, Dougherty Pharmacy held another COVID-19 vaccination in the Fellowship Hall from 9-5. it was the second dose for 200+ and first dose for 100. There was only 1 "no show". The next second shot is April 2.
- Annual inspection for the sprinkler system was done by Rich on 2/12.
- Matt (Fort Orange Claim Service) met with Sylvia and Ron to evaluate the ice damage done at the church. He requested that the invoice from Morse Construction, for \$1080.00 be sent to him (it was done). He will be sending us his report later in March letting us know if we are covered.
- Ron has started stripping the Fellowship Hall floor. It will be completed by the end of the week.
- ABC FIRE (Bob) will be returning next week to exchange the six extinguishers and bring the bill.
- American Red Cross will hold its next blood drive here in Fellowship Hall on March 26.

Sylvia J. McKinnon,
Property Chairperson



HISTORY CORNER

By Ann Berlew

When the Morrisville Methodist Episcopal Church was built in 1835, the pulpit was on a high platform near the front entrance. Evidently the pews must have faced North. Late-comers to church had to come through the front door, passed the minister in his high pulpit and face the congregation on the way in. He or she might as well have rung a bell to announce his/her late arrival! This no doubt encouraged prompt attendance!

In 1881, the church was lowered to ground level to remove the front steps that were considered a hazard for elderly people. The pulpit was placed on a much lower platform at the south end. The pews were reversed in direction to face the south, which pleased the parishioners. The change made it easier to sneak in without attracting undue attention!

