

CHURCH MATTERS

August

2017



MORRISVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

www.morrisvillechurch.org

morrisvillechurch@frontiernet.net

Facebook - Morrisville Community Church, PCUSA

Sunday School 9:30 AM

Sunday Service 9:30 AM

Office Hours Monday-Friday 9am-12pm

Office 684-3314

Pastor's Office 684-9971

Kitchen\ Clothes Basket 684-9970

August Birthdays

1 Gabrielle Bartlett	14 Aaron Olney
3 Duane Button	16 Kathleen Brodeur
4 Ryan Burch	17 Gene Larchar
5 Danielle Parker	18 Pat Morse
7 Hank Douglas	21 Valerie Mullenax
8 Dorothy Tainter	21 Jasmine M. Temple
9 Lily Pearl Mullenax	24 David Holbert, Sr.
11 Bob Virgil	26 Bert Conrad
11 Elijah Zbock	28 Calla Miller
12 Jamie Kent	30 Lois Thurston
13 Scott Holbert, Sr.	31 Jim Parker

August Anniversaries

2 David & Sheila Bartlett
5 David & Jessica Burch
6 Greg & Erin Dutcher
6 Kyle & Alisa Graves
8 Richard & Wanda Gorton
8 Scott & Karen Holbert
17 Sam & Karen Tucci
25 Bob & Darlene Ballard
25 Mark & Connie Shepard
30 David & Jean Puddington

Summer Hours: 9:30 a.m. Sunday Church Service until after Labor Day. **Pulpit Supply for August:**

6 Jeanette Michael

13 "Julian and Bonnie" - Gospel Duo

20 Pathrik Olsson

27 Rev. Diane Monger - Election of Officers

Clothes Basket -The Clothes Basket will only be open until noon on Saturdays. We will resume the noon - 2 p.m. shift after Labor Day. Wednesday hours will remain 10 a.m. - 2 p.m..

August 2017 Calendar of Events

1	Ethel's Needlers 10 - 11:30 am Library
3-6	Via De Cristo Retreat (noon August 3 - 6pm August 6)
4	Office Closed Today
5	Clothes Basket Closed Today
7	Deacons 6:30 pm Library
8	Ethel's Needlers 10 - 11:30 am Library
8	Rebekahs 2:00 pm Fellowship Hall
9	Christian Education Meeting 7:00 pm Library
10	PW 6:30 pm Library
10	Property Committee 7 pm Fellowship Hall
10	Tae Kwon Do 6 - 8 pm Fellowship Hall
12	"Carnival" 11:00 - 3:00 at the church
14	Outreach Committee 5:30 pm SS
14	Worship Committee 6 pm Library
15	Ethel's Needlers 10 - 11:30 am Library
17	Finance Committee 7 pm Library
17	Tae Kwon Do 6 - 8 pm Fellowship Hall
21	Session Mtg. 7 pm Library
22	Ethel's Needlers 10 - 11:30 am Library
22	Rebekahs 2:00 Fellowship Hall
23	WIC 9:30 - 3:30 pm Fellowship Hall
24	Book Read "Summer Sisters" by Judy Blume (12 noon - at Harriet Steven's home)
24	Tae Kwon Do 6 - 8 Fellowship Hall
29	Ethel's Needlers 10 - 11:30 am Library
31	Tae Kwon Do 6 - 8 Fellowship Hall

Please Note:

Adult Bible Study has been discontinued for the summer, and will resume after Labor Day every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the Church Library.

Sunday Hour of Prayer is held every Sunday from 6:30-7:30 pm. This will be time for anyone from our church and community to gather with others and share a time of prayer.

~Passing the Peace~

"...Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." John 20: 19

Do you want to liven up a congregational discussion? Here's how: put "the Passing of the Peace" on the agenda. I guarantee that a lively discussion will occur. The outcome will most likely be the usual with approximately 50% for and 50% against its inclusion in the worship service.

As one such discussion was taking place a question popped into head: What is the theological "why" of the Passing of the Peace? Since our discussions have never really addressed the theology behind the tradition, I decided to see what I could find on the topic.

First I discovered that the Passing of the Peace is an ancient Christian practice. According to one on-line post, the Peace once "assured believers meeting in secret that they could hold onto each other as they faced opposition and feared persecution." It identified the community as safe.

Second, it is an ancient liturgy based on scripture. In John 20: 19 it says, "On the evening of the first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." It was a profound greeting extending the blessing of God's peace from Jesus to the disciples. It also identified Jesus.

Third, today's liturgical practice of "the Peace" is defined as, "A liturgical exchange of greeting through word and gesture. It is a sign of reconciliation, love and renewed relations in the Christian community."

In conclusion, we still have much to understand and think about on this topic. Key point to remember is that the theme of peace is central to the liturgy. God's grace and forgiveness brings us peace. We are then to pass the blessing of peace to others. Let us pass the peace.

God makes peace within us. Let us claim it.
God makes peace between us. Let us share it.
Let us greet one another as a sign of God's peace.

On Behalf of the Worship Committee
Maxine G. Hunter

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clothes Basket (PW)

Thank you to all who contributed to the garage sale on July 8. The Clothes Basket (PW) raised over \$900 that will be used to support church programs and local community missions. Your donations and your help made this event very successful.

Christian Education

This is a topic that is important to the life of our church. There will be a meeting on Wednesday, August 9 at 7 p.m. in the Church Library to generate some ideas and strategies. **YOU will NOT** be obligated to be on the committee **OR** teach Sunday School if you attend this meeting. We simply need to brainstorm and try to come up with a solution to our current dilemma. Hoping to see you there.

Rev. Diane Monger is now our moderator for Session meetings and is available as needed for other things.

There are copies of the "**Daily Bread**" in the Narthex. Please take a copy if you are interested.

We need a Sunday School Coordinator and teachers beginning in September. We also need volunteers for the Christian Ed Committee to help with this project.

Per Capita Assessment for 2017 is \$37.50 per member.

From Outreach & Evangelism

The Outreach and Evangelism Committee are working along with some of the members of church on doing a carnival. It will be **Saturday, August 12 from 11:00 - 3:00**. If anyone is interested in coming and creating fun for young families please contact Mark or Connie Shepard at 315-684-9419.

God is showing us we need to reach out to show His love to young families in the community. Please pray that many young families will come and see how God is working in us. Please pray that we will have enough members to make this a success.

God Bless,
Outreach & Evangelism

SPECIAL GOSPEL MUSIC SERVICE

The Presbyterian Women (PW) will sponsor the musical duo, Gospel Singers Julian and Bonnie, who will lead our worship service on Sunday, August 13.

Julian and Bonnie George make their home just north of Nashville in Hendersonville, TN, but are usually on the road touring the US and Canada with their Country Gospel Music. Audiences enjoy an inspirational and delightful time as the couple shares their original and traditional songs. The couple sings in sweet harmony while adding a variety of musical instruments.

The Georges were nominated by The United States Association of Gospel Entertainers and Musicians, for the 2015 and 2016 Gospel Duo of the Year. They were also recipients of the Roby Award during USAGEM'S Gospel Music Ministry.

Julian is also a gifted song writer. Several songs have reached the top ten with "Destination Heaven" reaching number two, on the Country Gospel Charts of Glory Train Magazine. The Georges were also Glory Train's second most played overseas artists in Country Gospel. For more information and to hear samples of their songs, visit their website www.julianandbonnie.com

Join us at 9:30 a.m. for an uplifting musical service of worship.

From the Deacons

Deacons would like you to know we are here for you. If you need any special requests or prayers please let us know.

We are collecting cans of fruit for the Christmas baskets it might seem early to do but they seem to be the item we never have enough of. Thank you in advance for your donations.

We would like to wish everyone who has a Birthday or Anniversary this month the most blessed day and many more to come. Prayers

that everyone feels God's love every day.

God Bless,
Deacons

From the Food Pantry

The Annual CNY Food Bank Conference was held June 7, 2017 at the Holiday Inn, Liverpool, NY and was attended by volunteers Seth Downen, Jason Stastny, Bill Pond and myself. We were able to attend informative sessions of our choosing. One we attended was "Promoting Healthier Choices" – How to display foods and make them more attractive and appealing. Also, suggestions for arranging fresh produce, signage, and display racks. We are looking at ways to rearrange the Pantry and possibly acquire some additional space.

We had five new enrollees in June. Thirty-seven 37 families visited the pantry and a total of 1,008 meals were provided. We had one emergency call on Monday, June 19. Thirty dollars (\$30) in cash was received and 621 food and hygiene donations plus 434 canned and dry food items from the Postal Service's food drive. Unfortunately, a large number had to be discarded due to two and three year old expiration dates.

Sue Bartow, Co-Coordinator

Reflections from the Worship Committee

The Worship Committee would like to return to some practices from the past in order to enhance our worship and create a reflective environment.

We are encouraging everyone to move into the Sanctuary in a timely manner upon arrival on Sunday mornings. Our thought is that this will cut down on the noise in the Narthex that filters into the Sanctuary. We would like the Sanctuary to be a quiet place so that those who wish can experience a quiet time of reflection and prayer before the service begins. Therefore, the doors will be closed at approximately 10:15 as Keith provides some spiritual music conducive to meditation. Thank you for your cooperation.

Psalm 104:34 May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the LORD.

You can't buy happiness...You can't take it with you...

Two very different sayings. One says that material possessions will not bring happiness and the other says that even if you have material possessions they mean nothing in the end. I have discovered that these sayings are biblically related.

Let's consider some verses from Ecclesiastes.

Ecclesiastes was known as the "Teacher" who teaches that all things are meaningless without God. Let us take a moment and learn from him...

In chapter 5 verse 10 he says "Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income. This too is meaningless."

How very true. Paul warns Timothy of this in his first letter saying "For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs."

Think, for a moment, about the evil done in the world for money.

The "Teacher" also says "The sleep of a laborer is sweet, whether they eat little or much, but as for the rich, their abundance permits them no sleep."

One last bit from Ecclesiastes, "Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and the ability to enjoy them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil—this is a gift of God. They seldom reflect on the days of their life, because God keeps them occupied with gladness of heart."

How satisfied do we feel after a good day's work and a job well done? How satisfied do we feel after a life well lived? At the end of our time are we satisfied with the "stuff" that we leave behind or are we overjoyed with the salvation through Jesus Christ that we take with us.

True happiness comes not from the material world but from the spiritual world. Let's look into the Word of God some more...

Luke 12:32-34 "Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the Kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

And Matthew 6:19-21 "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

These are two very similar passages and two very important passages.

I don't think Luke wants us to give all our possessions to the poor and needy for then we become poor and needy. I think instead he means that we should not hoard so much that we become oblivious to the suffering of others.

Matthew and Luke both tell us that material "treasures" are only temporary and can be stolen or destroyed. Material happiness is tied to the treasures and is therefore vulnerable. When the treasure is gone so is happiness.

Matthew and Luke speak in unison saying "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

If your "treasure" is your faith in Jesus and the salvation that comes with it then that is where your heart will be and not with your "stuff". Happiness from salvation through faith in Jesus Christ is never vulnerable.

Salvation through faith in Jesus Christ cannot be bought at any price and it is the only thing that you can take with you.

BAZAAR BUZZ

"Country Crossroads 2017"

Our biennial bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 4, 2017, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Plans and preparations continue as the time approaches. Have an idea for a project? Need an idea for a project? Contact any of the following for assistance:

The Stitchery	Naydene Ames
The Twisted Vine	Maxine Hunter & Ellen Davis
St. Nicholas' Place	Sandy Merkle
The Bake Shop	Karen Jacobs & Sylvia McKinnon
Grandma's Attic	Marlene Miner
The Country Peddler	Calla Miller & Andy Sikes
Mrs. Claus' Café	Norma Galbreath
Cashiers	Priscilla Suits

Extra hands are always needed—beforehand and during the actual day. Please contact any of the above to sign up to help.

CHURCH OFFICERS

ELDERS

Class of 2017

Henry Douglas
Sylvia McKinnon
Mark Shepard
Priscilla Suits
Nancy Douglas

Class of 2018

Jeff Cring
Lois Thurston

Class of 2019

Pathrik Olsson

DEACONS

Class of 2017

Calla Miller
Connie Shepard
Sue Bartow

Class of 2018

David Link
Roberta Link
Robin Suarez

Class of 2019

Norma Galbreath
Rachael Armstrong
Tom Leamer, Jr.

Statistics for July 2017

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Regular Offering</u>	<u>Building Fund</u>
2	35	\$ 4,198.00	\$ 225.00
9	46	\$ 850.00	\$ 275.00
16	43	\$ 1,927.00	\$ 1,100.00*
23	43	\$ 1,160.00	\$ 1,900.00

*Water Softener