

CHURCH MATTERS

MORRISVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

www.morrisvillechurch.org morrisvillechurch@frontiernet.net

FACEBOOK - Morrisville Community Church, PCUSA

AUGUST 2020

Church Office Hours: Tues \ Thurs 9:00 am - noon

Office: 315-684-3314

Pastor's Office: 315-684-9971

Clothes Basket: 315-684-9970 CLOSED until further noticed

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

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

August Birthday

- 1 Gabrielle Bartlett
- 3 Duane Button
- 4 Ryan Burch
- 5 Danielle Parker
- 7 Hank Douglas
- 11 Bob Virgil
- 12 Jamie Kent
- 13 Scott Holbert, Sr.
- 14 Aaron Olney
- 16 Kathleen Brodeur
- 17 Gene Larchar
- 18 Pattie Morse
- 22 Jasmine Martin
- 24 David Holbert, Sr.
- 26 Gilbert "Bert" Conrad
- 28 Calla Miller
- 30 Lois Thurston
- 31 Jim Parker

August Anniversary

- 2 David & Sheila Bartlett
- 5 David & Jessica Burch
- 6 Greg & Erin Dutcher
- 6 Kyle & Alisa Graves
- 7 Dick & Lillian Richardson
- 8 Richard & Wanda Gorton
- 8 Scott & Karen Holbert
- 17 Sam & Karen Tucci
- 25 Bob & Darlene Ballard
- 25 Mark & Connie Shepard
- 30 David & Jean Puddington
- 31 Jerry & Allison O'Hara
- 31 Pat & Bonnie Olsson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Session is working to prepare to reopen under CDC guidelines. Therefore we want to have some input from our members and friends. Our deacons are assisting in gathering data. Please respond to the following information.

- 1) When we open would you attend services under the following conditions:
 - A) Wear masks
 - B) Use hand sanitizer
 - C) Practice social distancing (no passing peace, no coffee hour)
 - D) No singing
- 2) Rev. Sindima is no longer going to be a bridging pastor. Therefore we will be using volunteers and ministers from our pulpit supply list.
- 3) Comments/Suggestions

As we move forward please keep our church in your prayers.

Thanks for your participation.

TO ALL WHO WISH TO HELP WITH CLEAN-UP

Those who wish to help clean parts of the church are asked to call Kaaren Arrington, at the office, to sign up for a date and time. The Property Committee is trying to co-ordinate building usage to limit exposures. If you need access to the church, the staff is at church TUES. AND THURS. 9-12.

There will be a limited # of persons allowed in the church at one time. When you arrive at church sign in at office, wear a mask and distance 6 ft. Please clean all surfaces that you have touched when finished. Sign out at office. Thank you for your help.

*From the
Worship Committee*

“Evening Song”

**“He made the moon for the seasons...”
Psalm 104:19**

I ask, “What’s not to like when the full moon graces the night sky?” Not a thing! I was so inspired by the summer moon, I wrote “Evening Song”. Read it, or, better yet, sing it using the traditional Gaelic melody from the hymn, “Morning Has Broken.” Enjoy!

The moon rises slowly over the hill tops
Bathing the earth in its silvery glow.
Soft breezes whisper through the tall spruce trees,
As night gently settles in the valley below.
Peace brings the moonlight; Peace comes with nightfall.
Peace to the earth in this quiet hour.

Prayer: Dear God, we give you praise for the constancy of your presence in the beautiful evening hours and the peace it brings. All is well. Thank you. Amen

On Behalf of the Worship Committee,
Maxine G. Hunter

PRAYER LIST: Howard Wilkinson (Norma's brother), Tom Lemery, Jean Furner & Family (Ann Batchelor's friend and co-worker), Russ Duncan & family, Gratia Burleigh's daughter, Joan Winkler and family, Peggy Czyznikewicz, Henry Douglas, Zimmerman Family, Savannah (Calla Miller's co-workers daughter), Debbie Rifenburg (Priscilla Suits' daughter), 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, Sue Bristow (Hank Douglas' daughter), Fred & Gail Banks, Dave & Gerry (co-worker of Tom Lemery).

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.



Photo by Nick Hunter

“Summer Moon”

THE LONG AND THE SHORT OF IT

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.

Just for some fun I thought I would look up the longest and the shortest verses (by word count) in the New International Version (NIV) of the Bible and see what God was saying to me...

The longest is Esther 8:9. "At once the royal secretaries were summoned—on the twenty-third day of the third month, the month of Sivan. They wrote out all Mordecai's orders to the Jews, and to the satraps, governors and nobles of the 127 provinces stretching from India to Cush. These orders were written in the script of each province and the language of each people and also to the Jews in their own script and language."

This verse tells of King Xerxes giving the order for the Jews to have freedom of religion and to make sure there is no misunderstanding of misinterpretation the orders are written in the "script of each province and the language of each people and also to the Jews in their own script and language."

It seems God is telling me that God gives us the freedom to worship as we feel comfortable and that fact should always be understandable to all...

As for the shortest verse in the bible... word wise there are three... I guess I could count the letters but let's not push it...

Two of them come one after the other from 1 Thessalonians 5 verses 16 and 17. Verse 16 "Rejoice always" and 17 "pray continually." No real analysis need here... Let God know that we know the He is good and that He is always here for us so we should always talk to Him...

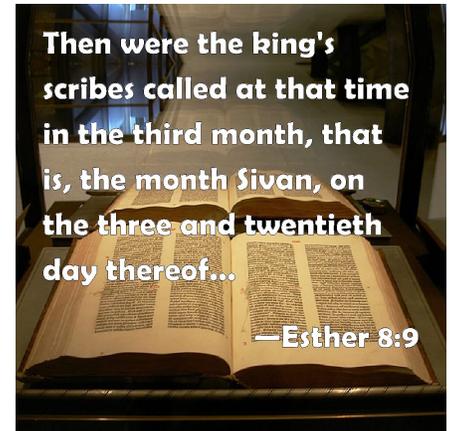
The last is my favorite John 11 verse 35. "Jesus wept." This simple verse, which, incidentally does have the fewest letters carries the most profound message. "Jesus wept" because He was human. He was God as a human and as a human He "felt as we feel". All the pain and joy of being human Jesus knew and understood.

God wants us to have a real and personal relationship with Him. God tells us through John that "Jesus wept" so that we will know that Jesus is like one of us and that God is not some far removed mythical deity in some far off place but right here among us always.

God knows how and what we feel so we can always relate to Him and be forever close to His love.

So the long and the short of it is...

Let God know that you love Him, do it however you want, do it always, talk to Him always because He will always understand you...



From the Property Committee

Present : Charlene & Ron Bush, Sylvia McKinnon, Nate Miller

We received a thank you note from CAP for use of our parking lot to distribute diapers for Covid 19. The Red Cross will hold a Blood Collection in our church on 7/24/20. It is the third one for 2020. Distribution of Farmers Market coupons (here) is on 7/23/20.

A number of parishioners have inquired about coming into the church to do "upkeep". Just because our church is closed doesn't mean that care for the building isn't needed. Areas mentioned were Clothesbasket, Kitchen and Library.

The committee has agreed that this is a good idea as long as we follow State Guidelines. We have set up procedures to make this possible. Information for this will be disseminated to those who had inquired and to the rest of the congregation (newsletter/website).

1. Those who wish to help clean parts of the church are asked to call Kaaren Arrington, at the office, to sign up for a date and time.

The Property Committee is trying to coordinate building usage to limit exposures. Persons must call office to sign up ahead of time for date and times.

If you need access to the church, the staff is at church TUES. AND THURS. 9-12. There will be a limited # of persons allowed in the church at one time.

2. Sign up at the office when you arrive.
3. All must wear a mask/use distancing 6 ft.
4. Areas to be used must be stated.
5. Before leaving all surfaces that have been touched must be cleaned and disinfected.
6. Sign out in the office.

Much discussion and organizing for the possibility of opening the church was accomplished.

1. Placement of tables, signs and sanitizers
2. Drawing and laminating of signs for plans
3. Temperature, questions upon entering
4. Seating instructions
5. Availability of bathrooms

6. If congregation agrees to open, a letter will be sent to all to explain the procedures for attending services.

Property Committee Chairperson,
Sylvia McKinnon

From the Food Pantry

May statistics: 37 household visited the pantry (32 Children, 63 Adults, 12 Seniors)

- 2 New Enrollees
- 967 Meals were provided
- \$1,455 Monetary donations
- 166 Food and other products

June - The Food Bank held a virtual Town Hall meeting on June 3, 2020. There is COVID-19 emergency funding available and timelines for grant awards. We are not in need, at this time. They are seeing 50% more households and 80% more individuals looking for assistance in April 2020 than in April 2019. The CARES ACT has provided \$850,000,000 to TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program). \$6,000,000 will impact houses with children who were receiving reduced lunches at school. SNAP (Food Stamps) benefits are increasing to full allotment, if eligible. Some are not because of the increase in unemployment. Once it ends, they can apply for food stamps again.

In the food chain there has been some difficulty in acquiring some non-perishable products. Twenty-four pack canned goods are now twelve. Canned peaches have converted to frozen. Producers that delivered in weeks went to months.

The Food Bank received funding to purchase farm dairy products - cottage cheese, milk, butter, eggs and NYS grown meat. These items will be free to pantries for many months.

"Grab and Go" boxes have been made available for the summer lunch programs.

We were awarded Grants from the Food Bank in June: Food Allocation - HPNAP Grant, July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021 - \$2,000

Produce Grant - \$500

Equipment Grant - \$2,817 for a new frost free, stainless steel, double door freezer. We have yet to receive any of these funds.

The Food Pantry has changed its protocols, once again, starting June 9, to allow three individuals in the building at a time, but only one in the Pantry. Two can remain seated in the outer hallway distanced 6 ft

apart. Masks and hand sanitizer are required when entering the building. We will pull and pack their items for them in whatever boxes we are able to have on hand. Carts are wiped down after each use. Everything will be sanitized before leaving the pantry. We are also, again, accepting food and other products donations.

June statistics: 35 households visited the pantry (40 children, 61 adults, 12 seniors)

3 new enrollees
1,107 meals provided
4 emergencies
\$230 Monetary donations
47 Food and other products

Sue Bartow, Coordinator

VANDERKAMP

At a Cayuga/Syracuse meeting it was voted to sell Vanderkamp (with Utica Presbytery, and Lutheran conference). Cayuga/Syracuse does not have the funds to "buy out" the other two owners.

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.