

CHURCH MATTERS

January

2018



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

January Birthdays

2	John Eriksen	14	Dawn Stevenson
8	Robert Ballard	15	Esther Davis
9	Ameiliana Ames	17	Naydene Ames
9	Julia Bush	17	Rachael Armstrong
12	Rebecca Eriksen	18	Laurie Zbock
13	David Link	22	Wayne Smith
14	Stanley Davis	24	Kenneth Parker
14	Gillian Gay Crescent	26	Jessica Burch

January Anniversaries

20 Dave & Becky Burgess

Pulpit Supply for upcoming weeks are as follows:

January

7	Rev. Dr. Harvey Sindima (Communion)
14	Bill Porter
21	Rev. Diane Monger (Annual Meeting)
28	Pat Olsson (Super Bowl)

February

4	Rev. Dr. Harvey Sindima (Communion)
11	Bill Porter
18	Rev. Jim Pollock
25	Rev. Bud Adams

Clothes Basket -

Wednesday and Saturday 10 am - 2 pm.

Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held on Sunday, January 21, 2018, following the church service.

Community Blood Drive - Tuesday, January 30 from 1-6 pm, Morrisville Community Church, 3824 Swamp Road, Morrisville in Fellowship Hall. To schedule an appointment to donate call 1-800 RED CROSS or visit www.redcrossblood.org.

January 2018 Calendar of Events

- 1 **New Year's Day (Office Closed)**
- 1 CE Committee 5:30 pm SS Room
- 1 Deacons 6:30 pm Library
- 2 Ethel's Needlers 10 - 11:30 am Library
- 4 Tae Kwon Do 6 - 8 pm Fellowship Hall
- 6 **"Clean Up" Christmas 9:00 am (Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall)**
- 8 Outreach Committee 5:30 pm SS Room
- 8 Worship Committee 6 pm Library
- 8 Property Committee 7 pm Fellowship Hall
- 9 Ethel's Needlers 10 - 11:30 am Library
- 11 PW Committee 6:30 pm Library
- 11 Finance Committee 7 pm Library
- 11 Tae Kwon Do 6 - 8 pm Fellowship Hall
- 15 **Martin Luther King Holiday (Office Closed)**
- 15 Session Mtg. 7 pm Library
- 16 Ethel's Needlers 10 - 11:30 am Library
- 16 **Valentine Express 1pm Fellowship Hall**
- 16 Faith Circle Noon Library
- 18 Tae Kwon Do 6 - 8 pm Fellowship Hall
- 21 **Annual Meeting of the Congregation**
- 23 Ethel's Needlers 10 - 11:30 am Library
- 24 WIC 9:30 - 3:30 pm Fellowship Hall
- 15 Tae Kwon Do 6 - 8 pm Fellowship Hall
- 30 **Blood Drive 1 - 6 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.

The Promise of New Years

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"
2 Corinthians 5: 17

Dear God, each New Year begins with promise.
The promise to do more; the promise to try
something different;
the promise to be a better self.
For this we give you thanks.

Be with us as we endeavor to do more in your name.
We know the "doing" involves "Going".
If we falter in this task, which we are prone to do,
Draw us near.
Remind us that the
hope, peace, joy and love
you bought into our lives,
is the message.

Be with us as we try to do something different in your
name.

Open our minds and hearts to these new possibilities.
Give us the patience to listen to new ideas;
Give us the patience to discuss the new ideas;
But most importantly,
Give us the will to try to something new.

Help us to be a better self.
To be the new creation that has come into our lives
from your son, Jesus.
Let us always remember that
In Christ the new has come and the old has gone.
Help us to manifest this new self today and always.

In all these things dear God we pray for your
guidance. In Jesus' name. Amen

On behalf of the Worship Committee,
Maxine Hunter

Remember When... A year ago we began making this part of our monthly newsletter. If you would like to see this continue we need some input. You might search your archives for pictures, newspaper articles, past writings from newsletters or other sources. You might also consider writing down a memory that you have. We appreciate your help.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Unity Acres - We sent 150 Christmas cards to Unity Acres. Thanks to all who contributed. This helped all the men residing there to have a Merry Christmas.

From the Property Committee

The following were brought before the Property Committee at their December 11 meeting:

- Plowing has started. Ron will be talking to Ralph clarifying specifics of the job. Kaaren has sent out monthly calendar to Ralph.
- The next quarterly PM for the elevator was done on 12/6/17 by Mike. They called to make the appointment. We will now pay the received invoice.
- Woodcock Armani completed the regular PM for the boilers on 11/29/17.
- Culligan was contacted when the softener started beeping. They will be coming 12/14/17—probably the power outage. The outage also affected the timer for the outside lighting.
- We have received no reply from Frontier about our phone replacement.
- Health Dept. Inspection will be scheduled.
- If Personal Graphics (front sign) does not call by March we will call for an appointment.
- Groups using the building in November were Red Cross, Judy Parker's Christmas, Karen's Christmas.
- The sign for the clothesbasket will need weighting with sand to keep it from blowing over.

Vacation: Charlene, Ron Sat. 2/3/18 - Wed. 2/14/18.

Future Meetings: Mon. Jan. 9, Thurs. Feb. 15.

Respectfully Submitted, Sylvia McKinnon, Chairman

From the Food Pantry

Good News! We will not have to move the pantry to its new location until Summer of 2018. The prospective tenant that was going to use our space did not come through.

We assisted St. Joan of Arc Church and the Deacons in getting families signed up for Thanksgiving and Christmas food totes through part of November and part of December.

A couple of new part-time volunteers have come on board, Cynthia Busic-Snyder and her son, Owen.

Donations to the pantry in November totaled \$273 in cash and 239 food and other product items. Families visiting the pantry totaled 45. Total meals provided was 1,377.

Sue Bartow, Co-Coordinator

From the Deacons

Saturday, December 9 was the caroling trip to Waterville to share in some Christmas holiday music with the residents at Harding Nursing Home including a visit from Santa.

Saturday, December 16 from 9 - 11 am Christmas Food Bag distribution. Sixty-one (61) bags have been prepared.

The local schools and Dougherty's Pharmacy sponsored canned food drives and collected over 160 canned items. These items, along with several monetary donations, help us to provide this important community service to those in need during the holiday season.

THANK YOU to all that have helped to make this another successful year!!!

In January we will welcome our new Deacons: **Class of 2020** George Fearon, Tom Lemery, Allison O'Hara and Ron Brodeur.

We can't wait to see what the new year will bring.

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, 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.

Deacon Greeters for January

- 7 Calla Miller & Robin Suarez
- 14 Norma Galbreath & Rachael Armstrong
- 21 Tom Lemery, Sue Bartow
- 28 Tom Leamer, Jr., Robin Suarez

God Bless, Calla Miller
(on behalf of your Deacons)

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

2018 Valentine Express

The **6th Valentine Express** will be held **Tuesday, January 16, 2018**, 1 p.m. to approximately 3:30 p.m., Morrisville Community Church's Fellowship Hall.

During an afternoon of fun and fellowship, we invite you to help make valentines to fill up the Valentine Express. The purpose for this activity: to deliver the valentines to Crouse Community Center, Valentine's Day 2018.

Materials for making the valentines will be provided. If possible participants should bring their own scissors! Those that want to make valentines using stamping-up materials will need to bring their own stamping supplies.

All aboard! Join the Valentine Express.

This event is sponsored by the Presbyterian Women's Ministry Team of the Morrisville Community Church. Questions: contact Maxine Hunter, 315-684-9278.

Christmas 2017 Family Shopping Nights at the Clothes Basket

The Clothes Basket was open three evenings during the first week of December for families to bring their children in by appointment to shop for gifts. The families were selected by the elementary school nurse. The purpose of this program is to have children select gifts that they could give to their family members at Christmas. We help the children find the joy in giving to others during this holiday season.

Each child is partnered with a volunteer who helps them select appropriate gifts. While the children selected their gifts for others, volunteers helped wrap and tag and pack them so they could be taken home and put under the tree. Parents were able to shop the Clothes Basket for clothing and household items while we worked with their children in the youth room. Everything selected was given to the families at no cost to them. Twenty-one (21) children shopped for members of 6 families. One-hundred sixty five (165) family members received gifts from

these children. We wrapped and tagged over 382 gifts. Throughout the year as donations come in to the Clothes Basket, we pack away items we think could be used for this program. We have some wonderful donations come in, however we are always in need of items specifically for men and boys.

A big thank you to the 14 workers who helped with this program: Claudia Loomis, Irene Akers, Sandy Merkle, Allison O'Hara, Lexi Whitehead, Nancy McPherson, Judy Griese, Kaaren Arrington, Norma Galbreath, Marlene Miner, Julie Vair, Ellen Davis, Owen Snyder and Karen Jacobs. And **a big thank you** to the congregation for your donations of gift bags and tissue paper. Those items made wrapping so much easier than using regular wrapping paper and tape. Thank you all for your support of our program.

BUT FOR THE GRACE OF GOD

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.*

"There but for the grace of God, go I."

Although the origins of this phrase are somewhat obscure, truer words have never been spoken.

Throughout my life I have always believed that most of one's misfortunes are self-inflicted.

But are they?

Let's consider the drug addict...

Each of us is born wired differently. Different likes, dislikes, different needs, and, most importantly, different strengths and weaknesses.

If someone is born with an escapist personality (someone like me, for instance. As a child I liked to escape into books). If that person is also born with a strong need for social acceptance, and is unfortunately born into an abusive family living in a "bad" neighborhood what are the odds that drug addiction is on their horizon?

Born into a situation that begs to be escaped from and a circle of support, i.e. friends, where drugs use is prevalent, is drug abuse not a strong probability if not a certainty?

I was born with an escapist personality, but I was a loner with very few friends. My circle of support, and I were all born into loving families. I had very little to escape from and my support group offered hugs not drugs. My life was, obviously, not perfect and a short trip into a good book was enough satisfy my escapist needs.

John, in his first letter to the Corinthians, in chapter fifteen verse ten in part writes "But by the grace of God I am what I am..."

Is this not true for all of us? We are all born with the capacity for evil and the capacity for self-destruction but for the grace of God some of us we were not born into, or put in situations

that were more than we could handle and we came out of them, if not unscathed, at least not completely ruined.

As I continue on my path to God the unacknowledged sentiment of "thank God it wasn't me" carries more weight than ever.

"But by the grace of God I am what I am."

BEATITUDES REVISITED

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven

Blessed are those who hear IT, for they shall be forgiven seven times seven

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted

Blessed are those who are torn, for they shall be converted

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth
Blessed are the weak, for they will know their worth

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled
Blessed are those who suffer with 'sightlessness', for faith shall be instilled

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy
Blessed are the worry-full, for they will be made sturdy

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God
Blessed are those apart, for they will not be long abroad

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God

Blessed are caretakers, for they will be given laud

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven
Blessed are those who personify virtuousness, for their souls with God be forever leaven

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds
of evil against you because of me
Blessed are we all when we are forever free

INCLEMENT WEATHER When the school is closed, so is the Church Office and the Clothes
Basket. Local radio and TV may say, but the District Website at www.mecs.org will also have the information.
The school district phone is 684-9300.

TV Channels: WSTM Channel 3 WTVH Channel 5 WSYR Channel 9 YNN Channel 10
Radio Stations are: WSYR 570 AM WMCR 1600AM WMCR 106.3FM WFRG 104.3FM
WODZ 96.1 WLZW 98.7FM WIBX 950AM WOUR 96.9FM WOMX 102.5FM
WOKR 93.1FM WTLB 1310AM WKLL 94.9FM

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 December 2017

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Regular Offering</u>	<u>Building Fund</u>
3	32	\$ 3562.00	\$ 650.00
10	42	\$ 2247.00	\$ 0
17	30	\$ 1110.00	\$ 0
24	35	Total services	\$ 0
24	Eve 55	\$ 2141.00	\$ 0
31	?	\$ 1605.00	\$ 0