

# **CHURCH MATTERS**

**MORRISVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH** Rev. Charles Vollmer

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

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

FACEBOOK - Morrisville Community Church, PCUSA

**Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.**

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

Office: 315-684-3314 Pastor's Office: 315-684-9971

**Clothes Basket:** 315-684-9970 Thursdays & 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday -- 10 a.m. – Noon

**Food Pantry** will be open every Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 to 12 noon  
1<sup>st</sup> 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.

## **JANUARY 2021**

### January Birthday

- 2 John Eriksen
- 3 Trevor Martin
- 8 Robert Ballard
- 9 Julia Bush
- 12 Rebecca Eriksen
- 13 David Link
- 14 Stan Davis
- 14 Gillian Gay Crescent
- 14 Dawn Stevenson
- 15 Esther Davis
- 17 Naydene Ames
- 17 Rachael Armstrong
- 19 Ann Berlew
- 22 Wayne Smith
- 24 Ken Parker
- 26 Jessica Burch

We have opened, if you attend services please follow these conditions:

Wear masks - Use hand sanitizer - No singing

Practice social distancing (no passing peace, no coffee hour)

### January 2021 Calendar of Events

- 1 New Years Day Holiday (Office Closed)**
- 11 Worship Committee 6 pm Library
- 11 Property Committee 7 pm Fellowship Hall
- 17 Annual Meeting of the Congregation  
(following the church service)**
- 18 Session 7 pm Fellowship Hall
- 18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (Office Closed)**
- 28 American Red Cross Blood Drive  
1-6pm Fellowship Hall**

### January Anniversary

- 20 Dave & Becky Burgess

### **PRAYER LIST:**

The Corbin Family, The Family of Norma Galbreath, The Family of David & Sheila Bartlett, Dianna Zatto (Sue Bartow's cousin), Ellen Davis, Nathan Davis (Ellen Davis' son) Jackie Groves & other residents of Crouse Comm. Ctr., Andrea Loson (Calla Miller's friend) Lisa Stopchick, Theresa (Lisa Stopchick's sister), George Fearon, Esther & Stan Davis, Sue Droege (cousin of Karen Jacobs), Janie Duncan, Peggy Czynnikewicz, 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), Jean Furner & Family (Ann Batchelor's friend and co-worker), Gratia Burleigh's daughter, Joan Winkler and family, Savannah (Calla Miller's co-workers daughter), Debbie Rifenburg (Priscilla Suits' daughter), Martha Tyre (Maxine's friend), Jeanna Acosta (Norma's niece), Tammy Hutchinson (Tara Truett's sister), Sue Bristow (Hank Douglas' daughter), Fred Banks, Dave & Gerry (co-worker of Tom Lemery).

**From the Worship Committee**

**Prayer for the New Year\***

God of Love,  
You are with us  
in every transition and change.  
As we enter into this new era  
with excitement and even some anxiety,  
we recall your deep compassion,  
presence, and abounding love.  
We thank you for the gifts, talents  
and skills with which you have blessed us.  
We thank you for the experiences  
that have brought us to this moment.  
We thank you for the work of others  
that gives breadth and depth to our own work.  
Be with us as we move forward, rejoicing  
with you and supporting one another.  
We ask this in your Holy Name.

On Behalf of the Worship Committee,  
Maxine Hunter

\* Prayer by Joseph P. Shadle



Photo by Nick Hunter  
"Flames of Hope, Peace, Joy, Love"

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Unity Acres**

We collected enough Christmas cards for Crouse Community Center and Unity Acres so that each resident received three Christmas cards. Thank you to all who helped to make this holiday a little brighter and maybe gave them something to smile about.

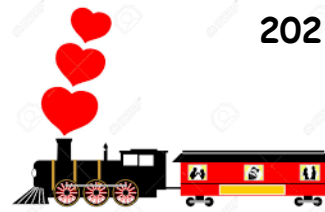
**Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held January 17, 2021, following church service.**

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

**American Red Cross - Stephanie Mahoney**

I'd like to personally **thank you** for welcoming us to Morrisville Community Church for the blood drive on Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. We exceeded our goal of 21 unit collecting a total of **22 units of life saving blood** from 16 donors and processed 6 power red donations! The products from this drive can touch up to **66 lives!** This was a great turnout and I hope donors had a positive experience.

The uncertainty with COVID-19 has had such a HUGE impact on our blood drive planning, logistics and collections. The need for blood does not stop and I can't thank you enough for your hospitality. Blood donation could easily be over looked at a time like this, yet is essential to community health.



**2021 Valentine Express**

There will not be a special workshop organized to make valentines for our

Valentine Express in 2021. However, it is my hope, that we all can prepare at least 6 valentines (3 for men and 3 for women) on our own. To help facilitate this project, some supplies--paper, glue stick, trims, and valentine verses, etc--- will be packaged in a zip-lock bags--and made available on a table in front hall or Narthex in early January.

I will also set out a few finished valentines as samples of what we have done in the past. I would like to have the completed Valentines by January 31. Valentines will be delivered to Crouse Community Center close to Valentine's Day.

I look forward to all our valentine creations. Let's load up the express!

Maxine Hunter

## **From the Property Committee**

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



- One of the boilers is down again so Armani Woodcock will be coming this week.
- Brian Ward will be calling next week to make an appointment for the yearly extinguisher inspections.
- We are waiting to hear from Thyssenkrupp when the parts needed arrive for the elevator.
- Ralph has submitted the December billing for plowing (billed by season).
- Judy Parker had the Christmas Project 12/9-12/20.
- Ron will arrange for our Culligan yearly maintenance.
- We will not be having Christmas Eve service this year.
- Ellen Davis needed a larger wheelchair, so she exchanged hers with one from the church.
- We wrote our annual report for the Congregational Meeting and will give it to Kaaren.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sylvia McKinnon, Chairperson

## **From the Food Pantry**

The Pantry participated in the Morrisville Community Church Deacon's and St. Joan of Arc's Thanksgiving/Christmas projects by having clients that visited the Pantry fill out a card designating preference for a Thanksgiving or Christmas gift card. There were Twenty-three requesting Thanksgiving cards and Sixteen requesting Christmas cards.

On November 25, Justin Bachman, Spectrum News, did a piece on one of our volunteers, Jason Stastny, showing how he manages on his own with Downs Syndrome and what a day in his life looks like. They came over to the church and shot some video of all of us and how Jason contributes to the Pantry. It aired on Monday, November 30.

The Pantry also had some publicity in the December 3, Mid-York Weekly. Prior to the article, I met with Lynn Harvey the proprietor of Victoria Rose Vintage in Bouckville, Karen Jacobs, and Mike Jaquay of The Mid-York Weekly. The profits from

anything sold with the letters "PW" on the price tag will be donated, with no commission deducted, to the Morrisville Community Church Food Pantry. What a great example of the compassion and generosity, that I'm seeing every day, in our community to assist those in need.

We are seeing an increase in the donations since the start of the holiday season. One of the larger donations received in November was from Morrisville State College's football team and Ed Raby, Head Coach. Their collection brought in 394 items or 148 lbs. of food and among the items, of course, oodles of Ramen Noodles.

November Statistics: 31 households visited the pantry consisting of 37 children, 59 adults, 10 seniors.

2 new enrollees  
1 emergency, after hours  
954 meals provided  
\$780 monetary donations  
484 items or 212 lbs. of food and other products donated

Sue Bartow, Coordinator



## **From the Deacons**

Happy New Year to all! May the Lord make our New Year a happy one.

The Deacons wish everyone who will be celebrating a birthday or anniversary in January, that you have a wonderful day.

The Deacons mailed out 85 grocery store gift cards to local residents in a Christmas card so they could purchase food for a meal on Christmas day.

Calla attended the November Session Meeting. We hope to have a Deacon attend each Session meeting to help keep communications open.

Anyone needing something, or someone to talk to, please feel free to call your Deacon, or any Deacon. 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

## The Presbyterian Women's Ministry Team

The PW Ministry Team, consisting of Naydene Ames, Maxine Hunter, Karen Jacobs, Sylvia McKinnon and Marlene Miner, last met in November. Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, we probably won't be meeting again for awhile.

Much of the meeting was discussing the Treasurer's Report. The majority of our money comes from the Clothes Basket which was shut down in March and has been open just a few hours a week since September, so we have taken in little money. The Victorian Rose in Bouckville has been accepting and selling some of the nicer items we have received and we appreciate their kindness. Recent proceeds from the Bouckville sale is being donated to our Food Bank. We decided to hold off on paying some of our pledges. A motion was approved to reduce our church pledge from \$3,000 to \$1,500. Missions for 2020 have been paid to: Camp Lookout, Local Food Pantry, Malawi, Thea Bowman, SEVAC, Lions Club Esther's Way, and Christmas 2020.

It is with much sadness that the Clothes Basket had to cancel the Annual Children's Christmas Shopping Program. We collected Christmas cards to send to the men at Unity Acres in Orwell, NY. Since there was no Christmas caroling at Crouse Community Center this season, we dropped off Christmas cards there as well to be shared with the residents. The Valentine Express will continue, however, valentines will have to be made in our own homes this year. Please contact Maxine if you need any supplies or have questions concerning the Valentine Express program.

Prayers for a Safe, Healthier, Happier New Year.

Respectfully,  
Naydene Ames, Secretary



## NEW YEAR, NEW VISION

2021

What do you see in the future that lies ahead?

What are your goals?

What are your dreams?

How will they be led?

Will it be with Jesus,

Or will it be on my own?

Goals and dreams can be made;

They cannot be reached alone.

With Him,

You know it can be done.

This is VERY true;

But know at times

You may fall short,

The Lord will still love you.

May this year be a blessed one....

That all your days are thriving.

Believe your goals and dreams are

blessed when you let Jesus do your driving.

*(submitted by Tom Lemery)*

**INCLEMENT WEATHER** When the school is closed, so is the Church Office, the Clothes Basket, and the Food Pantry. Local radio and TV may say, but the District Website at [www.mecs.org](http://www.mecs.org) will also have the information. The school district phone is 315-684-9300.

TV Channels with school closings are:

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

## MY OWN LADDER

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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Genesis 28:10-17. Jacob's Dream at Bethel.

Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep.

He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

There above it stood the Lord, and he said: "I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it."

He was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven."

John 1:50-51

Jesus said, "You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that." He then added, "Very truly I tell you, you will see 'heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on' the Son of Man."

Shortly after my wife had passed I retired from the Navy and was living with my in-laws. Without my wife and without my career I was seriously wondering if there was a point to my continuing to live.

One night just like many before it I went to bed. I have always been blessed or cursed with very strange but entertaining dreams...

This night, however, was going to be special. This night my dream was my "Jacob's ladder."

I dreamt I was lying in a bathtub and slipped under the water. As the water closed over me I knew I was being given a choice I could pass over in to Heaven or I could remain on Earth. I was shown what was to come if I stayed on Earth. I do not remember what was to come I just know that I had been shown. There were no words in the dream just the knowing of what was to come and the choice that was before me.

I obviously chose to remain here on Earth and I awoke gasping for breath unwinding the bed sheet from around my head and throat...

At times I look at my life now and there is little wonder that I chose to stay...

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