

# CHURCH MATTERS

MAY  
2015



MORRISVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH  
3824 Swamp Rd., P.O. Box 178, Morrisville, NY 13408  
www.morrisvillechurch.org      morrisvillechurch@frontiernet.net  
Sunday School 9:00 AM      Sunday Service 10:30AM

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 9 am– 12pm      Office 684-3314  
Clothes Basket 684-9970      Fax 684-7817

## May Birthdays

- 1 Peg Nodell
- 3 Charlotte Harter
- 8 David Bartlett, Dorothy Campbell
- 11 Kaaren Arrington, David Burgess
- 11 Sandy Merkle
- 14 Russell Buell
- 15 Kayla Bush
- 17 Richard Loomis
- 20 Darlene Ballard
- 21 Nan Schurer
- 22 William Carr, Tom Leamer
- 23 Suzanne Bartow, Catherine Holbert
- 26 Samantha Leamer
- 27 Aiden Zbock
- 29 Lynne Lemery

## May Anniversary

- 20 David & Roberta Link
- 22 Budd & Katie Bracy
- 22 David & Lynne Lemery
- 23 Clayton & Kouk Davis
- 26 Jeffrey & Christine Cring
- 29 Stanley & Esther Davis

## FYI: Pulpit Schedule

- May 10 Ellen Davis (Mother's Day)
- May 17 Nancy Douglas
- May 24 Nancy Douglas  
(Day of Pentecost)
- May 31 Katie Bracy (Trinity Sunday)
- June 7 Rev. Earl Arnold

## May 2015 Calendar of Events

- 2 **Outreach Covered Dish Fellowship 5:30 pm Fellowship Hall**
- 3 Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Library
- 4 Cerebral Palsy 10 - 11 am
- 4 Outreach Committee Mtg. 6:30 pm SS Room
- 4 CE Committee Mtg. 5:30 pm SS Room
- 4 Deacons Mtg. 6:30 pm Library
- 5 Ethel's Needlers 10 - 11:30 am Library
- 6 Zumba 5:30 pm Fellowship Hall
- 7 Tae Kwon Do 6 - 8 pm Fellowship Hall
- 10 Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Library
- **10 Mother's Day Observed**
- 11 Cerebral Palsy 10 - 11 am
- 11 Worship Committee Mtg. 6 pm Library
- 11 Property Committee Mtg. 7 pm Fellowship Hall
- 12 Ethel's Needlers 10 - 11:30 am Library
- 12 Rebekahs 2 pm Fellowship Hall
- 13 New Hope Circle 6:30 pm Library
- 13 Zumba 5:30 pm Fellowship Hall
- 14 PW Ministry Team 6:30 pm Library
- 14 Finance Committee Mtg. 7 pm Library
- 14 Tae Kwon Do 6 - 8 pm Fellowship Hall
- 17 Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Library
- 18 Cerebral Palsy 10-11 am
- **18 MECS Kindergarten Screenings 8 - 3:30 pm**
- 20 Session Mtg. 7 pm Library
- **19 MECS Kindergarten Screenings 8 - 3:30 pm**
- 19 Ethel's Needlers 10 - 11:30 am at N. McPherson's
- 19 Faith Circle 12:00 at M. Vair's
- 20 Zumba 5:30 pm Fellowship Hall
- **21 MECS Kindergarten Screenings 8 - 3:30 pm**
- 24 Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Library
- 25 Cerebral Palsy 10 - 11 am
- **25 Memorial Day Observed - Office Closed**
- 26 Ethel's Needlers 10 - 11:30 am Library
- 26 Rebekahs 2 pm Fellowship Hall
- 27 WIC 9:30 - 3:00 pm Fellowship Hall
- 27 Zumba 5:30 pm Fellowship Hall
- 28 Book Read 12:30 to 2 pm "Fingal O'Reilly, Irish Doctor" at H. Stevens
- **30 Spring Cleanup 9:00 a.m. till ?**
- 31 Adult Bible Study 9:30 am Library

## From the Worship Committee

“For lo, the winter is past, the rain (*snow, too we hope*) is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing (of birds) has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in the land...”

*Song of Solomon 2: 11-12*

It is now the month of May ~~~  
la~le~la~le~la~le~la~~~ and along with the bird songs we, too, are singing. We sing because May is the month when we here in central New York can really say spring has sprung (even if it springs forth in fits and starts). We sing because May is a time of many celebrations: There is May Day, where, with stealth and cunning we may take flowers to the homes of friends, where we sing out “May Day!” and leave the flowers at their door, and then run away before they see us. There is Mother’s Day on the second Sunday of May where we sing, “She Will Be Called Blessed”. There is Pentecost Sunday, May 24 where we sing, “...Teach me some melodious sonnet, Sung by flaming tongues above...” Also on May 24, Memorial Day Sunday, where we sing in praise and remembrance such words as these: “Eternal Father, strong to save, Whose arm hath bound the restless wave... O hear us when we cry to thee For those in peril on the sea, (land and air)...” On May 31, Trinity Sunday...let us sing: "Holy, Holy, Holy...God in three persons blessed Trinity."

It is May,”...let us sing together, one and all a joyous song...

Prayer: We thank you heavenly Father for the life giving seasons, particularly spring. Spring with its renewal of life in our barren world brings us joy and fills us with hope. This is indeed a singing season. For all these things we thank you. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

Respectively submitted on behalf of the Worship Committee,  
Maxine Hunter

### **FYI from Worship Committee:**

- **Pentecost Sunday, May 24, 2015:** This is the universal birthday of the church. The Worship Committee encourages everyone to wear red. Birthday celebrations are not complete unless there is cake. So please join us in the Fellowship Hall after the service where there WILL BE CAKE. Yum!

- Mark your calendars: **Sunday, July 12, 2105** is our outdoor service and picnic. Theme this year, “Holy Humor Sunday.” More detail as the time draws nearer.

## FACEBOOK

We now 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.

## From the Property Committee

The Property Committee will be accepting bids from companies for sealing and striping our driveways and parking lots. It is a necessary maintenance for our property, (it was put off last year because of finances). We still don't have the amount needed to do the job (estimate \$10,000). If you are willing to contribute to help make this project doable, please speak to Sylvia McKinnon, Ron Bush or Budd Bracy. Thank you for considering this donation.

We will be searching for a professional to place heat tapes on our back roofs to prevent the ice buildups of the past years.

Our Spring Clean-Up will be held on Saturday, May 30 from 9:00 a.m. until ? See additional article in this newsletter.

Another project to be completed this summer is the improvement of the Crane Garden. Designated Funds will be used to replace damaged shrubs and the plaque to include Ethel's name.

Respectfully Submitted  
Sylvia McKinnon, Chairman

## **Statistics for April**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Building Fund</u>
April 5	60	\$2977.00	\$ 385.00
April 12	58	\$1625.00	\$ 265.00
April 19	55	\$712.00	\$1740.00
April 26	40	\$ 752.00	\$ .00

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Thank you** from CAP (Community Action Partnership) for the generous in kind donation of potatoes to CAP's Food Pantry. Gifts like ours make possible a number of programs and services that help our vulnerable neighbors in Madison County become and remain self-sufficient.

**Thank you** from the American Red Cross for the great turnout at the blood drive on April 3 at Morrisville Community Church. Twenty four (24) units were collected which equates to helping save up to 72 lives.

I regret having the Deacons' terms wrong in the last newsletter and thank Sue Bartow for helping get it corrected.

Nancy Douglas  
Clerk of Session

### **Saturday, May 30**

The Property Committee has placed on the Calendar our Spring Clean-Up for Saturday, May 30 from 9:00 a.m. until ?

We will have all levels of jobs so that everyone can participate. You may be able to dust with a Swiffer, sharpen pencils, or wash windows, power wash siding or wash/paint walls. A list will be available of all possibilities.

If you can only give one half hour it would be appreciated. Of course, you can stay as long as you wish. Thank you for considering to be part of this project.

### *In honor of Mother's Day*

"A WONDERFUL MOTHER"

God made a wonderful Mother,  
A Mother who never grows old;  
He made her smile of the sunshine,  
And He made her heart of pure gold;  
In her eyes He placed bright shining stars,  
In her cheeks, fair roses you see;  
God made a wonderful Mother,  
And He gave that dear Mother to me.

*Pat O'Reilly*

**(Submitted by Tom Lemery)**

## BAZAAR BUZZ

### *“Country Crossroads 2015”*

This is the year for our biennial bazaar. The date will be November 7, 2015. It's not too early to begin working on projects. Some suggestions are:

Thanksgiving items	things for smaller children
hats, scarves	household plants
pet items	wooden toys
doll clothes	children's toys
smaller items that can be sold for \$.50 or \$1.00.	

Remember the craft room downstairs and check there first for supplies. We may have what you need.

## **CHURCH OFFICERS**

### ELDERS

#### Class of 2015

Jeff Cring  
George Fearon  
Vacancy

#### Class of 2016

Ellen Davis  
Nancy Douglas  
Priscilla Suits

#### Class of 2017

Henry Douglas  
Sylvia McKinnon  
Mark Shepard

### DEACONS

#### Class of 2015

Marlene Miner  
Robert Link  
Dave Link

#### Class of 2016

Tom Lemery  
Ron Brodeur  
Naydene Ames

#### Class of 2017

Calla Miller  
Connie Shepard  
Sue Bartow

## ***Leading the Flock***

On Easter Sunday there was an article in the Utica Observer Dispatch entitled "Leading the Flock". This was followed by a subtitle "Lay pastors common as fewer seek ordination." The author of the article is Carolyn Bostick. The Utica Presbytery and its churches were featured.

### *The article read as follows:*

With fewer choosing to formally join the clergy, unordained lay pastors - often part timers with other jobs on the side - are becoming a common sight in churches of many denominations. Ordained minister the Rev. Naomi Kelly of Old Forge said that the trend is a vital step for smaller congregations. "It really is a necessity because the smaller churches can't afford ordained pastors," Kelly said. "This is keeping them open." Kelly is co-dean of the Lay Academy for Utica Presbytery, a committee founded by the Presbyterian Church in the late 1990's to offer classes for perspective lay pastors in the area.

Out of 32 churches in the Utica Presbytery about 13 have lay pastors. One of those is a summer church and three share two pastors between them. For many lay pastors, the ministry is something they may have been interested in for years, but only pursued as a second career.

During the week, Jay Williams III is a lawyer in Clinton but on the weekends, he serves as lay pastor for the up and coming congregation of a few dozen people at First Presbyterian Church of Augusta and Vernon Center. His training to become a lay pastor included several years of theology lessons and instruction on church protocol. The opportunity to preach and tend to a congregation has a lot of appeal for him, especially in smaller churches where he can get to know individual members better. And those congregations often want to keep their autonomy without losing a pastor. "Smaller churches still want a meaningful service," Williams III said.

Lay pastor George Whitton is a retired history teacher who serves the First Presbyterian Church of Booneville and sees the recent trend toward lay pastors as history coming full circle. It's like a return to the early church. In my mind, the future of the church is really geared to lay pastors. There's a reality that full-time pastors cost more money, " Whitton said.

*The article continued with a brief description of how other denominations are handling clergy shortage.*

### *Later in the article:*

While a lay pastor can be a sign of hardship, Kelly said some local churches, including Williams III's congregation in Augusta, have thrived under their leadership.

"The people love their own community and don't want to see the churches closed," she said. "They're a force to be reckoned with in the community."

### *For your information:*

The complete article is posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall or you may be able to find it at [uticaod.com](http://uticaod.com) Anyone interested in becoming a lay pastor should contact the Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery.

**The newspaper article was submitted by  
Marlene Miner  
and this article was written by Ellen Davis**