



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

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 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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.

OCTOBER 2020

October Birthday

- 1 Agnes Carr
- 1 Christine Cring
- 2 Patricia Parker
- 8 Daniel Kent
- 12 Wanda Gorton
- 12 Michelle Soderberg
- 12 Shelby Martin
- 14 Tom Lemery
- 15 Sheila Bartlett
- 15 Jeanette Michael
- 19 Norma Galbreath
- 27 David Andrews
- 28 Steve Groves

October Anniversary

- 4 Duane & Janice Button
- 6 Murry & Naydene Ames
- 6 Ron & Kathy Brodeur
- 26 Richard & Dawn Stevenson

Pulpit Supply

- October 4 Rev. Bud Adams
- 11 Gail Banks, CLP Retired
- 18 Gail Banks, CLP Retired
- 25 Rev. Tanya Atwood-Adams
- November 1 Rev. Ray Lighthall
- 8 Bill Porter
- 15 Pat Olsson
- 22 Bill Porter
- 29 Rev. Ray Lighthall

Deadline for November Newsletter articles is Monday, October 19.

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

- A) Wear masks
- B) Use hand sanitizer
- C) Practice social distancing (no passing peace, no coffee hour)
- D) No singing

We will be using volunteers and ministers from our pulpit supply list. 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 Monday through Friday from 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.

PRAYER LIST: Dick Shepard, Jackie Groves, Catharine Andrews, Harriet Stevens, Shawn Bartow, Adrien Brodeur, Dick Loomis, Tom Lemery, Ron Stanley & family, Sue Rowley (Calla Miller's friend), Howard Wilkinson (Norma's brother), 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, 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 Banks, Dave & Gerry (co-worker of Tom Lemery).

From the Worship Committee

Believers: That's US

During the early days of the pandemic, I was told this little story: A German Shepard, a Golden Retriever and a Cat all died on the same day and all went to heaven. God asked each this question: What do you believe? The German Shepard replied, "I believe in being loyal and serving." God replied, "You may enter." Next God asked the Golden Retriever, "What do you believe?" It answered, "I believe in love and being a good companion." God replied, "You may enter." God then asked the Cat, "What do you believe?" The Cat replied, "I believe you are in my chair."



Did you laugh at the punch line? I laughed. Back in March when the reporting on Covid-19 came fast, furious and grim, I needed a laugh! Over the past seven months I have often thought about this story and I, also, have shared it with others that needed cheering up. Because I had time on my hands, I decided to have a bit of fun with the story. I pictured you and me arriving at the Pearly Gates. I wondered what our responses would be when God ask, "What do you believe?" I knew we would not be the Cat, placing ourselves at the center of the universe. But I wondered how many would repeat the Apostles Creed? Really? I know I would be so awe struck I would have trouble coming up with that answer. Perhaps, you, like me, would give simpler heart-felt answers, such as love thy neighbor as thyself; seek justice and liberty for all; work to bring hope, joy, love and peace into the world; and, if we are really thinking clearly, we would say all of this in Jesus' name. Why? Because you and I are believers.

Yes, we are believers, and even in these times when our church building has been closed, our faith has not left us. Because of the isolation that the pandemic has caused in all phases of our life, our beliefs may have wiggled around a bit. But Jesus prepared his disciples and us for a time when we would be separate from one another. In John 16: 32-33, Jesus says, "...a time is coming, and has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home. You will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with me. I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Prayer: Dear God, we give you thanks and praise for your son Jesus. Through him we know that you are always with us. In Jesus name we pray. Amen

On Behalf of the Worship Committee,
Maxine G. Hunter

RESULTS OF THE RECENT BLOOD DRIVE

Thank you very much for welcoming us last minute for the blood drive at Morrisville Community Church on Tuesday, September 22. At the drive we welcomed 2 first time donors and collected **14 units of life saving blood** including 2 POWER RED donations. The products from this drive can touch up to **42 lives!** Attached is a flyer to share on the community board detailing the results of this week's drive! Please let me know if you have any feedback from your drive.

We appreciate your support during these unprecedented times. I have been so fortunate to meet such wonderful people and make new connections as we all navigate this crazy year! Since COVID hit our area, Morrisville Community Church has collected 87 units which can touch up to 261 lives!

Stephanie Mahoney, Account Manager
American Red Cross Blood Services
Eastern New York Region/Northeast Division

, WORD of GOD vs. Words of Man

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.

A little game to play this time...

Match the negative words of man to the positive Word of God...

Words of Man	WORD of GOD
No good deed goes unpunished	Proverbs 18:15 “The heart of the discerning acquires knowledge, for the ears of the wise seek it out.”
Nice guys finish last	Hebrews 11:1 “Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.”
A little knowledge is a dangerous thing	Colossians 3:23-24 “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.
It never rains but it pours	Psalm 37:3 “Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.”
Nothing is certain but death and taxes	Proverbs 11:17 “Those who are kind benefit themselves, but the cruel bring ruin on themselves.”
Damned if we do damned if we don’t	Galatians 6:9 “Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”
The road to Hell is paved with good intentions	Zechariah 10:1 “Ask the LORD for rain in the springtime; it is the LORD who sends the thunderstorms. He gives showers of rain to all people, and plants of the field to everyone.

— **CLOTHES BASKET REOPENING** —

The Clothes Basket at the Morrisville Community Church, Swamp Rd., Morrisville, re-opened 1 day a week beginning on Thursday, September 17, 2020 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Due to the pandemic, a few procedures have been put in place for your safety and ours. Customers must wear face masks. Customers must sign in with name and phone number, should we have to do contact tracing. Only 4 customers will be allowed to enter the room at a given time. Hand sanitizer will be available.

Please note that we have changed the day open to Thursdays for now. We are asking for you to hold any donations at present to give us time to see how this goes. We are still charging \$3 a bag and we will supply the bags. Please do not bring your own bags. Any questions, please call 315-684-3314 (church office) any morning Monday-Friday.

From the Property Committee

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

- Sunday Services have been progressing well.
- Revised the plowing letter for 20-21. Response requested for Oct. 8. Will ask Kaaren to type and send out letter to three parties.
- The sound system switch needs to be replaced. The heavy mechanical shelving will need to be moved.
- We will be placing a sign-up sheet in the chapel.
- Sylvia will be checking with both Sue Bartow (food pantry) and Kathy Cross (Clothes Basket) about screening for their patrons, also have self-screen for the workers before coming to work. They will be reminded to wipe down after each use (e.g. chairs).
- Our insurance (HFC) has notified us that BEFORE we have contracted work signed on we must notify them because of state insurance regulations. We agreed that at this time, only essential groups would be given permission to use the building.
- We have had a number of essential organizations requesting use of our parking lots for drive thru's: July 10 (diaper), July 23 (food coupons), July 24 (blood drive), Sept. 17(RSVP), Sept 24 or 25(Covid testing). Three blood drives were also scheduled: July 24 (regular visit), Sept. 22 (this will be a substitution for the State College), and Oct. 1 (regular visit).
- A request was made by Madison County Elections on August 10 for the use of the building every year for primary and general elections (parts of three days). Mary called to find out our decision. It was planned that we would bring this up at the Aug. 31 Session meeting. It was cancelled. At that time there was no meeting date planned for the future. Mary expected an answer after the Aug. 31 meeting.
Sylvia called Mary Egger on Sept. 4 to give her this reply, "We will not be able to participate in providing a polling place for the Town of Eaton at this time."
- We reviewed the templates for the reopening of the church received from the State and Presbytery. They will be presented to Session at the Sept. 21 meeting. The last item needs to be completed.

- They are posted on the bulletin boards by the office and in the vestibule.
- Ron and Charlene will be on vacation Sept. 25-29.

Sylvia McKinnon, Chairperson
Property Committee

From the Food Pantry

We continue to receive fresh produce, in large quantities, from the College gardens, Henshall Farms (Joel Marshall) and Stone Brothers. Tom Stone does the Farmers Market in Morrisville.

Our new Arctic Air freezer was delivered on August 21. However, the warm temperature in the pantry is causing all of our equipment to sweat and drip moisture. It may be necessary to purchase a dehumidifier or small air conditioner to alleviate the problem during the summer months.

August statistics: 30 households visited the pantry made up of 34 children, 53 adults and 12 seniors.

1 new enrollee

828 meals were provided

\$330 in monetary donations were received

200 pounds of produce and 6 hygiene products were received

Sue Bartow, Coordinator

From the Pastor Search Committee

The Pastor Search Committee (PSC) has been on hold for the past 6 months. We have faced, and continue to face, numerous challenges such as fewer men or women going into the ministry; pastors not moving into the central New York region; lack of aggressive lay-pastor training at the Presbytery level; and lack of retired pastors in our region who are willing to seek a part-time position; and, of course, Covid-19 has influenced all aspects of our lives and our search. This said, the committee is getting "fired-up"---even if it just a "spark"---to begin actively searching. As we move forward we ask for your patience and prayers.

God Bless,
Maxine G. Hunter
Co-Chair, Pastor Search Committee

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.