Volume 17, Issue 8
August 2024



# The Pastor's Pen



My wife Tamara knew a woman through the Girl Scouts, when I was a pastor back in Pennsylvania. She told her a story about saving money for the installation of a sewer system.

Everyone had well water where we once lived in the country. Our water basically came from the ground and was filtered through a salt tank, and any used water going down the drain went to a septic tank in the back-yard. The "authorities that be" decided, one day, that a section of house-holds and businesses on the busy state route nearby should have main water lines and sewage pipes installed. It would cost each home or business about \$1500 plus any fee for hiring a contractor to connect to the mains (an upwards of \$15,000). Not the happiest news for residents and businesspeople alike to hear, but this woman's family, like all other families, began to save up for the potential costs.

However, it did not come. The "authorities that be" delayed. People grew frustrated and cynical. Years went by and still no new sewer system. So, this woman's family chose to take the money and go on vacation. They all went to Disney World. They took all the cash they had saved and had a grand vacation, and they completely forgot about the project.

And so some time passed, and the "authorities that be" reconnected with all those homes and businesses, restating that a new system was coming. Everybody better have the money, plus (again) any hefty fee for hiring a contractor. They were shocked, especially this woman and her family. Because nothing had been done, they had gone through their reserved money and had nothing left. With great stress and strain, they did all they could to come up with the cash.

Jesus says in Matthew 24:43, "[Understand] this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into." Jesus is having last words with his disciples before his arrest and crucifixion, and he wants them to clearly understand that he is going to return but not when they might expect. There will be rumors of his return, and false prophets will ask for followers, but Jesus says not to believe any of them (Matthew 24:3-8, 23-28). People will forget Jesus and carry on as they please. They will party and let go of responsibility, maybe even go on vacations, and they will be in danger of missing Jesus altogether (Matthew 24:36-39). Jesus tells his disciples and us, "Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.... [You] must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect" (Matthew 24:42, 44).

So, keep on reading and contemplating God's word through Scripture. Keep on praying and following the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Keep on worshipping and staying connected to God. Keep on serving and giving love and hope to those in need. Keep on disbelieving the lies we hear from some people and know better the truth that only comes from God. Keep on living as a disciple of Christ, whether we are on vacation or the assembly line, whether we are sitting behind a desk or standing in a kitchen.

Don't worry about tomorrow - act and think and speak now. Whatever disciplines we have now to follow Jesus will ensure that we will be ready later. Ready for Jesus to return, or just ready for him to give us some ministry that only we can carry out.

Peace in Christ, Rev. Dr. John

### **Prayer Requests**



PRAYING FOR OUR MEMBERS, FAMILIES, & FRIENDS Roxie Romine (Piedmont Fayettte), Family of Judy Chapman, Charlie Johnson (Twarna's father), Jessica Johnson, Brandi Neal, Wendy Garcia (requested by Dianne Hooten), Frank & Shirley Bradley, Xander Bradley, Mary Bridges, Chris Brogan, Laura Burke-Knight, Jo Calhoun, Janis Campbell, Teresa Carpenter, Thomas Chukwura, Betty Colwell, Betty Cook, Felix Cruz, Keith Danser, David Dawson, Terry Dyche, James & Lei Eason, Carol Erickson, Haywood Fordham, Anne & Evan Fournier, Jessica Giddens, Robert Gore, Beth Graf, Connie Hand, Julie

Haney, Bob Hardy, Betsy Hilliard, Jeannie Hodges, Austin John, Twarna Johnson, George Kempson, Clayton & Janie Kite, Lavender Lampl, Berniece Lillegard, Bruce Lillegard, Stephanie Lozel, Bob & Suzanne Lukat, Sidney Lyell, Jerry McCoullough, Mac McKinney, Jim McNaull, Grandma Moriles, Ronnie Payne, Rick Peel, Carol Pitts, Doris Ragan, Pat & John Randolph, JoAnn Schrepfer, Dick Shaffer, Georgene Sneed, Samson Solis, Shirley Thrailkill, Cathy Trustorf, Marie Tuttle, Gene Ussery, Debbie Valentine, Barry Weems, Gene & Willie Williams, and Terry Williams. Our nation, Israel, Our Military, Our Missionaries; Our School Teachers & Students, Our College Students, Our Food Pantry Patrons. *A full prayer list is available in the narthex*.

## Celebrating 25 Years—Dock Gammage—August 4, 12:15 p.m.



Recognition Reception for Dock Gammage August 4, 12:15 p.m.

The Administrative Stewardship Ministry Team invites you to a reception this Sunday, August 4, following the worship service in honor of Dock Gammage. **Dock will be celebrating 25 years as our Youth Director.** 

We know that you will want to let Dock know how much you have appreciated the 25 years of love and service that he has given our church.

We encourage all current and former youth to come and celebrate with us.



### Celebrate Kids/Youth FNS Sunday, August 18, 5-7 p.m.

Come join the Kid's Club and Youth Group Sunday night, August 18, in their weekly activities along with our Family Night Supper. You can choose to follow the Kid's club or Youth Group schedule to see how our young people are learning about God.

**5:00 p.m. Kid's Club** gathers in the sanctuary for music and a Bible lesson

Youth Fellowship begins with recreation

**6:00 p.m.** Family Night Supper (don't forget to bring a dish to share)

**6:30 p.m.** Kid's Club—crafts and recreation

Youth Fellowship—Bible lesson

### YAH Lunch, August 7, 11:30 a.m.

Young at Heart Luncheon, August 7, 11:30 a.m. Everyone is invited to join the Young at Heart for lunch on Wednesday, August 7, at 11:30 a.m. We will meet at Longhorn Steakhouse in Morrow. Please let Bruce Campbell know if you are able to attend so that he can reserve a spot for you.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup> Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. Colossians 3:12-14

### **Presbyterian Women**



PWCT will meet in the McNair/Seekers classroom on August 11 at 12:15 p.m.

Virginia Dews Circle will meet on Monday, August 12 at 7 p.m. at the church. The lesson will be from "Sacred Encounters" Bible study.

Dorcas Circle will meet on Tuesday, August 13 at 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Tricia will do the devotion. Project is items for Hope Totes.

Morning Glory Circle will meet on August 25 at 9:30 a.m. The Morning Glory Circle will meet on Sunday, August 25 in the Arnold/Bates classroom. All women are invited to attend.

### Kids Club Kick-Off, August 11, 5 pm



Kids Club Resumes August 11, 5-7 p.m. Kid's Club RESUMES on Sunday, August 11. They meet from 5 - 7 p.m. All kids ages 2 years-5th grade are invited to join our club for free! There is music, lessons, discussions, and activities for the kids to learn about God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. They will continue in our Kids of Integrity series. They will focus on COURAGE and COMPASSION this season.



CHOIR RESUMES!!
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 7 P.M.
JOIN US! We meet in the sanctuary.



### **Thank You Note**

From Don McGhee... PRAISE: After four years of chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and several surgeries treating my bladder cancer and leukemia, I have recently reached a level of only watchful maintenance appointments every several months. I want to thank my church family so very much for all the support, prayers, and kind words during this treatment period. I am truly blessed to have you all as part of my extended family. Thank you!

From Mission Haven... Thank you for the clothes and the <u>very</u> generous stack of gift cards! Check out www.missionhaven.net and you'll see how your gifts are used. It is a great help to missionaries, active and retired, seminary students and their families, and other groups to be able to "shop for free" at the closet.

# Wedding Shower for Chris & Snowy, 8/25, 2 p.m. (Date change)



Bridal Shower for Chris Dyche & Snowy Ndlovu, August 25, 2 p.m.

All women of the church are invited to a Wedding Shower for Chris Dyche & Sinobuhle (Snowy) Ndlovu on Sunday, August 25 (NOTE CHANGE OF DATE) at 2 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

The shower will be hosted by Deborah Venizelos and Tricia Koehler.

Chris & Snowy are registered at Macy's.

### **Prayers for Schools**



On Sunday, July 28, we prayed for all of our schools - Pre-K through College during the morning worship hour. As school resumes for the 2024-2025 year (in many different forms), the congregation is asked to keep all of our students, teachers, and employees in your prayers as they work hard and deal with much different, and sometimes difficult situations. Our congregation is widely spread over several counties and our children attend many different schools. Please keep the following schools in your prayers during this next year:

Bright Generations, Clarkston Academy, East Lake Elementary School, Flippen Elementary School, Paine Elementary School, Pleasant Grove Elementary School, Thurgood Marshall Elementary School, Walnut Creek Elementary School, Fulton County School Systems, Little Angels Christian Academy, Babb Middle School, Bear Creek Middle School, Etowah City School, Madras Middle School, Putnam County Middle School, Stockbridge Middle School, Camden County High School, Cleveland Avenue Elementary School, Dutchtown High School, Duval Charter School at Southside, Eagles Landing Christian Academy, Forest Park High School, Jonesboro High School, McDonough High School, Morrow High School, Union Grove High School, Washington High School, Woodland High School, Albany State University, Allen University, Clayton State University, Fashion Institute of Technology, Georgia State University, Gordon State College, Lee University, University of Georgia, University of North Georgia, University of West Georgia, Valdosta State University, and Westwood Prep Academy—Fort Pierce.













# Women's Retreat 2024







































**12 Spiritual Disciplines** 

# Loving on the Bear















































































































































Trust God to Lead the Way!











# August 2024

### **August Birthdays**

8/3 - Kelisha Silas-Morgan

Ginny Webb

8/6 - Ogbu Onuoha

8/8 - Norman Lillie

8/9 - Ebere Onuoha

8/10 - Inez Coke

Marsha Ann Kempson

- Jordan Whatley

8/13 - Felix Cruz

8/20 - H. R. Tuttle

8/21 - Chinyere Onuoha

8/25 - Bob Schrepfer

8/26 - Journee Delaponte



### August Anniversaries

8/7 - H. R. & Marie Tuttle (28)

8/12 - Haywood & Anne Fordham (57)

8/25 - Robert & Sara Gore (62)

8/26 - Brandon & Tori Abbott (1)





### **ELDERS ON CALL**

Primary: Romy Moriles Secondary: Linda Lillie

# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SERVICE PROJECT MONTH

Virginia Dews Circle

### **USHERS**

Ronnie Hooten, Captain; Jo Calhoun, Libby McNair, Carol McGhee, Kris Moriles

### **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

4 - Mike Sneed

11 - Dock Gammage

18 - Allen Grant

25 - Pastor John

### LITURGIST

4 - Dock Gammage

1 - Andra Gammage

18 - Mary Dyche

25 - Mary Ann Moriles

### **COUNTING TEAM**

Virginia Cagle and Mary Nell Winkles

### **SUNDAY ATTENDANCE**

### SUNDAY SCHOOL IN PERSON & ONLINE WORSHIP

July 7	-	23	July 7	=	109
July 14	-	26	July 14	-	72
July 21	7-	26	July 21	-	78
July 28	-	28	July 28	-	77

## Financial Health—July 2024

July 7	-	\$ 8,427.00	Needed:
July 14	-	\$ 2,550.00	\$ 24,467.00
July 21	-	\$ 3,968.00	
July 28	-	\$ 2,423.00	Received:
Online	-	\$ 1,198.30	\$ 18,566.30

Ways to give to Morrow Presbyterian:

- 1) Mail your check to the church at MPC, P. O. Box 316, Morrow, GA 30260
- 2) Set up an account online with your bank's bill pay option. When it asks for the account number, use your envelope number. Your bank will send the church a check for the amount and on the date you designate.
- 3) Go to our website www.morrowpresbyterian.org and click on the Giving tab at the top.
- 4) Text MORROWPRES & AMOUNT to 73256.

August 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed		E»:	
Sun	Mon	Tue	vvea	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Auc	just w		10:00 a.m. Peacemakers Life Group	2 Office closed	3 10 a.m. Judy Chapman Visitation—MPC 11 a.m. Judy Chapman Memorial Service—MPC
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:45 am Sunday School  11 a.m. Worship In person and Facebook  12:15 p.m. Anniversary Celebration for Dock Gammage	6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts	6:30 p.m. Scouts	11:30 a.m. YAH to Longhorns, Morrow  7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	3—6 p.m. Community Food Pantry		
<b>5 p.m.</b> Youth <b>NO</b> Kids Club					Office closed	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:45 am Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship In person and Facebook Live— 12:15 p.m. PWCT 5 p.m. Kids Club Resumes 5 p.m. Youth	6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts 7:00 p.m. Virginia Dews	10:00 a.m. Dorcas Circle 6:30 p.m. Scouts 7:00 p.m. Session	7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	3—6 p.m. Community Food Pantry	Office closed	9:30 a.m. Youth at Lake— Hooten home
18 9:45 am Sunday School	19	20	21	22	23	24
11 a.m. Worship In person and Facebook Live— Communion  5 p.m. Youth & Kids Club combined with FNS at 6 p.m.	6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts	6:30 p.m. Scouts	10:00 a.m. Living Branch Life Group  7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	3-6 p.m. Community Food Pantry		2-4 p.m. Open House & Blessing of Home— Follykoe's (2:30 pm prayer)
					Office closed	
25 9:45 am Sunday School  11 a.m. Worship in person & Facebook Live—Dock Gammage preaching 2 p.m. Wedding Shower for Chris Dyche & Snowy	26 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts	27 6:30 p.m. Scouts	28 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	3-6 p.m. Community Food Pantry	30	31
5:00 p.m. Youth 5:00 p.m. Kids Club					Office closed	