

Volume 19, Issue 3

March 2026

Be Still
AND KNOW THAT
I AM
God

MORROW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Morrow Presbyterian Herald

THE PASTOR'S PEN



I hate commercials. I don't mind watching them during the Super Bowl, because they are usually creative and funny, but otherwise I hate them.

They are endured not only on the TV but also on the Internet. If I want to watch a video on YouTube, I have to wait 30 seconds for the commercial to run its course. Sometimes there is a 5-second option in a rectangular box at the lower-right corner. The "clock" counts down from 5 to 0, and then the rectangle says that I can "Skip the Ad." I always punch that option. There are also commercials for apps now! I like to play three puzzle games, which I downloaded free onto my iPad, and they insist on putting up commercials. Again, I might have the option to skip them, or I might have to tolerate the 30-second to 45-second-long interruptions. I so hate commercials.

Companies are always trying to get our attention. They have something to say, whether we need to hear it or not. They believe so strongly in their messages that they inundate us with them. They broadcast them on the TV and the Internet, on "free" apps, in magazines, and on billboards. Even during the last Super Bowl, companies spent \$10 million for a 30-second chance to get our attention. Some people are more susceptible than others to them. I admit that once in a blue moon a commercial will catch my attention, and I feel the need to "improve my life" with their stuff.

God is trying to get our attention. God is always trying to tell us something, always trying to show us something. God has grace and love to share. God has a path for us to walk and spiritual disciplines to practice as we walk. God is trying to attract us to him, and we need to pay attention. God's message is way more vital, way more life-giving, than any commercial could be.

Lent is one of those times in which we must pay closer attention to God. God doesn't speak only during Lent, but Lent puts us in a frame of mind to listen and grasp God's messages. We set aside several weeks before the death and resurrection of Jesus, and we take seriously what Christ's sacrifice means to us. We are broken, and so we need a Savior. We are a mess, and so we need Jesus to clean us from our sin and renew our bodies from destruction. During Lent this message becomes so much clearer to us. We do a little more personal reflection, a little more worshipping and reading, a little more praying and devotional activity, and we find that we can hear God more clearly. God's messages are coming through with little static or interruption.

We could probably do without commercials, but we cannot do without God's advertisements of love and grace. We don't want to punch the skip button. Let God speak and speak every moment of the day. During Lent let us continue to pay closer attention and receive what God has to offer.

Peace in Christ,

Rev. Dr. John

Prayer Requests



PRAYING FOR OUR MEMBERS, FAMILIES, & FRIENDS Judy McKinney (Gail Hardy's sister), Jessica Johnson, Allen Grant, Twarna Johnson, Family of Betty Luong (Lisa Johnson's mother), Frank & Shirley Bradley, Jo Calhoun, Thomas Chukwura, Bill Coleman, Betty Colwell, Kelly Conrad, Felix Cruz, Mary Dardy, Davis Family, David Dawson, James & Lei Eason, Carol Erickson, Peter & Mary Farwell, Trudy Fincher, Wendy Garcia, Jessica Giddens, Olen Grubbs, Bob & Gail Hardy, Betsy Hilliard, Jeannie Hodges, Thuan & Jun Hong, Michael Howell, Austin John, George & Marsha Ann Kempson, Braden Knebel, Tricia Koehler, Marty LeDuke, Bob & Suzanne Lukat, Sidney Lyell, Keith Maxey, Sheila McKee, Jackie McLeod, Jim McNaull, Rebecca Muller, Florette Njonu, Rick Peel, John & Pat Randolph, Linda Reece, Roxie Romine, David Schuler, Glenn Sharpe, David Swafford, Edith Tingston, Laraine Tinsley, Cathy Trustorf, Gene Ussery, Clay Verdell, Amanda Webb, Barry Weems, David Weems, Gene Williams, and Terry Williams. Our country, Our Military, Missionaries, School/College Teachers & Students, Food Pantry Patrons.

A full prayer list is available in the narthex.

Young at Heart Lunch, March 4, 11:30 a.m.

The Young at Heart will be going to O'Charley's in Stockridge on Wednesday, March 4 at 11:30 a.m. Please let Bruce or Libby know if you will be joining them there.

Thank You Notes

Thank You

From the Youth... Many thanks to everyone who donated to our Souper Bowl offering. We received **\$841**. This money goes to our own Helping Hands Food Pantry here at MPC.

From Virginia Cagle... I want to thank everyone for the prayers, phone calls and cards while I was in the hospital and when I got out. All was very appreciated, especially the prayers.



From Carol Campbell and family... Dear church family, Words cannot begin to express my gratitude for all the cards, food and kind words shared with me and my family at the loss of my precious mom, Carolyn Maxey, and sister, Julie Haney. I thank you for all the prayers lifted; it has certainly been felt. Please continue to pray for my brother, Keith Maxey, as he continues his battle with cancer.

Pictured: Carolyn Maxey and Julie Haney

Congratulations to David Turner

David Turner retired from leading Scouts on Scout Sunday, February 8, 2026 after serving faithfully since 1998. He started as Den Leader, moving up to Assistant Scoutmaster, and then Scoutmaster.



MPC and Scout Troop 919 honored him with a surprise dinner on February 7.

Thank you, David, for your dedicated service.



Daylight Saving Time begins

March 8

Be sure your clocks spring forward one hour so you aren't late for church!

Presbyterian Women

Morning Glory Circle— March 8, 9:30 a.m. The Morning Glory Circle Bible Study is open to all women. The next meeting will be on Sunday, March 8 at 9:30 a.m. during the Sunday school hour. The group is on Lesson 5—*The Gift of the Woman Who Was Poor* of the Study Book “*Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ*” Please read the chapter ahead of time if able.

PWCT— March 8, 12:15 p.m. The PWCT will meet in the McNair/Seekers classroom.

Virginia Dews Circle, March 9, 6:00 p.m. The Virginia Dews Circle will meet at 6:00 p.m. on March 9 in the library. Lei Eason will present Lesson 7, “*The Woman Who Was Bent Over.*” Project is money for Gigi’s House.

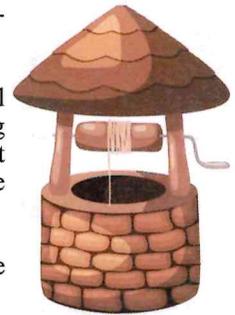
Dorcas Circle, March 10, 10 a.m. The Dorcas Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 10 at 10 a.m. in the Arnold/Bates classroom. Tricia Koehler will provide the devotion. Anne Fordham will facilitate Lesson Six, “*I Will Say It Again, Rejoice*” in the study book, “*Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ.*” Project: Diapers for the Food Pantry.

PW Project for 2026

Water Wells. Water is center to every part of a community’s well-being. It is necessary for farmers’ crops and livestock so that they can raise food and earn an income. When families cannot access clean water, they suffer from food insecurity. It also enables people to practice proper hygiene and sanitation to stop the spread of disease.

Morrow Presbyterian Women’s Mission for 2026 is to help to provide a deep rock well. A deep rock well taps into pure water sources hundreds of feet below ground, providing access to clean water even during drought and other extreme weather conditions. These sustainable wells serve communities in the most water-scarce regions of the world and are placed in areas where they can make the greatest impact and be maintained by trained community members.

We will be working with Presbyterian Gifts Catalog. There will be a red bucket placed in the back of the sanctuary (or surprise locations) for your donations.



A Farewell & Best Wishes to Brandi Neal



Brandi Neal and her son Jalen came to Morrow Presbyterian Church on April 16, 2023 when Brandi joined our Church Staff as Choir Director.

Brandi’s last official day will be February 27. We honored her this past Sunday with a cupcake and punch reception.

Brandi is relocating to Florida where she will be closer to family and was offered a great job opportunity.

Thank you, Brandi, for leading the choir and sharing your fun spirit.

You and Jalen will be missed.



Work Day, March 21

**Church Work Day
March 21
9 a.m.- 12 p.m.**

We will have a work day on Saturday, March 21 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., to clean up and prepare our building and grounds for Easter.

If you have noticed something that needs attention, please mention it to Albert or Colin prior to the 21st.

Please mark this date on your calendar to come and help your church family.



Kid's Club Movie Night

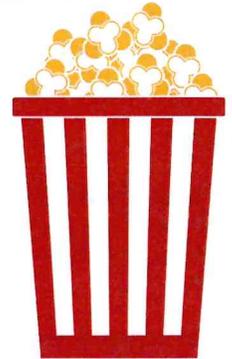


Kid's Club had a movie night on Super Bowl Sunday.

They watched David & Goliath, an animated Bible movie, and had snacks.

Afterward, they had a question and answer discussion about the movie and Bible trivia.

Kids Club meets on Sunday nights from 5—7 p.m.



Pictorial Church Directory

Pictorial Directory. The church office is going to add pictures to our regular church directory. Please email a self or family picture to the church office (mpcsecretary@bellsouth.net). If it is easier to bring a picture into the office, I can scan it to my computer. **The deadline is March 15.**

Coming Soon...

Relay for Life Luminaries—Deadline April 1 The Relay for Life of Henry, Fayette, and Clayton County is coming on May 1, 2026. Plan ahead and order a luminary in honor or memory of a loved one. Bags have candles and are placed all around the lake at the relay. Bags are available for different donation amounts. Torch of Hope and Knock Out Cancer roses are also available. Order forms are available in the narthex.

Baskets and More, April 26. It's that time of year to start thinking about what you can create for the Relay for Life Baskets and More Auction. Things like baked goods, crafts, plants, quilts, woodworking items, and picnic baskets filled with delicious food ready for you to eat! Please call, text or email Susie Grant, 404-514-9561, yuleforest@gmail.com. The proceeds from this auction go to our Relay for Life Team and will help fight cancer through the American Cancer Society. Please join in to support our Team, the CrossWalkers. Call Albert Coughlin, 404-384-0977 if you want to be part of this great team!! Relay for Life is Friday, May 1, 6—11 p.m. at Salem Baptist Church Park.

Ladies Luncheon, May 9, 11 a.m. The theme for our Ladies Luncheon this year is "Lydia" and the color is purple. If you would like to provide a table for the luncheon, please let Susie Grant know. She needs seven tables.

One Great Hour of Sharing—Collected on Easter Sunday

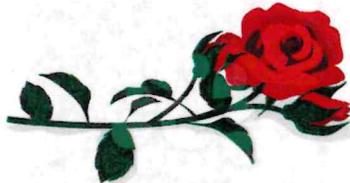
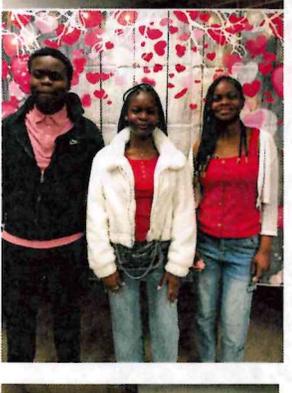


You may have noticed the fish bank boxes in the narthex recently. These are to use to collect your coins or bills to donate to One Great Hour of Sharing. We will collect the fish on Easter Sunday during the worship service. One Great Hour of Sharing helps with things like disaster, poverty, and hunger.

"He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6:8

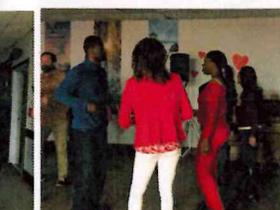
Valentine's Dinner & Dance

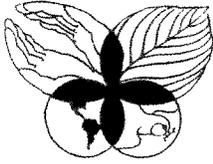
February 14, 2026



Happy Valentine's Day
LUBBY ASSOCIATES







Morrow Presbyterian Women Honorary Life Membership

The Morrow Presbyterian Women honor one special woman for her contributions to the Presbyterian Church each year. The woman you nominate should be currently active in the work of the church or have been active in the past.

The PW Coordinating Team requests your help in selecting one special woman to be honored for the year 2026. **Past honorees have been (to avoid duplication): Hazel Bartlett, Virginia Dews, Bess Terrell, Lei Eason, Evelyn Wilson, Pat Hughes, Gertrude Phillips, Millie Bauer, Annie Margaret Mitchell, Ann Biggers, Barbara Lester, Janis Campbell, Betty Spier, Jo Bevil, Sharon Willits, Libby McNair, Betty Janes, Gail Hardy, Darnell Bell, Pat Arnold, Dianne Hooten, Anne Fordham, Tricia Koehler, Marcia Cartledge, Mary Ann Warlick, Romea Moriles, Deborah Venizelos, Connie Bell, Berniece Lillegard, Roxie Romine, Brenda Garner, Mary Nell Winkles, Sharon Goza, Pauline Buchanan, Andra Gammage, Mary Ann Moriles, Carol Campbell, Susie Grant, Donna Boggs, and Linda Lillie.**

Please indicate, in a few sentences, why you are selecting the person you have chosen. **Nominations should be turned in to Moderator Andra Gammage, or to the church office no later than Sunday, March 15, 2026.** The award will be presented on Mother's Day, May 10, 2026.

Please fill out the above form and return to the church office by emailing to mpcsecretary@bellsouth.net or by mailing in the form to Morrow Presbyterian Church, P. O. Box 316, Morrow, GA 30260

MARCH 2026

March Birthdays

- 3/5 - Mark Williams
- 3/6 - Chase Gammage
- Joseph Eason
- 3/10 - Susie Grant
- 3/11 - Ruth Bryant
- 3/12 - Mary Onuoha
- 3/13 - Tricia Koehler
- Otis Onuoha
- Sara Folds
- 3/14 - Stacy Weems
- 3/16 - Ian Turner
- 3/17 - Uwaezu Onuoha
- 3/20 - Pat Randolph
- Austin John
- 3/21 - Penny Thomas
- 3/22 - Terry Dyche
- 3/26 - Jeannie Hodges
- Josh McLeod
- 3/28 - Patrick Johnson
- Jalen Summers
- Okate Gnofammani

Happy Birthday!

March Anniversaries

- 3/9 - Bruce & Carol Campbell (35)
- 3/10 - Cal & Hannah Folds (19)

Happy Anniversary!



WE LOVE
OUR VOLUNTEERS

ELDERS ON CALL

Primary: Albert Coughlin
Secondary: Bruce Campbell

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN
SERVICE PROJECT MONTH**
Dorcas Circle

USHERS

Donna Boggs, Captain; Ngozi Bivins,
Ugo Chukwura, Tricia Koehler, Deborah
Venizelos

LITURGIST

- 1 - Andra Gammage
- 8 - Deborah Venizelos
- 15 - Dock Gammage
- 22 - Andra Gammage
- 29 - Youth

CHILDREN'S SERMON

- 1 - Dock Gammage
- 8 - Allen Grant
- 15 - Deborah Venizelos
- 22 - Allen Grant
- 29 - Youth

COUNTING TEAM

Jo Calhoun and James Eason

"As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God." Psalms 42:1-2

General Fund—February 2026

February 1	- \$ 11,827	<u>Needed:</u>
February 8	- \$ 8,693	\$ 23,350
February 15	- \$ 4,466	<u>Received:</u>
February 22	- \$ 3,106	\$ 29,152
Online	- \$ 1,060	

Thank You



Ways to give to Morrow Presbyterian Church:

- 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) Scan this QR code with your camera:

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

SUNDAY SCHOOL

February 1	-	22
February 8	-	27
February 15	-	22
February 22	-	18

IN PERSON & ONLINE WORSHIP

February 1	-	69
February 8	-	78
February 15	-	55
Ash Wednesday	-	30
February 22	-	55

MARCH 2026

<p>1</p> <p>9:45 am Sunday School in person 11 a.m. Worship In person and Virtual by Facebook 12:15 p.m. Long Range Planning Committee 5:00 p.m. Youth 5:00 p.m. Kids Club</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>11:30 a.m. YAH Lunch @ O'Charley's 7 p.m. Choir practice</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Peacemaker's Life Group 3—6 p.m. Community Food Pantry</p>	<p>6</p> <p> 6:30 p.m. Scouts</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p> 9:30 a.m. Morning Glory Circle 9:45 am Sunday School in person 11 a.m. Worship In person and Facebook—Communion 12:15 p.m. PWCT 5:00 p.m. Youth 5:00 p.m. Kids Club</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:00 p.m. VA Dews Circle 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10 a.m. Dorcas Circle 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7 p.m. Choir practice</p>	<p>12</p> <p>3—6 p.m. Community Food Pantry</p>	<p>13</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Scouts Office closed</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:45 am Sunday School in person 11 a.m. Worship In person and Virtual by Facebook 5:00 p.m. Youth 5:00 p.m. Kids Club</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts</p>	<p>17</p> <p> </p>	<p>18</p> <p>10 a.m. Living Branch Life Group 7 p.m. Choir Practice</p>	<p>19</p> <p>3—6 p.m. Community Food Pantry</p>	<p>20</p> <p> 6:30 p.m. Scouts Office closed</p>	<p>21</p> <p> 9 a.m.—12 p.m. Church Work Day</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:45 am Sunday School in person 11 a.m. Worship In person and Virtual by Facebook 5:00 p.m. Youth 5:00 p.m. Kids Club</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:30—8 p.m. Session Minute Review</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Deadline for Relay Roses & Torches 7 p.m. Choir Practice</p>	<p>26</p> <p>3—6 p.m. Community Food Pantry</p>	<p>27</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Scouts Office closed</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:45 am Sunday School in person 11 a.m. Worship—Youth Sunday In person and Virtual by Facebook 12:15 p.m. After Church Luncheon (ACL) 1:30 p.m. Kids Club Field Trip 5:00 p.m. Youth</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts</p>	<p>31</p> <p><i>Holy Week Begins</i></p>			<p></p>	