

Volume 13
Issue 11

November 2020

There's
always
SOMETHING
TO BE
thankful
FOR

MORROW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Morrow Presbyterian
Herald

The Pastor's Pen



Life is unpredictable. Tomorrow's plans may change in an instant. What we thought would happen might become a totally different thing altogether. Someone gets a phone call from the doctor's office and finds out the tests are positive for cancer. Someone gets a letter in the mail and discovers that she owes tons of money for the electricity. I once knew a man I saw in church on a particular Sunday, and then I visited his home early Tuesday morning after he had died of a heart attack. Do we need to talk about how things have changed from over half a year ago? *Over half a year ago, ugh!* Life is so unpredictable.

Jesus talks about how life changes in an instant. For instance, like a thief in the night, Jesus says, God calls us to enter the afterlife, whether we are ready for it or not. A master suddenly comes back home from a long journey, and the head servant has to make sure everything in order. Ten maidens watch for a bridegroom to come, but five of them fall asleep with no oil in their lamps, missing the bridegroom altogether. In a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, we know life as it is, and then instantly we are jettisoned into another life. What will happen next?

As I said, each illustration concerns the afterlife. Without contradicting what Jesus teaches, it could be said that each illustration may also help us consider how we are going to live right here, right now. Life involves so many twists and turns, and we may not expect every twist and turns, so how are we going to act? Do we react and come mopey and miserable? Do we become upset and try to blame others for the negative? Or, is there another option, one that helps us to take the twists and turns as they come? Is there a way to live life as it is, and then live life when the changes come?

I like what Steven Curtis Chapman sang many years ago. His song was and is about living for the right now. "I can reminisce about the already, and I can worry and fret about the not yet, but when it all comes down I know it really, really all comes down to right now..." Right now is the time we have, no other time. Right now Jesus gives us to turn to him, believing him to be the Way and the Truth and the Life. If we read any of those illustration that Jesus provides above, they all have to do with being in the right now. If God comes like a thief, we are ready at the present to welcome God. If God stands before us, everything will be in order because we have constantly lived in such a way. The lamps are trimmed and lit right now, and so we can move at a moment's notice.

Steven Curtis Chapman sings on, "So right now, I'm living the next 5 minutes like these are my last 5 minutes, because I know the next 5 minutes may be all I have. And after the next 5 minutes turn into the last 5 minutes, I'm taking the next 5 minutes and starting all over again."

Right now is what we have. Live in the moment with all the twists and turns. Abide with God with the unpredictability of life. God is with us now – God will remain with us. When you get together with your families for Thanksgiving, however you might do so, do not dwell on how weird it is. Do not be miserable, if it isn't "how you have always done things." Be in the moment. Enjoy the moment with the people you love. Remind them of how God is present. Maybe we need to say to them, "God is with us now – God will remain with us."

Right now, take the time to trim the lamp and get the house in order. Right now, hold on to Jesus Christ as your Savior. Let us live each moment as precious and important. Let us see right now, and right now, and right now, as our time to be with God.

Peace in Christ,

Rev. Dr. John

¹Cf. Matthew 24:42-44, 24:45-51, and 25:1-13, respectively.

²Cf. John 14:1-7.

³"Next 5 Minutes" from the album *Speechless*.

Prayer Requests



PRAYING FOR OUR MEMBERS, FAMILIES, & FRIENDS Our nation, Family of Jack Calhoun, Jr. (stepson of Jo Calhoun), Jennifer Barber, Family of Penny Gordon (Lei Eason's sister), Gail Hardy, Susan Harris (Church Visitor), Hubert Nash (online request), Ivan Paramanandam (Lillian Eason brother), Family of Dee Patterson (George Kempson's nephew), Sharon Walton (friend of Donna Boggs), Susan Wolpin, Family of Sybil Blake (Asare), Carol Bevil, Mary Bridges, Allene Brown, Kevin Brown (Dianne Hooten's nephew), Ken & Janis Campbell, Bill & Lucie Cantrell, Marcia Cartledge, Judy Chapman, Stacy Clanton, Betty Colwell, Felix Cruz, Family of Cindy Roper (friend of Donna Boggs), Andra

Gammage, Jessica Giddens, Gary Goza, Ronald & Marie Goza, Susie Grant, Kathy Griffin, Julie Haney, Robb Haney, Bob Hardy, Betsy Hilliard, Jeannie Hodges, Betty Janes, Drayl Johnson, Patrick & Jessica Johnson, Debbie King, Berniece Lillegard, Kendra Lomax, Doug & Stephanie Lozel, Don McGhee, Cricket Miller, Grandpa & Grandma Moriles, Alan Noon, Debbie Noon, Judah Nunnally, Virginia Oswalt, Jean Palfrey, Duncan Powers, Doris Ragan, Beth Sexton, Isabel Sierra, Steven Sterzik, Rev. Jim Street, Daya Tenson & Family, Lerna Tatlonghari, Brian Thrailkill, David Turner, Sr., James Uri, Sharon Veldsma, Beth Wheeler, Eddy Wheeler, Terry & Margie Williams, Linda Williamson, Our Military: Steven Green II—Army; SGT Jonathan Johnson—Army/National Guard; TSG Richard Venizelos—Air Force; CPL Jeremy Butler—Marines; PFC Najee Hall; Kevin Krebs—Coast Guard. Our Missionaries: Rev. Al Tinio & Family in the Philippines; Dan, Elizabeth, Frances, and Robert Turk in Florida. Our College Students.

A full prayer list is available by asking the church office.

Congregational Meeting, Sunday, 11/1, 12 p.m.

Congregational Meeting, November 1, 12 noon. There will be a congregational meeting immediately following the worship service today for the purpose of electing seven elders to the Class of 2022, and one elder to the Class of 2021. Those in nomination are Mary Dyche, Andra Gammage, Allen Grant, Dianne Hooten, Ronnie Hooten, Mike Sneed, and Deborah Venizelos for the Class of 2022 and Linda Lillie for the Class of 2021. **Votes counted will be from those in person and via the comment section on Facebook Live.**

Presbyterian Women



Morning Glory Circle— Wednesdays at 7 p.m. The Morning Glory Circle meets via Google Meet at 7 p.m. each Wednesday. All women are invited. They have started a new Bible Study. The study is "Free of Me: Why Life is Better When It's Not About You." by Sharon Hodde Miller. This is a 5-week study. There are a book and a study guide available, but neither is necessary. Tamara Callahan is leading the study. Handouts are available. This is a great time to join the group!. Contact Dianne Hooten to be added to the weekly reminder and link email list or to get a copy of the handouts.

November 8, 2 p.m., Online PWCT meeting.

Virginia Dews Circle, November 9, 6:30 p.m. Virginia Dews is planning on holding a meeting on Monday, November 9. Social distancing measures will be in place. They will meet both at the church at 6:30 p.m. and virtually for those who wish to join through Google Meet. If anyone would like to attend in person, or virtually, please let Deborah Venizelos know at dsterzik54@gmail.com.

Dorcas Circle—NO Meeting in November. Please keep in touch with members via phone, text, email, or note.

PW Installation, November 15, 11 a.m.— The installation for our 2021 PW Officers will be during the worship service on Sunday, November 15. All women are encouraged to support our new slate of officers.

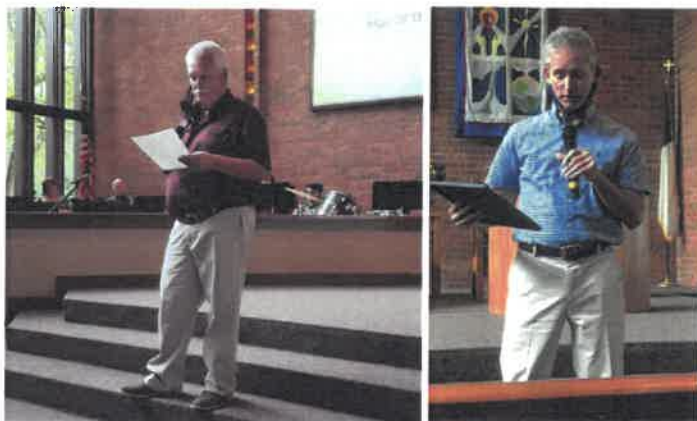
PW General Meeting Results—The Budget and Slate of Officers for 2021 were both approved through our email vote. Thank you to all women who voted.

Hanging of the Greens, November 22, 12:15 p.m.

Hanging of the Greens – November 22, 12:15 p.m. Many volunteers are needed to help decorate the church for the Advent season. We will decorate the sanctuary following the worship service on Sunday, November 22. **Lunch will be provided for all volunteers.** Your help would be greatly appreciated. Many hands make light work!



Man of the Year 2020



Congratulations!
**ALBERT
COUGHLIN**

Christmas Eve 2020



OUR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE will be extraordinarily special this year. We are making a pre-recorded production and including all of our congregation. We are asking you to sign up for a time to record you and/or your family telling us what Christmas means to you and reading Scripture readings. We will be recording at the Church, Yule Forest Christmas Tree Farm, the stables at the Sneed Farm, and/or your home. **Contact the church office at 770-961-5444 to learn more and to schedule a time.**



In Memory of Sybil Blake (Asare)



Sybil Isolyn Blake (Asare) passed away on September 1, 2020. She joined Morrow Presbyterian Church in June of 2015 with her husband, Eric Asare. Following her stroke, she moved back to New York and then returned here to Georgia recently.

Sybil was born in Roses Valley St. Elizabeth, Jamaica. She later moved to New York City, where she raised her six children.

While Sybil was employed, she worked as a hospitality worker at Montefiore Medical Center for 20 years until she retired. Outside of work, she continued her devotion to God by attending church and serving in the choir of her previous church.

Condolences may be sent to Sybil's husband, Eric Asare, at 1783 Oxford Drive, Morrow, GA 30260.

Sybil, you will be missed.



Hope Totes

Thank you to all who contributed to our PW Hope Totes project this second go-around. Thank you, also, to those who came out to fill our 33 bags.

These bags have been given to Calvary Refugee Center and other homeless persons.

And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.' Matthew 25:40



Let Advent Prepare You for Christmas



The First Sunday of Advent will be November 29. Daily Family Devotions for Advent will be available beginning November 22. These booklets will be in the narthex. Please let Dianne know if you need one mailed to your home.

This year we have a collection of past devotions written by members and former members of Morrow Presbyterian Church.

Make sure you pick up a copy for your family.












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| Sunday, November 22 | - | Hanging of the Greens (12:15 p.m.) |
| Sunday, November 29 | - | First Sunday of Advent |
| Sunday, December 6 | - | Second Sunday of Advent;
Youth Christmas Party (5 p.m.—Hooten home) |
| Sunday, December 13 | - | Third Sunday of Advent; SNPS Christmas Service (6:16 p.m.) |
| Sunday, December 20 | - | Fourth Sunday of Advent |
| Thursday, December 24 | - | MPC Christmas Eve Video Available |
| Friday, December 25 | - | Christmas Day - <i>Happy Birthday, Jesus!</i> |





NOVEMBER 2020



<p>1  <small>Thanksgiving Time Ends</small></p> <p>9:30 am Virtual Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship In person and Virtual by Facebook 12 Noon Congregation Mtg. 5:00 p.m. Youth 5:00 p.m. Kids Club Online</p> <p><small>ALL SAINTS DAY</small> </p>		<p>3</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Scouts</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7 p.m.  Morning Glory Google Meet</p>	<p>5</p> <p>2—6 p.m. Community Food Pantry 5-7 p.m. Filming at Church</p> <p>7 p.m.  Men's Bible Study—Google Meet</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Butterfly Club</p> <p>10—12 noon Filming at Yule Forest</p> <p>2-4 p.m. Filming at Sneed Horse Farm</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:30 am Virtual Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship In person and Virtual by Facebook 1-3 p.m. Filming at Homes 2 p.m. PWCT Meeting (virtual) 5:00 p.m. Youth 5:00 p.m. Kids Club Online</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Virginia Dews In Person and Online</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Scouts</p>	<p>11</p> <p> Veterans Day</p> <p>7 p.m.  Morning Glory Google Meet</p>	<p>12</p> <p>2—6 p.m. Community Food Pantry</p> <p>5—8 p.m. Choir Filming at Grant Farm</p> <p>7 p.m.  Men's Bible Study—Google Meet</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:30 am Virtual Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship In person and Virtual by Facebook PW Installation 5:00 p.m. Youth 5:00 p.m. Kids Club Online 6:16 p.m. SNPS Facebook and In-Person</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Scouts</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Session Online</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7 p.m.  Morning Glory Google Meet</p>	<p>19</p> <p>2—6 p.m. Community Food Pantry</p> <p>7 p.m.  Men's Bible Study—Google Meet</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:30 am Virtual Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship In person and Virtual by Facebook 12:15 p.m. Hanging of the Greens 5:00 p.m. Youth 5:00 p.m. Kids Club Online</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>2-6 p.m. Community Food Pantry</p>	<p>25</p> <p>NO Morning Glory Google Meet</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>26 </p> <p> Happy Thanksgiving</p> <p>NO Community Food Pantry</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29  <small>First Sunday of Advent</small> 30</p> <p>9:30 am Virtual Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship In person and Virtual by Facebook 5:00 p.m. Youth 5:00 p.m. Kids Club Online</p>						

NOVEMBER

November Birthdays

- 11/1 - Deborah Venizelos
- 11/6 - Marilyn Mitchell
- 11/8 - Donna Boggs
- Albert Coughlin
- Marian Meyer
- Gary Johnson
- Hunter Weems
- 11/18 - Frank Warlick
- 11/20 - Judy Chapman
- 11/22 - Richard Venizelos
- Jamari Lewis
- 11/24 - Georgina Onuoha
- Terry Williams
- 11/25 - Jo Calhoun
- Tamara Mickles
- 11/26 - Shirley Bradley
- Shelby Turner
- 11/27 - Terry Broom
- 11/30 - Annie Johnson



November Anniversaries

- 11/1 - Norman & Linda Lillie (51)
- 11/16 - Patrick & Jessica Johnson (1)
- 11/23 - James & Lei Eason (59)
- 11/30 - Robert & Deborah Venizelos (35)

ELDERS ON CALL

- Primary: Linda Lillie
- Secondary: Marie Tuttle

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SERVICE PROJECT MONTH

Virginia Dews Circle



Financial Health—October 2020

October 4	- \$ 3,042.29
October 11	- \$ 8,588.00
October 18	- \$ 2,760.05
October 25	- \$10,722.00
Online	- \$ 631.70

Needed:
\$ 21,631.92
Received:
\$ 25,744.04

