

Volume 18  
Issue 10  
October 2025



MORROW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Morrow Presbyterian Herald

## The Pastor's Pen



I once got an email with the title *Buzzards, Bats, and Bumblebees*. It said:

"If you put a buzzard in a pen that is 6 feet by 8 feet and is entirely open at the top, the bird, in spite of its ability to fly, will be an absolute prisoner. The reason is that a buzzard always begins a flight from the ground with a run of 10 to 12 feet. Without space to run, as is its habit, it will not even attempt to fly, but will remain a prisoner for life in a small jail with no top.

"The ordinary bat that flies around at night, a remarkably nimble creature in the air, cannot take off from a level place. If it is placed on the floor or flat ground, all it can do is shuffle about helplessly and, no doubt painfully, until it reaches some slight elevation from which it can throw itself into the air. Then, at once, it takes off like a flash.

"A bumblebee, if dropped into an open tumbler, will be there until it dies, unless it is taken out. It never sees the means of escape at the top but persists in trying to find some way out through the sides near the bottom. It will seek a way where none exists, until it completely destroys itself."

These "vertically challenged" animals become examples to us, especially when we deal with problems. A problem strikes, and we act like these animals who turn the world into two dimensions. We fail to see all the options, and so we become frantic in our search for the way out. We most likely cannot find it because we may be looking in the wrong direction. Even when an escape is presented, we might ignore it because it doesn't seem real or appropriate. We just add trouble upon trouble, and we end up as paralyzed people, scared to do anything.

The author of that email says this: "In many ways, there are lots of people like the buzzard, the bat, and the bumblebee. They are struggling about with all their problems and frustrations, not ever realizing that the answer is right there 'above' them. We can escape any prisons we find ourselves in, if only we start looking up to God." I remember reading a book by Brian McLaren, in which he said that there are three options to every problem. One of them is the "higher option," or God's option. What door has God opened to us? Which path does God reveal, so that we will not only escape but also grow stronger from the situation?

When faced with problems, we shouldn't start trying to break out under our own power. Much of the time we cannot. We start with prayer, asking God to reveal his will to us in any and every situation. As we talk together, God reveals to us the higher option, actually the only option we need, in order to be freed. With prayer a path will become clearer. A door will open wider. We will find the exit quicker than we would have without God. We find greener pastures, and then we can learn from God how to get out of the next situation when it strikes.

Do not be like a buzzard, a bat, or a bumblebee, turning our three-dimensional world into a two-dimensional. We have a God above who knows what is best for us. Offer our prayers to the One who loves us, and the escape will be revealed.

Peace in Christ,

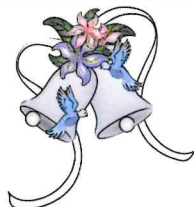
Rev. Dr. John

## Prayer Requests



**PRAYING FOR OUR MEMBERS, FAMILIES, & FRIENDS** Frank Bradley, Family of Russell Goza (nephew of the Goza's), Judy McKinney (Gail Hardy's sister), Dick Shaffer (former member), Austin John, Moses Ayodele, Shirley Bradley, Jo Calhoun, Thomas Chukwura, Bill Coleman, Betty Colwell, Felix Cruz, Keith Danser, Davis Family, David Dawson,, James & Lei Eason, Carol Erickson, Peter Farwell, Jessica Giddens, Olen Grubbs, Michelle and Peggy Hamilton, Julie Haney, Bob & Gail Hardy, Betsy Hilliard, Jeannie Hodges, Thuan & Jun Hong, Jessica & Patrick Johnson, George & Marsha Ann Kempson, Braden Knebel,, Jim & Marty LeDuke, Berniece Lillegard, Bob & Suzanne Lukat, Rob Lukat, Sidney Lyell, Carolyn Maxey, Keith Maxey, Sheila McKee, Jim McNaull, Florette Njonu, Rick Peel, John & Pat Randolph, Linda Reece, Roxie Romine, David Schuler, Glenn Sharpe, Butch Stavely, David Swafford, Arrah Thomas, Cathy Trustorf, Marie Tuttle, Gene Ussery, Devon Valentine, Clay Verdell, Barry Weems, David Weems, Debbie Westover, Gene Williams, and Terry Williams. Our country, Flood and Fire Victims, Our Military, Missionaries, School/College Teachers & Students, Food Pantry Patrons.

*A full prayer list is available in the narthex.*



### **Callahan/Jones Wedding, October 18, 2:00 p.m.**

**Wedding Invitation, October 18, 2 p.m.** Rev. & Mrs. John Callahan Jr request the honor of your presence at the marriage of their daughter, Amanda Lynn to James Henry Jones on October 18, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. The wedding will be here at the church with a light reception to follow in the fellowship hall.

## **Presbyterian Women**

**PWCT meeting on October 19, following the worship service.**

**Virginia Dews Circle, October 13, 6:00 p.m.** The Virginia Dews Circle will meet Monday, October 13, at 6 p.m. at the church. The lesson will be Lesson 2, "*Mary of a Certain Village*" in our new study book. Please read the lesson and join in the sharing led by Lei Eason. Project is items (canned goods, feminine hygiene products, etc.) for our food pantry.

**Dorcas Circle, October 14, 10 a.m.** The Dorcas Circle will meet on Tuesday, October 14, at 10 a.m. at the church. Tricia Koehler will do the devotion and Linda Lillie will facilitate Lesson 2 from our new study book, "*Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ.*" The project will be gift cards (\$20 Kroger, McDonald's) for the church office to give out. Please join us on Tuesday, October 14.

**Morning Glory Circle, October 19, 9:30 a.m.** The Morning Glory Circle will meet on October 19 at 9:30 a.m. in the Arnold/Bates classroom. Carol Campbell will lead Lesson One in *Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ*. You can pick up a study book in the church office. **All women are invited to attend our meetings.**

**Presbyterian Women's General Meeting/Salad/Soup Lunch, October 26, 12:15 p.m.** All women are invited to the PW General Meeting on October 26 following the worship service. We will be approving the 2026 Budget and the incoming PW Officers. Please bring your favorite salad or soup to share. **ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH ARE INVITED!**

**Upcoming PW Installation, November 2, 11 a.m.** The 2026 Presbyterian Women Officers will be installed during the worship service on Sunday, November 2.

**Toys for Tots—Deadline December 5.** The Presbyterian Women are collecting for Toys for Tots again this year. Please bring new, unwrapped toys to the church by December 5 and place them in the sleigh outside of the library.



## **World Communion Sunday**

**October 5, 2025**

**Join us this Sunday** for a special worship & communion service observing World Communion Sunday. Please wear any attire from your home country. Plan to stay for lunch and bring your favorite home country dish to share with the congregation at our luncheon following the worship service.



## Welcome New Members

**A Big Welcome** to our four new members who joined MPC on Sunday, September 28, 2025.

**Mark Williams & Carol Francis**

**Frank Pajaro**

**Sunny Onuoha**

The session approved their membership following their participation in our new members class taught by Pastor John.

Please welcome them to our congregation the next time you see them and introduce yourself.

## Volunteers Needed

**Where can you find the joy of serving Jesus in your church?**

**Ushers.** We have five Usher Captains who would love to have you on their teams. Each captain has a team to help with ushering duties. What are those duties? They include handing out bulletins, collecting the offering, greeting people, counting attendance, picking up fellowship pad sheets, checking doors, and turning off lights following the service. Ushers serve a month at a time.

**Liturgists.** Helping the pastor by leading parts of the worship service. Liturgists are given great direction to make leading the congregation almost effortless. If you have a strong voice and a willing heart, please consider sharing your gift. Liturgists rotate throughout the year. Your Sunday would depend on the number of volunteers.

**Sometimes we feel a call to volunteer at our church, but instead we wait for someone to ask us.** If you feel that God is leading you to serve His and your church, we have different opportunities available for your different skills.

**Please contact the church office if you are willing to serve. 770-961-5444 or [mpcsecretary@bellsouth.net](mailto:mpcsecretary@bellsouth.net)**



## BBQ Fundraiser

**Food Pantry BBQ Fundraiser  
October 12, 12:15 p.m.**

Please join us on Sunday, October 12, immediately following the worship service for a BBQ lunch provided by our Food Pantry volunteers.

We will have pork and turkey BBQ with all the fixings.

We will be accepting donations to support our Food Pantry mission.



## Food Pantry News

**From the Community Outreach Ministry Team...**

We would like to thank the entire congregation for your continued support of our Food Pantry Ministry here. The need for food assistance in our local community continues to grow. We would like to share with you what you have enabled us to provide to those in need in our local area.

### **Food Pantry Totals**

**January thru August 2025**

Families Served	2,914
Total People Served	8,198
Children Served	2,438
Seniors Served	2,241
lbs of Food Distributed	104,458

*I will be glad and rejoice in you;  
I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High. Psalm 9:2 NIV*

**Fall Festival—October 26, 5 –7 p.m.**



**Sunday Night - October 26, 2025**

**5:00 – 7:00 p.m.**



**A light dinner will be served.**

**Games**

**Candy, Candy, Candy**

**Cake Walk**



**If you would like to help with any of the games, decorations, cake walk items, etc. please sign up in the narthex or contact Shawn Butcher or David Turner.**

**The congregation is asked to please donate candy. There is a lot of candy given out at each game. A box is located in the narthex for your candy donations. Thank you.**



**“The Joy of Giving”**

**Stewardship Season**

**October 12, 19, 26, and Nov 2**

**Stewardship Luncheon**

**November 2, 12:15 p.m.**

*Food provided by Admin Team*



Who's Behind the Mask?

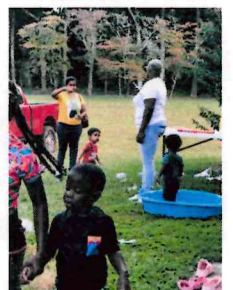
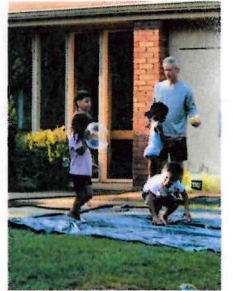


2025

Women's Retreat

# Fall 2025 Kick Off / Field Day

## MPC Kid's Club, Youth, Cub Scouts



AWESOME!

# OCTOBER 2025

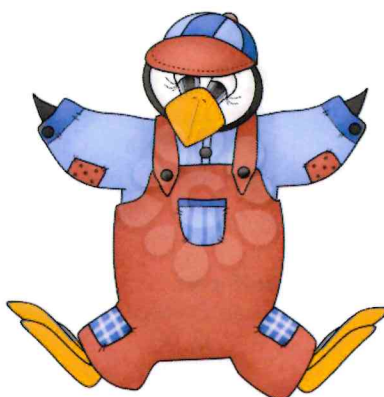
## October Birthdays

10/2 - Mary Dyche  
 10/4 - Betty Colwell  
 10/5 - Henock Sodjavi  
 10/6 - Wayne Goza  
 10/7 - Nelson Ayodele  
 10/10 - Obasi Onuoha  
       - Marie Tuttle  
       - Steven Green  
 10/13 - Ndiya Onuoha  
 10/14 - Tristen Offord  
 10/16 - Mary Ann Moriles  
 10/18 - Dionne Kemokai  
 10/20 - Sara Gore  
 10/21 - James Eason  
 10/23 - Linda Morgan  
 10/26 - Ruth Laster  
 10/27 - Rachel Boggs  
 10/29 - Maria Cruz  
       - Nnenna Onuoha  
 10/30 - Be Butcher  
 10/31 - Colin Turner  
       - David Weems



## October Anniversaries

10/12 - Bob & Gail Hardy (52)  
 10/15 - Wayne & Sharon Goza (58)  
 10/18 - Stephanie Venizelos  
           & James Wallace (1)  
 10/21 - Donnie & Ruth Bryant (2)



WE  VE  
OUR VOLUNTEERS

### ELDERS ON CALL

Primary: Carol Campbell  
 Secondary: Andra Gammage

### PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SERVICE PROJECT MONTH

Morning Glory Circle

### USHERS

David Turner, Captain; Twarna Johnson,  
 Dock & Andra Gammage, Florette Njonu

### CHILDREN'S SERMON

5 - Pastor John  
 12 - Dock Gammage  
 19 - Allen Grant  
 26 - Deborah Venizelos

### LITURGIST

5 - Mary Ann Moriles  
 12 - Dock Gammage  
 19 - Andra Gammage  
 26 - James Eason

### COUNTING TEAM

Virginia Cagle & Mary Nell Winkles

## SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

September 7 - 20  
 September 14 - 14  
 September 21 - 20  
 September 28 - 22

### IN PERSON & ONLINE WORSHIP

September 7 - 68  
 September 14 - 67  
 September 21 - 68  
 September 28 - 70



## Financial Health—September 2025

September 7	- \$ 9,755.01	<u>Needed:</u>	
September 14	- \$ 7,720.77		\$ 22,976.60
September 21	- \$ 2,960.00	<u>Received:</u>	
September 28	- \$ 2,965.00		\$ 26,789.58
Online	- \$ 3,288.80		

**Thank you!**

### Ways to give to Morrow Presbyterian Church:

- 1) 1) Mail your check to the church at MPC, P. O. Box 316, Morrow, GA 30260
- 2) 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) 3) Scan this QR code with your camera:



# OCTOBER 2025

			<b>1</b> <b>11:30 a.m.</b> YAH to Chili's Morrow  <b>6:45 p.m.</b> Choir Practice 	<b>2</b>  <b>10:00 a.m.</b> Peacemakers Life Group  <b>3—6 p.m.</b> Community Food Pantry	<b>3</b>  <div> <b>6 p.m. — Saturday 2 p.m.</b>  Cub Scout Campout  Church Grounds </div>  Office closed	<b>4</b>  <b>4—10 p.m.</b> Fellowship Hall in Use
<b>5</b> <b>9:45 am</b> Sunday School <b>11 a.m.</b> Worship In person and Facebook Live - World Communion Sunday <b>12:00 p.m.</b> World Communion Luncheon <b>NO</b> Youth <b>5:00 p.m.</b> Kids Club	<b>6</b>  <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Cub Scouts	<b>7</b>  <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Scouts	<b>8</b>  <b>6:45 p.m.</b> Choir Practice 	<b>9</b>  <b>3—6 p.m.</b> Community Food Pantry	<b>10</b>  <div> <b>6 p.m. — Saturday 12 p.m.</b>  Scout Campout  Church Grounds </div>  Office closed	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <b>9:45 am</b> Sunday School <b>11 a.m.</b> Worship In person and Facebook Live— <b>12:15 p.m. Food</b> <b>Pantry BBQ</b>  <b>5 p.m.</b> Youth <b>5 p.m.</b> Kids Club	<b>13</b>  <b>6:00 p.m.</b> Virginia Dews	<b>14</b>  <b>10 a.m.</b> Dorcas Circle  <b>7 p.m.</b> Session	<b>15</b> <b>10:00 a.m.</b> Living Branch Life Group  <b>6:45 p.m.</b> Choir Practice 	<b>16</b>  <b>3—6 p.m.</b> Community Food Pantry	<b>17</b>  <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Callahan/Jones Wedding Rehearsal  Office closed	<b>18</b>  <b>2:00 p.m.</b> Amanda Calla- han/James Jones Wedding 
<b>19</b> <b>9:30 a.m.</b> Morning Glory Circle <b>9:45 am</b> Sunday School <b>11 a.m.</b> Worship In person and Facebook Live— Dock Gammage preaching <b>12:30 p.m.</b> PWCT <b>5:00 p.m.</b> Youth <b>5:00 p.m.</b> Kids Club	<b>20</b>  <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Cub Scouts	<b>21</b>  <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Scouts	<b>22</b>  <b>6:45 p.m.</b> Choir Practice 	<b>23</b>  <b>3-6 p.m.</b> Community Food Pantry	<b>24</b>  Office closed	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> <b>9:45 am</b> Sunday School <b>11 a.m.</b> Worship In person and Facebook Live— <b>12:15 p.m. PW</b> <b>General Meeting/</b> <b>Salad Luncheon</b> <b>5:00 p.m. Fall</b> <b>Festival</b> 	<b>27</b>  <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Cub Scouts	<b>28</b>  <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Scouts	<b>29</b>  <b>6:45 p.m.</b> Choir Practice 	<b>30</b>  <b>3-6 p.m.</b> Community Food Pantry	<b>31</b>  	