

Volume 13, Issue 9

September 2020



MORROW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Morrow Presbyterian Herald

The Pastor's Pen



"IMMUNE TO FEAR" is what the man's T-shirt said.

I saw him on a billboard, as I traveled to work one morning. He must be a pastor, because his church's name was printed to the right. I took one look at the words and my next thought was, "No way. I totally disagree." I wondered why I responded that way. I think it boils down to this simple fact: Nobody is immune to fear, no, not one.

Fear is one of those strong emotions we cannot escape. It jumps out of nowhere and overtakes our thoughts and senses. Even when we think we have it all together, in the next random moment we are biting our fingernails or feeling the hair standing up on the back of our necks. As long as we have that almond-sized mass of gray matter in our brains called an amygdala, we will never escape the need to fight against or flee from a given situation.

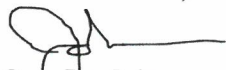
We have been told that the Bible contains these words 365 times, "Do not be afraid." One for every day. Why are those words printed so many times? Because we get scared. We are not immune to fear. When the angel Gabriel greets Mary for the first time, he doesn't say, "How have you been doing? Today been a good day for you?" No, the next words are, "Do not be afraid," because Mary is "greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be" (Luke 1:26-30). In other words, she was scared to death! When Jesus was walking across the water one night, he didn't call out to his disciples in the boat, saying, "Hey, dudes! What up?" He told them, "Take heart. It is I, do not be afraid," because they thought he was a ghost and cried out in fear (Matthew 14:25-27).

Then we turn to Psalm 23 and read, "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff – they comfort me" (vs. 4). There is a great threat in front of us. It is the deepest valley and darkest shadow that we must face and go through. We are shaking in our boots. We cannot travel the path on our own. We do not fear evil not because we are immune to it but because God is with us. God will take us through those valleys and shadows. Like a shepherd He is present to pull us away from evil or to defend us from it. It isn't anything we do – God does it all for us.

The words are positive: "Immune to Fear." We want to think that we can, with God's help, be untouched by fear. I think, however, a danger with saying these words is that it sounds like we have it made. It sounds like we have arrived to some place where nothing can ever touch us again. Well, we know that isn't true. Fear of anything or anyone still jumps out and scares the daylights out of us. It makes me think of what a Roman Catholic priest prays during the Lord's Prayer, "In your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety, as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ." Anxiety will find us. Fear will raise our blood pressure. We pray that, in our fear, God protects us. God shields us. God overcomes the fear with his love and peace.

If we want to be more Presbyterian about fear, then the T-shirt we could wear would say, "Becoming Immune to Fear through Jesus." We are on a journey with our God. Scripture passages like Psalm 23 illustrate the fact. We haven't arrived anywhere yet. We are moving forward, taking each step with God to get closer to paradise. We may shake in our boots, and God gives us the legs to travel. We may think we don't have the heart, but God gives us the will to push forward. Fear will pop up, and God will give us comfort. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are constantly speaking to us about peace and courage, showing us how to be more fearless every day.

Peace in Christ,



Rev. Dr. John

Prayer Requests



PRAYING FOR OUR MEMBERS, FAMILIES, & FRIENDS Our nation, Linda Williamson (friend of Coughlins), Albert Coughlin, Dee Patterson (George Kempson's nephew), Nathan Lillie (Norman & Linda's grandson), Cricket Miller (Judy Chapman's sister-in-law) Bob Brewer (YAH friend), Carol Bevil, Mary Bridges, Allene Brown, Ken & Janis Campbell, Bill & Lucie Cantrell, Marcia Cartledge, Stacy Clanton, Betty Colwell, Justin Cos, Felix Cruz, Gyovanna & Carolina Deangelis & Family, Lei Eason, Carol Forbes, Andra Gammage, Jessica Giddens, Susie Grant, John Haley, Julie Haney, Robb Haney, Bob Hardy, Betsy Hilliard, Jeannie Hodges, Betty Janes, Drayl Johnson, Patrick & Jessica Johnson, Tricia Koehler, Berniece Lillegard, Kendra Lomax, Doug & Stephanie Lozel, Don McGhee, Grandpa & Grandma Moriles, Kiyo Murakami, Judah Nunnally, Rev. Jim Street, Virginia Oswalt, Jean Palfrey, Doris Ragan, Beth Sexton, Steven Sterzik, Dylan Strauss, Lerna Tatlonghari, Craig Thorn, Brian Thrailkill, David Turner, Sr., James Uri, Sharon Veldsma, Beth Wheeler, Eddy Wheeler, Terry & Margie Williams, Susan Wolpin, 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.*

Presbyterian Women



PWCT, September 1, 7 p.m.— The next PWCT meeting will be on Tuesday, September 1, at 7 p.m. via Zoom.

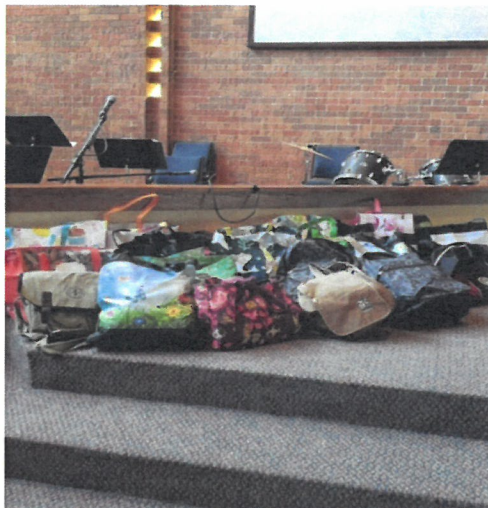
Virginia Dews Circle—No Meeting in September—The Virginia Dews Circle Leaders say, “Stay strong during this pandemic and know we WILL get together again. In the meantime, let your faith be stronger than your fear, and wear your mask and distance yourself.”

Dorcas Circle—No Meeting in September. Check out their full activities in the body of this newsletter.

Morning Glory Circle— Each Wednesday, 7 p.m. The Morning Glory Circle meets via Google Meet at 7 p.m. each Wednesday. All women are invited. Contact Andra Gammage or Dianne Hooten to be added to the weekly reminder and link email list. The group will be finishing their study, “*If: Trading Your If Only Regrets for God’s What If Possibilities*” by Mark Batterson. The group will soon begin a new study, “*You Are the Girl for the Job*” by Jess Connolly.

Presbyterian Women’s Honorary Lifetime Member to be honored Sunday, September 6, 2020. Our lifetime member, who was chosen right as COVID began and in-person services stopped, will be honored during the worship service this Sunday morning.

Hope Totes - PW 2020 Project



These 22 bags were prayed over by Pastor John during worship Sunday and will be distributed to Spalding Food Pantry and Calvary Refuge Center.

The 2020 Presbyterian Women’s Project is Hope Totes.

Many thanks to those who put together the first batch of bags—Pauline Buchanan, Jo Calhoun, Twarna Johnson, Libby McNair, and Mary Ann Moriles.

The PW are still collecting items to fill more totes.

Needed:

- Tote bags
- Individual snack items
- Small hygiene products
- Soaps, Sanitizers, washcloths, etc.
- Lap blankets and Socks
- We have plenty of toothbrushes and toothpaste. No more needed.

Thank you to those who have contributed to this project.

Online Trivia—Sept 11, 7 pm



Online Trivia Night
Sept 11 @ 7 PM

Do you think you have what it takes to be a trivia champion of MPC????

Participate in our online trivia night Sept 11 at 7:00.

Categories will challenge every age, so sign on with the family, and let's have some fun!

Oh, did I mention there will be a prize???? \$25 Amazon gift card to the winner!



Email Georgene Sneed @ georgenesneed@gmail.com to sign up. A Google Meet link will be sent out to participants ahead of the meeting time. You will need pen and paper!

Online Flower Arranging

Online Flower Arrangement Class
Sept 27th @ 6:30PM

Learn how to craft a beautiful flower arrangement for your home! We will be putting together a classic dozen roses arrangement (with a few surprises, of course).

\$20 to participate includes the vase and flowers in a kit with all the materials needed. You will need to pick up your flower kits at the church prior to the class online so sign up soon.



We will meet live on Google Meet to fellowship and put our bouquets together!

Please email Georgene Sneed @ georgenesneed@gmail.com to sign up before Sept 20th.

SNPS—Sept 20, 6:16 p.m.

Join us for the Sunday Night Praise Service on September 20, at 6:16 p.m.

You can join in-person through reservations at 770-961-5444.

Or, join us on Facebook Live—
www.facebook.com/morrowpresbyterianchurch

Dock Gammage will bring the message. The praise band will lead.



The Church Office will be closed
Monday, September 7,
for Labor Day.

Small Groups Church Use

Greetings! We are ready to start opening the church to small groups! We have regulations that we have to follow for contact tracing in case anyone contracts the virus. (These are not our rules, but regulations that have to be followed per the government, so we will render unto Caesar.)

We are asking at this time that you use the fellowship hall and restrooms only. We feel that it will be easier to spread 6 feet apart in the fellowship hall. **Please wear your mask. Masks are available if you do not have one.** We are also asking that you do not use the kitchen at this time.

On the cabinet in the lobby, we have a thermometer for taking individual temperatures. In the notebook you will find papers to list those who attended, their response to a few brief COVID questions, and other protocols to follow. Please clean and sanitize all of the areas that you use. Please know that we want to open up fully as soon as it is safe to do so. We are monitoring all recommendations from the Presbytery, State and CDC.

For now we are still taking reservations for church because of the tracing requirement. Hopefully, this will change and we will let you know. Please stay safe until we can all be together again! You all remain in our thoughts and prayers.

Love from the Open the Church Task Force

Christian Education Month



Virtual Adult Sunday School

9:30 a.m.

Taught by Allen Grant & Romy Moriles

Contact Andra Gammage for the link.

Virtual Young Adult Sunday School

9:30 a.m.

Contact Dock Gammage for the link.

Virtual Middle High Sunday School

9:30 a.m.

Contact Mary Ann Moriles for the link.

Morrow Presbyterian Church Kid's Club

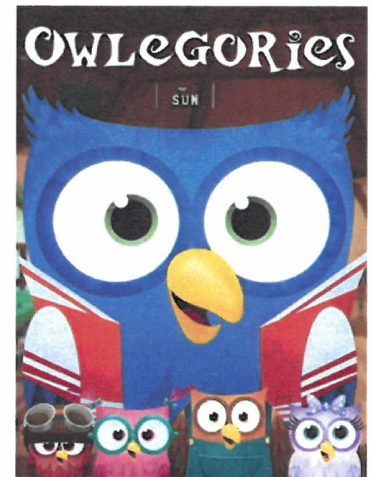
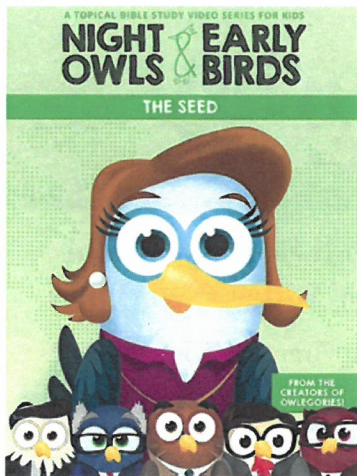
Welcome back to Kid's Club Starting on September 13th

Sunday nights online from 5:00 p.m. -6:00 p.m!

Ages 4-10 are invited to join our club for free!

There will be music, lessons, discussions, and activities for the kids to learn about God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

Pre-K—1st Grade will embark on a journey through Owlegories! Little ones will learn about nature, faith, and God through this wonderful series of adventure!



2nd Grade—5th Grade will dive deeper into the truths found in God's Word through this fun series. Experiencing the power of God and what it means to grow in faith and learn who he is!

Sign up online through www.morrowpresbyterian.org. We will be using Google Meet as the online platform for interaction. There will be a package delivered to your house that includes a weekly activity for your child to continue the fun and lesson through the week!

Communicant Received



Congratulations to Our 2020 Communicant! Our communicant, **Ivana Follykoe** was honored during the worship service when she joined on Sunday, August 30, 2020. Congratulations to her on her hard work (in class and virtually) and in making such an important decision.

In-Person Worship Service

Our in-person attendance each Sunday morning has been averaging around 33 people (this includes our beloved service dog, Bonny). If you would like to join us at the church, we currently have room for you.

Call 770-961-5444 to speak with the church office (Monday-Thursday) to put your name on the list. You may also send an email to mpcsecretary@bellsouth.net to add your name.

Thank You Note

From Don McGhee... With a full and joyous heart, I would like to thank my church family for all of the cards, phone calls and prayers during my recent cancer issues. I have recently completed all of my chemotherapy and immunotherapy treatments and am feeling well. I will be monitored for some time to check and update the status of the cancer. The issues were diagnosed early and we are expecting a positive recovery. What a blessing it is to have my extended church family *with me* during this difficult time. **THANK YOU!**

Census Information

The United States Census Bureau has asked us to help spread the word:

As of August 12, Clayton County is at 56.4% response rate for completing the U.S. Census. If you, or someone you know, has not yet completed your census, please use the following information to do so.

You can use the materials that were mailed to you or left at your door. All information that you provide will remain confidential.

If you do not have a Census ID, you can send an email to Lana.Labay@yahoo.com.

The Census website is <https://2020census.gov/en.html>

The phone number for households without computer capability is **1-844-330-2020**.

The Census helps determine the amount of funding that state government and local communities receive from the federal government. Population information is critical for emergency response in the wake of disasters. Secure funding for schools, libraries, and programs for youth and seniors.

CIRCLE UPDATE

DORCAS CIRCLE

The last meeting of the Dorcas Circle was held on March 10, 2020. No online conferences have been held. Several means of communication with varying results have been employed, however. It is important to keep in touch and to have members be apprised of what is happening with respect to our "family". To this end we report the following:

On April 20th we sent an update via email to most members. Letters or text messages were sent vi USPS to those for whom we have no email address.

Gentle reminders of our purpose and of the need to continue to provide funds to the circle and the manner by which to submit funds were sent to members on May 10.

Kathy Prince joined Pauline and Audrey in the plan to keep in touch by personal telephone calls to all the members at least once per month, more frequently as the Lord directs us.

Audrey sometimes sends short emails or text messages including updates regarding members of MPC and/or messages of hope and inspiration. These are sent to members who are ill or who have had traumatic experiences in their lives.

Messages to Emily Starr's daughter (Joanne Lorinovich) were sent during her hospitalization, and information from Joanne was communicated periodically to the Dorcas members.

On June 6th, Audrey and Pauline sent a reminder that we are still here, still wanting to reach out and touch.

Upon Emily's passing, the Dorcas Circle was advised, and per the family's wishes, a Memorial donation was made to MPC in her honor. Individual members were encouraged to make donations if they chose. No effort to monitor this activity was made.

Efforts to keep members apprised of the health conditions of Circle members and of members of MPC continue.

Reminders of the proposed projects, changes made because of the novel coronavirus COVID-19 and requests for funding to support the Circle mission are on-going. Responses from members have been positive.

Reports of the business of the PWCT to Dorcas members are ongoing via periodic updates.

Prayers for each other, for our church, for our nation and for our world continue.

SEPTEMBER

September Birthdays

9/4 - Suzanne Lukat
- Decker Sneed
9/5 - Dakota Gammage
9/6 - Don McGhee
- Shanna Robinson
9/7 - Susan Wolpin
9/8 - Margie Williams
9/9 - Linda Lillie
9/16 - Felix Follykoe
9/17 - Tanya Costa
- Ashlyn Tuttle
9/19 - Carol Bevil
9/22 - Frank Bradley
- Richard Buck
- Mack McKee
9/23 - Kibe Onuoha
- Maliki Marshall
9/24 - David Turner
9/29 - Haywood Fordham



September Anniversaries

9/3 - Jim & Marty LeDuke (32)
9/15 - Mark & Kim Patrus (42)
9/26 - Jacob & Jasmin Petroziello (3)
9/27 - George & Marsha Ann Kempson (42)



"If you feed your fear, your faith will starve. If you feed your faith, your fears will starve."

Max Lucado

Financial Health—August, 2020

August 2 - \$ 2,560.00
August 9 - \$ 5,274.16
August 16 - \$ 6,122.81
August 23 - \$ 1,863.60
August 30 - \$ 4,037.00
Online - \$ 771.00

Needed:
\$27,039.90
Received:
\$20,628.57



ELDERS ON CALL

- Primary: Donna Boggs
Secondary: Mary Dyche

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SERVICE PROJECT MONTH - Dorcas Circle

SEPTEMBER 2020

		1 6:30 p.m. Scouts 7 p.m. PWCT meeting Zoom	2 7 p.m. Morning Glory Google Meet	3 2—6 p.m. Community Food Pantry	4 Office closed	5 10 a.m. Butterfly Club In-person
6 9:30 am Virtual Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship In person by reser- vation Virtual by Facebook PW Lifetime Mem- bership Presentation NO Youth	7  LABOR DAY Office closed	8 6:30 p.m. Scouts 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting	9 7 p.m. Morning Glory Google Meet	10 2—6 p.m. Community Food Pantry	11 7 p.m. Online Trivia   Office closed	12
13 9:30 am Virtual Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship In person by reser- vation Virtual by Facebook 5:00 p.m. Youth 5:00 p.m. Kids Club Online	14 	15 6:30 p.m. Scouts	16 7 p.m. Morning Glory Google Meet	17 2—6 p.m. Community Food Pantry	18 Office closed	19
20 9:30 am Virtual Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship In person by reser- vation Virtual by Facebook 5:00 p.m. Youth 5:00 p.m. Kids Club Online 6:16 p.m. Sunday Night Praise Service In-Person (reservations) and Facebook Live	21	22 6:30 p.m. Scouts	23 7 p.m. Morning Glory Google Meet	24 2—6p.m. Community Food Pantry	25 Office closed	26
27 9:30 am Virtual Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship In person by reser- vation Virtual by Facebook 5:00 p.m. Youth 5:00 p.m. Kids Club Online 6:30 p.m. Online- Flower Arrange- ment Class	28 	29 6:30 p.m. Scouts	30 7 p.m. Morning Glory Google Meet			