

Volume 18, Issue 9

September 2025



MORROW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Morrow Presbyterian Herald

The Pastor's Pen



My Uncle Bill and Aunt Vivian live in the country outside Meadville, PA. During one of my visits, we were driving to a pottery store – my uncle is a potter – and we passed a small, gray, dilapidated church. My aunt asked, “John, do you know the story of that church?” and I said no. She said that my uncle wanted to purchase it in the mid-1960s, when the members put it up for sale. They wanted \$1200, building and acreage included. My uncle found the money, but the people in the surrounding area got involved. Why? They didn’t want a hippie living nearby, and my uncle was “the hippie” because of his long ‘60s hair. The members bowed to the people’s demands and sold everything to another man, someone the people knew well and apparently endorsed.

Over the years, that man, a so-called upright non-hippie, turned the building and property into an ugly junkyard. He didn’t care to keep the building nice, which my uncle would have done because he is an artist who enjoys beauty. He had no respect for what the property once symbolized, which my uncle would have done because he is a Christian. The owner turned something beautiful into an eyesore. When we passed the former church, it was rundown and unlivable. Rusted cars and dented refrigerators littered the front lawn with wild grass and weeds growing around. Long ago, the people of the surrounding area got what they wanted, but at what cost?

Sadly, we do it all the time: judge people by their outward appearance and not by their inward appearance. We see the way a teenager dresses and make snap judgments. We look at the color of someone’s skin and immediately feel uneasy. We listen to how people talk and decide if we should associate with them or not. If we do this, we fail to view people as God does, not looking at the outside but viewing what’s inside.

One of the classic passages in the Bible about judging others can be found in 1 Samuel 16. God called Samuel to find a king for Israel, and the prophet wanted to find the perfect man. Yet God said to him, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD sees not as man sees; man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart” (16:7). With that, David was chosen to be king, despite being short and the youngest of several strapping brothers.

God looks into our hearts and minds and examines them to find what is right or wrong. When God does, he imparts his love and grace in order to clean out what is wrong and to replace it with what is righteous (see Psalm 139:23-24). His hope is to find a home within us. That’s how God wants us to view others. Given that we might not act or think the same way, we ought to view people by their intentions and the fruit they bear. When we do, we should then find ways to get to know them better. We should discover their likes and dislikes (realizing that we may disagree), and love and support them in times of need, just as God does. By seeing what is inside someone’s heart, we may find new friends, partners in ministry, people just like us who need the love of God.

If those shortsighted people near that small, gray, dilapidated church would have looked beyond my uncle’s “hippie-ness,” they would have discovered a man who would have beautified his home and property with colorful and striking art. Years later, they would have met my uncle’s son who paints and sculpts wonderful works of art to the glory of God. They would have had more than what they have today.

Peace in Christ

Rev. Dr. John

Prayer Requests



PRAYING FOR OUR MEMBERS, FAMILIES, & FRIENDS Christopher Carlton, Family of Phyllis Haley (former member), Donna Boggs, Sheila McKee, Marie Tuttle, Barry Weems, Davis Family (friends of Rita Coughlin), Austin John, Moses Ayodele, Frank & Shirley Bradley, Jo Calhoun, Thomas Chukwura, Bill Coleman, Betty Colwell, Felix Cruz, Keith Danser, David Dawson, Terry & Mary Dyche, James & Lei Eason, Carol Erickson, Peter Farwell, Jessica Giddens, Wayne Goza, Stephanie Grant, 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, Tricia Koehler, Jim & Marty LeDuke, Berniece Lillegard, Bob & Suzanne Lukat, Rob Lukat, Sidney Lyell, Keith Maxey, Jim McNaull, Mary Ann Moriles, Florette Njonu, Rick Peel, John & Pat Randolph, Linda Reece, Roxie Romine, David Schuler, Dick Shaffer, Glenn Sharpe, Butch Stavely, David Swafford, Arrah Thomas, Cathy Trustorf, Gene Ussery, Debbie Valentine, Devon Valentine, Clay Verdell, 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 in the narthex.*

Presbyterian Women



PWCT, September 7, 12:15 p.m. The next PWCT meeting will be on Sunday, September 7, at 12:15 p.m. in the McNair/Seekers classroom.

Virginia Dews Circle, September 8, 6:00 p.m. The Virginia Dews Circle will meet Monday, September 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the church library. Lei Eason will lead the group in studying their new book, "Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ" - Lesson 1. The Project is Kroger gift cards (\$20) for the church office to hand out. In August, the group put together 35 traveling/homeless bags for the church office.

Dorcas Circle, September 9, 10 a.m. - The Dorcas Circle will meet Tuesday, September 9 at 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Jo Calhoun and Anne Fordham will lead the group in studying "Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ" - Lesson 1. Libby will have the devotion. Project: Diapers 4, 5, 6 for the food pantry.

Morning Glory Circle. The Morning Glory Circle invites all women to join them at the Women's Retreat here at MPC on Saturday, September 27, 10 a.m.—2 p.m. No cost. Lunch choice tickets available in the narthex.



Any news you would like to share with your church family?

Submissions should be sent in by September 22 for the October newsletter. You may bring them to the church office or email to mpcsecretary@bellsouth.net.

Cantata Practice Begins

It's time to start working on the Christmas Cantata!!



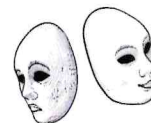
All singers are invited to join the Canterbury Choir as they prepare for this season's Cantata.

Wednesdays

6:45 p.m.

Beginning September 10

Women's Retreat



**Women's Retreat, September 27
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

Who's Behind the Mask? All women are invited to the annual women's retreat. This year the retreat will be here at the church with Marie Tuttle leading.

There is no cost and lunch will be included.

To sign up, please fill out your lunch order on the "tickets" that can be found in the narthex or sign up online.



**The Church Office will be closed
Monday, September 1, 2025
for Labor Day.**

REV. & MRS. JOHN CALLAHAN JR. REQUEST
THE HONOR OF YOUR PRESENCE
AT THE MARRIAGE OF THEIR DAUGHTER

AMANDA LYNN

to

JAMES HENRY JONES

OCTOBER | 18 | 2025

AT TWO O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

MORROW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6171 HUIE DRIVE

MORROW, GEORGIA 30260

*Light reception to follow
in the Fellowship Hall*



All kids ages 4 years-5th grade are invited to join us. There is music, Bible lessons, recreation, and food. The kids learn about God's love for us.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!! Please contact Twarna Johnson at church or on her cell 678-683-8030.

Young at Heart Lunch

Young at Heart Lunch, September 3, 11:30 a.m.

Please join the Young at Heart for lunch on Wednesday, September 3, at 11:30 a.m.

They will meet at LongHorn Steakhouse in Morrow.

Please let Bruce or Libby know if you plan to attend.

World Communion Sunday & Lunch, October 5



October 5. The first Sunday in October is designated as World Communion Sunday, which celebrates our oneness in Christ with all our brothers and sisters around the world.

The worship committee is making plans now and wants to be sure to include everyone who worships with us and originates from a country other than the US. the list will be displayed in the narthex (lobby) for review so that persons whose names are not on the list can add theirs.

If possible people should bring flags representing their countries on that day

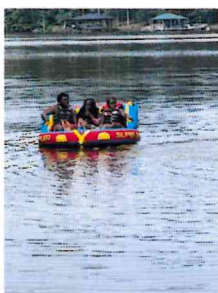
Please contact Ngozi Bivins, Mary Ann Moriles, or the church office and let us know what country you hail from and what languages you speak.

Join us for lunch following the worship service and communion.

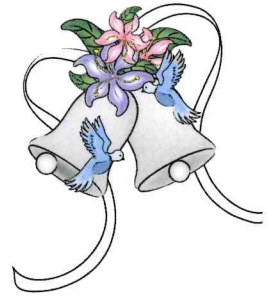
- If you have clothing that represents your heritage, please wear it.
- Bring a dish to share at the church luncheon following the service.
- If you speak another language, please let us know!



Family of Friends Life Group at the Lake



Amanda Callahan's Bridal Shower



SEPTEMBER 2025

September Birthdays

9/3 - Alvin Gnofammani
 9/4 - Decker Sneed
 9/5 - Dakota Holloway
 9/6 - Don McGhee
 - Shanna Robinson
 9/9 - Linda Lillie
 9/16 - Felix Follykoe
 9/17 - Tanya Costa
 - Ashlyn McNabb
 9/19 - Georgina Onuoha
 9/22 - Frank Bradley
 - Mack McKee
 9/23 - Kibe Onuoha
 9/24 - David Turner
 9/29 - Haywood Fordham



September Anniversaries

9/3 - Jim & Marty LeDuke (37)
 9/26 - Jacob & Jasmin Petroziello (8)
 9/27 - George & Marsha Ann Kempson (47)



WE LOVE
 OUR VOLUNTEERS

ELDERS ON CALL

Primary: Augustine Agbo
 Secondary: Dock Gammage

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SERVICE PROJECT MONTH

Dorcas Circle

USHERS

Shawn & Be Butcher, Captains;
 Linda Lillie, Gary Johnson,
 Mary Ann Moriles

CHILDREN'S SERMON

7 - Pastor John
 14 - Dock Gammage
 21 - Allen Grant
 28 - Deborah Venizelos

LITURGIST

7 - James Eason
 14 - Deborah Venizelos
 21 - Otis Onuoha
 28 - James Eason

COUNTING TEAM

Allen Grant & Deborah Venizelos



SUNDAY ATTENDANCE for August 2025

SUNDAY SCHOOL

August 3 - 18
 August 10 - 20
 August 17 - 19
 August 24 - 18
 August 31 - reported in Sept

IN PERSON & ONLINE WORSHIP

August 3 - 70
 August 10 - 61
 August 17 - 72
 August 24 - 68
 August 31 - reported in Sept

Financial Health—August 2025

August 3	-	\$ 8,865.50	<u>Needed:</u>
August 10	-	\$ 3,537.77	\$ 22,976.60
August 17	-	\$ 7,987.00	
August 24	-	\$ 3,352.00	<u>Received:</u>
August 31	-	\$ reported in Sept	
Online	-	\$ 2,988.25	\$ 26,730.52

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:





SEPTEMBER 2025



	<p><i>1 Office Closed for Labor Day</i></p> 	<p>2</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Scouts</p>	<p>3</p> <p>11:30 a.m. YAH Lunch at LongHorn</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Peacemakers Life Group</p> <p>3—6 p.m. Community Food Pantry</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7</p> <p>9:45 a.m. Sunday School</p> <p>11 a.m. Worship In person and Facebook Live</p> <p>12:15 p.m. PWCT</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Youth</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Virginia Dews</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10 a.m. Dorcas Circle</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Scouts</p> <p>7 p.m. Session</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:45 p.m. Choir Practice</p>	<p>11</p> <p>3—6 p.m. Community Food Pantry</p> 	<p>12</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14</p> <p>9:45 am Sunday School</p> <p>11 a.m. Worship In person and Facebook Live—Communion</p> <p>NO Youth or Kid's Club</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Scouts</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Living Branch Life Group</p> <p>6:45 p.m. Choir Practice</p>	<p>18</p> <p>3—6 p.m. Community Food Pantry</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21</p> <p>9:45 am Sunday School</p> <p>11 a.m. Worship In person and Facebook Live</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Youth</p> <p>5 p.m. Kids Club Kick-Off</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Scouts</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:45 p.m. Choir Practice</p>	<p>25</p> <p>3-6 p.m. Community Food Pantry</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Office closed</p>	<p>27</p> <p>10 a.m.—2 p.m. Women's Retreat at MPC</p> 
<p>28</p> <p>9:45 am Sunday School</p> <p>11 a.m. Worship In person and Facebook Live</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Youth</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Kids Club</p>	<p>29</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Scouts</p>	<p>LABOR DAY</p> 			