

Volume 14, Issue 1

January 2021



MORROW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Morrow Presbyterian Herald

## THE PASTOR'S PEN

You know how people declare on the first day of the New Year that the last year was such a bummer. "Last year was so awful," people say. "We are so glad this New Year finally arrived. It's going to be so much better."

Well, I can say without a doubt that 2020 was more than a bummer. It was the worst year we ever experienced. I would like to find one person who can say any other year was worse than the one which had a pandemic controlling every move we made. Plans were altered. Events were canceled. People unfortunately became sick and some passed away. 2020 was truly a rotten year.

Still, we get that familiar feeling with a New Year arriving. We begin to believe that things could turn out better for 2021. We can start again – we can start anew. It might take a little time, since COVID isn't finished with us yet. However, something is different. We are not at the beginning or middle of this virus. It feels like we are at the end, especially with new vaccines being distributed. We are closing a strange chapter in order to begin a new and exciting one. With the New Year good changes are going to come sooner or later.

In order to get in tune with those possible changes, we need to get in tune with God. Developing a better relationship with God is vital, and what better time to start than now? In order to have a richer, healthier, more intimate relationship with God, we could follow the list below:

**Begin a devotional:** Find books that offer 30-day or 365-day devotionals. Pick up a *Daily Bread* at the church and follow each lesson each day. Make it a habit to be with God.

**Read the Bible in a year:** If need be, find a Bible that provides a list of chapters and verses to read each day. Or, just start with the Psalms and read one a day. One hundred and fifty Psalms will cover nearly half the year. Insert a Gospel reading as a supplemental. Make it a habit to be with God.

**Pray more often:** Set aside 5 to 10 minutes per day to pray. Maybe the best time for you in the morning, in the evening, or during lunch. Just talk with God about anything. Ask God to open your ears so you may hear him. Make it a habit to be with God.

**Take on a ministry:** Whether it is church-related or not, ask God how you can be used. What are you missing, in which you and God may work together to do something wonderful for God's kingdom? Make it a habit to be with God.

**Worship God every week:** Whether you are an avid church attender or not, make it a priority to attend worship every single Sunday. Online or in the sanctuary, be in church. On vacation or resting on the weekend from work, be in church. Make it a habit to be with God.

I know that's not quite a Top Ten List – it only covers five ideas to implement. As you work on those five above, five more ideas may come to you.

Hopefully, we get the picture that we all have to grow in our relationship with God through Christ and the Holy Spirit, or else we will not grow at all. In this New Year, God is still molding and shaping us. God is doing a new thing right here and right now. We want to be a part of all that God is doing. We want a fuller awareness of who God is in us and around us. Use this New Year as the means by which we may grow in a rich, intimate relationship.

Never stop, even when January is gone. Keep praying and reading and serving and worshipping the One whose abundant life for us is always new.

Peace in Christ, Rev. Dr. John

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "John", written over a horizontal line.

## Prayer Requests

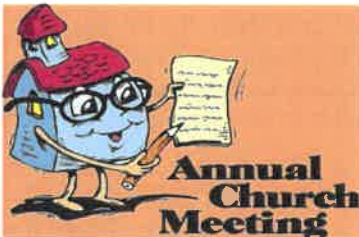
**PRAYING FOR OUR MEMBERS, FAMILIES, & FRIENDS** Our nation, Marie Tuttle, Susan Wolpin, Frank Warlick, Roger Reece, Carol Bevil, Mary Bridges, Allene Brown, Pauline Buchanan, Ken & Janis Campbell, Bill & Lucie Cantrell, Teresa Carpenter, Marcia Cartledge, Judy Chapman, Stacy Clanton, Archer Cocina, Betty Colwell, Felix Cruz, Felix Follykoe, Betty Gammage, Jessica Giddens, Corazon Gonsalves, Ronald & Marie Goza, Susie Grant, Kathy Griffin, Robb Haney, David Hardegre, Bob Hardy, Betsy Hilliard, Jeannie Hodges, Betty Janes, Drayl Johnson, Patrick & Jessica Johnson, Debbie King, Berniece Lillegard, Doug & Stephanie Lozel, Don McGhee, Grandpa & Grandma Moriles, Pat Mullane, Debbie Noon, Judah Nunnally, Shannon Palmer, Ivan Paramanandam, Doris Ragan, Connie Sans, Isabel Sierra, Steven Sterzik, Rev. Jim Street, Carol, David and Christopher Switzer (Pastor John's sister & nephews), Betsy Taylor, Brian Thrailkill, Laraine Tinsley, David Turner, Sr., James Uri, Sharon Veldsma, Sharon Walton, Carolyn Weems, Terry & Margie Williams, Linda Williamson, Jeff Wooden. 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.

## Christmas Greetings



**Christmas Greetings to Morrow Presbyterian Church from...** Judy Chapman & Family, Columbia Seminary, Margaret Cofie & Family, Tim Covert (Dependable Computer Service), Jim & Lei Eason, Haywood & Anne Fordham, Good Shepherd Clinic, The Jennifer Drake Family, Susan Harris, Jesse, Melissa, Noah, and Amelia Henderson, Ronnie, Dianne, and Matthew Hooten, Kendall & Vickie Loper, Libby McNair, Marilyn Mitchell, The Moriles Family, Roxie Romine & family, Samaritan's Purse, Dick & Kay Shaffer, Audrey & Willie Sharpe, the Venizelos Family, and Mary Nell Winkles.

## Congregational/Corporation Meeting



### **Congregational/Corporation Meeting – January 10, 2021, 12 noon.**

There will be a congregational/corporation meeting following the worship service on Sunday, January 10, for the purpose of presenting the 2021 Budget, approving the Treasurer for 2021, approving a Trustee for Class of 2023, and approving the Pastor's Terms of Call.

## Sanctuary Flowers



**Sanctuary Flowers.** The 2021 Flower Calendar is now available. Every date in the first quarter is currently available. If you would like to put flowers in the sanctuary, the flower calendar is on the library window. You may put the flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one or for a special occasion. You will be billed directly by Morrow Florist. Cost: \$48.60

## Sunday Night Praise Service Jan 17, 6:16 p.m.



Join us in the sanctuary or online for a time of worship and song at our Contemporary Worship Service beginning at 6:16 p.m.

## Offering Envelopes



**2021 Offering Envelopes.** 2021 Offering Envelopes are now available near the library. If you would like a set of envelopes, and don't see your name, please see Dianne Hooten.

## Elder Ordination / Installation



**Ordination/Installation of Elders, January 10, 11 a.m.** The new elders for 2021 and 2022 will be installed on Sunday, January 10, 2021 during the 11 a.m. worship service. Those to be installed 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. A special thank-you to all of our session members who give of their time to serve Morrow Presbyterian Church in this capacity. Please remember to pray for all of our session members as they make decisions regarding MPC, and especially our newest elders as they begin their service.

## Presbyterian Women

**Morning Glory Circle—January 13, 7 p.m.** The Morning Glory Circle Bible Study is open to all women. The group meets each Wednesday through Google Meet. Contact Dianne Hooten for the link. We are currently studying the book “Nice” by Sharon Hodde Miller.

**PWCT—January 10, 2 p.m.** The PWCT will meet via Zoom.

**Virginia Dews Circle, January 11, 6:30 p.m.** The Virginia Dews Circle will meet on January 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. If you would like to join the group online, please contact Deborah Venizelos. Libby McNair has the devotion. Project: Money for the MPC Food Pantry

**Dorcas Circle—** Please keep in touch with other via phone, mail, or email.

## PW Retreat Postponed



**Women’s Retreat Postponed.** Due to the continued need to social distance due to COVID, the Women’s Retreat for January 2021 has been postponed until a later date.

## Men’s Bible Study

**Men’s Bible Study—Thursday nights at 7 p.m.**

All men are welcome and encouraged to attend the virtual Bible studies each Thursday night. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Dock Gammage at [33gammage@gmail.com](mailto:33gammage@gmail.com).

## Thank You Notes...

**From Pastor John...** Tamara and I would like to thank the congregation for their generous Love Offering which came to us during worship on December 20. It was unexpected, and yet it feels great to know how appreciated we are. We are happy to serve Morrow Church with joy.

I would like to thank the Morrow Staff and all who put together each Sunday service for us. I am thankful for your time and dedication in making sure we can worship our Lord and Savior both near and far. Your ministry is vital and precious to our church, for with you the message of salvation is able to reach us during this strange and interesting time. Neither disease nor disorder will stop the message of Jesus Christ to go out, you always make sure of that. Thank you so much!

**From Twarna Johnson...** Thank you for all your hard work during these difficult times. Through it all we made a difference. We distributed a total of 188 Hope Totes this year! I can’t thank you enough for supporting the PW Mission Project for 2020! Many thanks to all who brought in items and to those who came in 4 different times to fill the bags. A special thank you to the Tuttle Family for making 110 sack lunches this last time to include in the bags.

**From Dianne Hooten...** Thank you so much for the love offering you gifted me with this Christmas. Our congregation is very good at showing their appreciation all through the year, and then again at Christmas time. Thank you for making it such a blessing to work at MPC.

**From Libby McNair...** Dear MPC Congregation, Thank you so much for the gift. It was a surprise. The church has many volunteers, and I’m glad to be one of them. Every volunteer has a gift to offer, but especially their time. Love in Christ!

**From Sharon Goza...** Dear MPC Congregation, Thank you so much for your love offering gift. It is my joy and honor to serve the Lord here at MPC, and I love my church family. I wish each of you a happy, healthy 2021!

**From Bruce, Carol, and Corey Campbell...** Dear Church Family, Thank you so much for your generous gifts to us this Christmas! It is our pleasure to do what we do and look forward to when we all can be together mask free. You all are a blessing!

**From the Worship Ministry Team...** Thank you to all who helped “down the browns” after Christmas— Dock & Andra Gammage, Bruce & Carol Campbell, Donna Boggs, Albert & Luis Coughlin, Sharon Goza, Libby McNair, Deborah Venizelos, Romy & Mary Ann Moriles, and Nelson Ayodele.

**From the Congregation...** A huge thank you to Arrah Thomas for the absolutely wonderful job she did putting together our Christmas Eve Service! It was truly an amazing gift to the congregation and anyone who watched. Thank you to everyone who gave their time to participate in the production.







## Know Your History

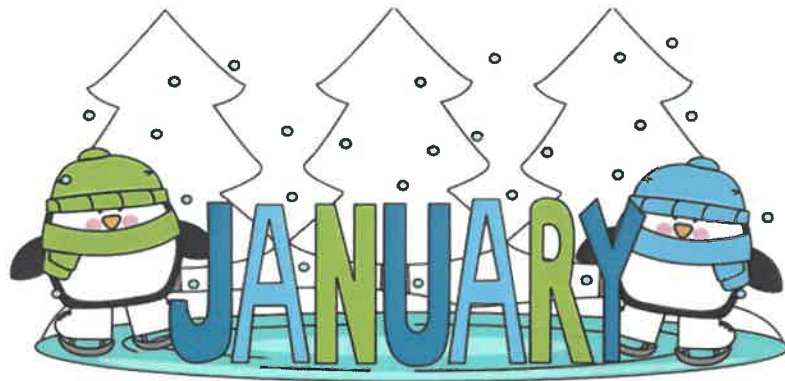
It's your historian again. This time I come to you with questions for your edification. (We don't like the words quiz and test, right?) Don't worry, there will not be a grade, and only you need to know how well you did. Below are just a few "FIRST" questions about MPC.

### Questions

- (1) MPC's first worship service was held on...  
a) April 5, 1960    b) January 5, 1964    c) March 1, 1964.
- (2) The number of charter members for MPC is...  
a) 44    b) 50    c) 55.
- (3) The first pastor installed, May 10, 1964, at MPC was...  
a) Thomas Dews    b) Earl Stewart    c) Frank Havlicek.
- (4) Choose the first couple to be married at MPC on April 10, 1965.  
a) Jackie and Stephen McLeod    b) Phyllis McLeod and John Haley    c) Mary Jones and John Doe.
- (5) Ruth Ann White was the first infant baptized at MPC on...  
a) April 11, 1965    b) February 12, 1964    c) May 3, 1964.
- (6) Dr. John Callahan preached his first sermon as MPC Pastor on...  
a) April 1, 2008    b) May 4, 2008    c) May 11, 2008.
- (7) The first Renewal Services for three area churches were held on May 22, May 23 and May 24 in the year of our Lord...  
a) 2004    b) 2009    c) 2010.
- (8) Name the first Youth Choir Director(s) at MPC.  
a) Steve McLeod    b) Reverend and Mrs. Thomas M. Dews    c) Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth B. Campbell.
- (9) The first remodeling of MPC's current building was completed in...  
a) 1976    b) 1977    c) 1978.
- (10) The first Neighborhood Block Party was held on...  
a) July 14, 2018    b) August 3, 2019    c) September 15, 2019.
- (11) Following church closure occasioned by the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, MPC opened its doors for Sunday worship **without** the need for reservations, but with several safety measures in place on...  
a) May 5, 2020    b) September 27, 2020    c) October 18, 2020
- (12) Which family figured most significantly in the development and production of the 2020 Christmas Eve Video?  
a) the Grant/Thomas Family    b) the Campbell Family  
c) The Callahan Family
- (13) In 2020, Twarna Johnson spearheaded \_\_\_\_\_, a project of Morrow PW for which non-perishable food items, personal care items, blankets, gloves, hats and sundries were collected and distributed to area people in need.  
a) Hope Floats    b) Hope Totes    c) Hope Coats

*Answers: 1b; 2a; 3c; 4b; 5c; 6b; 7a; 8c; 9b; 10a; 11c; 12a; 13b*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>2</b> <b>0</b> <b>2</b> <b>1</b>			<b>1</b>  <b>Office closed</b>	<b>2</b> <b>10 a.m.</b> <b>Butterfly Club</b>
<b>3</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Virtual Sunday School <b>11 a.m.</b> Worship In person and Virtual by Facebook <b>5:00 p.m.</b> Youth Club Online <b>5:00 p.m.</b> Kids Club Online	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <b>7 p.m.</b> Morning Glory Google Meet	<b>7</b> <b>2-6 p.m.</b> Community Food Pantry <b>7 p.m.</b> Men's Bible Study—Google Meet	<b>8</b> <b>Office closed</b>	<b>9</b> <b>NO</b> Session Retreat (cancelled)
<b>10</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Virtual Sunday School <b>Communicants begins</b> <b>11 a.m.</b> Worship In person and Virtual by Facebook <b>Elder Installation</b> <b>12 p.m.</b> Congregational Meeting <b>2 p.m.</b> PWCT Zoom Meeting <b>5:00 p.m.</b> Youth Club Online <b>5:00 p.m.</b> Kids Club Online	<b>11</b> <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Virginia Dews	<b>12</b> <b>7 p.m.</b> Session (virtual)	<b>13</b> <b>7 p.m.</b> Morning Glory Google Meet	<b>14</b> <b>2-6 p.m.</b> Community Food Pantry <b>7 p.m.</b> Men's Bible Study—Google Meet	<b>15</b> <b>Office closed</b>	<b>16</b> <b>NO</b> Women's Retreat (postponed) 
<b>17</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Virtual Sunday School <b>Communicants</b> <b>11 a.m.</b> Worship In person and Virtual by Facebook <b>5:00 p.m.</b> Youth Club Online <b>5:00 p.m.</b> Kids Club Online <b>6:16 p.m.</b> SNPS	<b>18</b> <b>Office Closed</b> 	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>7 p.m.</b> Morning Glory Google Meet	<b>21</b> <b>2-6 p.m.</b> Community Food Pantry <b>7 p.m.</b> Men's Bible Study—Google Meet	<b>22</b> <b>Office closed</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24 / 31</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Virtual Sunday School <b>Communicants</b> <b>11 a.m.</b> Worship In person and Virtual by Facebook <b>5:00 p.m.</b> Youth Club Online <b>5:00 p.m.</b> Kids Club Online	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>7 p.m.</b> Morning Glory Google Meet	<b>28</b> <b>2-6 p.m.</b> Community Food Pantry <b>7 p.m.</b> Men's Bible Study—Google Meet	<b>29</b> <b>Office closed</b>	<b>30</b>



## January Birthdays

- 1/1 - Agnes Noel
- 1/1 - Jaya Robinson
- 1/5 - Manuel Moriles
- 1/6 - Laura Howard
- 1/6 - Willie Sharpe
- 1/7 - Pauline Buchanan
- 1/7 - Moses Ayodele
- 1/8 - Parker Callahan
- 1/9 - Justin Cos
- 1/9 - Amari Chukwura-Nichols
- 1/10 - JoAnn Schrepfer
- 1/11 - Florette Njonu
- 1/13 - Bill Cantrell
- 1/17 - Amanda Callahan
- 1/17 - Anna Laster
- 1/21 - Lucie Cantrell
- 1/26 - Robert Venizelos
- 1/27 - Onuoha Onuoha
- 1/27 - Jacob Petroziello
- 1/29 - Tori Laster
- 1/29 - Callen Sneed (1)
- 1/30 - Romy Moriles
- 1/31 - Reggie Howard



## January Anniversaries

- 1/4 - Thomas & Ugo Chukwura (45)
- 1/24 - Romy & Mary Ann Moriles (34)
- 1/26 - Mike & Georgene Sneed (8)

**ELDERS ON CALL** - Mary Dyche, *Primary* and Carol Campbell, *Alternate*

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SERVICE PROJECT MONTH**  
Morning Glory Circle

**Every Weakness  
you have is an opportunity  
for God to show  
His strength in your life.**

My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.  
2 Corinthians 12:9

<u>Financial Health—December 2020</u>		
December 6	- \$ 7,361.00	
December 13	- \$ 8,899.00	<b>Needed:</b>
December 20	- \$ 5,421.75	<b>\$ 21,631.92</b>
December 27	- \$ 6,569.00	
End of Year	- \$ 1,750.00	<b>Received:</b>
Online	- \$ 1,089.00	<b>\$ 31,089.75</b>



# Christmas At MPC 2020



**Virginia Dews**



**Youth**



**Hope Totes Packing Party**



**Scouts Parade Float**



**Middle School**



**First Sunday of Advent—  
The Tenson Pitchaimani Family**



**Second Sunday of Advent—  
The Hootens**



**Third Sunday of Advent—  
The Callahan Family**



**Fourth Sunday of Advent—  
The Gammage Family**



**Christmas SNPS Service**



**Handbells**