

Volume 18
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November 2025



Happy Thanksgiving

MORROW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Morrow Presbyterian Herald

The Pastor's Pen



Do you like interruptions? If you are like me, you probably don't.

When I am focused on writing a sermon, or even a Pastor's Pen, the last thing I need is for something or someone to break my concentration. When I am driving to a place I cannot find, I need to pay close attention to the GPS and not miss a turn that I should make. When I am fighting the final boss in a videogame, please do not interrupt me. I will not press Pause, because this bad guy must be vanquished posthaste! We may all agree that we do not like to be interrupted. In our work or play, even in our sleep, we do not need to stop and address some other thing. It is annoying. It is difficult to get back to what we were doing, especially if it is sleeping.

You know by now that my spiritual guru is Henri J.M. Nouwen, the Dutch Catholic priest, professor, writer, and theologian who was known for writing the book *The Wounded Healer*. He says that he once met an old professor at the University of Notre Dame, and they were talking about his teaching career. The professor said with a funny twinkle in his eyes: "I have always been complaining that my work was constantly interrupted until I slowly discovered that my interruptions were my work." He realized that his normal, day-to-day work was important, but what was equally important, if not more so, was when he was interrupted. Nouwen didn't give any specific instances, but we could assume some of those interruptions included a student popping by with a troubling question, having extended coffee breaks with colleagues, or exploring a spontaneous topic in class that he did not plan.

Nouwen says, "That is the great conversion in our life: to recognize and believe that the many unexpected events are not just disturbing interruptions of our projects, but the way in which God molds our hearts and prepares us for his return. When our good plans are interrupted by poor weather, our peace of mind by inner turmoil, our hope for peace by a new war, our desire for a stable government by a constant changing of the guards, and our desire for immortality by real death, we are tempted to give in to a paralyzing boredom or to strike back in destructive bitterness. But when we believe that patience can make our expectations grow, then fate can be converted into a vocation, wounds into a call for deeper understanding, and sadness into a birthplace of joy." An interruption may not sidetrack us but give us a new opportunity to serve others. A distraction may not break our concentration but make us concentrate on the vital thing God wants us to do right now.

Think about the many times Jesus was interrupted. Ministry would happen not just in certain locations but also along the way to those locations (ex. Matthew 8:1-13 and Luke 7:11-17). Ministry would happen whether he planned for it or not (ex. Mark 2:1-12 and John 8:1-11). Sometimes it is like that for us: we choose a certain path, because it is what we normally do or because we choose it on a certain day, but then God shows us another way to go. We must follow it. It is an interruption, and we should interrupt our regularly scheduled program to use our efforts in the best ways. We find those "side streets" are just important in our ministry. Maybe we soon realize the interruptions are our main ministry.

Peace in Christ,

Rev. Dr. John

Prayer Requests



PRAYING FOR OUR MEMBERS, FAMILIES, & FRIENDS Camille Lillie (Ben Lillie's daughter), Jamaica, Cuba, James Eason, Tricia Koehler, Deborah Venizelos, Anne & Haywood Fordham, Frank & Shirley Bradley, Jo Calhoun, Christopher Carlton, Thomas Chukwura, Bill Coleman, Betty Colwell, Felix Cruz, Keith Danser, Davis Family, David Dawson,, James & Lei Eason, Carol Erickson, Peter & Mary Farwell, Jessica Giddens, Olen Grubbs, Julie Haney, Bob & Gail Hardy, Betsy Hilliard, Jeannie Hodges, Thuan & Jun Hong, Austin John, 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, Judy McKinney, Jim McNaul, Florette Njonu, Rick Peel, John & Pat Randolph, Linda Reece, Roxie Romine, David Schuler, Dick Shaffer, Glenn Sharpe, Butch Stavely, David Swafford, Arrah Thomas, Laraine Tinsley, Cathy Trustorf, Marie Tuttle, Gene Ussery, Rebekah Venizelos, Clay Verdell, Barry Weems, David Weems, Debbie Westover, Gene Williams, and Terry Williams. Our country, Philippine Earthquake victims, Our Military, Missionaries, School/College Teachers & Students, Food Pantry Patrons.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to our newest married couple, James & Amanda (Callahan) Jones!

James and Amanda were married here at MPC on Saturday, October 18, 2025.

The couple will reside in Kennesaw.

Best wishes



“I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.”

Psalm 9:1

Presbyterian Women



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW Installation, November 2, 11 a.m. The installation for our 2026 PW Officers will be during the worship service on Sunday, November 2. All women are encouraged to support our new slate of officers.

Virginia Dews Circle, November 10, 6:00 p.m. Virginia Dews Circle will meet on Monday, November 10, at 6:00 p.m. at the church. Our lesson will be Lesson 3, “*Jesus Is Tested*” from our Bible study. Project will be Toys for Tots. Please join us for Bible study and fellowship.

Dorcas Circle, November 11, 10 a.m. The Dorcas Circle will meet on Tuesday, November 11, at 10 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Tricia Koehler will present Lesson 3 “*Jesus Is Tested*” from our workbook. Sharon Goza will do the devotion. Project for November is cookies or packaged foods for firemen and policemen of Morrow. The cookies should be wrapped in plastic wrap or placed in a baggie.

Morning Glory Circle, November 16, 9:30 a.m. The Morning Glory Circle will meet on Sunday, November 16 at 9:30 a.m. in the Arnold/Bates classroom. All women are invited to join the group. The current study is Lesson 2 from “*Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ*” Carol Campbell is our Bible Moderator.

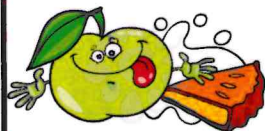
Toys for Tots—Deadline December 5. The Presbyterian Women are collecting for Toys for Tots again this year. Please bring new, unwrapped toys to the church by December 5 and place them in the sleigh outside of the library.

Coming Soon

- | | | |
|--------------------|---|---|
| November 30 | - | First Sunday of Advent |
| December 14 | - | Canterbury Choir's Christmas Cantata—11 a.m. |
| | | Kids Club Program with Dinner included—5:30 p.m. |



YAH Nov 5, 11:30 am



The Young at Heart will be meeting at O'Charley's on Wednesday, November 5, at 11:30 a.m. for lunch.

Please let either Libby McNair or Bruce Campbell know if you will be joining the group.

YAH of any age are welcome.

DON'T FORGET!



November 2



Christmas Cantata Practice, Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m.

Canterbury Choir's Christmas Cantata Practice, Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m. - The choir has begun practice on their Christmas Cantata. This is a wonderful opportunity for those not able to commit to choir every week to participate for a season. Please join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:45 p.m.

Church Yard Sale, November 15, 9 a.m.—1 p.m.

Church Yard Sale, November 15, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. The Scouts, Youth, and Kids Club will be having a yard sale to support their three groups. If you have any items you wish to donate, please contact Andra Gammage (770-596-6928) or David Turner (404-361-8655).

Please spread the word to everyone you know that likes to shop for good deals. All of the proceeds from this sale will go to support all of our kids ministries here at the church (Kids Club, Youth Group, and Scouts).

Thanksgiving Dinner & Service, Nov. 23, 5:00 p.m.



Thanksgiving Dinner & Service

Sunday, November 23

Dinner at 5:00 p.m. **** Service at 6:30 p.m.



The Turner Family will provide our turkey, dressing, and dessert. Please bring your favorite side and join your church family for food and fellowship. Sign up in the narthex or call the church office to sign up for supper. We will have a worship service after supper in the fellowship hall.

Hanging of the Greens, November 23, 12:15 p.m.



Hanging of the Greens – November 23, 12:15 p.m. Please make plans to help us prepare the sanctuary for Christmas. The First Sunday of Advent is November 30.

We will be hanging the greens after worship November 23. Come help us deck the hall for the celebration of Jesus' birth! Your help is needed!



Thank You From Pastor John & Tamara... *"We want to thank you for coming to our daughter's wedding on October 18. It was a wonderful day to celebrate Amanda's and James's new life together. Thanks, also, to the Gammages and Daya Tenson who made a special effort to clean and tidy the church and decorations, creating a welcoming atmosphere on our family's big day. And, to those who made cookies, we greatly appreciate your talents in making some delicious desserts."*

Fall Festival 2025



Presbyterian Women 2025

General Meeting / Salad Luncheon 2025



Remembering those we've lost this year.





NOVEMBER 2025



November Birthdays

11/1 - Deborah Venizelos
 11/6 - Marilyn Mitchell
 11/8 - Donna Boggs
 - Albert Coughlin
 - Gary Johnson
 - Hunter Weems
 11/22 - Richard Venizelos
 - Jamari Lewis
 11/23 - Carol Francis
 11/24 - Georgina Onuoha
 - Terry Williams
 11/25 - Jo Calhoun
 - Tamara Mickles
 11/26 - Shirley Bradley
 - Shane Turner
 11/27 - Terry Broom Jr.
 11/29 - Milo Hooten (1)
 11/30 - Annie Johnson



November Anniversaries

11/1 - Norman & Linda Lillie (56)
 11/16 - Patrick & Jessica Johnson (6)
 11/23 - James & Lei Eason (64)
 11/30 - Robert & Deborah Venizelos (40)



WE LOVE
 OUR VOLUNTEERS

ELDERS ON CALL

Primary: Ngozi Bivins
 Secondary: Deborah Venizelos

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SERVICE PROJECT MONTH

Virginia Dews Circle

USHERS

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

LITURGIST

2 - Andra Gammage
 9 - Otis Onuoha
 16 - Dock Gammage
 23 - Mary Dyche
 30 - Youth

CHILDREN'S SERMON

2 - Pastor John
 9 - Allen Grant
 16 - Dock Gammage
 23 - Deborah Venizelos
 30 - Youth

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

2 - Aku Sodjavi
 9 - Mary Ann Moriles
 16 - Susie Grant
 23 - Carol Campbell
 30 - Ngozi Bivins

COUNTING TEAM

Jo Calhoun, Deborah Venizelos

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

SUNDAY SCHOOL

October 5 - 18
 October 12 - 16
 October 19 - 27
 October 26 - 23

IN PERSON & ONLINE WORSHIP

October 5 - 73
 October 12 - 75
 October 19 - 71
 October 26 - 69

Financial Health—October, 2025

October 5 - \$ 6,266.87
 October 12 - \$ 9,363.00
 October 19 - \$ 5,471.00
 October 26 - \$ 3,422.00
 Online - \$ 988.78

Needed:
 \$ 22,976.60
Received:
 \$ 25,511.65

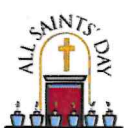


Ways to give to Morrow Presbyterian Church:

- 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:



NOVEMBER 2025

2 8:00 a.m. Staff Mtg, IHOP 9:45 am Sunday School in person 11 a.m. Worship In person and Facebook—PW Installation/All Saints Recognition 5:00 p.m. Youth 5:00 pm. Kids Club	3 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts	4 	5 11:30 a.m. YAH to O'Charley's, Stockbridge 6:45 p.m. Choir practice	6 10 a.m. Peacemakers Life Group 3—6 p.m. Community Food Pantry	7 Office closed	1  8 11 a.m. Stephanie Lozel's Gravesite Service/ Memorial Park
9 9:45 am Sunday School in person 11 a.m. Worship In person and Virtual by Facebook—Dock Gammage preaching 5:00 p.m. Youth 5:00 pm. Kids Club	10 6:00 p.m. VA Dews Circle 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts	11  10 a.m. Dorcas Circle 6:30 p.m. Scouts 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting	12 6:45 p.m. Choir practice	13 3—6 p.m. Community Food Pantry	14 Office closed	15  9 a.m.—1 p.m. Churchwide Yard Sale
16 9:30 AM Glory 9:45 am Sunday School in person 11 a.m. Worship In person and Virtual by Facebook—Communion 12:15 p.m. PWCT Handbook Mtg. 5:00 p.m. Youth 5:00 pm. Kids Club	17 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts	18 6:30 p.m. Scouts	19  10 a.m. Living Branch Life Group 6:45 p.m. Choir practice	20 3—6 p.m. Community Food Pantry	21 Office closed	22
23 9:45 am Sunday School in person 11 a.m. Worship In person and Virtual by Facebook 12 noon Congregational Meeting 12:15 p.m. Hanging of the Greens 5:00 p.m. Thanks-giving Dinner & Service	24 NO Cub Scouts	25 NO Scouts	26  NO Choir practice Office closed	27  NO Community Food Pantry Office closed	28 Office closed	29 
30 9:45 am Sunday School in person 11 a.m. Worship In person and Virtual by Facebook—1st Sunday of Advent 5:00 p.m. Kids Club and Youth		 	 N O V E M B E R 2			