



**MORROW
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CHURCH**

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"Reflecting Christ Together"

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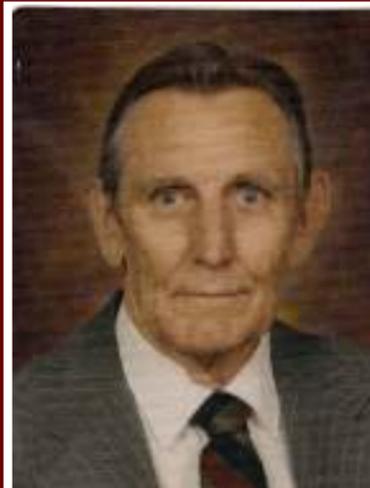
In Memory of Gene Hammond

Maurice Gene Hammond, 88, of Forest Park, GA passed away March 16, 2013. Mr. Hammond was born in Tennille, GA to the late James and Lenora Greeson Hammond. Gene was originally from Winder, GA, and eventually settled in Forest Park in the mid 70's. Mr. Hammond was a boxer early in life fighting for the Glen L. Martin team out of North Carolina. He also fought as an amateur out of Baltimore, MD. Gene was a member of the Local Union 85, Sheet Metal Workers Union. He worked for many companies over the years doing layout work, installation, and supervision. Gene loved to go to the lake with his family; camping, fishing, and skiing. His number one interest was the Georgia Bulldogs. After retiring, Gene enjoyed having a large garden with plenty to share with the family and always canned tomatoes and fruits each year. Gene and his wife, Euna, joined Morrow Presbyterian Church on June 21, 2011. They were much loved and regular attendees until their health started failing. Gene was preceded in

death by his loving wife of 66 years Euna Lee Tant Hammond, and his granddaughter Lauren McCollum both passing in 2011. He is survived by his daughter Glenda Lohmann of Peachtree City,

GA; son and daughter in-law Tommy and Carol Hammond of Locust Grove, GA; grandchildren Dawn Shelton, Carrie Hirst, and Lance Hammond; 7 great grandchildren ; sister Vicki Wanzer, brother and sister in-law Jack and Nell Hammond; and a host of nieces and nephews.

Donations in Gene's memory may be given to the *Morrow Presbyterian Church*.



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*"Why do you look for the living among the dead?
He is not here but has risen."
Luke 24:5*

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**Morrow Presbyterian
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The Pastor's Pen



A certain TV evangelist posted a quote on Facebook the other month. It said, "God is a God of multiplication. What you have may be small right now, but it's not going to stay small. You're going to come into increase." I thought this was a good quote at the start, then I dwelled on it for a time. There is something wrong with it, especially when it comes to the mathematics.

"You're going to come into increase" is where we may start. Sounds too much like a fortune cookie prediction: "You will come into increase, and your lucky numbers are: 9, 16, 23, 27, 35, and 48." We may never predict what God will or will not do. We will get into big trouble if we try. "My thoughts are not your thoughts," the eternal and immeasurable God tells us in Isaiah, "nor are your ways my ways... For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts" (55:8-9).

"You're going to come into increase" – it also sounds too much like the financial-prosperity gospel that some preachers are falsely presenting. They equate the good news of Jesus Christ to receiving a boatload of money. What little or much you have doesn't determine your salvation, or else the poor would never make it. Jesus determined this with the rich young ruler who had it all, including perfect Sunday School attendance and a 4.00 in Religious Studies (Matthew 19:16-22). He was missing something, Christ himself. After telling him to sell everything, Jesus finishes with these words, "Follow me." Get rid of all that binding stuff, so that you may finally see me and do as I do.

The quote above actually starts on the wrong foot with "God is a God of multiplication." No, God is not. God is a God of *mathematics*, not just one operation of it. In one instance God may multiply ministry and faith like a field yielding a hundred-fold crop (Matthew 13:1-9). In another instance God may subtract things, because we are too focused on them and not on God (John 15:1-8 and Daniel 4:28-37). God may add to our care-giving (Matthew 5:43-45) and to our complete trust in him (Matthew 6:33-34). God may divide, so that the community of saints may gather as one body, special members of the whole (Luke 22:14-23 and 1 Corinthians 11:17-34).

These are only a few examples of God's math – many more may be found in the Bible. Needless to say, God is going to do with us as God pleases. God is going to dress us up and bolster our hearts and minds, and then God will prune us and whip us into shape. God's math is nothing to take lightly. Sometimes it is scary, because we don't know what God is doing with us. It is uncomfortable and seemingly unnatural. Most of the time God's math is fascinating, because we cannot wait to see what God will come up with. We are stretched and recreated, made into something different than from what we were before. It is exactly what we needed.

Peace in Christ,

Rev. Dr. John

Prayer Requests

PRAYING FOR OUR MEMBERS, FAMILIES, & FRIENDS Families of Lewis Flora and Van Hamilton (uncles of Shirley Thrailkill), Family of Glinda Matson (friend of Don & Carol McGhee), Willie Haynes (Shirley Thrailkill's aunt), Frank Archer, Wilma Bell, Jo Bevil, Allie Brandon, Mary Bridges, Mary Butler, Charles Campbell, Cartledge Triplets, Judy Chapman, 1st SGT Chris Chastain, Clayton State University Campus Ministry, Jerry Coughlin, Sherrie Esquivel, Ralph Fadner, Kristen Floyd, Will Felt, Alex Foss, Earl & Connie Funk, Pat Golden, Ramon Gonsalves, Spencer Grant, Derek Hadler, Eddie Hooten, Adolpho Incerry, Sherry Johnson, Barbara Kelly, Anna Laster, Mary McBath, Julia McLeod, Audra McMillian, Dahlia Minton, David Moss, Cathy Purvis, Keith Rhoden, Luis Saavedra, Ellen Smith, Joe & Betty Spier, Keith Stanley, Vrina Stebbins, Valerie Sterzik, Margaret Strelsky, Forrest & Ann Thornton, Laraine Tinsley, Ian Turner, Edith Walston, Eddy Wheeler, Kendra Wilson, Jeff Yarbrough. **OUR MISSIONARIES:** Rev. Al **Tinio** & family in the Philippines; Dan & Elizabeth **Turk** - Madagascar. Bryant **Harden**, Peace Corps, Mongolia. **OUR MILITARY:** SPC Jonathan **Amason**, - National Guard, Afghanistan; Scott **Bland** - Navy, Virginia; Shaun **Bland** - Navy, Georgia; Stephen **Brown** - Army Reserves, Arizona; Jaime **Brown** - Army - Fort Benning, GA; Kevin **Brown** - Army - Fort Riley, KS; Jeffrey & Maribel **Brown** - both in Army Reserves, Georgia; Jeremy **Butler** - Japan; 1st Sgt Chris **Chastain**, Kosovo; PFC Daniel **Costa** - Afghanistan; Robert **Crain**, Tennessee; PVT Joseph **Eason**, Germany; Najee **Hall** - San Diego, CA; SR Drew **Hayes** - Navy; Great Lakes, IL; Kevin **Krebs**, Tennessee; Capt. - Adam **Martin**; SGT Edward "Buddy" **McKenzie**, III, - Milledgeville; Brent **Paul** - Military College of GA; SrA Richard **Venizelos** - Keesler AFB, Biloxi, MS; SPC Justin **Warlick** - Army; Aaron **Wescott** - Navy Special Forces - Afghanistan

Congratulations—STAR Student



Congratulations to Christopher Campbell on being chosen STAR student for Community Christian School in Henry County. STAR students are nominated when they have the highest SAT score and are in the top 10 percent or top 10 members of their class. Christopher was recognized at the annual Student Teacher Achievement Recognition breakfast recently. Chris plans to major in nuclear and radiological engineering at Georgia Tech and hopes to use that to then go into a career working with a nuclear reactor or working in research. Way to go, Christopher!

Young at Heart News

You're invited to join the Young-at-Heart Group on Wednesday, April 17, for a "Southern Belles & Whistles Tour." The tour will include the Road to Tara Museum, mini-bus tour and the Old Jail/History Center. Learn about the citizens of Jonesboro, its brave men and Southern Belles, and the important role that Jonesboro and the railroad played in the Civil War. In addition, you will see Ashley Oaks Mansion, Stately Oaks Plantation and much more. The tour will cost \$15.00 plus lunch. We will meet at 11:00 AM at Clayton County Visitor Center, Main Street at the old train depot, Jonesboro. **Group will be limited to 14 persons. Make your reservation with Ken Campbell NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, APRIL 7.**

Basket Auction—April 14



Silent Auction - Baskets and More. The second fundraiser for our Relay for Life Team will be April 14 right after church. Get those creative juices flowing and we'll be ready to add you to our list of donors. This is a wonderful day for families. Go together with your friends and buy one of those very large baskets and you all can picnic at church for your lunch. Remember these profits go toward our Relay for Life Team, The CrossWalkers!!

Mother's Day Brunch—May 11

SAVE THE DATE! - Saturday, May 11. To all of the lovely ladies who attend Morrow Presbyterian Church: You are cordially invited to join us for our annual Mother's Day Brunch which will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, May 11, beginning at 11:00am. We are continuing with our Retreat's theme of "Stop, Look, & Listen". If you would be interested in decorating a table, please contact Deborah Venizelos (or call her at 770-914-5529). We will also be announcing our Honorary Life Member who will be presented to the Congregation on Sunday, May 12.

VBS 2013 Everywhere Fun Fair

Vacation Bible School 2013

June 23 - 27

All ages - including adults



Join Godwin!



Everywhere Fun Fair takes children to a global celebration with the look and feel of a world's fair. Children will make friends with neighbors around the world and discover that God's love can be found everywhere, including their own neighborhoods. Children will be introduced to special places from all over the world and discover that we are all neighbors and all children of God.

Everywhere Fun Fair is filled with exciting attractions such as interactive Bible storytelling, global games, rockin' music, super science, cool crafts, and more!

Volunteers Needed! Also, do you have a cotton candy machine or popcorn machine? Please see Maria Cruz or Angela Turner to sign up to help with this fun fair or if you have these items the church could use!

Neighbors are:

- Friendly
- Giving
- Bold
- Forgiving
- Welcoming

Thank you Notes

From Judy & Bud Chapman... We wish to thank everyone for all the prayers, cards, and meals during the rough times when I broke my wrist. You offered your support and prayers at a time when we needed them most. Your expressions of love and concern have truly made us grateful of God's blessings in our church. God bless each and every one of you.

Shine & Dine - April 28



Bring your dirty vehicles to church on Sunday, April 28, for the youth to wash while you dine on baked potatoes with all the fixings, salad, and dessert.

All monies received during this fundraiser go to help our youth attend The Great Escape and Fun in the Son—two wonderful, spiritual retreats. Our youth have been attending these summer retreats for many years.

The Great Escape (June 10-15) is held at Lee College in Cleveland, TN. It is for middle school students.

Fun in the Son (July 14-18) will be held at Jekyll Island, GA. It is for high school students.

Youth from all over the United States attend each of these camps to enjoy fun, fellowship, special speakers and bands, and most of all, to draw closer to God. Many lives are changed because your contributions make this experience possible for more of our MPC youth. Gifts may be given at any time for the **Youth Scholarship Fund** to help more youth attend.

If you would like more information on either of these fine camps, or if you have not yet signed up, but would like to attend, please see Andra Gammage.

Community Renewal Services

"Hearing and Listening to God's Call"

April 21, 28, and May 5

Supper provided at 6:00 p.m. Program at 7:00 p.m.

Three consecutive Sunday nights.

April 21— Morrow Presbyterian Church

Dr. Ed Judy preaching.

April 28— Morrow First United Methodist Church

Rev. David Tew preaching.

May 5— First Baptist Church of Morrow

Dr. John Callahan preaching.