



**MORROW  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

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*"Reflecting Christ Together"*

**We're on the Web! Visit us at  
[www.morrowpresbyterian.org](http://www.morrowpresbyterian.org)**

**Kids' Club Kick-Off—Sept 7**

**Kid's Club Kick-Off  
Sunday, September 7  
5 – 7 p.m.**

All children ages 4 years old through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to start coming on Sunday nights from 5-7 p.m. for singing, Bible study, recreation, and food. **On Sunday, September 7, we will have WET NIGHT!** Wear your bathing suit under your clothes and bring a towel.



**Youth Fall Kick-Off -Aug 24**

**Youth Fall Kick-Off  
Sunday, August 24  
5:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.**

The Campbell's Home & Pool  
3493 Overland Court, Ellenwood  
770-960-1145

Bring your swimsuits and towel.  
Pizza, Drinks, and Dessert provided.



**Volume 7, Issue 8  
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**MORROW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**Morrow Presbyterian  
Herald**

**The Pastor's Pen**



The 221<sup>st</sup> General Assembly of the PCUSA met in June, and one of the controversial topics that received approval was a recommendation on Civil Union and Marriage Issues. The language of *The Book of Order* has been changed to state that "marriage involves a unique commitment between two people (traditionally a man and a woman) to love and support each other for the rest of their lives" (W-4.9000).

Some are okay with the decision and some are not, and I have heard both sides. I could spend this time elevating the virtues of one opinion over the sins of another, but I will not do that. I want to discuss something far more important. I write to ask all of us to maintain focus on what is essential: Jesus Christ and the ministries we still need to carry out to His glory.

Whether you agree or disagree with the GA decision, understand that such a decision doesn't encompass the whole of our ministry in Morrow Church. In fact, it is like a small pebble compared to the huge boulder of ministry that we achieve in and around our beloved church. Our work here has always been making sure there is food enough for our Pantry, there is a safe space for our youth and children and adults to gather and grow closer to God, and there is a sanctuary to join with our God in worship. We support ministries and missions both local and abroad, such as the Boys and Cub Scouts, the Uptown Congregation, Thornwell Home, and the Good Shepherd Clinic. Fellowship and worship, education and service: These take up most of our time and focus inside and outside the church (I am spreading my arms wide), not the issue mentioned in the first paragraph above (I am holding my thumb and index finger several millimeters apart).

What happens when we lose focus and turn that pebble-sized issue above into a boulder-size issue? Anger and argument and hurt feelings and division. No one comes to any common ground of understanding because the issue is so hot. People only get burned who try to handle it. Camps are set up against the opponent, and deep trenches are dug in order to keep contradictory thoughts out. It is all or nothing when we discuss the issue above, and everyone loses, and the church fails. Morrow Church will fail, if we make a pebble into a boulder which nobody can move.

In the coming weeks and months, however we feel about what has happened on the national level, I write to ask all of us to maintain focus on what is essential: Jesus Christ and the ministries we still need to carry out for His glory. The motto on the front of our Sunday worship bulletins says, "Reflecting Christ Together," and we believe this is God's calling on us which is never ending. Fellowship and worship, education and service: these are what we are called to do to the glory of God. Always have been.

Continue to grow in our relationships with each other. Continue to grow deeply in faith and love for our one true God, who always advances His will from generation to generation. Continue to invite the visitor to our worship service and weekly programs. Continue to reach out to people who are in need, whether we hand them food or lend them an ear. Let us remain focused on what we have been doing as a church. Christ is our Head, and we serve at the pleasure of our Savior.

Peace in Christ,

Rev. Dr. John

## Prayer Requests

**PRAYING FOR OUR MEMBERS, FAMILIES, & FRIENDS** Israel/Palestine Conflict, Malaysia Airlines and Air Algerie flights, Connie Funk (Christian City), Calrton Henderson (friend of Bill & Shirley Thraillkill), Ronnie Hooten, Ann Kempson, Ruth Batchelor, Carol Bevil, Jo Bevil, Patty Bormolini, Allie Brandon, Mary Bridges, Wendall Byars, Carol Campbell, Marcia Cartledge, Betty Colwell, Brittany Conrad, Felix Cruz, Shannon Delgado, Sonja Delgado, Ilona Dorsey, Mary Dyche, Sherrie Esquivel, Will Felt, Haywood Fordham, Jessica Giddens, Meg Gore, Spencer Grant, David Hadler, Bob Hardy, Erin Harkens, Beth Harper, Steve Hayner, Tom & Alice Headlee, John Henrickson, Lisa Hulbert, Laura Johnson, Noli Luna, Julia McLeod, Mary Mickles, Dahlia Minton, Cassandra Morrow, David & Faye Moss, Nan Norton, Nuss Family, Breanna Ordaniel, Sarah Pardue, Karen Poole, Christa Poynter, Donna Randolph, Al Ritter, Moss Robertson, Keith Scott, Georgene Sneed, Joe & Betty Spier, Carolyn Sterns, Margaret Strelsky, Ann Thornton, Emily Thompson, Barbara Whitfield, Terry & Margie Williams. **OUR MISSIONARIES:** Rev. Al **Tinio** & family in the Philippines; Dan & Elizabeth **Turk** - Madagascar. **OUR MILITARY:** Scott **Bland** - Navy, Virginia; Shaun **Bland** - Navy, Georgia; SPC Kevin & Jaime **Brown**—Army—Fort Riley, KS; Jeffrey & Maribel **Brown** - both in Army Reserves, Georgia; Stephen **Brown** - Army Reserves, Arizona; Jeremy **Butler** - Marines; Sk2 Robert **Crain**, Tennessee; SPC Joseph **Eason**, Fort Bliss, TX; Jonathan **Johnson** - National Guard - OK; Kevin **Krebs**, AK; SSG Richard **Venizelos** - Afghanistan; **SPC Justin Warlick** - Army, **PRAISE - HOME FROM AFGHANISTAN!**

## Milk Jug Caps Needed



**What are the milk caps for?** The elementary Sunday school class is learning to put the books of Bible in order. Each cap has a name of a book on it.



We needed 66 caps per student, and we could still use some more. Thank you for your donations!

## Stamps & Labels

**NO LONGER COLLECTING.** For many years MPC has collected postage stamps and Campbell labels for the Duvall Home, a corporation that provides quality residential care and day training programs for adults with a broad range of developmental disabilities. They no longer have the need for these items, so we will no longer collect them. Thank you for your support all of these years.

## Young at Heart News

**The Young-at-Heart outing for August** will be to the Booth Western Art Museum in Cartersville and the Tellus Northwest Georgia Museum. Both are very interesting places full of lots of information and art. On **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27**, we will carpool, leaving the church at **8:30 AM**. Cost for the trip will be \$30.00 per person; \$20.00 for drivers. **EVERYONE** please make reservations with Ken Campbell, 770-961-2272, by **AUGUST 15**.



## Peachtree Road Racers 2014

**Congratulations to Gary & Annie Johnson, Matthew Hooten, and Ashley Brown** on finishing the 2014 Peachtree Road Race on the 4th of July! This 6.2 mile race is capped at 60,000 people. The AJC Peachtree Road Race starts in Buckhead near Lenox Square Mall and ends in Piedmont Park.



## Atlanta Braves Faith Day—August 31—5:10 p.m.



**Faith Day 2014 at Turner Field.** See the Atlanta Braves play against the Florida Marlins on **Sunday, August 31, 2014 at 5:10 pm**. Enjoy the Pregame by **1 Girl Nation** in the Fan Plaza and the **Newsboys** post game concert with some of the personal testimonies of Braves' personnel. Following the game, the group can move down closer to the field for the concert. MPC should be recognized while we are there. If interested in tickets, please see Mary Ann Moriles or Tanya Costa. Tickets are \$11. Parking permits are \$10.

## School Prayer



**On Sunday, August 3, we will pray for all of our schools - Pre-K through College** during the morning worship hour. We will pray for our students and our teachers. As school resumes for the 2014-2015 year, the congregation is asked to keep all of our students and teachers in your prayers as they work hard and deal with different, and sometimes difficult situations. Our congregation is widely spread over several counties and our children attend many different schools. Please keep the following schools in your prayers during this next year:

*Berry College, Clayton State University, Georgia Southern University, Georgia State University, Georgia College & State University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Kennesaw State University, Mercer University, Presbyterian College, Southern Polytechnic State University, University of Georgia, University of North Georgia, University of West Georgia, Valdosta State University, Community Christian School, Connections Academy, Elite Scholar School, Faith Academy, Forest Park High School, Morrow High School, Riverdale High School, Spalding High School, Stockbridge High School, Union Grove High School, Woodland High School, Flat Rock Middle School, Madras Middle School, M. D. Roberts Middle School, Union Grove Middle School, Arnold Elementary School, B. C. Haynie Elementary School, Brown Elementary School, Eastlake Elementary School, Flippen Elementary School, Mainstay Academy, North Fayette Elementary School, Red Oak Elementary School, Rising Star Montessori School, Snapfinger Elementary School, Thurgood Marshall Elementary School, Unidos Dual Language Center, LeVoyage Center for Growth, and Headstart.* How wonderful and important to cover our schools in prayer and pray for God's protection and guidance!

## Thank You Notes...

**From Maria Cruz, Ruth and Tori Laster** ...The VBS Team would like to thank everyone who helped with Vacation Bible School to make it the success that it was.

**From Shiloh McLeod's Family...**Even though we moved away, we'd like to thank all of you for always remembering us and sharing our happiness on special occasions. With our church family watching over us, having weddings and babies are made that much more exciting, precious, and sentimental. Thank you so much for the big basket filled with baby supplies and for the many colorfully-wrapped gifts. We were touched by your generosity.

**From Grayson Gammage...**Thank you so much for helping me with my mission trip! It was an amazing experience that I will always remember. I realized how blessed I am and how much God has given me.

**From The Church Office...**Many thanks to all who contributed to our new computer fund and for the gift of a computer! We were able to buy two new computers and screens to add to the given computer. Many thanks to David Barrett (Dianne Hooten's brother) who came from Vidalia to set up and install the new computers and software. We are up-to-date and happy!

## Presbyterian Women

**Virginia Dews Circle, August 11, 6:30 p.m.** Virginia Dews will have their next regular meeting on August 11, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the Pacers Classroom. Judy Chapman will have the devotion and for refreshments they will go to Dairy Queen after the meeting for ice cream. August project will be donations for school supplies for Silliman Cottage at Thornwell.

**Dorcas Circle—August 12, 10 a.m.** for brunch and the continuation of the study of the Book of James Chapter 2, led by Suzanne Lukat. Devotion by Sharon Goza. Jo Calhoun and Sharon Goza are our hostesses. Project is money/diapers for the Food Pantry.

**Morning Glory Circle— August 24, 9:45 a.m.** The Morning Glory Circle will begin a new Bible study using the book, *"The Best Yes,"* by Lysa TerKeurst. If you would like to join the group in this study, you may either purchase a book from Andra Gammage for \$16, or provide your own. The group meets in the McNair/Seekers classroom

## Costa Rica Night, Aug 17



### Family Night Supper, August 17, 6 p.m.

The MPC Mission Team went to serve at the Cave of Adullam in Costa Rica on June 23 -30. Thank you for your prayers and support for our Costa Rican Team. The team would love to share with the congregation stories of their time in Costa Rica and how God moved in the midst of them.

Please plan on attending the covered dish supper on August 17 to hear from them how they saw lives touched including their own.

- Covered Dish Supper
- Hear the youth group's personal testimonies about their Costa Rica Mission Trip
- See skits, pictures, and a video of the trip.
- Enjoy church family fellowship and Costa Rican food as provided by the Mission Team

*"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations."*