



**MORROW
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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"Reflecting Christ Together"

**We're on the Web! Visit us at
www.morrowpresbyterian.org**

FNS — January 29



**An Evening of
International
Cuisine: Sunday,
January 29, 2012,
at 6:00 p.m.** Our

church is not only blessed to have so many wonderful cooks who have so often prepared their favorite dishes to share with others, but we are also blessed to have 15+ countries represented from our congregation. Therefore, the Congregational Care / Fellowship Ministry Team has planned an evening of international cuisine. Tap into your creative, culinary spirit and plan to prepare a dish from your favorite country or the country of your heritage, and join with your church family for an evening of fun, food, and fellowship at our first Family Night Supper of this new year.

Communicants' Class



Pastor John Callahan and Dianne Hooten will be teaching a Communicants' Class beginning in February, during the Sunday School hour. The communicants will join the church on Palm Sunday, April 1, 2012. All young people who are in the 5th grade and up are encouraged to attend this class. Students will learn about what Presbyterians believe, making decisions, living their faith, growth, and serving others. If your child is interested in joining the church, and you feel that he/she is ready, please contact Pastor John or Dianne Hooten to register for this class.



Virginia Dews Circle Christmas

Dorcas Circle Christmas



*Happy New Year
from the
MPC Staff*

The church office will be closed
on Friday, 12/30 and Monday, 1/2.

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January 2012



MORROW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Morrow Presbyterian
Herald**

The Pastor's Pen



There is a scene from the movie *The Polar Express*, in which a certain boy from Maplewood, New Jersey is caught lying minutes before Christmas arrives. The elves in Santa's shop have him on camera, and he is blatantly lying to his mother about sticking gum in his sister's hair. The head elf wants to send him coal for Christmas, but one of the lower elves convinces him to be merciful. The head elf is merciful, but he says that this boy's name should be checked twice next year.

Lying was part of what the first humans did in the Garden of Eden – and they got in a lot of trouble – yet lying is something that is acceptable. According to the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), those under 13 years of age are not allowed to have a Facebook page, or any other Internet access. Over half the children online lied about their ages on Facebook, with around 76% receiving help from their parents. People lie about their ages, weight, job experience (in China, it is expected to lie during an interview about past job experiences), job positions, taxes, money issues, and so forth. Most adults will say that it is not right to lie, and they teach their child just that. However, lying is part of the status quo. We do it in order to look good, save face, shift blame, or whatever.

What would happen if we didn't lie? Maybe it is too much to ask for, but what would happen if we consciously tried to tell the truth most of the time?

At the end of last year people came to our church looking for financial assistance. They didn't have the money to pay the rent or utilities. We had already gone through our church budget for financial aid, and so we had no money to give. I could have lied and made up some story, but I chose not to. It was very hard to tell them the truth: "We would love to help, but many others asked for assistance, and our resources are tapped out." I felt bad not being able to give them something, but it felt better not concocting some bogus story just to get rid of them.

Proverbs 14:25 says, "A true witness delivers souls; but the one that utters lies causes deceit." Psalm 19:14 tells us, "Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be accepted in your sight, O Lord, our rock and redeemer." What would happen if we tried to tell the truth? What would we accomplish? Truth builds trust among our parents, our siblings, our friends, our fellow church members, and everybody. Telling the truth keeps us from having to build on lies, which we will have difficulty keeping straight and in order. Holding back lies will keep our lives from being a lie, and we may walk freely in the light of the Lord.

We can be thankful that God is ready to forgive any lie, just like the head elf did of a little boy on Christmas Eve. Unlike the elf, though, God is able to correct the error of our ways, and shows us how to keep the fibs at bay. God is open with us, and he wants us to be open with him and others. We certainly wouldn't want some "white lie" to breach that tight bond of care and compassion.

Peace in Christ,

Rev. Dr. John

Prayer Requests



MEMBERS, FAMILIES, & FRIENDS Family of Gladys Oliver (former member), Bill Allison, Christina Baker-Nwadeyi, Bobby Bays, Wilma Bell, Carol Bevil, Jo Bevil, Allie Brandon, Charlie Brown, Janis Campbell, Bill Cantrell, Dianne Clements, Fannie Crain, Mary Beth Duke, Pastor Robert Edwards, Jr., Shel Ford, Spencer Grant, Kelley Harden, Eddie Hooten, Patrice Marsh, Mary McBath, Richard & Florence McCray, Julia McLeod, Dahlia Minton, Amador Moriles, David Moss, Sonny Oswalt, John Randolph, Joe & Betty Spier, Joseph Stanford, Tina Stanford, Margaret Strelsky, Michael Thraikill, Forrest & Ann Thornton, Zella Van Bavel, Gary Waters, Amari Williams, and Jeff Yarbrough. **OUR MISSIONARIES:** Rev. Al **Tinio** & family in the Philippines;

Dan & Elizabeth **Turk** & children at Mission Haven in Decatur. Bryant **Harden**, Peace Corps, Mongolia, **OUR MILITARY:** Scott **Bland** - Navy, Virginia; Shaun **Bland** - Navy, Georgia; Stephen **Brown** - Army Reserves, Arizona; Kevin **Brown** - Army-Fort Benning, GA; Jeffrey & Maribel **Brown** - both in Army Reserves, Georgia; Jeremy **Butler** -Japan; 1st Sgt Chris **Chastain**, Kosovo; PFC Daniel **Costa** - Fort Jackson, SC; Robert **Crain**, Tennessee; PVT Joseph **Eason**, Afghanistan; Najee **Hall**- Afghanistan; Kevin **Krebs**, Tennessee; Capt. Walter D. **Lillegard**, Afghanistan; Adam **Martin**; SGT Edward "Buddy" **McKenzie**, III, - Milledgeville; Brent **Paul** - Military College of GA; Cole **Springer** - Army; A1C Richard **Venezelos** - Scott AFB, Illinois; PFC Justin & Tierney **Warlick** - Ft. Lewis, WA.

Presbyterian Women



Women's Retreat, January 21, 2012. Women of all ages are invited to join us on a wonderful retreat at Calvin Center on Saturday, January 21, 2012, from 8:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m. Martha Wilson of Touching Hearts Ministry will be our speaker. The topic will be "The Heart Garden Program."

The cost is \$25.00 and includes a full breakfast and wonderful lunch. Breakfast will begin at 8:30 a.m., with our meeting starting at 9:00 a.m. We will finish up with communion around 2:30 p.m. We hope every woman at MPC (and friends) will join us for this special retreat. Mark it on your calendar now to hold the date. This retreat can help us start the new year renewed, refreshed, and ready to do God's work.

No Christmas Card Fronts. The Presbyterian Women will NOT be collecting Christmas card fronts this year. Thanks for your support in the past years.

PW Service Project Months for 2012

January	-	Dorcas Circle
February	-	Virginia Dews Circle
March	-	Morning Glory Circle
April	-	Dorcas Circle
May	-	Virginia Dews Circle
June	-	Morning Glory Circle
July	-	Dorcas Circle
August	-	Virginia Dews Circle
September	-	Morning Glory Circle
October	-	Dorcas Circle
November	-	Virginia Dews Circle
December	-	Morning Glory Circle

Christmas Wishes

Christmas Card wishes from: The Boggs Family, The Callahan Family, Ken & Janis Campbell, Jack & Delores Candy, Bill & Lucie Cantrell, Paul & Judy Chapman, Margaret Cofie & family, The Drake Family, James & Lei Eason, Haywood & Anne Fordham and Brooke & Wyatt, Gene Hammond, The Johnson Family, The McGhee Family, Libby McNair, Grandpa & Grandma Moriles, The Romeo Moriles Family, The Scepaniak Family, Willie & Audrey Sharpe, Earl & Lucy Stewart, The Tuttle Family, The Weems Family.

2012 Offering Envelopes

The 2012 Offering envelopes are now available for pick up at the church. The envelopes are in alphabetical order. If you do not find your set of envelopes, please contact the church office.

Congratulations!



Congratulations to Kimberly Moriles on receiving the 5th Annual Youth Leadership Award presented by the Galing Foundation. This award goes to those who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership, and character, and are involved in community service.

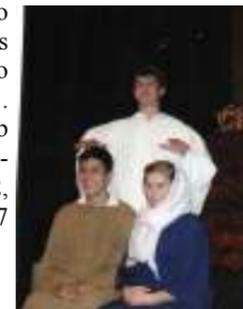
Volunteers Needed

If you would like to serve as an Usher, Pastor's Aide, or Greeter, and have never been asked, please consider this your invitation! Please see or call Dianne Hooten, and you will be added to the list to help out in any of these very important ministry opportunities.

Kid's Club News



Kid's Club Christmas Program Recap. The children put on a wonderful production as usual. *Candlelight Christmas Garden* was a great way to bring us closer to Christmas. Kids' Club resumes January 8, 2012, from 5—7 p.m.



Canterbury Choir



The **Canterbury Choir** presented their annual Christmas Cantata, "Shout the Good News!" on Sunday, December 11. Speakers were Dock & Andra Gammage, David Turner, Richard Buck, and Elizabeth Fincher.

New Address

Mason & Elizabeth Barfield
621 Hodges Street
Hahira, GA 31632

New Address

Forrest & Ann Thornton

Elmcroft of Mt. Zion

7493 Mt. Zion Blvd.

Jonesboro, GA 30236

Congratulations to the Thorntons who celebrate their 70th Wedding Anniversary on January 19!



The Middle High Sunday School class spreads Christmas cheer to Sonny Oswalt.

Thank You Cards & Messages

From the Church Staff...Each of the church staff wishes to thank the congregation for the generous love offering Christmas Gift you gave us during the Joy Gift program. We all feel blessed to be a part of Morrow Presbyterian Church and to be able to use our gifts to serve our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

From Morrow Presbyterian Congregation...Many thanks to all who decorated our church building for Advent and Christmas. A special thank you to Susan Wolpin for the lovely new wreaths on the doors and bell tower.

From Janis Campbell...Thank you so much for the care and concern that you have shown me in the last few weeks regarding my upcoming surgery. I have received many thoughtful notes, cards, and gifts, and this is very comforting to me. Without the prayers and support of our wonderful MPC friends, this time of waiting would be much more difficult for my family and me.

From Rev. Bob Allman...We are still fixing up the house. Hope they are through by Christmas! But it is home. And we needed that. Tell all of my dear friends hello and may God bless them, everyone.

From Bill & Lucie Cantrell...Thank you to all. The calls, cards, and prayers are healing and uplifting. Bill's health is improving daily.

From Nate, Senovia, Zac, & Ashley Bradley (Zac is the CCSU student hit by a tree that was on our prayer list)...Thank you. We appreciate the prayers for Zac.

Baby Basket

There is a baby basket in the fellowship hall for parents-to-be **Sonja Delgado and Reshawn Pitts**. Their baby girl is due on January 24. Please help fill the basket with baby items such as wipes, toys, onesies, wash cloths, etc.

Youth to WinterJam 2012

WinterJam - January 15. The Youth will go again this year to WinterJam. On January 15, the youth will leave after church around 1 p.m. to attend WinterJam 2012 at Philips Arena. Skillet, Newsong, Sanctus Real, Building 429, and others will perform. Cost is \$10 at the door.

Young at Heart

"Passages" - January 18, 9 a.m. The Young-at-Heart Group will begin the new year by visiting "PASSAGES" -- a traveling exhibition spotlighting what is being called the world's largest private collection of rare Biblical texts and artifacts. These were collected by Steve Green, President of Hobby Lobby, and initially displayed in Oklahoma City. The exhibit will be in Atlanta through April 30. It is located near Perimeter Mall. After visiting the exhibit, the group plans to eat at Romano's Macaroni Grill at Perimeter Center. This should be something different and interesting for to see, so make your plans to go with the group. Cost will be \$20.00, PLUS lunch. Make your reservations with Ken Campbell, 770-961-2272.