



**MORROW  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

Rev. Dr. John V. Callahan Jr  
P. O. Box 316  
6171 Huie Drive  
Morrow, GA 30260

Phone: 770-961-5444  
Fax: 770-960-0334  
E-mail:  
mpcpastor@bellsouth.net  
mpcsecretary@bellsouth.net

*"Reflecting Christ Together"*

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

**An Opportunity to Help Others**

**An opportunity to help others.** We are looking for folks to pick up produce at the Farmers' Market each week (usually Thursday mornings) for our food pantry. We need to have eight people so no one would need to go but once every other month. The Farmer's Market will load your car and MPC can unload it. We will be billed for the produce and you can get cash from the church for eggs. Instructions will be provided to show where to go. There is no cost to you for the produce/eggs. Call Frank Warlick to sign up. Thank you.

**Congratulations!**

**Congratulations to Taylor Crawford Meyer**, who graduated on December 16, 2015 from Kennesaw State University with a **Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Services with an emphasis in Case Management**. Taylor graduated with honors, Cum Laude. He plans to get his Masters degree and work as a social worker.



Way to go, Taylor!

**Winter Jam 2015**



**Georgia Dome**  
**Saturday, February 6, 2016**  
**5:45 p.m.— Doors open at 5 p.m.**  
**\$10 at the door**

- Crowder
- Lauren Daigle
- For King and Country
- Red and more
- Matthew West
- Sidewalk Prophets
- Newsong

Volume 9, Issue 1

January 2016



MORROW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Morrow Presbyterian  
Herald**

**The Pastor's Pen**



So, I am sitting in the chair at Fantastic Sams getting my hair cut, two days after Thanksgiving. Two seats over is a stylist beginning a 45-minute perm, and the women are talking in such a tone that I can hear every word they say. They could be at the other end of the room and I could still hear them, since it is mid-morning and we are the only people in the place.

The woman receiving the perm says, "Christmas is coming soon, and then the New Year." The stylist responds, "Yes, I can't wait for the year to end." The woman says in kind, "I know, it has been such a terrible year. I cannot wait for it to be over."

We do this EVERY year, don't we? We come to the next January, and we think that the year will be the best we have ever experienced. Last year was so horrible, in our estimation. Last year was a dog of a year; we don't know how we got through it. Praise God that we are now in a brand-new, pristine year that will (supposedly) outclass all previous years. But then what happens? This fresh, magnificent year that we are so glad to be in turns into another horrible year once more. It becomes tainted and frustrating, and possibly by October we cannot wait to discard it for a new one.

Why do we do this? Why do we think each year will be better than the next, when we will eventually become upset with it? I searched for an answer on the Internet and found comments from a few. One person said, "I think every New Year is better, because we learned something during the previous year, and hopefully can apply what we learned to a better cause in the New Year. To me each New Year is a gift, with each new day bringing with it something to be learned, shared and passed forward." Another more pessimistic person said, "The year changing won't change the people. A new year is not better because people are not better. EVER." And still one more said, "Not better just different. Either [it's] going to be another tough year for the world or for [what's] in your life."

The stylist and the 45-minute perm made me think that we shouldn't look for the New Year to save us. If we perceive the New Year as some sort of magical event that will right all our wrongs, then we will be sorely disappointed. The New Year will soon become an enemy, when bad news reaches our ears.

We should look to Christ to save us. Not save us only in the next year but save us today and every day. It is Christ who gives us the reason to live. It is Christ who motivates our hearts and enriches our minds, who directs our paths and inspires our work. "This is the day the Lord has made," Psalm 118:24-25 tell us. "Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Save us, we pray, O LORD! O LORD, we pray, give us success!" The psalmist doesn't look to the day – or the year – to save him or God's people. Our Lord saves. Only our Lord saves. We live each day and month and year for him.

When the New Year comes, celebrate it like everyone else. See it as a blessing from God, like the person above does. But keep in mind that the God of last year, who saved us then, is the same God who saves us now and always. Each day, oldish or newish, is another opportunity to glorify and enjoy God.

Peace in Christ, Rev. Dr. John

## Prayer Requests

**PRAYING FOR OUR MEMBERS, FAMILIES, & FRIENDS** Allen Grant, Susan Wolpin, Bob Eskew (former member), Maria Baker (Shirley Bradley's goddaughter), Jeff Blanton (Jeannie Hodges' son-in-law), Marian Meyer, Jennifer Barber, Ruth Batchelor, Jo Bevil, Allie Brandon, Mary Bridges, Terry Broom, Allene Brown, Dr. Todd Bruno, Mary Butler, Rey Cabayan, Betty Colwell, Craig Coleman, Janis Cone, Tanya Costa, Maria Cruz, Lei Eason, Sherrie Esquivel, Will Felt, Foss Family, Connie Funk, Jessica Giddens, Ruth Ginsberg, Sharon Goza, Beth Harper, Rev. Penny Hill, Jim Jenkins, Diane Kowalsky, Leah Lipps, Vickie Loper, Ron Lukat, Noli Luna, Carillton Marsh, Julia McLeod, Mary Mickles, Shafta Milan, Grandma Moriles, David & Faye Moss, Nuss Family, Kingsley Offer, Sara Ruth Owens, Janice Palmer, Arolue Prater, Beverly Pruett, Rey Ramos, Wendy Ray, Gary Robinson, Georgene Sneed, Betty & Joe Spier, Carolyn Sterns, Kim Stonecash, Margaret Strelsky, Angel Thomas, Ann Thornton, Eddy Wheeler, Terry & Margie Williams. **OUR MISSIONARIES:** Rev. Al **Tinio** & family in the Philippines; Dan & Elizabeth **Turk** – Mission Haven. **OUR MILITARY:** Scott **Bland** - Navy, Virginia; SPC Kevin **Brown**, Army—Fort Riley, KS; CPL Jaime **Brown**, Army, Kuwait; Jeremy **Butler** – Marines; Joshua Easter—Navy, IL; PFC Najee **Hall**, Army, CA; Kevin **Krebs**, AK; SSG Richard **Venizelos** – Air Force, CO.; SPC Justin **Warlick** – Army, TX. *A full prayer list is available in the narthex next to the library.*

## Sanctuary Flowers



**Sanctuary Flowers.** The 2016 Flower Calendar is now available. **Every date 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.

## Christmas Greetings



**Christmas Card wishes from:** Earl & Laura Bland, Ken & Janis Campbell, Bill & Lucie Cantrell, Bud & Judy Chapman, Margaret Cofie & family, Dot Coughlan & George Egbert, Haywood & Anne Fordham, Brenda & Don Garner, The Henderson Family, The Hooten Family & Ashley Brown, Don & Carol McGhee, Libby McNair, Marilyn Mitchell, The Moriles Family, Pat & John Randolph, Willie & Audrey Sharpe, Earl & Lucy Stewart, The Venizelos Family, The Morrow Early Learning Center, Wooden's Service Company, Heritage Bank, Columbia Theological Seminary, Good Shepherd Clinic, Dependable Computer Service, Our Daily Bread Ministries.

## Giving Envelopes

**Your 2016 Giving Envelopes** are available. They are on a table in the hallway next to the library. If you do not see your name, please check with Dianne Hooten.

## January FNS—Jan 17, 12 noon



**The January Covered Dish Luncheon** will be on **Sunday, January 17** at **12 noon**, immediately following the worship service. Please bring your favorite soup/salad to share. The session will provide the drinks and desserts. This will be a time of sitting with and getting to know your elder care groups. Share your resolutions, ideas, goals. Maybe even choose an accountability buddy to help you this upcoming year!

## Elder Ordination / Installation

**Elders for our Classes of 2016 & 2017** will be ordained / installed on January 3, 2016. Jeannie Hodges will be ordained and installed. Eric Asare, Bruce Campbell, James Eason, Allen Grant, and Dianne Hooten will be installed. We are grateful for these members who have agreed to serve on our session. 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's Retreat



**The Annual Ladies Retreat** will be on **Saturday, January 23, 2016**, at Calvin Center from **8:30 a.m. to 3:00 pm.** It will be led by Rev. Kim LeVert. Rev. LeVert is a 2003 graduate of Columbia Theological Seminary. Since earning her master of divinity degree, Kim has served as the international programs coordinator at Columbia Seminary. She is ordained to that validated ministry of hospitality and pastoral care. Kim is a member of the Greater Atlanta Presbytery and serves on that presbytery's Committee for Preparation on Ministry.

Come and be renewed and refreshed as we start a new year. **Cost is \$30.** Please pay by Sunday, January 17. Scholarships are available. Breakfast & lunch included.

## Young at Heart—January 27

**Mark your calendar** for a Mystery Trip on January 27. More details later.



**A huge thank-you to Ken & Janis Campbell** for being super Young at Heart leaders for close to 20 years! We've loved all the trips we have taken, classes we attended, and special meals together. Many thanks and much love to you!

## Presbyterian Women

**PWCT—January 3, 12:30 p.m.** The PWCT will meet in the Pacer's classroom. Tamara Callahan has refreshments & devotion.

**Virginia Dews Circle, January 11, 6:30 p.m.** Happy New Year! The Virginia Dews Circle will meet on January 11, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the Pacers' Classroom. They will have light refreshments and continue their study of Women of the Bible. Please bring your items for the one-gallon bags for the needy.

**Dorcas Circle—January 12, 10 a.m.** The Dorcas Circle will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Suzanne Lukat will lead the Bible study. Hostesses are Sara Gore and Kathy Prince. Libby McNair has the devotion.

**Morning Glory Circle—January 24, 9:45 a.m.** The Morning Glory Circle will continue in their Bible study using the book, *"The Best Yes,"* by Lysa TerKeurst. They will be watching a video on the last section of the book.

## Thank You Notes...

**From the Church Staff...**Each of the church staff wishes to thank the congregation for the very 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 Facilities Maintenance....** Thank you to Ronnie Hooten for installing the overhead light in the drive-through. No more dark nights!

**From the Worship Ministry Team....**Thank you to everyone who helped with the Hanging of the Greens this year: Jo Calhoun, Bruce, Carol, Kelsey, and Corey Campbell, Ben Cartledge, Margaret Cofie, John & Tamara Callahan, Ronnie & Dianne Hooten, Annie Johnson, Stephanie Lozel, Libby McNair, Romy & Mary Ann Moriles, Nnenna & Ebere Onuoha, and Georgene Sneed. Many thanks to all who lent a hand in breaking down the Christmas decorations on Sunday, the 27th: Ashley Brown, Anne Fordham, Dock Gammage, Allen & Susie Grant, Ronnie, Dianne, & Matthew Hooten, Gary Johnson, Linda & Norman Lillie, Stephanie Lozel, Libby McNair, Lacita Robinson, David & Colin Turner, and Robert & Deborah Venizelos.

**From Mary Ann Moriles...**It has been a privilege and honor to have served on the session of Morrow Presbyterian Church for the past 3 years on the Fellowship & Congregational Care Ministry Team. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all that have helped me in my role as an elder in this church. Thank you to the FCC Team, to David & Angela Turner for the numerous catering events that they did, to the different people I have asked help from like Dianne Hooten, Ken Campbell, Bruce Campbell, Libby McNair, Anne Fordham, Jeannie Hodges, Susan Wolpin, Rebekah Venizelos, Deborah Venizelos, my Sunday school class, the Youth (who probably have the urge to run whenever I ask them to do something.), and numerous people who participated in the Family Night Suppers and other events in our church. What a joy it is to work together to achieve what we can for MPC! *"Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant and whoever wants to be first must become your slave. For even I, the Son of Man came here not to be served, but to serve others, and to give my life as a ransom for many."* Matthew 20:26-27

**From Bruce Campbell...**I'd like to sincerely thank the Canterbury Choir and Narrators for the wonderful presentation of our Christmas Cantata on 12/13. It was an outstanding and well-prepared production and a true blessing to many. A special word of appreciation to Andra Gammage for her heart-felt oration. She had confided in me that she was having difficulty reading the part without becoming emotional, but agreed to persevere and do her best. I believe all those present were the beneficiary of a special blessing as God's Spirit of Love came through her, in her humility and selflessness, to make His presence known and enhance our worship experience that day. I also believe that God can use each and everyone of us if we will only allow Him to. Great job to all involved and thanks again!

**From Earl & Laura Bland...**MPC Family, With grateful hearts we give thanks to God for you all. Your caring words, cards, emails upon Earl's mother's passing have truly offered us comfort and a great feeling of love. Thank you most of all for your prayers, our most coveted gifts. Much love.



**Happy New Year! from the MPC Church Staff**  
Office closed December 30, 31, 2015 and January 1, 2016.

