



**MORROW
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CHURCH**

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"Reflecting Christ Together"

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In Memory of Rev. Tom Dews - Pastor Emeritus



Rev. Thomas M. Dews, Pastor of Morrow Presbyterian Church from May 1970 until April 1982, and MPC's Pastor Emeritus, died on May 25, 2011, at the age of 93.

Rev. Dews was born in Nashville, TN on July 1, 1917. He is survived by his wife, Freida Smith Dews of Covington, Ga., three children: Thomas M. Dews, Jr. (Katherine) of Silver Spring, Maryland, James Tye Dews (Susan) of Sioux City, S.D. and Julie Dews (Bob Warren) of Montreat, NC; five grandchildren and five great grandchildren, a sister, Catherine Dews Jenkins of Blakely, GA and many beloved nieces and nephews. He also had three stepchildren: Karen Burdell (Chuck) of Conyers, GA, Jimmy Mobley (Sherry) of Irwinville, GA and Larry Mobley (Debra) of Ocilla, Ga. as well as six step-grandchildren and six step great grandchildren. He was greatly loved by all his family and friends. He was preceded in death by his wife of 40 years, Virginia Tye Dews, who died in 1984.

When Rev. Dews became pastor of MPC in 1970, our Sunday School began to expand, new classes were formed, and remodeling began. Several Boy and Girl Scout Troops

were sponsored by the church and our Young-At-Heart was organized. Due to increased membership, an enlarged sanctuary, a multi-purpose room, and more classrooms were soon required. The first Sunday in the completed facilities was April 10, 1977. Rev. Dews retired from the Pastorate in April 1982, and became our Pastor Emeritus.

After Pastor Dews retired, he served as Chaplin of Calvin Center in Hampton, GA. He was a member of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church in Covington, GA, where he was active and often preached until recently.

He will be dearly missed.

Pictured: Tom & Freida Dews



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MORROW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Morrow Presbyterian Herald

The Pastor's Pen



Monday, May 23, 2011

This morning, I drove past a billboard that had been warning us of the Judgment Day on May 21 for the last three weeks. It was quickly replaced with a McDonald's advertisement of a colorful frozen drink and the words *Una Fiesta Limonfrescona*, a very fresh lemon party. Life moves on...

To be sure, May 21 was the end of the world for those who passed on from a long illness or an unexpected accident. People die every day, and some of them happened to die this last Saturday. Their families are still mourning, trying to cope with such bad news, trying to move forward with their lives without that special person.

For most of the population who did not pass on to another life, we could mock the predictions of one person and call him a fool. We could quote passages such as Matthew 24:23-28 and 24:36-44, and pat ourselves on the back for such firm arguments. Or, we could consider the presence of God. Where is God, up there in some heaven far away or right here in our problems and successes?

In John 14, Jesus is talking about preparing places for his disciples in heaven, when Thomas asks, "Lord, we don't know where you are going. How can we know the way?" (John 14:5). Jesus responds with words that might be very familiar to us, but notice the verb he uses. He says, "I am the way and the truth and the life." Not "I will be," but "I am," present tense. Thomas is worried about finding a way that he may come to at the end of his life, while Jesus is talking about a Reality that Thomas may grasp immediately.

When Jesus visits the woman at the well, she tells him that she believes the Messiah is coming one day; and when Jesus meets Martha after her brother Lazarus dies, she says she believes he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day (cf. John 4:25 and 11:24). Jesus tells the woman at the well, "I who you speak to *am* he," and he tells Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life." Again, present tense. Not something that will eventually happen, but something that is happening right here, right now.

God is here, not will be here. God the Father is here offering us everlasting life through Christ the Son, not will be when the time is ripe. God is with us now, not will be when we get our lives straightened out, not will be when the job comes and the money flows, not will be when we can learn how to love and forgive, not will be when we can feel better about ourselves. God is right here, right now, in the thick and thin, in the pits and on the mountains. I AM, Jesus says.

A young seminarian's pastor/mentor was dying. He had been the seminarian's mother's youth pastor when she was young, and he had helped the young man enter seminary and work toward ordination. He was standing at bedside in the hospital. Amid tubes and wires coming from nose and chest the mentor said: "I have bad news and good news to tell you. The bad news is that I have the big C, cancer, and it's terminal, and I have two weeks to live." This tore the seminarian's heart in two, and he wept bitterly. After several minutes, the sick pastor/mentor said, "I have good news, and it is I have the big C, and it's terminal, and I have two weeks to go before I get to see the Lord. I finally get to see what I've been living for every day of my life."

At least one good thing came from last Saturday: All of us thought a little bit more about Jesus.

Peace in Christ,

Rev. Dr. John

Prayer Requests

PRAYING FOR OUR MEMBERS, FAMILIES, & FRIENDS Elaine Hayes, Zach Bradley (CSU student), Justin Cos, Family of the Rev. Tom Dews, Wes Basham, Darnell Bell, Jo Bevil, Allie Brandon, Charlie Brown, Ted Cantrell & family, Dianne Clements, Mrs. Cooper, Fannie Crain, Paula Dashtpeyma, Hazel Fink, Kristen Floyd, Kathey Fox, Gene & Euna Hammond, Kelley Harden, Talia King, Charles Lester, Carol McGhee, Dahlia Minton, David Moss, Gladys Oliver, Sonny Oswalt, Lori Pullan, Lloyd Sanders, Viola Shell, Kelly Shipp, Margaret Strelsky, Forrest & Ann Thornton, Michael Thraikill, Becky Tri, and Jeff Yarbrough. **OUR MISSIONARIES:** Rev. Al Tinio & family in the Philippines; Dan & Elizabeth Turk & children at Mission Haven in Decatur. **OUR MILITARY:** Scott **Bland** - Navy, Virginia; Shaun **Bland** - Navy, Georgia; Stephen **Brown** - Army Reserves, Arizona; Kevin **Brown** - Army - Fort Sam Houston, TX; Jeffrey & Maribel **Brown** - both in Army Reserves, Georgia; Jeremy **Butler** - Japan in July; Robert **Crain**, Tennessee; PVT Joseph **Eason**, Germany; Kevin **Krebs**, Tennessee; Capt. Walter D. **Lillegard**, Ft. Campbell, KY; Adam **Martin**; SGT Edward "Buddy" **McKenzie**, III, - Milledgeville; Cole **Springer** - Army basic training, Columbus, GA; A1C Richard **Venizelos** - Scott AFB, Illinois; PFC Justin **Warlick** - Ft. Lewis, WA.

Family Night Supper—June 26



FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER & TRIVIA NIGHT.....

Sunday, June 26 at 6:00 p.m. Join with your church family for a fun night of food, fellowship, and an exciting game of Trivia led by Sharon and Wayne Goza. For the game, all you will need is just a little bit of knowledge about a lot of things... along with a lot of useless information. Also, please plan to bring food from the following suggestions: sandwiches, salads, fruit, desserts, or any other cold covered dish. Hope to see you there!

Celebrating Our Dads



Father's Day Breakfast - June 19, 9:30 a.m.

"Any man can be a father, but it takes a special person to be a dad." Start Father's Day with your family by coming to breakfast with your father, father figure, and our heavenly Father, on Sunday, June 19, 2011, at 9:30 am. We will be honoring our fathers and the special men in our lives. The Presbyterian Women will sponsor the breakfast, so please reserve a space for you and your family. Sign up sheet in the narthex.

Living Branch Life Group ...on the Move



Sharing Life's Blessings.

The six members of the Living Branch Life Group find comfort in sharing their joys and their sorrows with each other, in sharing God's word and God's peace with each other, and in working together as God bids them by sharing with God's people. During the past year, the group made sack lunches and delivered them to individuals in downtown Atlanta three times. To date this year, they have already provided food twice and plan to do more.

Shown here in the picture, Audrey Sharpe, Florette Njomu, Edith Walston, Betty Janes and Roxie Romine as they prepare sandwiches to be placed in individual sacks along with fruit, salty snacks, sweet snacks and water. Photographer is Tom Janes.

Young-at-Heart News

The June activity for the YOUNG-AT-HEART GROUP will be a special outing on **JUNE 23**. Instead of the usual picnic at the church, the group will dine at Kacey's (a buffet restaurant at Northlake), then go to Stone Mountain to see the Laser Show. Please let Ken Campbell know if you plan to join in the fun of the evening! They will leave the church at 6:30 p.m. Cost will be your dinner only. Upon returning to the church that evening, transportation to your home will be provided if needed. Please let Ken Campbell know if you plan to join in the fun of the evening by **JUNE 16**.

VBS—Shake It Up Café



July 10 - 14, 2011

6:00 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

In this kid-friendly café full of chef's hats and aprons, pots and pans, checkered tablecloths, and chalkboard menus, kids explore the Bible as a cookbook filled with recipes for living out God's word. Registration forms will be available Sunday to sign up for VBS classes. Children will sign up for the grade they will be entering in the fall. Dock & Andra Gammage will lead the Youth. Pastor John will lead the adults. If you have any questions, please contact Dianne Hooten at 770-474-2632 or 770-961-5444.

Frank Warlick— TV Star

Saturday, June 11, 7 or 8 p.m. Be on the lookout for our own Frank Warlick as he plays a bookstore owner in a pilot for a possible TV series. The show "Field of Vision" will air on Saturday, June 11, at either 7 or 8 p.m. (time not yet confirmed) on NBC. Way to go, Frank!

Congratulations to Romea "Grandma" Moriles

Each year, the Morrow Presbyterian Women honor one special woman for her contributions to the Presbyterian Church. Our honoree for 2011 is **Romea "Grandma" Moriles**.

"Faithful loving member of MPC, wonderful prayer warrior, special lady who truly gives herself to our church, loves the Lord and praises Him, what would we do without her amens?, enjoys taking part in circle and church, shows love to strangers, an inspiration, a godly woman, a fine example to us all, lifts us up in prayer, Christianity in action." These are comments taken from the nomination forms.

Romea Moriles was born in Carigara, Leyte, Philippines on July 4, 1925. Although baptized as a Catholic, she joined the Protestant church in 1945 where she found joy in reading the Bible and attending Sunday school, VBS, and other church activities. She has been instrumental in supporting the Uptown Church in the Philippines, a church she helped found with her family. She and her husband, Manuel, became members of the Morrow Presbyterian Church on July 4, 1994. They have 5 children and 9 grandchildren.

Romea, or "Grandma," would like to be known as an ambassador for Christ. She is a prayer warrior, enjoys mailing the weekly sermons to our members who cannot come to church, and visits the sick and shut-ins. She is an active member of the Dorcas Circle, Young-at-Heart, Pacer's Sunday school class, and the Lighthouse Life Group. She would like to leave behind a legacy of faith in God. Grandma believes that the *center* of her life is worship, the *character* of her life is discipleship, the *contribution* of her life is service, the *communication* of her life is mission to unbelievers, and the *community* of her life is fellowship with the people of God.

Congratulations, Grandma!



Thank You Notes

From Ken & Janis Campbell...Just a note of thanks to the MPC Crosswalkers for the gift of the beautiful t-shirt with all your notes and names on it. It was so sweet of all of you to meet and walk for Dianne and Charles at the Relay for Life Cancer Walk on Friday, May 13. You have given us so much love and support, we cannot imagine how our lives would have been without it. Please continue to remember us in your prayers. We pray God's richest blessings on each and every one of you.

From Kevin Moriles...To MPC Circles, Thank you so much for all your gifts and prayers during my first year in college. THEY MEANT A LOT TO ME! College is not easy, but I tried to do my best. In the first semester, I have been on the Dean's List, and was a National Collegiate Scholar. However, I may not keep it up this second semester. :(Chemistry and Calculus. Just want to let you know how much I appreciate all that you are continuing to do for me.

From Romea "Grandma" Moriles...To the Presbyterian Women and MPC Congregation, It is with great joy and privilege that I would like to thank you for choosing me to be the MPC Honorary Lifetime Member Awardee for this year. I humbly thank you for elevating me to the level of a select group of extraordinary women in our church. I am fully committed in serving Christ and the mission of His church. To God be the glory, Praise God! How grateful I am for the encouragement, support, love, and spiritual growth that MPC has given me all these years. I thank God for all of you, my beloved church family.

From Carol McGhee...Thank you so much for all of your kind support during my recent cancer surgery and continuing treatments. Your prayers, love, concern, cards, and meals have meant so much.

Health & Safety Fair

Community Health & Safety Fair

Saturday, June 25

8 a.m.—3 p.m.

Our Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts are sponsoring a Community Health and Safety Fair here at the church. This is a free event open to the entire community. The local Fire, Police, and EMS Departments will be on hand with demonstrations and information. There will be simple games for the little ones sponsored by our Scouts. Available activities during the day include:

- Fire Safety
- Proper Child Car Seat Installation and Use
- Child Fingerprinting and ID
- Fire engines, ambulances, police cars for the kids to see
- Oral Hygiene
- Breast Cancer Awareness information
- Basic Health Screenings by local health professionals
- Simple yard games and prizes and more

Invite your friends and neighbors and come join us!