



**MORROW
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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"Reflecting Christ Together"

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We miss you, Sonny!

In Memory of Sonny Oswalt

Mr. Leon "Sonny" Guvert Oswalt, of Morrow, GA, passed away on May 10, 2012 at the age of 69. Sonny was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and a friend to many. He always had a smile and a moment to talk with people.

Sonny joined Morrow Presbyterian Church with his wife, Carol, on December 5, 2004. He was protective of his pew and always liked to be there to fill it. Sonny was ordained an elder at MPC in January 2008 and served on the Facilities Maintenance Ministry Team. One of his loves in the church was the food pantry. He enjoyed coming up on Thursdays to volunteer his time.

Sonny is survived by his wife Carol Oswalt; daughters, Gina Stanley (Keith) of Hampton, Stacy Clanton (Rusty) of Griffin; son, Todd Oswalt (Michelle) of McDonough; brother, Steve Oswalt of Tallahassee, AL; grandchildren, Brandon, Ansley, Dillon, and Emma, and several nieces and nephews.

Donations may be made to the Morrow Presbyterian Church to go toward a special fund designated by the family.



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**Morrow Presbyterian
Herald**

The Pastor's Pen



One of my favorite cartoonists from the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette drew a picture of a priest standing outside the front door of a stone church. On the side of the church, a sign says, "Today's Sermon – Omniscience, Omnipresence, and Omnipotence." Mom and Dad come out the door with Junior, and he has a question for the priest. Apparently his little mind could not grasp the meaning of those three Omni words in the sermon, so he asks, "In other words, God is kind of like Google?"

Let's take a look at these big Omni words, but in a way we can understand.

We may start with Omniscience. The word literally means "the knowing of all things." God knows everything about everything, because all things were made by him. All things continue to be made by him. He knows exactly how the brain works, even though scientists are still baffled by it. God knows every square inch of the bottom of the oceans, although humans have explored less than 5% of it. As God knows about all things, he knows what is best for all things. I once heard a pastor say that God has walked down an infinite number of paths with billions of people throughout the course of history, so he ought to know exactly how our situations should work out. In fact, God has already walked down the path of our strife, and has come back to show us the way through it. That takes more than talent or skill. That takes God who knows everything.

Omnipresence is the next. God is not tied down to one place – God made that abundantly clear when he had Jeremiah send a letter to the exiles that they should build houses and plant gardens and worship the Lord God, even though they were far away from the temple in Jerusalem (29:1-14). Because of God's ever-presence, he can hear the prayer of a little boy in India, of a man in Moscow, and of a teenage girl in Albuquerque, New Mexico, all at the same time. God does this for all 7 billion people on this planet, and all prayers are distinct and clear. God is also not tied down to a period of time like humans are. Julius Caesar lived from 100BC-44BC, while George Washington lived a little longer from 1732-1799, but God lived way before they were born and will live way beyond our dates of death. God is, the great I AM.

Lastly, Omnipotence. God has the power to do anything, and that means anything he wishes. He is God: He made the rules and put everything in order. However, what is so wonderful and strange about God's omnipotence is that – at times, if not most of the time – he will not force us to do anything he desires. God limits his omnipotence, it seems, by working through our limited power and ability to make things happen. Could we be different people, suffering from no problem or pain? Sure, all things are possible with God. But for some reason, only understood perfectly by God, we are as we are with all our triumphs and tragedies. The Holy Spirit moves through all, revealing God's power to move mountains and shake up lives from time to time. God invites us to join with him in that power, that omnipotence, to make things happen for the good of his kingdom.

Each of these topics would take many sermons to describe, and even then we might not touch on every little detail. But that is what is so awesome about the omniscience, omnipresence, and omnipotence of God. They are beyond our reach, and yet they touch us. They are unexplainable, and yet God shares pieces of each with us each day. Thank God that he knows what he is doing. It will always be the best for us, his beloved children.

Peace in Christ,
Rev. Dr. John

Prayer Requests

PRAYING FOR OUR MEMBERS, FAMILIES, & FRIENDS Family of June Greer, Will Felt (friend of Anne Fordham), Shenequa Dennis (friend of Rita Coughlin), Frank Archer, Bobby Bays, Wilma Bell, Jo Bevil, Martha Bowman, Allie Brandon, Charlie Brown, Jean Chase, Paula Echols, Earl Funk, Wayne Goza, Spencer Grant, Susie Grant, Howard Harden, Kelley Harden, Bob Hardy, Sheridan Hicks, Eddie Hooten, Lynn Johnson, Sherry Johnson, Barbara Kelly, Frank Line, Scott Lunsford, Mary McBath, Julia McLeod, Dahlia Minton, Joseph Mitchell, Bernard Mock, Linda Morgan, David Moss, Jim Pierrot, Luis Saavedra, Nerys Saavedra, Joe & Betty Spier, Margaret Strelsky, Susan Tate, Forrest & Ann Thornton, Elizabeth Turk, Marie Tuttle, Beth Wheeler, 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 Huachuca, AZ; Robert **Crain**, Tennessee; PVT Joseph **Eason**, Germany; Najee **Hall**- San Diego, CA; Kevin **Krebs**, Tennessee; Capt. Walter D. **Lillegard**; Adam **Martin**; SGT Edward "Buddy" **McKenzie**, III, - Milledgeville; Brent **Paul** - Military College of GA; Cole **Springer** - Army; A1C Richard **Venizelos** - Scott AFB, Illinois; PFC Justin **Warlick** - Ft. Lewis.

Christian love and sympathy to... The Family of June Greer (member and Angela Turner's mother) upon her death May 29, 2012. Turner Family, 4536 Pine Dr., Forest Park 30297. Please be in prayer for the family during this difficult time.

Young at Heart Picnic—June 27

June—The annual picnic month for the Young at Heart group! Reserve Wednesday, June 27, 11 a.m. for this very special happening! Ham and fried chicken will be provided. Please bring salads, side dishes, and desserts to go along with the meal. Hope you will all be there to join in the fun of the day.

Father's Day Breakfast—June 17

Father's Day Breakfast – June 17, 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 17, 2012, 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. Our Man of the Year Award will be presented during the worship service.

Stop Hunger Now—Update



Stop Hunger Now Meal Packaging. Approximately 52 volunteers showed up on Saturday, May 19, at Morrow First UMC to put together meal packages for Stop Hunger Now. 144,400 meals were packed!

Welcome New Members

Welcome to our new members who joined MPC on Easter Sunday, April 8, 2012.

Thomas & Ugo Chukwura

6247 Vista Court

Riverdale, GA 30296

770-907-4888 email: uchukwura@gmail.com

Thomas & Ugo are both elders who come to MPC by *Transfer of Letter* from the Riverdale Presbyterian Church. Thomas is a FedEx package handler. He enjoys good music and gardening. Ugo is a CPA. She enjoys reading and sports.

Gabyjudy Jeffrey

2980 Valentine Avenue

Bronx, NY 10458

Gabyjudy joined MPC by Profession of Faith. Her son, Alex, came as a covenant member. Gabyjudy loves to cook, talk, clean, and is open to anything that is positive. Sadly, soon after joining MPC, Gabyjudy and Alex moved to New York to live closer to family.



VBS 2012 Operation Overboard

Sunday - Covered Dish **Monday - Friday** - Supper is catered

Colors: Sunday - Yellow Monday - Red Tuesday - Blue

Wednesday - Purple Thursday - Green

June 24 - 28

6:00 p.m.— 8:45 p.m.

All ages—including adults

- **Depend** on God
- **Dare** to Care
- **Claim** Jesus
- **Choose** to follow

Congratulations to Deborah Venizelos



Each year, the Morrow Presbyterian Women honor one special woman for her contributions to the Presbyterian Church. Our honoree for 2012 is **Deborah Venizelos**.

Deborah was born in Lawton, OK, the first of three children for her Army parents and became a cultured and well-travelled child. Deborah attended Forest Park High School. A subsequent assignment took the family overseas and resulted in Deborah graduating from high school at the Taipei American School. She returned to Georgia to attend college graduating from the University of Georgia with a degree in English Education. After graduation she took a position with the Methodist Children's Home in Macon, Georgia. Although she loved working with the children in the home, other factors led her to join the Army in her father's footsteps.

Deborah joined Morrow Presbyterian Church with her family in 1997. She has been deeply involved in the activities of the Morrow Presbyterian Church ever since. She has served as an elder and taught both Sunday School (serving for about 13 years), and Kid's Club, directed multiple VBS programs, played on the Women's Softball team and more recently served as Chair of our Missions and Outreach Committee of the Presbyterian Women. She has been a member of the Crosswalker's Relay for Life Team for many years and has prepared numerous baskets for their fund raising auctions. She has helped with many Fall Festivals. She is known for her artistic abilities and ways to turn cardboard into awesome creations. She is a wonderful wife to Robert Venizelos and a loving mother to her three children, Rebekah, Richard, and Stephanie. Her husband, Robert, says, "She is the administrative glue that holds her department together at work. She has long been the rock of our family with my time away through military schools and deployments." Deborah cannot say no when asked to do anything to support any activity in the church and is known for her cheerful, positive attitude, her creative craft abilities, and her propensity to cry when speaking in public. **Congratulations, Deborah!**

Mother's Day Lunch Update



Our annual Mother's Day Luncheon was a tremendous success due to Deborah Venizelos' planning, execution, and the delicious food she prepared. The luncheon was enjoyed by approximately 60 ladies in a beautiful garden setting with lovely tables decorated by several members. Our program, "Come to the Garden" compared our walk with God to that of the seasons of the garden. We had special music by Kelsey Campbell and Kimberly Moriles. Our spring birthday offering was taken in celebration of Presbyterian Women.

Thank You Cards & Messages

From the Oswalt Family... Thank you for your love and support for Sonny and our family during his illness and passing. He loved the visits, the music, the special treats (how could I say "No" to all the sweets y'all brought when that was all he wanted to eat), and all the food you brought for me and the rest of the family. But mostly, thank you for your friendship and prayers. Sonny knew how special the people of MPC are and he loved you so much. Please continue to keep our family in your prayers as we go through this difficult time without him. Love, Carol, Gina, Stacy & Todd

From Ben & Marcia Cartledge... Thanks to everybody that helped fund our Relay for Life Team this year. The fun(d) raisers are always looked forward to, and this year it was just the best!! Our church raised ...\$4,116.90 so far! We all have been touched by cancer one way or another and understand the seriousness of that disease. Thank you to our walkers. They are wonderful!

From Virginia Wheeler... Dear Morrow Church Friends, Your kindness is greatly appreciated. Thank you for the cards and prayers when I was sick and in the hospital. It really helped to know there were prayers going to God, our Father, during this time. I am doing fine and ready to join the well now! Eddy has stayed up here with me. May God bless you always.

From Bud & Judy Chapman... Our sincere thanks and appreciation for the love expressed by the congregation in cards, prayers, and concerns at the loss of Bud's sister, Lola Mitchell. It lifted us up at a time when our spirits were low. The Morrow church family is truly a blessing from God.