



**MORROW
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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"Reflecting Christ Together"

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www.morrowpresbyterian.org

In Memory of Fannie Mae Crain



Mrs. Fannie Mae Crain, of Jonesboro, GA, passed away on February 24, 2012 at the age of 93. "Nannie" was a loving wife, mom, grandmother, and a friend to many. Her door was always open to those in need, whether for her amazing southern cooking, for shelter, encouragement, or as a trusted confidant. Fannie enjoyed watching her kids, grandkids, and great-grandkids play softball.

She was a long-time member and supporter of the Morrow Presbyterian Church, having joined in 1975. She loved having the pew filled with her family on Sunday mornings. She enjoyed the old Sunday School picnics at Camp Calvin.

Fannie is preceded in death by her husband Hugh D. Crain and daughter Beverly Crain Askew. She is survived by her daughter Donna Rowe (Romeo) of Montgomery, TX; son Robert "Bobby" Crain, Sr. (Debbie) of Jonesboro, GA; grandchildren Jack Welborn Askew, Jr. (Kathy) of McDonough, GA, Hugh Craig Askew (fiancé Elizabeth) of Hampton, GA, Will Jeffrey Askew (Amanda) of Mansfield, TX, Tracy Lannette Hawthorne (Troy), Rhonda Gail McLin (Glen) both of Montgomery, TX, Stephanie Juanita Easter of Oklahoma City, OK, Robert Hill Crain, Jr. (Holly), of Hendersonville, TN, Darrell Edward Crain (Jennifer) of Norman, OK; 18 great-grandchildren; 5 great-great-grandchildren; sisters Nadine Thomas of Luthersville, GA, Ida Ruth Parks of Homer, GA; and brother Travis Garner (Joann) of Newnan, GA. Donations may be made to the Morrow Presbyterian Church Food Pantry in Fannie's memory.

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MORROW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Morrow Presbyterian
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The Pastor's Pen



At the beginning of a Presbytery meeting that I attended years ago in Pennsylvania, the moderator asked these questions, "What is grace? What does grace mean to you?" We gathered in small groups for ten minutes or so and discussed the topic of grace. A good topic to discuss, since we were in the middle of Lent and would soon celebrate the greatest expression of grace on Easter Day.

What is grace to you? What does it mean to you?

According to Max Lucado, grace is a strong grip upon us, a grip God has on us that will not let go. Grace releases us from obligation to pay for our sins. The penalty has been paid by Jesus. We are exposed to a higher standard: purity, perfection, eternal life.

According to Dietrich Bonhoeffer, grace is not cheap. It is not justification of sin without the justification of the sinner, the preaching of forgiveness without the requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline, or Communion without confession. Grace is costly: it cost the life of a Man so all men and women may have true life. Costly grace is the treasure in the field a person who would be happy to buy with everything he or she has and the pearl of great price that the merchant would gladly sell all his goods for. Costly grace is the call to follow Jesus Christ alone and fully.

According to Philip Yancey, grace contains many facets: loving those who are unlovable, forgiving those who are unforgivable, and speaking kindly to those who don't speak kindly. Grace breaks the chain of acting ruthlessly towards each other ("[The person] who cannot forgive another breaks the bridge over which [that person] must pass himself [or herself]"). Grace is the bond that holds us to God ("[A person] is born broken. [A person] lives by mending. The grace of God is glue").

The Westminster Confession of the Presbyterian *Book of Confessions* says that grace is an assurance from God for eternal life, as long as we truly believe in the Lord Jesus, love him in sincerity, and choose to walk in all good conscience before him.

A leader of my youth group once said, "GRACE is God's redemption at Christ's expense."

The Bible says grace is God so loving the world that he sent his only begotten Son, so those who believe in him would not perish but have eternal life. For God didn't send the Son to the world to condemn but to save it through him (John 3:16-17).

What is grace? What is grace to you? Reflect upon those questions over this month, and in the first week of April. Allow the love of God to pour over you. Let the life Christ offers you to enrich your bodies and bring life to your spirits. And then, answer the two questions with a new insight and a new hope.

Peace in Christ,

Rev. Dr. John

In the Grip of Grace (Word Publishing, Dallas, 1996), pgs. 109-117.

The Cost of Discipleship (Collier Books/ MacMillian Publishing Company, New York, 1963), pgs. 45-60

What's So Amazing about Grace (Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, 1997.) The quotes came from pages 82 and 270)

Book of Confessions, PC(USA), "The Westminster Confession of Faith", 6.097.

Prayer Requests

PRAYING FOR OUR MEMBERS, FAMILIES, & FRIENDS Martha Bowman (friend of Shirley Thaikill), Alene Rowland (mother of former member Bonnie Ray), Family of Shel Ford (friend of Judy Chapman), Family of Fannie Crain, Michael Thraikill (Bill Thraikill's brother), Bill Allison, Bobby Bays, Phyllis Bearden, Wilma Bell, Jo Bevil, Allie Brandon, Charlie Brown, Mary Butler, Jo Calhoun, Janis Campbell, Chris Costa, Ysora Fernandez, Haywood Fordham, Spencer Grant, Kelley Harden, Betsy & J.D. Hilliard, Eddie Hooten, Ann Howard, Elsie King, Andrew Ladores, Alicia Linzy, Patrice Marsh, Mary McBath, Richard & Florence McCray, Julia McLeod, Dahlia Minton, Linda Morgan, Amador Moriles, David Moss, Sonny Oswalt, T. J. Ragan, John Randolph, Jean Rathbun, Henry Richardson, Joe & Betty Spier, Margaret Strelsky, Forrest & Ann Thornton, 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**- PRAISE! Home from Afghanistan, 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; AIC Richard **Venizelos** - Scott AFB, Illinois; PFC Justin **Warlick** - Ft. Lewis, WA.

Christian love and sympathy to... The family of Fannie Crain upon her death on February 24. Bob & Debbie Crain, 3894 Creek Street, Jonesboro, GA 30236.

Presbyterian Women News

Our **Project for 2012** will be "Refreshing the Fellowship Hall" and will begin with the donations we received in memory of Darnell Bell. We will begin by purchasing replacement white tablecloths and other items needed for receptions. Other items being considered are blinds for the windows to reduce glare and utilities in the summer and to aid with slideshow/video presentations. (Please begin to save your loose change for this project.)

25th Annual Gathering of Presbyterian Women of The Presbytery of Greater Atlanta - All Presbyterian women are called to be present to conduct the business of the Presbytery on Sunday, March 18, at 1 p.m. at St. Luke's Presbyterian Church, 1978 Mt. Vernon Road, Dunwoody, GA. Please consider spending a Sunday afternoon of Fellowship with the Lord and other Presbyterian Women and be inspired by his word. We will carpool from the church. See Brenda Garner by March 11 to confirm lunch count for meeting and transportation.



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Circle Meetings - Calling all Morrow Presbyterian Women to attend one of three circles for Bible study and fellowship: **Dorcas Circle** meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall with continued Bible Study on the Book of John; **Virginia Dews Circle** meets on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Pacers classroom. They are beginning a study on Psalm 23; and **Morning Glory Circle** meets on the fourth Sunday of every month during the Sunday School hour in the McNair/Seekers classroom. They are beginning a study on the book "The Resolution for Women" by Priscilla Shirer.

Wonderful time to become part of any of our three circles.

Honorary Life Membership



Honorary Life Membership - Remember to nominate your special woman for her contributions to the Presbyterian Church each year by completing your bulletin insert and returning to the church office no later than Sunday, March 11. The winner will be announced at our annual Mother's Day Brunch on Saturday, May 12, and the award will be presented on Mother's Day, May 13.

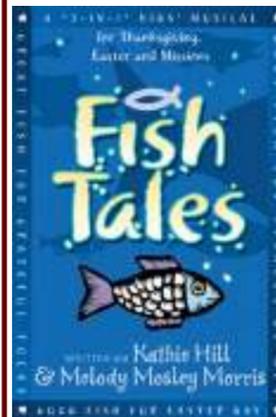
Scones and Fables



Scones and Fables, Saturday, March 17, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Are you getting those shelves cleaned off for Scones and Fables? You may start bringing your books to the church now, as boxes are placed outside of the library. Volunteers are needed at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, March 16, to sort until done. Feel free to bring a lunch to eat while there. Talk to Deborah Venizelos about bringing a baked item to our Scones and Fables. We will sell them to help fund our fight for cancer through Relay for Life. Please plan to come, look around, shop and then have a bowl of Brunswick stew, and then shop some more. All will have a great time being with friends and meeting some new ones.

Encourage one another.

Kids Club Program



March 25, 2012

Fundraiser Dinner

6:00 p.m.

Program

7:00 p.m.

Kid's Club (with Youth helpers) will present a *Fish Tales* fundraiser dinner and program on Sunday, March 25. Fish Sandwiches, Cole Slaw, and Pudding will be provided by the Kid's Club parents and team. The program will consist of special numbers such as *A Good Day on a Bad Day* and *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High*. All proceeds from this fundraiser go to support our kids at Camp Calvin and The Great Escape this summer. Brochures for Camp Calvin are available in the narthex.

Thank You Cards & Messages

From Pat & John Randolph... Dear friends at Morrow Presbyterian, You sometimes feel that when you leave someplace, people will forget you. That's not the case with you. Thank you so much for all the prayers, cards, and calls that John and I received during his long battle leading up to surgery for lung cancer. He is now on the road to recover, thanks mostly to prayers. He is still experiencing pain from nerve damage, but he is being treated for it. I knew when I came to work at MPC that you were special, you've proven that again. Thanks are not enough, but thanks.

From Ken & Janis Campbell and Family...TO THE PACER'S CLASS: We want to thank each and every one of you for the honor you paid to Dianne through the Butterfly Memory Garden. It is already beautiful and we know it will be even more so when everything starts blooming and the little butterflies start flitting around. We can almost see Dianne smiling as she watches them. Also, our thanks to all you friends who made donations to the fund to make the Garden a reality. I hope everyone will take a look at the garden, watch it grow and enjoy it as much as we will. Again, our thanks to you all and may God richly bless each of you.

From David Turner and the Scouts... On behalf of all our Scout families, I would like to thank the congregation for your support of our Scouting programs. Many of our families have expressed to me how friendly our congregation is and how welcomed they felt at our recent Scout Sunday. Your support has made it possible for many of our young men to be able to experience all that Scouting has to offer, including summer camp and numerous outdoor activities. If you would like more information about the impact of your support in the lives of these youth, please feel free to see me anytime. Your continued prayers and support are greatly appreciated.

Congratulations!



Congratulations to Forrest & Ann Thornton who recently celebrated their **70th Wedding Anniversary!** They married on January 19, 1942. They were introduced by a friend. Forrest & Ann developed a strong friendship before falling

in love and marrying. They have been members of Morrow Presbyterian Church since December 4, 1966.

Congratulations to Earl & Lucy Stewart who celebrated their **50th Wedding Anniversary** on March 2.

Best Wishes to two wonderful couples!

Thank You Cards (con't)

From The Rev. & Mrs. Al M. Tinio, Jr. and the Uptown Congregation in the Philippines... Dear Family Church, We are happy to inform you that the Uptown Congregation was able to share the blessings of the Morrow Presbyterian Church. It is indeed a new and unique ministry of prayers of thanksgiving because Mrs. Romea R. Moriles sent us the monthly celebrants published in your newsletter (birthdays and anniversaries of January and February) of our Family Church, with an offering of Philippine currency of Seven Thousand Pesos. Also, it's an added monthly income for the Uptown Congregation. But more importantly, when the Apostle James laid down this great rule,

"The supplication of a righteous man availeth much in its working."--JAMES, v. 16.

He had stated that the prayer of a good man avails much, he brought up as proof an instance in which it struck the mark in the very center of our faith. For our God is a *living* God; a God who has friends, and loves His friends; and this is the reason that He will do something for them when they cry to Him. We are to walk humbly before Him, and truly with the people, and our and your prayers will be heard. God bless us all.

Young at Heart

YOUNG-AT-HEART GROUP: Our March outing will be a trip to the MONASTERY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT in Conyers. Mark your calendars for WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, and plan to join the group. We will carpool from the church at 9:30 AM. After the visit to the Monastery, we will enjoy a dutch lunch at a restaurant to be announced later. Each person will be requested to contribute \$3.00 for carpooling. For reservations, please call Ken Campbell, 770-961-2272, by MARCH 14.