



**MORROW
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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"Reflecting Christ Together"

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

Welcome to Morrow Presbyterian Church!

Welcome to our new members who joined on April 14.

Robert & Sara Gore

3443 Old Jonesboro Road, Hapeville, GA 30354, 404-767-5108

Email (S) sarajgore@yahoo.com and (R) erogore@yahoo.com

Robert & Sara come to MPC by *Transfer of Letter* from East Point Presbyterian Church where they both served as elders and Sara served as a Sunday school teacher. Robert is a retired bookkeeper and enjoys home gardening and investing for the family. Sara is a retired media specialist and enjoys reading, cooking, and traveling.



Marilyn Mitchell

6766 Charles Drive, Morrow, GA 30260, 770-961-1348, wtmitchell@mindspring.com

Marilyn comes to MPC through *Baptism*. She is retired and enjoys doing volunteer work and preparing food. Marilyn has three grown children—a son, and two daughters.

Lacita Robinson

5926 Malibu Drive, Morrow, GA 30260, 404-402-9220

Lacita comes to MPC by *Profession of Faith*. She is a housewife and works for herself in her company, C&R Delivery Service, Inc. Lacita is married to Gary. She has two grown daughters who visit our church with her, Shanna and Renika, and a son, Trevion Porter, who joined MPC with our communicants class. Lacita's four grandchildren, Jamari, McKenzie, Jaden, and Jaya also attend MPC. Lacita enjoys cooking, day care, working, kids, and bookkeeping.

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**Morrow Presbyterian
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The Pastor's Pen



Since Mothers' Day is this month and Fathers' Day next month, I thought I'd highlight a devotional that came my way via email.

It came from The Henri Nouwen Society, and the topic was on parents and children. The well-known Catholic priest asks, "Can fathers and mothers become friends of their children?" It really depends on their age. There are parents who think they should be friends to the children while they are young. Some philosophy out there told them that children will grow up with less stress and strain, if parents treated them as equals. So these parents give their children what they want. They get into debates about everything, and the children win every one. They tell their friends that their parents are "laid back," and those friends think it is cool.

But the result of this is younger children having no boundaries. They do not learn when to say yes and no, and they find themselves in all sorts of trouble. When they reach adulthood, they do not have the discipline to tackle it. They were never given the basic foundations while growing up, so they tend to have little ambition and few goals. It seems the answer to Nouwen's question above is, "No, not if you love your children." They might not love your authority over them, but they need it. When they face difficulties in school or with friends and they don't know what to do, they may fall back on parents who have their backs and won't shrink from difficulties.

Children do not stay young for long, though. They become college-bound children, then workplace children, then married children, then parenting children. So once more Nouwen's question is, "Can fathers and mothers become friends of their children?" He says that this is a strange stage in the parent-child relationship. Parents cannot help but be parents, and adult children don't understand this. At least, not until they have their own children. Nouwen says that these adult children like to come home but they don't stay for long, because parents may worry over them to the point of frustrating them. They want caring parents, not overbearing parents. If they get the latter, they stay a few days and happily leave to pursue their own goals. The same could happen to married, parenting children: when they visit the grandparents they too feel as though they are grandchildren.

What can be done? Nouwen suggests that fathers and mothers view themselves as brothers and sisters of their own children. Maybe not as biological siblings, but definitely as brothers and sisters in Christ.

Siblings in Christ as mutual supporters. They pray for each other, they offer advice when needed, they grow in faith. Siblings of Christ are friends of a common Person and goal. In such a relationship, the older brother or sister (the father or mother) may have more experience and understanding than the younger, but it is nothing to lord over. It is nothing to force upon the younger Christian. It is offered as a teacher or mentor would offer help to a student or novice. The student or novice takes the advice as it comes, and he/she works with it together with God. The teacher or mentor comes to God with an idea to share, and God molds and shapes it so it might be communicated properly.

"It doesn't happen often," Nouwen says, this new relationship between parents and their adult children. "But when it does happen, it is as beautiful to watch as the dawn of a new day." If such a thing may happen for us, it is a wonderful condition to be in. As brothers and sisters, metal sharpens metal, and both the individual and the relationship grow closer to God.

Peace in Christ, Rev. Dr. John

Prayer Requests

PRAYING FOR OUR MEMBERS, FAMILIES, & FRIENDS Breanna Ordaniel (requested by Mary Ann Moriles), Eddie Wheeler, Beth Wheeler, Virginia Wheeler, Gertrude Ferraro (Carol Bevil's mother), Frank Archer, Jo Bevil, Allie Brandon, Mary Bridges, Mary Butler, Jerry Coughlin, Sherrie Esquivel, Ralph Fadner, Will Felt, Kristen Floyd, Alex Foss & Ukraine Trip, Earl & Connie Funk, Spencer Grant, Kelly Harden, Willie Haynes, Eddie Hooten, Adolpho Incerry, Sherry Johnson, Barbara Kelly, Mary McBath, Linda McCain, Julia McLeod, Audra McMillian, Dahlia Minton, David Moss, Keith Rhoden, Luis Saavedra, Ellen Smith, Joe & Betty Spier, Keith Stanley, Vrina Stebbins, Valerie Sterzik, Margaret Strelsky, Forrest & Ann Thornton, Angela Uri, Edith Walston, Jeff Yarbrough. **OUR MISSIONARIES:** Rev. Al Tinio & family in the Philippines; Dan & Elizabeth Turk - Madagascar. Bryant Harden, Peace Corps, Mongolia. **OUR MILITARY:** SPC Jonathan Amason, - National Guard, Afghanistan; Scott Bland - Navy, Virginia; Shaun Bland - Navy, Georgia; Stephen Brown - Army Reserves, Arizona; Jaime Brown - Army - Fort Benning, GA; Kevin Brown - Army - Fort Riley, KS; Jeffrey & Maribel Brown - both in Army Reserves, Georgia; Jeremy Butler - Japan; 1st Sgt Chris Chastain, Kosovo; PFC Daniel Costa - Afghanistan; Robert Crain, Tennessee; PVT Joseph Eason, Germany; Najee Hall - San Diego, CA; SR Drew Hayes - Navy; Great Lakes, IL; Kevin Krebs, Tennessee; Capt. - Adam Martin; SGT Edward "Buddy" McKenzie, III, - Milledgeville; Brent Paul - Military College of GA; SrA Richard Venizelos - Keesler AFB, Biloxi, MS; SPC Justin Warlick - Army; Aaron Wescott - Navy Special Forces - Afghanistan

Christian Love & Sympathy



Christian Love and Sympathy to the family of **Eldon Adams** upon his passing on March 27, 2013. Eldon and Jeanette Adams began visiting our church in 2007. Eldon was very active in our Young at Heart group and loved to go on the many trips the group takes. He will be missed. Please keep Jeanette and her family in your prayers. Jeanette Adams, 877 Longleaf Dr., Forest Park, GA 30297.

Young at Heart News



Hallelujah Girls—May 23, 5:30 p.m.

Make your reservation now! Thursday, May 23, the Young at Heart group will go to Main Street Theater in Griffin to see the play, "Hallelujah Girls!" Carpool will leave the church at 5:30 p.m. The group will enjoy dinner on the way. **Cost of the evening will be \$15.00 plus dinner.** Call Ken Campbell, 770-961-2272, **NO LATER THAN MAY 13** to reserve your place!

Father's Day—June 16



Father's Day Breakfast and Man of the Year - Sunday, June 16

Make plans now for a time to honor and remember our dads and other important men in our lives. A program will be presented in the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour beginning at 9:45 a.m. Breakfast will be provided following the program. We will then present the "Man of the Year" during the worship service. This will be a special day to honor and remember the Godly men in our lives. Man of the Year nomination forms will soon be available in your bulletin.

Attention College Graduates:

If you are graduating from college this spring, please submit your information to the church office for publication in the June newsletter.

Mother's Day Brunch—May 11



Stop, Look, & Listen! – Saturday, May 11.

To all of the lovely ladies who attend Morrow Presbyterian Church: You are cordially invited to join us for our annual Mother's Day Brunch which will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, May 11, beginning at **11:00am**. We are continuing with our Retreat's theme of "Stop, Look, & Listen". If you would be interested in decorating a table, please contact Deborah Venizelos (or call her at 770-914-5529). We will also be announcing our Honorary Life Member who will be presented to the Congregation on Sunday, May 12.

Special Offering



Special Mother's Day Offering Sunday, May 12.

On Sunday, May 12, our congregation will join with more than 200 Presbyterian churches in Georgia in support of the *Caring Hands Fund* for Presbyterian Homes of Georgia. Our gifts help to provide care and services for more than 400 elderly residents who have outlived their financial resources. In 60 years of ministry, Presbyterian Homes has never asked a resident to leave due to depleted funds. Please consider your gift to be able to give generously.

Graduation Sunday—May 26

Our high school graduates will be recognized on **Sunday, May 26**, at the morning worship service. Our seniors this year are Andrew Dimangondayoa, Christopher Campbell, Elizabeth Fincher, Matthew Hooten, Jonathan Johnson, Dionne Kemokai, Marissa McKee, Kathlyn Moriles, and Jordan Whatley. The parents of the graduates invite the congregation to a reception following the worship service on the 26th, and thank the PW for their assistance with this reception.

VBS 2013 Everywhere Fun Fair

Vacation Bible School 2013

June 23 - 27

All ages - including adults



Join Godwin!



Everywhere Fun Fair takes children to a global celebration with the look and feel of a world's fair. Children will make friends with neighbors around the world and discover that God's love can be found everywhere, including their own neighborhoods. Children will be introduced to special places from all over the world and discover that we are all neighbors and all children of God.

Everywhere Fun Fair is filled with exciting attractions such as interactive Bible storytelling, global games, rockin' music, super science, cool crafts, and more!

Volunteers Needed! There will be a meeting on Monday, May 6, at 7 p.m. for anyone who would like to volunteer to help with VBS. Please see Maria Cruz or Angela Turner to sign up to help with this fun fair.

Neighbors are:

- Friendly
- Giving
- Bold
- Forgiving
- Welcoming

Thank you Notes

From Jack & Connie Bell ... Please accept our heartfelt thanks and gratitude for all the cards, food, and expressions of sympathy at the recent passing of our Mama, Wilma Bell. Thank you most for your love, comfort, support, and prayers for us over the recent years of her life. Words simply aren't sufficient to express our love and thankfulness for our church family. God bless each one of you.

From Jeanette Adams ... I want to say thanks to each of you for being there for me at the passing of Eldon my SOUL MATE. I miss him so much. Each of you have given me the fellowship I need going through this terrible time. Janis & Ken - I appreciate all the love and caring you have shown me through your e-mails and at church. Virginia - I appreciate your asking me to do things such as having lunch and being my roommate for our trip to Nashville. You also said something to me on Sunday and I appreciate that concern. Roxie - Thanks for the hugs and love you have shown as well as your also inviting me to go to the Griffin Presbyterian Church to visit with Earl. Mary Nell - Thanks for the phone calls and your caring for my welfare, also. You two have invited me to go different places, also. Dianne - Thanks for coming to the viewing and helping me to fax some important papers to different places, and for saying you would do so anytime. I have gone to many, many different churches in my life, but have never been so welcome and cared for as I have been with the Morrow Presbyterian Church. I've never known so much love and caring from so many people as you show for everyone. You take care of all ages through your prayers, love, and fellowship. Again, thank each of you so very much. I think this is the hardest loss that I have ever known. Eldon and I were together a little over 55 yrs.

Butterfly Club begins



Butterfly Club, May 4, 10 a.m.

This group will have its first meeting on Saturday, May 4, at 10 a.m. in the parlor. The purpose of the Butterfly Club is to share the word of God with the reality of life. The group will rejoice in the memories of loved ones that have gone on to their eternal, pain-free, resting place. The hope is to have friends get out of the house and share in a place where they can bond with others who are experiencing some of the same situations and feelings. The meetings will be confidential. If you are interested in more information about this group, please see Maria Cruz, Janis Campbell, or Tricia Koehler.

Pentecost—May 19

Sunday, May 19, is Pentecost. Morrow Presbyterian Church likes to observe this special day by wearing **red**. We will also partake in Communion.

Relay for Life—May 3

Relay for Life – May 3, 6 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend the American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life" on Friday, May 3 at 6 pm at the Charles Drew High School, 6231 Garden Walk Blvd, Riverdale. Bring a picnic, enjoy the festivities and cheer on the Cross-Walkers! Information is at Relayforlife.org/claytonga