

# CHURCH MATTERS

APRIL

2011



## MORRISVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH

3824 Swamp Rd., P.O. Box 178, Morrisville, NY 13408

www.morrisvillechurch.org

morrisvillechurch@frontiernet.net

Rev. Saunda Thomas

saunda.thomas@frontiernet.net

Sunday School 9:00 AM

Sunday Service 10:30AM

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 9 am– 12pm

Office 684-3314

Pastor's Office 684-9971

Clothes Basket 684-9970

Fax 684-7817

## April Birthdays

- 1 Ann Batchelor
- 2 Amanda Miller
- 5 Maxine Hunter
- 5 Harriet Stevens
- 6 Robin Suarez
- 7 Nick Hunter
- 7 Thirza Suits
- 12 Karen Holbert
- 19 Paul Mockovak
- 20 George Fearon
- 20 Dakota Merkle
- 25 Jacalyn Groves
- 25 Cheryl Stevenson
- 26 Lindsay Mulcahy
- 26 Saunda Thomas

## No Anniversaries in April

## PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT:

The Property Committee received approval from Session to arrange for a "sponsor-purchase" of new chairs for the six tables used regularly in the Fellowship Hall. These will replace the green ones. The chairs are \$20.00 each (one can be seen in the Fellowship Hall). We are planning for at least 36 chairs. If you would like to be a "sponsor", please see one of the members of the Property Committee (Ron Brodeur, Charlene or Ron Bush, Steve Groves, Sylvia McKinnon or Nate Miller). We hope the project will be completed by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

## April Calendar of Events

- 1 Amer. Red Cross Blood Drive 1-6 pm
- 2 Indoor Garage Sale – 9 am – 2 pm
- 4 C.E. Comm. – 6 pm
- 4 Deacons – 6:30 pm
- 4 PW Ministry Team – 7:30 pm
- 5 O & E Comm. Mtg. – 6:30pm
- 6 Lenten Study- 3:30-4:30 pm – Church Library
- 6 Rehearsal for next Sunday's Service – 6 pm
- 9 Amer. Quilters using Fellowship Hall 20-3
- 11 Finance Comm. Mtg. – 4 pm
- 11 Worship Comm. Mtg. – 6 pm
- 11 Property Comm. Mtg. – 7 pm
- 13 PW Ministry Team – 1:00 pm – Church Library
- 13 Lenten Study – 3:30-4:30 pm in Library
- 17 Palm Sunday
- 18 Personnel Committee – 6:30 pm
- 18 Session – 7 pm
- 19 Faith Circle – Noon – E. Davis', Madison Lane Apts., Hamilton
- 20 Lenten Study – 3:30-4:30 pm – Library
- 24 Easter Sunday
- 27 WIC – 8 am – 3 pm
- 28 Book Read – 12:30 pm – 2 pm ("The Help")
- 30 Food Sense 8:30 – 10:00 am

## FINDING THE PASTOR.....

Friends, it has been a long winter and there have been many occasions to be visiting in hospitals and nursing homes. I also am serving the Presbytery on their Board of Trustees. Times for the Trustee meetings seem to be "floating" at the present because others have difficult schedules as well. The next Trustee meeting is 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>.

Because I know that you want to find me in the office, I am naming "Open Office Hours", times when you can be sure to find me in the office barring any emergency.

Mondays from 11:00 am to 3:30 and the first three Thursdays of the month from 1:00 to 4:00 are "open"... meaning that you do not have to make an appointment to find me. (We have "Book Read" on the fourth Thursday of the month). As you can see, I will need to violate those hours on April 21<sup>st</sup> and will make every effort not to schedule myself away during "Open Office Hours" after this.

Please drop by to see me; it's so much fun and always enlightening to sit and chat with you! Thank you for trusting me to be your pastor!

Saunda E. Thomas

## FAITH CIRCLE MISSION PROJECT

The Faith Circle Mission Project is to collect Hygiene Kits for Church World Service. These kits are used in areas where natural disasters occur. In the face of natural disasters, violence, or grinding poverty, Hygiene Kits can mean the difference between sickness and health for struggling families. Each Hygiene Kit contains: One Hand Towel measuring approx. 16"x28" (no fingertip or bath towels), One washcloth, One wide-tooth comb, One nail clipper, One bar of soap (bath size in wrapper), One toothbrush (in original packaging), Six standard size Band-Aids.® Place all items in a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure, remove excess air from bag, and seal. Please do not add toothpaste to the Hygiene Kit. Cartons of toothpaste that have an extended expiration date will be added to Hygiene Kit shipments just prior to shipment. The congregation is invited to participate. Completed kits should be put in box in the Narthex by April 20<sup>th</sup>.

**SPRING GATHERING** of the Presbyterian Women of Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery will be held May 7, 2011 from 10 am to 2 pm at the First Presbyterian Church of Mexico, New York. The keynote speaker will be The Rev. Suzi Harriff. Her topic is "Beyond Hotel Rwanda". It is asked that if attending, you bring school supplies to be sent to Rwanda. If you have questions, see Marcia.

## PW NEWS

The PW Ministry Team's March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting was cancelled because of a snow storm. We hope to have Spring weather for our April meeting.

Ladies, please mark your calendar as our next PW Ministry Meeting will be held on Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm in the church library (following the Deacon's Meeting). Topics to be discussed are the World Day of Prayer, the PW Fall Retreat and an update on the Hospitality Committee. The ministry team would appreciate anyone having an interest or information to share on these topics to attend. Please check out the bulletin board in the fellowship hall for more PW news.

## BEFORE EASTER THERE IS HOLY WEEK – TENNEBRAE

Friends we have again been invited to participate in a cooperative service at the First Presbyterian Church of Cazenovia during Holy Week, specifically Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 p.m. for a Tennebrae Service.

The word 'tennebrae' is Latin for shadows or darkness. The purpose of Tennebrae is to recreate emotional aspects of the passion story especially the betrayal, abandonment, and agony of the events in Jesus' life during Holy Week. The service is left unfinished because the story is not complete until Easter morning...and as we know, the story isn't over for we are the resurrection people of God! Usually this service ends in darkness with people leaving in quiet.

In this particular service music is the vehicle for telling the story and recreating the feelings necessary to connect with the passion of Christ. Members of the Morrisville Choir will again join with the choir of the First Presbyterian Church of Cazenovia to accomplish worship.

The music will move you and better prepare you for receiving the gift of Easter. Come and partake of the richness of the season. Allow yourselves to become a part of the passion of Christ on April 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Cazenovia.

## SPOTLIGHT ON NORMA JEAN GALBREATH

“I grew up on a farm in Pleasant Valley. I went to college in Syracuse to become a Medical Secretary. I married my high school sweetheart. We had two children.”

“My favorite childhood memory of church was singing in the choir and youth fellowship.”

“The persons I’ve most looked up to are my parents because they taught us to have good moral values and to be kind to others. “Do Unto Others As You Would Have Done To You”.

“I once met Governor Dewey (I was about seven years old). He patted me on the head. Also, I met Evangelist Billy Graham, who shook my hand and blessed me.”

Next Month’s Spotlight will be on a member of the congregation who has traveled to eight countries and across the United States of America nine times!

### Widow’s Bereavement Support Group

The area Widow’s Bereavement Support Group will now be meeting at St. Joan’s Church in Morrisville on the first Saturday of each month at 1:00 pm. **ALL** women who have experienced the death of their spouse are invited to share in the comfort, encouragement and hope with other women who have had the same experience. For information, please call Midge at 684-3615

**The Outreach and Evangelism Committee** is looking for ideas and volunteers to put together a “Roadkill Barbecue and Jamboree” for late summer 2011. If you would like to participate or have ideas, contact Natalie.

## ADOPT A PLATOON

We have 3500 soldiers from the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division 3<sup>rd</sup> Combat Brigade at Fort Drum deploying to Afghanistan. Last year Cornell Cooperative Extension of Madison County Staff adopted a platoon. They gathered needed items to be distributed to the troops. Things like toiletries, knitted hats (wool only), candies and other goodies were much appreciated. RSVP has volunteered to adopt a platoon this year. If you wish to help out, please place items in the basket with the flag or drop off at Judy Parker’s Question? See Claudia.

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will be taken through Easter Sunday. PC (USA) divides its offering gifts into thirds. Each of three programs – Self-Development of People, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and the Presbyterian Hunger Program receive 32% of the Offering. The remaining 4% goes to the PHP for its work on homelessness and affordable housing. The OGHS programs depend on continued and increased support from congregations like ours. Thank you for your longtime support of this offering, which has contributed greatly to its success.

## BAZAAR BUZZ

“Country Crossroads 2011” is scheduled for Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. We are beginning to plan for it and hope all our crafters are thinking about projects they can do and donate. We have lots of craft supplies and even kits available in our Bazaar Workroom downstairs. Before you purchase supplies for your craft projects, you should check and see if we have what you need.

Plan on taking a brief tour of the workroom and the available craft items with tour guides Sylvia and Naydene after church on Sunday April 10<sup>th</sup> or Sunday April 17<sup>th</sup>.

### From the FINANCE COMMITTEE

Month of February

Income	\$ 9,057.00
Expenses	12,570.40

Snow Removal for Jan. & Feb.	\$ 3,725.00
Budget	2,500.00

Total collected for Per Capita Assessment:	\$1,672.50
Budget	6,568.00

**Please pay your per capita assessment of \$40.50 so we can relieve our operating budget.**

**YOU'RE INVITED!!!**

**VANDERKAMP RALLY!**

**Hear about Summer Camp!**

**Meet the new camp director!**

**Worship and Sing!**

**Choose one of the following:**

**Sunday, April 3 at Columbian  
Presbyterian Church from 2-4 pm.  
Route 20 @ Rt. 11, Lafayette, NY  
(with light refreshments)**

**Or**

**Sunday, April 10 at Our Savior  
Lutheran Church Utica 5-7 pm, 1640  
Genesee St. Utica (with pizza)**

Note from Nettie Periard: *“We offer our thanks and gratitude to all who volunteer, donate food and donate money to Friendship Inn. Friendship Inn is nothing without all who help out in so many ways. May God bless you and your loved ones. Volunteers are always appreciated and welcome at Friendship Inn at St. Joan’s. Call me at 684-9636 if you’d like to come and help out. We look forward to working with you.”*

**ATTENTION**

The Presbytery Office is open Mon., Tues., Weds. From 8:30 am to 5 pm and CLOSED on Thursdays and Fridays.

The May Presbytery Meeting will be May 22 from 3 to 8 pm at Park Central, Syracuse. Reports from the Council and Transition Team will be given and there will be a discussion and vote on adopting the Belhar Confession.

The June Meeting is June 12 from 3 to 8 pm at Marcellus Park. This is a Special Meeting with Pentecost celebration with GA Moderator Cynthia Bolbach preaching. There will be massed choirs and a picnic following.

**THE LAW OF THE GARBAGE TRUCK**

(Article submitted by Sandy Merkle)

One day I hopped in a taxi and we took off for the airport. We were driving in the right lane when suddenly a black car jumped out of a parking space right in front of us.

My taxi driver slammed on his brakes, skidded and missed the other car by just inches! The driver of the other car whipped his head around and started yelling at us. My taxi driver just smiled and waved at the guy. And I mean, he was really friendly. So I asked, “Why did you just do that? This guy almost ruined your car and sent us to the hospital! This is when my taxi driver taught me what I now call, ‘The Law of the Garbage Truck.’”

He explained that many people are like garbage trucks. They run around full of garbage, full of frustration, full of anger, and full of disappointment. As their garbage piles up, they need a place to dump it and sometimes they’ll dump it on you. Don’t take it personally.

Just smile, wave, wish them well, and move on. Don’t take their garbage and spread it to other people at work, at home, or on the streets. The bottom line is that successful people do not let garbage trucks take over their day. Life is too short to wake up in the morning with regrets, so...Love the people who treat you right. Pray for the ones who don’t. Life is ten percent what you make it and ninety percent how you take it! Have a garbage-free day! “Faith is not believing God can, it is knowing that God will.”

**Community Coming Events Announcement**

St. Mary’s Altar and Rosary Society is holding its annual Spring Fair on Saturday, April 9 from 9:30 am to 1 pm at the Parish Center on West Kendrick Street in Hamilton. There will be handmade crafts, home made baked goods, white elephants, religious articles, raffles, an assortment of Theme Baskets, and door prizes. Everyone is welcome!