

NEWSLETTER

December

2007

Our Mission

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS!!
morrisvillechurch@frontiernet.net

Web site:

morrisvillechurch.org

December Birthdays

- 1- Kyle Graves
- 2- Jeff Covington
Theresa Kidd
- 3- Nicole Shepard
- 4- John Salvetti
- 6- Jennifer Hatch
- 7- Nicholas Weinschreider
- 9- Bobby Berkey
Brian Berkey
- 10- Denis Jr. Mulcahy
- 12- Chris Zöellick
- 13- David J. Holbert
- 14- Steven Broedel
- 15- Kim Weinschreider
Matthew Wike
- 20- Greg Dutcher
- 22- Cory Olney
- 25- Sally Covington
- 27- Shawn Merkle
- 28- Holly Page
- 30- Coleridge Hill

Anniversaries

Jacalyn & Stephen Groves 12/14
Jeffrey & Karen Gay 12/20
Laurie & Jason Zbock 12/20
Nathan & Calla Miller 12/21
Paul & Audra Mockovak 12/21



“To glorify God in worship and serve Jesus Christ by understanding and effectively responding to the spiritual, physical, and social needs of Morrisville and the surrounding community.”

COMMUNION

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated during worship on the first Sunday of every month. If you are sick or shut-in and unable to attend worship to receive the Sacrament, you are invited to call the church office to request that Rev. Duncan and an elder bring the Sacrament to your home.

In Our Prayers
Grace Trush
Christine Braun
Joyce Goetz
Geri Choate
Stanley Warner
Kelly Meigs
John Salvetti
Darlene Ballard
and family
Eileen Luther
Walta Bush,
David Crane
Joyce Chandler
Bill Carr
~~~~~

**MORRISVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
**3824 Swamp Road, P.O. Box 178, Morrisville, New York 13408 (315) 684-3314**  
**Rev. Russell S. Duncan**

---

## Session News

At its regular monthly meeting on November 19th, Session had expected to meet with Executive Presbyter Dave Johnson, but he was unable to be there due to illness. With his approval Session elected Christine Covington as moderator for that meeting. This gave the Session an opportunity to determine what things needed to be done while we are in this transition phase between ministers. As was mentioned in last Sunday's bulletin we have pulpit coverage through the end of 2007. The Property Committee is planning a tour of the manse, do an inventory, determine what repairs might be needed before someone else moves in. They also plan to winterize the property so that we can save on heat but not cause any damage

Other routine business was taken care of, which allowed all of us to see that our committees are functioning well. The nominating committee is chaired by Tom Lemery and he noted that we have at at-large vacancy on that committee due to someone's leaving the area. That committee will be responsible for nomination elders and deacons. Session itself will be working to staff committees. This is a result of changes voted at last year's Annual Meeting.

At a special meeting, Monday NOVEMBER 26TH, Dave Johnson did meet with Session to go over roles in this time of transition. He noted that Steve Thomas, pastor at the Cazenovia Presbyterian Church, will moderate both our monthly Session meetings and our Annual Meeting. I will be in touch with him to ask about pastoral care, family emergencies, shut-in communion, etc.

At this time Session did vote that we should be looking for an interim pastor. Other options available did not seem to serve our needs as well as an interim pastor would. By motion, Session also agreed to act as search committee for the interim. Toward that end, we will be filling out the Church Information Form which will go the Presbytery. As a starting point, we will be looking for a full-time interim pastor. The manse will be available if needed.

We also recognize that we will be forming a Pastoral Nomination Committee. Interested members should contact and member of the Session.

On a personal note, as your Clerk of Session, I would ask you to keep Session in your prayers. This is a time of extra stress because of the holidays and because of the lack of a full-time pastor. Give Session your support. I would also not that we need one other member. We are a committed Christina congregation and need to share our faith, show it in our daily lives, and come together for worship on Sunday mornings.

A church is not a building – we know that. A church does not belong to a minister – this is not Allen's or Harvey's or Russ' church. It is a church of God. We need to demonstrate, now more than ever, the truth of Christ's statement that "where ever two or three are gathered in my name, there I will be also". The church still has a mission and exists to fulfill God's plans for us and our community.

The peace of Christ be with you all.

Nancy Douglas

**COMMITTEE NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**EMAIL DIRECTORY**

The Session is working to put together a directory of email addresses for our church members and friends. This will make it easier for us to send out information to you and help save the cost of postage, paper, and copying. If you have an email address, please send a note to Nancy Douglas, Clerk of Session, so that your email address can be included in our email directory. Nancy's email address is douglasn@twcnny.rr.com.

**Bazaar Buzz**

Country Crossroads 2007 was a huge success. We wish to thank all who contributed to this event. Your generous donations of items for sale, food for the cafe and for the bake shop, and your time given made this a huge success. Our final total is \$4309.20. Without each and every one of you this would not have been possible.

This year we had a wonderful addition of a door prize, generously donated by Natalie Turner (Holly's Garden). Entry slips were given out by the cashiers and a total of 136 people entered the drawing. From the information on the entry slips we had customers from all over Central New York, from Phoenix to New Berlin, Utica to Norwich and even two entries from out of state: Pennsylvania and Florida. Coby Merkle volunteered to draw the winner—Cora Fuller from West Eaton. Cora was thrilled to receive a beautiful centerpiece for her holiday table.

We donated some of the unsold items to the Christmas 2007 project, the Crouse and Harding Nursing homes, the Morrisville Public Library silent auction sale and the Community Memorial Hospital Auxiliary sale. In this way we can give back to the community who supported our efforts.

**Deacons News**

**Holiday Food Baskets—A reminder**

We will be distributing food baskets at Christmas again this year. In November St. Joan's provided 82 Thanksgiving baskets. Last year we filled and gave away 66 baskets. This year we expect we will do as many or more than we did last year

We are grateful for any donations of cash or non-perishable food items that will assist us in filling this year's baskets to be given to families in need. Food items may be brought to church and left in the basket in the narthex. Cash donations should be placed in the offering plates, clearly marked for the "Deacons Christmas Basket" project. Our distribution date is Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to all in our congregation for your support of this ministry.

**Clothes Basket**

Open Wednesday and Saturday 10a – 2p  
All are welcome to come browse and shop  
Volunteers are always needed  
See Claudia Loomis or Sally Covington if interested

**The Clothes Basket will be closed on the following dates: December 26th and January 2nd.**

**We will be open from 10am – 12pm with baked goods on December 22nd and 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Hope Circle** will meet December 20th at 7:30 pm. The meeting will be at Maxine Hunter's home.. We will be having a special Christmas program. Refreshments will be served. All women of the church are welcome to attend.

**Faith Circle** will meet December 11th at noon. The meeting will take place at Dot Mulchay's. Marlene Miner will be leading the lesson. All are welcome.

**MORRISVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
**3824 Swamp Road, P.O. Box 178, Morrisville, New York 13408 (315) 684-3314**  
**Rev. Russell S. Duncan**

---

**Annual Christmas Program** - The Christmas holiday is soon approaching. Once again it is time to think of the needs of the less fortunate families of our area and our senior friends at the Crouse Community Center. We need your help to make this program a success. Please send monetary donations to Judy Parker, PO Box 266, Morrisville NY 13408. Donations of new warm clothing for boys and girls ages infant through 12 years (especially ages 5 to 9), toys, games, hats, mittens, children's books, jewelry and stocking stuffers would also be welcomed. These donations can be put in the box in the Narthex thought December 1<sup>st</sup>. **Volunteers are needed December 7<sup>th</sup> at 10am to sort items at the Cornell Cooperative Extension building.** Even a couple of hours would be appreciated. Thank you for sharing the true meaning of Christmas. Your generosity will make a brighter Christmas for those in our area.

**Attention** - Have you misplaced a jacket or coat? Numerous items have been left in the Narthex – check it out. Anything left after December 15<sup>th</sup> will be given to the Clothes Basket.

**The Christian Education Committee** would like to invite Sunday School and Youth Group alumni to participate in the annual Sunday School Christmas program scheduled for December 16<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Shelia Bartlett to volunteer by December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**The Deacons** will be providing Christmas baskets again this year of those in need in our community. We will be working with St. Joan's who will give the Thanksgiving baskets. Last year we distributed a total of 66 baskets. If you know of anyone in need of a basket at Thanksgiving or Christmas please contact Karen Jacobs (684-9119). We will gladly accept food and cash donations for this project. Food items may be placed in the basket in the Narthex through December 9<sup>th</sup>. Checks may be placed in the offering plate, made out to the church and marked for Christmas baskets. We thank you for your help.

**On Sunday December 9<sup>th</sup>** Santa and his elves will be visiting Harding Nursing Home in Waterville for their Christmas party. Residents of the nursing home will have the opportunity to visit with Santa and each resident will receive a small gift. If you would like to donate a gift for this project please place it in the Christmas box in the Fellowship Hall by December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Gift suggestions include: Non-skid socks, lotions, powders, perfumes, gloves, mittens, scarves, large print crosswords, hankies, handkerchiefs, photo albums, jigsaw puzzles, men's cologne, playing cards, dominoes, soft candy, chocolate, mints, walker bags and slippers. If you wrap your gift please put a sticky note on it indicating whether it is for a man or a woman. We thank you for supporting this ministry..

**The Hanging of the greens** will be Saturday December 1<sup>st</sup> at a time to be announced. We would like to encourage everyone to come for this time of **Nursery care** is available during the worship service for children from infant through age 7 for those parents who desire to use it. If you are a visitor and would like to use our nursery for your children, please ask an usher for assistance.

**The following is a list of worship leaders through the New year,** Dec 2 – Harvey Sindima, Dec 9 – Sam Tucci, Dec 16 – Sunday School and Youth Group, Dec 23 and 24 – Harvey Sindima, Dec30- Gail Banks.

**Cards for Unity Acres** – our church family has been sending Christmas cards to the men at Unity Acres in Orwell NY. Unity Acres is a home for homeless men. There will be a box in the Narthex for the cards thru December 16<sup>th</sup>. You don't need to address the cards – just sign them "a friend". They will be sent in a package and distributed by the director of Unity Acres. Most of the men are estranged from their families so a Christmas cards will brighten their Christmas.

**Elementary School Project** – we will be collecting hats, scarves, mitten and gloves for the school nurse at the Morrisville school. Please place these items under our Christmas tree. Thank you in advance for supporting this project.

## MEMBER HI-LITE

Always willing to help, very seldom says “no” when asked to do something, a lovely smile and a soft voice

And this month’s Hi-lite won’t be surprised when she gets the newsletter because it is her job to do the newsletter. So now she knows and so do the rest of us – its Christine Covington (maybe she fill in some of the blanks for me).

Christine was born in Coatesville, PA to Sally and Al Covington. She grew up with her brother Jeff.

When she as in the third grade the family moved to Morrisville. She was an excellent student. Christine was very active in high school. She belonged to the Library Club, chorus, and the National Honor Society.

She graduated with high honors from Elmira College with a degree in Speech Therapy. She worked as a speech therapist for six years in the Morrisville School district. She moved on to work in several locations with special needs adults. Her patience and soft voice would be assets in her job.

Hobbies of Christine’s include reading, making jewelry, stamping and crochet. Her scarves and afghans are lovely.

Christine is not hesitant to speak of her beliefs and faith in God. She is a good asset to any Bible study group. It is always refreshing and inspirational to hear her views.

Active in Hope Circle, devotions leader, PWC, and Elder and a member of the Adult Sunday School shows just how important church is to her. And of course you all know that she is the church secretary. But I bet you don’t know that they used to call her “Skeeter”!

We love you Christine and you are an inspiration to all of us