

NEWSLETTER

January
2007

January Birthdays

- 6- Julie Braun
Tracy Zöellick
- 8- Robert Ballard
Gladys Charlton
- 12- Rebecca Parente
- 13- Kouk Davis
- 14- Megan Morris
Stanley Davis
Gillian Gay
Kaitlyn Mulcahy
Dawn Stevenson
- 15- Esther Davis
- 16- Lisa Covington
Stephanie Jean
Merkle
- 17- Naydene Ames
- 18- Laurie Zbock
- 20- William G. Warner
- 22- Wayne Smith
- 26- Jessica Burch
Coby Merkle
- 29- Edith Mabon
- 31- Gregg Weinschreider

In Our Prayers

Grace Trush
Christine Braun
Joyce Goetz
David Crane
Geri Choate
Dot Mulcahey
Stanley Warner
Harold Thurston
Kelly Meigs
Ken Nodell
Margaret Kenyon
Elsie Loveless

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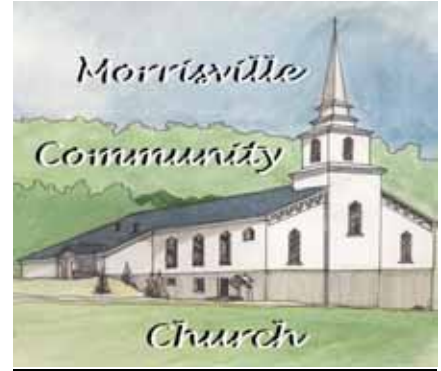
## FAITH CIRCLE

January 16 @ noon  
@ Charlotte Hill's

## HOPE CIRCLE

January 18th @ 7:30 PM

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Our Mission

“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.

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS!!

Email:
morrisvillechurch@frontiernet.net

Web site:
morrisvillechurch.org

Newsletter deadline will **Wed 11/22/06** due to Thanksgiving

MORRISVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH

3824 Swamp Road, P.O. Box 178, Morrisville, New York 13408 (315) 684-3314

Rev. Russell S. Duncan

FROM THE PASTOR

*"I am making everything new!"
(Revelation 21:5)*

The verse quoted above comes from near the end of the book of Revelation. It follows on the heels of John's description of the New Jerusalem. This vision John received while in exile on the island of Patmos comes to its culmination with the assurance that Jesus would return and that when he does, all that is wrong with the world will be made right. The book of Revelation is a letter addressed by John to the Church, and Christians in the Church at that time were experiencing a great deal of suffering and persecution. While much of Revelation is difficult to understand, we still find comfort in the promise that Jesus will one day return and that all of life will be recreated.

It is interesting to note that the Bible begins and ends with a story of creation. The opening chapters of Genesis tell about the creation of the world at the beginning of time, and the closing chapters of Revelation assure us that God will create a new heaven and a new earth. The creation of new life, however, is more than just the bookends of human life and history. Newness is what the entire story of the Bible is all about. It is the story of God's activity *in, with, and through* God's creation. It traces the activity of God throughout all of human history to bring us from where we are to the place God wants us to be. It tells us about how sin first entered God's perfect creation and God has been working to recreate the creation and restore it to perfection. God's ultimate goal is to bring us to the place where we will once again live in perfect union with God, with each other, and with nature.

One of the primary lessons the Bible teaches is that life is dynamic, not static. The very word "life" implies

growth, newness and change. Living things grow; that's what they were designed to do. Growth implies change, and change implies newness. Unless new life appears, growth does not happen.

It amazes me that as we read the story of the Bible how much we look forward to the change and newness that God will bring about at the end of time. What the Bible is talking about here is not simply a minor change but a radical transformation. I am amazed by the hope and comfort this promise of God brings us because so many of us are extremely uncomfortable when radical change happens. So many of us are extremely uncomfortable when even minor changes occur in our life. If we are so uncomfortable with minor change, what makes us think that we will look forward with joy to the radical transformation God has promised to bring about?

One thing we know for certain is that growth is a process. We are not born as a baby one day and wake up as a full grown adult the next. We do not plant seeds in our garden one day and find full grown plants producing fruit the next day. No, growth and change take time. That's a natural part of the cycle of life which God has created. Although we know this to be true, we still find newness difficult. We would much prefer that things never change, that things would continue on as we have always known them to be. We would be much more comfortable if everything stayed the same.

To stay the same is to miss the blessings that God desires to give to each of us. God is not in the business of sameness but of newness. While God never changes, God's activity among us is always changing, and God is constantly calling us, challenging us, to go where God is leading. By staying where we are, we

miss out on the new things God is doing in the world. The change we experience in our lives is part of God's plan. I believe that by leading us through smaller changes, God is preparing us for the radical change that will occur when life on earth reaches its climax. In fact, I believe that if we are willing to undergo all of the minor changes that God is leading us through, the radical change at the end of time will not be so radical for us. We will have grown to the point that this radical change will seem to be the natural next step.

We are once again at the beginning of a new year. We approach this New Year with hope and anticipation because it is new and we have never lived these days before. But we also approach this New Year with a certain amount of dread for the same reason—it's new, and we've never lived these days before. It is very true that we have no way of knowing what 2007 will have in store for us—what joys and sorrows we will experience, what changes we will have to go through. But it is also very true that our God, who never changes, is the author of these days and the creator of this year, and as God has been faithful to us in the past, so will God be faithful to us in the future. Based upon the trustworthiness of God, may we look forward to this New Year with confidence.

Whatever growth God has planned for you this year, whatever changes God may bring your way, I pray that you will find strength and peace in the goodness of God. May you trust God's love each day of this New Year and find God's grace sufficient to carry you through.

Grace & Peace
Rev. Duncan

COMMITTEE NEWS

FINANCE

Due to the Presbytery reconstruction of the mission giving budget. The Per Capita apportionment, what each church is asked to pay per member for the running of the Presbytery office and the giving to Synod and General Assembly for mission, is \$39.00 per member for 2007. We have asked members to pay their own assessment to help us offset this expense in our budget. We realize this is double form last year, but hope many can still pay this amount.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Faith Circle will meet at the home of Charlotte Hill, Tues. Jan. 16th at noon. We welcome anyone to join us for our study of Genesis.

On Jan 14th during morning worship we will have installation of PW officers for 2007. If you have agreed to serve as an officer, please be present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL SESSION MEETING

Elders, please note that there will be a special session meeting on Monday, January 22 at 7:00 PM in the church library. We will continue our work with Rev. Logan Potts as we continue to move forward to implement our new mission statement. Please mark your calendar and plan to be present.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 21 immediately following the worship service. At this meeting, we will be receiving the 2006 annual reports of all the committees and organizations of the church, electing church officers, and approving the 2007 budget. A copy of the 2007 Proposed Budget Goals is included in this newsletter. We will also be considering a change in the church by-laws that session

is recommending. That by-laws change, along with the rationale for the change is as follows:

Please review the enclosed budget and this by-laws change carefully to prepare for this meeting. We look forward to seeing all of you present for worship that Sunday and at the Congregational Meeting. Please note that there will be no adult Sunday School Class that day.

PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGE

CURRENT WORDING

Section XV: Members of standing committees shall be *elected* for a one-year term (February 1-January 31).

SUGGESTED NEW WORDING

Section XV: Members of standing committees shall be *appointed by the session* for a one-year term (February 1-January 31).

(NOTE: Words to be changed are in *italics*.)

RATIONALE

This proposed by-laws change will bring our by-laws in line with the Book of Order.

Section G-9.0403:

“A governing body may delegate particular aspects of its tasks to councils, boards, agencies, commissions, and committees, but always on the basis of accountability to the governing body.”

Section G-9.0501: “A committee is appointed either to study and recommend appropriate action or to carry out directions or decisions already made by a governing body. It shall make a full report to the governing body that created it, and its recommendations shall require action by the governing body.”

This month's member highlight

A quiet presence among us. That is this month's Hi-Lite. Probably a better description would be "quietly active."

She was born in Augusta, NY-so she's a "local yocal." She was the youngest of three-a sister whom she spends time with and a brother who passed away in 1997.

She graduated from Vernon High School in Vernon, NY; State Teachers College at Plattsburgh with a B. S. in Home Economics Education and then from Syracuse University with an M. S.

By now you may have guessed our January Hi-Lite is Edith Mabon. She also attended Cornell University and completed course work there to meet academic requirements to become a member of the American Dietetic Association. She became registered Dietitian. Morrisville Ag. & Tech was able to start their Dietetic Technician Program, since the Director of the program had to be registered dietitian (and Edith held that position). She belonged to the New York Dietetic Association and American Dietetic Association. She was the editor of a newsletter published by NYS Nutrition Council.

She was interviewed in Union Station in Utica for her first job. (You can ask Edith for the details of that!)

She taught Home Economics in Webster, NY, Cobleskill, NY and Delhi Ag. & Tech College, Delhi, NY. From 1967 to 1985, she was chairperson of Food Service Administration Division of NYS Ag & Tech College, Morrisville, NY. She retired in 1985.

Edith is a "joiner." She also belongs to Delta Kappa Gamma, Member of Eastern Star and Grange Organizations, Wednesday Club, The Tourist Club, Friends of the Morrisville Library, Morrisville Community Church/Faith Circle.

Church has always been important to Edith. She was baptized and a member of Knoxboro Methodist Episcopal Church; member of Delhi Methodist Church, DeLancey United Presbyterian Church and Morrisville Community Church. She has served on Session and is very active in Faith Circle and PWC. She has recently become co-chair of Together in Service(PWP Mission Program) for our local PWC.

When Edith was in high school she often stayed home to take care of her mother who was ill and later died. She stayed with her dad while she finished high school. Edith had hoped to train as a nurse but as a result of having scarlet fever her heart had been affected and she was advised not to pursue the career as nursing would be too strenuous, consequently, she took up economics. She carried this out successfully, and while in Delhi, she met Robert Mabon. They were married on August 21, 1954, at the home of her aunt & uncle, Lillie and Lloyd Powers in Oneida Castle, NY. Bob had quit college to come home and take care of the farm when his father passed away. Edith and Bob lived in the upstairs of his mother's house. Bob's mother was buried in Bovina Center, NY.

In about 2000, Edith moved to Hamilton where she resides now and enjoys hosting Colgate guests in her home as a bed and breakfast from time to time. Edith continues to enjoy taking care of her flowers whenever she can. She also enjoys reading, travel, family gatherings, attending church and getting out for lunch or "meanderings" with friends.

We are fortunate to have "quietly active" Edith as part of our church family.

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MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT SUMMARY
NOVEMBER, 2006

RECEIPTS	OCTOBER	2006 YTD	2006 BUDGET
PLEDGES	\$9,187.00	\$86,324.40	\$95,000.00
LOOSE PLATE	\$153.00	\$2,153.00	\$2,500.00
PER CAPITA	\$0.00	\$864.00	\$1,500.00
INITIAL OFFERING	\$0.00	\$101.00	\$0.00
BUILDING USE	\$309.00	\$845.00	\$500.00
EQUIPMENT USE	\$20.00	\$22.00	\$0.00
FUNDRAISERS	\$3.00	\$1,972.00	\$6,000.00
EXPENSE/REIMBURSE	\$21.50	\$183.69	\$0.00
CURRENT FUNDS GIFT	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
INSURANCE REFUND	\$0.00	\$655.60	
THAYER TRUST	\$1,000.00	\$5,000.00	
DRUM SET	\$600.00	\$600.00	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$11,273.50	\$98,720.79	\$105,500.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$8,811.57	\$115,568.20	\$127,809.00
BANK BALANCE (MINUS DESIGNATED AND BUILDING FUNDS)			(\$11,182.38)

Rev. Harvey Sindima has announced the publication of his new book:

The Gospel According to John: *A Devotional Commentary*

Released Friday, December 1, 2006

Book proceeds will directly benefit the orphans through the Blantyre North Relief Project.

About the Book

More Details on the Web: www.morrisvillechurch.org/HelpMalawi.htm

"This easy-to-read commentary contains the entire Gospel According to John. The gospel text is broken into smaller passages for historical background, biblical analysis, theological reflection, and for a faith-filled meditation. This commentary is for understanding the gospel and applying its message in everyday life. In this commentary faith is enlightened, challenged, and empowered to the honor of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and to the glory of God."

The cover price of the book is \$21.99, but I will sell it to you for an introductory price of \$20.00 from now to December 31, 2006.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN

DIRECT MAIL ORDER FORM

Mail to: Harvey Sindima P. O. Box 297, Hamilton, NY 13346

Name _____

Address (Street, P.O. Box) _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

Quantity _____ (x \$20.00 each) Total _____

Shipping/Handling Total for Shipping _____

1 copy \$3.50 Sub total _____

Each additional book .50 cents (same address) NY Sales Tax (8%) _____

[Total Cost to one address 1 book = \$25.38
2 = \$47.52, 3 = \$69.66 4 = \$91.80] Total Enclosed _____

Please include contact information for anyone to whom you want the book sent: name, address, phone number, and email address.

PAYMENT. Please enclose payment. Payment can be by check or Money Order payable to Harvey Sindima.

For Tax purposes my EIN is 06-1741090 and the book's ISBN is 99908-11-12-1.