



April Birthdays

- 1 – Joshua Arruda
- 4 – Jill Wittenborn
- 5 – Brian Doron
- 7 – Carolina Bustamante
- 8 – Linda Brewer
- 10 – Anna Trimble
- 20 – Renee Bailey, Terri Swenson
- 21 – Joey Eickhoff
- 22 – Jamie Lynn Cron, Tim Heasley, Arlene Wittenborn
- 23 – Laura Mealey
- 25 – Dawn Pabers
- 28 – Kaitlin Decker
- 29 – John Koba, Alison Matthias, Lisa Paxson

April Wedding Anniversaries

- 17 – Becky & Steve Kent = 26 years
- 18 – Bozena & Joseph Trejo = 6 years
- 29 – Jamie Lynn Cron - Stephen = 4 years
- 29 – Carin & Henry Trimble = 21 years
- 30 – Sue & Joe Urbano = 44 years

NOTE OF THANKS

To Our Church Family at Morrisville United Methodist,
Thank you for your kind thoughts, prayers, and cards on the passing of Sue's dad. Dad lived a long life of 99 years & 10 months. We were so hoping he would make it to his hundredth birthday, but God wanted him sooner.

In Christian Love, The Urbano Family

MAPLE AVE

The April Maple

All through Lent we have been reminded that we are loved. We are beautiful. Even in our brokenness, God sent Jesus to come and heal our hurts, restore what is broken, and give us the inner strength to imagine life blossoming from barrenness. March marked an entire year of our Covid shut down, and we are all weary of this form of existence. We are beginning to see signs of hope and life just in time for Easter, when or faith reminds us that even when buried in sin and death, life springs up and restores joy.

In this first week of April, we find ourselves in the heart of Holy Week, ensconced in cruelty and death. Our temptation is to skip this week. Just move right into Easter. Ignore the part of our history that has fellow believers shout "crucify him!". Pretend that the events of the last week of Jesus' life were thousands of years ago. We have had a year of Lent and want to get to Easter!!

Yes, Easter is coming, and with it, great rejoicing! But let's do a final lament together and remember the passion events. Let's lament together what we have lost this past year, and what we may never regain. Let's plant into the ground our sorrows and hurts, our failings and sin; trusting that new life will sprout into beauty in a new season.

Jesus said, "very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." John 12:24

What do we need to let "die" or let go of, so God can bring beautiful new life into our tomorrow? Let's meditate on this as we move through Holy Week together.



*Grace and Peace,
Wendy*



Toby Ellsworth
Margaret Callihan
Helen Chokey
Betty Mershon
Diane Davis
BJ Lebegern
David Noble
Blanche Sherrill
Janet and Lisa Curcio
Bill Ringer
Nancy J. (mother of John Jakimowicz)
George L. (Helen Chokey's nephew)
MaryLou (Joe Colduvell's sister)
Donna (Joe Colduvell's sister)
Brenda (Phyllis Patterson's cousin)
Sam (friend of Linda Herbster)
Ronnie (Vera's grandson)
Karleen and Tom Miller
Rev. Towanda NT Connelly
Lora (Bev Hoyer's sister-in-law)
Toni (Lynda's friend)
Mark Conrad's brother-in-law
Bill (Josephine's nephew)
Skip and his family
Ken (Shirley Kamman's son-in-law)
Lu Jennett
Doris (John Koba's Aunt)

PRAYER
changes things



THE PURPOSE: United Methodist Women is a **community of women** whose purpose is:

- ♥ **To know God** and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ.
- ♥ **To develop a creative supportive fellowship** and
- ♥ **to expand concepts of mission** through participation in the global ministries of the church.

We welcome all women who commit themselves to our Purpose, including you. You don't have to be a member of The United Methodist Church to join. Our membership is diverse: women of many races, cultures, languages, young and old. There is no minimum age requirement.

We hope you will prayerfully consider joining this **multicultural**, **multilingual**, and **multiracial** organization of women. All women are welcome to attend.

APRIL SCHEDULE

April 19

MARCIA-RUTH CIRCLE – 7:00 P.M. – ZOOM Meeting - Watch your email for the invitation

Program: Carol Young

Devotion: Lois Avery

April 21

ELIZABETH CIRCLE – ***Tentative. Please check with your circle leader closer to the scheduled date.***



Prayer

Join us in prayer every Friday morning at 7:00 am on the telephone. (Contact Pastor Wendy for more information)

Commit to praying for our church every day!

There are no special meetings and no prescribed time or place to pray.

This group will pray specifically for our church in this time of transition from “stay at home” worship into “in person” worship – including our mission, ministry and witness. And our transition in pastoral leadership. Contact Pastor Wendy if you would like to know more.

BIBLE STUDY: Be The Bridge

A book study by Latasha Morrison offering us guidance on how to journey together in racial reconciliation in our church and community. We meet by zoom on Tuesday morning at 10:00am and Wednesday evening at 7:00pm.

News from the Interfaith Food Alliance (IFA)/Family Backpack Ctr.

Did you know that the Easter Bunny visited the guests of our Family Backpack Center?

Thanks to our partners at the Morrisville Rotary Club, about 30 families received some Easter joy in the form of candy and treats and a high five from the Easter Bunny! Easter treats distributed were also donated by our friends from the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection.

Thank you for your continued support of the Family Backpack Center.

Our targeted donations for this month are cooking oil, ketchup, mustard and mayonnaise. Please drop off your donations in the church breezeway during the secretary’s hours, labeled IFA or call Rhonda Rea if you would like your donations picked up and taken to the church. (215-493-9505).



Warmest wishes on the Baptisms of

Nolan Bensted on March 14th

Jeff and Rosemary are the parents

Charleigh Elizabeth Andujar on March 21st

Richard and Courtney are the parents

Welcome to our community of faith!



Food Pantry Needs

We rejoice that people are beginning to return to work! But food insecurity is a need that will take a very long time to resolve, so our Food Pantry remains a life-saving gift for many of our neighbors. Every time our pantry gets low on supplies – you bring more in! We have experienced the miracle of the loaves and the fishes for an entire year! Thank you for NOT growing weary in well doing!



Hot Meals for our Community

Monday, April 12 meals are prepared for Ivin Outreach to deliver to Seniors who are living on their own. Anyone in need of a meal is invited to come, we always make plenty to share!

Tuesday, April 20 meals are prepared for Advocated for the Homeless and Those in Need (AHTN) to deliver to the homeless community in and around Morrisville and Lower Bucks County. We invite anyone in need of a meal to come.

We are looking forward to warmer weather when we can invite our guests to eat in our beautiful lawn and enjoy some socially distanced fellowship. In the meantime, we are honored to be able to provide these meals each month through a take-out volunteer service.

**INFORMATION ABOUT
RETURNING TO IN-
PERSON WORSHIP**



RESUMING WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY

On April 11th we will resume worship in the sanctuary at 10:00 am. It is exciting to look forward to seeing each other “face to face” in worship.

We will open the sanctuary with all safety precautions in place: everyone will wear face covers and stay 6 feet from one another. There will be no Usher’s and the collection basket will be by the door. There will also be music (but no choir).

As more people receive their vaccinations, we will be able to host more people in the sanctuary and will be able to move around more freely.

One day we WILL be able to embrace as we pass the peace of Christ. But until that day comes, we will progress with optimistic caution!

For the time being, we will hold one worship service at 10:00, and it will be a blending of our two worship styles – just as it has been for the past year. All worship services that take place in the sanctuary will also be streamed through our webpage (MUMCPA.ORG)

As the weather permits, we will begin a Sunday evening worship service in our outdoor worship center. This is a relaxed time of listening to Christian music, sharing in prayer, hearing a brief message and receiving communion. More information for this service will come soon.



The next meeting of the Men's Bible Study is Sat. April 10th at 8 AM on Zoom. All Men are welcome for good fellowship and encouragement from God's Word! If you have not been getting an invitation by email, contact Dave Miller and you will be put on the invite list.

Any questions call Dave Miller at 215-943-2046 or 267-614-3836.



Altar Flowers



If you would like to present flowers on the altar for Sunday morning worship, please call or email the church office and share with Becky who the flowers are given in honor or in memory of, or what the occasion is you are commemorating. (cost is \$35)

Red Cross Blood Drive

Friday, April 6, 2021

9:30 – 2:30

Future dates: May 7th & June 4th

Fellowship Hall

Make your reservation on the Red Cross website

Did you know: 1 donation can potentially save 3 lives, every 2 seconds someone in the U.S. need blood, & blood & platelets cannot be manufactured they only come from volunteer donors.





Opportunities to Serve Your Church

Tending to the business of the church builds a strong framework from which we serve our neighbor. Here are some ways you can serve inside the Morrisville United Methodist Church.

Technology Team with our Live Stream Worship. It has been nearly one year since we were plunged into remote worship, & our Live Stream Worship is here to stay. While most of us are excited to return to the sanctuary, there are many who have come to depend on the availability of our worship at home. We have college students, folks who moved away from Morrisville, friends in Nursing Homes or who have an illness that does not allow them to travel, family members & first time visitors, who have been able to worship with us through our Live Stream Service.

But our team must expand to be sustainable.

There are three jobs that must be tended to each and every Sunday:

- † The PowerPoint Creator (All of this work is done prior to Sunday morning)
- † The Computer person (Must be present on Sunday morning)
- † The Camera Person (Must be present on Sunday morning)

We have a job description for each position to share with anyone interested in joining the team. PLEASE contact Pr. Wendy, Blair Bellis, Tom Wisnosky or Andy Steppe if you would like to have more information.

- † Serve on a Committee. Important decisions are made and work is done in the administrative structure of the church.
- † We are looking for two people to serve on the Staff Parish Relations Committee, which helps support our staff and their work with the congregation.
- † Other committees hard at work in our transition into “in Person” ministry is the Board of Trustees, the Worship Committee and the Mission Committee.

If you feel God calling you to serve in these ways, please contact Pastor Wendy for more information.



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

All worship services that take place in our sanctuary are available to watch on YouTube or on our website. MUMCPA.ORG. These services are archived, and available anytime.

Maundy Thursday, April 1 - 7:00 pm Worship

Join us from your home or meet with friends for our live-streamed Passion service. We will recall the final week of Jesus after he entered Jerusalem to spend time with his disciples celebrating the Passover meal.

- † Create a worship space with your sea glass, a lit candle, and a bowl of water or oil.
- † Communion will be shared on this night, so you will want to have a cracker and juice or water.

Easter Morning, April 4

8:00 Worship in the Outdoor Worship Center

Communion will be shared together.

Please wear your masks, and a lawn chair if able.

There is seating for 18 on our benches.

10:00 Live Stream worship

Join from home or in a small gathering of friends and family. Christ is Alive! Let's raise our voice in song, open our heart to the life Jesus resurrects out of our despair, and give praise “that our Redeemer liveth!”.

faith and finances

Money Matters from the Finance Chair

We are excited to be making plans for in-person worship soon after Easter. We look forward to worshipping together again! Offering baskets will be placed at the entrances to all doors into the sanctuary, because we will not be passing the offering plates during the service. If you bring your offering with you on Sunday morning, please use the baskets by the doors.

The Finance Committee will be sending out giving Statements in April with your giving for the first 3 months of 2021. Please double check to ensure we have our records correct. We also encourage you all to continue your generous giving to the General Fund as we enter into the Spring & Summer and catch up if you are behind, as giving tends to drop off during this time frame, but the many bills continue. Thank You again.

In Christ, Jim Rea Finance Chair.



ALL MUMC WOMEN AND FRIENDS!!

We are holding a spring **Women's Retreat** this May 14-16 here at home. Have you never attended one of our events? NOW is the time! It will begin Friday evening, you get to sleep at home, and come back on Sat. for a fun-filled, blessing-filled day! This is such a great way to spend time in fellowship after a long year...right?? More info to follow, but please let me know ASAP if you are able to attend. We'd love to make this our biggest yet, and that includes YOU! You can contact Janet Fabian at bjfabian@aol.com or call 267-251-0622.



MUMC Latino Ministry - Beditza Cadillo, Director

In March we were able to help 15 families with food & other essentials that were needed. As important as this help is, just as important is our friendship, offered in & because of the love of Christ.

A bi-weekly Bible study has been held since February, creating a place where our Spanish speaking friends can study Scripture & pray together under the spiritual leadership of Beditza Cadillo & other pastors. These studies are building trusting relationships where burdens can be shared & carried together.

The first outside event was held on Saturday, March 20th with Maria Rodriguez talking about her book "*Hoy soy mas fuerte que ayer!*" The second outside event will take place on April 24th with Pastor Cesar De Paz discussing discipleship with a workshop "*Haciendo Discipulos*". We are excited for what is to come & can't wait to inspire more families with the word of God show them how amazing he is!



After School Adventure Club

Our wheels are turning - preparing a way to bring the elementary children of our After School Adventure program together for some outside fun. We have missed the smiles, hugs, curiosity, and sweet conversations of this delightful group of children. We are making plans! If you have children in third grade through sixth grade, stay tuned! Something special is planned for April 28th from 3-5pm!