

# THE MAPLE

February 2025

*Morrisville United Methodist Church*

The Church and Welcome

"Do not neglect hospitality to strangers, for by so doing, some have entertained angels without knowing it." Hebrews 13:2

"Therefore, welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." Romans 15:7

Hi Morrisville UMC,

I have been thinking a lot about how the church can be welcoming in this season of Epiphany when we celebrate Christ's revelation to the world and are reminded that our God invites us to be welcoming. I have been thinking about welcome because there has been an uptick in our worship numbers. The increase reflects members who haven't been here, new guests, and some returning guests. Others have worshipped with us for the first time. All of this gives reason to celebrate, and means we have an opportunity to be a wonderfully welcoming church. By the way, I have had a guest or two commend your welcome.

Hebrews 13:2 urges us to "remember to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it." This verse calls us to open our hearts to all, especially those new to our fellowship. We are invited to witness the light of Christ and be that light, extending the warmth of welcome to those who enter our doors for the first time.

Romans 15:7 encourages us further, saying, "Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, to bring praise to God." As our congregation welcomes an increasing number of first-time guests, let us see each person who walks through our doors is a precious child of God, created with purpose and welcomed by Christ Himself. Just as Jesus accepted us with all of our imperfections, we are called to do the same for others, embracing the diversity and unique gifts each individual brings to our community.

So, Beloved, let us intentionally reflect Christ's light through our hospitality. As we celebrate His revelation to the world, let us also reveal His love through our actions—welcoming new faces with grace, kindness, and an open heart. That might mean sitting with a new guest, greeting them during the passing of the peace of Christ, or taking the time to chat with them before they leave. May we continue to be "that place and those people" where and with whom all feel valued, seen, and loved. Let us be the place and people who welcome!

May the light of Christ shine brightly through our collective embrace of each guest, new and returning alike.

Grace and peace!

Pastor K

For pastoral concerns or emergencies, Pastor K can be reached at 281-620-9928 (cell) or [emailpastorK@gmail.com](mailto:emailpastorK@gmail.com). Please call the church office if you would like to set up a meeting with him during the week.

## February Calendar

2/4

5:00pm-7:00pm – IFA Backpacks – Main Entrance

2/6

7:00pm – UWF Viewing of "Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools"

2/8

8:00am – Men's Bible Study - Lounge

9:00am – IFA Backpacks – Main Entrance

2/9

11:15am – UWF Meeting – Fellowship Hall

2/10

7:00pm – Marcia Ruth Circle – Lounge

1/12

6:30pm – Prayer Shawl Ministry - Lounge

7:00pm – Trustees Meeting - Library

2/16

9:00am-3:00pm – Shared Meal Prep – Kitchen

2/17

**Office and Food Pantry Closed  
for President's Day federal holiday**

2/18

4:00pm – Shared Meal – Fellowship Hall

5:00-7:00pm – IFA Backpacks – Main Entrance

2/19

1:00pm – Methodist Ladies Who Lunch – Miller's Ale House

2/22

9:00am – IFA Backpacks – Main Entrance

2/23

1:00pm – Girl Scout Thinking Day– Fellowship Hall

7:00pm – Girl Scout Day Camp Meeting – Rooms 26, 30/31

2/26

6:30pm – Prayer Shawl Ministry - Lounge

### WEEKLY EVENTS

#### Sundays

9:00am – Small Group Bible Study – Youth Room

10:00am – Worship Service - Sanctuary

10:00am – Sunday School – Room 10

11:00am – Hospitality - Lounge

12:00pm – Latino Ministry Worship Service - Sanctuary

7:00pm – Alcoholics Anonymous – Fellowship Hall

#### Mondays

10:00am – ESL – Rooms 3, 10, Library

7:00pm – Boy Scouts - Fellowship Hall

7:00pm – Nar Anon - Room 10

8:00pm – Narcotics Anonymous - Room 30/31

#### Tuesdays

10:00am – Bible Study – Lounge

6:00pm – Girl Scout Troop 2129 – Room 23, 26, 30/31

6:30pm – Girl Scout Troop 2692 – Room 21

6:30pm – ESL – Rooms 3, 10, Library

#### Wednesdays

10:30am – ESL – Rooms 3, 10, Library

6:00pm – Latino Band Practice - Sanctuary

6:30pm – Girl Scout Troop 2717 – Room 26

#### Thursdays

6:00pm – Grief Share – Lounge

6:30pm – ESL – Room 10, Library

#### Fridays

7:30pm - NA - RM 30/31

## PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY TIME!

Come join our weekly Bible Study group every Tuesday at 10:00am in the Lounge. We will be discussing the Book of James, so come ready to learn and share your insights. Here is the schedule of the passages we will be discussing:

2/4 James 3:13-4:8

2/11 James 4:4-17

2/18 James 5:1-6

2/25 James 5:7-10

3/4 James 5:13-20



The Sunday Adult Small Group meets upstairs in the Youth Room at 9 AM every Sunday morning. Please join us for fellowship, prayer, and Bible Study.



### FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

We need all kinds of cereal, rice, canned corn and peas, canned tuna, canned beans (no garbanzos/chick peas or green beans), canned chicken, spaghetti sauce, jelly (all flavors), peanut butter, instant coffee (small size), canned peaches or pears, tomato sauce, canned tomatoes, laundry soap (small or medium size), hand soaps, toothpaste, deodorant, and individually packaged toothbrushes.

Thank you for your continued generosity!  
Deb Price & The Missions Outreach Team

### SERMON SUGGESTIONS WANTED!



Pastor K invites you to offer suggestions for sermon topics or Bible scriptures you would like to hear him preach on. Please email or call the office with your suggestions or place them in the offering plate at church.



Our Men's Bible Study meets every second Saturday of the month at 8AM in the MUMC church lounge. Come join us on

February 8th. We welcome all men of our congregation and men from other churches. All you need to bring is yourself and your Bible. You can begin your weekend with good fellowship and encouragement from God's Word. Any questions call Dave Miller at 267-614-3836.

### SEEKING GREETERS AND USHERS

Looking to serve MUMC on Sundays? We could use your bright smile and handshake as a greeter to welcome members, newcomers and guests. Just arrive about 20 minutes early, smile, and welcome everyone as they enter the sanctuary. Encourage guests to come again and have them fill out our visitor card so we can get to know them. You can donate your time on a weekly or monthly basis.



Ushers have a few more duties. Arrive about 30 minutes early. If bulletins are not in the narthex, retrieve them from the office to give to worshippers. Check, or turn on the lights, cross, candles, heat or air conditioning. Present the offering and record the number of those in attendance. After the service, scan the pews for papers, etc. left behind so the sanctuary is ready for the next service. Usually ushers volunteer on a monthly basis, but schedules can be more flexible if needed.

If you are interested or have questions about either of these opportunities, please sign the sheet in the hall near Pastor K's office and I will contact you. Thanks for joining us in enhancing the atmosphere at MUMC and helping to make it friendly and welcoming for all who attend.

Carol Young (Usher and Greeter Coordinator)

### SPECIAL VIEWING

Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm, the UWF will have a viewing and discussion of the film "Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools". Please join us in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!

### CHURCH DIRECTORY 2025

We are working on updating our church directory later in February. If you have any corrections or changes with address or phone numbers that you would like to make, please notify Roxanne in the office. You can also contact Barb



Lombardo or Joyce Bigley. If you were not in the previous directory and would like to be added, please let us know that also. Copies of our current directory are on the table in the hallway near pastor's office.

There are blank data sheets on the table in case you never filled one out before. Please try to get this information turned in by February 20<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you! Membership Team – Barb and Joyce.

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School is going well and we're thankful to those who have been helping. We still need to get a few more helpers



with clearances to support this program. Please let us know if you are willing to be an occasional helper. We will help you easily get your clearances. The Safe Sanctuary Clearance event is also required for anyone working with children in the church. That is coming up on Sat, Feb 15, 9-12 on Zoom. Sign up is required. Please let us know if you can attend.



We are still in need of people to do Children's Messages. We will provide the lesson idea for you. See Joyce Bigley if you can please help in this area.

### IMPORTANT NOTE FROM THE OFFICE

Bulletin announcements are due by noon on Wednesdays. Please include the date, time(s) and location in the announcement you send in. Thank you!



**UWF Unit Meeting  
Sunday, February 9**

After church service, Fellowship Hall  
Bag lunch; dessert and beverage will be provided  
Speaker - Executive Director of AHTN, Advocates for the Homeless and Those in Need  
Pledge Service  
Call to Prayer and Self Denial

**Monday, February 10, 2025**

Marcia-Ruth Circle – in the church lounge  
Hostesses: Margy Dickson and Vera Straley  
Study - Carol Young

**Wednesday, February 19, 2025**

METHODIST LADIES WHO LUNCH  
Luncheon – Miller’s Ale House  
2250 Lincoln Hwy, Langhorne, PA 19047  
Meet at church 12:30 P.M.  
(Contact Deb Chapman with any questions)



**GRIESHARE MINISTRY** – Morrisville United Methodist Church’s GriefShare program will start this year on Thursday, February 6, 2025 and run until Thursday, May 1, 2025.

If you have experienced the passing of a loved one(s) and are seeking to find emotional support, hope & healing, consider joining GriefShare. In GriefShare, you will be able to engage with other men and women dealing with comparable issues and feelings. Individuals can sign-up at any time during the 13-week course of the program. Sign-up by going to [GriefShare.org/findagroup](http://GriefShare.org/findagroup). or contacting ElaineJoy Bramante at 302-740-9361.

Blessings,  
ElaineJoy Bramante

*Current Prayer Concerns*



**CURRENT PRAYER CONCERNS**

Pray for God’s peace for our nation and the world.  
Pray for the Holy Spirit to help us to continue to grow in the knowledge of God through a relationship with Jesus Christ. Prayers for our new pastor, Rev. Raphael Koikoi, as we continue our journey together.

Prayers for Andy McCall, John Davidson, Tom Miller, Ann Hook, Carol Hughes, Pam Manners, Toby Ellsworth, Jimmy Ellsworth, Thomas Manners, Paul & Marian Chapman, Sue Urbano

- Damian Carabello (Beditza Cadillo’s nephew)
- Marianne (friend of Joyce Bigley)
- Doug Schlatter and family (friend of Linda Mier)
- Roger and Diana Schnider (friends of Merlene Taylor)
- Jean Dugan (Susan Friend’s sister-in-law)
- Ron White (Phyllis Patterson’s nephew)
- David Pugh (Fran Pugh’s son)
- Bob (friend of the Swenson’s)
- Diane Hughes (sister of Carol Hughes)
- Marion Rea (Jim Rea’s mother)
- Jen (friend of Vickie Katona)
- Ellen (Bev Hoyer’s niece)



*Happy Anniversary*

- VK and Shilpa Macwana ..... February 8
- Joe and Ann Colduvell ..... February 18



## Happy Birthday

Emmanuel Abalo .....	February 1
Dorott Abalo.....	February 6
Prince Bull .....	February 8
Mark Macwana .....	February 11
Linda Mier .....	February 11
Tom Miller .....	February 12
Jenn Koba .....	February 13
Jimmy Ellsworth .....	February 16
Denny Lowe.....	February 19
Thelma Nicol .....	February 19
Hal Long.....	February 20
Iyanna Nagbe .....	February 20
Arianna Nagbe .....	February 20
Barbara Lombardo .....	February 22
Steve Russell.....	February 22
Finnegan Hughes.....	February 23
Kaylin Hammer.....	February 24
Rhonda Rea .....	February 25
Gail Lowe.....	February 26



**The Morrisville  
United Methodist Church  
Latino Ministry**

Invites you every Sunday to our  
Worship Service 12:00 pm

**Seeking, Serving and Sharing  
Jesus Christ!**

**El Ministerio Latino de la  
Iglesia Metodista Unida de Morrisville**

Te invita todos los domingos  
a las 12:00 pm

a nuestros Servicios de Adoración  
**Siguiendo, Sirviendo y Compartiendo a  
Jesucristo!**



### ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to present flowers on the altar for Sunday morning worship, please call/email the church office or sign-up in the flower book on the table in the hallway providing all the details of who the flowers are in honor/memory of and what occasion you are commemorating. (Cost is \$40)