

THE MAPLE

September 2023

Morrisville United Methodist Church

A Message from My Heart!

By: Pastor Olga



“The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of God endures forever.” Isaiah 40:8

I don't know about you, but I love changes during the seasons of the year. In Puerto Rico, where my husband and I come from, we do not see changes. All year long is the same. It has a different beauty.

But I remember the first time I saw snow; it was in December 2004. We went to Syracuse to visit my husband's family during Christmas. I was delighted to see the snow falling, and yes playing and taking pictures outside. It was a great experience.

The fall season is coming up and it is one of my favorites. The trees change their color; it is a spectacle of our Creator. Change in the hour, change in the clothes we wear, change in the weather. People change; we are also changing every day. How can we handle so many changes?

The Scripture in Isaiah gives us stability, hope, and security. “The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the Word of God endures forever.” The Bible also says in Hebrews 13:8 “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.” God never changes. His Word never changes. What He said He will do; what He promised He will accomplish. His promises are steadfast.

In the middle of an ever-changing world, where is our stability, hope, and trust? Who or what is going to be our anchor? Christ and His Word, never change!

Have a blessed Fall Season!

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Olga



September Calendar

9/5

5:00pm – IFA Backpacks (Main Entrance)
7:00pm – Worship Team (Library)

9/8

Blood Drive (Fellowship Hall)

9/9

8:00am – Men's Bible Study (Lounge)
9:00am – IFA Backpacks (Main entrance)

9/10

3:00pm – Latino Worship Gathering (Parsonage)

9/11

7:00pm – Finance Committee (Library)

9/12

7:00pm – SPRC Meeting (Room 10)

9/13

7:00pm – Trustees Meeting (Library)

9/18

7:00pm – Marcia Ruth Circle (Lounge)

9/19

4:00pm – Shared Meal (Fellowship Hall)
5:00pm – IFA Backpacks (Main Entrance)
7:00pm – Church Council Planning Mtg (Rm 10)

9/20

1:00pm – Methodist Women Who Lunch (Lounge)

9/21

6:00pm – Prayer Shall Group (Lounge)

9/23

9:00am – IFA Backpacks (Main Entrance)

9/26

7:00pm – Church Council meeting (Room 10)

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sundays

9:00am – Small Group Bible Study – Youth Rooms
10:00am – Worship Service
11:00am – Hospitality (Lounge)
7:00pm – Alcoholics Anonymous (Hall)

Mondays

10:30 am – ESL Beg. Class (Rm 10)
7Ppm – Boy Scouts (Fellowship Hall)
7pm – Nar Anon (Room 10)
8pm – Narcotics Anonymous (Rm 30/31)

Tuesdays

10:00 am – Bible Study (Library)
6:00pm – Girl Scouts 2196 (Rooms 10, 26, 30/31)

Wednesdays

10:30am – ESL (Room 10 & Library)

Thursdays

7:00pm – Choir -Practice – Choir Room

Fridays

6:30pm – ESL Latino (Room 10)
6:30pm – Girl Scouts 2692 (Room 26)
7:30pm – NA (RM 30/31)



PASTOR OLGA E. GONZÁLEZ OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Thursdays – 9am to 4pm
Fridays – day off
Saturdays – Sabbath
Sundays – Worship Services
Note: If you need an appointment with the Pastor, please call the office (215) 295-9395 and we will get back to you.

FINANCE UPDATE



The New Church Directory has been printed!

A big Thank You to Barbara Lombardo and Joyce Bigley for all their hard work updating our church records so we could publish a new church directory.

This directory has been emailed to all who receive communications from the church electronically. There are also printed copies on the table outside the church office. We know there may be some mistakes. Please review your information and pass any corrections to the church office or to Barbara or Joyce. We will strive to send out all corrections by the end of September and update the directory quarterly. Thank you for your help in this matter. Enjoy!

Jim Rea, Finance Chair

PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY TIME!

Prayer, Scripture and Discipleship are three important keys for the life of a church. For that, we would like to invite all of you to a time of Prayer and Bible study on Tuesdays at 10am in the Library.

Beginning on Tuesday, September 12th at 10am, we will have an introductory time to get to know each other better and to talk about our time together on Tuesdays.

Don't miss this opportunity of fellowship and learning.

Pastor Olga



WORSHIP TEAM

The Sanctuary Choir will resume on Sunday, September 24.
Thanks! Margy Dickson



The first meeting of the Saturday Morning Men's Group for this church year is on the 9th of September at 8 AM. We meet in the church lounge the second Saturday of each month. Good fellowship and encouragement from God's Word is a great way to start our weekend. Men of all ages are welcome. If you have any questions, call David Miller at 267-614-3836.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY- STITCH WITH US!



Since 2011, the MUMC Prayer Shawl Ministry has blessed over 300 people with the gift of a Prayer Shawl. Prayer Shawls are given to those who are sick, those who are grieving, those who are celebrating a new chapter in their lives (college students), those who have just become a part of the Body of Christ (newly baptized babies) and anyone who requests one!

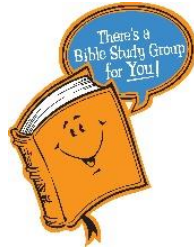
Our group meets at 6:00pm every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month, Sept. through June to stitch (knit OR crochet) these Prayer Shawls in the church lounge. We invite anyone with a desire to bless others with the work of their hands to JOIN US. We are a fellowship of stitchers who enjoy "fiber fellowship" and when shawls are completed, we bless them with a prayer and then store them until they are needed. If you have any questions about the Prayer Shawl Ministry, please call Rhonda Rea (215-493-9505) or Linda Herbster (609-647-2983). Also, if you have a need for a Prayer Shawl, call on us to arrange delivery of a shawl.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS ARE BACK!

Wednesday, October 11th, 2023 in the Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm-potluck meal and 7:00 pm Praise and Devotions time. All are welcome to bring a plate to pass. This is a trial to find out the interest in renewing this opportunity for food and fellowship.

SUNDAY MORNING SMALL GROUP

The Sunday Morning Small group will start again on the 10th of September. We meet at 9AM in the Youth Room. We are studying the book of Mark. Bring your Bible and be ready to enjoy good fellowship. Call David Miller at 267-614-3836 if you have any questions.



United
Women
in Faith

THE PURPOSE

United Women in Faith 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 do not 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.

September Schedule

UMW GENERAL MEETING

Sunday, September 10, 11:00am
Fellowship Hall

SEPTEMBER 18

MARCIA -RUTH CIRCLE
7:00 P.M. - Lounge
Hostess: Carol Young and Barb Lombardo
Study/Devotion: Rhonda Rea

METHODIST WOMEN WHO LUNCH

No meeting in September. We will meet again on October 17th.

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

The new **food pantry closet** will be completed soon. We will let you know when it will be ready to be filled with your donations. Thanks for your continued generosity!



Love, Deb Price (Missions Committee)



HOSPITALITY SET-UP/CLEAN UP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

A few volunteers are needed to set-up for coffee in the Lounge on Saturday night or clean up on Sunday after hospitality is over. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the Lounge and a meeting of volunteers will be scheduled soon. If interested, please call Vera Straley, 215-295-1382. Thanks!



**Interfaith
Food Alliance**

INTERFAITH FOOD ALLIANCE

Targeted donations for September— dishwashing liquid, cleaning products, pancake mix, canned meals (stew, chili, Beefaroni, SpaghettiOs) PLEASE LEAVE DONATED IFA FOOD ITEMS IN THE BLUE STRIPED BINS OUTSIDE THE CHURCH OFFICE.

The IFA was busy this summer as it prepared for our Annual Backpack and School Supply giveaway. An additional blessing this year was our partnership with Giant Food Store which gifted us 300 Back to School Bags. Each child in an IFA family received a thermal reusable grocery bag that contained, a box of O's cereal, a box of Mac & Cheese, a granola bar, a bottle of water, a spiral notebook, 3 pencils, 3 glue sticks, a pencil sharpener, a toothbrush, toothpaste, mouthwash, deodorant, and soap concentrate. The IFA provided new Backpacks for each child as well as many of the other items on their school supply list. Extra bags were shared with a Trenton Elementary School and families of our Hispanic Ministry. We are grateful for this partnership with the Giant Food Store!!

Please speak to Rhonda Rea if you are interested in helping the IFA serve the community. (215-493-9505)
Rhonda Rea

THE IVINS OUTREACH CENTER NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

We encourage you to give the precious gift of time to those in need in your community. The Ivins Outreach Center urgently needs volunteers to assist with our Staying Put in Lower Bucks Program. Staying Put is driven by volunteers who provide services to give homebound seniors the practical means and social support to live their lives to the fullest, safely, and confidently in their own community with familiar connections. Volunteers provide transportation to medical appointments, grocery shopping, pharmacy, and hair salon appointments. If you have a few hours to spare, we welcome your assistance. For more information concerning our program, please check our website: www.ivinsoutreach.org. Or for additional information, please contact Frank Walter at 215-428-0500 x101 or frank@ivinsoutreach.org.



United Women in Faith

50th Annual Celebration Eastern PA Conference
 Saturday, October 21, 2023
 Asbury United Methodist Church
 1533 Springhouse Rd.
 Allentown, PA 18104

Registration 9:00am Cost \$20.00
 To register contact Mary Ann Repsher, email: rep164@frontiernet.net, phone: 610-588-1084
 Celebration: 9:30am to 2:00pm (lunch 12pm -1pm)
 "Stepping Out On Faith"
 Guest Speaker: Sally Vonner, United Women in Faith
 General Secretary and CEO
 For information contact:
 Sandra Wilson wilsonsan1@aol.com



LATINO WORSHIP
 Will resume on Sunday, September 10th at 3:00pm with a meeting at the Parsonage.



Happy Anniversary

- Denis & Linda Krause (54 years)September 6
- Patti & Lawrence Hammer (19 years).....September 12
- Tina DeBraganza (5 years)September 14
- Elwyn & Arlene Wittenborn (58 years).....September 18
- Amy & Anthony Surdy (28 years).....September 30



Happy Birthday

- Anita Davidson.....September 1
- Peter ChapmanSeptember 3
- Evan PriceSeptember 5
- Steven Kent.....September 6
- Veronica MarksSeptember 6
- Jillian BuehlerSeptember 7
- Jim Rea.....September 7
- Maggie Ahne.....September 8
- Dorsladee Farcarthy.....September 8
- John Mier.....September 8
- Merlene Taylor.....September 9
- Tina DeBraganzaSeptember 14
- David NobleSeptember 18
- Cheryl Scott.....September 18
- Christopher McCormick.....September 20
- Sarah Scott.....September 20
- Joyce Bigley.....September 22
- Julie Smith.....September 25
- Leeya SmithSeptember 25
- Victor EstradaSeptember 27
- Allan MannonSeptember 27
- Joseph Massaquoi, Jr.September 27
- Jason Evans.....September 29
- Susan SullivanSeptember 29

Current Prayer Concerns



We pray for Peace. We pray for our brothers and sisters in Pakistan – 39 churches were burned. We pray for the families of victims of mass shootings. We pray for Justice and Equality for all.

Barbara Gillis, Pam Manners, Toby Ellsworth, Jimmy Ellsworth, Shirley Malmsbury, Thomas Manners, B.J. Lebegern, Paul & Marian Chapman, Sue Urbano, Alice South, Josephine Karpeh-Kyne, Donna Dulay, Jenn Ayling-Arruda

Family of Rev. Charles S. Bartolett (deceased former Pastor of MUMC)

Family of Joyce Patterson (deceased sister-in-law of Phyllis Patterson)

Dave (friend of Joyce Bigley)

Andrew (friend of Vera Straley)

Brent (friend of Bev & Dave Hoyer)

Andrea (friend of Angel Stintsman)

Ruth (friend of Charlotte Swenson)

Nephew of Linda Mier's colleague

Damien (friend of Frances Rivera)

Bill (brother-in-law of Phyllis Patterson)

Family of Patricia Sullivan (friend of Jane Burger)

Karen (community member)

Joan (friend of Vera Straley)

Maria (friend of Beditza)

Marcus (friend of Jenn Ayling-Arruda)

Ellen (niece of Bev Hoyer)

Elaine (friend of Estella Smires)

Nahdee (mother of Veronica Marks)

Marilou & Wally (friends of Mickey McDevitt)

Maureen (friend of Charlotte Swenson)

Kate (daughter of Pam Manners)

Brenda (cousin of Phyllis Patterson)

Petra (friend of Linda Mier)

Paulette (cousin of Stella Smires)

Thank you, Rich!

Rich, our custodian, is retiring after serving MUMC for over a year and a half. We thank Rich for all his hard work and service to our church!



IMPORTANT NOTE FROM THE OFFICE

When submitting articles for the Maple or Bulletin, please include the date, time(s), and location in the article you send to the office. This will help eliminate emails and phone calls to have your information published correctly. Bulletin announcements are due on Wednesdays. Thank you!