

Morrisville United Methodist Church



A Message from my heart...

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6

How many of you remember the Christmas of 2020?! What a challenge! What a huge change! No Christmas Eve services in person, no Christmas cookies, no hugs, no greetings, no family gatherings. As a pastor to have our Christmas Eve service online was a new and unexpected great challenge. I remember going into the Sanctuary in the church I was serving, praying and crying, missing people, their love, laughs, and yes sometimes cranky faces, ha, ha, ha!!! What I truly remember is that our Prince of Peace, the Lord Jesus Christ was with us through all of it.

Today, three years later God is giving us the privilege and great opportunity to celebrate Christmas. To come and worship God altogether in the Sanctuary, to gather and share. The most important thing we need to REMEMBER is what is Christmas about. Why do we celebrate? And whom do we celebrate?

Christmas is about Jesus Christ our Lord. It is a HUGE celebration of his love, mercy, and grace for us. We celebrate our King who left his throne of glory to come to this world becoming a human being giving us Salvation and eternal life. Don't you think that is a reason to celebrate?

Christmas is about celebrating Jesus' birthday!!! It is about caring for others with the same love, grace, and compassion he cares for us. **Christmas** is to celebrate Emmanuel "God with us." Perhaps it will be a different Christmas for some of us. You may have lost a loved one. Maybe you are going through a difficult time. But I need you to REMEMBER Christ lives in our hearts; we are not alone. He is with us!!! Don't you think that should be for us a GREAT CELEBRATION!!!

Advent is a time for reflection and preparation to celebrate Christmas. It is a time to seek God and to be awake and, on the watch, because Christ is coming back and we need to be ready. Advent and Christmas are about JESUS CHRIST! It is about evaluating our walk with Him and letting the Holy Spirit guide, mold, and shape us to be what He wants us to be.

This Christmas 2023, let us celebrate Jesus Christ! Let us check on the needs of our neighbors. Let us pray and read the story of the Nativity. Let us keep one another in prayer. Give a call, send a card, bring cookies to someone!! Let's celebrate **Christmas** the way it should be. Let us celebrate our **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace**. Amen!!!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!

In Christ's love, Pastor Olga

“Christ himself was like God in everything...But he gave up his place with God and made himself nothing. He was born as a man and became like a servant. Philippians 2:6-7 (NCV)



***There will be two worship services on
Sunday, December 24th***

10:00am – Sunday Worship Service

7:00pm – Christmas Eve Service

December Calendar

12/3

1:00 pm Elks Lodge private event (Fellowship Hall)

12/5

5:00pm – IFA Backpacks (Main Entrance)

12/8

8:00am – Men's Bible Study (Lounge)
9:00am – IFA Backpacks (Fellowship Hall)
2pm – UWF event setup (Fellowship Hall)

12/10

11:30am – UWF Meeting & Luncheon (Fellowship Hall)
12:30pm – UWF Cookie packing (Fellowship Hall)

12/13

7:00pm – Trustees Meeting (Library)

12/16

9:00am – IFA Gift Handout (Main Entrance)
11:30am – Figueroa Private Party (Fellowship Hall)
6:00pm – Hal Long Christmas Party (Long residence)

12/17

11:30 am –Latino Ministry Christmas Dinner (Fellowship Hall)

12/18

7:00 pm –Marcia-Ruth Circle (Lounge)

12/19

4:00pm –Shared Meal (Fellowship Hall)
5:00pm – IFA Backpacks (Main Entrance)

12/23

9:00am – IFA Backpacks (Lounge)

12/24

7:00pm – Christmas Eve Service

12/25

Christmas Day – Church Office and Food Pantry Closed

12/31

4:00pm –AA Private Party (Fellowship Hall)

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 (Fellowship Hall) ended 11/7
6:00pm – Girl Scouts 2196 (Rooms 10, 26, 30/31)

Wednesdays

10:30am – ESL (Room 10 & Library)
6:30pm – Girl Scouts 2717 (Room 26)

Thursdays

7:00pm – Choir -Practice – Choir Room

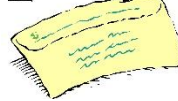
Fridays

6:30pm – ESL Latino (Room 10)
7:30pm - NA (RM 30/31)



FINANCE UPDATE

Offering Envelopes



OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2024 The Finance Committee has placed offering envelope boxes for 2024 in the hallway. Please stop by and pick them up. If you have not had offering envelopes in the past and would like a box for 2024, then please sign the clipboard in the hallway by the Pastor's office or contact Jim Rea. If you have envelopes for 2023, you do not have to do anything.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support for our ministry in Morrisville.

Jim Rea, Finance Chair

PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY TIME!

Tuesday Bible Study will resume on January 23, 2024 at 10:00am. We are going to use the book "God the Deliverer, Our Search for Identity and Our Hope for Renewal" by Randy Frazee.



Pastor Olga

ANGEL TREE

Latino Ministry, IFA Children, and Local Families in Need



MUMC ANGEL TREE REMINDER. Wrapped gifts with green tags were due **Wed. Dec. 6th**. Wrapped gifts with red tags must be returned today, **Sun. Dec. 10th**. Return the wrapped gifts to the Lounge or the church office. Thank you for your support! Rhonda Rea, Beditza Cadillo, and Deb Price

Men's Bible Study



Our next Men's Bible Study is Saturday, December 9th, at 8AM in the MUMC church lounge. It will be good to get together between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Hope to see all of you who want to start their weekend with good fellowship and encouragement from God's Word! If you have any questions call Dave Miller. (267-614-3836) and you will be put on the invite list.



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.

December Schedule

DECEMBER 10 (Sunday)

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM - Members are encouraged to bring 2-3 dozen homemade cookies that will be made into trays for our homebound members. (Sugar-free cookies are always appreciated for trays for our diabetic friends.)

DECEMBER 10 (Sunday)

UWF GENERAL MEETING

11:00 A.M. – Fellowship Hall - Bag Lunch after Church. A Christmas Love Offering will be taken.

DECEMBER 18

MARCIA-RUTH CIRCLE

6:30 P.M. – Church Lounge

Study/Devotion: Bring a Christmas reading to share

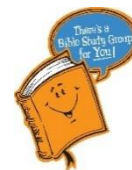
METHODIST LADIES WHO LUNCH

No Luncheon Scheduled

(Contact Deb Chapman with any questions)

SUNDAY MORNING SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY

We meet at 9AM in the Youth Room and 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.



**Interfaith
Food Alliance**

INTERFAITH FOOD

ALLIANCE/FAMILY

BACKPACK CENTER NEWS

Our **Angel Tree** project provides gifts for local children in need from the Latino Ministry, the Morrisville School District, and other local children. Please return gifts with green tags by Wed. Dec. 6th to the church lounge or the church office. Gifts with red and yellow tags should be returned **by Dec. 10th**. Thank you for your Extravagant Generosity!

Christmas Bazaar- Sat., Dec. 9th-St. John the Evangelist R.C. Church holds their Christmas Bazaar, 10am-3pm. The church is located at 752 Big Oak Rd., Morrisville, PA. Check out the JUMBO Raffle Baskets whose proceeds will benefit the IFA! Lots of vendors, goodies, and gifts!

This month our targeted donations continue to be **Boxed Potatoes, Sugar, Coffee, and Cooking Oil**. All food donations can be placed in the blue and white striped bins outside the Church Office.

Thanks to the generosity of our Alliance members and friends, more than 50 complete Thanksgiving meals were given to our guests last month.

For more info on giving, go to our website-

www.interfaithfoodalliance.com

Rhonda Rea

jrpiz@aol.com 215-493-9505

FOOD AND VOLUNTEER MINISTRY

It's been a very exciting time at Morrisville United Methodist Church! I am super excited to be open to what God has in store for me as I enter into a new phase of my life. What a blessing it is!

If you haven't heard - I am the Director of Food and Volunteer Ministry! This new position is very special to me because it will allow me to enter into a journey



with YOU as we continue on our journey to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ!

We have blessed many families who struggle with food insecurity through our beautiful food pantry and helped with thanksgiving baskets that were full of food and most importantly- LOVE!

Shared meal is still going strong! A big thank you to all of you who help with or meal prep! The hams were cut beautifully and we were able to be very generous! Did you know we serve over 100 meals every month?

Next month - December 19th to be exact, we are asking for some additional help! We need cookies and rolls! If you can help with cookies, please reach out to our Cookie Coordinator - Carol Young! She is an expert! If you want to bring rolls - please drop them off in the kitchen labeled- SHARED MEAL!



Want to help out on a bigger way???? We are ready for you! Please reach out to me so we can use your talents to serve our local community!

Please pray for our ministry. If God comes to you with an idea, please share it! I cannot wait to see what God has planned for us!

With Love and Grace,
Jennifer Ayling-Arruda
Director of Food and Volunteer Ministries

CHURCH FAMILY DIRECTORY

The updated MUMC directory was emailed out in October. If the church office has your correct email address, you should have received it as a PDF attachment for you to save and print. Copies are also on the hallway table.



Please check your information and either let the office or us know what corrections need to be made. You may also give us your updates by using one of the Member Information Sheets in the box on the table in the hallway. Just place it in the folder in the box and we will get it. Thank you for your help!



OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

We are also attempting to gather additional information into the church database about opportunities to Serve or areas you may want to help. Being of service helps

others as us as individuals! Many hands make light the work and it feels good!

Barb Lombardo and Joyce Bigley, Membership Team



LATINO MINISTRY UPDATE

On November 19, Pastor Olga and I met with 9 families and their children for a Thanksgiving brunch at the Golden Eagle Diner. A new family was invited to share time with us and we shared MUMC's love and caring with them.

On December 17th we are looking forward to sharing the Annual Latino Christmas Dinner with our entire MUMC family. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after the 10:00am service. All are welcome! It is a time to gather together, share a meal, and appreciate everything we have here at MUMC. Also on the 17th is the Gift Giveaway for our Latino families. This year we are serving 17 families with about 75 children. It has been a blessing every year that we have been able to make these children smile with our love and donations.

I want to thank everyone that has supported me and the Latino Ministry. Thanks to God and you, we can continue to serve the Latino community. I also want to thank Deborah Chapman for her support and dedication to the Latino Ministry and community.

Thank you, Morrisville United Methodist Church, for all you do in our community!

Beditza Cadillo, Director, Latino Ministry

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School is coming back! We have a teacher for younger and older students. We need both adult and teen helpers. If you can be available one or more times a month to help, please contact Barb Lombardo. Thank you!



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!

PLEASE NOTE

Pastor González will be away December 30, 2023 through January 16, 2024. In her absence while she is away, please contact Pastor Joe Martin, Fallsington UMC, at 215-593-4904 or jomartplayer@aol.com



Happy Anniversary

- Samson Shoukat (14 years) December 12
- Chile Obbo (32 years)..... December 19
- Jennifer Ayling-Arruda (29 years)..... December 22
- Linda & David Mier (39 years)..... December 22
- Denny & Gail Lowe (57 years) December 27



Happy Birthday

- Jacen Arruda December 1
- Linda Herbster..... December 3
- Swithin Swaroop December 5
- Donna Dulay..... December 6
- Lillian Mannon December 7
- Samson Shoukat..... December 9
- Kyle Steppe..... December 11
- Matt Tiacomulco December 12
- Joseph Urbano December 12
- Toby Ellsworth..... December 14
- Beditza Cadillo..... December 16
- Mae Menei..... December 21
- Joe Colduvell December 23
- Rick Eickhoff December 25
- Mickey McDevitt December 26
- Trey Buehler December 27
- Vera Straley December 30
- Bill Fabian December 31

Current Prayer Concerns



We pray for God’s peace in the Middle East, our nation, and the world. We pray for God’s hope to fill our hearts.

Rosemary Bensted and family, Vicky Katona, Fran Pugh, Pam Manners, Toby Ellsworth, Jimmy Ellsworth, Shirley Malmsbury, Thomas Manners, B.J. Lebegern, Paul & Marian Chapman, Sue Urbano, Alice South

- Clara Briggs (sister of Estella Smires)
- Suzanne (Joyce Bigley’s cousin)
- Addie (young relative of the Swenson’s)
- Marianne (friend of Joyce Bigley)
- Helen Van Note (Fran Pugh’s sister-in-law)
- Barbara Gillis’ Family
- Hummy Seufert’s Family
- Andrew (friend of Vera Straley)
- Darius (second cousin of Andrew, community member)
- Steve (friend of Joyce Bigley)
- Brenda Jones (cousin of Phyllis Patterson)
- Sandra and Larry (friends of Jane Burger)
- Patricia (friend of Joyce Bigley)
- Ellen (niece of Bev Hoyer)
- Carrie (Vera Straley’s daughter)
- Millie (friend of Charlotte Swenson)