

S e p t e m b e r 2 0 1 6

The

Connection

Morton Baptist Church

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Sunday Service: 10:30 AM
Bible Study: Wednesday at 12:00
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A Theocracy is a form of government where God is the head of all people; He is the Supreme King. This is the kind of government Israel had at its inception. There were prophets who were responsible for bringing the words God spoke to the people. It seems like a perfect form of government. After all, God is the One who created the universe and all it contains, so He is the One who knows what is best for all mankind.

Well, it didn't work out as intended; the people ran into all kinds of problems thruout their history. I can assure you that it was not because of faulty government.

The reason a Theocracy did not work is because of the people disobeying God's commandments. 1 Samuel 8:4-9 tells the story of how they tried to throw off God as their ruler: Then all the rulers of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, and said to him, "Look, you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations."

But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." So Samuel prayed to the Lord. And the Lord said to Samuel, "Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them. According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them

up out of Egypt, even to this day; with which they have forsaken Me and served other gods; so they are doing to you also. Now therefore, heed their voice. However, you shall solemnly forewarn them, and show them the behavior of the king who will reign over them.” And so he did.

I used to think that I would like to live in a Theocracy, and the more I thought about it the more I realized that I actually do live under such government. As a Christian; a born again believer in Jesus Christ; I, and you, live under the commandments of God as explained by Jesus Christ and in the Epistles. “Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s” (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

The price Jesus paid was His life, death on the cross, burial, resurrection, appearance to His Disciples, and His ascension. To further illustrate His care over us, He sent the Holy Spirit to dwell with us and in us so we are never alone (John 14:15-18).

How do we know if we are going in the right direction or not?

Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, “Lord, how is it that You will manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?”

Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father’s who sent Me.”

There are some reasons for all of this love expressed to us in such a magnificent manner. The first reason is so we can honor God with our lives here on earth. Unless we have the Holy Spirit within us we cannot come into God’s presence; He does not

answer our prayers. It takes salvation by God's grace through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ to have the honor and privilege of coming into God's presence.

The second reason is for the salvation of our souls so we can spend an eternity in the immediate presence of God our Savior.

The third reason for this one-of-a-kind relationship is for the purpose of evangelism. If you know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior it is because someone took the time to tell you about Him. Your task in return is to tell someone else. We may not all be evangelists but we are all called to personal evangelism; one on one, whoever it may be.

Jesus said, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

God is the Author of life; therefore, He has the authority to rule and reign over every man, woman or child on the face of the earth. How much more so for those who claim to love Him? If we say we are Christians and do not obey the commandments of Jesus Christ from a loving heart we are living a lie.

"You are the light of the world... "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:14 & 16).

Serving Christ and the Community, Pastor Jim

Trustee Meeting: 8-23-2016

In attendance: Ralph Olney, Dale Rowley, Bev Olney, Gary House, Tony Callari, Pastor Jim Richardson

Meeting opened with prayer at 7:00 PM.

The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed. Gary moved to accept as written, Bev seconded.

The Treasurers Report was reviewed. Highlights include:

1. Year to Date Church Investments return was 9.32%.
2. Trustees approved another \$5,000 to be moved from endowment fund into commercial savings account. This year alone, \$10,000 has been transferred from profits in the stock market to the commercial savings account.
3. Expenses were reviewed. It was highlighted that all of the expense reduction programs are working well. Year to date:
 - a. Copier expense only \$569
 - b. Electric usage FOR THE YEAR only \$879
 - c. Natural gas usage FOR THE YEAR only \$591
 - d. General repairs slightly under \$1,000
4. Checking account balance remains healthy at \$6,000.

Gary made a motion to accept the report, Tony seconded.

The Constitution Committee has produced the final draft of the updated constitution. They will meet for the last time on Sunday, September 11 after Church. There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, September 25th after Church to vote on final approval of the document.

Jim Richardson Jr. and Tom Ingraham made necessary repairs to the steeple roof. Brightly farms lent us use of a lift for a day saving the Church between \$1000 and \$1200. Trustees approved a \$50 dinner gift certificate for the Brightly Farms.

Gary House purchased a replacement Faucet for the kitchen sink. Dan Cater replaced the faucet in the kitchen of McQueen Hall....Thank you Dan.

Tom Ingraham and Gary House cleaned up a flood due to an overflowed toilet. It happened 2 days before VBS was starting. Thanks to both of them for giving up part of their Friday and Saturday to deal with this issue.

Trustees approved of use of McQueen Hall in September for a scrap booking session.

Trustees approved baptismal date of Sept. 18 for members of the Fox family.

Diane Grimm informed the trustees that attendance is down this year and she will be teaching 2 days a week versus 4 days a week. The trustees will adjust budgetary items accordingly.

Meeting was closed with prayer at 7:50 pm.

Next Meeting Date TBD



In and Around the Community

John Cook and Brad Miller would like to thank everyone who helped with this summer's vacation bible school. It was a huge success!

The Community Church Service on August 14th was a wonderful time of fellowship for the whole community to enjoy together.

We are thrilled to hear how much Eleanor Reynolds enjoyed her 100th birthday last month. She loved the flowers, cards, and the video of the church service and the highlights of Morton. Special thanks to Robert Cook for putting together the video!

Please keep Fred and the Conradt family in your prayers. Wilma Conradt passed away on August 23rd. A memorial service will be held at our church on September 4th after the morning worship. Wilma was a truly wonderful woman who was a genuine asset to our church community. Our prayers are with the family.

The Congregation would like to thank Jim Richardson Jr. and Tom Ingraham for the repair made to the Church steeple. The repair looks great!

Tammy Cook's father, Walter Dodson, suffered a minor stroke. While at the hospital, they discovered a heart issue. After running some tests and speaking with the cardiologist, it appears that he has multiple blockages, and they are recommending bypass surgery rather than putting in stents. He is scheduled to have a quadruple bypass surgery. Please keep him in your prayer.

On Sunday, September 25th, Rev. Ernie Whalley and his wife Mary from Huddersfield, England, will be joining us for worship. Several years ago Rev. Whalley's family was part of a "minister exchange" at Morton Baptist Church, with our then minister, Rev. Kenneth Lee and family. At that time Rev. Whalley was pastor at Westgate Baptist Church in Bradford, West Yorkshire, England. The Whalleys spent a month in the Morton community and he led our Sunday worship services. At the same time Rev. Lee filled in at the Westgate church in England. Ernie & Mary are excited to be coming back to Morton for a weekend visit and look forward to worshipping with us, connecting with old friends and meeting new ones. For information on their visit, contact Kathy Scroger.

Ed Purvee and Joan's sister, Peggy, have each taken turns for the worse. Please keep them both, along with Joan and the family, in your prayers.

Pam Dutton has returned home from Maine. While there, she attended the Franklin Graham "Decide Amercia" where the message was to do your homework on the candidates and prayerfully make your decision, then vote.

Ralph & Bev Olney attended the Wilmot Cancer picnic where the 3000th transplant was celebrated.

Prayers for Andrew Cook as he starts back with full time classes at Brockport College, continues working three jobs, and plans for his and Natalie's upcoming wedding.

Please pray for Tammy Cook's cousin, Jim MacDonald, who is battling a serious infection.

We continue to remember in prayer: the Ashberry family, Jim Bliss, Fred & Wilma Conradt, Chap & Jan Fabry, Helen Mattern, RoseMary Mintz, Ralph Olney, Ed & Joan Purvee, Eleanor Reynolds, Larry & Sandy Richardson, Pastor Jim, and the youth group. Cards, notes, and visits are always welcome.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

A moment of silence and nothing is said;
A moment of silence to reflect on the dead.
The people all flee to the churches nearby,
Wondering when it was their turn to die.
A moment of silence to stare at the wreck;
A moment of silence is politically correct.
The church is now empty; where did they go?
"We shall prevail; we told you so."
A moment of silence with tears in their eyes;
A moment of silence to full realize,
The reason they're silent with nothing to say;
God is a stranger because they don't pray.

Pastor Jim

ATTENTION!

Church Supplies

The church is in constant need of **paper towels, toilet paper, Kleenex, any size Ziplock bags, and trash bags (13-gal and 30-gal)**. If we all could contribute a little it would take the burden off those who are constantly purchasing these things for the church. These items go fast, and we all use them so if you're able, please contribute. If you'd like to contribute money for these items please see Bev Olney or Dan Cater. Thank you!



Volunteer's Needed!

We continue to need people to sign up to make coffee and cookies for **coffee hour** after church. Sign-up sheets are in McQueen Hall. We also need volunteers to be **greeters** (see Lizzie Pearson or Pam Dutton) and **lay readers** (see Pastor Jim).



Recorded Messages

The church services are recorded every Sunday and are now can be accessed through the church Facebook page and can be downloaded from Soundcloud <https://soundcloud.com/ortonaptisthurchermons>).

UPCOMING EVENTS



MBC Constitution Rewrite

The Committee rewriting the Church Constitution will meet after Church in McQueen Hall on Sunday, September 11th to review and approve the final draft of the updated MBC Constitution. We will also discuss timing for the Congregational approval meeting. If you have any questions, either E-mail or call Ralph Olney. E-mail: roret60@gmail.com, Phone: 585-349-1817. See you there....Ralph.

Life Ladies

The Life Ladies will meet at Eileen Young's house for beverages and snacks on the porch at 1:00 on Sunday, Sept. 11th. All are welcome!



CURE Picnic

Our annual CURE Picnic will be held **Saturday, September 17th** from 12:00-5:00. Lunch will be from 12:00-1:00 at the church, and activities will be from 1:00-5:00 at the Morton Fireman's Field. Activities include wagon rides to an apple orchard and pumpkin patch, crafts, games, bounce house, face painting, pony rides, and a petting zoo. Sign up sheets for food and volunteers are posted in MacQueen Hall.

Baptism

We will have baptisms on Sunday, September 18th.

September Birthdays:

5th Ava Ingraham
Jason Miller
6th Robert Cook
7th Victoria Knaak
11th Louyse Lee
14th Matthew Cook
Carol Duerr
18th Jan Fabry
19th Fred Conradt
Dennis Duerr
20th Linda Farrow
23rd Jim Richardson, Jr.
24th Cindy Curtis
Kathy Scroger
25th Sally Shiffer
27th Ralph Olney



Kitchen Item:

The kitchen item for September is:
Paper towels

**Do you have a friendly smile?
Can you spare 2 hours a week to
brighten someone's day?**
Volunteer greeters are needed at the
Martin-Linsin Hospice Residence.
Morning, afternoon and evening shifts available.
Call 585-589-0809 for more information or stop
by the Hospice office at 14080 Rd. 31 West in
Albion.

Hospice
OF ORLEANS, INC.

We all Need a Tree!

I hired a plumber to help me restore an old farmhouse, and after he had just finished a rough first day on the job: a flat tire made him lose an hour of work, his electric drill quit and his ancient one ton truck refused to start.

While I drove him home, he sat in stony silence. On arriving, he invited me in to meet his family. As we walked toward the front door, he paused briefly at a small tree touching the tips of the branches with both hands. When opening the door he underwent an amazing transformation. His face was wreathed in smiles and he hugged his two small children and gave his wife a kiss.

Afterward he walked me to the car. We passed the tree and my curiosity got the better of me. I asked him about what I had seen him do earlier. "Oh, that's my trouble tree," he replied, "I know I can't help having troubles on the job, but one thing's for sure, those troubles don't belong in the house with my wife and the children. So I just hang them up on the tree every night when I come home, and ask God to take care of them. Then in the morning I pick them up again. "Funny thing is," he smiled, "when I come out in the morning to pick 'em up, there aren't nearly as many as I remember hanging up the night before."

When you die, 10 things GOD won't ask you:

1. God won't ask what kind of car you drove. He'll ask how many people you drove that didn't have transportation.
2. God won't ask the square footage of your house. He'll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.
3. God won't ask about the clothes you had in your closet. He'll ask how many you helped to clothe.
4. God won't ask what your highest salary was. He'll ask if you compromised your character to obtain it.
5. God won't ask what your job title was. He'll ask if you performed your job to the best of your ability.
6. God won't ask how many friends you had. He'll ask how many people to whom you were a friend.
7. God won't ask in what neighborhood you lived. He'll ask how you treated your neighbors.
8. God won't ask about the color of your skin. He'll ask about the content of your character.
9. God won't ask why it took you so long to find Him and ask Him into your house. He'll lovingly take you to heaven and not to the gates of Hell.
10. God won't have to ask how many people you enlighten with this. He already knows your decision.

September

2016

But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. - John 14:26

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|-----------------------|---------|---|--------------------------|--------|-------------------|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 Communion Sunday | 5 Labor Day | 6 | 7 Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:30 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 Patriot Day Constitution Meeting after church Life Ladies @ 1:00 | 12 | 13 | 14 Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:30 | 15 | 16 | 17 CURE Picnic |
| 18 Baptisms | 19 | 20 | 21 Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:30 | 22 Fall Begins | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:30 | 29 | 30 | |

Morton Baptist Church
1152 County Line Road
Hamlin, NY 14464

September 2016

MAY THE *God* OF *hope*
FILL YOU WITH *all joy* AND *peace*
AS YOU *trust* IN *Him*, SO THAT
YOU MAY *overflow* WITH *hope*
BY THE *power* OF THE *Holy Spirit*.
Romans 15:13