

A p r i l 2 0 1 7

The

# Connection

Morton Baptist Church

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Sunday Service: 10:30 AM  
Bible Study: Wednesday at 12:00  
[www.facebook.com/273938523674](http://www.facebook.com/273938523674)

For the secular world April is a month for profiteering. Businesses across the nation expect a windfall of profits on special sales of ordinary goods, and even more on goods designed to promote secularism, such as things to decorate for Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter. All the special candies, egg hunts and food that somehow, in someone's mind, depicts an Easter celebration. What it actually does is turn people's attention to a make-believe holiday that has *nothing* to do with Palm Sunday, Good Friday or Resurrection Sunday. By the look of the ethical and moral condition of our nation, most of the religion of the people is just as make-believe.

On the positive side, if those who profess to be Christians have been keeping up with their Bible reading they will understand that the life of Jesus Christ was a whole catalogue of events prophesied in the Old Testament of the Christian Bible. Let it be known to the entire world that the only way any person or group of people can know how to understand who God is and who we are in relationship to Him is by reading Scripture on a consistent basis.

As far as the celebratory days of Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday in April are concerned, they do not tell

an adequate story of the life of Jesus Christ without a working knowledge of the entire life of Him. The last week of Jesus' life before His crucifixion was the culmination of events that leads to our salvation.

It is true that Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday assured us of our salvation if we accept His atonement for our sin. At the same time, it is necessary to understand *why* it had to be done in the manner described in the Bible. There are many people that think they are on safe ground because they have been baptized, joined a local church, serve the community, and say they believe in Jesus but they lack a true comprehension of the real Gospel message. There are those who think that because Jesus died for the sins of the world that the world will be saved and that should be the end of the story. Nothing could be further from the truth.

John 3:18 is the point of demarcation between the one who has an understanding of the Gospel unto salvation and those who do not and are lost: "He who believes in Him (Jesus Christ) is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

Every person born on this earth (except Jesus) has a sin nature, and it is this nature that causes us to commit sin. So, unless we have confessed this sin to God and asked forgiveness for the sin in Jesus' name, we stand condemned before a holy God; that is how we came into the world and that is how we will leave the world unless we have Jesus Christ in our heart as our own personal Lord and Savior. We must repent, or turn away from the sin that so ensnares us and keeps us from fellowship with God. It is that sin nature that tells us that if we are loving and kind we will be acceptable in God's presence. It is that sin

nature that tells us we can go in the world's direction for our moral and ethical standards. But we are not acceptable to God without a true comprehension and commitment to the saving grace of God through Jesus Christ. It is that sin nature that tells us we can circumvent a true commitment to Jesus Christ by being "good enough." Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6).

But according to the Word of God the condemnation can be lifted.

"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit" (Romans 8:1).

Think about this: Jesus Christ became our sin so we could become His righteousness. Jesus came here to earth to set us free from the penalty of sin, and now we are free to come into God's presence to worship and praise His holy name. The only thing better is to some day stand before Him and hear Him welcome us into His eternity. May you have a Resurrection Sunday that exceeds all of your highest expectations.

Serving Christ and the Community, Pastor Jim

There is a special purpose for every child of God, and that is to live a righteous life and never count the cost. There is no way to fail, if you seek God's face and His unfailing grace.

"It is finished!" It is the Victor's cry that penetrates the ages dark and drear.

"He is risen!" It is my answer to His call of Victory; because I have seen His face, and I live within the bounds of His unfailing grace.

Serving Christ and the Community, Pastor Jim

## TRUSTEE MEETING 3-19-17

In attendance: Ralph Olney, John Curtis, Tom Ingraham, Sandy Strassenburgh, Gary House, Marilynn Kundrata

Meeting was opened at 11:50 am

The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed. Sandy made a motion to approve, Gary seconded.

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. \$4,000 was moved from the interest earned in the Endowment Fund to the Capital Fund at the recommendation of Steve Guadino. He suggested that with the unpredictable market it would be wise to move some money into a savings account. All accounts are up to date, and line items are on budget. Gary made a motion to accept the report, Sandy seconded.

The steeple needs to be repaired after siding was blown off in the windstorm. We would need a lift to make repairs, and Jim Richardson will be contacted for a quote.

Churchville Electric needs come to check on the generator. We will ask them to install emergency lights and check on the sign out front that is not working. Fire extinguisher signs have been posted.

Sandy looked into advertising with Westside. If we did \$500 worth of advertising per year we could also get a weekly church ad. We could advertise dinners, rummage sale and VBS. Sandy made a motion to approve the advertising, Gary approved.

Julia Ingraham suggested that individuals purchase Marie Calendar pies for the dinners, that way the pies would be uniform and quality controlled.

Tom will purchase pledge envelopes.

Scaffolding will be needed to get the string off the fan in the sanctuary. Jim Richardson will be asked to do it.

The faucet that was purchased for the kitchen needs to be returned, as we need one without a spray. Ralph will return the faucet.

Tammy Cook made a proposal for a church directory. She has a photographer lined up and the cost would be \$10 per directory, to be purchased in multiples of 10. The Trustees agreed to pay upfront for the directories and be reimbursed with sales. Participants can choose whether they want pictures or just contact information included.

An inquiry was made if any local churches were planning an Easter sunrise service. Ralph will check with Pastor Jim.

Ralph would like to train someone to take his place in case of emergency. Anyone interested should contact Ralph.

The next meeting will be by April 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm. Meeting was closed at 12:45.



*In and Around the Community*

The Youth Group's annual dinner was great! It's always wonderful to see the joy this group brings to the congregation and community.



We are thrilled to hear that Kevin Foley no longer has lymphoma! He does need to continue radiation, but no more chemotherapy.

Please keep the Clay family in your prayers. Sandy Clay had a blood clot in her lung, which caused her heart to stop. She was in an induced coma in the hospital, with failing kidneys. We pray for a quick recovery!

Kelsey and Kayla's grandmother is now home on oxygen. She is taking the chemo pill for treatment for cancer.

Remember the Hoffman family in your prayers. Frank Hoffman's mother-in-law (Ehlaw's grandmother) passed away in late February. Both Frank and Ehlaw suffered from illnesses throughout the winter. We're glad to see them back at church!

Longtime Kendall resident, Betty Erdmann, passed away in late February. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Andrew Cook's fiancé, Natalie's aunt had her first brain surgery for the same disease that Natalie's mother suffers from. We're happy to hear that the surgery went well!

Please keep Josh Zittle in your thoughts. He's been diagnosed with mono and has been out of school. We pray for a speedy recovery.

Congratulations to Sue Rayburn's son, Chris! He is engaged and will be married next year.

The Kendall High School musical, "Once Upon a Mattress," although delayed due to the windstorm, was a truly delightful show! The students worked exceptionally hard, and despite the stress of the weather and power outage, they did a spectacular job!

A very happy birthday goes out to Chap Fabry who turned 90 on February 27<sup>th</sup>! We celebrated with cake after the church service.



Gary House's sister-in-law has been diagnosed with breast cancer, and his sister's boyfriend suffered from a stroke. Please keep them in your prayers.

Tom and Julia Ingraham's neighbor, Matt McNeil, was spending the winter in Florida, when he had to return home due to a diagnosis of lung cancer.

Marilynn Kundra's brother-in-law, Jim, has been diagnosed with prostate cancer. Please remember him in your prayers.

It is bittersweet to hear that John and Cindy Curtis's home has been sold. They will definitely be missed!

Amanda Johncox's stepmother's mother is ill and in the ICU. She has been sick for four months with intestinal issues.

Please keep the Redick family in your prayers. Mike Redick passed away in March.

Jim Rayburn was in a head-on collision with a snowplow, but incredibly is okay! Thank God!

Sandy Strassenburgh announced that 116 dinners were served at the Beef-on-Weck dinner, and we made a \$730 profit! The 50/50 raffle raised \$102 with \$51 going to the winner and \$51 going to the youth group. Thank you to all who helped with the dinner!

Joan Purvee's daughter, Debbie, has been having heart complications. She's currently on a medication to try to fix the issue. If the medicine doesn't work, she'll have to have heart surgery to regulate it.

Congratulations to Lizzie Pearson for becoming a permanent employee of the University of Rochester! Hard work and dedication truly pays off!

We are overjoyed to hear that Ralph Olney's most recent test results revealed the best blood he's has in six years! It's genuinely a miracle. He does have to continue with chemotherapy in the meantime.

John and Cindy Curtis's 7-year-old granddaughter, Marissa, fell in school and hurt her knee. The fall caused her tibia to compress against her knee. To correct the issue, Marissa has a cast from her foot to her hip for 3 weeks.

Please remember Helen Mattern in your prayers. She's currently in the hospital with bronchitis.

*We continue to remember in prayer: the Ashberry family, Fred Conratt, Chap & Jan Fabry, Kevin & Joyce Foley, Helen Mattern, RoseMary Mintz, Ralph Olney, Joan Purvee, Eleanor Reynolds, Pastor Jim, and the youth group. Cards, notes, and visits are always welcome.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**CARE**  **NET**  
CENTER OF GREATER ORLEANS

**Our 2017 Fundraising Banquet:**

*Thursday, April 6th, 2017*

*7:00-9:00 PM - Seating at 6:45 PM*

*Hickory Ridge Golf & Country Club*

*Lynch Road, Holley*



### **Easter Sunday**

*The choir is preparing a cantata for the Easter service. It will be full of beautiful music with singing, piano, trumpet, and flute. The Easter story will be told through both song and scripture. Please join us April 16<sup>th</sup>!*

### **Special Service**

Ralph Olney will be providing the message on Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. He will be sharing his story about his brave battle with leukemia and describing how through this experience his faith was strengthened. It's sure to be a moving and inspirational service.

### **Chicken BBQ**

The annual Chicken BBQ and Baked Food Sale will be held on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. We will be serving dine-in and take-outs from 4:00-7:00. Sign-up sheets are located in MacQueen Hall for those who would like to help. More information to follow!



### **Shower**

There will be a shower for Terry and Cookie Bliss who recently lost everything in a house fire. The shower will be April 8<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-4:00 pm at St. Mark's Church in Kendall. They are registered at Bed, Bath, & Beyond (Registry #544242177). RSVP to Helen Unterborn at [hunterborn@rochester.rr.com](mailto:hunterborn@rochester.rr.com) by March 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **Kendall Community Environmental Clean-Up Day**

In conjunction with the Town of Kendall Highway Dept. and with the participation of members of the KCS Leos, Scouts, Church and Community Organizations, the Kendall Lions Club will be picking up the road ways in the Kendall community on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-12:00 starting at the Kendall Highway Dept. building on Crandall Ave.



# ATTENTION!

## Church Email Address



The church email address ([mortonbaptistchurch@yahoo.com](mailto:mortonbaptistchurch@yahoo.com)) is now being utilized as the source for the electronic monthly newsletter, prayer chain, and emergency closing information.

## Sunday School

Our Sunday School program is expanding to include a pre-school age class! If you are interested in becoming a teacher, please see Brad Miller or Dan Cater.



## Easter Flowers

Sign-up sheets for Easter flowers are in MacQueen Hall. Order flowers in memory of loved ones to decorate the sanctuary. Flowers are \$8 each. See Mary Callari with any questions.

## Church Directory

We're moving forward with our church directory! Traci Purvee (Joan's daughter-in-law) has agreed to take pictures for us at no cost. We've selected two photo dates: Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> directly following the services in MacQueen Hall. Anyone wishing to have their photos included in the directory should plan to be there on one of those two dates. If you would prefer to not have your picture taken, you can opt out. It is not mandatory that you have your picture taken in order to be included in the directory. The cost to purchase a directory will be \$10.00. Anyone wishing to purchase separate photo packages may do so directly through Traci. She will have order forms with her the day of the photo shoots.



In addition to photos, we'd like to include contact information for church members. Please send me anything you want to be included such as home addresses, email addresses, home phone numbers and cell phone numbers. You can send this information to me either by email [jtcook5@rochester.rr.com](mailto:jtcook5@rochester.rr.com), home phone 659-9996 or call or text my cell phone 690-3552.

Once I've compiled the information, I'll be asking each member to confirm their specific contact details before we go to print. Hopefully this will alleviate any errors. Please see me if you have any questions.

Thank you, Tammy Cook



### April Birthdays:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Jennifer Clay Anderson
- 9<sup>th</sup> Penny Gibson
- 10<sup>th</sup> Kate Ingraham
- 12<sup>th</sup> Kylie Davenport
- 17<sup>th</sup> Robbie Henry
- 19<sup>th</sup> Brianna Wakefield
- 29<sup>th</sup> Pam Dutton



### April Anniversaries:

- 10<sup>th</sup> Dave & Sandy Strassenburgh
- 30<sup>th</sup> Dale & Lisa Rowley



### April Greeters:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Bob, Luann, & Robbie Henry
- 9<sup>th</sup> Alice Richardson & Pam Dutton
- 16<sup>th</sup> Tony & Mary Callari
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Sue Rayburn
- 30<sup>th</sup> Skip & Kathy Scroger



### Kitchen Item:

The kitchen item for April is:  
Ziploc Bags

## GOD'S UNFAILING GRACE

Here is Job, the prince of righteousness, the man who helps the poor, the man who stands for righteousness, the one who seeks God's face, and God's unfailing grace.

"Of course this man will love You," is Satan's constant chorus; "Just make him poor like other men and he'll curse Your holy face, and disdain Your unfailing grace."

"He is a righteous man," said God, "he's the best there ever was. Go ahead and test him; you'll not find a flaw; he isn't after goods, he is after grace, and he will seek My face."

So Job was gleaned of all his health and wealth. His children were all gone, and he was mocked and jeered; but he sought God's face, and His unfailing grace.

Job did not understand; he was a test-bed for our faith. All that was left to him was suffering and pain; and grace, as he sought God's holy face.

"I know that my Redeemer lives, but He will not answer me," was his plaintive cry. "But someday I will see Him as He is, and I shall shine as gold before His face, and His unfailing grace."

Then God came to see this prince of righteousness, to set the record straight: "Righteousness is Mine," said God, "That is why you did not fail; because you seek My face, and My unfailing grace."

"O God, I've heard of You and now I've seen Your face," said Job, "And my sin has found me out; Please, forgive me, and pour on me Your unfailing grace."

"I repent of all I am and ever hope to be; I ask for nothing more than to behold Your face, and Your unfailing grace."

And so it is with all of us, all we hope to be; all our righteousness comes from seeking God's face, and His unfailing grace.

To those who have been given much, much will be required. Righteousness is sharing what you have, showing people God's face, and His unfailing grace.

# April

# 2017

"In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." - 1 Peter 1:3

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Communion Sunday	3	4	5 Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:30	6 Care Net Banquet @6:45	7	8
9 Palm Sunday	10	11	12 Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:30 Trustee Meeting @ 7:30	13	14 Good Friday	15
16 Easter Sunday	17	18	19 Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:30	20	21	22 Earth Day
23	24	25	26 Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:30	27	28 Arbor Day	29 Kendall Community Clean-up @9-12
30						

Morton Baptist Church  
1152 County Line Road  
Hamlin, NY 14464

April 2017

*"Be tender with the young,  
compassionate with the aged,  
sympathetic with the striving  
and tolerant of the weak...  
someday in life you will  
have been all of these."  
George Washington Carver*

