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The

Connection

Morton Baptist Church

Pastor Walter's Phone: 585-729-2502

Church Telephone: 585-659-8459

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Sunday Service: 10:30 AM

Bible Study: Wednesday at 12:00

www.facebook.com/273938523674

What's Next?

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witness in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8

One of the interesting things we see in the resurrection accounts in the gospels is that the disciples are truly at a loss as to what is next for them. Even after it became clear to them that the Risen Lord is with them, what is next is still unclear. There was surely a lot of wonder, speculation and fear. In the gospel of John, it appears that some of the disciples returned to their former profession of fishing for a time. Acts 1:3 tells us that the Risen Lord remained with them for forty days before he was taken up to heaven. The writer of Acts (Luke) also tells us during that time Jesus showed convincing proof to people and instructed many things about the Kingdom. Most importantly, he reminded them to stay in the city and wait for the empowering of the Holy Spirit.

Actually, we all live with "What's Next?" in our lives. Whether it is graduation, marriage, children, retirement, medical conditions or a new opportunity, the next thing is coming. Being a long-term interim pastor at Morton Baptist was never on my radar; however, God had something for me here. We, at MBC, are also in the "what's next" time. This time can be challenging, anxious, fearful and full of promise and opportunity. If we support our search committee in prayer and cooperation we will move forward as a church. The early followers of Jesus and the message they proclaimed within a few generations spread from Jerusalem to far places in the Roman Empire. What began as a small group of Jewish followers of Jesus became a great church of Jews, Gentiles, rich, poor, simple folks and great thinkers and scholars.

The success and spread of the church's message have much to do with the faithful people who endured even when times were difficult. Just as important, these were the ones who knew a resurrected Jesus, the words and lessons he taught and the power of the Holy Spirit, in their lives and life together as a church. On Easter Sunday, we sang familiar words, "I serve a Risen Savior he's in the world today..." Jesus did not leave us alone; he left us connected to him by the Holy Spirit. That means when we pray, preach, read the Bible, seek God's lead and plans we're not like those on that first Easter morning wondering and fearful about the future. We are those who know Him, know the story and live a new and resurrected life. As I write this article, I'm still on an Easter high. It was a privilege and joy to celebrate Holy Week and Easter Sunday worship with you. I'm excited about what is next for us all.

Pastor Walter

TRUSTEE MTG 4-17-19

In attendance: Gary House, Dan Cater, Tony Callari, Frank Hoffman, Tom Ingraham, Rev. Walter Steenson, Marilyn Kundrata

The meeting was opened with prayer at 7:30 pm.

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed. Frank made a motion to accept, Tony seconded.

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. March was a good month with over \$2,000 in interest earned in addition to the proceeds from the Beef on Weck dinner. There appears to be a duplicate entry for Pastoral Ministry/Interim Ministry. Gary will check with Ralph Olney. Frank made a motion to accept the report, Dan seconded.

Tom provided a comparison of income of the first quarter from the last three years. Although pledges are up slightly from last year, unpledged donations are down. Overall, we have received \$3,250 less than this time last year.

The new color copier has been installed. We will be charged \$65 per month for the first 500 copies. After 500 copies, we will be charged \$.03 per black and white copy, \$.15 for color copies.

Tony contacted Joe Barone from Syracuse to look at the organ. From their conversation, he believes the problem is in the speaker tower. He will give us a quote for repairs.

Suburban Disposal will charge an extra \$4 per month to pick up the trashcans next to the church. It was agreed that was reasonable.

Lisa Rowley ordered 100 hymnals and a hymnal binder for the pianist for \$1,404. If anyone would like to make a donation "in memory of" or "in honor of" a loved one, we will be asking donations of \$15 per hymnal to help defray the cost. We are hoping to start using them Rally Sunday in September.

Sandy Strassenburgh ordered new plaques for the Memorial Board.

Some siding is missing from the back of the church. No leaks were noticed in the hallway after the last storm. The lock on the door to the nursery school needs to be adjusted.

Tom will look into purchasing a wireless microphone for use during "prayers and concerns". There are earphones available in the hutch in the narthex for anyone wishing to use them.

Rummage Sale/Non-Rummage Sale options for fundraisers were discussed.

Pastor received a request from the town to use the church parking lot on Memorial Day as a staging area for the parade. Gary agreed to open the church for anyone who needs to use the restrooms.

Dan is part of a group that donates toys to CURE. He will contact Julia Ingraham about making donations to the CURE Picnic.

It is time to renew our advertising agreement with Westside News. The cost is \$500, which includes advertising in the Hamlin Herald and the Suburban News for fundraisers.

Pastor Walter will be on vacation the week after Easter.

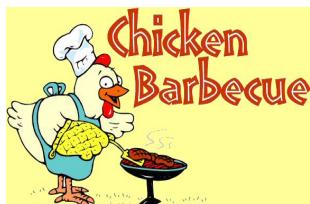
The meeting was closed with prayer at 8:40 pm.

The next meeting will be May 22, 2019 at 7pm.

Her children rise up & call her blessed

Proverbs 31:28

UPCOMING EVENTS



MBC Chicken BBQ

Our annual Chicken BBQ and Baked Food Sale will be held on Saturday, May 18th. We will be serving dine-in and take-outs from 4:00-7:00. Tickets are \$9 for adults and \$8 for seniors & children (children under 5 are free). Sign-up sheets are located in MacQueen Hall for those who would like to help. Sandy Strassenburgh (659-8089) has tickets available to sell.

Life Ladies

The Life Ladies will be meeting on Wednesday, May 15th at 4:00 to clean and set up for the Chicken BBQ. Please bring a snack to share, and Julia Ingraham will provide pizza. See you there!



Memorial Day Observance

Kendall's Memorial Day Observance and parade will be held on Thursday, May 30th at 7:00 PM. The parade will begin at MBC and end at Morton Union Cemetery.

ATTENTION!



2019 Kendall Garden Club Geranium Sale

Then Kendall Garden Club is selling geraniums to raise money to beautify the community. Orders are due by May 22nd. Geraniums are available in red, pink, and white for \$4.50 each. Information and order forms are available at www.townofkendall.com.

Recorded Messages

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



Volunteer's Needed!

We 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 Angela Cater) and **lay readers** (see Pastor Walter).



Care Net Baby Bottle Drive

Care Net is wrapping up their baby bottle campaign for the year. We donated \$429.50 this year. The total to date from all of the participating churches is just over \$22,000! Thank you for all of your support!





May Birthdays:

2nd Sandy Strassenburgh
 9th Julia Ingraham
 14th Lisa Sill
 15th EhLaw Chaw
 24th Lisa Rowley
 Margaret Wells
 25th Todd Rath
 27th John Curtis
 31st Ann White



Kitchen Item:

The kitchen item for
 May is:
 Paper Towels



May Anniversaries:

2nd Brad & Barb Miller
 5th Mike & Trisha Bannack
 16th Jim & Amy Richardson



May Greeters:

5th Frank Hoffman
 12th Todd Rath
 19th John & Tammy Cook
 26th Skip & Kathy Scroger

Prayers for Memorial Day

As we remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms we enjoy every day, we think of how they have followed in the footsteps of your son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Please hold our servicemen and women in your strong arms. Cover them with your sheltering grace and your presence as they stand in the gap for our protection. We also remember the families of our troops. We ask for your unique blessings to fill their homes, and we pray your peace, provision, and strength will fill their lives. May the members of our armed forces be supplied with courage to face each day and may they trust in the Lord's mighty power to accomplish each task. Let our military brothers and sisters feel our love and support.

Eternal God, Creator of years, of centuries, Lord of whatever is beyond time, Maker of all species and master of all history -- How shall we speak to you from our smallness and inconsequence? Except that you have called us to worship you in spirit and in truth; You have dignified us with loves and loyalties; You have lifted us up with your loving kindnesses. Therefore, we are bold to come before you without groveling [though we sometimes feel that low] and without fear [though we are often anxious]. We sing with spirit and pray with courage because you have dignified us; You have redeemed us from the aimlessness of things' going meaninglessly well. God, lift the hearts of those for whom this holiday is not just diversion, but painful memory and continued deprivation. Bless those whose dear ones have died needlessly, wastefully [as it seems] in accident or misadventure. We remember with compassion those who have died serving their countries in the futility of combat. There is none of us but must come to bereavement and separation, when all the answers we are offered fail the question death asks of each of us. We believe that you will provide for us as others have been provided with the fulfillment of "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

Almighty God Who art the Author of Liberty and the Champion of the oppressed hear our prayer. We the men of Special Forces, acknowledge our dependence upon Thee in the preservation of human freedom. Go with us as we seek to defend the defenseless and to free the enslaved. May we ever remember that our nation, whose oath "in God We Trust," expects that we shall requit ourselves with honor, that we may never bring shame upon our faith, our families, or our fellow men. Grant us wisdom from Thy mind, courage from Thine heart, and protection by Thine hand. It is for Thee that we do battle, and to thee belongs the victor's crown.

Read more at <https://www.beliefnet.com/faiths/galleries/15-inspirational-prayers-for-memorial-day.aspx?p=3#Q1JbxHJXsksZUCbA.99>

In and Around the Community

Andrew and Natalie Cook attended a concert in late March where an organization called, "Food for the Hungry" spoke. This group helps feed those in the poorest countries and allows you to sponsor children. Andrew and Natalie chose to sponsor a 7-year-old boy in Bangladesh, which is remarkable!

Pastor Walter and Lori Steenson's son, Chris, is home safe in Tucson, AZ after being deployed to Afghanistan with the Air Force. We're happy to hear he's home!

Skip and Kathy Scroger's son-in-law, Chris Swift, had a lesion on his kidney that was thought to be cancerous. After many tests, it was determined that he does not have cancer. God is good!

Penny Gibson's nephew, Tim Drake, had a clogged artery in the back on his neck. In addition, his mother, Evie, fell and broke her wrist. We pray for quick recoveries!

The annual Care Net Banquet featured a powerful speaker who spoke about his experience with his son who was born with half a heart. Doctors had recommended to terminate the pregnancy, but they chose not to.

Please keep Katie Kundra in your thoughts and prayers as she has less than a month to go with her pregnancy. We can't wait to meet your newest addition!

Remember the Johncox family in your thoughts. Their dog, Bella, has been diagnosed with cancer.

Dan Cater's mother, Joyce Foley, fell while on the treadmill in early April. Upon her fall, she passed out with blood on the brain and is really banged up. After going home, she had to return to the emergency room with headaches. She is still in a lot of pain as she's recovering at home.

The Maundy Thursday service was a beautiful time of remembrance and prayer. The Deacons provided a number of delicious soups to precede the service.

Please keep the DeRoller family in your prayers. Sue DeRoller passed away at the age of 71 after being in Hospice care. Sue worked as an administrative assistant at Kendall Central Schools for 27 years.

<https://christophermitchell.christophermitchell.com/tribute/details/6776/Susan-DeRoller/obituary.html>

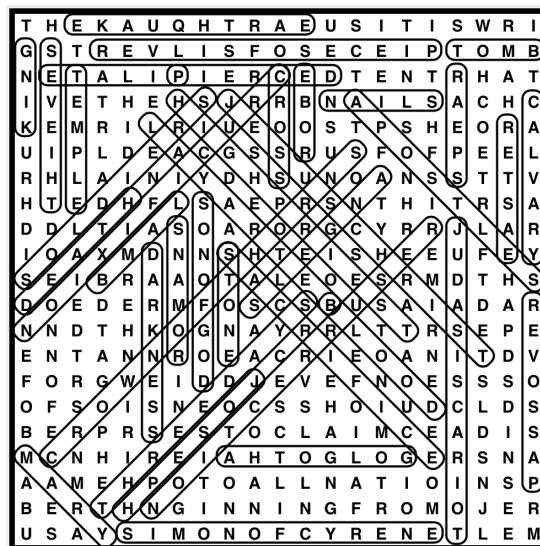
Young people David Purvee work with were involved in a head-on collision. All went home after going to the hospital. A young girl was thought to not make it through. They have a long recovery ahead of them. Keep them in your prayers.



We celebrated Kate Ingraham's birthday on April 7th!

We continue to remember in prayer: Fred Conradt, Pam Dutton, Chap & Jan Fabry, Kevin & Joyce Foley, Helen Mattern, RoseMary Mintz, Ralph & Bev Olney, Joan Purvee, Pastor Jim & Alice, and the youth group. Cards, notes, and visits are always welcome.

April Bible Puzzle Answer



May Bible Puzzle

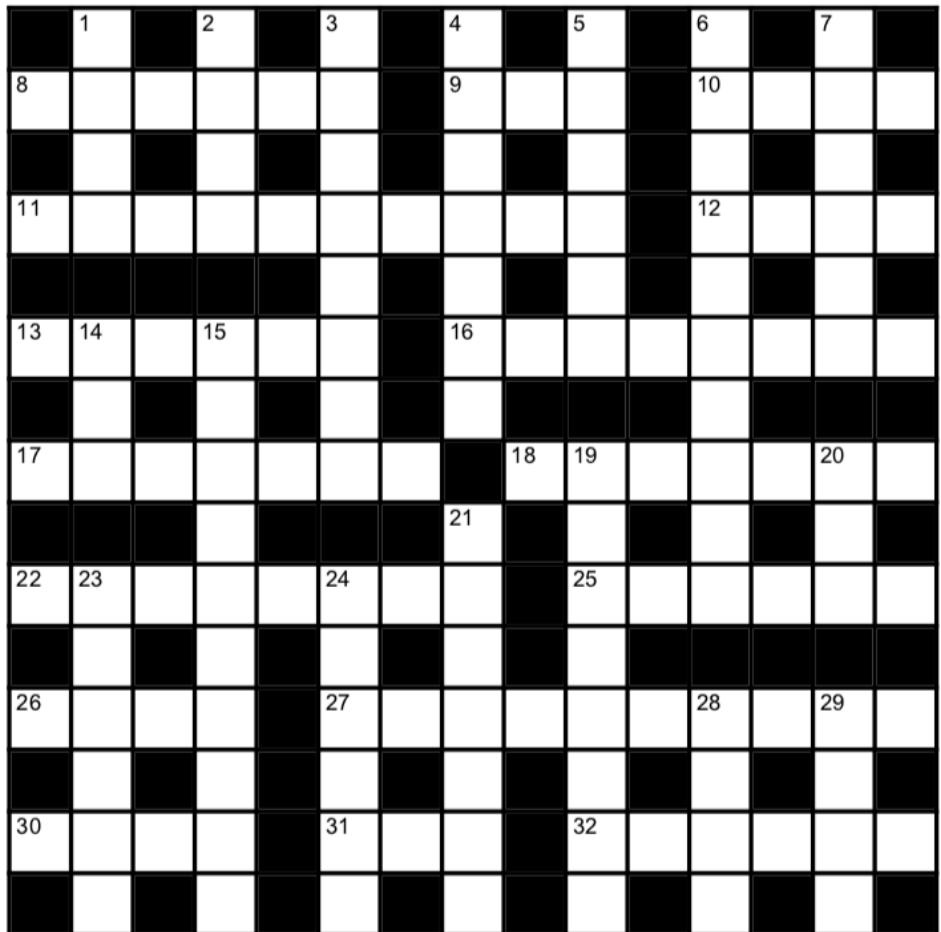
Across

- 8 Religious service (6)
 9 Vessel (3)
 10 Drive forcibly (4)
 11 Christ does this for us (10)
 12 Bethesda was the name of this (4)
 13 Servant of a prophet (6)
 16 One who leaves the straight and narrow path (8)
 17 Check the money (7)
 18 Fragrant offering; make angry (7)
 22 Come out from among them (8)

- 25 Works with clay (6)
 26 Main part of text (4)
 27 Chucked it too far (10)
 30 Treachery sealed with this (4)
 31 Simon washed his (3)
 32 Migratory grasshopper (6)

Down

- 1 Standard for the tribe of Judah (4)



by Philologus

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- 2 Brother of James; Hardy book (4)
 3 Choice by vote (8)
 4 Evening glow (7)
 5 All sing the tune (6)
 6 To reduce deficiency (10)
 7 Take no notice of (6)
 14 Look at (3)
 15 Alternative Revelation (10)
 19 Son of Jacob (8)

- 20 The blind will (3)
 21 Regrets; Serpent (anag) (7)
 23 Angels by another name (6)
 24 Decorates (6)
 28 Say it and you will be in danger of the council (4)
 29 Cleanse (4)

May

2019

"No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." - John 15:13

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---------------------------|--|---------|---|---|--------------------------------|---|
| | | | 1 Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:00 pm | 2 | 3 Youth Group 7:00-9:00 pm | 4 |
| 5 Communion Sunday | 6 Tops 4:00-7:00 pm | 7 | 8 Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:00 pm | 9 | 10 Youth Group 7:00-9:00 pm | 11 |
| 12 Mother's Day | 13 Tops 4:00-7:00 pm | 14 | 15 Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:00 pm | 16 | 17 Youth Group 7:00-9:00 pm | 18 Armed Forces Day MBC Chicken BBQ 4:00-7:00 pm |
| 19 | 20 Tops 4:00-7:00 pm | 21 | 22 Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:00 pm Trustee Meeting @ 7:00 pm | 23 | 24 Youth Group 7:00-9:00 pm | 25 |
| 26 | 27 Memorial Day Tops 4:00-7:00 pm | 28 | 29 Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:00 pm | 30 Memorial Day Parade & Observance at Morton Union Cemetery @ 7:00 pm | 31 | |

Morton Baptist Church
1152 County Line Road
Hamlin, NY 14464

May 2019

