



The Spire

Morristown United Methodist Church 50 S. Park Place, Morristown, NJ 07960 | www.morristownumc.org

FROM PASTOR LUANA

If someone asked you what difference faith in Jesus Christ has made in your life, what would you say? That's what a friend of mine recently posted on Facebook. Naturally, I commented. Words poured out! I wrote: Because of my belief in Jesus Christ...

- I never feel truly alone or abandoned.
- I am aware of my own mortality but believe there is belonging in an indescribable way after the death of my body.
- I feel I am no longer defined by my mistakes, but by God's grace, which gives me courage to follow my heart and dreams.
- I no longer compare my worth to others because we're all lost lambs that are precious to the shepherd.
- I see the diversity of the world as a gift and not a threat because we are all part of God's Creation.
- Jesus' life and ministry gives me the mindset to believe in things I cannot fully fathom.

How would you answer the question? And don't worry about saying something that satisfies someone else's beliefs. It's not a test; it's a testimony. How has Jesus changed your life? What difference has He made for you?

I think the church is the best vehicle to tell the story of Jesus Christ, and our story of how He has made a difference in our lives. We come together to celebrate Jesus, to grow in our faith, and to serve in His name, and we help each other grow in our faith. Despite the problems with the institution itself (and there are many) I love church, and I love the United Methodist Church.

That is why I have no hesitation in asking you to do all in your power to support the church!

This November our annual Stewardship Campaign is called Together for Joy, and it will take us on a journey of remembering the past year and that through loss, fear, and isolation brought on by a pandemic, we have persevered and grown, and found joy together. And as we plan forward as a church family we are heralded by the Psalmist: "Sing to God a new song, for God has done marvelous things. Let the floods clap their hands;

let the hills sing **together for joy.**"

Stewardship Campaigns are my *Achilles heel*. I always dread them because the pastor is a large part of the budget, and we always feel inadequate. But I am so amazingly honored to be a part of the robust and relevant ministries of Morristown UMC, that I have no qualms in asking you to support your church with your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness. All of it! We are striving to give in all the ways we are called.

And further, I want you to do it because it gives you JOY! I want your heart to be full when you prayerfully decide how and when and what amount you will support MUMC.

The pandemic changed us, and it changed the Church, but it also brings fresh opportunities to sing to God a new song, for God has done - and will do - marvelous things through the church.

Let's go!



TOGETHER
FOR JOY

Pastor Luana

ASP SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 14

by Katlyn Houtz

Kyler and I are very excited for our first ever ASP Sunday! This is going to be a wonderful opportunity for the 2021 ASP team to share with the congregation how our trip went as well as take part in the service. Throughout the year the ASP team works hard on bonding together, fundraising and getting ready for the trip and throughout that time, the congregation is always there helping and supporting us. We want to be able to share with everyone what we were able to accomplish with all of their love and support as well as help with the church service that day.

After the service that day we are also hosting our first ASP activity for the new year! It has been so long since we were able to all get together that we would like to have a get together after church service to see everyone and catch up! We will have coffee and snacks and just spend some time together reminiscing about previous trips. This is also an opportunity for anyone new interested in attending this year's ASP trip to come get some information and chat with previous participants about what the trip looks like. We hope that anyone that has previously gone on ASP or would like to go can join us on November 14th for our first ASP Sunday and coffee hour after. Please feel free to reach out to Kyler Coutts or Katlyn Houtz with any questions or concerns.



CLEANING DAYS

Calling all Saints of Cleaning! It's time to do our Fall Cleaning to get the house of God ready for all the extra activities we have scheduled for Advent and Christmas! Please join Task Pastor Luana on **Saturday, November 13 from 10-2**, or on **Thursday, November 18th from 10-2**. Many hands make light work. Additional projects available for assignment at your convenience!

Congratulations and a big shout out to Randolph High School's soccer team for their big win of the County Tournament! Great job MUMC Youth Brian Macaluso! Shown here with Dave Hutchinson, the RHS Athletic Director and MUMC member who was recently recognized by the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) for his excellence in Athletic Administration.

Congratulations Dave!





Sing to God a new song, for God has done marvelous things.
Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy.
+ Psalm 98

Stewardship 2022

Traditionally during the month of November, we make time to talk about Stewardship and how the gifts of time, talent, and treasure are used to support our faith community. We spend 3 Sundays exploring these ideas, and we take one Sunday to celebrate "Pledge Sunday", when the community brings back their pledge cards. Stewardship, though, isn't just a 3 Sunday thing. It's so much more than 3 Sundays in November. It's a year-round, all-the-time thing. This year, we're extending "Stewardship Season" beyond November. We're specifically connecting it to Advent (and beyond!), because this year we're hoping you'll spend sometime celebrating the great work Morristown UMC does TOGETHER, dreaming of the work we can still do, and discerning how you can support this work with your gifts. Look for our first letter and pledge card the second week of November. Hold on to that pledge card. Pray with it. Dream with it. Then, return it to us in December. We'll collect them and bless them, and our dreams, on December 12, the third Sunday of Advent.

November 7

Together for Joy – Time

November 14

Together for Joy – Talent
Appalachian Service Project (ASP)
Sunday

November 21

Together for Joy – Treasure
Blessing of Our Time of Discernment

November 28

First Sunday of Advent | Those Who Dream... Keep Awake
United Methodist Student Sunday

*Worship will led by theological students.
There will be a United Methodist Student
Sunday special "second mile" offering this
Sunday.*

December 5

Second Sunday of Advent | Those Who Dream... Prepare the Way
Blessing of our new Children's Ministry Space

December 12

Third Sunday of Advent | Those Who Dream... Sow Joy
Blessing of Our Giving Intentions for 2022

December 19

Fourth Sunday of Advent | Those Who Dream... Are Not Alone



550 lbs.

of food were collected and
donated for Bring a Turkey to
Church Sunday

**Thank you for your
generosity!**



Music Room Refresh

New LED lights and ceiling panels, fresh coats of paint, floors cleaned and waxed, and even some new doorknobs are some of the highlights of work recently completed in the Music Room.

November @MUMC

11/1

10am Breakfast Bag Assembly

Dià de los Muertos

6pm Altar Ready for Ofrienda, Sanctuary

7pm, Coco Viewing,

Fellowship Hall

11/9

6:15pm, Trustees

11/11

Veteran's Day | Office Closed

11am Bell Ringing

11am Veteran's Day Service on the Green

Yarners

11/13

10-2, Cleaning Work Day

11/14

ASP Sunday

11:30am, EarthAware Meeting, Wesley Room

11/15

5pm, Worship Committee, Zoom

11/16

7pm, Council on Ministries, Zoom

11/18

10-2, Cleaning Work Day

11/25

Thanksgiving

11/26

Sanctuary Decorating

11/28

First Sunday of Advent

United Methodist Student Sunday

Wednesdays at 7pm

Handbell Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

Thursdays at 7pm

Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Music Room



The Staff meets for prayer and planning Wednesday afternoons at 2pm.

THOSE
WHO
DREAM

our Advent theme!

COMING MID-NOVEMBER

2021
Advent Guide

A special edition of the Spire with all the information you need for Advent @ MUMC.



News from EarthAware, the new environmental awareness and climate justice ministry at Morristown United Methodist Church.

LEARN about environmental stewardship

Is an Electric Car in your Future?

If you are going to be in the market for purchasing or leasing a new or used car you might want to consider an EV or Hybrid. Almost every car maker is now producing these vehicles. Although a bit more expensive than gas powered cars, EVs and Hybrids are more economical overall because of the \$7,500 tax deduction and the savings on gas purchases. **Most importantly the carbon footprint of these vehicles is lower than gas powered vehicles.**

These two articles may be helpful to you in making your decision. (Direct Links are also in the Spire email)

[Electric Vehicle Myths | US EPA](#),

[First Drive Reviews of Electric Cars and Plug-In Hybrids - Green Car Reports](#)

BOOK DISCUSSION:As part of our new environmental ministry, EarthAware, we invite you to read a NYT best selling book "Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the teaching of Plants" by Robin Wall Kimmerer, botanist and professor of plant ecology.

As a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Kimmerer embraces the notion that plants and animals are our oldest teacher. The Morristown Unitarian Fellowship who have a Green Earth ministry will also read the book and join us in sharing our thoughts about the book in a one time Zoom discussion on November 29 at 7:30pm. Sign-up via the link in this Spire email.

EXPLORE the natural world

Monarch sightings and presentation at Cape May

On October 2, 2021, six members of MUMC ventured to Cape May Point State Park to learn about the Monarch Butterfly Monitoring Project. Rick Radis led the group. We learned about the life cycle of the Monarch Butterfly from egg to caterpillar, then chrysalis and adult butterfly. The Monarch Butterflies from the Eastern Seaboard fly all the way to Mexico to spend the winter. We watched a demonstration of the application of a tag on an adult butterfly, it was measured, and the condition and sex of the butterfly was noted before the butterfly was freed to fly away. Monarchs can fly as far as 150 miles per day! It usually takes a month for them to reach their wintering grounds in the mountains of Mexico. Those participating in this trip to Cape May included Rick and Carol Radis, Jack and Mary Ann Scharf, Kristin Moran, and Cherry Tom.

