





## OUR CORE VALUES

**AFFIRMING:** We welcome each person as they are, a beautiful child of God.

**SERVING:** We help and advocate for people and our environment, within our church, the community, and beyond.

**INSPIRING:** We celebrate God's role in our lives, embracing the examples and teachings of Christ, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

**CREATING COMMUNITY:** We foster joy in our midst and with our neighbors in everything we do.

**LOVING:** We reflect God's love and love each other, knowing we are loved and forgiven.

## PRELUDE

## WORDS OF WELCOME & GRACE

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Merciful God, your children are seeking to dress our lives in something new.

**We want to be intentionally compassionate.**

Clean our minds and hearts to experience transformation in Jesus.

**We want to be intentionally patient and humble.**

Teach us how to express our faith in practical ways.

**We want to be intentionally gentle, kind, and forgiving.**

Guide us in our journey to grow closer to you and more like you.

**With grateful hearts, the body of Christ embraces wholeness, joy, and holiness!**

### OPENING PRAYER

**Holy God, we thank you for gathering us together today to worship. We are grateful that we are invited into your presence just the way we are. Many of us bring some heavy burdens and many of us are wearing our shame and guilt like layers in the middle of winter. Help us to leave them here, to hear your good news in a new way today that allows us to trade those burdens and layers for the gifts you have waiting for us. Thank you for being patient with us as we learn how to be more Christlike, as that is our deepest desire. With humility, we pray. Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN** #121 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

**MUSICAL OFFERING** *God Be in My Head* (Daniel Schwandt)

### CHILDREN'S TIME

**CHILDREN'S COIN COLLECTION** Benefitting the Heifer Project

### INVITATION TO THE PRAYGROUND (HYMN #191)

**Jesus loves me! this I know, for the Bible tells me so.**

**Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.**

**Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me,**

**Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.**

## **MINISTRY MOMENTS**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Clothing God, you invite us to put on compassion, kindness, humility, and patience — but too often we reach first for fear, defensiveness, and self-protection. We confess that we have shown impatience more readily than mercy, clung to grudges more tightly than forgiveness, and dressed our spirits in anxiety instead of trust. Forgive us for settling for old and worn-out ways of being. Strip away whatever is not born of love, and clothe us anew in the likeness of Christ. Amen.**

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

#### **SCRIPTURE Colossians 3:12-17**

These are the words of new life for all God's people:  
**Thanks be to God!**

#### **SCRIPTURE John 13:3-15**

These are the words of new life for all God's people:  
**Thanks be to God!**

### **SERMON**

**HYMN #389** Freely, Freely

**STEWARDSHIP MOMENT** - Despina Kontos

### **OFFERTORY**

#### **DOXOLOGY** (Tune: OLD 100TH)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN #560** Help Us Accept Each Other

### **BENEDICTION**

### **POSTLUDE**

# Our *Worship* Is Now Over, and Our *Service* Begins



## LEADERSHIP

**Liturgist**  
Vinita John

**Sound & Livestream**  
Winifred Bunch, David Sullivan,  
Ginny Lyttle, Ryan Terrone

**Greeters**  
Vinita John, Amy Scott

**Children's Sunday School**  
Nate Roark, Debbie Nico

**Cable Broadcasting**  
Jackie Puma

### Morristown UMC Staff

**Senior Pastor**  
Rev. Luana Cook Scott  
LCookScott@MorristownUMC.org

**Director of Music Ministries**  
John Liepold  
JLiepold@MorristownUMC.org

**Organist & Pianist**  
Jennifer Yang

**Office Manager**  
Regina Heater  
RHeater@MorristownUMC.org

**Director of Family Ministries**  
Nate Roark  
NRoark@MorristownUMC.org

**Property Manager**  
Andrew Cattano  
ACattano@MorristownUMC.org

**Nursery**  
Tati Diaz

**Seminary Interns**  
Josephine Tunda  
Benin Shekawongo  
Arnold Kamdem

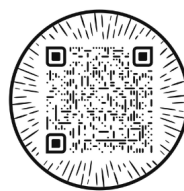
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**First Time  
Visitor Form**



**Give Online**



**Prayer Request  
Form**



**Ministry Updates**



**Altar Flower Form**

**SECOND MILE  
giving**



Today we are collecting a "second mile offering" to support disaster relief work through UMCOR. Please use the special offering envelopes and put UMCOR in the memo line of your check. 100% of your donation will go to UMCOR's disaster relief work. You can also make a donation through our website:  
<https://bit.ly/MUMCGiveOnline>

## This Week at Morristown UMC

### Sunday, November 9, 2025

9:15 AM Adult Sunday School, WR  
10:30 AM Children's Sunday School, PG  
10:30 AM Worship  
1:00 PM Pioneer Load-in, FH

### Monday, November 10, 2025

11:00 AM Staff Meeting, Z  
7:00 PM AA, YL  
7:00 PM Caregivers  
8:00 PM Arise

### Tuesday, November 11, 2025

*Office Closed - Veteran's Day*  
11:00 AM Christmas Singers Rehearsal  
11:00 AM Property Team Meeting, WR  
6:15 PM Trustees, Z

### Wednesday, November 12, 2025

10:00 AM Finance Committee, Z  
7:00 PM Handbells, MR

### Thursday, November 13, 2025

6:30 PM Yarners  
7:00 PM Choir, MR

### Friday, November 14, 2025

8:00 PM Steel Magnolias by Pioneer Productions, FH

### Saturday November 15, 2025

12:00 PM AA, YL  
8:00 PM Steel Magnolias by Pioneer Productions, FH

### Sunday, November 16, 2025

9:15 AM Adult Sunday School, WR  
10:30 AM Children's Sunday School, PG  
10:30 AM Worship  
12:15 PM Worship Committee, WR  
3:00 PM Steel Magnolias by Pioneer Productions, FH



### 2026 Annual Giving Campaign

We are grateful for your faithful and generous response to the financial needs of our church throughout 2025.

The gifts of your time, talents and financial resources allow us to do the work that we are committed to in our **Mission Statement**:

*Together we nurture and inspire God's entire beloved community to serve and transform lives.*

#### **funding goal**

**\$300,000**

#### **giving intention goal**

**95%** of regular givers complete a giving intention card for 2026

## A STEWARDSHIP & GENEROSITY SERIES *Counterculture*

Our Annual Giving Campaign materials were mailed this week. They include an overview of our income and expenses, as well as a Giving Intention Card to return by November 23, when we will bless the intentions during worship.

**To fully fund the ministries of the church in 2026, we need giving commitments (pledges) of \$300,000.**

In addition, we have a goal to have 95% of our regular givers return a giving intention card for 2026. Currently, about 25% of our regular givers **do not complete a card**, making it challenging to discern what funds will be available for our operating budget during the year.





Counterculture

Visible Hope

from Pastor Luana



*The following is adapted from Pastor Luana's message in our What's Up Wednesday newsletter:*

I have a problem this week.

And — thanks be to God — it's the kind of problem every pastor dreams of:

**Our community keeps showing up to help people.**

**In so many directions.**

**With so much heart.**

There are moments when all the needs in the world feel overwhelming — locally and globally. But right now I am witnessing the opposite of despair.

I see hope — because I see you.

Our church, our neighbors, our nonprofit partners, and faith communities across Morris County are mobilizing with kindness, creativity, and courage. It's one of those holy moments where we remember:

**We don't have to do everything.**

**But together, God uses us to do so much.**

When I release the weight I try to hold alone and turn toward Christ, I find peace, clarity, and strength.

Jesus reminds us:

**“Come to me, all you who are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest... for my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”** (*Matthew 11:28–30*)

Hope grows when each of us does our part — faithfully, lovingly, and together.

***Where God Is Moving Right Now***

In the last week I have met with civic leaders, nonprofits, and faith partners — including the Superintendent of the Morris School District — to prepare to support neighbors affected by the federal shutdown and the pause in SNAP food benefits.

We are also holding the people of Jamaica in prayer following devastating storms. Our own **June McKenzie** has family working to recover and rebuild.

**Today, Sunday, November 9**

*Second Mile Offering for UMCOR (Jamaica)*

*(100% of gifts go directly to relief)*

This week, I also gave June's niece some personal funds to help repair the roof of their family home in Jamaica, which was blown off in the storm. If you know June and feel led to support her family privately, please reach out to her directly.

**Next Sunday, November 16** — *Second Mile Offering for Interfaith Food Pantry*

***Ways to Serve — As You Are Able***

**Meal Ministry** through the Office of Homelessness Prevention & CSPNJ

**Tuesday ARISE Outreach at Delaney Hall (Newark)**

Serving families visiting loved ones in detention — presence, dignity, compassion

**Family Promise** — meals, supplies, volunteer support

**Interfaith Food Pantry “Bridge the Snap Gap”** - details in this bulletin

And now, one more meaningful way to bless those connected to our church family:

***College Care Packages***

We are sending love to our students away at school! Thank you for helping us remind our young people they are deeply loved and remembered.

(College and grad school student: Amy, Arnold, Bennett, Benin, Brian, Caroline, Charlie, Doby, Emily, Francis, Jillian, Josephine, Nyasha, Sophie. Did we miss someone? Please let Nate know at [NRoark@MorristownUMC.org](mailto:NRoark@MorristownUMC.org) ASAP!)

The list of needed items, including a link to the Amazon wish list, are in this bulletin.

**“Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.”** -- Theodore Roosevelt

You are not called to do everything — just your part. But oh, what God does when we each bring our part! Together — with Christ's strength and the Spirit's guidance — hope is rising.

# Fall Finals CARE BASKETS

for College Students



## Items to Donate:

- Pens, Highlighters, Sticky Notes, Flash Cards
- Candy and High Protein Snacks
- Stress Balls, Fidget Toys, Coloring Books
- Self-Care Products (Face Masks, Lotion, Lip Balm)
- (Energy) Drinks, Tea, Coffee
- Gift Cards (\$10-15) to Starbucks, Dunkin, Chipotle, Dominos, etc.



Amazon Wish List  
[bit.ly/collegecare2025](https://bit.ly/collegecare2025)



## Interfaith Food Pantry

# BRIDGE THE SNAP GAP

Add one or two of these items to your regular grocery shopping - bring it to the food pantry cart in the Narthex and we'll all donations to the Interfaith Food Pantry.

- Pasta
- Cereal (low sugar preferred)
- Soups -- all varieties
- Rice
- Tuna, salmon and other canned fish
- Baby Food -- stages 2 and 3





# Steel Magnolias

by  
Robert Harling

**Directed by**  
**Tom Olori and Miriam Salerno**

**Featuring:**

Angeline Wedemeier as Shelby  
Shanna Levine Phelps as M'Lynn  
Emilie Farrell as Truvy  
Luana Cook Scott as Clairee  
Gabrielle Visser Trumbull as Ouiser  
Tristen DeChiara as Annelle



**50 SOUTH PARK PLACE**  
**MORRISTOWN, NJ**

[HTTPS://WWW.PIONEERPRODUCTIONSCOMPANY.ORG/SEASONTICKETS](https://www.pioneerproductionscompany.org/seasontickets)

**November 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23**

**Fridays and Saturdays at 8 PM**  
**Sundays at 3 PM**

