

Prayer of Confession

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Words of Assurance and Pardon

Sharing our prayer concerns and joys of thanksgiving

Musical interlude

Prayers for the Church and the world

Presentation of God's tithes and our offerings

Offertory

† Doxology # 95

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving #9

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

SENDING FORTH

† Hymn "God Be with You till We Meet Again" # 672

† Benediction

† Postlude

†*The congregation is invited to stand, as you are able.*

John A. and Candice Morris, donors of the land in 1860 helped, along with Rev. Peter Doub, to erect the first church building which served the congregation until the present structure was built in 1904. Cornerstone laying rites were held on September 15, 1904, with John Marvin Groce, grandson of John and Candice, at age 12, placing the stone. The present church building has seen many improvements since 1904. For the history lovers, artifacts can be found in our Heritage Room and in our history book, *A Charge to Keep*.



MORRIS CHAPEL METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH. 1860'S.

MORRIS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

8533 Cox Mill Road, Sanford, North Carolina 27332

HOMECOMING SUNDAY

Worship Celebration 9:30 AM, Fellowship Meal 11:00 AM.

The Rev. Connie Mitchell Shelton

Raleigh Area Bishop

The Rev. Sunny B. Limm

Fairway District Superintendent

The Rev. Kevin H. Seymour

Pastor

Nancy Martinez

Assistant to the District Superintendent

A Service of Word and Table

September 24, 2023

A heart-felt welcome is offered to all who join together to celebrate the presence of God and the work of God’s people in this place since 1860. We remember today the cornerstone of this building in which we gather was laid in 1904, while we praise the cornerstone of our salvation, our blessed Lord Jesus Christ.

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Ringing the Church bell

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *“Canon in D Major”* **Leslie Orlovsky**
by Johann Pachelbel, arranged for organ by Rick Parks.

Choral Praise *“The Family of God”* **Choir**

† Call to Worship

God Father, praise and glory your children come to sing.
Goodwill and peace to mankind, the gifts Your kingdom brings.

And you, Lord Coeternal, the Father’s only begotten Son.
O Jesus, King anointed, You have redemption won.

O Holy Ghost, Creator, the gift of God most high.
Life, love and holy wisdom, our weakness now supply.

† Opening Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, You are the brightness of the Father’s glory. We give thanks today for the faith built upon Your foundation. We remember those who came before us, our foremothers and forefathers in the faith. Thank you. O Lord, You are the chief cornerstone, the pattern by which we so order our lives. Knit us together with the mortar of Your Spirit that we may be living stones – bearing witness to Your goodness for the coming age to see and to learn. **Amen.**

† **Hymn** *“To God Be the Glory”* # 98

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Psalter Lesson	Psalm 78:1-4	Tommy Vaughan
Anthem	<i>“Jesus is the Living Stone”</i>	Bill Gross
Children’s Lesson		Krystle Ray
New Testament Letter	1 Peter 2:3-6	
Sermon	<i>“Church History”</i>	Kevin Seymour

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayer of Response

Gracious God, every new season of ministry in Your care is a reminder that Your goodness moves from generation to generation. Keep breathing Your Spirit of hope and promise upon us, we pray. Keep our feet on the solid rock of Your foundation. Give us eyes to see opportunity in this season, and the courage to walk into Your preferred future. Amen.

† **Hymn** *“How Firm a Foundation”* # 529

Affirmation of Faith *The Apostles’ Creed* #881

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day He rose from the dead;
He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PASTORS WHO HAVE SERVED MORRIS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Original Sanctuary Building, circa 1860's

1860 - 1861	Rev. Gaston Farrar	1935 - 1935	Rev. James William Bradley
1861 - 1861	Rev. David H. McNeill	1936 - 1938	Rev. Ray S. Cody
1863 - 1865	Rev. Washington Sandford Chaffin	1938 - 1941	Rev. Jack Ward Page
1865 - 1867	Rev. Isaac W. Avent	1941 - 1943	Rev. W. L. Freeman
1867 - 1869	Rev. Gaston Farrar	1943 - 1943	Rev. Roger W. Tucker
1869 - 1871	Rev. Bernice B. Culbreth	1943 - 1944	Rev. A. R. Bell
1871 - 1872	Rev. Simeon D. Peeler	1944 - 1945	Rev. Ray R. Miller
1872 - 1876	Rev. Baxter Clegg Phillips	1945 - 1945	Rev. P. Talmadge Lancaster
1877 - 1879	Rev. Samuel Vinton Hoyle	1945 - 1948	Rev. Walter Everett Smith
1879 - 1881	Rev. George F. Round	1948 - 1949	Rev. K. W. Bedenbaugh
1881 - 1882	Rev. J. J. Carden	1949 - 1952	Rev. Troy J. Barrett
1882 - 1885	Rev. J. D. Arnold	1952 - 1954	Rev. C. J. Tilley
1885 - 1887	Rev. W. O. Hightower	1954 - 1958	Rev. Mack Donald McLamb
1887 - 1889	Rev. William Blake Doub	1958 - 1959	Rev. Charles V. Bryant
1889 - 1891	Rev. John Wesley North	1959 - 1963	Rev. Tracy A. Maness
1891 - 1893	Rev. John Ervin Thompson	1963 - 1974	Rev. Jefferson W. Davis
1893 - 1896	Rev. Lucien Jerome Holden	1974 - 1975	Rev. Joseph J. Grimes
1896 - 1900	Rev. Daniel Luther Earnhardt	1975 - 1979	Rev. Ronald A. Stanley
1900 - 1902	Rev. J. M. Ashby	1979 - 1980	Rev. Dwight Huffman
1902 - 1903	Rev. C. B. Allred	1980 - 1981	Rev. James E. Sponenberg
1903 - 1904	Rev. Erskine Pope	1981 - 1983	Rev. Stephen Blair Hall
1904 - 1906	Rev. John Compton Humble	1983 - 1986	Rev. David P. Sparrow
1906 - 1910	Rev. Lemon Harvey Joyner	1986 - 1989	Rev. Otto H. C. Hardt
1910 - 1912	Rev. Hillard Manly Eure	1989 - 2000	Rev. Douglas B. Currin
1912 - 1913	Rev. James Gabriel Johnson	2000 - 2003	Rev. Robert A. Hagerty
1914 - 1916	Rev. Charles Wesley Robinson	2003 - 2005	Rev. E. Ray Brooks
1916 - 1918	Rev. Thomas Henry Sutton	2005 - 2007	Rev. Dr. JoAnn M. Oulton
1918 - 1919	Rev. V. A. Royall	2007 - 2008	Rev. David L. Malcolm
1919 - 1921	Rev. Charles Richmond Ross	2008 - 2009	Rev. Jerry Schronce
1921 - 1925	Rev. E. Benjamin Stanfield	2009 - 2013	Rev. James H. Daniels
1925 - 1929	Rev. Oded L. Hinson	2013 - 2019	Rev. Gregg Presnal
1929 - 1931	Rev. Ivey Talmadge Poole	2019 - 2023	Rev. Michael T. Edwards
1931 - 1931	Rev. G. R. Stafford	2023 -	Rev. Kevin H. Seymour
1931 - 1934	Rev. John Edward Blalock		

**MORRIS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ANNOUNCEMENTS & PARISH NOTICES – September 24, 2023**

WELCOME!

Welcome to Morris Chapel United Methodist Church! We are delighted that you joined us in Christian Education and Worship today. Morris Chapel United Methodist Church welcomes visitors who are seeking a church home, those who join us for special occasions, and those who seek relief from life’s burdens. Join us in praising God, making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, and giving thanks to a loving God for the blessings of the day!

CALENDAR

Every Sunday	9:30 am	Worship Service – in person and Livestream
Sunday	10:30 am	Fellowship Time
Sunday	11:00 am	Sunday Schools
Tuesday	10:00 am	Bible Study “Sunday’s Coming” Pastor Seymour
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Choir Practice – all are welcome

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

WELCOME to Homecoming Sunday! We are so glad you have joined us! Stay after the service for the pot-luck lunch provided by the congregation in the Fellowship Hall! Thank you....

Today’s Altar Flowers are given by Jerry and Mary Keith in memory of their family members.

CANNED FOOD DRIVE – All are invited to bring canned foods next Sunday (Oct. 1) to relieve hunger among our neighbors. Our collection box will be placed in the Narthex, and the goods will then be delivered to the Food Pantry at Love Grove AME Zion Church.

Fellowship Time After Church Please prayerfully consider signing up to provide refreshments after Church on Sunday mornings. The Fellowship Committee provides refreshments one Sunday per month. The sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall, right wall next to the counter. There’s a white binder on the kitchen counter with ideas and what to do. Let’s keep this time of fellowship going each Sunday!

Do You Love Children? Then perhaps you will assist with the Children’s Messages. We need 2-4 interested and caring volunteers to round out the monthly schedule. That would mean one message per month per volunteer. Please pray about this – then contact either Mavis Harper, Laurel Parker, or Pastor Kevin regarding your decision to assist. Thank you!

SPAGHETTI SUPPER – The Methodist Men are back in action and will host a dinner on October 20 from 6 – 8 PM. Tickets will be available. \$8.00 for adults, 12 & under \$5.00.

Providing Flowers for Church Please **SIGN UP** on the **Flower Calendar** posted on the 1st bulletin board (left side) in the Fellowship Hall, then text or email the bulletin preparers giving the reason for the flowers so an announcement may be added to the bulletin. Thank you!

Tithes and Offerings: Your generous giving to the church reflects your thankfulness for a generous and merciful God. All are encouraged to continue giving on Sunday’s during worship, online at www.morrischapel.org, or by mailing in your financial gifts. “Each of you must give as

you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Announcements: by noon on Wednesdays to Laurel Parker at laurelparker@charter.net or (919) 271-0963 AND Mavis Harper at mavisharper1944@gmail.com or (919) 770-0489.

VOLUNTEER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sept	Acolytes	Children’s Message	Ushers	Greeters	Communion Servers
24	Caleigh Baker Rylee Ray	Krystle Ray	Melvin Rosser Donnie Carter	Doug Currin Connie Currin	Kevin & Manuela Seymour Gary Rosser Karen Rosser
Oct 1	Caleigh Baker Rylee Ray	Richard Angel	Daniel Baker Drew Burris	Gary Rosser Karen Rosser	Kevin & Manuela Seymour Gary Maddox Donna Maddox
8	JC Ray Bryson Baker	Krystle Ray	Danny Baker Bryson Baker	Donna Maddox Krystle Ray	
15	Jase Burris Caleigh Baker	Richard Angel	Ron Mercer George Orlovsky	Danny Baker Peggy Baker	
22	JC Ray Rylee Ray	Krystle Ray	Justin Ray JC Ray	Marian Huepper Laurel Parker	

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Sherry Baucom Maryann Bell Rick Billings William Black Kristie Casterlin Chapel Hill community Bee Chapman Congregational Unity Jeanette Cox Shelton Crutchfield Barryman Hall Ron Hartman Ron Height Connie Hickman Bob & Laura Holder	Mary Hudson Teresa Ingram Evan Johnson Nancy Johnson Tom Kirby Diane Ludwig Gary Maddox Maude Maloney Moroccan earthquake victims Ann McLeod Maxine McLeod Rhonda McNeill Sandra Norris Susie Pierce Danielle Rahko	Ray Family Angelene Rosser Milton & Betty Rosser Ron & Peggy Scott Cynthia Spivey Joyce Key Thomas Wilma Truelove United Methodist Church United States of America Pam Vaughan Flossie Wilt Nick Wissinger-travels Bob & Sandy Woolston Debra Underwood
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