



Morattico Baptist Church  
**MBC2028**  
*Celebrating 250 Years 1778-2028*

**JUNE 2025**

**MORATTICO BAPTIST CHURCH**

# THE HILL



**FROM THE  
PASTOR**

Graduation season is such an important time in the life of high school and college students. There is the anticipation of the reward for years of homework, papers, projects and activities. And freedom! Freedom from early morning classes and deadlines. Freedom from cafeteria food and bad coffee! And then there's the feeling that your future is unlimited and it is going to be full of adventure and new experiences. The excitement can hardly be contained.

I remember that feeling during my last week of high school when I was torn by the prospect of not seeing my close friends when we all went our separate ways but also giddy with the idea that in a few months I would be on my own, far from home. It was both scary and exciting.

As we enter into graduation season we will celebrate our graduates, as will many

Continued on page 6

## **PRAYERS FOR OUR GRADUATES**

Morattico Baptist Church asks that you pray for all who are graduating from high school and college. To help you, we have provided a few prayers you may use.

*Lord, grant our graduates humility, grace, and peace. Give them your direction as they navigate their lives each day. Give them wisdom to know what the next steps are for their lives. Give them understanding to know what you have planned for them after graduation. Amen.*

*Lord, thank you that we can seek direction and guidance from you. Holy Spirit, guide our graduates today. Infuse them with your peace, love, and joy. Reveal to them what is true, and may they wholeheartedly seek after you. Amen.*



***PLEASE GIVE US UPDATES***

*Do we keep praying or rejoice in being able to remove someone from this list? When adding someone, please provide an address so we can send a card.*

*Mae Shelton ~ 804-366-3817*

Sheryl George Allen  
Margaret Ambrose  
Susan Ashburn  
Jennifer Routt Clark  
Eddie Dawson  
Ralph Doth  
Charlotte Evans  
Wilson and Sandra Evans  
Bill and Mary Fletcher  
Douglas Garrett  
Johnny Gilbert  
Terri Groh  
Greg Howell  
James Jackson  
Cathy Kellum  
Family of Betty (Self) Martin  
Donald Morgan  
Richard, Rosie and Rich Pruett  
Sylvia Saunders  
Paul Stone  
William and Patricia Taylor  
Rosemary Thrift  
Clint "Scooby" Walker  
Gail Warwick  
Robert Wilkins  
Those who are struggling  
United States of America  
Graduates



1 Paige Kellum  
3 Don Morgan  
5 Ned Goode  
7 Tom Groh  
9 Susan Pittman  
15 Debra Whaley  
17 Zoe Nonnemacker  
20 Charlie Austin  
23 Jan Abbott  
24 Will Kellum  
25 Anita Hart  
26 Tom Saunders  
28 Ray Britt  
29 Rylee Beauchamp

June 4

Rick and Kendra Simpson

June 19, 2021

Johnny and Tiffany Walston

June 22

Betty and Wayson Christopher

June 26, 1994

Bill and Amy James

**GREAT FUTURES START HERE.**



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**

**Morattico Baptist is considering the way in which we can help the Northumberland Boys and Girls Club raise money for its expansion plans.**

**Stay tuned for ways in which you can partner with us in this effort.**



## **Jacob Owen Clarke**

Jacob is the grandson of Linda Herring and the late Ron Herring. He graduated from Northumberland High School on May 17, 2025.

Outside of regular class studies he developed a great interest in the school band. He played trumpet for three years and completed his last year by adding the guitar.

Jacob, often known as Jake, started working at Compass Entertainment Center last summer, on holidays and during days off from school. He enjoys the interaction with the attendees and says the adults aren't too bad either! He plans to continue his work there this summer and until life gives him a new direction.

## **Madison Grace Hart and Sarah Bethany Hart**

Anita Hart's twin granddaughters graduated from high school on Saturday, May 10, 2025. They live in Taylorstown, VA.

Madison Grace Hart will continue accruing credits toward an Associate Degree in Biology at Northern Virginia Community College before transferring to complete her Bachelor's Degree.

Sarah Bethany Hart will continue accruing credits toward an Associate Degree in Science at Northern Virginia Community College before transferring to complete her Bachelor's Degree.



## **Joshua Abbott**

Joshua is the son of Richard and Jan Abbott. He graduated from Lancaster High School in May and will be going to Rappahannock Community College in the fall. Josh plans to enter the welding program and secure employment in that field. Josh and his family appreciate your prayers during high school and beyond.



## **Alayna Holcomb**

Alayna graduated from Northumberland High School on May 17th. She will be attending Randolph College in the fall to pursue a degree in Robotics and Mechatronics Engineering.



## Emma Smith

Emma is the daughter of Janet and the late Craig Smith. She graduated from The College of William and Mary on May 16, 2025, with a BS degree in Psychology. She will begin Graduate School at Virginia Tech this summer. Her concentration will be in Clinical Mental Health.



## Abigail Elizabeth Souders

Abigail is the daughter of Joe and Suzanne Souders. Abby graduated from JMU on May 17, 2025 with a BS in Communications and a Minor in Writing. She plans to travel this summer.



We are pleased to announce that several people have volunteered to provide child care/Sunday School during the worship services. We have books, puzzles and arts and crafts to share with your children or grandchildren. Music time with Jeems is lots of fun and of course going outside to blow bubbles is always requested.

We may not always see that you have arrived at church so please come find Chris Love, Susan Humphreys or Stephanie Hudson and tell us your children would like to participate in child care that day.

If you would like to add your name to the list of volunteers to help with the children, please let us know. We love sharing the love of Christ with the “littles”!

~Stephanie Hudson





April 24, 2025

Braylin Beauchamp hit a grand slam while playing high school softball against Essex County.



Rylee Beauchamp  
Catcher for Northumberland Middle School

The Beauchamp sisters are the daughters of Amy Reinhart and granddaughters of Debbie Dodson.



Kinsley Hudson has enjoyed soccer this spring. She is the daughter of Ryan and Hailey Hudson and granddaughter of Ronald and Stephanie Hudson. Kinsley lives in Mechanicsville.



Colter Walston wants to be a catcher when he grows up. This spring he has been playing BamBam Baseball with the Northumberland County Little League. He is the son of Johnny and Tiffany Walston and grandson of Timmy and Kathy Pittman.

# FROM THE PASTOR

Continued from page 1

churches in the area. We will acknowledge their accomplishments, attend graduation services, write checks and offer congratulatory hugs. And most importantly we will lift them in prayer.

The world in which our young people will enter is very different from the world of my youth. My parents didn't have to worry about my political and social ideology being shaped by my college experiences. Campus unrest was non-existent. I never saw a protest on campus and we walked freely among the buildings without fear.

Today our graduates need our prayers for protection, grace, strength and commitment to the Lord. So as you read about and celebrate our graduates in these pages of the newsletter, utter a silent prayer for each one of them. Ask God to keep His hands upon them and protect them from those who will try to lead them away from the Lord. Pray earnestly for our young people, for our colleges and universities and for our world.

These young folks are much smarter than I ever was, they have access to far more information than I ever will, and their future is incredibly bright. Our prayers will be heard and God will be with them. Congratulations to the Class of 2025! May God be with you and may God live in your hearts as you go forth and conquer!

Blessings and Peace to you all!

~Richard



Generally you start a yard sale with fear and trepidation! Will folks donate enough items? Will we have enough help? Will it rain? But you talk it out with the co-workers and get to work. Are we going to have enough tables? Suddenly you hear "I can get three tables from work!" "I can get two from my daughter". Then you're off and running. Items always seem to come in slowly in the beginning. Here comes that fear again. I don't know why we do that because we have already asked our Heavenly Father to supply all our needs. And there they are, the very next day. Bags and boxes on the steps. It's fun at first, getting to examine each piece donated. Some workers have a day job and some don't so the day off folks come in and set the items on the tables (after some items get a nice bath!). You get them all set up with "like" items and go home.

That evening a funny thing happens! More bags and boxes are delivered so the day workers show up after work and repeat what the earlier workers have done except with new stuff. Now they have to change the location of many items because they need more room. At first everything was spread out so nice and neat... You go from "I hope we have enough for a good sale" to "where in the world are we going to put all this?"

Continued on page 7



Continued from page 6

We started our day at 6:00 am Saturday the morning of the sale. Advertisements stated that our sale was from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. The first customer showed up at 6:30! When all was ready we opened the floodgates. Happy, smiling faces walked the isles while those that couldn't get in to the building yet looked at all the items that had been placed outside. What a fun time it is to see everyone doing something they love.

By 1:00 pm we all had walked a thousand miles and were ready to close. The remaining items were boxed up to go to area thrift shops. Tired feet and bodies drag happy faces with a smile from ear to ear to cars to go home. And there it is! The reminder that indeed, God DID supply all our needs. He supplied donations, workers, space, muscle, people to purchase the items and most of all He supplied the funds needed to give scholarships to our wonderful students.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our sale.

~ Linda Herring



We are pleased to announce that the yard sale netted \$4000 for the Scholarship Fund.





Sunday: 8:45 am Sunday School (adult)  
10 am Sunday Service

**Calendar events**

- June 1<sup>st</sup> Graduation Sunday**  
**Ascension Sunday Service**
- June 7<sup>th</sup> Beulah Gospel Explosion (all day)**  
**MBC sings at 2pm**
- June 8<sup>th</sup> Child Dedication Sunday**  
**Pentecost Sunday**
- June 14<sup>th</sup> Flag Day
- June 15<sup>th</sup> Father's Day Service**
- June 20<sup>th</sup> First day of Summer
- June 29<sup>th</sup> Baptism Sunday**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Luncheon**
- July 17<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting**

**Bold = MBC event**

**Morattico Baptist Church**

**Richard C. Abbott, Pastor**

924 Morattico Church Road

Post Office Box 228

Kilmarnock, Virginia 22482

phone: 804-577-3043

e-mail: [pastor@moratticobaptistchurch.org](mailto:pastor@moratticobaptistchurch.org)

website: [moratticobaptistchurch.org](http://moratticobaptistchurch.org)

Facebook: The Morattico Baptist Church

**NEWSLETTER DEPARTMENT:**

[newsletter@moratticobaptistchurch.org](mailto:newsletter@moratticobaptistchurch.org)

Newsletter Editor: Kathy Pittman

Proofreader: Patricia Taylor

Assistant: Lisa Holcomb

Staff writers: Stephanie Hudson and Jordan Abbott

**DEACONS:**

Linda Herring, Head of Deacons

Jane Austin

Ginny Barnes

Terri Groh

Ronald Hudson

David Humphreys

Jeems Love

Peyton Smith