



Morattico Baptist Church
MBC2028
Celebrating 250 Years 1778-2028

**OCTOBER
2025**

MORATTICO BAPTIST CHURCH

THE HILL



Our second Historic Church Tour has wrapped up and we consider it a successful event. The work and attention that went into the tour can be described as monumental. Kathy Pittman and her team have poured an incredible amount of time and energy into ensuring that Morattico Baptist and her daughter churches present our Baptist heritage in a professional and meaningful way. I couldn't be more proud of the work done by our Baptist family.

This edition of The Hill is a celebration of the Historic Church Tour and we hope you enjoy it. If you were unable to attend, stay tuned for the 2027 plans which will be in the midst of the 250th Anniversary Celebration of Morattico Baptist Church.

Blessings!!

Pastor Richard



On a beautiful September morning ten daughter and granddaughter churches, along with the mother church, Morattico, graciously hosted the 2025 Historic Church Tour. The story of their histories was shared with the tour visitors.

Visitors learned about the history of each church while some shared information about their architecture, cemeteries, traditions and more. There were docents dressed in period costumes and special exhibits that had been prepared to deepen the historical experience.

Many questions were asked which sparked some interesting conversations, engaging all in an educational and entertaining experience.

There are a few of the collector tour books left that are available for sale. \$10 per book. See Kathy Pittman if interested.

The next tour will be September 2027

IN OUR
Thoughts
AND
Prayers

Margaret Ambrose
Mike Baker
Betty Christopher
Jennifer Routt Clark
Brenda Crowther
The family of Robbie Crowther
Eddie Dawson
Ralph Doth
Charlotte Evans
Bill and Mary Fletcher
Jessica Smith Frere
Douglas Garrett
Terri Groh
Linda Herring
Anna Keane
Cathy Kellum
Neal Marsh
Donald Morgan
Sammy Newton
Richard, Rosie and Rich Pruett
Sylvia Saunders
John Staton
Paul Stone
Fran Stout
Paul Stout
William and Patricia Taylor
Rosemary Thrift
Meredith Tompkins
Randy Tydings
Lynn Keane Walls
Jay Whay
Robert Wilkins
For Revival

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



7 Alayna Holcomb
10 Debbie Dodson
12 Martin Smith
19 Amy James
20 L A Fletcher
27 Bryer Walston
28 Ashley Nonnemacker
29 Michelle Gordon

October 24, 1998
William and Patricia Taylor



On behalf of everyone at Morattico Baptist Church we give heartfelt thanks to Pastor Richard and his family. Richard, your prayers, wisdom, and daily example of Christ's love enrich our lives and strengthen our church. We are blessed to walk this journey of faith with you.

Thank you!

2025 HISTORIC CHURCH TOUR



Docent Page Carlson tells the MBC story to Dee and Mary Beth Carter while our pianist and Dee's sister, Debbie Carter Dodson looks on.



The Howland Graded School at First Baptist Church was open to visitors during the Historic Church Tour.

2025 HISTORIC CHURCH TOUR



Roxy Fisher and Jordan Abbott, docents at Morattico Baptist Church, dressed in period costume to add a realistic feel to the tour.



Fairfields Baptist Church display. Fairfields shares a deep history with MBC and Addison Hall.



Third Quarter Flower Committee Report

The Flower Committee had their third quarter meeting in August with a focus on the flowers requested for the Historic Church Tour. In preparation for the tour, the members of the flower committee met on the Friday before the tour to create several arrangements for the front hall, Sanctuary, History Center and Fellowship Hall. Our floral theme was fall using sunflowers and lots of fall colors. Large chrysanthemum plants were placed at the grave sites of the six MBC pastors buried in our cemetery.

The MBC Flower Committee members in cooperation with the Mission Committee donated 32 small bud vases to the Twin Branch Center for Wellness and Recovery for Women. The residents were delighted to be able to create small arrangements with the flowers from the garden at the center.

In addition, we initiated planning and ordering items for Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons. Yes, Christmas is already on the horizon.

Our fourth quarter meeting is scheduled for October 15th with holiday festivities on our agenda. You will see poinsettia order forms arriving in the bulletin on Sunday November 9th. Please consider purchasing a poinsettia (or two) that will not only adorn our Sanctuary through Advent, but will also remember a loved one or celebrate someone you appreciate.

Each month a member of the committee is assigned to ensure we have flowers in the sanctuary on Sundays. A grateful thank you

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to Wendy Deihl who covered July, Ginny Barnes covered August, and Shelley Ritter took over in September.

Please contact Beth Gay if you want to provide a floral arrangement. Email Beth (bethg0215@gmail.com) or text (804-436-5724) to start the process.

The Flower Committee
Anita Hart, Page Carlson, Beth Gay, Wendy Deihl, Ginny Barnes, Shelley Ritter.

Remember, a flower is a smile from heaven.

Remembrances and Celebrations

The Flower Committee wishes to thank the following individuals who provided flowers for the Sanctuary July through September.

In celebration of:

Bob and Helen Pitman who are celebrating their 55th wedding anniversary. Given by the Barnes family. Congratulations to Bob and Helen.

In honor of Rick Claybrook (Frederick W. Claybrook IV) who shares the legacy of his great-grandfather, Frederick W. Claybrook, Sr. who faithfully served as pastor of this church from 1885 to 1911. Given by Kathy Pittman.

In remembrance of:

Walter H. Abbott whose birthday is August 2nd by his son, Richard Abbott.

Dr. Donald B. Longest by Anke Longest.



CHURCH picnic

The pastor must have some connections because the weather for the church picnic on Sunday, August 31st could not have been better. We all gathered in the churchyard with the aroma of hamburgers and hot dogs being grilled by Chef Joe Sauders. The side dishes were delicious because as we all know, Baptists are great cooks. Here are a few photos from the day:



Debbie Dodson supervises Richard's grilling



Left to right:
Bryer Walston, Madison Kellum,
Colter Walston



Left to right:
Debbie Dodson (in background), Wayne
Fallin, Sandra Hudson, David Hudson



HUNTON-LUNSFORD HISTORY CENTER DEBUTS NEW EXHIBIT

The Hunton-Lunsford History Center at Morattico Baptist Church debuted two new exhibits on Saturday, September 13th at the 2025 Historic Church Tour. The first exhibit "Beneath These Stones: A Chronicle of Pastoral Legacy" highlights the ministry and leadership of six pastors who faithfully served the church. It depicts the lives of the six pastors who are buried in the MBC cemetery.

The second exhibit "Roots of Faith: The Farm and Families Behind the Church" showcases artifacts from neighboring farms, whose owners have been devoted members of the church for generations. A Bible belonging to Peyton Carter was donated by his great granddaughter, Debbie Carter Dodson. Ginny Barnes, granddaughter of Virginia Carter Pitman, donated a spittoon found in her grandmother's belongings. The spittoon had a note attached to it stating that it was used in the original Morattico Baptist Church building that stood on these grounds prior to the 1856 building.

Morattico Baptist Church would like to thank both Debbie and Ginny for their donations and their continued service to our church.



Debbie views new exhibit for the first time while Pastor Richard looks on



Bob Henley and Tyler Kilpatrick, visitors on the Historic Church Tour, were pleased to see one of the newest exhibits at the Hunton-Lunsford History Center. Posed here with Henley's great-great-grandfather, Addison Hall. Kirkpatrick is the great-great-great-granddaughter. Pastor Abbott and Kathy Pittman had a great time discussing Rev. Addison Hall with his relatives.



It's that time of the year again! Our church will once again be aiding Samaritan's Purse. We will send gift filled Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes to children in need around the world together with the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

This year we will concentrate our efforts on both boys and girls ages 5 to 9. Our goal is to fill 200 boxes. So let the shopping for these precious children begin! Please place your purchased items in the Fellowship Hall. The deadline is November 16.

For a detailed list of suggested gift items, go to samaritanaspurse.org.

GRAVE MARKING CEREMONY

A grave marking ceremony honors a person for their service to their country during time of war. The Virginia Society United States Daughters of 1812 determined Reverend Colonel Addison Hall deserved such an honor as he began serving his country at a very young age. The ceremony included a prelude with bagpipes and posting the colors by the Virginia Society War of 1812 in period wool uniforms. Pastor Richard Abbott gave remembrances of Pastor Hall and a prayer. A special grave marker was unveiled by Morattico Baptist member and VA US Daughters of 1812 member Jo Ann Fickling.

Special to the ceremony was having descendants of Reverend Addison Hall present. Great-great-grandsons Dr. Robert Henley and Reverend Wesley Addison Hall, great-great-granddaughter Mason Beazley and great-great-grandniece Tyler Kilpatrick.

Dr. Cheryl Brown Davis, President, Virginia Society United States Daughters of 1812 presented a wreath and sang TAPS. Stuart Butler, President Virginia Society Sons of the War of 1812 presented a wreath. Other organizations presenting wreaths were Daughters of American Colonist, Ft. Lowery and Lancaster County chapters United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Addison Hall will forever be recognized as one of God's most faithful and dedicated servants of Morattico Baptist Church. In 1835, Hall was ordained and licensed to preach; the charge was given by Reverend J. B. Jeter. He served the church from 1836 to 1871. He also served his beloved Northern Neck holding many titles such as businessman, attorney and member of the House of Delegates, just to name a few.

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The energy and passion that Colonel Addison Hall gave to his professional life was also shared with Morattico Baptist Church. In 1835, Hall was ordained and licensed to preach; the charge was given by Reverend J. B. Jeter.

After living a long and very productive life in faith and service, Colonel Addison Hall retired in 1870. He died April 2, 1871.





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

Calendar events:

October 12th	Pastor Appreciation Sunday and luncheon
October 13 th	Columbus Day
November 2nd	Communion Sunday
November 9th	Veterans Day Service
November 22nd	Greening of the Church
November 26th	Thanksgiving Eve Service
November 30th	First Sunday of Advent and 5th Sunday
December 19th	Streets of Gold Christmas program
December 24th	Christmas Eve Service

Bold = MBC event

Morattico Baptist Church

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