



# MorningsideMessenger

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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## Inside This Issue

- 1 Worship
- 2 From Your Pastor
- 3 Inside Morningside
- 4 Calendar
- 5 Session News
- 6 BackWords

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## February 2016 Worship at Morningside

February 7, 2016

**Baron Mullis preaching**

“The Greatness of God”

Texts: Luke 9:28-36; Luke 9:37-43

*The sacrament of communion will be celebrated.*

February 10, 2016

**Ash Wednesday, 7 p.m.**

**Drew Stockstill preaching**

“Sincere Lent”

Texts: Isaiah 58:1-12; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

February 14, 2016

**First Sunday in Lent**

**Drew Stockstill preaching**

“Tired of Leftovers”

Texts: Romans 10:8b-13; Deuteronomy 26:1-11

*The sacrament of baptism will be celebrated.*

February 21, 2016

**Second Sunday in Lent**

**Charles Hardwick preaching**

Director of the Office of Theology and Worship

Office of the General Assembly

February 28, 2016

**Third Sunday in Lent**

**Baron Mullis preaching**

“The Spiritual Rock”

Texts: Isaiah 55:1-9; I Corinthians 10:1-13

## From Your Pastor



### *Dear Sisters and Brothers,*

So, I said to Anna, “What the heck am I going to write about this month?”

She replied, “Write about how much you’re going to miss me.”

“You’d like that, wouldn’t you?” I countered.

Then she said, “Write about our temperature wars.” (She had the key to the thermostat in her hand as she said it. Our two offices have to balance each other out. I’m amazed there’s not a hurricane developing in the doorway.)

Well, the truth is I am going to miss Anna when she retires, though I hope she’ll keep in touch. Here’s what I’m going to miss:

We don’t always agree. She’s one political party, I’m another. She’s mid-West, I’m mid-Atlantic. She’s Episcopalian, I’m Presbyterian... I could go on. We have polite conversations about who we’re going to vote for, and we jab back and forth, and the one time we actually voted for the same person. She has a Louisville Slugger in her desk drawer with my name on it.

But, over the five years she and I have worked together, we’ve been friends.

I think there’s something about having a common goal together that unites people. For Anna and me, it’s the smooth operation of Morningside Presbyterian Church. We both care passionately about making sure the members are cared for, spiritually fed, and challenged to think. If I have a class idea, she’ll make a brochure. When I started a year-long Bible Study, she came up with the idea of a class notebook. We’re united in our pursuit of a common goal.

I guess I’m thinking about that because I ride around with my car on NPR and it’s primary season. I sort of want to ask, “What’s a good common goal for us to have?”

As a church, that’s easy. The common goal is for everything we do to reflect Jesus Christ. It’s really that simple. And yet, you know perfectly well that’s about the hardest thing we can do. But it’s our common goal: make everything about our lives reflect Jesus Christ.

Do you want to do that?

Can we do that together?

Shalom,

Baron

PS, Anna, I will miss you! Cheers on your retirement!

### **‘Welcoming the Strangers: Refugees in Atlanta’ Series Continues This Month**

You’re invited to hear two more guest experts on immigration and refugee issues on Sunday mornings this month, followed by two weeks led by Associate Pastor Drew Stockstill and seminary intern Sarah Smith on biblical perspectives on strangers in our midst. The adult discussion groups meet in Room 201 at 9:45 a.m.

On Feb. 7, our speaker will be Julia Levy, director of The Global Village School, which opens its doors to refugee girls and young women, many of whom have never had the privilege of education, and some of whom have experienced the tragedies of war first-hand. On Feb. 14, our final guest will be Natalie Schmucker from Shalom International Ministries speaking on Shalom’s after-school program. MPC has relationships with both these projects serving newcomers to the United States.

## Inside Morningside

### Eat Pancakes to Get Ready—Lent Begins This Month with Ash Wednesday

You and your family will flip for the pancakes served in Fellowship Hall at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Feb. 9 from 5:30 – 6:45 p.m.

Originally, pancake feasts were designed to use up goodies in the family's pantry before the fasting and other food restrictions of the Lenten season. Here and now, it's a fun event for our preschool community and the congregation. Children are invited to wear their pajamas to the party. And we'll be entertained by a magician.

There is no charge for this event, but we do ask for donations of new children's pajamas and underwear to Threads, an MPC outreach partner in Atlanta devoted

to providing needy children from birth through fifth grade with clean, durable clothing and footwear.

We need sign-ups to attend and to help with setup and clean up. You can RSVP and volunteer by contacting Julie Schoen ([juliecschoen@me.com](mailto:juliecschoen@me.com)). Online readers can [volunteer here](#) to make pancakes or [RSVP here](#).

The mood will be quite different the following evening in our Sanctuary. Our Ash Wednesday service at 7 p.m. offers a quiet time for reflection and repentance and ends with the ritual imposition of ashes for those who wish to take part, as we prepare our hearts and minds for the events leading up to Holy Week.

### Ready to Think About Summer? VBS Registration Will Open This Month

Bible stories, songs, games, snacks and so much more are part of the annual Vacation Bible School experience for children who will be four by Sept. 1 through rising fifth grade. This year's VBS will be offered Monday, June 13 – Friday, June 17, 9 a.m. to noon.

Our Director of Children's Ministries, Sarah Kate DeWyngaert, needs many hands to make all this happen for our kids. If you are available to volunteer at any point, please contact Sarah Kate ([sarahkate@morningsidepc.org](mailto:sarahkate@morningsidepc.org)). Both youth and adult helpers are needed.

Childcare will be available for younger children of volunteers. Registration will begin in February. Watch for more information.

### Morningside Milestones

- Old year, new babies! New year, new babies! We ended 2015 welcoming twins Bryn Ashley and Leah Kennedy Gorman, daughters of Ryan and Michelle on Dec. 18, and Margaret Louise Loring, daughter of Jason and Julie on Dec. 30. Then we started out 2016 with the birth of Wesley Denver King, son of Denton and Lauren on Jan. 9 and on Jan. 12 Jack Joseph Knezevich, son of members to be Ann Marie and Joe.
- Our sympathy is extended to Duncan Spears and his family on the death of Duncan's father in late December in Birmingham.
- New flooring was installed over the MLK Jr. weekend in the upstairs classrooms of the preschool wing by dedicated parents and our Sexton Victor Carballosa. Come visit the improvements and also those in the downstairs preschool restroom. All these upgrades are courtesy of Morningside Presbyterian Preschool.
- Shirley Adair's son Van Crisco, a member who lives in Jacksonville Beach, Florida, recently suffered a stroke and is home rehabilitating. You can track his progress and send him greetings at [www.caringbridge.org/visit/vancrisco](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/vancrisco).

### Christian Seasons And Reasons

As Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, this year on Feb. 10, our sanctuary parament colors change from the green of Ordinary Time to purple. The 40 days of Lent do not actually count the Sundays, which are simply called 'First Sunday in Lent' and so on. Also, worship service music in Lent avoids Hallelujahs, which we put away until Easter.

# February 2016

| Sun  | Mon  | Tue  | Wed  | Thu  | Fri   | Sat   |
|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|
|  | <b>1</b>   | <b>2</b>   | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b>   | <b>5</b>  | <b>6</b>  |
|  | 9 a.m. MPP<br>1 p.m. MPP Ballet<br>7 p.m. Mandolin Society   | 9 a.m. MPP<br>11 a.m. Yoga<br>1 p.m. MPP Mini Monets; Playball<br>2:15 p.m. Park. Tai Chi<br>4:30 p.m. Tai Chi<br>6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers<br>7 p.m. Theology on Tap<br>7:30 p.m. MLPA Zoning                                 | 8:15 a.m. MPP Yoga<br>9 a.m. MPP<br>1 p.m. MPP Music<br>5:30 p.m. Cherub & Treble choirs<br>7 p.m. Bible Study with Baron<br>7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir   | 9 a.m. MPP<br>11 a.m. Fun with Weights<br>1 p.m. Playball<br>7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir  | 9 a.m. MPP<br>10 a.m. MPP Creative Movement<br>11 a.m. Karate | 9 a.m. Women's AA Meeting<br>10 a.m. - 12 noon Shape Note Singing and lunch |
| <b>7</b>   | <b>8</b>   | <b>9</b>   | <b>10</b>  | <b>11</b>  | <b>12</b>   | <b>13</b>   |
| 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation<br>9:45 a.m. Faith Development Class; New Members Class<br>11 a.m. Worship / Communion<br>12 noon Fellowship<br>4:30-7:30 p.m. MS Youth; Youth Games & Dinner; HS Youth                            | 9 a.m. MPP<br>12 noon Arts & Crafts Guild<br>1 p.m. MPP Ballet<br>7 p.m. Mandolin Society<br>7:30 p.m. Morningside Lenox Park Assoc. | 9 a.m. MPP<br>11 a.m. Yoga<br>1 p.m. MPP Mini Monets; Playball<br>2:15 p.m. Tai Chi<br>4:30 p.m. Tai Chi<br>5:45 p.m. Shrove Tues. Pancake & PJs Supper<br>6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers<br>7 p.m. Preschool Comm.; LGBT & Friends | 8:15 a.m. MPP Yoga<br>9 a.m. MPP<br>9:15 a.m. MPP Parent Tour; Chapel<br>1 p.m. MPP Music<br>5:30 p.m. Cherub & Treble choirs<br>7 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service<br>8 p.m. Bible Study<br>7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir | 9 a.m. MPP<br>11 a.m. Fun with Weights<br>12:30 p.m. Poetry Group<br>1 p.m. Playball<br>7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir                           | 9 a.m. MPP/ Winter Break<br>7 p.m. Couples Group              | 9 a.m. Women's AA Meeting   |
| <b>14</b>  | <b>15</b>  | <b>16</b>  | <b>17</b>  | <b>18</b>  | <b>19</b>   | <b>20</b>   |
| 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation<br>9:45 a.m. Faith Development Class<br>11 a.m. Worship/Baptism<br>12 noon Fellowship<br>12:30 p.m. Deacons<br>4:30-7:30 p.m. MS Youth; Youth Games & Dinner; HS Youth<br>6 p.m. Journey           | 9 a.m. MPP/ Winter Break<br>7 p.m. Mandolin Society; Session   | 9 a.m. MPP/Winter Break<br>11 a.m. Yoga<br>2:15 p.m. Parkinson Tai Chi<br>4:30 p.m. Tai Chi<br>6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers   | 7 a.m. Men's Breakfast<br>8:15 a.m. MPP Yoga<br>9 a.m. MPP<br>1 p.m. MPP Music<br>5:30 p.m. Cherub & Treble choirs<br>7 p.m. Bible Study with Baron<br>7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir                                 | 9 a.m. MPP<br>11 a.m. Fun with Weights<br>12:30 p.m. 3rd Thurs Theology<br>1 p.m. Playball<br>7:30 p.m. Girl Scout Leaders; Handbell Choir | 9 a.m. MPP<br>10 a.m. MPP Creative Movement<br>11 a.m. Karate | 9 a.m. Women's AA Meeting   |
| <b>21</b>  | <b>22</b>  | <b>23</b>  | <b>24</b>  | <b>25</b>  | <b>26</b>   | <b>27</b>   |
| 9:30 a.m. Coffee<br>9:45 a.m. Faith Development Class<br>11 a.m. Worship<br>12 noon Fellowship<br>12:30 p.m. RHO Readers; Young Adult Lunch<br>2 p.m. Daisy Scout Troop<br>4:30-7:30 p.m. MS Youth; Youth Games & Dinner; HS Youth | 9 a.m. MPP<br>1 p.m. MPP Ballet<br>6:30 p.m. Women's Roundtable<br>7 p.m. Mandolin Society<br>7 p.m. Parliamentarians                | 9 a.m. MPP<br>11 a.m. Yoga<br>12 noon Arts & Crafts Guild<br>1 p.m. MPP Mini Monets/Playball<br>2:15 p.m. Parkinson Tai Chi<br>4:30 p.m. Tai Chi<br>6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers  | 8:15 a.m. MPP Yoga<br>9 a.m. MPP<br>9:30 a.m. MPP Performance<br>1 p.m. MPP Music<br>3:30 p.m. Habitat<br>5:30 p.m. Cherub & Treble choirs<br>7 p.m. Bible Study with Baron<br>7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir         | 9 a.m. MPP<br>11 a.m. Fun with Weights<br>1 p.m. Playball<br>7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir  | 9 a.m. MPP CLOSED/ GA Preschool Conference                    | 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Habitat for Humanity Build<br>9 a.m. Women's AA Meeting |
| <b>28</b>  | <b>29</b>  |  |  |  |   |   |
| 9:30 a.m. Coffee<br>9:45 a.m. Faith Development Class<br>11 a.m. Worship<br>12 noon Fellowship<br>4:30 p.m. Middle School Youth<br>5:30 p.m. Games & Dinner<br>6:30 p.m. High School Youth   | 9 a.m. MPP<br>1 p.m. MPP Ballet<br>7 p.m. Mandolin Society   |  |  |  |   |   |

## Session News

### Your Session at Work: January 18 Meeting

(Find a complete list of our church officers, their committee assignments and church staff at <http://www.morningsidepc.org/leaders>. Session minutes, once approved, are on file and available for review in the church office.)

- As you heard at the Annual Congregational Meeting Jan. 31, we have adopted our budget for 2016. There are virtually no increases, except for Mission Ministries, from our 2015 actual expenses. The new budget was balanced in large part by moving expenses associated with our church property to the capital campaign budget—because the work is being done and managed under that project. All ministry team leaders were aware that with the capital campaign in hand, operating expenses would be tight and some anticipated growth—such as adding an Events Manager to take up some of the work formerly done by the Program Director—has been deferred until pledges rebound. For a complete overview of the church's events, deeds and ministries over the past year, pick up a copy of the 2015 MPC Annual Report at the church or get it on line on our website.
- Greg Wolters reported for the Human Resources Committee that the job description for the position of Administrative Manager has been revised and approved so that we may immediately start seeking applicants and hope to fill the position so that the new person can learn from Anna Best before her retirement Mar. 1. We'll be celebrating Anna's seven years of outstanding service to our church with a congregational lunch in Fellowship Hall after worship on Mar. 6.
- The two new ministry teams formed by separating the former Children, Youth and Family Ministries have begun work under the leadership of Sarah Tomaka for Children and Families and Lisa Jern for Youth and Families.
- Session approved a request to the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry to allow James Klotz to seek ordination in order to fulfill the role at MPC as Coordinator of Visitation. This part-time position, without remuneration, would work with the deacons, Baron and Drew in maintaining contact with our ill and homebound members. Because this work would at times involve administering the Lord's Supper, ordination is required. We hope Presbytery accepts this request so we can ordain James here at his own church.
- Daisy Ottmann was nominated and re-elected as Clerk of Session for 2016.

Daisy Ottmann  
Clerk of Session



|                            |                     |                        |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 2 Tom Daniel               | 6 Will Barnette     | 12 Domenick Treschitta | 23 Bill Smith       |
| 2 Karen Churchill-Hairston | 6 Gene Turner       | 12 Jim Clegg           | 24 Ellie Spears     |
| 3 Helen Schroder           | 7 Julie Zook        | 14 Michael Pittman     | 24 Georgia Marshall |
| 5 Gary Hurd                | 7 William Kitchens  | 15 John Turner         | 25 David Mogge      |
| 5 Alex Page                | 9 Nancy Collins     | 18 Leo Libby           | 25 Barbara Ray      |
| 6 Kerri Markovic           | 9 Leslie Grant      | 18 Todd Jones          | 27 Curt Barrett     |
|                            | 10 Andrew Brady     | 19 Jennie Stockstill   | 27 Jim Armstrong    |
|                            | 10 Martha Krenson   | 20 Becky Schreiber     | 27 William Lee      |
|                            | 11 Heather Regnault | 22 Lib Boggs           | 28 Beth Baer        |
|                            | 12 Finley Watts     | 22 John Adams          | 29 Nancy Cunningham |
|                            | 12 Gwyndolyn Brady  | 23 Elsie Adams         |                     |

## Back Words

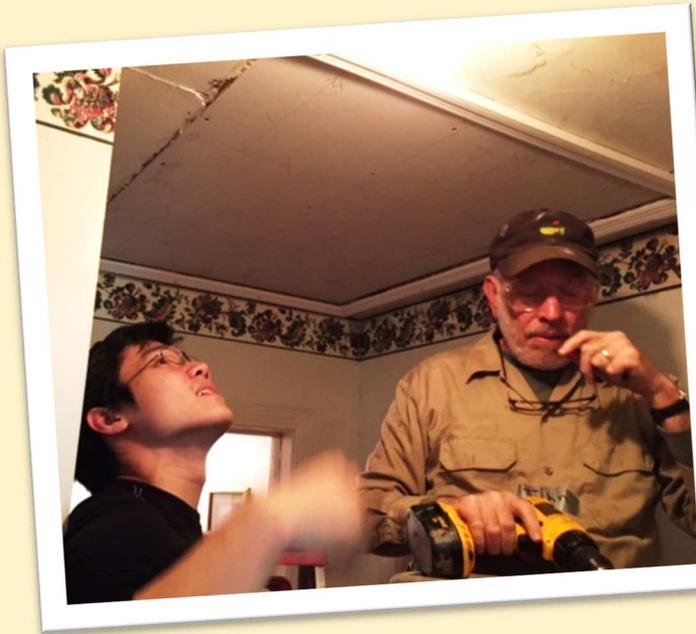
### Early Spring Brings Our Annual Habitat for Humanity Build

If I had a hammer...well, I'd be building a home for a deserving Atlanta family. We'll begin work on Morningside's seventeenth home with Habitat for Humanity Saturday, Feb. 27. Members and friends age 16 and older of all skill levels are invited to come spend a day (or more) making homeownership a reality for Angela Banks and her three children.

Building will take place every Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. through Apr. 14, with the exception of Mar. 26, Easter weekend. We'll be working with five

other area churches and one Saturday Morningside will be responsible for providing lunch for the whole crew.

To volunteer, please sign up online ([www.morningsidepres.atlantahabitat.volunteerhub.com](http://www.morningsidepres.atlantahabitat.volunteerhub.com)) or via the signup sheets on the Mission bulletin board in the church hallway. Or contact our volunteer coordinator for the build, Adrienne Mogge ([adriennemogge@gmail.com](mailto:adriennemogge@gmail.com)).



**Getting Ready for Habitat?** *Morningside's volunteers work on repairing a ceiling for a senior citizen in Decatur Saturday, Jan. 16, as part of the yearly MLK JR. Weekend home-improvement project*

### Sign Up Now for Shape-Note Singing Workshop with Potluck Lunch

You have until Feb. 4 to let Dr. Jonathan Crutchfield ([jcrutchfield@morningsidepc.org](mailto:jcrutchfield@morningsidepc.org)) know if you'd like to take part in learning about and singing from *The Sacred Harp* collection. Choral experience or expertise is required.

The free workshop, led by Dr. Jesse P. Karlsberg of Emory University, will be from 10 a.m. to noon in Fellowship Hall, followed by lunch. Each participant is encouraged to bring a side dish or dessert. Meat and drinks will be provided. Voluntary donations will help the Atlanta Sacred Harp community continue their great work.

