

“Sunday FUNday @ Morningside!” is a new, fun platform that includes Sunday School programming for children, youth, and parents; Children’s Church; and Youth Group.

Children’s Sunday School

Children’s classes will follow the liturgical calendar, so children will learn the same stories the adults hear in Worship.

- Nursery (infant to 18 months): Room 105 with Miss Courtney Smith
- 2 year olds: Room 012 with Ms. Debbi Loomis
- 3’s and Pre-K: Room 009 with Ms. Melinda Sandkam
- Kindergarten and 1st grade: Room 001 with Mrs. Sue Ballay
- 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grades: Room 003 & 005 with Mrs. Cindy Humphries

Youth Sunday School

All youth, will meet in the Youth Center. This year the class will be following the story of the Bible. Beginning in Genesis, we will travel through scripture learning about Adam and Eve, Moses, King David, the prophets, the life of Jesus, until finally landing in Revelation.

Adult Sunday School Classes

- Faith Formation for Families: Parents with children of all ages are invited to join this class, which meets in Room 201. The class will cover important topics related to raising children in a family of faith, and features guest speakers and teachers.
- Faith Formation: Adults from all walks of life will make up this class, which meets in the Session Room. The year is full of rotating, topical classes, starting off with a study of the Psalms, discussing social issues, spiritual practices, and welcoming guest speakers. Anyone and everyone is welcome to join the class at any point throughout the year.

Children’s Church

Children are always welcome in worship; in fact, we encourage them to attend! We continue to offer nursery and childcare options for children under age 3 throughout the Worship hour. Children, ages 3 through 4th grade have the option of leaving worship, as marked in each Sunday’s bulletin.

- 3’s and Pre-K can go downstairs for a bible story, songs and a snack, where parents can pick them up after worship.
- Kindergarteners through 4th graders can go with Ms. Mardee to the Youth Room for a scripture reading and children’s sermon. They will return to worship after the Sermon.



Month at a Glance

September 2018

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From a Morningside Messenger

All God’s Children,

I found an article on the web that incorporates research that answers why we are vigorously pushing **Rally Day on September 9th:**

Sunday Schools may seem out of date to some churches but according to Barna Group Research, “In a culture saturated with change, one of the most stable aspects in religions is Sunday School – the educational efforts that churches offer to people outside of worship services.” Why? More than ever before, people need a counterweight to the massive cultural shifts that modern societies are now experiencing.

Specifically, Sunday School is needed for these five reasons:

Sunday School helps all of us respect, appreciate and utilize the Bible. Reverence for God’s written words doesn’t come naturally. A healthy Sunday classroom environment, centered around the Bible, will elevate its importance.

Sunday School teaches us how to navigate the Bible.

Sunday School doesn’t just teach Bible stories, it shows us how to utilize study aids and gives a basic understanding of the Bible’s books and overall format.

Sunday School gives us a chance to ask questions. Church isn’t designed for a detailed Q & A session but classes can be.

Sunday School is the perfect format for in-depth discussion, even debate. This format gives us more good food for thought.

Sunday School develops a community of believers.

In a classroom setting, students are more likely to help one another and push each other along in their growth. A community of learning the Bible and discovering God together creates a bond that single study can’t accomplish.

Sunday School plants spiritual seeds.

Even when we move away from a loving community of believers, we don’t forget the songs, the lessons and the love. Sunday Schools are like plant nurseries: they may look unimpressive at first, but under the soil, miracles are happening.

Make sure to read the feature box on the back page for more details on our Sunday School rollout for this year.

Blessings,

Mardee

Morningside Happenings

Last Chance - Early Bird Discount ends Saturday 9/1! Registration forms for MPC’s Annual Fall Retreat at Montreat are available online and in hardcopy form in the church office and attached to the retreat posters in the Narthex and Welcome Center. This year’s retreat begins Friday, Oct. 19th and goes through Sunday, Oct. 21st.

Theology on Tap - Tuesday, September 4 at 7 p.m. Morningside’s Men’s Group, Theology on Tap will meet at the home of Pam and Ken Sharpe (1700 Timberland Road, 30345). We will discuss reorganization of TOT in the absence of a senior pastor and also what programs will be conducted this year. Please attend (free food and drink!) and RSVP to the [church office](#).

SAVE THE DATE!!!

MORNINGSIDE SUNDAY FUNDAY PEP RALLY

All children, youth and adults are invited to join our **Sunday FUNday Pep Rally** on Sunday, September 9th at 9:45a.m. in the Fellowship Hall! Your participation will help everyone get excited about **Sunday FUNday @ Morningside Presbyterian!** Come ready to have fun!



Sign-Me-Up Fair @ Fellowship - September 9th

During Fellowship hour, our outreach partners will be featured with MPC shepherds handy to tell you all about how to get involved. Thanks to our newest shepherds: Ann Watson - Clifton Sanctuary, Bill Means - Dobbs Elementary, and Peter Cobb - Memorial Drive Ministries.

LGBT & Friends Fall Mixer - Tuesday, September 11th

Plan to join us on Tuesday, September 11th from 7 - 9 p.m. at the home of Rob Payne and Steve Smith (1100 Balmoral Drive, 30319) for refreshments and dinner, where we will socialize and discuss our upcoming season. *All are welcome* who wish to grow and be energized through Christian fellowship. RSVP to [Michael Siedschlag](#).

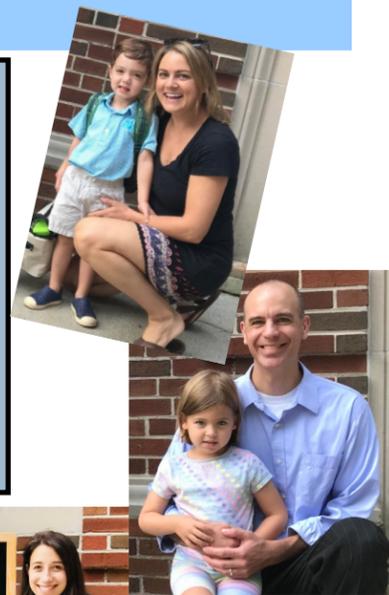
Dobbs Elementary Tutoring

Our tutoring partnership begins on Wednesday, September 12th at 10:15 a.m. and continues every 2nd Wednesday of the month throughout the school year. If you have a heart for children and books - it’s not too late - volunteer by contacting [Bill Means](#) or [Leslie Prince](#).

Couples Group Gathering - Friday, September 14th

All couples are invited to meet at the home of Nancy and Mac Frampton (5125 Vinings Estate S.E., Mableton, 30126) at 7 p.m. Contact [Kathy Bremer](#) to RSVP and sign up to bring an appetizer, side dish, or dessert.

SEPTEMBER Birthdays	6 Sandy Mashburn	15 Sophia Regnault	24 Jan McMahan
1 Karen Cox	9 Chad Johnson	15 Mathew Frease	24 Julia Jarratt
3 Holly Campbell	9 Will Hunter	15 Jackie Wardlaw	25 Vickie Hunter
4 Tyler Ryan	10 Baron Mullis	15 Al Adams	25 Bobbie McCrackin
4 David Johnston	10 Brooke Lampe	18 Evvie Bresnahan	25 Peter Chatel
4 George Talley	10 Trenton Tunnell III	19 Jason Williams	26 Lele Ruby
4 Dixon Taylor	10 Wren Lewis	20 Shirley Adair	26 Greg Morton
5 Gloria Joiner	12 Molly Durden	20 Ken Sapp	28 Ellis O’Brien
6 Lara Longworth Gaere	12 Bryan Davis	20 Ryan Gorman	28 Richard Alexander
6 David Cox	13 Lisa Jern	24 Braxton Jarratt	29 Caitlin Fox
	14 KJ Nuckols	24 Hugh Bell	29 James Scribner



(above): Dobbs Ice Cream Social Volunteer Selfie!

Back to School! 2018-2019



(Clockwise from top): MPP Students
Grady Ulep & Mom;
Claire Strong & Dad;
Ellis Williams & Mom;
Finley Watts, Mom & Dad.

REMEMBER – every Sunday we have two opportunities for Fellowship, both in the Welcome Center. At 9:15 a.m., meet for **Coffee & Conversation**. After the 11 a.m. worship service, join members and guests for **Fellowship** including light refreshments and the chance to get to know one another better.

SEPTEMBER 2018

Operatic Soprano, Angela Brown in Concert

World-renowned soprano, [Angela Brown](#) will present a concert of opera favorites, spirituals, and little-known solo works at MPC on Sunday, September 16th at 3 p.m. Angela personifies the ideal soprano: sheer vocal power; luxurious finesse, and shimmering high pianissimos. She reprises her role of “Addie Parker” in October for the Atlanta Opera’s production of *Charlie Parker’s Yardbird*. Thanks to a generous donor, the concert is free and open to the public. Invite your friends! You don’t want to miss this glorious voice!

One Gray Hair meets Wednesday, September 19th

Come join us for lunch and catch up after the summer. Members of the Transition Team will be present to take your questions about the search process for our next Senior Pastor. RSVP to [Sarah and Richard Brownlee](#). Looking forward to seeing you!

Gardening at Atlanta Community Food Bank

MPC Families are invited to join the Children’s Ministry for a morning in the garden on Saturday, September 22nd from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Atlanta Community Food Bank. The Food Bank’s Community Gardens project offers assistance to more than 100 new and existing gardens across metro Atlanta. Volunteers and neighbors come together to grow and harvest fresh, healthy food to nourish communities and neighborhoods. Sign up [here](#).

Women’s Roundtable, September 24th at 6:30 p.m.

We’re excited to kick off our new season of Roundtable by welcoming Nicole File as our speaker. Nicole is a Senior Editor at CNN and will talk about Softer Streets Inc., the non-profit created in conjunction with CNN’s Amy La Porte. Their goal is to provide durable, insulated, easily portable, water-resistant and easily cleaned sleeping mats to every person who regularly sleeps on the streets. All women are invited to join us for dinner and fellowship. This month’s host is Hillery McNeill (20 Stratford Place, 30342). RSVP to [Sarah Brownlee](#).

Flu Shot Clinic on Tuesday, September 25th

The Preschool has arranged a flu shot clinic on Tuesday, September 25th from 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. This opportunity is open to all in the community - teachers, parents, and church members. Since this is the first time that we are offering it, please RSVP to the [Preschool](#) so that we have enough shots. The Clinic will be able to take insurance or you can pay for a shot (\$41). Please keep in mind that Preschool arrival time takes place from 8:50 - 9:10 a.m., which will be a busy time for the Clinic.

Don’t Miss the Morningside Mingle - Saturday, 9/29

It’s time again for the Deacons of Morningside to host their Annual Mingle, a party for all MPC adults at the home of Tish and Charles Woolley (1796 Noble Dr., N.E.). This is your chance to meet a new member or finally have a conversation with that member you see every Sunday, but haven’t had the chance to get to know! We’ll have name tags to avoid the awkward moments, along with tacos and queso, chips and drinks, and, of course, a delicious dessert or two. Email the [Board of Deacons](#) with questions.

The Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, September 30th

This special service recognizes our animals that make an important contribution to the beauty in our lives. All members with pets are welcome to bring them on Sunday, September 30th at 5 p.m. so we may bless them and give thanks to God for their lives. We ask that your pet is properly restrained either by carrier or leash, and if your pet is not “pet friendly,” bring a picture of him or her.

Session Notes

- Church service Minute Messages are being planned across many topics in the coming months, many infused with our focus of **Journeying Together**.
- Youth and Families Ministries reported that Youth Group will resume regular meetings on 9/9/18 and Sunday School curriculum has been developed with a focus on journeying through the Bible. Emma has a way of making everything cool!
- Your Facilities team is always hard at work, keeping our lovely building and grounds in tip top shape. The fire alarm install is complete and staff, Elder and Deacon leadership training has been conducted.
- Human Resources Committee is happy to announce that temporary personnel, Schnita Dixon, is being trained to step in as our Office Administrator, Megan Mashburn, prepares for motherhood again. When you see a new face behind the desk, introduce yourself to Schnita.
- Adult Christian Education has solidified its Fall curriculum, including a parenting segment that is sure to intrigue many, so watch for news of it!
- The next time you see Robin Hackney, extend a word of thanks as she passes the Usher Coordinator torch to Stephen and Allie Roach, who have so graciously accepted the invitation from the Worship and Arts Ministries team!
- Be sure to sign up for the Annual MPC Retreat at Montreat for a Fall respite and intriguing program led by our very own James Klotz.

Treasurer’s Report

In all years in recent memory, MPC has been fortunate to meet its budgeted obligations and mission giving. Unfortunately, the timing of giving is heavily skewed to late in the year. This means that it is necessary to maintain sufficient reserves to operate during late summer and early fall. This year pressure on reserves at this time has been greater than usual. *As of July 31st our budgeted offerings and payments on pledges were expected to be approximately \$475,000. Actual receipts as of that date were \$372,000. All of our ministries are extremely focused on stewardship. Expenses to-date are less than budgeted, but not enough to offset the shortfall on receipts.* If possible, please consider keeping your pledges and gifts current. If you plan year-end giving, gifts of securities or donations from your IRA, please let church treasurer Bill Humphries know so he can plan for these. Please let him know, also, if you need to amend your pledge. Feel free to direct any questions regarding church finances to [Bill Humphries](#) or [Allen Burke](#), Elder and Chair of our Finance Committee.

Looking Ahead...

- ◇ **October 7 - World Communion Sunday**
- ◇ **October 14 - “Morningside Sings Mozart” Concert**
- ◇ **October 19-21 - MPC Retreat in Montreat**
- ◇ **November 4 - All Saints’ Service; Mozart’s Requiem**
- ◇ **November 11 - “This I Believe” Sunday**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 9:15 a.m., Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m., Adult Faith Formation NO Sunday School 11 a.m., Worship - Hymn Sing 12 p.m., Fellowship	3 Church Office Closed Labor Day	4 2:15 p.m., Parkinson’s Tai Chi 7 p.m., Theology on Tap (Offsite)	5 6 p.m., Children’s Choir 7:30 p.m., Chancel Choir	6	7	8 10 a.m., Chancel Choir Retreat (Offsite)
9 9:15 a.m., Coffee & Conversation * 9:30 a.m., Adult Faith Formation 9:45 a.m., Sunday School PEP RALLY 11 a.m., Worship 12 p.m., Fellowship - Sign-Me-Up Fair 6 p.m., Youth Group	10 7 p.m., Children’s Ministry	11 11 a.m., Yoga 2:15 p.m., Parkinson’s Tai Chi 4:30 p.m. Tai Chi 7 p.m. LGBT & Friends (Offsite)	12 6 p.m., Children’s Choir 7:30 p.m., Chancel Choir	13 11 a.m., Yogasculpt	14 7 p.m., Couples Group (Offsite)	15
16 9:15 a.m., Coffee & Conversation * 9:45 a.m., Sunday School for All Ages 11 a.m., Worship 12 p.m., Fellowship 12:30 p.m., Deacons/RHO Readers 3 p.m., Angela Brown in Concert 6 p.m., Youth Group	17 12 p.m., Arts & Crafts Guild 7 p.m., Session	18 11 a.m., Yoga 2:15 p.m., Parkinson’s Tai Chi 4:30 p.m. Tai Chi	19 7 a.m., Men’s Breakfast (Offsite) 12 p.m. One Gray Hair 6 p.m., Children’s Choir 7:30 p.m., Chancel Choir	20 11 a.m., Yogasculpt	21	22 1 p.m., Children’s Mission - Food Bank Planting 5:30 p.m., Clifton Sanctuary (Offsite)
23 9:15 a.m., Coffee & Conversation * 9:45 a.m., Sunday School for All Ages 11 a.m., Worship 12 p.m., Fellowship 6 p.m., Youth Group	24 12 p.m., Arts & Crafts Guild	25 8:30 a.m., Flu Shot Clinic 11 a.m., Yoga 2:15 p.m., Parkinson’s Tai Chi 4:30 p.m. Tai Chi	26 6 p.m., Children’s Choir 7:30 p.m., Chancel Choir	27 11 a.m., Yogasculpt	28	29 6:30 p.m., Morningside Mingle (Offsite)
30 9:15 a.m., Coffee & Conversation * 9:45 a.m., Sunday School for All Ages 11 a.m., Worship - Children’s Choir Sings 12 p.m., Fellowship 5 p.m., Blessing of the Animals 6 p.m., Youth Group						* The Adult Faith Formation Class will meet at 9:30 a.m. from September 9th, through the end of the month.