



Morningside Messenger

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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March 2014

Worship at Morningside

March 2, 2014

Youth Sunday/Transfiguration of the Lord

Sermon delivered by members of the

2013 Confirmation Group

“Talking Transfiguration”

Youth Ensemble singing

March 5, 2014, 7 p.m.

Ash Wednesday

Baron Mullis preaching

“Reconciliation”

Texts: 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10; Psalm 51: 1-17

March 9, 2014

First Sunday of Lent

Baron Mullis preaching

“Where the Wild Things Are”

Texts: Genesis 9:8-17; Mark 1:9-13

The sacrament of communion will be celebrated.

March 16, 2014

Second Sunday of Lent

Baron Mullis preaching

“Justified”

Texts: Romans 4:1-5; 13-17; John 3:1-17

March 23, 2014

Third Sunday of Lent

Baron Mullis preaching

“Water in the Wilderness”

Texts: Exodus 17:1-7; Romans 5:1-11

Cherub Choir singing

March 30, 2014

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Drew Stockstill preaching

“Some Muddy Waters”

Texts: Psalm 23; John 9:1-41



Dear friends,

Ahhhhh... so it's Lent again.
Or it will be soon.

Can't we just linger with
Christmas a little bit longer?

Do we really have to break out the purple, quit singing "Alleluias" for six weeks, and in our more pious observations give up something for six weeks?

The answers are no, yes and no.

No, we don't have to break out the purple for the pulpit hangings, liturgical stoles and the communion table decoration. (By the way, it's a communion table, not an altar. Drew, Dana and I are not engaged in sacrifices up there.) Observing the liturgical colors is an optional thing for Presbyterians. Indeed, if you are a Presbyterian of a certain age, you may well remember when clergy did not wear stoles at all. (Those are the colorful bands of cloth that hang around our necks down the front of our robes.)

Churches that observe the liturgical colors do so as a teaching mechanism – by seeing purple, we are reminded that it is either Advent or Lent. When we see white, it's the color of celebration, so we know we are celebrating Baptism, Communion or Easter. When we see red, it is to evoke the Holy Spirit, so we know it is for Pentecost, Reformation Sunday and ordinations. And all the rest of the time are the Sundays that can be counted in order (versus the feast days of the church) and so the green is for ordinary time. (It's not ordinary as in run-of-the-mill, it's as in able to be counted using ordinal numbers.)

So when you see purple, we're preparing for something. We're preparing for Easter and so Lent is a time of introspection and self-examination as we consider our own sin before Easter.

Which leads me to the *alleluias*. We're not going to be singing them during Lent because we don't shout with jubilation about our own sin. We're to look at our lives during Lent. It's a time of introspection. Consider your life. Consider God's grace. Consider what needs changing.

Which, in turn, leads me to giving things up. Classically, that's called a fast. It is supposed to focus the mind of the

one engaging in the fast so that we notice a difference. That is why Catholics historically ate fish on Fridays – because that was the day of the week that observant Christians refrained from eating meat in order to focus their minds. It's a spiritual discipline designed to make you think of Jesus.

If giving something up helps you think of Jesus, great, do it.

If not, it's probably not all that relevant.

Whatever you choose to do during Lent this year, always remember that Easter is coming.

Easter is coming and with it God's great good news of salvation.

It is good to think of our sin and to repent.

But we always do so in light of God's grace.

Thanks for reading,

Baron

Elder on Call

March 2-8	Laura Fillyaw
March 9-15	Van Jensen
March 16-22	Bobbie McCrackin
March 23-29	Rob Payne
March 30-April 5	Michael Perez

Deacon on Call

March 2-8	Katherine Johnston
March 9-15	Curt Barrett
March 16-22	Nathan Zook
March 23-29	Ken Sharpe
March 30-April 5	Ann Bowers



MPC Searchers Find New Organist/Choirmaster in Mason Copeland

Mason C. Copeland has accepted the position of organist/choirmaster at Morningside. He will receive a Master's Degree with a dual major in Organ Performance and Choral Conducting from Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music in May and joins our church staff June 1.

Mason's studies have been shaped in part by Walter Huff, our long-time previous organist/choirmaster who left last year to become a full-time faculty member at Jacobs. Mason performed as guest organist at Walter's final worship service here in August.

The nationwide search—conducted by a committee made up of church officers, members and choir members—has been described as exhaustive, exhausting, diligent and time-consuming, lasting about six months. In January, the two final candidates auditioned for members of the choir and



church officers by preparing and taking part in full worship services led by our pastors. Those who attended these 'auditions' agreed the committee could not make a wrong choice—both finalists were outstanding musicians.

A brief introduction to Mason is available at the church and on-line at our website. In addition to starting a new career at MPC, Mason will start a new life July 26 as the husband of Elisabeth Smith after their Denver wedding ceremony. A native of Alton, IL, Mason received his high school diploma from the Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan and briefly attended East Carolina University before completing his undergraduate and graduate work at Indiana. For the past four years, he also has been the organist/choirmaster at the Anglo-Catholic parish of All Saints Episcopal Church, Indianapolis.

MPC Prepares Salute to Music of Jerome Kern

Music lovers in our community will want to block out the evening of May 3 on their calendars now. Singers and musicians from the Chancel Choir, Handbell Choir and congregation will present a benefit evening of music on that Saturday in the Morningside Sanctuary.

The benefit will celebrate the music of Jerome Kern, American song-master of musical theater and popular music. Kern wrote more than 700 songs and is renowned for composing the music to "Show Boat" and a multitude of standards including "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes", "A Fine Romance" and "All The Things You Are". Kern was honored with Best-Song Academy Awards for "The Last Time I Saw Paris" and "The Way You Look Tonight".

Morningside Sings Jerome Kern is being directed by Jeff Peters, with Derek Matthews providing musical accompaniment along with other guest musicians.

Morningside Milestones

- And then there were six! Emma Louise joined big brothers Jason, Benjamin and Austin in the Johnson-Rogers family in January. Her adoption is not final, but she is with Brian and Bryan for that foster period just as the boys were.
- Our preschool is just about full, with waiting lists for every age group except for some toddler vacancies still available.
- Congratulations to our soprano soloist Megan Mashburn for singing her way to the Georgia championship for the Metropolitan Opera's developmental program. Those who heard her performance at the regional auditions Feb. 16 praised her highly but Megan is not one of the three chosen to move on to New York.
- Visit www.morningsdiepc.org for details and camp registration forms for all our MPC summer camps: Vacation Bible School "All Aboard the Ark," "It's Not All About Me" Mission Camp, and Youth Track Mission Camp.
- MPC's Princeton seminary student, James Klotz, had the bittersweet duty of conducting the funeral service for his aunt, Holly Klotz, who died Feb. 2. Our sympathies go out to all the Klotz family.

Habitat Hammers in Full Swing; Other Opportunities Abound

As the season of Lent begins, consider taking something on, instead of giving something up!

There are many on-going opportunities to serve. To draw upon just a few that are listed on the back of our Morningside Service t-shirts:

Building—come out one Saturday through Apr. 5 to help build our fifteenth Habitat for Humanity home with the family plus members of five other churches. Sign up on the Mission bulletin board—strong needs exist for Mar. 1, 8, 29 and April 5. Contact shepherd Lynsley Tyler with any questions (lynsley@bellsouth.net).

Cooking—Help prepare and serve a meal at Clifton Sanctuary Ministries on Mar. 22. Contact shepherd David Johnston (dmjohnst@gmail.com). The MPC Handbell Choir feeds the men at Journey this month.

Delivering—MPC supports a Meals on Wheels route every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The lunchtime deliveries take about an hour. Contact shepherd Sarah Brownlee (rsbrownlee1046@att.net) if you would like to know more. Or use part of a Sunday afternoon to deliver a bouquet or two made up from fresh flowers in our Chancel to an MPC person who needs a cheerful touch. Check with Flower Guild chair Georgia Marshall (gkmarshall@gmail.com) about the need.

Diaper Drive—All you have to do is buy some! Mar. 10-28 we'll participate in the annual collection of diapers,

wipes, and gently used clothing (spring and summer clothes) for preschool children served by Our House. Bring your items to baskets in the Welcome Center and at the preschool entrance or contact shepherd Becky Schreiber (becky.schreiber@gmail.com) with any questions.

Donating—During the season of Lent, the children of the church and preschool are adding their coins to the banks they took home at Shrove Tuesday to sustain the programs at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta that support families during times of illness or injury.

Praying—especially for the 11 traveling and working Mar. 12-16 to work with RHINO (Rebuilding Hope in New Orleans): Roland Behm, Bonnie Daneker, Shawn Holoway, Jack Klotz, Suzanne and Will Lee, Anthony Owens, Lloyd Prince, Laura Robinson, Jackie Wardlaw, and John Watson.

Repairing—our assignment for the HOMES workday to assist a Fulton County senior has been rescheduled for Apr. 26, due to effects of wintry weather on Feb. 15. Contact shepherd Jack Klotz (jacksklotz@gmail.com) with any questions or to add your name to the list. We'll be gardening!



Help Environment, Preschool While Spring-Cleaning That Garage, Attic

Saturday, Mar. 15, from 8 a.m. - noon MPP will partner right here in the church parking lot with Atlanta Paint Disposal to collect and recycle or dispose of household items in an environmentally friendly manner. Our preschool will earn 15 percent of fees from items turned in to help fund preschool environmental projects.

Here is a list of accepted items: latex paints with fees ranging from \$15 per five-gallon bucket down to \$1 for a one-pint can; oil-based paint fees range from \$20-\$1, with spray cans \$1.50; auto batteries and propane tanks, \$10; tiki oil, \$5 per gallon; passenger vehicle tires (mounted/unmounted but with no water in them), \$20 each.

Monitors and TVs less than 25 inches are \$20 apiece, but big screen TVs dispose for \$125. Paper shredding is \$5

per banker's box and computer hard-drives will be shredded for \$20.

There's no charge for turning in the following for recycling: clothing, shoes, computers, cell phones, crayons, laptops, cameras, printers, tape players, VCRs, DVDs, electronics (except TVs/monitors), and microwave ovens.



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



March 2014

						1
						8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Habitat Build 9 a.m. AA Meeting
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Church School 11 a.m. Worship/Youth Sunday/Youth Ensemble Sings 12 noon Fellowship 2 p.m. Emory Graduate Student Lunch 7 - 9 p.m. Scout Troop Court of Honor	9 a.m. MPP 1 p.m. Ballet/Tap 7 p.m. Mandolin Society	9 a.m. MPP 11 a.m. Yoga 1 p.m. Mini Monets Art Class; Playball 2:15 p.m. Parkinson Tai Chi 4:30 p.m. Tai Chi 5:30 - 6:45 p.m. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers 7:30 p.m. MLPA Zoning; Troop 455	8:15 a.m. MPP Yoga 9 a.m. MPP 1 p.m. MusiCanopy 7 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	9 a.m. MPP 11 a.m. Zen Conditioning 1 p.m. Playball 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir; MLPA Public Safety	8:15 a.m. Creative Movement 9 a.m. MPP 1 p.m. KidzTennis	8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Habitat Build 9 a.m. AA Meeting
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Church School 11 a.m. Worship with Communion and Commissioning of RHINO Trip Participants 12 noon Fellowship 12:15 p.m. Deacons 5 p.m. Youth Group 6 p.m. Journey	9 a.m. MPP 1 p.m. Ballet/Tap 7 p.m. Mandolin Society 7:30 p.m. MLPA	9 a.m. MPP 11 a.m. Yoga 1 p.m. Mini Monets Art Class; Playball 2:15 p.m. Parkinson Tai Chi 4:30 p.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers 7 p.m. Theology on Tap 7:30 p.m. Troop 455	<i>RHINO Trip</i> 8:15 a.m. MPP Yoga 9 a.m. MPP 12 noon One Gray Hair Luncheon 1 p.m. MusiCanopy 6 p.m. Cherub Choir 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	<i>RHINO Trip</i> 9 a.m. MPP 11 a.m. Yoga/Zen 1 p.m. Playball 6 p.m. Six Star Meeting 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7 p.m. Preschool Committee 7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir	<i>RHINO Trip</i> 8:15 a.m. Creative Movement 9 a.m. MPP 1 p.m. KidzTennis 7 p.m. Couples Group	<i>RHINO Trip</i> 8 a.m.-12 noon MPP Recycling Event 9 a.m. AA Meeting
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
<i>RHINO Trip</i> 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Church School 11 a.m. Worship 12 noon Fellowship 12:30 - 3 p.m. Youth Group 12:30 p.m. RHO Readers	9 a.m. MPP 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. MPP Teacher Workshop 1 p.m. Ballet/Tap 7 p.m. Session; Mandolin Society	9 a.m. MPP 11 a.m. Yoga 1 p.m. Mini Monets Art Class; Playball 2:15 p.m. Parkinson Tai Chi 4:30 p.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers 7 p.m. LGBT & Friends 7:30 p.m. Troop 455	8:15 a.m. MPP Yoga 9 a.m. MPP 1 p.m. MusiCanopy 6 p.m. Cherub Choir 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	9 a.m. MPP 11 a.m. Yoga/Zen 12 noon 3rd Thursday Theology 1 p.m. Playball 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir	8:15 a.m. Creative Movement 9 a.m. MPP 1 p.m. KidzTennis	8 a.m.- 4p.m. Habitat Build 9 a.m. AA Meeting 5:30 p.m. Clifton Sanctuary
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Church School 11 a.m. Worship/Cherub Choir Sings 12 noon Fellowship 5 p.m. Youth Group	9 a.m. MPP 1 p.m. Ballet/Tap 6:30 p.m. Women's Roundtable 7 p.m. Mandolin Society; Parliamentarians	9 a.m. MPP 11 a.m. Yoga 1 p.m. Mini Monets Art Class; Playball 2:15 p.m. Parkinson Tai Chi 4:30 p.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers 7:30 p.m. Troop 455	8:15 a.m. MPP Yoga 9 a.m. MPP 1 p.m. MusiCanopy 6 p.m. Cherub Choir 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	9 a.m. MPP 11 a.m. Yoga/Zen 1 p.m. Playball 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir	8:15 a.m. Creative Movement 9 a.m. MPP 1 p.m. KidzTennis	8 a.m.- 4p.m. Habitat Build 9 a.m. AA Meeting

30

9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation
11 a.m. Worship
5 p.m. Youth Group

9:45 a.m. Church School
12 noon Fellowship

31

9 a.m. MPP
7 p.m. Mandolin Society

1 p.m. Ballet/Tap

Perennial Question: Why Does Lent Begin with Pancakes?

Shrove Tuesday reflects the ritual of shriving, when the faithful confessed their sins to the local priest and received forgiveness before the Lenten season began. As far back as 1000 CE, "to shrive" meant to hear confessions. Historically, Shrove Tuesday also marked the beginning of the 40-day Lenten fasting period when the faithful were forbidden by the church to consume meat, butter, eggs or milk. However, if a family had a store of these foods they all would go bad by the time the fast ended on Easter Sunday. What to do?

Solution: use up the milk, butter and eggs no later than Shrove Tuesday. And so, with the addition of a little flour, the solution quickly presented itself in...pancakes...and lots of them! Today, the Shrove Tuesday pancake tradition lives on throughout Western Europe, the US, Canada and Australia, but is most associated with the UK where it is simply known as Pancake Day, within some communities, races during which pancakes are flipped while running. In France (as well as here, most famously in New Orleans), it's known as Fat Tuesday which kicks off the Mardi Gras festival with wild celebrations just before the austere Lenten season.

At Morningside, we add pajamas (on the kids only!) and



children's entertainment to our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Everyone's welcome to join in the fun on Tuesday, Mar. 4, 5:30-6:45 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Pancakes with all the trimmings will be served and Bill Packard, The Magic Man, will delight kids and adults with his tricks and antics. Kids are invited to wear their favorite pajamas and all are encouraged to bring NEW pajamas, socks and underwear for THREADS, a children's ministry of All-Saints Episcopal Church. Kids will also have an opportunity to take home a coin bank to fill throughout the season of Lent. All those coins will support MPP's Coins for Clown's fundraiser, benefitting Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

Buy items to donate, pull out your favorite PJs and plan to come out for a fun and easy dinner with our preschool community. RSVPs are requested for this event. Volunteers are needed for this event in shifts, 1st Shift: Prep 4-5:30 p.m., 2nd Shift: Serving/Greeting 5:15-6:45 p.m., 3rd Shift: Clean-up 6:30-8 p.m. Please join us for a shift, or for the whole event. To RSVP and to volunteer, please contact Brooke Williams at brookeowilliams@gmail.com or see the sign-up posters at the church.

Work Off Those Pancakes by Walking Against Hunger

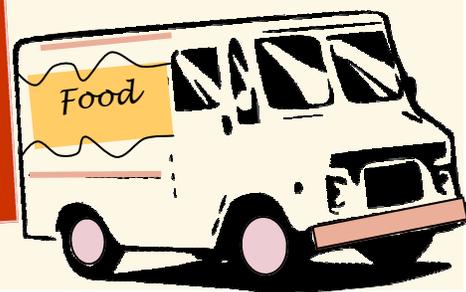
Join the Morningside family for the thirtieth Hunger Walk/Run after church Sunday, Mar. 9. This event, facilitated by the MPC Young Adults, partners us with the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta. The Hunger Walk/Run benefits six local hunger relief organizations that operate and support hundreds of food pantries, shelters, community kitchens, senior centers and child care centers across metro Atlanta and north Georgia.

To join our team just go to <http://www.acfb.org/food-fund-drives> and click "Join a Team." Then search for Morningside Presbyterian and sign on to join in the fun. For more information contact Katye Watts (katyemae@gmail.com).

Speaking of hunger, our annual Souper Bowl collection to benefit the pantry at Intown Community Ministries (ICM) reaped a generous total of \$865.62 thanks to the good work of our youth and congregation.

Still Hungry? Watch for Food Trucks!

Watch for more information about our simple suppers in the parking lot featuring some of Atlanta's best food trucks. Will the first one be Thursday, Mar. 27? Could be—wait and see!



Youth Will ‘Transfigure’ Worship March 2

“Worship the Lord with gladness!”—as written in Psalm 100—on Youth Sunday, Mar. 2. For the first time in a decade, Morningside Youth will lead the worship service, including a “dialogue” sermon on the Transfiguration of Christ (Matt. 17: 1-9) by members of last spring’s Confirmation Class.

Ash Wednesday Service Marks Formal Beginning of Lent

Morningside Presbyterian, along with other mainstream Protestant churches, is reclaiming many time-honored Christian traditions, including observance of Advent and Lent. A powerful and increasingly well-attended Ash Wednesday service with the reminder of our human sinfulness marked with the sign of the cross in ashes on our foreheads has become an annual Morningside practice.

Join us in the Sanctuary at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Mar. 5, for this brief and meaningful worship experience. Child care will be provided.

Adults Prepare to Learn More About Calvin While Kids Explore Holy Week

Our adults will consider one of the commanding figures of our faith tradition in a new series, “John Calvin: The Man, The Pastor and The Church He Influenced” beginning Sunday, Mar. 2.

Through Apr. 13, Peter Cobb, Peter Tuuk, Aaron Pratt, Baron Mullis and George Stroup will lead a class exploring the Sixteenth Century Reformer and his ministry that transformed the church. The class will use Dr. Stroup’s

Our young members have learned about Reformed worship, written liturgy, selected hymns, and discussed scripture in preparation for their leadership. The Youth Choir will sing selections as well. Don’t miss being in the pews for this exciting milestone for MPC Youth.

Looking ahead, we will serve our Mediterranean-inspired Maundy Thursday Supper with communion on Apr. 17, join with other Presbyterian churches the following evening for a Good Friday observance and offer two full Easter services on Sunday, Apr. 20.



book, *Calvin*, as a guide. Any and all are welcomed to join the class at 9:45 a.m. in Room 201.

Children will explore Lent and Holy Week during the 9:45 hour in March. We will continue to first meet at 9:45 a.m. in Room 012 for some multi-age interaction, then the elementary age students will continue their class in Room 001 until 10:45 each week.

Get Your Theology on Tuesday or Thursday—Or Both

As the first Tuesday in March is Shrove Tuesday (see Page 6!), Theology on Tap will move to the second Tuesday, Mar. 11, at 7 p.m. All the men in our community are invited to join our host John Blevins (33 Beverly Road NE, 30309) for dinner followed by discussion. RSVP to the church office.

Looking down the road, our next Theology on Tap will be just three weeks later on April 8. Richard Brownlee will

host and the venue will be at Pam and Ken Sharpe’s home. Watch for more online and in Life@.

Meanwhile, gather in Baron’s office on Thursday, Mar. 20, at noon for the next installment of Third Thursday Theology, as we follow John Buechner through his definitions of terms of faith A – Z. No advance readings are required and the discussions are thought-provoking and sometimes hilarious.

Prayer Concerns

Members of our community have asked for individual prayer. To be on the prayer list—public or private—use prayer cards found in the pew racks or speak with Baron. *Morningside Messenger* will carry the list from the most recent weekly *Life@* insert: The family and friends of Grier Christenbury, Jean Clark, Jackie Cleveland, Karen Cox, Travis Drake, Tarance Eatman, Ann Herndon, Finley Holaway, Jane Huff, Kaitlin Andry, Ron and Ann Reggio, Peggy Johnson Smith, Warren Johnson, Sr., Sharon Foote, Gayle Jones, The family of Holly Klotz, Vicky Langford, Jan McMahan, Philip Marshall, Anne and Nate Reid, John Vytal, and Katrina Weis.

March Spells Spring, Daffodils - Come See Them with Us!

Atlanta's had real winter and false spring so far this year, but the vernal equinox happens in March in 2014 just as it always does. You're invited to join a group of ready-for-spring Morningsiders on a trip to Gibbs Garden in north Georgia to see the - literally - millions of daffodils in bloom.



We will call ahead to see how the blooms are coming along in mid-March before picking a date for our adventure. Contact Melinda Sandkam (msandkam@morningsidepc.org) or Sarah Brownlee (rsbrownlee1046@att.net) if you are interested in going and we will keep you updated.

MPC's 'Pedestrian Pilgrim' Will Describe Adventures in Italy

Having walked 60 miles of the Camino de Santiago in Spain, Daisy Ottmann signed up for a more challenging walk last October—170 miles from Siena to Rome. And she has a *testimonial* from the Vatican to prove she made it.

You can bet Italian cuisine will be on the menu for the One Gray Hair luncheon at noon in Fellowship Hall, Wednesday, Mar. 12, to get you in the mood to hear about Daisy's month in Italy. RSVP to Sarah Brownlee. Everyone with at least one gray hair is invited.

Author Will Join March Book Discussion

Our coed eclectic book group is reading John Bobo's new novel, *Three Degrees of Justice*, described a "Southern gothic mystery," Sunday, Mar. 16, at 12:30 p.m. in the Session Room.

The author, a former Tennessee district attorney and personal friend of RHO Readers participant Jeff Peters will join the discussion via Skype. Everyone is welcome to join

any of our conversations—even those who haven't read the book!

The April RHO Readers meeting date falls on Easter Sunday, so the meeting will be moved up to Apr. 13. The chosen book is *Longbourn* by British novelist Jo Baker. It tells the story of *Pride and Prejudice* from the point of view of the servants' hall.

LGBT & Friends Will Gather Financial Planning Tips

You don't have to be part of a same-gender couple - just a friend - to attend the dinner-and-discussion meetings of our LGBT & Friends group. On Tuesday, Mar. 18, the meeting in Fellowship Hall will feature guest speaker Kathleen Womack.

Kathleen's talk will cover Financial and Legal Planning for same-gender couples. To come learn more, RSVP to lgbttandfriends@morningsidepc.org.

March Birthdays

1 Cade Lawson
2 Melinda Sandkam
3 Alex Watts
3 Allen Howell
3 Linda Jenkins
4 Bart Smith
4 Phyllis Grimes
5 Ann Watson
6 Sarah Brownlee
6 Betty Ray

7 Bryce Gay
8 Joan Starks
10 Sawyer Barnette
10 Brian Bartis
11 Ava Arepally
11 Austin Smith
11 Emilie Paille
12 Kelly Goldsmith
12 Lindsey Howell
12 Drew Kimball
13 Carolyn Corr
14 Guerry Mashburn
14 Jan Strickland

14 Mary Leight
14 Finn Bresnahan
17 Nan Payne
17 Bryan Rogers
18 Ibbly Bailey
18 Gail Kitchens
20 Aaron Bertrand
20 JoAnn Bertrand
22 Kate Durden
22 Brenda Fishpaw
22 Jamie Jones
23 Hillery McNeill
26 Greg Brow

27 Piper Burgess
27 Carolyn Wingfield
28 Dale Gustafson
29 Hunter Sapp



Your Session at Work: February 17 Meeting

- February is when most of the church's official business gets completed and reported. This month MPC held its annual congregational meeting, in which the final 2014 budget was presented. Session also presented the 2013 Annual Report—copies for those who did not pick them up after the meeting are available in the Narthex and Welcome Center. Session also approved the 2013 Church Report; that and the Clerk's Annual Statistical Report go to the PC(USA) headquarters in Louisville, KY, and other reports go to our own Presbytery of Greater Atlanta and our lending agency.
- New chair of the Facilities Committee **Duncan Spears** reported that our insurance company has declined funding repairs and carpet replacement from the water damage in the Session Room/Learning Center and Room 103. If our appeal is denied, that work will come out of our operating budget.
- Our Commitment Team led by **Peter Cobb** and **Van Jensen** reported plans for greater connections and communications among our church community using our new on-line tools as well as other options, and a new emphasis on legacy and planned giving. For example, we feel most members don't know how easy and secure it is to pay pledges and make other donations through our website.
- Plans are underway for our next church retreat to the mountains of North Carolina. The dates are Oct. 17-19; the featured speaker will be **Dr. Peter Hobbie**; and **Jill Klotz** is the overall chairperson.
- The Deacons reported that **Robin Hackney** has been elected vice-moderator and **Peter Tuuk** is the new secretary.
- Worship and the Arts Chair **Jennye Guy** noted the appreciation for the evening Service of Wholeness and Healing. We will consider holding similar services as needed.

Daisy Ottmann

Clerk of Session

Blue-Shirt Sunday Celebrates Season of Service

Season of Service shirts adorned almost everyone in worship on Feb. 23 from our pastors and Chancel Choir to some of the tiniest toddlers as we saluted the volunteers who took part this month. Of course, at MPC—our 'season' really lasts all year.

Here are some special thanks:

- to All our Outreach Shepherds and many of our Outreaches for hosting us for tours and special events
- to SOS leadership team: **Shirley Adair, John Blevins, Tim Gargis, and Katherine Johnston**
- thanks to Sunday School and small group leaders: **John Azumah, John Blevins, Baron Mullis, Anne Sayre, Drew Stockstill, and MPC Youth**
- to children in mission organizers: **Shirley Adair, Maggie Adams, Robin Hackney, Liz Sommerfeld, and Rachel Spears**
- to **Anna Best** and **Daisy Ottmann** for publication and advertising support, **Cindy Humphries** and **Rhonda McIntosh** for set up for events and **Amy Lowe** for marshmallow design to celebrate participation and unfailing support at Family Service Event, also thanks to **Couples Group** for supporting our "movie" theme at the closing celebration with a fun Fellowship Hour.
- to **Don Grant** for t-shirt design and **Bob Wells** for creating our movie!
- and last, but not least, all our friends and members for trying new things, supporting those in need and wearing your t-shirts to worship. Program Director Melinda Sandkam says, "We hope you learned something new about an outreach, made a new friend while volunteering, met some great folks who need our support and are inspired to try something else in the near future."



Morningside Welcomes Back Rev. Dana Hughes

It was a blustery November Sunday in 2002 when Rev. Dana Hughes took the pulpit as Morningside's new interim pastor. Specially trained to lead congregations in transition, she embraced her job with warmth, firm leadership, and inspiring preaching. She conducted mid-week discussions about our church's history, giving us a sense of who we were and how we had evolved. It was a time of healing and coming together as a church body. After 20 months, her work complete, we were prepared to call our new pastor, Rev. Joanna Adams.

Dana continued her career as a professional Interim Pastor and also served a term as Moderator of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta. Last fall she led a four-week Sunday school class here on the Gospel of James. In January she joined our church as Affiliate Pastor.

When asked how she happened to return to Morningside, she said, "It's very simple. Baron invited me! I

had to think about it for maybe two seconds, because Morningside is my favorite church in the Presbytery. My two years as interim were the most exciting and rewarding work I've done since being ordained in '97."

Baron remarked, "I am thrilled that Dana Hughes wants to make Morningside her spiritual home. We will be deeply enriched by her teaching and enjoy her collegiality as a friend." He noted that Presbyterian pastors are members of their presbyteries, not of individual churches, but one may choose to affiliate with a church as Dana has chosen MPC.

Dana lives in Decatur with her husband Bill. They have three children, two in college and one working in Denver.



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