



# Morningside Messenger

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## May 2015 Worship at Morningside

May 3, 2015

**Drew Stockstill preaching**

“The Ethiopian Eunuch”

Texts: 1 John 4:7-21; Acts 8:26-40

*The sacrament of communion will be celebrated.*

*Congregational Meeting*

May 10, 2015

**Baron Mullis preaching**

“Conquering the World”

Texts: 1 John 5:1-6; Acts 10:44-48

*The sacrament of baptism will be celebrated.*

*Children’s Choirs Singing*

May 17, 2015

**Baron Mullis preaching**

“I Have Sent Them Into the World”

Texts: John 17:6-19; Psalm 1

*Congregational Lunch*

May 24, 2015

**Pentecost**

**Drew Stockstill preaching**

“Pentecost 2015”

Texts: Acts 2:1-21; Ezekiel 37:1-14

May 31, 2015

**Baron Mullis preaching**

“A Pharisee Named Nicodemus”

Texts: John 3:1-17; Psalm 29

## From Your Pastor



### *Dear Sisters and Brothers,*

Whatever your politics or opinion of campaign finance reform, I don't think that there can be much question that Doug Hughes' flying his gyrocopter onto the Capitol lawn with 535 letters to Congress strapped to his landing gear can be considered anything but a massive success if his goal was to GET. OUR. ATTENTION.

Again, I'll grant that we can disagree about the intelligence, motivation, and perhaps even sanity of the flying mailman, but there is no doubt he got our attention if the news radio that I listen to is any indication. His issue is money in politics and his fear that the country will fold if we don't get it right. He was concerned enough to do something personally about it.

Where have we heard that story before?

The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is not designed to be subtle. It is designed to get our attention, because God cared enough — *so loved the world* — that nothing but God's very own self would do.

And to be honest, what Jesus *said* was controversial too, designed to get our attention. His friends and family didn't *want* to hear about turning the other cheek — who does, after all? The priests and the scribes didn't *want* to hear that the Sabbath was made for humankind, not humankind for the Sabbath. The disciples didn't *want* to hear that the son of man must suffer and die and on the third day be raised from the dead.

There are plenty of things we may not want to hear. There are plenty of changes we might not want to make in our own lives. There are plenty of ways we might want to cling even to the dysfunction we know, even to the point of self-destruction, in order to preserve what feels comfortable and familiar to us.

The point of the resurrection is to Get. Our. Attention.

This Eastertide—which lasts until Pentecost Sunday, May 24 this year—I hope the message of the resurrection gets through to all of us: that we are of such worth and value to God that nothing but God's very own self given for us is enough. And nothing but God's own self given for our enemies is enough. And if nothing but God's own self, given for you and me, and we love, and those we do not love will be enough...

Let's just think about that.

Shalom,

Baron

### **Elder on Call**

Susan Oder	May 3-9
Jeff Peters	May 10-16
Peter Tuuk	May 17-23
Alex Watts	May 24-30
Eleanor Attwood	May 31-June 6

### **Deacon on Call**

Sandy Jones	May 3-9
Philip Hawkins	May 10-16
Sarah Brownlee	May 17-23
Robin Hackney	May 24-30
Anthony Owens	May 31-June 6

## Inside Morningside

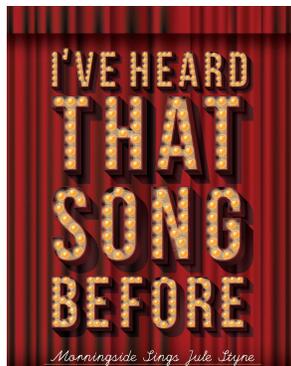
### Gala Evening of Music, Song Celebrates Jule Styne, Benefits MPC Programs

"I've Heard That Song Before—Morningside Sings Jule Styne" brings back many of the talented cast of performers, plus new vocalists and musicians, who made last year's Jerome Kern concert such a rousing success. The 2015 edition will fill our Sanctuary with music and laughter Saturday, May 9, starting at 7:30 p.m. A reception will follow.

American master composer Styne wrote for both film and stage, including the scores for "Gypsy," "Bells Are Ringing", "Funny Girl" and "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes". His hit songs for the screen include the Oscar-winner "Three Coins in a Fountain" plus "Time After Time", "I Don't Want to Walk Without You", "It's Magic", "Guess I'll Hang My Tears Out To Dry" and "People".

Featuring 23 singers from our Chancel Choir and congregation, plus Derek Matthews on piano, Sam Owens, percussion, and Tim Delaney, string bass, the revue's concept and overall direction is by Jeff Peters, with choral direction

by Mason Copeland and musical direction by Derek Matthews.



Jeff says, "I was eager to jump forward into the heart of Broadway's Golden Years of the 40s, 50s and 60s. Jule Styne, and his collaborative lyricists Betty Comden, Adolph Green, Stephen Sondheim and Bob Merrill, left us with a treasure trove of American songbook and stage treasures to celebrate. Styne's music will showcase the strengths of Morningside's terrific musicians. The gala promises a diversity of sounds including tight jazz harmonies, romantic ballads and brassy Broadway razzmatazz."

Jeff, who serves as our elder chaireng evangelism outreach, also points out that the gala is an opportunity to introduce friends and neighbors to Morningside. "Passing the (top) hat" for voluntary donations also will benefit our mission ministries as well as our music program.

### It's Deadline Month for Summer Programs

- ◇ Kids who will turn four by Sept. 1 through fifth grade have until May 17 to register for Vacation Bible School: Around the World in Five Days, running June 15-19.
- ◇ Kids who have completed second grade up through sixth graders are invited to Mission Camp: It's NOT All About Me, July 20-24. That deadline is May 31.
- ◇ Registration forms are at the church and on our website (Learn/Children tab at [www.morningsidepc.org](http://www.morningsidepc.org)).

### Morningside Milestones

- The numbers are in: our preschool and church kids raised a total of \$941.72 during Lent to support Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and all our Easter gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing added up to \$1,957. Thank you to all who gave from their hearts to support these outreach collections, as well as donating food for the Intown Collaborative Ministries (ICM) pantry.
- A bouquet of baptisms brightened our gloomy April as we welcomed into God's family here at Morningside the infants Nash Burke, son of Allen and Claire, and MacKenzie Gorman, daughter of Ryan and Michelle and confirmands Tristin Loomis, Anna McKelvey, Sophia Zook and her younger brother Ezra.
- Don't forget to let Baron know if you'd like to become a member of our church on Sunday, May 3. Our next New Member Sunday will be in September.
- Did you see the rave review our soprano Megan Mashburn received in [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) for her role in the Atlanta Opera's "Marriage of Figaro"? All this and a new mom, too. Congratulations!
- We offer our sympathy to our members Marta Ringenberg and Katy Means on the loss of their much-anticipated baby daughter. They are the daughter-in-law and daughter of Bill and Sanda Means and currently live in Louisville.

## Spotlight on Melinda

### MPC Salutes Melinda Sandkam's 10th Year of Directing Our Programs

MPC's Program Director Melinda Sandkam had quite a challenge when she began work at our church Feb. 1, 2006. If you've only seen her shepherding dozens of sheep and angels through one of our recent Christmas pageants or supervising distribution of hundreds of Season of Service t-shirts or creating picture boards celebrating all the participants in VBS, children's service projects or the Easter Egg Hunt, you can't imagine her having to figuratively beat the bushes for participants in *anything*. We were beginning to grow from our low point of 118 members in 2005—and we seriously needed to get some programs going for our new members, especially the younger ones, and engage our adults.

Fortunately, we found the right person. Having previously worked at Oglethorpe and Rock Spring Presbyterian churches, Melinda also had experience in the hospitality industry, event planning and working with kids as a nanny and in a preschool setting, plus a wealth of volunteer activities.

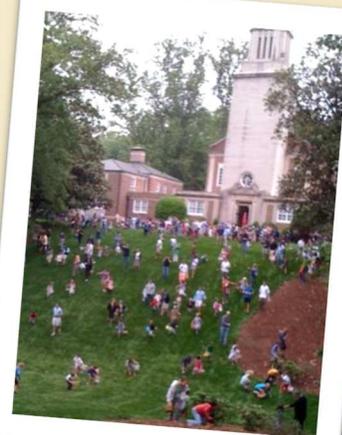
Can we just say...egg hunts, theater outings, annual retreats, Double Digits, holiday babysitting, Giving Gatherings, Season of Service, Braves games, tornado relief, Mitten Tree, Mission Camps, Sunday School Kick-offs, theater camps, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Mediterranean Maundy Thursday suppers, Habitat builds and much, much more....



2014 Painting the Ark



2007 Habitat House



2006 Easter Egg Hunt



2013  
Shrove  
Tuesday



2011  
Double Digits  
Ice Skating



2010  
Youth at Six Flags

# May 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
					8:15 a.m. MPP Yoga 9 a.m. MPP 1 p.m. KidzTennis	8:30 a.m. Weight Watchers 9 a.m. Women's AA Meeting
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Faith Development Classes; New Member Class 11 a.m. Worship/New Member Sunday/Communion 12 noon Congregational Meeting followed by Fellowship 12:15 p.m. Gala Benefit Rehearsal; Deacons 4-7 p.m. ICM Arts & Eats (Atlanta Historical Society) 5 p.m. Youth Group	9 a.m. MPP 7 p.m. Mandolin Society	9 a.m. MPP 11 a.m. Yoga 1 p.m. Playball 2:15 p.m. Tai Chi 4:30 p.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers 7 p.m. Gala Benefit Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Scout Troop 455 Court of Honor; MLPA Zoning	9 a.m. MPP 1 p.m. Kidz Tennis Make-up Day; MusicCanopy 4:15 p.m. Treble Choir 5 p.m. Cherub Choir 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	9 a.m. MPP 11 a.m. Weights to the Oldies 1 p.m. Playball 7 p.m. Theology on Tap 7:30 p.m. Children's Ministry Search Committee	8:15 a.m. MPP Yoga 9 a.m. MPP 1 p.m. KidzTennis; Gala Benefit Rehearsal 7 p.m. Couples Group	8:30 a.m. Weight Watchers 9 a.m. Women's AA Meeting 12 noon Gala Benefit Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. <i>I've Heard That Song Before-Morningside Sings Jule Styne Gala Benefit Evening</i>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Faith Development Class 11 a.m. Worship/ Baptism/ Children's Choirs Sing 12 noon Fellowship 6 p.m. Journey	9 a.m. MPP 1 p.m. MPP Ballet/ Tap 4:30-5:30 p.m. MPP Ballet/Tap Recitals 7 p.m. Mandolin Society 7:30 p.m. MLPA	9 a.m. MPP 11 a.m. Yoga 12 noon Playball 2:15 p.m. Tai Chi 4:30 p.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers 7 p.m. Preschool Committee 7:30 Scout Troop 455	9 a.m. MPP 9 a.m. - 12 noon VBS Workday 12 noon One Gray Hair Luncheon 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	9 a.m. MPP 11 a.m. Weights to the Oldies 12:30 p.m. Poetry Discussion Group 1 p.m. Playball 7 p.m. Lydia Circle 7:30 p.m. Handbells Choir	8:15 a.m. MPP Yoga 9 a.m. MPP 11 a.m. Pre-K Celebration	8:30 a.m. Weight Watchers 9 a.m. Women's AA Meeting
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Faith Development Class 11 a.m. Worship/ Children's Choirs Sing 12 noon Cong. Lunch honoring Melinda Sandkam 1 p.m. RHO Readers 5 p.m. Youth Group End of the Year party 5:30 p.m. Meditation Group	9 a.m. MPP (Spirit Week) 1 p.m. MPP Celebrating Sarah Tomaka 7 p.m. Session; Mandolin Society	9 a.m. MPP 11 a.m. Yoga 12 noon Playball 2:15 p.m. Tai Chi 4:30 p.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers 7 p.m. LGBT & Friends	7 a.m. Men's Breakfast 9 a.m. MPP 1 p.m. MPP/MPG Staff Luncheon 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	9 a.m. MPP 11 a.m. Weights to the Oldies 12:30 p.m. Third Thursday Theology 7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir	8:15 a.m. MPP Yoga 9 a.m. MPP	8:30 a.m. Weight Watchers 9 a.m. Women's AA Meeting 5:30 p.m. Clifton Sanctuary
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Faith Development Class 11 a.m. Worship 12 noon Fellowship	<i>MPP and MPC closed in observance of Memorial Day</i>	9 a.m. MPP Teacher Workday 11 a.m. Yoga 2:15 p.m. Tai Chi 4:30 p.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers	9 a.m. MPP Teacher Workday 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	11 a.m. Weights to the Oldies 5-8 p.m. Food Trucks 7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir		8:30 a.m. Weight Watchers 9 a.m. Women's AA Meeting
<b>31</b>						
9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Faith Development Class 11 a.m. Worship 12 noon Fellowship						

## Connect!



### It's a Party! It's a Picnic! It's Melinda-Fest!

She rolls her eyes when we call our upcoming celebration “Melinda-Fest”, but it’s a handy way to refer to the purpose of our picnic on the lawn after worship Sunday, May 17.

To celebrate Melinda Sandkam’s 10th year with MPC as our Program Director, we’re throwing a “covered dish” picnic lunch. We’ll supply the entrée, drinks and rolls, and we’re suggesting that folks bring a salad/vegetable (if your last name begins with A-L) or a dessert (if your last name begins with M-Z) and a picnic blanket if you’re so inclined.

Live music and other surprises are in store and everyone – everyone! – is invited to join Melinda and our church family on this special day. Watch for more details and be sure to RSVP to the church office.

### *MPC Says “Take Yourself Out to the (Golf) Ball Game”*

Hackers, duffers and scratch golfers alike will be welcome to come out with other MPC members and friends for our first of what we hope will become an annual golf day.

Tee time for the MPC Golf Classic at the Marietta City Club will be 1 p.m. on Wednesday, June 17. Working that day? Aw, c’mon. Give yourself a day off! Lunch will be available in the club grill beginning at 11 a.m. and you can also use the practice range and putting greens from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

There will be divisions for both men and women, plus prizes to be awarded back in the grill afterwards for cate-

gories such as longest drive, low gross and low net scores, drive closest to the pin and more.

The \$55 cost is due by May 19 and includes 18-hole greens fees, range balls, golf cart equipped with GPS (for those drives into the rough?), and the prizes. Registration forms and payment instructions are available at the church and on our website ([www.morningsidepc.org](http://www.morningsidepc.org)).

The MPC Golf Classic is being coordinated by Link Marx ([fmarx25@yahoo.com](mailto:fmarx25@yahoo.com) or 404.323.9174) and Taylor Morton ([gtmorton123@gmail.com](mailto:gtmorton123@gmail.com) or 678.641.4767) – reach out to either one with your questions.

#### *May*

#### *Birthdays*

4 Jennifer James

5 Tish Craddock

6 Brian Rouse

6 Ian Bresnahan

7 Hollis Holmes

7 Fred Schreiber

8 Emmerson Millard

9 Daniel Easton

9 Ward Howell

10 Brent Drone

10 JoAnn Kearns

10 Sheryl Wingert

11 Bob Wells

12 Haden Holaway

12 Laura Edgerton

14 Mardee Rightmyer

14 Sarah Beth Gehl

15 Ian Irwin

15 Harrison James

15 Gavin Embrick

15 Nancy Frampton

16 Bryan Smith

17 Sam Tomaka

17 Mason Copeland

19 Ame Frease

20 Anthony Cochran

21 Lauren Fairleigh

22 Jeff Hackney

23 Vicky Jones

23 Oliver Loring

24 Madelyn Millard

25 Alexander Holland

25 Van Jensen

27 Nathan Zook

28 Daisy Ottmann

31 Kate Parrish

## Session News

### Your Session at Work: April 20 Meeting

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

- Session thanked Carolyn Morton and other youth parents for the tasty dinner cooked up for the elders, staff, confirmation candidates and their mentors, as the first order of business was to examine our class of 15 young people and to hear their faith stories. (Read more on Page 8).
- The Human Resources Committee reported that the job ad for a new director for our preschool has been placed and notice circulated to other potential candidate pools. The search committees for Children's Choir Director and Director of Children's Ministries are in place. Work continues on the job description for the person to lead our children's ministries.
- With Katherine Johnston's resignation, the Board of Deacons has an unfilled position until the end of the year. Session authorized a congregational meeting directly after worship on May 3 to elect a person to serve the remainder of this year and continue as a member of the Class of 2018.
- The project to verify membership by reaching out to individuals and families who have not attended or taken part in programs and stewardship for more than a year which was launched in January concluded with Session removing 72 names from our membership rolls. Nobody particularly likes to clear the rolls, but accurate records are important.

Daisy Ottmann  
Clerk of Session

### *Adult Faith Development Will Compare Two Religions*

You're invited to drop in to Room 201 any Sunday morning at 9:45 to discuss matters of faith with other adults in our community. While the curriculum consists of four- to six-week emphasis on a particular topic, classes generally stand alone.

Through May 17, Philip Hawkins and Daisy Ottmann are facilitating a discussion of various aspects of the Passion of Christ in a series called "Looking at the Cross". Beginning May 24, Deacon Ken Sharpe, a student of many religious traditions, will begin a unit exploring and comparing the theology, practices and traditions of Islam and Christianity. No registration is required! Just come and learn something new about your faith.

### 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: Grace Bittick, Baby Burkhalter, Georgiana Burnside, Sandra Crawford, Connie Crowley, Mary Edwards, Angela Frampton, Hamilton Family, Karen Hancock and family, Ann Herndon, Penny Hill, Finley Holaway, Kaitlin Andry, Melanie Donnelly, Ellen Hardeman, Ron and Ann Reggio, Peggy Johnson Smith, Warren Johnson, Sr., Vicky Langford, Rhett Laurens, Jan McMahan, Marilyn Neforas, Catherine Prince, Anne and Nate Reid, Linda and Mike Robinson, Lawson Rucker, Greg and Mary Ann Smith and family, Kent Smith, Stewart Family, Jennifer and Jason Swafford, and John Vytal.

## BackWords

### MPC Grows as We Confirm 15 New Members



*Still smiling after sharing their faith statements with Morningside's Session Apr. 20, Morningside's confirmands and their leaders, Landon Dillard and Drew Stockstill.*

Completing their 12-week journey by becoming members at Morningside Presbyterian, 14 seventh- and eighth-graders, plus one high-school student, are the second group of youth to be confirmed this decade.

The confirmation ceremony Apr. 26 followed by one week the youth-designed-and-led Youth Sunday, featuring homilies delivered by Cade Lawson, Lucy Grant and Taylor Morton. Eleven more young people also had speaking roles as our youth formed the day's choir, led the prayers, offered the scripture readings, selected the hymns, and collected the offering.

Congratulations to these new members, their families and their adult mentors—who studied, shared and walked with them one-on-one during their journey: Clyde Bresnahan (Drew Stockstill), Anthony Cochran (Lloyd Prince), Lauren Fairleigh (Kaitlyn Strickland), Olivia Hunter (Meghan Page), Elizabeth “Libby” Jern (Amy Jensen), Kate Jern (Betsy Holland), Emma Lawson (Sarah Tomaka), Alli Lee (Sanda Means), Will Lee (Jack Klotz), Tristin Loomis (Carolyn Cobb), Anna McKelvey (Ellen Stockstill), Caroline Parrish (Holly Greene), Charlotte Spears (Catherine Fleming), Will Tanner (Ted Fleming) and Sofia Zook (Tish Woolley).



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