



MorningsideMessenger

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Church Office Hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

July 2010 Worship at Morningside

July 4, 2010

Sermon: "Wade in the Water"

Text: 2 Kings 5:1-14

Alicia Wilson preaching

July 11, 2010

Sermon: "Not Ashamed of the Gospel"

Text: Romans 1:16-17

Christopher Henry preaching

The sacrament of communion will be celebrated.

July 18, 2010

New Member Sunday

Sermon: "Enough is Enough"

Text: Philippians 4:10-14

Christopher Henry preaching

July 25, 2010

Sermon: "The Church in Liturgy and Song!"

Text: Psalm 92

Mary Miller Brueggemann preaching



Dear Friends,

When you receive this newsletter, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) will be underway in Minneapolis. This eight-day biennial gathering brings together Presbyterians from across the United States for worship, prayer, deliberation, and decision-making. This summer marks the 219th meeting of the General Assembly; the first was held in Philadelphia in 1789 and was moderated by Rev. John Witherspoon, the only minister to sign the Declaration of Independence. I have the privilege of being one of the elected commissioners from the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta and am looking forward to this large family reunion of Presbyterians (and to the cooler temperatures of the Twin Cities).

The General Assembly provides an occasion to celebrate the distinctiveness of Presbyterian polity and governance, whether it be in the local congregation or at the national level. Some of these distinctive qualities include:

- *Representative form of government:* the bodies of our denomination are governed by elected representatives of those bodies. For example, our congregation is governed not by the pastor or staff, but by an elected group of elders. This is true at the national level as well; the General Assembly commissioners are elected by local governing bodies (called Presbyteries) and are delegates from those Presbyteries. Still, the Presbyterian Church is not a pure democracy, because those representatives are not elected to reflect the will of the people but rather to discern the will of Jesus Christ for the church.
- *Equality of lay and clergy ordination:* At the meeting of the General Assembly this month, there will be an equal number of commissioners who are elders (ordained laypeople) and ministers (ordained clergy). This equality of numbers illustrates a deeply-held conviction of Presbyterian theology: the priesthood of all believers. Unlike many denominations, Presbyterians believe that the ordination of elders and deacons is not qualitatively different from the ordination of Ministers of the Word and Sacrament. Though we may be called to different functions in the church, all ordained leaders have equal voice and vote and are equally given the vocation of Christian ministry.
- *Connectional nature of the church:* Our *Book of Order* includes an entire chapter on the unity and oneness of the church, declaring that “the Church universal consists of all persons in every nation, together with their

children, who profess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and commit themselves to live in a fellowship under his rule.” Thus, even though we speak of our particular congregations as “churches,” Presbyterians believe that each congregation exists as a local expression of the one universal Church whose head is Jesus Christ. We are connected to one another through faith in Christ, and we are called upon to demonstrate that connectedness, joining with other congregations and denominations in mission, worship, education, and fellowship.



- *Appreciation for diversity of viewpoints:* In 1788, the Synod of New York and Philadelphia included this statement in its original Form of Government: “God alone is Lord of the conscience...” This phrase has become a motto for Presbyterians, highlighting our longstanding commitment to worshipping and serving together despite differences of opinion. Disagreements ought never to be cause for division and, at our best, we Presbyterians allow for diversity of perspective without silencing any voice.
- *Great Ends of the Church:* Finally, our *Book of Order* names the Great Ends of the Church as these six: the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind; the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God; the maintenance of divine worship; the preservation of the truth; the promotion of social righteousness; and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world. These towering statements remind us that all church governance is in service to the mission of the church in the world. The church does not exist for itself, but to serve the world that God continues to love and redeem.

Please keep the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in your prayers this week as we seek to discern the will of Jesus Christ in challenging and complex times. Our congregation is part of a wonderfully diverse and strong denomination, and Morningside provides the whole church with an example of the renewal that is possible with prayerful discernment, a faithful vision, and a committed community. Thanks be to God for all of you!

See you in church,

Special Sundays Enliven Summer Worship

As the “dog days” of summer draw near, Morningside will offer opportunities for refreshment and renewal by shaking things up a bit during our Sunday morning worship. For three Sundays beginning July 18, you’re invited to take part in ‘something different.’

July 18

Sing with the Choir

Ever wanted to sing with Morningside’s Chancel Choir, but didn’t think you had the time or the training? Well, here’s your chance to join them for a “One Sunday Only” appearance! Eight MPC members can sign up (first come, first serve) by emailing music@morningsidepc.org. Those singing must come to one rehearsal on July 14, 7:30-9 p.m. and arrive on July 18 for a 9:30 a.m. warm-up/rehearsal. Wear a robe, process with the choir, and sing a simple arrangement of “Be Thou My Vision.” If you can carry a tune, you’re in! This will also be a New Member Sunday, and all who are interested in membership are invited to attend the Inquirer’s Class prior to worship.

July 25

Summertime Hymn Sing

During worship, Rev. Mary Miller Brueggemann will offer the homily, and we’ll have an old-fashioned, participatory hymn sing. Come to sing your favorites with your congregation!

August 1

Casual Dress / Walk to Church Sunday

All those who live in the neighborhood are invited to walk to church this Sunday, and everyone (including choir members and pastors) is encouraged to come casual. As part of the worship service, we’ll hear brief “This I Believe” statements from Chris Henry and others. The participants in our second annual Mission Camp will also give a report on their experience. Following worship, Fellowship Hour will feature some summertime favorites.

Morningside Milestones

- “An event 20 years in the making...” A grand celebration of Walter Huff’s music ministry at Morningside is in the works for the evening of Oct. 16 at Druid Hills Country Club and a special fellowship hour after worship Oct. 17. Note those dates on your calendar now!
- Even if you’re allergic to wool, you can still be a shepherd! We have an opening September through May for someone to organize meals on the second Sunday evening of the month for the Druid Hills Night Shelter. We thank Julie Green and Mardee Rightmyer for their ‘shepherdship’ and advocacy for the shelter during the past season.
- The Schreiber family doubled June 9 with the birth of twins Jackson Gregory and Addison Carol. Mom and Dad Becky and Fred recently transferred to MPC from Fourth Presbyterian in Chicago.
- Little Mollie Moore’s baptism June 20 filled many rows! Parents Georgia and John were married several years ago in our Sanctuary. We welcome their daughter to our church family.
- Our newest new members are Leigh Del Grosso and Andrea Leonard, both transferring from out-of-state churches. Seek them out and welcome them in!
- Jake and Kendall Frank’s new neighborhood in Nashville was above the floodwater. They miss MPC and would love to hear from members at 9164 Sydney Lane, Brentwood TN 387027, as they move into their new jobs and Mimi and Bode start new schools in the fall.
- Get up early enough on July 11 to hear Chris Henry on the radio as he once again is featured on Day 1, WSB AM 750 at 7:05 a.m.

'It's Not All About Me' Theme Not Just for Kids

July will end with our second annual—and expanding—Mission Camp for rising third-seventh graders, but the rest of us can show our neighbors “It’s Not All About Me” too.

Hands-on, we have two upcoming opportunities. Be one of the 800-1000 volunteers who sort food at the Atlanta Community Food Bank in any given month. The donated non-perishable food items go to food pantries and other organizations that help those in need. MPC is looking for 12 volunteers for the morning of Saturday, July 17. After the sorting shift ends at noon, the group will head somewhere close for lunch. Sign up on the bulletin board across from the Session Room or contact Anna Garcia (404 909.0007, Garcia.Miguel@comcast.net)

More time to spare? How about helping citizens of Nashville with rebuilding after May’s devastating floods. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is at work setting up projects that could use a hand. Duncan Spears (678.612.5746, duncanspears@yahoo.com) is—ahem—‘Spearsheading’ an MPC team to spend a Wednesday-Saturday in Nashville (August 18-21). Cost will be \$20 per day. Let Duncan know of your interest as soon as you can.

Even if you’re too busy to volunteer some time, you can always help fill Welcome Baskets with household necessities

for men graduating from the Clifton Sanctuary Ministries shelter into their own homes through July 4. We’ll also be collecting food items such as canned fruits and vegetables, pasta sauce, peanut butter, canned meats, juice, cold cereals and crackers for Intown Collaborative Ministries (ICM) the weeks of July 19 and 26. Formerly known as ICA, ICM coordinates efforts of congregations in ZIP codes 30306 and 30307 to alleviate hunger and provide social growth. You can help with both these missions during your regular grocery-shopping trips.

Then there’s that Mission Camp. The 21 young campers need chaperones and drivers any day between Monday, July 26, and Saturday, July 31. Daily adventures include visits to Gatecity Daycare on Monday, Stone Mountain and Piedmont Park pool on Tuesday, Atria of Buckhead senior center on Wednesday and work in a community garden on Thursday plus a shopping trip to learn how to budget meals for a family of four. Camp ends with a sleep-over at Noah’s Ark Animal Rescue on Friday night. Besides the loan of large tents, the camp seeks donations of snacks and lunches. Contact Melinda Sandkam to help in any of these areas—there’s also a display of needs across from the Session Room.

VBS Spreads Love ‘Around the World’



Our biggest Vacation Bible School ever linked world travel with care for neighbors and creation with ‘visits’ to troubled spots such as New Orleans and Chile.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7:30 p.m. MLPA Public Safety	2	3 8:15 a.m. Weight Watchers
				MPP Summer Camp		
4 10:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 11 a.m. Worship 12 noon Fellowship	5 Church offices closed in observance of 4th of July holiday 7 p.m. Mandolin Society	6 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers ; Youth Committee Meeting 7 p.m. MLPA Zoning	7 7:30 p.m. Venture Crew	8 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7 p.m. Handbell Choir	9 7 p.m. Couples Group	10 8:15 a.m. Weight Watchers
	MPP Summer Camp					
11 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Church School 11 a.m. Worship with Communion 12 noon Fellowship; Young Adult Lunch 4 p.m. PNC Meeting	12 7 p.m. Small Group Study; Mandolin Society 7:30 p.m. MLPA	13 10 a.m. Common Ground 5:30 p.m. Committee for Inclusion 6:30 p.m. Preschool Committee; Weight Watchers	14 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir; Venture Crew	15 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7 p.m. Handbell Choir	16	17 8:15 a.m. Weight Watchers 9-12 noon ACFB Food Sort
	MPP Summer Camp					
18 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Church School 9:45 a.m. Inquirers Class 10:40 a.m. Called Session Mtg. 11 a.m. Worship 12 noon Fellowship 12:15 Children's Ed Mtg. 1 p.m. RHO Readers 4 p.m. PNC Meeting 7 p.m. Shrew the Musical	19 7 p.m. Mandolin Society	20 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers	21 7:30 p.m. Venture Crew	22 9:30 a.m. Presbytery Meeting (Calvin Center) 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7 p.m. Handbell Choir	23	24 8:15 a.m. Weight Watchers 6 p.m. Clifton Sanctuary Ministries
	MPP Summer Camp					
25 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Church School 11 a.m. Worship 12 noon Fellowship 12:15 p.m. Nashville Mission Trip Meeting 2-4 p.m. Mission Camp Setup 4 p.m. PNC Meeting	26 6:45 p.m. Parliamentarians 7 p.m. Small Group Study; Mandolin Society	27 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers	28 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir; Venture Crew	29 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7 p.m. Handbell Choir 5:30 p.m. Church Retreat Meeting	30 MPC Mission Camp Overnight	31 8:15 a.m. Weight Watchers
	MPC Mission Camp					
	MPP Summer Camp					

Children's Worship Leader Will Preach

On Sunday, July 4, we welcome as our guest preacher Alicia Wilson, whom many of our children and families know from her wonderful ministry among us since last September. That Sunday, you are invited to come to worship in casual, comfortable clothing before heading out for holiday festivities. Here's some information about Alicia:

Alicia Wilson grew up in Salisbury, NC, and at First Presbyterian Church of Salisbury. She received a Bachelor's degree from Furman University in 2006 with majors in Religion and Greek. Alicia first came to Atlanta in the fall of 2006 to serve as a volunteer for a year with the Presbyterian Young Adult Volunteer program and worked at Central Presbyterian Outreach and Advocacy Center. She

led Children's Worship for Morningside's second and third graders this school year and over the summer is now leading the Double-Digits group and helping with VBS and Mission Camp.

Alicia graduated from Columbia Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree this May. In the fall, she will begin a year of hospital chaplaincy with Emory Center for Pastoral Services. Currently she is a certified candidate for ordination under care of Salem Presbytery. Alicia lives in Norcross with her husband Jay Suender, who serves as pastor of John Wesley United Methodist Church. She enjoys reading, playing with their cat Jonah, and trying to beat Jay at Wii Tennis.

Come See Theater Troupe Twist 'Shrew'

Time is running out to sign up for a reduced-price group ticket to see Georgia Shakespeare's production of "Shrew: The Musical." A twisted take on William Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew," the show has received rave reviews for its spirit and humor.

Jill Klotz is organizing the outing to the Conant Performing Arts Center on the Oglethorpe University campus for the 7 p.m. performance Sunday, July 18. The signup sheet is in the Welcome Center or contact Jill ((770) 949.4523). Tickets are \$28. Join the group before the show for a BYO picnic at tables on the Conant Center terrace.

Book Group Continues Throughout Summer, Goes Coed

Everyone is welcome at meetings of the RHO Readers general book discussion group as a regular member or on a drop-in basis if the book being discussed is of particular interest to you. The growing group meets the third Sunday of each month at 1 p.m. in the Session Room.

Upcoming selections are *A Reliable Wife* by Robert Goolrick (July 18) and *Blame* by Karen Huneven (Aug. 15). Daisy Ottmann (404 812.9725, dazette@bellsouth.net) is the RHO Readers shepherd.

Adult Studies Continue After July 4 Break

After a break on July 4, the Morningside Bible Class will conclude its book-by-book study of the New Testament on July 25. This class meets Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m. in

Room 201. The final discussions will cover July 11: Revelation; July 18: Jude and July 25: Closing Conversations on the New Testament.

You're as Young as You Feel for 'Young Adults'

There's really no age limit to join Morningside's Young Adults for their many service and social activities. Next up is an after-worship lunch outing to Osteria on July 11. Brooke Lampe (404 766.2302, brookelmsw@gmail.com) is your contact. August promises an evening at the drive-in movies.

Your Session at Work: June 21 Meeting

Children and Youth Ministries Team Leader **Carolyn Morton** moved that Session approve the preschool curriculum and the elementary age “We Believe” curriculum for next year’s children’s Christian education. **Leslie Prince** seconded the motion and the vote in favor was unanimous. It was noted that MPC will continue to have two children’s choirs for the 2010-2011 school year, but that if growth continues apace, we might need to expand to three children’s choirs—adding a middle-school level—for the 2011-2012 school year. Enrollment in this year’s Mission Camp is up 50 percent over last year’s while enrollment in Vacation Bible School is enjoying a more than 30 percent jump over 2009.

The session complimented Preschool Director **Sarah Tomaka** on her leadership and success during the first year at her new post.

Following a motion by Facilities Team Leader **John Watson**, Session adopted a working draft of a church evacuation plan. The working draft will allow John and **Randy Young** and other team members to conduct training sessions for ushers, elders, deacons and others at the same time they refine the plan.

On behalf of the Community Outreach Committee, **Leslie Prince** reported that they are exploring a mentoring ministry at MPC. This is in response to requests from many of the homeless shelters we support and would provide their guests with mentors to help with decision making. **Tony Fishpaw** is leading this initiative. Please see Tony if you’re interested in becoming a mentor.

Ruthlyn Newell
Clerk of Session

Elders on Call for July

Mardee Rightmyer	July 4-10
Tom Daniel	July 11-17
Jill Davis	July 18-24
Philip Hawkins	July 25-31

Deacons on Call for July

Betsy Holland	July 4-10
James Klotz	July 11-17
Jeanne McCarthy	July 18-24
David Fairleigh	July 25-31



July

Birthdays

1 Becky Haskins	4 Meg Samuels	10 Caroline Bell	21 Jeb Davis
1 Matthew Caudill	5 Linda Langstraat	11 Roland Behm	23 Diana Cochran
1 Cindy Humphries	5 Ben Kennedy	12 Susan Oder	25 Mark Johnson
1 Will Grant	6 Mary Hardy Holaway	12 Tom Oder	25 Laura Fillyaw
1 Kelly Lee	7 Mac Barnette	13 Christine Butz	25 Taylor Morton
2 Charles Woolley	7 Luke Santy	13 Blair Myers	26 Bill Bell
3 Michelle Mashburn	7 Gaspari Pellerito	13 Bennett Metz	26 Nick Bremer
4 Will Herndon	7 Wendy Ralph	14 Mindee Metz	27 Cameron McIntosh
4 Andrea Leonard	8 Marlo Kirby	15 Ellen Brown	28 Elizabeth Fairleigh
	8 Susan Blanchard	17 Mark Cochran	30 Leigh Del Grosso
	9 Marshall Hunter	17 Kendall Frank	31 Nathan Burgess
	10 Richard Finn	20 Collier Maxwell	31 Amy Jensen
	10 Steve Prittie	21 Annie Moon Davis	

Cool Thought for Hot Day: Montreat in November

Sitting around a blazing fire chatting with Morningside friends may not seem attractive this steamy summer, but it will be just right Nov. 19-21 as our whole church family is invited to Montreat, NC, for a weekend of renewal.

The theme of this year's outing is "A Time of Transition." Group sessions will be led by Executive Presbyter Rev. Dr. Tom Evans, who has headed the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta since February. Dr. Evans has served in Alabama, Idaho, Arkansas and New York. He holds degrees from William and Mary and Princeton Theological Seminary. He and wife Wendy have two children.

The retreat and lodging will be at historic, stone William Black Lodge, founded in 1915, with its cozy living room and rocking-chair porch. Most rooms have twin beds and a private bath, although requests for queen or double beds may be honored for early registrants.

Rates range from \$155 to \$240, including two nights' lodging, dinner Friday evening, three meals on Saturday and Sunday breakfast. The retreat concludes with Sunday morning worship. Registration fees are additional and vary by number and whether registrants are staying at the lodge or have other accommodations.

Registration is open through July 18, with final payment due by Oct. 31. Brochures with more detail and registration forms are available at the church or our website, www.morningsidepc.org, on the main Fellowship page. Everyone interested in attending is encouraged to register now to reserve a place. Your contact for questions and for details on financial aid is Sarah Brownlee (404 876.3575, rsbrownlee1046@att.net).

