



Morningside Messenger

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Serving You

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

September 2010

Worship at Morningside

September 5, 2010

Sermon: "Life Together"

Texts: Psalm 139:1-12, Philemon 1-21

Mary Miller Brueggemann preaching

September 12, 2010

"Burning Questions for 21st-Century Christians" Sermon Series

Sermon #4: "Who is Jesus? Why is He Important?"

Texts: Isaiah 61:1-4; Mark 8:27-33

Christopher Henry preaching

The sacrament of communion will be celebrated.

Congregational Luncheon

September 19, 2010

"Burning Questions for 21st-Century Christians" Sermon Series

Sermon #5: "Is Money the Root of All Evil?"

Texts: 1 Timothy 6:6-11; Luke 18:18-23

Christopher Henry preaching

September 26, 2010

Sermon: "The Party"

Text: Luke 16:19-31

Rev. Dr. Fred B. Craddock preaching

Dear Friends,

The beginning of fall is a wonderful time to be at Morningside! Members and friends return from their summer vacations, students and teachers go back to school, and many of our programs resume after what seems like such a short break. Like many of our own schedules, the church's calendar expands this time each year with the return of Lydia Circle, Women's Roundtable, Theology on Tap, One Gray Hair Lunches, and various Bible studies—just to name a few. This month's *Messenger* is full of important and helpful information on these programs. The fall of 2010 will also bring new opportunities for mission, study, and celebration:

- On Aug. 15 we began a second adult class on Sunday mornings exploring contemporary issues and how they intersect our lives of faith.
- On Sept. 16, we begin a monthly "Bible and Brunch" program that combines our passion for scripture and our love of good food.
- In October, we will all have the opportunity to support the ongoing relief effort in Haiti through our donations of much-needed supplies, and 14 of our members will travel to Port-au-Prince on a pilgrimage of support and solidarity with our Haitian brothers and sisters.
- On the weekend of Oct. 16-17, we will honor the inimitable and incredible Walter Huff and his 20th anniversary at Morningside with a Saturday night celebratory dinner and Sunday morning recognition.
- In November, we turn our attention toward the stewardship and commitment of our time, talent, and financial resources, this year focusing on the theme, "Faithful to the Future." What a season this will be!

I hope you will take the opportunity this fall to "settle back in" at Morningside and join in the wonderfully vibrant worship, service, fellowship, and education that your congregation has to offer. This is a commu-

nity full of energy, hope, and passion for the gospel of Jesus Christ and the mission of God in the world. At no time is that more obvious than in these weeks of transition from summer into fall.



Speaking of transition, the dedicated members serving on the Pastor Nominating Committee are also continuing their prayerful discernment and important work this fall. Please keep these individuals and their ministry in your prayers as together they seek God's will for the next chapter of Morningside's ministry and mission. Certainly the future of this congregation is full of promise and possibility, and even now God is preparing the way into that bright future.

Finally, I want to be sure that all of you have Sept. 26 circled on your calendars. That Sunday, Morningside will welcome renowned preacher, teacher, scholar, storyteller, and author Fred Craddock as our distinguished guest preacher. Dr. Craddock has been one of



America's most popular and powerful preachers for decades, and is particularly beloved for his ability to interweave the narratives of scripture and the human stories of our lives. You will *not* want to miss worship and Dr. Craddock's sermon that Sunday, and you *will* want to invite your friends and neighbors. Just another reason why Morningside is *the place to be* this fall.

See you in church,

Christopher Henry

Music, Merriment Will Celebrate 20 Years with Walter

Morningside’s widely admired Organist/Choirmaster Walter Huff hasn’t really been at this church ‘forever.’ It’s been ‘only’ 20 years since he took the helm of the worship-music program cited in every listening session we’ve ever held as “one of Morningside Presbyterian’s major strengths”. Now it’s time to celebrate that 20-year milestone.

Two events will honor Walter the weekend of Oct. 16-17. The first will be a dinner and musical program with speakers and other surprises at the Druid Hills Country Club, Saturday evening Oct. 16 at 6:30 p.m. Invitations for the dinner, which will cost \$50 per person plus offer a cash bar, will be mailed in September with a deadline of Oct. 1 to reserve. Worship the following morning will feature special music, including the appearance of some of our choir alumni, and a reception afterwards in Fellowship Hall. Financial gifts in



Walter’s honor to benefit the church’s music program are welcomed. Philip Hawkins, in charge of the planning committee, also is seeking mementos of Walter’s tenure to include in the celebration.

In addition to his duties playing and teaching at Morningside, Walter has been chorus master for the Atlanta Opera for 22 years. One highlight of this position was traveling to Europe in 2008 to direct the opera chorus for “Porgy and Bess” in Paris and on tour in France, Spain, and Luxembourg. A winner in the first season of the Loridans Arts Awards recognizing exceptional long-term contributions to Atlanta arts, Walter also coaches private students, other theatrical vocal groups, and teaches voice classes at Paideia School.

Morningside Milestones

- Sign up to get shot! We’re going to create our own digital pictorial church directory and we’ll be photographing members after worship Sept. 12, 19 and 26. It’ll only take five minutes to smile for the camera, so sign up on the bulletin board next to the Session Room or call the church office. We’re still looking for photographers for our ongoing photo documentation, too—let Melinda Sandkam know of your interest.
- Please keep our Haiti pilgrimage volunteers in your prayers as they continue to prepare for their trip: Roland Behm, Carolyn and Peter Cobb, Bonnie and George Daneker, Bryan Davis, Amy DeBaets, Tony Fishpaw, Tim Gargis, Lisa and Shannon Harris, Todd Jones, Greg Morton, and Brad Odom.
- With the sacrament of baptism, we welcomed Master Haden and Miss Finley Holaway to our church fellowship Sept. 25. Proud parents are Shawn and Mary Hardy.
- We offer our Christian sympathy to Michelle Berreth and her family following the death of her stepfather, Fred Moates.
- Member Linda Langstraat has returned to the West Coast. She’d love to hear from you at lindaglangstraat@gmail.com, 720 NW 11th Street, Corvallis, OR 97330.
- *THERE’S STILL TIME TO SIGN UP TO ENJOY FELLOWSHIP AND RENEWAL AT OUR FALL RETREAT TO MONTREAT, NC. BE IN TOUCH WITH SARAH BROWNLEE TO JOIN US!*

New Class Explores Sharing Faith with Children

Whether you're a parent, grandparent, or anyone who takes seriously our promise at baptism to nurture the faith of the children among us, you'll find food for thought in a new adult class, "Adults and Children Sharing Faith."

As our leader, we welcome Dr. Kathy Dawson, Associate Professor of Christian Education at Columbia Theological Seminary. Dr. Dawson has a special interest in both spiritual development and children's ministry. She not only teaches courses on these subjects at the seminary but is called upon as a keynote speaker and workshop leader in these fields throughout the country.

This latest offering in our Faith and Issues curriculum will convene in the Session Room every Sunday in

September at 9:45 a.m. Drop your kids off in the nursery (Room 105) or for their own Sunday school experience (Room 001) and come share ideas and gain helpful insights on developing a Christian life with kids.

If you're more interested in growing your own faith through better Biblical knowledge, join the class led by Chris Henry in Room 201. Through Sept. 19, the Morningside Bible Class will continue its study of one of the most complex and fascinating characters in the Old Testament. The study is titled "A Solitary Man: The Conflicted Life of King David." Sept. 26 begins a four-week study on the Major Prophets, starting with Isaiah. This class also meets at 9:45 a.m.

'Bible and Brunch' Combines Fellowship, Study

This fall, we begin a new monthly event at Morningside that combines Bible study and fellowship. On the third Thursday of each month, beginning Sept. 16, at 10 a.m., all are invited to gather in Room 201 for a study of the Letter to the Ephesians, which contains some of the most poetic and beautiful language in the New Testament and is a powerful call to unity and

mission. Let's be clear: Bible and Brunch is not a 'women only' gathering—all are invited! Childcare is provided. At 11:15 a.m. we will travel together to a local restaurant for brunch and table fellowship. Plan to join us for Bible and Brunch on Sept. 16 as we begin our study of Ephesians.

'Theology on Tap' Changes Meeting Date for September

The Men of Morningside will begin the fourth season of our "Theology on Tap" program on Tuesday, Sept. 14 (note change to *second* Tuesday this month only) with an after-dinner presentation by Richard LaMadeleine, retired Catholic priest and director of spiritual counseling at Talbott Recovery Campus and Anchor Hospital in Atlanta. The topic for the evening is "Personal Transformation and the God You Understand: Lessons Learned from Addiction and Recovery."

The guys will share their evening meal beginning at 7 p.m. in the park pavilion beyond Van Crisco's house (466 Seminole at Avenue, 30307). Van recommends everyone bring a camp chair and bug spray! For more information or to RSVP, contact Assoc. Pastor Chris Henry.

Elders on Call for September

Carolyn Morton	September 5-11
Bobbie McCrackin	September 12-18
Bill Southwood	September 19-25
David Wingert	September 26-October 2

Deacons on Call for September

Tim Gargis	September 5-11
Shari Tant	September 12-18
Bradley Odom	September 19-25
Betsy Holland	September 26-October 2

Your Session at Work: August 16 Meeting

- On behalf of Children and Youth Ministries, **Melinda Sandkam** reported on the success of this year’s mission camp, which enjoyed an increase in enrollment to 21, up from 13 the year before. The camp also extended its daily hours to eight from six last year. She also cited the success of the Sunday school kick-off Aug. 15. For the preschool, Melinda reported MPP’s projected earnings of \$7,000 from this year’s summer camp.
- Facilities Chair **John Watson** reviewed MPC’s fire evacuation plan and training for elders and distributed diagrams that highlight the location of fire extinguishers and exits all through the building. His team will post the diagrams in key locations throughout the church.
- **Mardee Rightmyer**, team leader for Discipleship Ministries, commended everyone’s attention to the ‘menu’ of adult Christian education offerings beginning now and running through Advent. In addition to small group meetings and Bible studies, there will be two CE tracks on Sunday mornings: Morningside Bible Class and Faith and Issues. Mardee noted that copies of the CE menu are in the Welcome Center alongside a booklet highlighting Rev. Chris Henry’s fall sermon series, “Burning Questions for 21st Century Christians”.
- **Leslie Prince** and **Melinda Sandkam** reported on behalf of the Mission Ministries team that on Aug. 9 there was a “Mission Re-Focus Discussion” at which Intown Collaborative Ministries, Clifton Night Shelter, community outreach and other topics were discussed.
- For Evangelism Ministries, **Melinda Sandkam** reported on an initiative to better manage the church’s photos. Her team’s work will include identifying what software is needed to hold photographs for current use and archiving. The church is seeking volunteer photographers, she said.
- At a called session meeting Aug. 1, the session approved MPC member **Bart Smith’s** advancement

from the Inquiry phase of his seminary studies to Candidacy phase. **Chris Henry** noted that at its Aug. 5 meeting the Presbytery’s Committee on Preparation for Ministry approved Bart as a candidate for ministry. Bart attends Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

- The session unanimously approved a request from our Presbytery’s Committee for Inclusion to hold its Pride Service in Morningside’s Sanctuary Oct. 7.

Ruthlyn Newell

Clerk of Session



September Birthdays

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Leslie Brenner | 10 Betsy Armstrong |
| 1 Karen Christensen Cox | 12 Bryan Davis |
| 1 Chris Henry | 13 Lisa Jern |
| 2 Andrea Arnold | 15 Mark Keaveney |
| 3 Natalie Johnson | 15 Sophia Regnault |
| 3 Holly Campbell | 15 Al Adams |
| 4 Jennifer Jones | 16 Ruthlyn Newell |
| 4 Dixon Taylor | 18 Evan Bresnahan |
| 5 Robert Dowd | 20 Shirley Adair |
| 5 Gloria Joiner | 20 Ken Sapp |
| 6 David Cox | 22 Jim Walker |
| 7 Emy Riley | 22 Julia Taylor |
| 8 Roxanne Sullivan | 23 Maggie McIntosh |
| 9 Chad Johnson | 24 Braxton Jarratt |
| 9 Alan Boren | 24 Hugh Bell |
| 9 Barbara Jones | 24 Jan McMahan |
| 10 Brooke Lampe | 25 Vickie Hunter |
| 10 Trenton Tunnell | 25 Daniel White |
| | 25 Bobbie McCrackin |
| | 26 Lele Ruby |
| | 26 Greg Morton |
| | 27 Spencer Adams |

Donate a Day to Help Seniors with HOMES

Come join the workforce Saturday, Sept. 18, as we help elderly citizens enjoy their own homes by doing maintenance chores they can no longer manage themselves. Jack Klotz and Lloyd Prince arranged the outreach through Home Owner Maintenance and Enhancement for Seniors—or HOMES—after a similar experience during our spring pilgrimage to Washington DC.

There's a signup sheet on the Mission board in the church hallway or call Lloyd (404 840.2710) or Jack (678 428.6255) to volunteer. You don't need tools—just bring gloves and your willing heart.



Richard and Sarah Brownlee form part of a gardening team at a home near Washington DC.



Brad Odom chats with one of the homeowners served during the Washington trip.