



Morningside Messenger

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

November 2010 Worship at Morningside

November 7, 2010

Sermon: "Faithful to the Future"

Texts: Jeremiah 29:10-14, 1 Timothy 6:17-19

Christopher Henry preaching

The sacrament of communion will be celebrated.

November 14, 2010

Sermon: "Imagination and the Kingdom of God"

Text: Isaiah 65:17-25

Christopher Henry preaching

Congregational Meeting

Sunday Forum

November 21, 2010

Christ the King Sunday

Sermon: "Remember It's All About Jesus"

Texts: Jeremiah 23:1-6; Luke 23:33-43

Rodger Nishioka preaching

November 28, 2010

First Sunday of Advent

Sermon: "Gathered In"

Text: Isaiah 2:1-5

Christopher Henry preaching

Dear Friends,

This November, I am grateful for the rhythmic pattern of life in the church and beyond. As the seasons change, leaves turn and drop from trees, and the evening temperatures cool, I am reminded of those powerfully memorable words from the third chapter of Ecclesiastes: “for everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven.” This is true in every arena of human life, from the most deeply personal to the most broadly communal.

In the rhythm of a church's life, the month of November gives us reason to look ahead. We anticipate the coming of Christmas through the liturgical season of eager waiting called Advent, which begins this year on Nov. 28. We also prepare for a new year of ministry and mission through the annual commitment season. Each November, along with the falling leaves and changing colors, we welcome the opportunity to give thanks for the multitude of blessings in our lives, and to make our commitment to the future of our congregation. Commitment (or stewardship) season is an annual reminder to live with gratitude and generosity.

This year's commitment theme at Morningside, “Faithful to the Future,” gives witness to the changing of seasons in the life of this congregation. As you will read elsewhere in this month's *Messenger*, we have heard hopeful and promising news from the Pastor Nominating Committee, now in the final stage of its work. In this season of transition and change, we are called to be faithful to the future that God is preparing. We are called to lean into that future through the commitment of our resources, our talents, and our time.

In every season, God is faithful. In January's *Messenger*, I wrote words that seem again appropriate: “As we begin a period of transition, we do so under the banner of God's constant and unfailing presence.” Some things never change. At Morningside, our dedication to worship that is deeply spiritual, nourishing, and challenging will continue to be strong. Our emphasis on outreach and mission to the local and global communities will not subside. Our commitment to children and youth, and their families, will be unwavering. These have been hallmarks of our past, and they are beacons of our future.

This season has been filled with signs of great hope at Morningside. In January we were privileged to honor Rev. Joanna Adams, and to celebrate her thirty years of distinguished pastoral ministry, her impact on the city of Atlanta and the Presbyterian denomination, and her five years at Morningside. They were remarkable years filled with unprecedented growth in every aspect of the church's life, years of renovation and resurrection. This year, we've built on that firm foundation. So far, we have welcomed 25 new members to the life of the congregation. We celebrated 20 years of music ministry led by the one and only Walter Huff and his incomparable choir. We expanded our mission in the community through partnership with the newly created Intown Collaborative Ministries. We built relationships with the people of Haiti during our first pilgrimage to Port-au-Prince. We have seen electrifying growth within our ministry to children and youth, surely the brightest sign of hope for the future. In a season of change, we have been blessed by opportunities for, mission, fellowship, education, and worship. God has truly been faithful.

As we turn our gaze toward the future, we do so with great faith and commitment. In this and every season, we are claimed and called by the sovereign God whose grace provides all we need for the living of these days, and all the days to come.

See you in church,



Christopher Henry



*Morningside Presbyterian Church
will celebrate Rev. Chris Henry's
five-and-a-half-year ministry
to our congregation with a
potluck lunch and sharing of
our special memories of Chris
after worship Sunday, Dec. 5.*

Message Ties PNC Process to Faithful Future

(Choir and Pastor Nominating Committee member Jennye Guy offered this outstanding Minute Message on Oct. 24.)

Recently, I read a quote that said, “Don’t ask the Lord to guide your steps unless you are willing to move your feet.” Well, we on the PNC have been moving our feet on your behalf. You elected and commissioned us to do that. We have gone to churches inside Georgia and outside Georgia. We have looked at candidates in our Presbytery and outside of it. I’m happy to report that we are in the final stage of our process. That’s Step 6 of the “PNC Search Process” chart on Morningside’s website. Step 6 calls for the PNC to interview the top candidates and make a selection. Morningside, we’re nearing the conclusion of our work.

Please... help us to honor and maintain the integrity and confidentiality of the search process. We are asking you to trust us—and the search process—a little longer and not get impatient. Please don’t ask us—off in a corner somewhere, or in the hall, or even in the ladies’ or men’s rooms—“Come on, you can tell me. I won’t tell anyone. Do we have a pastor yet?” If we are asked, we will answer: “We are on Step 6.”

We have felt your prayers traveling with us as we have moved our feet. But now, we come to you, asking you to move your feet as well. This is my second message to you: in two Sundays (on Nov. 7), we will all present our pledges to our Morningside sisters and brothers and to God. Part of being Faithful to the Future is funding that future. Now, as Presbyterians, we don’t go in for fish fries and barbecue dinners as our main economic engines. And since we don’t do that, we have to make our budget the

old-fashioned way: the way Moses and his Levites did in the desert; the way Solomon and his subjects did in Jerusalem—when God’s house and his people needed funds with which to work. What is that old-fashioned way? Tithes and offerings—our pledges.

It may be helpful to think of our stewardship campaign as a three-legged stool: The first leg will prepare us for our new pastoral leadership; the second leg will ensure our church has a strong foundation for our children and youth; and the third leg will help us sustain and expand our mission into the community around us and the world at large.

We want to build a strong three-legged stool—not for sitting on, but for standing on—for clearer visibility. What better gift could we give our new pastor than to give them a healthy budget, a budget supported by all of us?

The time to begin being faithful to the future is now. As we prepare ourselves to receive our new pastor, let us also prepare ourselves fiscally. Let us welcome our new leader with clear, tangible, countable signs of our support of their leadership into our future.

Morningside, God has begun a wonderful work here. It is evident in the explosive and steady growth of our membership. It is definitely evident in the numbers of our children. Now it is up to us to show our faith, and our faithfulness, to that future God is giving us by pledging strongly.

Morningside Milestones

- Join Carrie and Brendan Branon and big sister Cate in welcoming Mary Caroline, to be called Molly, on Oct. 8.
- We’ve got a knack for homemaking! Thanks to everyone who helped furnish and move in the new refugee family from Burma under the care of Six Star Partnership. To learn more about how to help refugee families, contact shepherds Betsy Armstrong (770 396.6496) or Holly Campbell (404 233.0045). We also complete our service to Habitat for Humanity and the annual fall Interfaith Build Nov. 21.
- Congratulations to Keith Blount and everyone who supported the AIDS Walk—our team raised the highest amount this year in MPC history. And our preschool fundraisers—Funderball and MPP Night at La Tavola raised almost \$10,000 for the school’s enrichment classes.
- As Advent approaches—can you believe it’s that season already?—if you’d like to be part of the fellowship and ministry that beautifies our church for the holidays (or throughout the year), be in touch with the chair of our Flower Guild, Georgia Marshall (404 371.1998). No previous experience necessary!

MPC Pilgrimage Finds Hope in Haiti

"*Lespwa fè viv.*" (Hope makes one live.)

The 14 members of MPC's Haiti Pilgrimage set off Oct. 9 with anticipation, prayer, and perhaps a sprinkle of trepidation. We'd seen news images of devastation in Haiti, but nothing prepared us for our first glimpse of the conditions (and number) of tent cities in Port-au-Prince, and the ubiquitous piles of rubble and fallen buildings. It was an eye-opening introduction to the many challenges the people of Haiti are facing, now nine months after the earthquake. However, when we arrived at the gate of the St. Joseph's Home for Boys that first day, we were immediately greeted with hugs, laughter, and a warm "Bonjour" for all. After a ride through a city of uncertainty, St. Joseph's was an oasis of love and hope for us weary travelers – just as it has been for 25 years for boys formerly living on the streets of Haiti.

The St. Joseph's family graciously welcomed us into their daily meals, morning and evening prayer services, and a moving Sunday worship service led by the boys themselves. Though none of us understood Haitian Creole, we felt the Lord's spirit move through their words as we stood together in solidarity.

"*Men anpil chay pa lou.*" (Many hands make the load lighter.)

On Jan. 12, 2010, St. Joseph's was bustling with preparation for their upcoming 25th anniversary celebration. New curtains were hung, walls were freshly painted, and the family was expecting 250 guests to their seven-story home. Just before the bell rang for prayer that day, their world turned upside down.

Today the family lives in a home adjacent to their original property, and some boys have temporarily moved to St. Joseph's Trinity House in Jacmel. They have removed most of the rubble of their former home – piece by piece, bucket by bucket, with many hands helping along the way. By our arrival, they were just weeks away from commencing construction on their new home. As we helped remove remaining rubble, we were struck with tremendous appreciation for the sheer magnitude of work involved when construction vehicles are impossible to obtain.

"*Dye mon, gen mon.*" (Beyond the mountains, more mountains.)

Tuesday we traveled nearly an hour up into the mountains to Wings of Hope in Fermathe, where we spent the rest of our time in Haiti. St. Joseph's Family started Wings to provide a life with new possibilities for children with mental and/or physical challenges, many of whom had been abandoned or abused. At Wings, the children have blossomed under the loving care and educational and physical therapy programs provided by volunteers and staff, many of whom are graduates of St. Joseph's Home for Boys.

We met the ever-smiling and energetic Steve, whose cries of "Hallelujah!" filled the air. We walked (and walked, and walked!) with Gesner, who took our hands and led us on his own special tours. We were charmed by the kisses of Josephine, who made sure we all knew her nickname: "drama queen." Before we knew it, all of the children had stolen our hearts.

Between building bookshelves, sorting donations, playing with the children, and helping in the classrooms, we took the children on a field trip for a lunch of pizza and burgers, and we danced to the beat of bongo drums at an unforgettable dance party.

"*Piti, piti, wazo fe nich li.*" (Little by little, the bird builds its nest.)

Like St. Joseph's, Wings also lost its home in the earthquake. The family is living on rented property near the old site, and is anxious to rebuild. In the past nine months the St. Joseph's Family has faced tremendous challenges, but their resiliency – and the resiliency of people of Haiti in general – was inspiring to us all. As Michael Geilenfeld, the founder of St. Joseph's, told us, the family has come to see the earthquake as an opportunity for resurrection, for rebirth. They will rise above the rubble and emerge stronger, with the help of others who stand in solidarity with them.

We were proud to represent MPC in Haiti, and we are grateful for everyone's prayers, support, and donations (we carried more than 800 pounds of "second suitcases"!). We invite everyone to get to know the St. Joseph's Family at www.heartswithhaiti.org or by talking with any member from the pilgrimage.

Lisa Harris

MPC Gears Up for Autumn Outreach Activities

Kids, families, the hungry, the homeless and the ailing all could use our helping hands as the holidays approach. And here at Morningside Presbyterian? Let us count the ways....

Our long-term involvement with cold-weather shelters at Druid Hills Presbyterian and Shearith Israel Synagogue (for men and women respectively) gears up for the fall. Druid Hills Night Shelter has become a year round shelter as of their October opening. Shearith Israel Women's Shelter opens on Nov. 15. We continue to grow our relationship with each of these important outreaches. We invite MPC members to sign up to provide a dish and/or to serve dinner to 30 men on the second Sunday evening each month, beginning Nov. 14. We will collect coats and other warm clothing items at the Dec. 19 Carol Sing for the women staying at SIS, and we have combined our two commitments to provide overnight 'volunteers' at the shelter to one long week in January. So, mark your calendars now to help out one night as one of two volunteers needed Jan. 8-16.

As we begin to choose recipes and plan menus for our holiday meals, please keep in mind those who are struggling to secure regular groceries every day. Help us fill the large canisters from Atlanta Community Food Bank starting Nov. 14. There will be lists of recommended non-perishables available to take with you on trips to grocery store. And if stirring and baking are more your thing, don't forget to pick up a pan on Pick-a-Pan Sun-

day, to provide lunch for those living with HIV/AIDS on the second Tuesday of each month.

Now here are two opportunities to reach out to our church, preschool and neighborhood children and their families and have fun doing it. In early November and then again the first Monday in December, our congregation offers two great events. And your help is needed to make them happen! On Monday, Nov. 8, the Thanksgiving Gathering is a family friendly evening that includes dinner, crafts, games and fellowship. The meal is from 5:30-6:45 p.m. and helpers are needed for set up, serving and clean up. Contact co-chairs Link Marx fmarx25@yahoo.com and Brenda Fishpaw Brenda@firstfidelityatl.com to sign up.

Then, on Dec. 6, we offer a great holiday gift to all the families in our community. Parents can drop their children (infant through fifth grade) off at the church from 5-8 p.m. The kids will enjoy activities and pizza and loving childcare while the parents enjoy three hours of time all to themselves. Sign up will begin in November for both participants AND volunteers. Please be a part of one or both of these important outreaches.

It's a Bird, It's a Plane, It's a Book Fair!

Morningside Presbyterian Preschool's Scholastic Book Fair will be held Nov. 8– 11 in the church parlor. Hours will be 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. on Monday and 8:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday. Also, we can purchase books to donate to Our House, the preschool for children facing homelessness, at our annual Thanksgiving Gathering, Monday Nov. 8 (see story above for more).

Be sure to tell neighbors and relatives. Books make perfect gifts! Contact Sarah Tomaka at mpp@morningsidepc.org with questions.



'Fall' Into One of These Ways to Learn, Grow, Help This Month

'Tis the season to get busy! Check out this full slate of November activities:

First up, the Men of Morningside will consider the place of the church—and our church—in the world today on Tuesday, Nov. 2, at 7 p.m. at the home of Ken Sharpe (1700 Timberland Rd., 30345). This meeting of “Theology on Tap” will begin as usual with a tasty meal and will be led by Chris Henry.

Concerned with peace and justice in the Middle East? A one-day conference will bring together speakers from Palestine, Israel, the Carter Center and authors of a recent Presbyterian Church (USA) study at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Saturday, Nov. 6, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The \$30 cost includes lunch. To register, call 404-846.4395.

The evening of Nov. 6, the Young Adults plan to have a good time while benefiting the Atlanta Community Food Bank. Bring canned goods and a side dish and beverage to share to the party at Anna and Miguel Garcia's home (739 Wildwood Place, 30324) at 6 p.m. RSVP to the Garcias at 404 909.0007.

Nov. 7 is not only Commitment Sunday, it's a movie premiere! Bob Wells has been filming the many faces and places around our church and the film debut will be a highlight of the congregational lunch after worship. (And don't forget those pledges and especially your Time and Talent Forms so we can make this church continue to hum in 2011.) That Sunday is also a chance to get your photo snapped for the digital directory. We want everyone's faces on line so our new pastor can match them with our names, right?

This month only, the One Gray Hair luncheon will move to the second Wednesday, Nov. 10, at noon. Come hear all about the fun—and food—Sanda and Bill Means enjoyed on their recent trip to Italy.

The MPC Couples' next gathering is Friday, Nov. 12, 7 p.m., at Kathy and Alan Bremer's house (785 Cumberland Rd., 30306). Just bring a beverage--we'll supply the rest. Come for a relaxed evening of couple fun! Couples who haven't been able to join us before and new MPC members/visitors are most welcome. RSVP to 404 872.3001 by Nov. 9!

More than 40 members were nominated to serve as elders, deacons and members of the 2011 Officer Nominating Committee. Our elected representatives will play an even more important role than usual as we enter a new phase in the life of our congregation. Nov. 14 immediately after worship we'll meet to consider the slate presented for our approval or nominate candidates from the floor. Don't miss this important time to select the future leaders of MPC.

After that, plan to attend the Sunday Forum in Fellowship Hall. If it's a wet year, do we need to worry about water? If our population is growing, is there really anything we can do to decrease our water demand? As a faith community, what can we do to help? These questions, and more, will be discussed. As a partner church with the Presbytery's Earth Covenant Ministry, Morningside is hosting “Tapped Out: The Drying Up of Atlanta.” Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper Sally Bethea has produced a presentation that examines the causes of the water crisis in the Chattahoochee River watershed and offers practical solutions for citizens, business people, and policy-makers. Other major cities have actually decreased their water demand while population increased. We can do it too--attend this forum to learn how. Contact Sarah Tomaka (sarah.tomaka@gmail.com) for more information.

The final Women's Roundtable for 2010 will hear an update from Katrell Christie, founder of The Learning Tea, which works toward education and care for women and orphan girls in the Darjeeling region of India. Katrell also owns Dr. Bombay's Underwater Tea Party and recently returned from six weeks in India buying tea and working with women's issues. Come for dinner and conversation beginning at 6:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 22, at the home of Amy Jarratt (1697 N. Pelham, 30324).



Anniversary Celebration Focuses on 20

Morningside Presbyterian's Organist/Choirmaster Walter Huff came to our church in 1990 and has built a choral and instrumental worship program second to none in the city. We paused on the weekend of Oct. 16-17 to pay tribute to this remarkable artist and the joy he brings to our hearts every Sunday and on many special occasions.

A highlight of the weekend was the reception on Sunday in Fellowship Hall. The Chancel Choir, swelled with alumni who'd come in from all over the country to celebrate with Walter and our congregation, offered a rendition of a song they'd written to the tune of "Consider Yourself," from the musical "Oliver!" Some of the lines are quoted on these pages along with snapshots from the weekend.



You can't keep Walter away from the piano! Here he accompanies choir alumna Marcy Meredith and choir member Tami Giusto as they sing "By My Side" at the Saturday dinner at Druid Hills Golf Club.

"Rehearsal's intense, but fun.

Pour vowels are pure, we spit out those consonants.

So welcome to choir, y'awll.

It's clear we're going to lose that drawl!"

Many friends representing our pastors, colleagues, friends and choir members shared memories of Walter at the dinner. Here, David and Sheryl Wingert demonstrate why choir rehearsals no longer include dressing up for Halloween.

"If you want to come and sing,

It's true you cannot just do your thing!"



Years of Music Ministry at Morningside

“Together we can be strong, and welcoming all, no fuss. The goal, you see, is unity in word and song, consider Yourselves part of us.”



Walter’s parents Walter H. and Jane, brother Peter and sister-in-law Mary and nephew Malcolm were among the party guests.

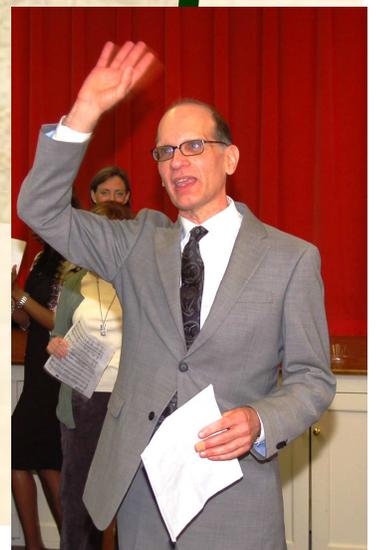
*To the Morningside congregation:
My head is still full of the magnificent sights and sounds of the 20th anniversary celebration weekend. My soul and mind are touched by the affection and tributes that were flying around me--at "breakneck speed" (a very special thank you to speakers Joanna Adams, Sarah Brownlee, Sandra Crawford, Philip Hawkins, Christopher Henry, Dana Kling, and Sheryl/David Wingert). My heart knows that such unity of spirit is indeed a rare thing in life to experience.*

It was, of course, a very special time in my career here at MPC. My most sincere thanks go out to those (you know who you are!) who helped to coordinate, plan, and execute such an event...the invitations, the guest list, the RSVPs, the menu, the flowers, the seating, and the special Sunday fellowship hour (with polished silver, yet!)...It was truly the best of Morningside church on display.

The service on Sunday, Oct. 17, was an example of the best that Worship can bring to us...from the strains of the trumpet and oboe, to the exhilaration of "You are Salt for the Earth" with our wonderful alumni choir, to the timeless majesty of Bach. "Soli Dei Gloria"--To God Alone be Glory.

*With love and thanks,
Walter Huff*

At the reception, Walter learned that the congregation would be purchasing a new rehearsal piano in his honor. It looks like the idea was a hit with our choirmaster! *“Many of us did see, it chanced to be, some harder days, Empty larder days, sho’ nuff! But there was one stayed true to me and you, and pulled us through, And his name is Walter Huff!”*



Classes Will Wrestle with Scripture, Great Ends

This month, MPC's fall 'menu' of study options will join together to present one track for adults. Through Nov. 14, the Morningside Bible Class continues its four-week study on "Faithful Disagreement: Wrestling with Scripture in the Church." This series examines some of the more controversial and debated passages of scripture, and some ways we in the church might approach them faithfully. This group meets in Room 201 at 9:45 Sunday mornings.

Meanwhile, in the Session Room, the Faith and Issues attendees will discuss "What's the Point of Church?" a three-week look at the Great Ends of the church as de-

finied by the Presbyterian Church (USA) Book of Order. What do these concepts mean in the life of our congregation and in our personal lives? Come and find out as Dr. Mardee Rightmyer leads the discussion. (On Nov. 21, all adults are invited to join this study.)

This year, Walter Huff and the Chancel Choir will feature George Handel's beloved classic for the Advent and Christmas seasons, "The Messiah." Our Advent study for everyone will explore both the Bible references and music of this well-known oratorio, beginning Nov. 28. Choral director Elizabeth Rice and our staff will lead this study in Room 201.

Dr. Rodger Nishioka to Preach at Morningside on November 21

On Nov. 21, our congregation will be honored to welcome as guest preacher Dr. Rodger Nishioka, who holds the Benton Family chair in Christian education at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA. Rodger teaches in the area of Christian education and practical theology, and is a nationally recognized leader in ministry with youth and young adults.

Prior to his joining the faculty at Columbia, Rodger served for 12 years as denominational staff in youth and young adult ministry for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). He has taught, lectured, preached, and led workshops all over the world, and we welcome him back to Morningside, a church in which he has worshipped many times.

Rev. Henry Leads His Last 'Bible and Brunch' This Month

In November we continue our monthly event at Morningside that combines Bible study and fellowship. On Thursday, Nov. 18, at 10 a.m., all are invited to gather in Room 201 for a study of the Letter to the Ephesians 4:1-16. This Pauline letter contains some of the most poetic and beautiful language in the New Testament and is a powerful call to unity and mission. At 11:30 a.m., we'll travel together to a local restaurant for brunch and table fellowship.

'MORNINGSIDE MADE' RETURNS WITH GIFT IDEAS FOR HOLIDAYS

Our local artists and crafters will show—and sell—their wares the weekend of Dec. 3-5 in Fellowship Hall. We may just have that unusual decorative or useful item for the "person who has everything" and proceeds benefit the Morningside Presbyterian Preschool. Watch for information about exact sale dates and times. For more information or to participate, contact Daisy Ottmann at 404. 812.9725, dazette@bellsouth.net.



Elders on Call for November

Tom Daniel	November 7-13
Jill Davis	November 14-20
Philip Hawkins	November 21-27
Jay Myers	November 28-December 4

Deacons on Call for November

Tim Gargis	November 7-13
Bill Smith	November 14-20
Bill Means	November 21-27
Betsy Holland	November 28-December 4

Our Congregation Salutes Senior Members on Our Birthday

Morningside Presbyterian Church turns 85 this month. Impressive? We've certainly had an interesting history and witnessed momentous times as a congregation—World War II, desegregation, reunification of our denomination, ordination of women and the threat of a major highway through our neighborhood....

We also have an impressive group of members who've seen all that and more—every one of them has passed the 90-year-old mark. Infirmary keeps most of them from attending, but all remain in the hearts and memories of members whose lives they've touched.

Our most senior member is one of our newest. **Ruth Wells** moved to Atlanta seven years ago and joined Morningside. Ruth will turn 100 on Apr. 26. She lives with her son and daughter in law, Bob and Rosemary Wells. Ruth was an avid athlete in both high school and college. She was a very good golfer. Her husband, who almost turned pro, introduced her to the game. She finally put away her clubs when she was 90 years old.

Betty Blaine turned 90 last month. During the Second World War, she served in the Marine Corps and worked in Washington, living in the barracks with other women Marines. They all went off to work in the offices of the Corp in downtown Washington every day. Betty joined Morningside as a teenager. Jan McMahan's family who lived across the street originally brought Betty to Sunday School and she's been a member ever since. Betty was a devoted member of the Trinity adult Sunday class and also had lots of activities throughout the week. Nell Roberts thinks Betty has been a member longer than anyone else since she joined so young. Betty keeps a history of Morningside--all the pictorial directories that have been made throughout the years. She still lives independently in her own home with the help of nearby daughters.

Geneva Bourne, who will be 96 this month, lives with her son Jack and his wife in Norcross. Her family moved to our neighborhood when Jack was a teenager. They all transferred their memberships from Pryor Street Presbyterian to MPC after Jack became he involved in Morningside's Sunday school and church athletics and she's remained a member ever since.

Joan Long currently lives in Loganville with her daughter Mary and can no longer attend. Joan, a war bride from England, and her husband Ben joined Morningside in 1953-

Joan by transfer from Cheltenham Parish Church in Gloucester; Ben from the Commerce Presbyterian Church. Their two daughters, Mary and Anne, grew up at MPC, Mary is now Mary Clendenen. She is an MPC bride.

Julia Taylor just turned 90 in September. Her daughter, Julie Green, visits her for breakfast every morning before going to work. Mrs. Taylor's favorite past time is working puzzles (keep it to 500 pieces!) and reading biographies. Her other daughter, Catherine Taylor, is a distinguished pastor in Virginia and has been a guest preacher here. Julia loves to read *Pepy's Diaries* and has read them more than 11 times!

Nell Roberts is 92. You will find her in church most every Sunday sitting near the front on the left. Nell is proud to be our oldest active member! Nell was 'born a Presbyterian' and joined MPC in 1955. She is the youngest of three sisters who all went to Agnes Scott College. Her two sisters chose teaching as a career and Nell ended up doing administrative work at Grady High School after her children graduated. Nell uses the computer to email friends and for a lot of other things. Her son is a computer specialist and her personal "consultant." The Roberts family built the house where she lives in 1928. She finally had to replace the boiler. It cost twice what it cost to build the house!

November Birthdays

1 Gabe Couret	17 Art Sweum
1 Barbara Brooks	20 Anne Menefee
3 Miguel Garcia	20 Robert McIntosh
3 Ginny Fergus	20 Anna Palmer
3 Ann Benson	21 Nell Roberts
4 Will James	22 Harrison Hackney
4 Tara Parrish	22 Clint Holmes
5 Pamela Wilson	23 Sherry Walls
6 Mac Frampton	24 Geneva Bourne
6 Samuel Wingert	24 Amy DeBaets
6 Lindy Menefee	24 Bradley Odom
7 John Moore	25 Kira Hullinger
8 Kelly Myers	25 Link Marx
9 Anna Garcia	27 Laura Marshall
10 Maria Ragland	27 Loretta Pinkston
10 Malcolm Young	26 Jack Perez
11 Grace Howard	28 Tony Fishpaw
12 Charlotte Sommerfeld	28 Bret Adams
12 Julie Loring	28 Richard Brownlee
12 Amelia Weltner	28 Kathleen Pramik
15 Joseph Cochran	28 Mark Neill
15 Rhonda McIntosh	29 William Hackney
	29 Leslie Prince

Kids' Fall Pops with Big Fun, Hawks, Christmas Pageant

If you (or your parents) haven't signed up to join the cast and crew for MPC's annual Christmas Pageant, please be in touch with Program Director Melinda Sandkam [now](#). This year's nativity play will be Sunday evening, Dec. 19, and will be followed by a light supper and carol sing. There will be two new features to the pageant: our sixth-grade students will have the option of being in the performance or being directors and stage crew.

Many people participate to make this celebration of the birth of the baby Jesus a fun and meaningful event. We have volunteers to help with practices, build props and sets, sew costumes, usher and greet and help provide dinner afterwards. All these volunteers get to share a special time of year with the 50 children who participate. Please contact Melinda if you can help in any way.

Speaking of the children's choirs, our Treble Choir will sing during worship Nov. 7. This will be their second appearance this fall.

Following a wild gathering for Pizza and Ping Pong in October, the Double Digits (grades four through seven) will be attending a Hawks basketball game on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 14. Contact Heather Bardole at hefbardole@gmail.com immediately if you have a Double Digit who would like to join in the fun.

Big Fun for elementary age kids on Saturday, Nov. 13, will explore all the different aspects of the Christmas story – shepherds, angels, magi and holy family. Be sure to RSVP to Maggie Adams at magadams@gmail.com that your child will be in the mix from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. If you are able to volunteer to help, contact Melinda at msandkam@morningsidepc.org.