



# MorningsideMessenger

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## September 2011 Worship at Morningside

### September 4, 2011

Baron Mullis preaching

"Going Home"

Text: Hosea 11:1-11

*The sacrament of baptism will be celebrated.*

### September 11, 2011

*Special Service marking the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of  
September 11, 2001*

Baron Mullis preaching

"When the Dragons Win"

Revelation 12:1-6

*The sacrament of communion will be celebrated.*

*Musical selections by Bernstein, Fauré, and Bach*

### September 18, 2011

*Special Service honoring Rev. Joanna M. Adams as*

*Morningside's Pastor Emerita*

Baron Mullis preaching

"The Power of Hope"

Texts: Isaiah 40:28-31

Matthew 28:16-20

*Musical selections by Bernstein and Clausen*

### September 25, 2011

Baron Mullis preaching

"The Perils of Being A Morning Person"

Text: Matthew 20:1-16

## Dear Friends,

Does it still sound sincere when I say I can't believe it's that time of year again? I feel like I say this every August/September. Right about the time I start to see school buses back on the roads, right about the time that every church I've ever known kicks off Sunday School for the academic year, every year around this time, I shake my head in wonderment that in fact, it is *that time of year* again.



You'd think I'd see it coming, and yet every year it comes as a surprise to me that whatever break I thought I was going to enjoy during the summer is now a distant memory. You'd think I'd have learned by now, but it always sneaks up on me.

It feels sometimes like our lives are dictated by seasons: the change of the weather, the holidays, the breaks in programming. These seasons come and go and with them our lives drift this way and that, sometimes busier, sometimes slower. All the while, time marches on!

But as I think of it, the seasons of our living also have a way of providing a ground for us. We *do* wind up doing the same things year in and year out. And the more we move through these seasons, the more we know how to do all the things that make up our lives. Think of it: if we're in school, knowing that you've done this before is a comfort when it is time to head back. If we're accountants, once we've passed tax season, we know what it looks like. If we're retailers, we know what December feels like.

There is a familiarity about going through the seasons of life. And I think sometimes that very familiarity provides for us a means of looking at life in a fresh way, indeed of looking at faith in a fresh way. As we return to the routines of school and the end of summer, what better time to consider what disciplines we want to add to our lives to enrich them – so that there is something new in the midst of the familiar, to add life and excitement and growth.

So let me encourage you in this time of year when summer is coming to its end to think of how you would like to see your life enriched. If you've never participated in one of our fellowship groups, such as Theology on Tap or Couples Group or Lydia Circle, to name just a few, why not try it? If your attendance at worship has waned a bit, would making a discipline of worship on Sundays ground your faith in a way that offers greater support? Perhaps some fresh service through one of our mission efforts would add richness to your life.

Seasons come and seasons go, and we all know how to live through them. Why not seek some way to add more?

Thanks for reading,

*Baum*

### September Birthdays

1 Leslie Brenner	15 Mark Keaveney
1 Karen Christensen Cox	15 Sophia Regnault
2 Andrea Arnold	15 Al Adams
3 Natalie Johnson	16 Ruthlyn Newell
3 Holly Campbell	18 Evvie Bresnahan
4 David Johnston	19 Jason Williams
4 George Talley	20 Shirley Adair
4 Jennifer Jones	20 Ken Sapp
4 Dixon Taylor	22 Jim Walker
5 Gloria Joiner	23 Maggie McIntosh
6 David Cox	24 Braxton Jarratt
7 Emy Riley	24 Hugh Bell
8 Roxanne Sullivan	24 Jan McMahan
9 Chad Johnson	25 Vickie Hunter
9 Will Hunter	25 Daniel White
9 Alan Boren	25 Bobbie McCrackin
9 Barbara Jones	26 Lele Ruby
10 Baron Mullis	26 Greg Morton
10 Brooke Lampe	27 Spencer Adams
10 Trenton Tunnell	28 Ellis O'Brien
10 Wren Lewis	28 Richard Alexander
10 Betsy Armstrong	
12 Bryan Davis	
13 Lisa Jern	
14 KJ Nuckols	



## MPC Music Leads Us in Marking Somber and Joyful Sundays

The Chancel Choir will present two Sundays of special music in September. Sunday, Sept. 11 brings us to the tenth anniversary of the tragedy known as “9/11.” A tenth anniversary deserves special attention, I believe--especially in remembering such a date in our history.

I will never forget the packed Morningside Sanctuary in 2001, on the Sunday following 9/11. The choir had rallied on the previous Wednesday night, changing all of our previously planned music, attempting to present music that would in some way comfort the congregation on such a Sunday.

For this anniversary, the Choir will present the “Agnus Dei” from Gabriel Fauré’s “Requiem” (which we performed that Sunday in 2001), the second movement based on Psalm 23 from Leonard Bernstein’s “Chichester Psalms,” a chant for men’s chorus that we

used to open the service 10 years ago and “The Cantic of the Turning” by Rory Cooney. Guest musicians will be boy soprano Eric Sturniolo from the Georgia Boy Choir and Charae Krueger, cellist.

See the article on Page 10 for details on what we have planned for Sept. 18 as we honor The Rev. Dr. Joanna M. Adams with the title *pastor emerita*.

A remembrance and a celebration—please join us.

Walter Huff  
Organist/Choirmaster

## Children’s Choirs Open Season with New Director

With thanks to MPC/choir member Linda Johnson for pitching in with the children’s choir during the spring and at Vacation Bible School, our music program is pleased to announce Rebecca Shipley as our new Director of Children’s Choirs.

Rebecca is a graduate of Florida State University with a degree in voice and music therapy. She has worked with the Atlanta Children’s Chorale and Callanwolde Fine

Arts Center. She currently directs more than 100 children in the youth choirs at The Cathedral of Christ the King.

The Cherub Choir has already begun practice and the Treble Choir will begin Sept. 7. Contact Choir Coordinator Tamara Nix [tamaranix@yahoo.com](mailto:tamaranix@yahoo.com) with questions.

### Morningside Milestones

- Believe it or not, this new school year marks the tenth anniversary of our Morningside Presbyterian Preschool, one of MPC’s important outreach ministries. MPP plans to make this year special for those of us who have been here for a lot of those years (and even folks just joining us). They have great plans to celebrate this milestone throughout the year, and even a new logo noting the occasion.
- Some of our newest members have visited so long it seems as though we’ve always known them; others are new to our fellowship—but all are welcome! Please seek and greet Holly Greene, Phyllis Grimes, Emily O’Brien, Jonathan Sharpe and Michael Siedschlag, who joined our rolls Aug. 14.
- Our newest child in Christ is Daniel Ryder Woolley (known as Ryder), son of Tish and Charles and grandson of Charles, baptized July 31.
- We are in Christian sympathy with Bonnie and George Daneker on the death of Bonnie’s mother, Ann Bajorek, in late August.
- Our Druid Hills Night Shelter shepherd Curt Barrett thanks everyone for enough donations to furnish two apartments for shelter residents moving out on their own. Our Mission Camp kids also assembled eight “welcome home” baskets for men moving out of the Clifton shelter with your generous donations. By the way, the Druid Hills Shelter now remains open all year.



## Personal Story: Washington Trip Reveals New Service Opportunity

Back in March of 2010, Lloyd Prince and I were two of 13 members of the Morningside family who went on a mission trip to Washington D.C. We all learned and did a lot: sorted cans at a food bank, prepared food at a soup kitchen that served hundreds, served breakfast at a church shelter for the homeless, gave bag lunches to the homeless, and did yard work for a couple of elderly people in their eighties.

Actually we started working at one senior's home and the equally elderly neighbor asked if we could help next door while we were there. And we were glad to help. In fact, 'Miss Mary' and 'Mr. Eugene,' the senior citizens whose yards we improved, said they were touched, not only by our work in their yards—which they could no longer tend to—but that they also felt that the time we spent with them was as therapeutic. Their appreciation warmed our hearts.

Lloyd and I came home with the goal to use these experiences from this mission trip to enrich similar ministries at Morningside and in our community. We especially wanted to develop a program which addressed the needs of our seniors. We all may know someone (maybe a parent or neighbor) who wants both to stay independent and stay in his or her own home but who struggles

with repair and costs. Many of them don't have the energy or ability at their age to tackle the repairs themselves.

Now we have two groups with which Morningside partners to help these folks in need. H.O.M.E.S. (Home Owner Maintenance and Enhancement for Seniors) is one program of Senior Citizens Services of Metropolitan Atlanta that has been serving seniors since 1965. The second program we partner with is the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday weekend workday sponsored by Decatur Preservation Alliance and the City of Decatur.

On these Saturdays we work from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The work is usually light repairs and painting. Supplies are provided--all we need to supply are willing and able volunteers. The next HOMES workday is coming right up—it's Saturday, Sept. 10! Look for the signup sheet on a bulletin board in the hallway at church. Our next MLK workday will be Saturday, Jan. 14. If you have any questions please give Lloyd or me a call. We look forward to working with you all on these ministries.

Yours in the service of Christ,  
Jack Klotz

## *More MPC Missions Beckon You This Month*

Starting Sept. 11 and for the next two weeks, we'll collect items to send with the seven Morningsiders who will travel to Haiti Oct. 1-7. We'll load their second suitcases with items needed by the children at St. Joseph's and Wings of Hope homes and also for students at the Trinity School in Jacmel. Watch for a detailed list of requested items and help us fill each bag to its 50 lb. limit—a total 350 lbs. of second suitcases!

Closer to home, Morningside is recruiting a team to head for Nashville Sept. 14-17 to work with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Contact Duncan Spears [duncanspears@yahoo.com](mailto:duncanspears@yahoo.com) immediately with any questions or to let him know that you want to join in this trip to assist with continued rebuilding from last year's

flood. The trip cost is \$60 to cover food and lodging provided by the host church, Westminster Presbyterian.

You can benefit our preschool by enjoying dinner at El Taco on Tuesday, Sept. 13. Be sure to mention MPP and the restaurant will donate a portion of your meal check to the preschool.

No work, just celebration! You're invited to sign up on the Mission bulletin board or contact Tony Fishpaw ([tony@firstfidelityatl.com](mailto:tony@firstfidelityatl.com)) if you would like to join other members at the MPC table for the annual Clifton Sanctuary Ministries Dinner on Sunday, Sept. 25. The dinner is being held at North Avenue Presbyterian Church.

# September 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
				9 a.m. MPP 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7 p.m. Handbell Choir 7:30 p.m. MLPA Safety	9 a.m. MPP	
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Church School 11 a.m. Worship with Baptism 12 noon Fellowship 7-10 p.m. Youth Group	Church Offices Closed in observance of Labor Day	9 a.m. MPP 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers 7 p.m. MLPA Zoning 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir (extra rehearsal)	9 a.m. MPP 6 p.m. Cherub Choir 6:30 p.m. Treble Choir 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir; Venture Crew	9 a.m. MPP 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7 p.m. Handbell Choir; Lydia Circle 7:30 p.m. MLPA Security	9 a.m. MPP 7 p.m. Couples Group	9 a.m.-1 p.m. HOMES Workday 6:30 p.m. Young Adults (Princes' home)
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Church School 11 a.m. Special Communion Worship Service marking the 10th Anniversary of September 11, 2001 12 noon Fellowship 12:15 p.m. Deacons Meeting 12:30 p.m. Church Retreat Meeting; Youth Committee 2 p.m. Harmony Chorus 5-7 p.m. Youth Group	9 a.m. MPP 7 p.m. Mandolin Society 7:30 p.m. MLPA	9 a.m. MPP 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers 7 p.m. Theology on Tap	9 a.m. MPP 6 p.m. Cherub Choir 6:30 p.m. Treble Choir; Preschool Committee 7 p.m. Small Group Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir; Venture Crew	9 a.m. MPP 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7 p.m. Handbell Choir	9 a.m. MPP	7 p.m. LGBT Gathering (Todd Brawner and Peter Dickson's home)
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Church School 11 a.m. Special Worship Service honoring Joanna Adams 12 noon Adams Reception 1 p.m. RHO Readers 2 p.m. Harmony Chorus 5-7 p.m. Youth Group	9 a.m. MPP 7 p.m. Session; Mandolin Society	<b>Presbytery Mtg. (McDonough)</b> 9 a.m. MPP 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers	9 a.m. MPP 12 noon One Gray Hair Luncheon 6 p.m. Cherub Choir 6:30 p.m. Treble Choir 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir; Venture Crew	<b>Newsletter Deadline</b> 9 a.m. MPP 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7 p.m. Handbell Choir; Immigration Forum at Trinity Presbyterian	9 a.m. MPP	6 p.m. Clifton Sanctuary Ministries
<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. Church School 11 a.m. Worship/Commission Haiti Pilgrimage 12 noon Fellowship & Book Sale 2 p.m. Harmony 5-7 p.m. Youth Group 5:30 p.m. Clifton Sanctuary Ministries Dinner	9 a.m. MPP 6:30 p.m. Roundtable 6:45 p.m. Parliamentarians 7 p.m. Mandolin Society	9 a.m. MPP 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers	9 a.m. MPP 6:30 p.m. Treble Choir 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir; Venture Crew 7 p.m. Small Group Bible Study	9 a.m. MPP 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7 p.m. Handbell Choir	9 a.m. MPP	



## “This I Believe...”

*(Ruthlyn Newell, our Clerk of Session, delivered this homily in worship Sunday, Aug. 7. We will reprint the other speakers' messages in future issues.)*

Our Lord, Jesus Christ, has never strayed from my side. His steadfast love is, in fact, from everlasting to everlasting. I am loosely quoting verse 17 of the 103<sup>rd</sup> Psalm.

For most of my life I wasn't aware of Jesus's abiding love, of his constant presence. But when my unflinching good health turned into a diagnosis of advanced ovarian cancer 10-1/2 years ago, one of my immediate thoughts was to pray that God let me live long enough to see my two nephews grow up. They were 7 and 11 years old then.

My nephew Christopher turned 22 this spring and has aspirations of being a professional baseball player, a pitcher to be precise. He's big but shy and couldn't be any sweeter. As much as I love him, I don't think I could stand at home plate and let him throw a fastball at me. Alexander just graduated from Allatoona High School and is heading to the University of South Florida in about a week. Alex is outgoing and charismatic. The world is his oyster. I know he'll be just fine no matter his chosen path.

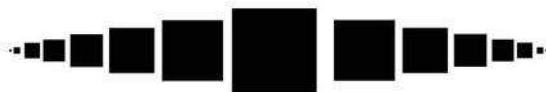
Yes, Jesus answered my initial prayer, but I've sent up countless others along my cancer journey. When I was a child I was taught not to pray for myself. But as my journey got tougher I added myself to my prayers. I needed to talk to the Lord about things. I needed to ask for his guidance as I faced tough treatment decisions. I needed to ask him to soothe me when I was afraid. I

needed to ask him to strengthen me when I didn't think I could endure the pain or the next indignity. He hasn't seemed to mind my selfish prayers a bit. They've pretty much turned into regular conversations at this point. I consider him to be a real partner in my battle against ovarian cancer. He's always, always there -- full of the love and grace I seek. I am forever thankful.

And that brings me to you. All of you. I want you to know for certain that your prayers and love continue to bolster me. It helps me so much when you tell me you're praying for me and that you love me. And it helps me when you demonstrate your love by telling me I look pretty, or by taking me to chemo or doctors' appointments, or by taking turns playing nurse after surgery. There are countless wonderful and loving things you do to help me. And I thank you.

Heaven knows—and I mean Heaven really does know—that I could not have survived two months of radiation treatments at MD Anderson in Houston without your prayers, your notes and cards that decorated my hotel room window, the elders and deacons' wonderful group holiday photo, all your e-mails. And your presence in my life. The Lord blesses me with your prayers and your love.

The Lord's steadfast love is from everlasting to everlasting. This I believe.



### Elder on Call

September 4-10	Anne Barnette
September 11-17	Bobbie McCrackin
September 18-24	John Watson
September 25-October 1	Sue Ballay

### Deacon on Call

September 4-10	Bill Smith
September 11-17	Link Marx
September 18-24	Tim Gargis
September 25-October 1	Bill Smith

## Don't Hibernate! Come Enjoy Leaf Season in Montreat

Your retreat committee is contemplating some new and fun possibilities for free time during our churchwide retreat to Montreat, NC, Oct. 14-16. Ever heard of GPS geo-caching? We haven't either, but we understand it's a great way to spend time outdoors on a Saturday afternoon at the peak of leaf season. Or maybe a float trip down the river is more your style. Of course, shopping in Asheville and Black Mountain always appeal to some, while others enjoy gazing at the splendors of Biltmore.

Evening possibilities include catching some local bluegrass music, a cookout, a game-a-thon or just relaxing by the fireplace at the impressive stone William Black

Lodge. Activities Friday evening after dinner, Saturday morning and our worship service on Sunday morning all will reinforce the retreat theme of "Growing in Faith" with our guest speaker, Dr. Peter Hobbie, Cornelson Professor of the Christian Religion at Presbyterian College.

Be in touch immediately with retreat chair Mary Chapman (404 234.0560 or [chapman.maryv@gmail.com](mailto:chapman.maryv@gmail.com)) to see if there are slots still available to join us for a fabulous weekend of fellowship for all ages. Financial aid is available.

## Groups Post Dates for September's Social Season

The MPC Couples Group's next get-together will be Friday, Sept. 9, at 7 p.m. for dinner at the Sweums' home (1556 Fama Drive NE, 30329). Linda and Art will provide appetizers and a ham for the main course. Please bring a side dish or dessert and a favorite beverage. There'll be a change in the October meeting date due to our church retreat. Mark your calendar for Friday, Oct. 21, at the home of Sanda and Bill Means. RSVP to Alan or Kathy Bremer ([kdbremer@bellsouth.net](mailto:kdbremer@bellsouth.net)). Kathy notes, "Please do share this invitation with any couples you think would enjoy the group--we're very welcoming, informal and fluid, with new couples coming almost every month."

Everyone "young" is also welcome the following night, Saturday, Sept. 10, as the Young Adults gather for a September celebration at the home of Leslie and Lloyd Prince (91 Lakeview Drive, 30317) at 6:30 p.m. There'll be a toast to recent newlyweds Andrea and John Morgan and Katherine and David Johnston and to celebrate the end of summer. Please bring an appetizer to share and your favorite beverage. RSVP to Leslie ([leslieprince@comcast.net](mailto:leslieprince@comcast.net)).

The following Saturday is the date for the LGBT and Friends Group's next gathering at 7 p.m. on Sept. 17 at the home of Peter Dickson and Todd Brawner (425 Kensington Parc Dr, Avondale Estates). The LGBT group meets regularly for fun, food, fellowship and

building connections within our faith community. Events are open to all MPC members and friends who support full inclusion of LGBT individuals within the church. RSVP for this event or add your name to the mailing list by contacting Peter C. Dickson (404.839.1281 or [peter.dickson@comcast.net](mailto:peter.dickson@comcast.net)).

One Gray Hair resumes their series of noontime lunches and programs Sept. 21, with Baron leading this month. RSVP to the church office.

Filled with good eats after our congregational reception Sept. 18, come to the Session Room to discuss Kathryn Stockett's new Southern classic *The Help*—or the movie of the same name. The RHO Readers welcome all comers to our monthly book discussion at 12:45 p.m. the third Sunday of every month (1 p.m. on Sept. 18 due to reception).

The following Sunday, Sept. 25, members of the book group will host Fellowship Hour and offer a sale of used books along with refreshments. Proceeds will benefit the group's two educational missions: The Global Village School in Decatur for refugee girls and the Fugees Academy in Clarkston for refugee boys.

Our younger women's group, Lydia Circle, will start up for the season Sept. 8. Watch our website ([www.morningsidepc.org](http://www.morningsidepc.org)) and Life@ for details.

## Men's, Women's, Bible Groups Launch Fall Activities

Have you ever wanted to talk with others about what it means to live a life of faith? This fall our social and discussion group for men only, Theology on Tap, will seek to learn more about the practices that make up a faithful life. Discussion at the first fall meeting, Sept. 13, will center on the practice of keeping our word, "Saying Yes and Saying No."

Baron will lead the meetings, and says, "Each month this season, we will talk about a practice that gives tangible expression to the faith we share." The group invites all men who want to get together for fellowship and learning, dinner, a glass of beer or wine (or not) and getting to know each other. This month's gathering is hosted by Shawn Holaway (1101 Juniper St. NE, #1013, 30309). RSVP to Anna Best at [office@morningsidepc.org](mailto:office@morningsidepc.org) or by calling the church office at 404.876.7396.

The author of the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes is sometime called The Preacher. He has plenty of crusty things to say but many gems of wisdom as well. The Small Group Bible Study invites anyone who'd like to spend an hour talking about this unusual book on alternate Wednesday nights in a comfortable home setting to be in touch with Link Marx ([fmarx25@yahoo.com](mailto:fmarx25@yahoo.com)) for more info. The first meeting, Sept. 14 at 7 p.m., will be hosted by Joe and Sue Ballay (400 Sixth St. NE, 30308).

And anyone or group who'd like to start their own evening Bible study at another time should contact Baron for advice on getting started.

The Women's Roundtable opens their season of dinner and a thought-provoking program for all women Monday, Sept. 26 at 6:30 p.m., with the location to be determined shortly. Watch for sign-up information, because the speaker and topic will be fascinating. He's J. Tom Morgan, a nationally recognized expert on the prosecution of crimes against children. He has appeared on CNN's Talk Back Live, the Oprah Winfrey Show, Court TV, the Today Show, and 48 Hours. He served as the District Attorney of DeKalb County for 12 years and was the first prosecutor in Georgia to specialize in prosecuting perpetrators of crimes against children.

J. Tom has dedicated his career to child advocacy and helping young people avoid being both victims and perpetrators of crimes. He served on the U.S. Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect and chaired Georgia's Child Abuse Prevention Panel. He is also a founding board member of the Georgia Center for Child Advocacy, Inc., which provides free counseling to children who are victims of child abuse. J. Tom authored the book *Ignorance Is No Defense*, which aspires to help young people avoid situations in which they violate the law or are hurt by others who do.

## New Youth Group Boasts Own Space, Pews

Our MPC Middle School teens will begin the month with a "Salute to the Glorious Fourth (of September)." Everyone's encouraged to wear red, white and blue and meet at the church at 7 p.m. for an "all-American dinner at an undisclosed location" before going to Druid Hills Golf Club for the fireworks display rained out in July. RSVP to Daisy Ottmann ([dazette@bellsouth.net](mailto:dazette@bellsouth.net), 404. 812.9725).

The Middle School teens of MPC and their guests kicked off the school year by decorating their new Middle School Loft (formerly known as the balcony office). They also graduated to the front left pews in the balcony for Sunday mornings. With the leadership of a strong youth committee, plans are in place for fun and service through the end of October. Youth advisors are being recruited

to accompany the youth on their outings and our search for a Youth Director is in the final stages.

Later this month, our youth will prepare and serve the meal at Druid Hills Night Shelter on Sept. 11 and "Ask the Pastor" on Sept. 18. Youth Group will take place Sunday evenings 5-7 p.m. typically, with the occasional Saturday or Sunday afternoon outing such as the AIDS Walk and a Corn Maze in October and the Middle School Retreat to Calvin Center October 7-9. Meals are provided on Sunday evenings and you can help out by contacting Shannon Lazzaro [lazzaroshannon@yahoo.com](mailto:lazzaroshannon@yahoo.com) to volunteer today. If you are able to lend a hand in another area, contact Youth Committee Chair Carolyn Morton ([carolynmorton@bellsouth.net](mailto:carolynmorton@bellsouth.net)).



## Your Session at Work: August 15 Meeting

- **John Watson**, Facilities committee chairman, reported that the three large trees that fell in the ravine on the church's property during a summer storm are almost completely removed. The company removing the trees will take care of any damage done to the front lawn. The cost for the project is \$7,400.
- Representing the Human Resources committee, **Daisy Ottmann** moved that Session establish a Child Protection Policy Task Force to draft, present to session, implement and ensure compliance with a Child Protection Policy for both the church and the preschool. The task force will include **Baron, Melinda Sandkam, Sarah Tomaka** and representatives from the Finance, Preschool, Children's, Youth and Human Resources committees. Session voted unanimously to approve the motion. More information will be shared when the policy is finalized.
- **Sarah Beth Gehl**, Mission Ministries team leader, moved that Session change its committee structure to combine the Advocacy and Environmental Action committees. The vote to approve the change was unanimous. **Marlo McDonald** will be the new MPC representative on the steering committee for Earth Covenant Ministries.
- On behalf of Congregational Nurture Ministries, Co-Leader **Brad Odom** thanked **Sarah Brownlee** for her ongoing hard work and loving care for church members and friends, and noted that **Tara Parrish** is very busy arranging meals for all our new parents.

Ruthlyn Newell  
Clerk of Session

## *Baron Will Lead Adults in Study of Doctrinal Questions*

Does the idea of "doctrine" put you off? Well, how about topics such as "What is sin?" "What is atonement and why does it matter?" "Why does the church keep talking about that Trinity?"

These and other questions will be explored in a five-week series titled "Things You Never Knew You Wanted to Know" led by Baron Mullis beginning

Sept. 11 and extending through Oct. 9 in Room 201, starting at 9:45 a.m. Please plan to participate in adult education as we consider what faith teaches.

And don't miss the final discussion of Peter Gomes' *The Good Book* on Sept. 4 as Ken Sharpe leads the class in considering "The Bible and Homosexuality."

## Trinity Presbyterian Hosts Panel on Immigration

If you are concerned about the impact of immigration issues and attendant legislation in Georgia-- including theological, legal, moral and practical implications—you won't want to miss the upcoming forum on immigration issues hosted by Trinity Presbyterian Church (3003 Howell Mill Rd., 30327), on Thursday, Sept. 22, at 7 p.m.

The forum will feature a panel composed of immigration attorney Charles Kuck; Dr. Marie Friedmann Marquardt of the Candler School of Theology at Emory University;

Jerry Gonzalez, executive director of the Georgia Association of Latino Elected Officials; and Charles Hall, executive director of the Georgia Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association. The panel discussion will be moderated by State Representative Elly Dobbs.

Contact Advocacy Shepherd Sarah Beth Gehl ([sbcoffey@gmail.com](mailto:sbcoffey@gmail.com)) if you would be interested in car pooling from MPC.

## Celebration Will Welcome Home Joanna Adams

It's no surprise: Morningside Presbyterian has missed enjoying Joanna and Al Adams in gatherings of our church family—and they've missed us. We welcome both Adamses back into our fellowship Sunday, Sept. 18, as we honor The Rev. Dr. Joanna M. Adams with the title *pastor emerita*.

During the worship hour, we will celebrate Joanna's accomplishments. We'll also debut the new green "ordinary time" paraments that were part of her retirement gift and Walter Huff and the Chancel Choir will present special music. Selections include the final movement from Leonard Bernstein's "Chichester Psalms" and "The Prayer of St. Francis" by René Clausen.

But that's not all! We'll continue the happy occasion with a congregational reception in Fellowship Hall.



(Contact Brad Odom at [jbradleyodom@gmail.com](mailto:jbradleyodom@gmail.com)) if you can help set up, serve or clean up!)

Joanna served MPC as senior pastor from October, 2005, through January, 2010. During her tenure, she inspired and led the church's first capital campaign, *A Time of Promise*, through to completion of the work, which included the new Welcome Center, elevator and much needed structural repairs. During her time with us, membership more than tripled.

Our Presbyterian polity requires a waiting period before a retired minister may return to his or her former congregation. Thankfully for all of us, the wait is over!