



1411 North Morningside Drive, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30306

TEL 404.876.7396
WEB morningsidepc.org

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Worship at Morningside

May 6, 2012

Baron Mullis preaching

“Absolutely Everyone”

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

The sacrament of communion will be celebrated.

May 13, 2012

Baron Mullis preaching

“Not Servants, Friends”

Texts: 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

The sacrament of baptism will be celebrated.

May 20, 2012

Joanna Adams preaching

“New Old Values”

Texts: Psalm 1; John 17:14-19

*Children’s Choirs Sing
Congregational Lunch*

May 27, 2012

Baron Mullis preaching

“No, Really, Everyone”

Texts: Acts 2:1-21; Romans 8:22-27

Serving You

Dr. Baron Mullis Pastor, 404.876.7396 ext. 11
baron.mullis@morningsidepc.org

Rev. Joanna Adams Pastor Emerita
Walter Huff Organist / Choirmaster
music@morningsidepc.org

Robert Gray Assistant to the Minister

Melinda Sandkam Program Director, 404.876.7396 ext. 15
msandkam@morningsidepc.org

Chris Peters Director of Youth Ministry
chrspeters@morningsidepc.org

Rebecca Shipley Director of Children’s Choirs
rebeccashipley@mindspring.com

Debbi Loomis Children’s Worship Leader K-1st
debbiloom@yahoo.com

Shavon Starling-Louis Children’s Worship Leader 2nd-3rd
shavon.starling-louis@students.ctsnet.edu

Meredith Loftis Children’s Worship Leader 4th-5th
loftism@gmail.com

Anna Best Office Administrator, 404.876.7396 ext. 10
office@morningsidepc.org

J. Daniel Altman Music Administrator
music@morningsidepc.org

Ann Benson Office Assistant / Wedding Coordinator
abenson@morningsidepc.org

Randy Young Facilities Manager, 404.876.7396 ext. 13
randyyoung@morningsidepc.org

JoAnn Kearns Accountant kearnsja@gmail.com

Sarah Tomaka Preschool Director, 404.685.8758
mpp@morningsidepc.org

Gus Restrepo Sexton

From the Pastor's Desk



Dear Friends,

I have been having the most wonderful time the past weeks. I have been taking each member of our Session to lunch individually. We have shared a meal and had a conversation with no agenda whatsoever. In some instances, church business has come up, but in others, we've avoided it entirely and talked about children, vacations, pets – whatever came up. I'm going to invite the deacons to do the same this fall.

Which brings me to my point: let's have lunch. Or coffee. It'll be my treat. I'm being serious – there are things we just can't cover with a handshake at the door on Sunday!

If you are reading this thinking through the logistics, you are no doubt aware that you all out-number me. Not a problem – as long as you'll be understanding about how far out we have to plan, I'm game for it. I'm being quite serious. I know there are folks who are deeply committed to Morningside with whom I barely get to speak, and I want to do something about it. Give me a call at 404.876.7396 or shoot me a note at baron.mullis@morningsidepc.org. We'll get together.

Which brings me to my other point: connections. How we relate to each other is so important to the fabric of the church. In fact, when I think of what it means to be made in the image of God, I usually come back to being made for communion with God and with each other. So I want to encourage you to spend a little time with each other also. It doesn't have to be committee work (even though we are Presbyterians). We have more groups than I realized until Jeff Peters wrote his wonderful article for this month's *Messenger*. And I also know that small groups, once they are formed, can seem a little bit intimidating to folks who haven't been before – so if you're a member of Theology on Tap or Roundtable or any of our groups, I want you to invite someone you don't know or someone who isn't at Morningside to come *with* you to the get-together. Or do what I do and make it one-on-one time. It might be more important than you can possibly imagine.

God didn't make us with the intention that we should be islands. God made us to be deeply in communion with God and with each other. So let's have lunch!

Thanks for reading,


Baron Mullis



Morningside Spaces and Places

Do you know where MPC's sacristy is? Or maybe more to the point, do you know what a sacristy is and what it's used for? Obviously, the word derives from the idea of "sacred," and it's where church hangings (paraments) and communion-service and other sacred items are stored. Also known as a "vestry," in some churches it's where priestly vestments are stored and where the ministers put them on. At Morningside, our Communion Team uses the sacristy monthly to prepare the bread and juice cups, plates and vessels that then go on the table. Our Flower Guild also uses the sacristy to store both vases for the big chancel arrangements and take-home vases for shut-ins as well as other flower-arranging materials. And where is it? At the back of the sanctuary, roughly behind and to the left of the organ.

Elder on Call

May 6-12	Shannon Harris
May 13-19	Mary Chapman
May 20-26	Tony Fishpaw
May 27-June 2	Sue Ballay

Deacon on Call

May 6-12	Link Marx
May 13-19	Jeff Peters
May 20-26	Van Jensen
May 27-June 2	Jill Klotz

Morningside Makes Communion Available to All Members

Every week Baron affirms our commitment to be a congregation that is deeply inclusive and reflecting the breadth and depth of God's love for us all. Just because members are no longer able to be present in worship with us does not mean that they are left out of our thoughts and our communion. Our commitment to inclusion extends beyond the sanctuary walls.

And so, in a new program, Dr. Robert Gray will take communion to our shut-in and homebound members

periodically following the celebration of the Lord's Supper in worship, accompanied by our deacons. If you or someone you know at Morningside needs to receive communion at home, please contact Deacon Curt Barrett (emailcurt@mindspring.com or 404.310.4665) to be included in Robert's schedule as he carries our ministry of love beyond the church grounds.

Invite Someone New to May 20 Congregational Lunch

Our periodic congregational lunches aren't just for enrolled members of the church. Visitors and guests can sample MPC's noted hospitality and some tasty fare as well - so please extend an invitation to others ahead of time and even on May 20. Reach out to your neighbor – down the street or in the pew.

But there's a catch: The MPC congregation did a great job responding to our request for RSVPs for the last congregational lunch. It is vital that we hear from you by May 13 in order to prepare ample food without being wasteful. We will always plan for extras, but those extras are for those who decide to join us on the day of the

lunch. That means we need everyone who knows or THINKS they want to attend the lunch to email the church office or place their response card in the box marked "Congregational Lunch" in the office by Sunday, May 13. Suggested donations are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

Since both children's choirs sing on May 20, we will be celebrating them and their leaders – Walter Huff and Rebecca Shipley. Don't miss great fellowship with new and old friends and a delicious lunch prepared for you.



Morningside Milestones

- Make like a (stereotypical!) Scot and start pinching your pennies today for our August 2013 trip to Scotland. We'll celebrate the 499th anniversary of the birth of John Knox, father of Presbyterianism as well as visit historic and fun places, such as St. Andrew's and Stirling Castle. For more information contact Baron Mullis (baron.mullis@morningsidepc.org).
- Both Vacation Bible School (June 25-29) and Mission Camp (July 23-27) registration forms are available at the church and at www.morningsidepc.org, and we need all types of volunteers! Contact Melinda (msandkam@morningsidepc.org) with questions.
- Still growing! We welcomed the births of Piper Grace Burgess to Shanon and Nathan on March 27 and Eleanor Anne Loring to Jason and Julie on April 5. Eleanor's big brother is Oliver.
- Baby Emma Jean Attwood, daughter of Eleanor and James, was baptized into God's family April 22.
- We offer our prayers for consolation to Ted and Jan McMahan on the death of Ted's father, Theodore McMahan, Sr., in Knoxville, TN, on April 16. Mr. McMahan was a recipient of the Bronze Star for his efforts during World War II; to Trenton Tunnell on the death of his mother, Doreen Ryan Tunnell, on March 27; and to Hugh Bell on the death of his father, Hubert J. Bell, on March 31 (his father recently celebrated his 97th birthday).
- Another successful dine-out! Diners for our cause at Gordon Biersch raised more than \$1,000 for our preschool. Isn't eating to raise money fun and simple?

Spotlight on Groups

Groups Offer Wonderful Ways to Plug-in, Make Friends at MPC

Morningside has a variety of groups that play a vital role within the life of the church and serve a wide range of interests. Small group participation often instills a deeper sense of community and provides an opportunity to get to know one another outside of Sunday morning service.

Whether you're looking for opportunities for fellowship, to serve and study, for personal growth or to socialize, there is likely a group that fits your needs. As Collier Maxwell says, "Sunday mornings alone do not give enough time to learn about other members in a meaningful way. I attend a variety of groups in order to get to know other members in different venues and contexts."

Gail Kitchens puts it this way, "Morningside is a small-ish congregation. Even so, people who come only to worship may find it hard to get to know people as friends. I've found dozens of friends in RHO Readers. We connect through our mutual love of reading as well as our common thirst for spiritual and mental nurture. And, when I retired, a new pleasure reared its head: the One Gray Hair luncheon featuring a community speaker. I've met members I'd never have encountered, just by sharing a meal and learning experience."

Here's an overview of some of MPC's Small Groups. Watch for more information on each group in upcoming *Morningside Messengers*.

- Couples Group:** The Couples Group invites all couples to join informal gatherings on the second Friday of the month. The group gathers for dinner at a host couple's home or a neighborhood restaurant. Couples of all ages — members and non-members, married and partnered — are welcome. Contact Kathy and Alan Bremer: kdbremer@bellsouth.net.

- LGBT & Friends:** The LGBT & Friends group meets regularly for enriching discussion 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. Contact the church office: office@morningsidepc.org.

- Lydia Circle:** Lydia Circle invites all young moms and professional women to this social and service group that meets at members' homes from 7-9 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month. Contact Tara Parrish: taraparrish@bellsouth.net.

- One Gray Hair:** One Gray Hair is for anyone who likes food, fellowship, and fun and has at least one gray hair. The group meets in the Fellowship Hall at noon on the



third Wednesday every other month except June, July, and Aug. Contact Sarah and Richard Brownlee: rsbrownlee1046@att.net

- RHO (Red Hat Optional) Readers:** RHO Readers is a general book club for all - members, neighbors and friends - who enjoy reading and chatting. There's no long-term commitment to join and everyone is welcome. The group meets the third Sunday of each month at 12:45 p.m. in the Session Room. Contact Daisy Ottmann: dazette@bellsouth.net.

- Young Adults:** Young Adults gather at least once a month to share a meal, converse and get better acquainted. Young Adults participate in mission projects - such as dinner at the Journey shelter or building at Habitat for Humanity - as well as social events, such as trivia nights and picnics in Piedmont Park. Young Adults is al-

ways looking for new members and ideas for ways to enjoy one another and serve God and neighbor. If you consider yourself a young adult, or young at heart, contact Brad Odom: jbradleyodom@gmail.com.

- Theology on Tap:** The men of Morningside invite men in the congregation and community to join the monthly Theology on Tap program. This event provides an opportunity for discussion on topics related to living our faith in the real world. Past topics include: "Prayer for Busy Men," "The Rise of Atheism in America," and "Faith and Politics." The group meets at 7 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month. Contact Ken Sharpe: kensharpe@bellsouth.net.

- Women's Roundtable:** Women's Roundtable invites the women of the Morningside community to gather monthly at 6:30 p.m. on the fourth Monday to share ideas, information and concerns. Most months the Women's Roundtable features a guest speaker who addresses a topic affecting our lives, either personally or as part of the world around us. Each Roundtable includes time for fellowship, dinner and inspired conversation. Contact Kim Perez: kimkperez@yahoo.com or Anne Barnette: sawyerbarnette@earthlink.net.

- More Group Opportunities:** If you have thoughts about forming additional groups or would like to open your home to a group, please contact our Small Groups Chair Brad Odom: jbradleyodom@gmail.com.

- Contributing writer, Jeff Peters


Morningside
 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <i>School Supplies for Liberia</i> 9 a.m. MPP 9:15 a.m. Yoga Class 3 p.m. Tai Chi 4:30 p.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers 7 p.m. Theology on Tap <i>Calvin Court Collection</i>	2 <i>School Supplies for Liberia</i> 9 a.m. MPP 6 p.m. Cherub Choir 6:30 p.m. Treble Choir 7 p.m. Small Group Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	3 <i>School Supplies for Liberia</i> 9 a.m. MPP 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7 p.m. Handbell Choir 7:30 p.m. MLPA Public Safety		4 <i>School Supplies for Liberia</i> 9 a.m. MPP
5 <i>School Supplies for Liberia</i> 10 a.m.—1 p.m. MPP Jungle Jam						
6 <i>Liberia School Supplies</i> 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Church School 10:10 a.m. <i>Ten Ten</i> Program 11 a.m. Worship with Communion 12 noon Fellowship 12:15 p.m. VBS Meeting 2 p.m. Harmony Chorus; Venture Crew 5 p.m. Youth Group <i>Calvin Court Collection</i>	7 <i>School Supplies for Liberia</i> 9 a.m. MPP 7 p.m. Mandolin Society	8 <i>School Supplies for Liberia</i> 9 a.m. MPP 9:15 a.m. Yoga Class 3 p.m. Tai Chi 4:30 p.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers; Preschool Committee	9 <i>School Supplies for Liberia</i> 9 a.m. MPP 10 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6 p.m. Cherub Choir 6:30 p.m. Treble Choir 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	10 <i>School Supplies for Liberia</i> 9 a.m. MPP 6:30 p.m. Six Star Dinner/Meeting; Prayer Group 7 p.m. Handbell Choir 7:30 p.m. MLPA Security	11 <i>School Supplies for Liberia</i> 9 a.m. MPP 7 p.m. Couples Group	12 <i>School Supplies for Liberia</i> 10 a.m.—1 p.m. High School Opera Institute
13 <i>School Supplies for Liberia</i> 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Church School 11 a.m. Worship with Baptism 12 noon Fellowship 12:15 p.m. Deacons 6 p.m. Journey <i>Calvin Court Collection</i>	14 9 a.m. MPP 7 p.m. Mandolin Society 7:30 p.m. MLPA	15 9 a.m. MPP 9:15 a.m. Yoga Class 3 p.m. Tai Chi 4:30 p.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers	16 9 a.m. MPP; VBS Workday 12 noon One Gray Hair Luncheon 6 p.m. Cherub Choir 6:30 p.m. Treble Choir 7 p.m. Small Group Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	17 9 a.m. MPP 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7 p.m. Handbell Choir	18 9 a.m. MPP	19
20 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Church School 11 a.m. Worship / Children's Choirs Sing 12 noon Congregational Lunch 12:05 p.m. Choir Meeting 12:45 p.m. RHO Readers 2 p.m. Venture Crew 5 p.m. Harmony Concert; Youth Group <i>Calvin Court Collection</i>	21 9 a.m. MPP 11 a.m. MPP Pre-K Celebration 7 p.m. Mandolin Society; Session	22 9 a.m. MPP 9:15 a.m. Yoga Class 3 p.m. Tai Chi 4:30 p.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers 7 p.m.—10 a.m. High School Opera Institute	23 9 a.m. MPP Teacher Workday 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	24 9 a.m. MPP Teacher Workday 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7 p.m. Handbell Choir	25 9 a.m. MPP Teacher Workday	26 6 p.m. Clifton Sanctuary Ministries
27 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Church School 11 a.m. Worship 12 noon Fellowship <i>Calvin Court Collection</i>	28 <i>Church Office Closed in Observance of Memorial Day</i>	29 9 a.m.—3 p.m. Drama Camp 9:15 a.m. Yoga Class 3 p.m. Tai Chi 4:30 p.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers	30 9 a.m.—3 p.m. Drama Camp 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	31 9 a.m.—3 p.m. Drama Camp 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7 p.m. Handbell Choir		

Collections Benefit Various Communities

Look at the story on the next page to discover the list of school supplies we're looking for to send to Ricks Institute in Liberia for "Mercer on Mission." But there is another outreach project under way in May that needs your support too:

Our annual collection of canned goods for Calvin Court, one of the Presbyterian Homes for Seniors located here in Atlanta. Their food pantry provides canned goods and staples to many residents who approach the end of the

month without sufficient food and supplies. We'll have a collection basket in the Welcome Center through May 27. Some of the most needed items include toilet paper, paper towels, facial tissue, and non-perishable meal items, such as hearty soups, noodles, bean and rice mixes, tuna and crackers, and the like.

Special Guests Discuss Holocaust with RHO Readers

Our eclectic bunch of book lovers invites you to a very special discussion Sunday, May 20, at 12:45 p.m. in the Session Room. Members of the family profiled in Lawrence Powell's book *Troubled Memory: Anne Levy, the Holocaust and David Duke's Louisiana* will share their personal

experiences escaping to the US after World War II and their struggles against both survivor guilt and those who deny the Holocaust ever happened, or "wasn't all that bad."

Got Bees? Barrett Says You Want to Keep Them!

Deacon and backyard beekeeper Curt Barrett maintains hives right here on North Morningside Drive. Join the One Gray Hair group for lunch at noon on Wednesday, May 16, and learn about this fascinating - and sweet - hobby.

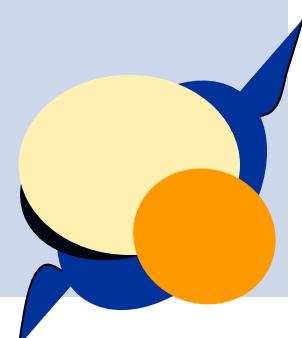


If you have at least one gray hair, you're invited for lunch. RSVP to Sarah Brownlee (rsbrownlee1046@gmail.com).

May Birthdays

1 Linda Johnson
2 Rachel Spears
4 Jennifer James
5 Alex Prevost
5 Tish Craddock
6 Shannon Pengelly
6 Brian Rouse
6 Matt Prevost
6 Ian Bresnahan
6 Jennifer Pittman-Sanders
7 Hollis Holmes
7 Fred Schreiber
7 Kate Keaveney

9 Daniel Easton	16 Bryan Smith
9 Ward Howell	26 Breck Kean
9 David York	27 Cliff Burt
10 JoAnn Kearns	27 Nathan Zook
10 Sheryl Wingert	27 Alan Penrod
11 Trent Kean	28 Daisy Ottmann
11 Bob Wells	31 Kate Parrish
12 Haden Holaway	31 Thomas Jackson
12 Laura Edgerton	31 Katy Means
12 Glenn Small, Jr.	
14 Jay Myers	
14 Mardee Rightmyer	
14 Sarah Beth Gehl	
15 Ian Irwin	
15 Harrison James	
15 Nancy Frampton	
16 Brian Buchanan	



Spotlight on Liberia

2012 Overseas Outreach Centers on Liberia

(Member and Mercer University professor Emilie Paille continues to share information about her upcoming journey to Liberia and to Ricks Institute, which MPC has adopted as our international outreach program for this year.)

Liberia, a small country in West Africa, faces the Atlantic Ocean and lies approximately six degrees north of the equator. It's hot all year in Liberia, with no seasons and no change in the sunrise and sunset... 6:30 a.m. and p.m. every day.

Liberians feel very close to the United States although, ironically, many Americans are unaware of Liberia. Their flag is our flag but with only one star and eleven stripes, and their pledge is almost identical to ours.

Our countries have historical bonds, but not necessarily positive ones. In the early 1800s, educated and accomplished free blacks were encouraged to emigrate by a group of white slave owners trying to minimize potential threats to their system of slavery. The promise was that of true citizenship – free and equal – something not attainable for them here at that time. Freed slaves also were sent to Liberia and were joined by people from intercepted slave ships, diverted by the US Navy. Many of these activities were under the presidency of James Monroe, thus the name Monrovia for Liberia's capital city.

The newly arrived American colonists viewed themselves as superior and treated the native people in the same ways they themselves had been treated in America. Conflicts began. Over the next century dissention erupted, eventually leading to brutal civil war that ended in 2003. More than 200,000 Liberians were killed, one in three left homeless, and existing infrastructure destroyed, leaving Liberians with few resources beyond their own hopes for the future. Six years ago, a new president was elected, and at present, fragile peace exists.

Scars of the war remain in Liberia and on the campus of Ricks Institute, the school where I've worked with groups of students, participating in the important job of



educating both students and teachers. Students from all parts of Liberia are there at Ricks – a place where the next generation has a shot at an education and *a chance* - something that hasn't happened in generations.

Campus buildings are slowly being repaired and improved. Admission is coveted and yet is free for students in grades K-6. The school is in working order, relatively speaking. Dorms are open, but the electricity starts around 7 p.m. and goes off at 9 a.m., and there's no running water. Ask me sometime how a bucket bath feels.

Ricks has few school supplies. Students use small thin books for their work, and write on every spot of paper before they get new ones. They sharpen pencils with straight-edge razor blades (and I haven't seen a bloody finger yet!) Discipline issues are minimal and are handled swiftly. Here the children of descendants of the warring factions from tribes throughout the country learn, play, and become friends. Education is their only key to a better future.

Many teachers at Ricks had little opportunity for education themselves – one huge cost of a 14-year civil war. "Mercer on Mission" (MoM) sends me and 12 education students to teach with them, creating a win-win situation. Our MoM team learns life-long lessons, and we all are changed forever, by the work we do, and also by the Liberian friends we make. Ricks' teachers learn new ways of teaching and reaching students. Most of all, Ricks' students receive a better education to give Liberia a new, educated "next" generation. I'm honored to be a part of this work.

This year, MPC's Mission Committee granted a generous gift that will allow us to purchase specific books to help teach important reading skills, provide non-fiction books for the school library, and copies of the books that were so well received by the children at Ricks last year. We hope to place copies of these much-loved books in every elementary classroom. And of course, everything we bring, we leave.

How Can I Help? These are the things to bring to the church by May 13 for the children at Ricks Institute: white board markers, white board spray cleaner, pens, paper clips, child and adult scissors, #2 pencils, rulers, individual hand-held sharpeners, colored pencils, crayons (box of 8 or 16), Elmer's glue/glue sticks, construction paper, and index cards.

Children, Youth and Families Ministries

News of Middle Eastern Journey Takes Kids to Summer Schedule

Children's Worship Leaders and regular liturgists Shavon Starling-Louis (second-third graders) and Meredith Loftis (fourth-fifth graders) will finish the school year with us Sunday, May 6. That morning, they will share with students and their parents where they will be traveling on a Middle East excursion sponsored by Columbia Seminary. All second-fifth graders and their parents - and any other MPCer interested in their journey - are invited to join us at 10:10 a.m. in the classrooms to hear about the itinerary that includes Jordan, Israel and Greece.

This will be the last *Ten Ten* of the school year, due to May 13 being Mothers' Day and May 20 featuring both children's choirs in worship. Following worship that day, students are invited to join in the end of the school year celebration at the congregational lunch. Kicking off June 3 is our summer *Ten Ten* program, including recently graduated third graders joining fourth and fifth graders, with an outreach program assembling non-perishable lunch bags for the Cure Childhood Cancer program. This program provides lunches for parents who are at the hospital with their children during their treatment.



Cherub Choir sang April 15, will sing again May 20

School-year children's worship classes continue till the end of May (many thanks to parents who are filling in for Shavon and Meredith). We will begin summer age groupings on Memorial Day weekend. Ms. Debbi will once again lead the (completed) Kindergarten-second grade kids and the graduated third graders move up to join the Double Digits in attending worship. Summer *Ten Ten* will meet most summer Sundays for a treat, some fun and an outreach project or lesson, 10:10-10:50 a.m.

Looking ahead to Middle School Choir

If your child will be in sixth grade and above next school year, you're invited to a short meeting to explore potential to add a Youth Choir in the foreseeable future. Walter Huff will meet with all those who are interested for 15-20 minutes in Room 201 on May 20 immediately fol-

lowing worship. There will be plenty of food for lunch, so you can avoid standing in line by attending the quick meeting before heading to Fellowship Hall. RSVP to Melinda msandkam@morningsidepc.org to let her know you'll attend on May 20. Your input is vital!

Make Summer Plans by End of This Month

Whether your child will be joining in the fun of Vacation Bible School's "Following the Star" June 25-29 in the mornings AND/OR attending a week of Mission Camp "It's Not All About Me" July 23-27, be sure to get their registration forms in before the end of May. Each form can be found on the church website (www.morningsidepc.org).

Vacation Bible School welcomes all children who will be four years old by September 1 through fifth grade. We enjoy crafts, activities, music and more each day, with a closing program at 12 noon on Friday. Mission Camp is for those who have completed second grade this May and

older. We meet 9-5 each day as we explore outreach to children, seniors, those facing illness, homelessness and hunger, our environment and animals. On Tuesday night, we stay over at the Len Foote Hike Inn as part of our Mission Camp adventure.



Your Session at Work: April 16 Meeting

- **Jill Davis**, team leader for Children and Youth Ministries, reported the recent ‘BOBO’ youth auction raised more than \$6,300 for the summer trip to the Montreat Middle School Conference in July as well as additional youth programming.
- At its March meeting, Session approved adding a half-day kindergarten class to Morningside Presbyterian Preschool, beginning this fall. Program Director **Melinda Sandkam** reported that **Sarah Tomaka**, preschool director, has begun interviewing candidates for a kindergarten teacher and assistant. Four MPP students have already registered for the new class, which will have a capacity of 14 students. Work will get under way soon in the ‘education hallway’ to make modifications for the new classroom.
- You may have noticed that emergency exit charts have been posted pretty much all around the church. There are 25 emergency maps total hanging in church rooms, thanks to the Facilities Manager **Randy Young**.
- **Mary Chapman**, team co-leader for Congregational Nurture Ministries, said the church saved a sig-

nificant amount of money at the last congregational lunch because people RSVP’d and the team was able to order the right amount of food. The next congregational lunch is May 20. Mary asks that you mark your calendar, plan to attend and RSVP to **Anna Best** in the church office (office@mornningsidepc.org).

- **Philip Hawkins**, Worship and the Arts Ministries team leader, introduced a motion that our deacons assist Robert Gray in serving communion to shut-in members periodically. Session unanimously approved. See more information on Page 3.
- **Baron** has joined the board of Intown Collaborative Ministries. ICM’s mission is to serve as a good neighbor to all with whom we share the intown community ZIP codes 30306 and 30307, especially those experiencing poverty, hunger and homelessness.

Ruthlyn Newell
Clerk of Session

Some—Not All!—Adult Programs Pause for Summer

Our men’s gathering, Theology on Tap will wind up their Tuesday night series on practices of faith for the summer on May 1 at 7 p.m. with Richard Brownlee hosting (1046 Bellevue Dr., 30306). Baron notes, “As we come to the end of the series, our final topic is *Dying Well*. Death is a mystery about which Christians purport to be unafraid – but are we really? What does Christian faith teach us about death and how does that lead us to live?” To join the discussion, RSVP to the church office.

Rev. Joanna Adams’ “Rethinking the Bible” series has two more meetings before the break. Wednesday, May 9, all women and friends are invited to gather in Room 201 at 10 a.m. to discuss the question “Are you a ‘Bible-believing’ Christian?” The June meeting will shift to the third Wednesday, June 20. Childcare is available - reserve through the church office.

Both Sunday morning study groups will continue to meet at 9:45 a.m. through the summer. “Feasting on the Word” in Room 201 considers the lectionary text for

each Sunday led by a class member. ‘Lectionary’ refers to the four Bible readings our denomination recommends to all congregations to assure all sections of scripture are covered in a three-year cycle. Typically, the pastor selects two of these as the pulpit readings and preaches from one or both of them.

Look for the Adult Education Opportunities brochure available in the Narthex and Welcome Center to see which of these stand-alone topics the group will discuss through the end of June. The Bible Study Group meeting in Room 107 (the “Parlor”) is studying each of the Pauline Letters. Both groups welcome you to drop in and get acquainted with us and with Scripture.

The Wednesday Evening Bible Group meets in members’ homes and has begun exploring the Gospel of John. The last two meetings before summer break will be May 2 and 16. Contact Link Marx (fmarx25@yahoo.com) for more details.

MPP's Spring Fling Goes Back to Jungle

It's a Morningside tradition! Every year our preschool presents a fantastic Saturday of fun and games known as Spring Fling. In this year's edition - May 5 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. - come explore the jungle as "Jungle Jam" takes over our campus.

We invite one and all - bring friends, family and neighbors to our annual community festival. Highlights include the Dads' Grill, Madagascar Obstacle Course, Pirate Ship, yummy treats from King of Pops, a DJ, balloon animals, carnival games and rides, and much, much more.

MPP seeks sponsors for our activities to make this the best Spring Fling ever. Funds raised via sponsorship donations offset costs and help fund "extras" our preschool children enjoy. Please consider sponsoring one of our activities or making a general donation. All contributions, in any amount, are greatly appreciated.



It's also a great service opportunity for members of the church. Many volunteers are needed to staff the various activities and it's an easy way to meet our preschool community and our wonderful neighbors. Plus, it gives our preschool parents a break to enjoy the festival with their little ones. Contact Sarah Tomaka for more information (mpp@morningsidepc.org or 404.685.8758).

Morningside Presbyterian Preschool also offers the Camp Morningside summer program for children ages two through five. Registration is now open for eight weeks of fun. Ask Sarah for more information or visit www.morningsidepc.org/preschool/summcamp.html for session information and registration forms.