



MPP Messenger

April 2013

Mark Your Calendar!

April 2 – Class pictures: Ms. Kim and Ms. Kay's toddlers

April 3 – Class pictures: Ms. Kim and Ms. Kay's 3-day twos

April 8-12 – Spring Break, no school

April 10 – Ms. Betsy's birthday

April 16 – Class pictures: Ms. Andie and Ms. Julie Ann's toddlers, 2-day twos and PreK

April 17 – Chapel and Donations

April 17 – Class pictures: Ms. Andie and Ms. Denise's 3-day twos, 3-day threes and 5-day threes

April 22 – Earth Day Celebration

April 23 – Yogli Mogli Dine Out

Looking Ahead to May

May 8 – Chapel and Donations

May 12 – Mrs. Neff's birthday

May 20 – PreK Celebration, 11:00 a.m.

May 22 – Last Day of School

From the Director

Last month I mentioned the Georgia Preschool Conference that the teachers and I attended on March 1 and 2. It was a good one by most accounts – fresh material and ideas alongside seasoned presenters with solid, knowledgeable facts on early childhood education. I attended a Director's Update which will influence revised Parent and Employee Handbooks – stay tuned on that! Several teachers attended a workshop on helping boys learn; others attended a “think outside the box” workshop on how to use discarded cardboard boxes in the classroom – super creative! But my favorite workshop was entitled “Lies We Teach and Truths We Don't”. The instructor was quite funny and at first I wasn't sure how to take her. But it was clear that she was passionate about the subject and had done her research well. She debunked the multiple intelligences concept and posed the notion that learning styles should depend on the subject being taught. All in all, it made me realize that intentionality is essential in what we say and do – it's important to question and seek answers to why we teach the way we do. I know your children's teachers were motivated by their classes and I already see new ideas being incorporated into their daily activities.

I hope your Spring Break travels are safe, fun and relaxing. We'll hit the floor running when we get back!

Cheers!

Sarah Tomaka, Director



In Our Prayers . . .

Cassie VanLandingham, on the death of her father, Tom Garner.

Congratulations . . .

. . . to *Gus Restrepo*, on completing and passing his citizenship test. Many of you may know that Gus recently moved to Miami to be closer to family. His citizenship ceremony will be April 22. And, we welcome *Victor Carballosa* as our interim sexton here at MPP and MPC.



Farewell . . .

. . . to *Ms. Kim Palmer* as she moves to Chattanooga with her husband, Chris. Kim and Chris are expecting a new baby in June. Ms. Kim's last day with us will be April 5. We will miss her but wish her well in her new home and role as mom. Come back for some Braves games, Kim! We welcome Daniela Georgieva and Claire Davis who will be working with Ms. Kay beginning April 15.

Thank You . . .

. . . to *Jenn James, Mary Hardy Holaway* and *Melinda Sandkam* for organizing the Easter Egg Hunt. It will be held this Saturday

. . . to *those of you* who came to our Dine Out for MPP at La Tavola. We received \$575 from the evening's proceeds AND had yummy dinners as well!

. . . to *those of you* who came out for our Recycling Event, hosted by Atlanta Paint Disposal. 685 lbs of electronics, 119 lbs of clothing, 253 gallons of latex, 63 Gallons of oil paint, 12 spray cans, 5 boxes of shredding, 3 HD shred and 1 propane tank were kept out of the landfill. That's the way to be green! We hope to continue to grow this event to pull in even more participants and make it a community tradition. Total event proceeds equaled \$214.27.

. . . to *Cassie VanLandingham* and *Sarah Daley* for organizing and running the Our House Diaper Drive – it was a huge success.

. . . to *you and your children* for supporting the Coins for Clowns collection in so many ways – fish banks, ice cream social, bake sale, lemonade stand and jewelry show!!

Camp Morningside

Our sessions are filling up quickly, so be sure to reserve your child's spot by turning in your registration forms. Remember that you can sign up for as many weeks as you like and make it work with your summer schedule. Applications can be found online at www.morningsidepc.org/preschool/summercamp.html and in the entry way at school. *Current toddlers* are considered twos this summer and come Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 9:30 to 12:30 with the option to stay until 1:30 for lunch. *Current twos, threes, and Prek* should use the form that says 3s, 4s and 5s. Their hours will be 9:30 to 1:30, Monday through Friday. We are all very excited and looking forward to a great summer of fun!





Easter Egg Hunt

Morningside Presbyterian Church invites you to mark your calendars now for our annual **Easter Egg Hunt** – ‘The Running of the Eggs!’ – on **Saturday, March 30th**. Activities begin at 10:45am and Egg hunt begins at 11:00am sharp. Join us for face painting, Easter masks & cookies, VBS registration and best of all – Lots of Eggs!! Please bring your own basket.

Chapel Toiletry Donations – Wednesday, April 17

This month we will be collecting *men's socks* at chapel time. There will be a basket for donations in front of the sanctuary so anyone can participate. Remember that parents are always welcome to attend chapel. Please note that this is the **third** Wednesday as we are closed for Spring Break when the second Wednesday falls. Chapel is at 9:15 a.m.



Mark Your Calendars Now!
Dine Out for MPP at Yogli Mogli
Tuesday, April 23 from 12-9 pm

Stop by our local Yogli-Mogli Frozen Yogurt shop located at 1002 N. Highland Avenue for a delicious frozen treat all for a good cause – MPP! There will be a class competition, so be sure to tell them that you are there for MPP AND which class you are in. Whichever class has the most yogurt eaters will win free yogurt for the entire class - kids and teachers!

Vacation Bible School

June 17 – 21, 2013

All children four years old by September 1 through 5th grade are welcome to attend.

Forms can be found online at www.morningsidepc.org on the Christian Education page and on the bulletin board across from the nursery. The deadline for registration is May 28, 2013. Please contact Program Director, **Melinda Sandkam** at msandkam@morningsidepc.org



Do you love books?

Here's a great volunteer opportunity for you – our new Children's Library needs occasional sprucing up and books need re-shelving. You could sign up for that for the remainder of this year and be thinking about our new volunteer committee for the 2013-2014 school year. We will meet sometime in April or May to discuss the library and its needs, so stay tuned for a date and time for that meeting. Please let Beth Vlerick, beth.vlerick@gmail.com know if you can help out for this year and/or if you are interested in helping on next year's Library Committee.

CHEESE!



Class Pictures

Our very own Ms. Denise will once again work her magic with our children – this time for our class pictures. Please mark your calendars for the following dates: Ms. Kim and Ms. Kay's

Toddlers will be photographed on Tuesday, April 2; Ms. Kim and Ms. Kay's twos will be photographed on Wednesday, April 3. Ms.

Andie and Ms. Julie Ann's toddlers, Ms. Kim and Ms. Amy's 2-day twos and both PreK classes will be photographed on Tuesday, April 16. Ms. Andie and Ms. Denise's twos, and both 3-day and 5-day threes will be photographed on Wednesday, April 17.

Celebrate our home - Earth Day is Monday, April 22

This year's focus for Earth Day awareness is climate change. For information about Earth Day and climate change check out <http://www.earthday.org/>



In order to continue teaching our children the importance of caring for our earth here are some activities and events MPP has planned:

- We will be **recycling household batteries** during the months of April and May. We collected almost 70 POUNDS of batteries and e-waste last year (they also take old cell phones) and hope to collect even more this spring. Keep your eyes out for the <http://www.biggreenbox.com/> recycling container in the preschool stairwell area.
- Each classroom will be working on an **art project using recycled household items**. These creative works of art will be displayed for parents to view on April 22nd for an Earth Day celebration. Everyone is welcome to come view our art show at 9:30 a.m.!
- **Farmer D organics** <http://www.farmerd.com/> has partnered with MPP to give our preschool families a **special EARTH DAY discount**. 10% off your purchase on Earth Day and 5% off your purchase the remainder of the week – April 23-28th. Just mention the MPP discount when you go to pick up some herbs, vegetable plants, or garden supplies – then go play in the dirt with your kids to celebrate earth day.

Thank you for helping MPP be environmentally aware.
The MPP Environmental Committee



Happy Spring Break!