



Morningside Messenger

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Inside This Issue

- 1 **Worship**
- 2 **From Your Morningside Staff**
- 3 **Inside Morningside**
- 4 **Serve!**
- 5 **Calendar**
- 6 **Connect!**
- 7 **Session News**
- 8 **BackWords**

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July 2013 Worship at Morningside

July 7, 2013
Drew Stockstill preaching
"Humbled, Healed, and Sent Out"
Galatians 6: 1-16; Psalm 30
The sacrament of communion will be celebrated.

July 14, 2013
Baron Mullis preaching
"In Defense of the Priest and the Levite"
Luke 10:25-37; Psalm 25:1-10

July 21, 2013
Baron Mullis preaching
"Praise the Lord"
Psalm 148
Congregational Hymn Sing Sunday

July 28, 2013
Baron Mullis preaching
"Good Gifts"
Song of Solomon 2:2-4, 8-16
Luke 11:1-13



Dear MPC Family,

A few months ago Baron asked that each of the staff use this space to write about what we think is important and how it shapes the programs we administer. As Minister for Young

Adults and Adult Education as well as the staff person that works with Morningside's community groups, I find that I spend a lot of time praying for our church as a community of communities of God. In a way, the programs I administer are simply a tangible expression of what is truly important. They are the 'What' of my job. The more important question, and frankly the more interesting question for me, is the "Why?" Why are ministries focused on young adults important? Why is adult education in the church – in Sunday School and beyond – important? Why are community groups and small group ministries important?

When I was ordained in the Morningside Sanctuary back in September, I gave the benediction. It was simple, short, and straight from the Bible. It was Jesus' words from the 17th chapter of the Gospel of John where he was praying for his disciples in the moments before he was betrayed and arrested. His prayer sheds light on the why we do what we do here. Jesus prays that *all* may be *completely* one; that we may all be as closely united together in Christ as Jesus was in God. He says, "So that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved *them* even as you have loved me."

Wow! Our unity and our community are so important because it is through our community that the world can truly know that Jesus lived and died for all of us. That's a pretty big deal. That's the 'Why.' God is answering Jesus' prayer in our very gathering together and telling the world how much they are loved through us.

The truth of Jesus Christ and his desire for us to grow closer to him and closer together is what undergirds our small groups, our adult education, our community groups, and all that we do. Our ministries are then the aortic artery through which the oxygenated life force of that truth flows through this body of Christ.

That's *why* this whole community of God at Morningside is important. It's our purpose: to live into and bear witness

to the saving grace of Jesus Christ and share the good news of his grace with the world. What do Young Adult ministry, adult education, and community groups have to do with this? This is where we gather, grow, are formed as disciples, and move closer to the Word of God.

Calendars fill up, as they do, and so do our lives, but what happens when we gather as a community united in Christ is a refocusing of our purpose in life. In Sunday School and small-group Bible studies we pray that God speaks to us in new ways through ancient texts and when we do that we truly expect God to reveal God's self to us and show us how to live in and serve the community of God. In our Young Adult ministry we value immensely the fellowship, intimacy, and vulnerability of Christian community as a way we can be more sensitive and engaged with Creation. In our small groups from One Grey Hair and LGBT & Friends to Women's Roundtable and Theology on Tap, we grow closer together and closer to God.

What happens here at Morningside is so much more than one more thing on the calendar. We are uniting in Christ so that the folks who desperately need some good news will know that God has loved them even as God has loved Jesus Christ. Who doesn't need some of that good news? I know I do, and that's what I love about being part of this community of disciples.

Grace and Peace,
Drew Stockstill
Minister for Young Adults & Adult Education

Elder on Call

Tony Fishpaw	July 7-13
Philip Hawkins	July 14-20
Leslie Prince	July 21-27
Caroline Tanner	July 28-August 3

Deacon on Call

Katherine Johnston	July 7-13
Faye McKay Clegg	July 14-20
Link Marx	July 21-27
Ken Sharpe	July 28-August 3

New Academic Career Beckons Walter Huff

Some individuals seem as permanent a fixture at Morningside Presbyterian as the stained-glass window. But our church has a rare good news/bad news situation as we prepare to say goodbye to Organist/Choirmaster Walter Huff after almost 25 years leading our music program. The bad news is that he's leaving us—the good news is that he's going to a 'dream job' as associate professor on the faculty of one of the nation's top institutions for musical education, Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music.

Walter has been commuting to the campus in Bloomington for the past year in an adjunct capacity while he considered his options. His experiences at IU helped convince him that a full-time faculty position would give him an unparalleled opportunity to help mold the future of choral conducting, using his gifts to the fullest. Walter will continue his role as principal chorus master for the Atlanta Opera.

"Walter is an exceptional musician with enormous experience as an opera chorus master," said Betsy Burleigh, chair of the Jacobs School's choral conducting department, in the

university's announcement of the position. "His addition to our faculty enables us to offer a unique area of specialized choral study in the country. We are thrilled to have him as part of our team."

Walter's last regular Sunday at MPC will be Aug. 18. There will be a special reception after worship that day. Anyone wishing to send Walter a message of congratulations may email him at music@morningsidepc.org.

A search committee chaired by Bill Humphries and with the consulting assistance of 'Professor Huff' will begin seeking candidates for both an interim conductor and a permanent organist/choirmaster. Members of the committee include Julie Green, Tami Giusto, Philip Hawkins, HR Chair Rob Payne, Caroline Tanner, Trenton Tunnell and Sheryl Wingert, with Baron Mullis as ex-officio member.



Prayer Concerns

Members of our community have asked for individual prayer and for the names of those for which to offer prayers.

To be on the prayer list—public or private—use prayer cards found in the pew racks or speak with Baron.

Morningside Messenger will carry the most recent list from the most recent weekly *Life@* insert: Irless Aviles, Sue Ballay, Becky Carlisle, Grier Christenbury, Jackie Cleveland, Tom Franks, John Hawkins, Ann Herndon, Finley Holaway, Jean Joiner, Jan McMahan, Robert Marshall, Taylor Marshall, Alan Nichols, Emil Sanders, Chuck Thagard, John Vytal, and Katrina Weis.

Morningside Milestones

- So many reasons to congratulate members of our Morningside community! We wish the best success to Grady High School Class of 2013 grad Sam Tomaka, who'll be off to the University of North Carolina in Asheville, and to Vanderbilt grad Jack McNeill, who'll take his degree in History and Political Science into the consulting realm in St. Louis! And wedding wishes go to our new members Katye Vytal Watts and Alex Watts. And also to young Joseph Henry Stewart, presented for baptism by parents Becky and Andrew.

- Our family also grew by leaps and bounds last month, adding not only Alex and Katye, but also Alyssa and Casey Durden, Gary Hurd, Bryant Hand and Chase Robinson, Aaron Pratt and Whitney Stevens. Seek them out and say hello!

- We also grieve with our Facilities Manager Randy Young on the recent death of his father, and with Will Herndon and Jeff Harris as Will's father passed away June 4, as well as the Bach family on the loss of Alex's mother and the Jensen family as Van's grandmother recently died.

'It's Not All About Me' Is All About More Than Kids—Adults Need to Make Camp Happen

Even the kids who've already attended Mission Camp and know *It's Not All About Me* are looking forward to coming back for this year's edition, July 22-26. To serve the 28 kids who've completed grades two through eight, we need seven to eight driver/chaperones each day, Monday-Wednesday to get to all our outreach programs, as well as at least 10 chaperones to hike with the group to the Len Foote Hike Inn in north Georgia on Thursday, returning the next day.

There will be set up Sunday afternoon, July 21, 2-4 p.m. and a clean up Friday afternoon 3:30-5 p.m. July 26. Everyone's invited to bring newspapers (for Atlanta Humane Society) and plastic bags (for Intown Collaborative Ministries food pantry) or old towels for the car wash. Bring

these much needed items to Room 201 no later than Sunday, July 21. See the sign-up on the bulletin board across from the office or contact Program Director Melinda Sandkam (msandkam@morningsidepc.org) to help us make this important outreach opportunity happen for our kids.

We also note that we have such great support on workdays before and after programs such as VBS and Mission Camp, but there are always additional tasks awaiting a willing volunteer to continue to develop our children's programs. If you have two to three hours once a month or even just one time this July and August, contact Melinda. Previous tasks have included phone and/or website research, cleaning and organizing supplies, bulletin boards and posters, preparing supplies for an upcoming event.

Household Goods Make Homecoming Happier for Clifton Graduates

Collecting items and assembling Welcome Home Baskets for the men moving into new homes from Clifton Sanctuary Ministries is a true team effort. We collected both items (from current day marketplaces) and money towards these baskets at Vacation Bible School. The whole congregation continues the collection through July 14—there's info in the Welcome Center about what items to bring.

Then, the Mission Camp attendees assemble the baskets while learning about Clifton's programs and add friendly touches such as cards before they deliver them to Clifton. Contact shepherds David (dmjohnst@gmail.com) and Katherine Johnston (kecjohnton@gmail.com) with any questions.

'Back 2 School' Offers Both Fun, Needed Supplies for Local Children

Believe it or not, it's already time to think about school. The Georgia Justice Project will host its annual pre-school fair on Saturday, July 13, providing new backpacks and school supplies to the families of GJP's judicial clients, so the kids are ready for a new school year. MPC's volunteers at this entertaining event set up games and supervise activities, serve lunch, and offer a friendly face. It's a great way

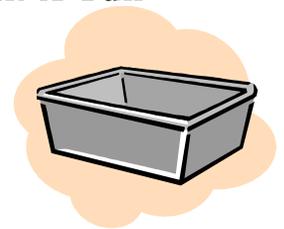
to help children living in poverty get excited about school. To participate, sign up on the mission bulletin board or contact Bill Means (billmeans@bellsouth.net, 404.234.9718). The location is a community center near Turner Field. We need four to six volunteers from 9:30 a.m. to around 1:30 p.m. Older kids are welcome as volunteers with their parents.

What to Cook for Journey? Knowing What to Do Is Easy When You 'Pick-A-Pan'

The second Sunday of each month, we provide dinner for 30 men staying at Journey Men's Shelter. Ahead of time, there's a selection of big aluminum pans in the Narthex on Sunday. Each pan has a note with a requested item in it—ALSO a sign up sheet to record who took each pan. The note tells you what food item to bring and how many servings to make, for example, "starch for 15."

Bring the pan filled with your delicious dish back that second Sunday. Everyone who cooks doesn't have to also help serve the meal, but we do need a few folks each

time. This is also an opportunity to serve if you aren't a cook--you come at 6:30 to serve and get to know the men. Contact shepherds Tamara Nix (tamaranix@yahoo.com) and Bryan Smith (bryasmith@na.ko.com) for more information.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>MPP Camp</i> 7 p.m. Mandolin Society	2 <i>MPP Camp</i> 11 a.m. Yoga 2:15 p.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers 7:30 p.m. MLPA Zoning	3 <i>MPP Camp</i>	4 <i>MPP and Church Office Closed in observance of July 4</i>	5 <i>MPP Camp</i>	6 9 a.m. AA Meeting
	<i>Clifton Welcome Home Basket Collection</i> →					
7 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Church School 11 a.m. Worship with Communion 12 noon Fellowship 7:30 p.m. Meditation Grp.	8 <i>MPP Camp</i> 7 p.m. Mandolin Society 7:30 p.m. MLPA	9 <i>MPP Camp</i> 11 a.m. Yoga 2:15 p.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers 7 p.m. Preschool Committee	10 <i>MPP Camp</i> 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	11 <i>MPP Camp</i> 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group	12 <i>MPP Camp</i> 7 p.m. Couples Group	13 9 a.m. AA Meeting
<i>Clifton Welcome Home Basket Collection</i> →						
14 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Church School 11 a.m. Worship 12 noon Fellowship 6 p.m. Journey 7:30 p.m. Meditation Grp. <i>Youth Trip to Asheville</i>	15 <i>MPP Camp</i> 7 p.m. Mandolin Society	16 <i>MPP Camp</i> 11 a.m. Yoga 2:15 p.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers 6:30 p.m. Scotland Meeting (Mardee & Julie's home)	17 <i>MPP Camp</i> 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	18 <i>MPP Camp</i> 12 noon 3rd Thursday Theological Throwdown 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7 p.m. Handbell Choir	19 <i>MPP Camp</i>	20 9 a.m. AA Meeting
<i>Clifton Welcome Home Basket Collection</i> →						
21 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Church School 11 a.m. Worship/Hymn Sing Sunday 12 noon Fellowship 12:30 p.m. RHO Readers 2 - 4 p.m. Mission Camp Setup 7:30 p.m. Meditation Grp.	22 <i>MPP Camp</i> <i>Mission Camp</i> 7 p.m. Mandolin Society; Parliamentarians	23 <i>MPP Camp</i> <i>Mission Camp</i> 2:15 p.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers 7 p.m. Handbell Choir	24 <i>MPP Camp</i> <i>Mission Camp</i> 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	25 <i>MPP Camp</i> <i>Mission Camp & Overnight</i> 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group 7 p.m. Handbell Choir	26 <i>MPP Camp</i> <i>Mission Camp</i> 3:30 - 5 p.m. Mission Camp Clean up	27 9 a.m. AA Meeting 6 p.m. Clifton Sanctuary
28 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 9:45 a.m. Church School 11 a.m. Worship 12 noon Mission Camp Ice Cream Social 7:30 p.m. Meditation Grp.	29 <i>MPP Camp</i> 7 p.m. Mandolin Society	30 <i>MPP Camp</i> 2:15 p.m. Tai Chi 6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers	31 <i>MPP Camp</i> 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir			

Check Out These Cool Activities for Hot Days

If you're not at the beach or in the mountains or just hanging around the pool, here are some ideas to liven up your StayCation.

Morningside member and experienced yogini Pam Sharpe continues her summer yoga class in Room 201 on Tuesdays through July 16. Show up at 11 a.m. in comfortable clothes and learn this fascinating, gentle—and non-sweaty!—practice to bend, extend, strengthen and relax. For more information, contact Pam (yogapam@bellsouth.net).

Even less strenuous is the Christian meditation group being led by Pam's husband and MPC Deacon Ken Sharpe at 7:30 p.m. Sundays in the Welcome Center. Learn to calm your mind and sharpen your awareness of God's universal love. No reservations required—just show up! You can

also come pray with our Prayer Group at 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays in Room 201. That's just a quiet half-hour of conversation with the Creator.

If there are two of you and you're looking for something a little more social, the Couples Group will get together for a meal as always on the second Friday evening at 7 p.m. All duos are welcome. Check with Kathy Bremer (kdbremer@bellsouth.net) to see what the plans are for July 12.

Or if reading is your chosen beat-the-heat activity, you might pick up Sonny Brewer's novel *The Poet of Tolstoy Park*. And then join our eclectic co-ed discussion group, the RHO Readers, in the Session Room at 12:30 p.m. on July 21 to talk over the plot, characters and pretty much anything else.



See What Happens When Our Kids 'Meet at the Marketplace'

Take 55 youngsters and a dedicated lot of teachers and helpers, a Drama Team, the musical leadership of Rebecca Shipley, a whole bunch of snack and prop and costume and construction volunteers, all pulled together by the creative talents of Melinda Sandkam and you have our recent week of Vacation Bible School, built around characters meeting at a typical 'biblical times' marketplace to talk about who Jesus is.



Your Session at Work: June 17 Meetings

- The biggest item of business for Session was the news that **Walter Huff** would be leaving to take a full-time faculty position at Indiana University (see Page 2) and discussing the plans developed by the Human Resources Committee along with Walter and Baron to fill the enormous hole Walter will leave at our church and in our hearts.
- Speaking for Morningside’s preschool, **Melinda Sandkam** reported that the idea of launching a Kindergarten here has been shelved for the time being and that openings for the fall are still available in the Toddler and Pre-K classes.
- Mission Ministries Chair **Tony Fishpaw** called attention to the series of Minute Messages explaining the valuable role played by the coordinators—or shepherds—of our various service projects. Anyone who wants to learn more about one of our outreach activities can look at the bulletin board in the hall near the

Session Room 103 to see a picture of each shepherd in order to recognize the person and be able to chat with him or her, say over punch during the social hour.

- Session received with gratitude a bequest from the estate of **Ruthlyn Newell**.
- **Daisy Ottmann** reported our mid-year membership stands at 548.
- Session and the Board of Deacons both elected not to meet during the month of July unless urgent business arose.

Daisy Ottmann
Clerk of Session

Youth Travel to Asheville for Service Projects

As one of the results of your generous support of our BOBO Youth Auction, a delegation of our high- and middle-school youth and their advisors will travel to Asheville, NC, July 14-20. They will be working on projects through the Asheville Youth Mission. Keep them in your prayers during their journey and watch for information on reports back to the congregation on all their summer activities.

July Birthdays

1 David Terry	9 Marshall Hunter	21 Annie Moon Davis	30 David Batchelor
1 Becky Haskins	10 Richard Finn	21 Jeb Davis	30 Leigh Gobbel
1 Matthew Caudill	10 Steve Prittie	23 Diana Cochran	31 Emilee Terry
1 Cindy Humphries	10 Caroline Bell	23 Joseph Green	31 Nathan Burgess
1 Will Grant	11 Roland Behm	24 Doug Scribner	31 Amy Jensen
2 Charles Woolley	12 Susan Oder	25 Anthony Owens	
3 Michelle Mashburn	12 Tom Oder	25 Katherine Johnston	
4 Will Herndon	13 Michael Siedschlag	25 Mark Johnson	
4 Andrea Leonard	13 Christine Butz	25 Laura Fillyaw	
4 Meg Samuels	13 Blair Myers	25 Taylor Morton	
5 Ben Kennedy	13 Anderson Kimball	26 Bill Bell	
6 Mary Hardy Holaway	15 Ellen Brown Landers	26 Nick Bremer	
7 Mac Barnette	16 Anna Bradway	27 Cameron McIntosh	
7 Luke Santy	16 Isabella Sudduth	28 Kimberly Nuckols	
7 Gaspari Pellerito	17 Mark Cochran	28 Elizabeth Fairleigh	
	18 Sophie Ryan	29 Meghan Pauls	
	20 Collier Maxwell	30 Bridget Johns	

Summer Can Be Calmer When You Think ‘VBS’ Year-Round

You may wonder how a theme helps us deliver our message during Vacation Bible School. Many of you probably saw the ‘Bible-times marketplace’ set up for this year's VBS. We explored with our kids what it was like during Jesus' ministry here on earth. The village well was a special centerpiece where all the stories were told about Jesus.

The marketplace was not simply a backdrop—it was a fun activity for the kids each day. The many items that you donated were fully enjoyed—old spices, bread, scraps of material and wood, clay pots and so much more. Many props of this sort can be found year-round and so we wanted to share next year's theme with you. Then you can keep it in mind whenever you may be cleaning out a closet, passing a yard sale, or browsing through stores with wide and crazy varieties of goods. Next summer we'll learn about God's love through the Noah's Ark story and the children will have the opportunity to care for the animals on the ark.

Any and all realistic looking stuffed animals (this EXCLUDES pink bunnies, purple elephants, teddy bears with bows, etc.) of any size are a great addition to the ark; pieces of material with animal prints of fish or birds; posters; even ceramic animals (again realistic looking)—we want our boat crammed as full as Noah's! Use your imagination and have fun. I once drove by a yard sale just down the street and found a three-foot-tall kangaroo available for \$2!

Melinda Sandkam, Program Director



Coming Attractions!

Circle Friday, Aug. 2, on your calendar today and watch for details as our famed pianist-member **Mac Frampton** will present another concert in our Sanctuary.

And loosen up your vocal chords as **Hymn-Sing Sunday** returns July 21.

Name your favorite, and we will all join in!


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