MORNINGSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH M APRIL 2024 ONTH AT A GLANCE

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

The Easter season brings resurrection and new life! It's a gift that Easter aligns with spring; we are able to see signs of resurrection all around us. Flowers are blooming. Trees are budding. The energy of children is palpable. New members bring new life and expanding gifts to our church family. If you're looking, you can see signs of resurrection.

On the one hand, resurrection is God's work. It is God who rolled the stone away and who raised Jesus from the dead. It is God who conquered death and met us in the garden as the Risen Christ. But God's resurrection work is right at our very feet. This spring, I delighted that the daffodils in my front yard bloomed without me doing anything at all. God has imbedded this evidence of new life all throughout creation, and our job is to delight in it and respond, "Hallelujah!"

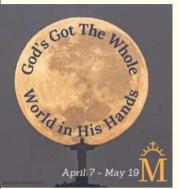
On the other hand, resurrection invites us to respond with care. It is our job to name where God is rolling back the stones in our lives and offering fresh hope. It is also our job to tend to the gifts of creation that point to God's resurrection and renewal of life. Our CARE team is especially good at this, as they are tending a pollinator garden and offering ways to care for creation with everything from recycled batteries to advocacy efforts.

This Easter season, we are focusing on God's creation. You will have the chance to worship outdoors on April 21st when we will gather outside in the parking lot, not because we have to because of a pandemic, but because we get to delight in God's creation. You also have the chance to play together outdoors at our All Church Picnic on April 13th or at MPP's Spring Fling! However we gather this month, I hope that you will find ways pause in awe of all that God has done and to respond with stories of where God is breathing new life for you!

WITH EASTER JOY.

PASTOR KATIE

"God's Got the Whole World in His Hands"



Easter is a season of resurrection and new life. What better way to mark this season than to reflect together on the gifts of life all around us in God's creation. For the next seven weeks, our worship & sermons will explore the many ways that God creates, sustains, and blesses us through creation as well as our role both to care for and delight in the signs of resurrection all around us!

Sunday, April 7

Lord of All Creation - Psalm 8 & Matthew 28:16-20 Baptism Pastor Katie Aumann Owen, preaching

Sunday, April 14

Stewards of Creation - Genesis 1:26-31 & Job 38 & 39 Pastor Emma Neishloss, preaching

Sunday, April 21

Delighting in Creation - Isaiah 55:1-12

Pastor Katie Owen Aumann, preaching
Back in 2020, we began monthly worship outside because it
was the only way we could gather. Four years later, we are
choosing to venture outside to delight in God's creation as we
worship God together. On Sunday, April 21, bring your lawn
chair or a blanket and join us in the preschool parking lot for
worship at 11 am. There will be special hands-on worship
moments with the MPC CARE team. Start praying now for a
sunny spring day so that we can join creation in worshipping
as we hear the trees of the field clap their hands (Isaiah 55:12)!



Sunday, April 28
New Heaven & New Earth - Isaiah 65
Handbells & Welcoming New Members
Pastor Katie Aumann Owen, preaching



FAITH DEVELOPMENT

April 7 -- Mary Chapman leads a discussion of the short film, Nature's Best Hope and the importance of native plants.



April 14 & April 21 -- Guest speaker, Dr. Chelsea Williams leads a discussion on the Church and its role in today's world. April 28 -- John Watson begins a discussion on Richard Rohr



NEW MEMBERS CLASS

April 14 & April 28 @ 9:45 am Curious about membership at MPC? Attend the new member class on 4/14 and 4/28 at 9:45 am. Those ready will have the opportunity to join at the end of the second class. Contact

Pastor Katie for more information.





5:30 - 8:30 pm **Emory University Candler School of Theology** The Matthew 25 team invites you to a book launch of a new book by Candler professor Luther Smith. His book Hope is Here: Spiritual Practices for Pursuing Justice and Beloved Community has recently released and explores

ways to dive deeper into the work of justice, especially across racial and economic divides. For questions? Email Matthew 25 team member Katie Davis. To attend the book talk with the author, please click the RSVP button.

MIDDLE GROUND

Wednesday, April 10 Wednesday, April 24

Gather for a time of fellowship at 5:30 pm, dinner at 6 pm, and a short-form casual worship service on Wednesday, 3/13 at 6:30 pm. For those with children, MPC Kids



programs and Children's Choir meets simultaneously.



CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm

Our Children's Choir is preparing to sing May 5 during Children's Sabbath Sunday. Miss Rosie and Mr. Jonathan invite children 4 years old and older to join them Wednesday evenings at 6:30 in Room 001 to

songs and fun music games. For more info, email Jonathan.

- No rehearsal on April 3
- Rehearsals April 10, 17, 24 and May 1
- Sing for Children's Sabbath, May 5

Choir will conclude on May 5. We look forward to helping these young singers prepare to lead in worship.

CHILDREN'S SABBATH & BIBLE DEDICATION

Sunday, May 5

Click here to sign up!



Let us know how your child would like to participate in this year's Children's Sabbath!

- Children of all ages are invited to sign up!
- MPP Students let us know you'll be joining us by scrolling to the bottom and signing up to sing in the first slot.
- If your child signs up to be an artist, musician, or speaker, they will receive additional instructions.

Bible Dedication - Please also use the signup if you would like your child to receive a Bible this year. Be sure to note the grades in which Bibles will be received and make sure you haven't already received your child's age appropriate Bible.



6TH ANNIVERSARY

Celebrating six years at Morningside, we give thanks for Megan Reader's infectious smile, gracious hospitality, and incredible communications skills. She is instrumental to everything we do from Sunday's bulletin to communications to welcoming groups into our building and navigating an increasingly complex schedule. Morningside would not be the same without her! Be sure to take a moment this month to say thank you to Megan for all she does for MPC!



- Eleomar Cuello, baritone Saturday, 7/6 @ 7 pm
- Yunwen Chen, cello & Xiyu Deng, piano -Saturday, 9/21 @ 7 pm
- Sage Harrison & Juan Riveros, duo cello -Saturnday, 11/2 @ 7 pm

Click **here** for more info and tickets!

MUSIC @ MPC

Sunday, May 19 after Worship Stick around Sunday, May 19 after morning worship to hear our choir with orchestra perform Schubert's "Mass in G". Grab some snacks at fellowship hour, then join us at 12:30 to hear this beautiful piece of music. You'll be on your way by 1:15.





MORNINGSIDE SINGS!

Saturday, August 24 @ 7 pm



Save the date for the tenth, and final, Morningside Sings! Saturday, August 24 at 7pm. Music from the last 10 years will be featured by soloists, chorus, and band. Help us say Bravo and thank you to Michael Siedschlag and Jeff Peters for their vision and leadership during these past 10 years. One performance only!







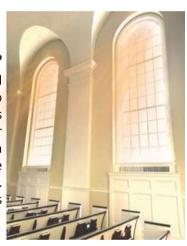
Registration is Open!

Register now for Camp Firelight at MPC, June 10-14. Campers will learn ways we can connect with and put our trust in God whenever we are afraid, challenged, or called to share God's love in the world. VBS is open to 2 year-olds through 5th graders. VBS will run from 9 am - noon with optional aftercare and Mission Camp until 3 pm. Click to register and for more information.

We also need volunteers! <u>Sign up today</u> to lead our campers through everyone's favorite summer activities or to help with camp preparations.

BLINDED BY THE LIGHT?

After some repairs and repainting, the screens to our sanctuary windows needed replacing. Our facilities team is working on screens to help disperse the bright light in the sanctuary. Thanks for your patience as that project unfolds!



EASTER TRIBUTES

Easter Tributes were given to support the flower guild's ministry and help to underwrite the flowers you saw in worship on Easter Sunday. Click <u>here</u> to read the tributes.



PICTURES OF MARCH

YOUTH ROOM

UPDATE CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTR

Thanks to your generosity, both in the budget and with fundraising, we were able to purchase a new TV and couch for the Youth Room! Stay tuned for more improvements to our incredible youths' space!



GAME NIGHT



MIDDLE SCHOOL MYSTERY NIGHT



MAIN EVENT OUTING



CLUB 46















FRIENDS

















"I give you a new commandment: Love each other.

Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other.

This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples, when you love each other."

MAUNDY THURSDAY











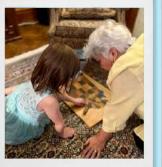


































Finity_Groups Friends at Morningside

Thursday, 4/11 @ 7 pm; offsite Sunday, 4/14 @ 12:30 pm; offsite

MPC's young adults meet for game night at Breaker Breaker on the Beltline in Inman Park on Thursday 4/11 at 7 pm. After worship on

Sunday, 4/14, FAM will meet at Sweetwater Brewing for Brunch and Book Study at 12:30 pm. Email Pastor Emma for details.

MPC Couples & Friends =

Saturday, 4/13 @ 6 pm; offsite

This group gathers at the Mean's home for dinner and conversation. Bring an appetizer, side or dessert item, plus a beverage of choice. RSVP to Kathy Bremer.





Theology on Tap

Tuesday, 4/16 @ 7 pm; offsite

Pastor Katie leads the program at the Bremer's home. Email Pastor Emma for more info on the group.

RHO Readers

Sunday, 4/21 @ 12:30 pm; Room 201 or Zoom

RHO Readers book selection for April is Godfall: A Novel by our own Van Jensen. "When a massive asteroid hurtles toward Earth, humanity braces for annihilation—but the end doesn't come. In fact, it isn't an asteroid but a three-mile-tall alien that drops down, seemingly dead, outside Little



Springs, Nebraska. Dubbed "the giant," its arrival transforms the red-state farm town into a top-secret government research site and major metropolitan area, flooded with soldiers, scientists, bureaucrats, spies, criminals, conspiracy theorists—and a murderer." (from nebraskapress.unl.edu) Join the discussion with the author on Sunday April 21 in Room 201 at 12:30 pm. There will be snacks! Contact Jill etc. Email Jill for more info.



WRT will meet at a local restaurant for fun and fellowship. This will be the last gathering until September.

Men's Coffee



Fridays @ 8 am Men of MPC are invited to stop-in for coffee and conversation. Meet at Press & Grind Coffee on Fridays at 8 am. Contact Mark Gilbreath for info.





Coming this Summer!

Have you ever walked away from a compelling movie wondering what it meant and wishing you had someone to discuss it with? Morningside is forming a film group to discuss how movies teach us about ourselves, about others and about our place in the world. The group will be led by Fritz Bogar, a retired Presbyterian minister now worshipping with us. Fritz is a film enthusiast. For more than a decade Fritz led a monthly film discussion group at Columbia Seminary's Lay Institute for Faith and Life, an adventure that eventually stretched to 150 films. Morningside plans to launch a monthly film discussion group led by Fritz on the Second Sunday, beginning June 9th through December 8th. The monthly sessions will begin 30 minutes after worship concludes and last approximately 1.5 hours. We will meet in Room 201. If needed, we plan to offer child care. We encourage

participants to bring a Brown Bag lunch or snack. We will provide cookies. Each film discussion stands alone, so it doesn't matter if you miss a session.

Initially, Fritz will select the movie we will discuss each month, offering a variety of film types and story themes. The group can also decide what movies they want to watch and discuss. The films selected for discussion will be available on a streaming app, most likely Amazon Prime. Participants should watch the movie in their homes, in advance of the film group session, and come ready to engage in a lively discussion.

Sign-ups will open on May 1. Please contact Beth Baer by text or call, if you have any questions.

We hope to see you at Movies at Morningside beginning

this summer, June 9.



COMMUNITY NEWS





Enrollment is open!!! Come see our preschool in active play! Ms. Courtney is hosting group tours every Wednesday at 10am. The following Enrollment slots are open - PreK, 2 Day Twos, 3 Day Twos, Toddlers. Do you know of a family looking for a Preschool community? Click here to sign up for a tour.



Saturday, April 13 8:00 - 11:30 am

@ Morningside Presbyterian Church

LIVE MUSIC, KIDS' MUSICIAN + BOUNCE HOUSE LOVE IS LOVE FARM PLANT SALE



CITY OF ATLANTA

Community Open House #10 Monday, April 15; 4-7:30 pm

Join the Department of City Planning and your neighbors to share ideas for Atlanta's Comprehensive Development Plan and the future of Atlanta. We will set up in the Fellowship Hall of Morningside Presbyterian Church. Click here to RSVP.



JOB POSTING

We're in search of an interim director for Morningside Presbyterian Preschool. Read the job description and share the word about this opportunity. Click here to read the job description.

Researched & compiled by Jill Klotz

SERVE TOGETHER

"I give you a new commandment: "Love each other."

- John 13:34

CLIFTON WE BASKETS

For a number of years one of Morningside's mission partners has been Clifton Sanctuary Ministries, providing meals, grants for ongoing and capital projects. We have taken on the additional challenge to provide "Welcome Home" baskets for the men who move on and are able to establish independent living households. The items in the "Baskets" provide the basics to establish a new homestead. Items and quantities are listed on the Sign Up Genius under Clifton Sanctuary Ministries.

Items may be new or gently used. Keep in mind that the guys may have limited space. In addition to Amazon a great source for reasonably priced items may be IKEA (available on line as well as in store), The Dollar Store and Walmart.

If you choose to support the effort with a monetary gift, any donations can be made through REALM or with the regular offering. (Please designate for Clifton Sanctuary.)









NICHOLAS HOUSE FUNDRAISER

Thursday, June 27; 5:30-7:30 pm The Carter Center



Each June, Nicholas House hosts a Dream Builders event to give members of the community a chance to learn more about our mission to end family homelessness. All proceeds and pledges from the event go directly towards funding Nicholas House programs for families in need, including our emergency shelter, homelessness prevention, and permanent supportive housing services. If you are looking for a way to make an important and lasting impact on family homelessness in Atlanta, this event is for you! Click here for more information.



LENTEN FOOD DRIVE UPDATE

Thank you, Morningsiders for your generosity. From February 13 through March 25, MPC donated over 900 lbs of food to Intown Cares! Thank you to our Intown Cares Shepherds, who took 2 loads of donations to Intown Cares.





GROCERY DELIVERY

Sign up here to deliver groceries to Maggie Russell Towers. New dates for 2024 are available! Each delivery date can use a driver and a ride along helper. Meet at MPC at 10:15 am, and then travel to Intown Cares where you load groceries into van at 10:30 am then head out for delivery. Deliveries take 1-2 hours.

HEART + HOME FUNDRAISER

Saturday, May 4 @ 6:30 pm Click here for more information.



ATLANTA HABITAT NEEDS 100+ VOLUNTEERS!

Atlanta Habitat has many builds upcoming that are in need of volunteers. *We need you!* Please let friends and family know who are interested in volunteering - no orientation required. Register here to help our soon-to-be homeowners finally make their dream a reality!



MAY 4, 2024 | 6:30 PM

GEORGIA AQUARIUM OCEANS BALLROOM

FEATURING OUR COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD HONOREE BILL BOLLING



BATTERY RECYCLE

Bring your old batteries to the small collection container in the Welcome Center. MPC C.A.R.E. is collecting them for recycling at C.H.A.R.M.



COMPOST UPDATE

In the month of February, MPC's compost has impacted in the following potential ways:

- Waste diverted 1700 lbs
- Compost created 170 lbs
- CO2e miles not driven 4.963 miles
- Methane avoided 177 lbs
- Tomato potential of compost 1,275 tomatoes



SUCHES HIKE

Monday, April 22; 9 am - 2 pm Mark your calendars for a group trip up to Suches for lunch and a hike, led by the Watsons. More details to come. Contact Pastor Emma for more information.

POGO IS WORRIED

An Alabama Company has proposed to mine titanium from 8000 acres adjacent to Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge.



In the South of Georgia, the land of Pogo, lies Okefenokee Swamp, its waters held back from drainage to the sea by the presence of a ridge of sandy deposits known as Trail Ridge that extends from South Georgia into Florida. The Swamp harbors dense cypress forest and open water habitats with submerged aquatic vegetation. It is a popular recreation area for fishing, canoeing, and birdwatching, which contribute much to the economy of the region. Click here to read more.

MPC C.A.R.E.'S 2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

- Conducted congregation wide GIPL survey
- Created a pollinator garden on MPP side of church
- Participated in Capitol Conservation Day talked with legislators
- Purchased MPC C.A.R.E. Team Aprons to enhance awareness of the team
- Obtained congregational signatures to send to EPA regarding carbon emissions
- Received advocacy training from GIPL
- Held a "clean the ravine" (in front of church) event with Boy Scouts
- Visited Fernbank for environmental film, Camp Creek Water Reclamation Facility, UUCA, Compost Now facility
- Planned and led Len Foote Hike Inn weekend for 35 hikers
- Conducted Mission Camp trip to Zonolite Park with archeologist presentation
- Held an eyeglass recycling event
- Provided a Minute Message for Compost Now
- Initiated Compost Now program diverted 1,000+ pounds in 5 months
- Provided Earth Day talks to Faith Development
- Distributed "microgreens" to the congregation
- Held a Watson "tomato lunch" for the team and church staff
- Presented at One Gray Hair with our new aprons
- Completed a GIPL Waste Audit
- Participated in the statewide GIPL Summit
- Provided education and advocated (emails and calls) for the Okefenokee
- Held Christmas tree lights recycling effort diverted 94 pounds from landfill
- Conducted hikes: Arabia, Sweetwater Park, Suches Watson Trail, Newman Wetland Center











SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Easter Monday MPC Offices Closed	² 1 Staff meeting	3	4 12 Centering Prayer 4 Tai Chi Class	5 8 Men's Coffee (Offsite)	6 9 Grace AA Group
 7 2nd Sunday of Easter 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship 12 Mission Mtg 12:30 Deacons Mtg 12:30 ONC Mtg 6 Youth Group 	8 9 Partner with the Preacher (Zoom)	9 10:30 Intown Grocery Delivery 1 Staff meeting	10 5:30 Middle Ground 6:30 Children's Choir 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	_	12 8 Men's Coffee (Offsite) 5 Club 46	13 9 Grace AA Group 4 All-Church Picnic @ Mason Mill Park 6 MPC Couples & Friends
14 3rd Sunday of Easter9:45 Sunday School& New Members11 Worship12:30 FAM	9 Partner with the Preacher (Zoom) 4 - 7:30 Atlanta City Planning Open House 7 Session Mtg	16 1 Staff meeting 7 Theology on Tap 7:30 Handbell Choir Rehearsal	17 6:30 Children's Choir 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	18 12 Centering Prayer 4 Tai Chi Class	19 8 Men's Coffee (Offsite)	9 Grace AA Group
9:45 Sunday School 11 Outdoor Worship 12:30 RHO Reader 3 Opera Guild for	10 CARE Hike/ Suches 6:30 Women's Roundtable	1 Staff meeting	24 5:30 Middle Ground 6:30 Children's Choir 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	12 Centering Prayer 4 Tai Chi Class	8 Men's Coffee (Offsite)	9 Grace AA Group Preschool Spring Fling 10am - 1pm