MORNINGSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MONTH AT

DEAR MPC FRIENDS.

I officially joined the church as your pastor two years ago! In two years, we have navigated a global pandemic and found ways to be together as a community digitally, outdoors, and (finally) in-person. In two years, I've learned your names, heard the first chapter of many of your stories and the church's stories, shared in baptisms and new births, and said farewell to several saints of the church. In two years, we've walked through a national election, a racial reckoning, school shootings, war in Ukraine, and so many other places that call us toward God's kingdom work. We've navigated a lot, pivoted more than we care to discuss, and still we persevere with joy. I remain so very grateful and honored to be your pastor.

This Sunday is Pentecost, the day we celebrate the birthday of the church and the gift of the Holy Spirit, God's breath for each of us. With each step forward, my invitation to you remains the same:

Find a place where you can inhale God's love and be fed by this community AND Find a place where you can exhale God's love by giving to the churchwith your time, your talents, and your treasure.

The season of Pentecost is also called "ordinary time" in the church. While I'm not sure I can say that I've experienced any "ordinary" time with you yet, ordinary does not mean checked out or boring. This is actually the time where we commit to growing together in faith.

As we step into summer and our programming relaxes, my invitation to you remains: find a way to catch the Spirit's breath this summer.

- Pick a book to read from the Matthew 25 reading list
- Watch the tv shows & join us in the Scripture & Screen sermons this summer
- Attend the food truck fellowship lunch on June 12
- Volunteer at VBS
- Take a pilgrimage with us to Montgomery to visit the Legacy Museum
- Tune in online as you're traveling
- Observe sabbath yourself with your family

All of these are faithful ways to be connected to MPC this summer in "ordinary" time that has the possibility for extraordinary impact when we leave ourselves open to how the Holy Spirit will move among us!

WITH JOY IN THE JOURNEY, PASTOR KATIE

PS-As you step into summer travel, please be sure your pledge is up to date--bills come due all year long! Your generosity is what enables us to grow together. Thanks!



JUNE IS PRIDE MONTH!

While Atlanta celebrates in October, June means Pride! We are so grateful for our LGBTQ+ siblings, and we celebrate, affirm, and love them every month of the year. God is love, y'all!

Sneak Peak: Stay tuned to future communications to find out how you can participate in ATL's Pride celebrations with Morningside in October!



We celebrated 2 years with Pastor Katie on May 31! We are so blessed to have you as our pastor and head of staff. Thank you for your dedication to your congregation and all God's people.



URGENT NEED! VBS VOLUNTEERS

+ BAMBOO

Yes - you read that right! We need bamboo! Do you or a neighbor have an overgrowth of bamboo in your yard? Please cut it down and bring it to us! We will use it to transform our sanctuary into an island oasis for VBS.

We also need some additional adults to tag along with our Kindergarten group and our toddlers. Please email Pastor

Amanda if you plan to bring a load of bamboo or if you are able to help out one or more days of VBS!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, June 12; after worship

Plan to attend the called congregational meeting immediately following worship (at 11:00) to elect our next class of elders, deacons, and nominating committee. To attend via ZOOM, please email Pastor Katie.

INTERGENERATIONAL FOOD TRUCK LUNCH

Sunday, June 12; after Congregational Meeting

Stay after worship for a time of fellowship and food! The Spice of the Americas Food Truck is coming with empanadas of varying kinds (and kid-friendly options). And if you have a little extra time, join Pastor Amanda and the Children's committee to transform the church into an island adventure for VBS!

FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Throughout June and July, all are invited to join this class weekly at 9:15 a.m. on Sundays for a 30-minute discussion of the scriptures which will be used that Sunday in worship. Meet in Room 201 or via Zoom.





MATTHEW 25 DAY TRIP THE LEGACY MUSEUM MONTGOMERY, AL

Thursday, June 23

Join the Matthew 25 Team for a day trip on Thursday, June 23 to The Legacy Museum in Montgomery, Alabama. The church van will leave at 7:30 a.m. and aim to return around dinner time. Sign up by Thursday, June 9. Click here to sign up. Email Pastor Katie for more information.



WORSHIP TOGETHER IN JUNE

6/5 - PENTECOST

"Encountering Christ" Sermon Series
Baptism & Communion
Acts 2:1-21
Emma Neishloss, preaching



Our summer sermon series, Scripture & Screen, pairs favorite TV episodes or movies with theological themes and scripture verses to highlight how faith manifests in pop culture. Stay tuned for information on how to screen the associated episodes/movies beforehand.

6/12 - TRINITY SUNDAY

West Wing: "Shibboleth" (Season 2, Ep. 8) Judges 12:4-6; Matthew 5:13-15 Pastor Katie, preaching

6/19 - 2ND SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

Baptism
Schitt's Creek: "Happy Anniversary"
(Season 2, Ep. 13)
Luke 14:7-14
Pastor Katie, preaching

6/26 - 3RD SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

Ted Lasso: "All Apologies" (Season 1, Ep. 9)
Colossians 3:1-15
Pastor Katie, preaching

DEACONS' CORNER

Here are some of the activities the deacons have been involved in for the month of May. Contact a deacon if you or anyone you know is in need or has an idea of how the deacons may help.

- Activated meal trains
- Sent cards and notes expressing

encouragement and best wishes

- Delivered flowers to those needing cheer
- · Maintained the church prayer list
- Provided outreach and ways to engage
- Sent congratulatory cards to our high school and college graduates

MATTHEW 25 SAVE-THE-DATES BOOK TALK WITH AUTHOR ADAM HOLLOWELL

Sunday, July 10; 1:00 p.m.

This new book, to be released June 14th, invites us to move from conviction to action as we think about racial justice as people of faith. Copies of the book will be on sale via Little Shop of Stories. Adam will share reflections on the book and take time to sign copies. If you are interested in engaging on this topic as part of the Matthew 25 initiative, this is a conversation you won't want to miss!

> You Mean It Or You Don't: James Baldwin's Radical Challenge by Jamie McGhee & Adam Hollowell

After a speech at UMass Amherst on February 28, 1984, James Baldwin was asked by a student: "You said that the liberal façade and being a liberal is not enough. Well, what

is? What is necessary?" Baldwin responded, "Commitment. That is what is necessary. You mean it or you don't." Taking up that challenge, You Mean It or You Don't will spur us from conviction to action. It is not enough, authors Hollowell and McGhee urge us, to hold progressive views on racial justice, LGBTQ+ identity, and economic inequality. True and lasting change demands a response to Baldwin's radical challenge for moral commitment. Called to move from dreams of justice to living it out in communities, churches, and neighborhoods, we can show that we truly mean it.



CENTER FOR CIVIL & HUMAN RIGHTS

Sunday, July 24; 12:00 p.m. Whether you have visited before or not, consider taking an afternoon trip to the museum together as a way to reflect on our history and engage in conversation about our call and role as Christians in working toward racial justice. We will attend together and reserve time to debrief afterward as a group. Open for all ages. Be on the look out for a sign up in upcoming communications.

Faithful Responses in a Time of Crisis

In the wake of the tragic events of the last two weeks, we want you to know that we, as your pastoral staff and church community, are here for you as



you navigate your own emotions along with the difficulty of addressing difficult topics with your children. We are here to listen. We are here to talk. And we are here to work towards positive change.

You can use the included links to access resources that may be helpful as you seek ways to engage your children and help them during this time.

Additional Tips for Talking with Young People About Hard Topics:

- Before you share information, ask children what they have heard and what questions they have.
- Consider limiting children's news intake and protect yourself as you take in news.
- Give children honest answers to their questions, but know it is appropriate to only share basic information and not offer detail beyond what they ask.
- With incredibly heavy news, young children especially may have very specific and personal questions that you can answer to help them feel
- Sharing your own feelings can help children understand that their feelings are okay, and that they are not alone in the hard feelings.
- · Remind children often that you and the other loving adults in their life are there to keep them safe, and always there when they are feeling sad or afraid.

ADDRESSING TRAGEDY & VIOLENCE RESOURCE LINKS FROM A PEDIATRIC <u>PSYCHOLOGIST</u>

> <u>AGE-RELATED REACTIONS TO</u> TRAUMATIC EVENTS

LEARN

Presbyterian Mission Agency has published a set of gun violence studies and resources supported by the PC(USA).

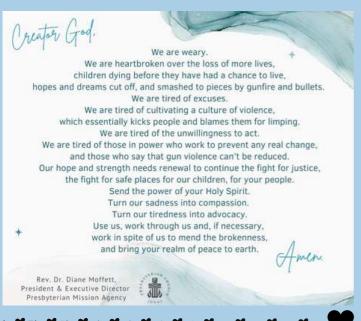


GUN VIOLENCE, GOSPEL VALUES: MOBILIZING IN RESPONSE TO GOD'

Faithful Responses in a Time of Crisis (continued)

PRAY

You may find reading the Psalms helpful as they capture the breadth and depth of human emotion before a God who hears. There is no prayer that is off limits. If you're struggling for words, you may pray the prayer below or simply allow silence and breath to be your prayer.



ADVOCATE

For those looking to advocate by calling your legislators, you can identify your legislators and their phone numbers/emails at the state and federal level via this link: www.openstates.org

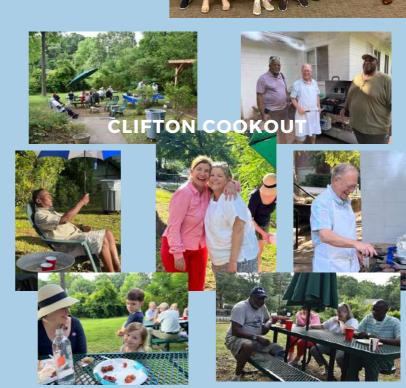
For those looking to take specific action by supporting organizations that are working toward gun control, research and consider donating to organizations like Everytown, Moms Demand Action, or the Sandy Hook Promise.

May we not just grieve but give:
May we not just ache, but act;
May our signed right to bear arms
Never blind our sight from shared harm;
May we choose our children over chaos.
May another innocent never be lost.
Maybe everything hurts,
Our hearts shadowed and strange.
But only when everything hurts
May everything change.

-Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman, excerpt from *Hymn for the Hurting*









FATHER'S DAY TRIBUTES - DUE JUNE 16

Click <u>here</u> to submit your Father's Day Tribute by Thursday, 6/16. Your tribute will appear in the bulletin on Father's Day, Sunday, 6/19.

FLOWER GUILD MINISTRY

The Flower Guild and Deacons are in need of medium and small vases for their ministry. Drop vases off by the sacristy door, the kitchen or the church office.

Sign up to provide flowers for worship for Communion Sundays - only the months of July and November are left! To provide flowers for another Sunday in honor of a special occasion in your life, contact Lynn and Georgia.



MORNINGSIDE SINGS! SAVE-THE-DATE(S)

Saturday, August 27, 7 p.m. & Sunday, August 28, 3 p.m.

MPC CHANCEL CHOIR VIVALDI'S GLORIA

Click below to hear the excerpts from Vivaldi's *Gloria* that MPC's Chancel Choir and guest strings players prepared for worship on Sunday, May 15.

- Gloria in excelsis Deo
- Domine, fili unigenite
- Laudamus te
- Cum Sancto spiritu

Rehearsals are underway for our 8th annual Morningside Sings! fundraiser. This year, an intergenerational cast of singers and musicians are preparing Morningside Sings!: "Hollywood's Award-Winning Musicals." The production will feature songs from classic movies including West Side Story, The Sound of Music, Les Misérables, My Fair Lady and Mary Poppins. Performances are Saturday, August 27 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, August 28 at 3 p.m. Donations collected at the performances will support Morningside's music and mission ministries.



NANCY FRAMPTON RISING ARTIST SERIES ZIMRI QUARTET

Saturday, July 23, 7:00 p.m.

BUY TICKETS

HERE!



The Nashville-based Zimri Quartet brings together the versatile talent of internationally recognized solo and chamber musicians: violinists Sarah Page and Charissa Leung, violist Tim Richardson, and cellist MaryGrace Bender. The quartet of old and new friends formed when violinists Sarah and Charissa recently relocated to Nashville to perform with the Nashville Symphony. MaryGrace, Charissa, and Tim reconnected, all alumni of the Robert McDuffie Center at Mercer University. They eagerly welcomed Sarah and chose the name Zimri that means "my music, my praise" in Hebrew. Resident quartet of the Nashville Chamber Music Society, the four young artists seek to perform captivating programming with premier artistry.







THEOLOGY ON TAP RETREAT

Tuesday, June 11

Join the men of ToT on Saturday, June 11 for a retreat to the Watson cabin in Suches! We'll enjoy lunch, a short program, and a hike together. Carpooling from MPC is available. Please RSVP to Lloyd Prince by Wednesday, June 8.

RHO READERS HYBRID

Sunday, June 19; 1:00 p.m.

Choose to meet with other RHO Readers via Zoom.

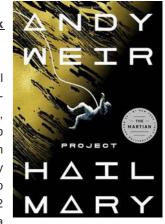
Contact Jill for the Zoom link. Bill Means leads the book discussion.

RHO Readers June Book

Project Hail Mary

by Andy Weir

Set in the near future, the novel centers on middle school-teacher-turned-astronaut, Ryland Grace, who wakes up from a coma afflicted with amnesia. He gradually remembers that he was sent to the Tau Ceti solar system, 12 light-years from Earth, to find a means of reversing a solar dimming event that could cause the extinction of humanity. Project Hail Mary is Weir's third novel, after The Martian (2011) and Artemis (2017).



SAVE-THE-DATE ALL-CHURCH RETREAT

October 14 - 16, 2022

Sign ups begin in July!





SERVE TOGETHER

"When availability and possibility meet, God works." - Rev. Grady Green



As our guest preacher Rev. Grady Greene said in his sermon on Mission Sunday, May 22, "Many thanks to all of you who have rearranged your lives and made yourselves available to serve God!"



NICHOLAS HOUSE CELEBRATES 44TH ANNIVERSARY

MPC is a Champion Level Faith Partner of Nicholas House!

A visit to Nicholas House offers you the opportunity to get excited about the progress of families experiencing homelessness and to see the impact of our work in the community. Tours are provided every third Saturday of each month (except June and December) from 10-11:30 a.m. and includes breakfast. Would you like to volunteer with Nicholas House? Volunteer orientation is provided after each Open-Door Tour. Contact MPC Shepherd Katye Watts for more info.

DOBBS LIBRARY CLEAN OUT



Many thanks to all from MPC who helped sort and pack 1100 discarded books from the Dobbs library. Fifteen boxes were sent to schools in Africa. Packing supplies and shipping costs were paid for by 2 other Dobbs partners. Great things happen for kids when grownups come together!

CLIFTON SANCTUARY MINISTRIES

Thanks to your generosity, the Mission Committee was able to buy a new weed-eater and a hedge trimmer for Clifton!



GUEST HIGHLIGHT

We have so many special guests that come through Clifton that we are privileged to serve. One particular guest that stands out as being a pleasure to all who cross his path is Shareef. Shareef ended up at Clifton because of his mismanagement of his

finances. "Clifton gave me a sense of someone who cares for my wellbeing. They have also provided me a discipline I had been lacking, which in turn, helped me to budget my finances better." says Shareef. During his time at Clifton, Shareef has gained full-time employment with the state and has acquired stable housing. "My plans are to become a home owner, restart my career with a great employer, and enjoy being a granddad!!" says Shareef. We sure have enjoyed his time here at Clifton. We look forward to staying in touch with Shareef and to see all the great things he will do! -Lori White



DOBBS ELEMENTARY TEACHER APPRECIATION

Muchas gracias to all who participated in and donated to our annual Cinco de Mayo Teacher Appreciation Lunch at Dobbs Elementary. God bless our hardworking teachers!



MAD HOUSERS

Because of your generosity, the MPC Mission Commitee gave \$500 to Mad Housers, ICM's housing partner.

Mad Housers is an Atlanta-based non-profit corporation whose primary endeavor is building temporary, emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families regardless of race, creed, national origin, gender, religion, age, family status, sexual orientation. Click here for more info.



INTOWN COLLABORATIVE MINISTRIES + MPC

Kate Durden, Midtown Freshman & Morningsider, wrote an article for the school paper about Sophie Ryan, Midtown Senior & Morningsider! Sophie has been one of our shepherds to Intown Collaborative Ministries. Click here to see what Kate and Sophie had to say about volunteering and the work of ICM!

ICM needs donations of **ponchos and umbrellas** to hand out to their clients for the inevitable summer showers. Drop them directly to ICM (1026 Ponce de Leon Ave NE, Atlanta, GA 30306) or at ICM's Food Pantry from 9 a.m.-noon on Tuesday, Friday, or Saturday.



HOW CAN I HELP?

Neighbors serving neighbors. With your help, we can provide a variety of food to over 300 families who are facing food insecurity in our own neighborhood.

- Click <u>here</u> to volunteer at ICM
- Click here for a list of what what ICM's food pantry needs.
- Click <u>here</u> to deliver groceries from ICM to Maggie Russell Towers with a fellow Morningsider
- Contact MPC Shepherd, <u>Suzanne Macpherson</u> for info



REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE

Emran was laid off at Emory with others after only two weeks on the job. This was a cut-back after university graduation and not due to work performance. He is looking for a job again and the situation is getting critical as IRC rent support ends June 30. The good news is that he has the donated car from a member of St. Luke's in Dunwoody, and Six Star (our group) has paid the first six months of his insurance premium to get him started. He is very happy about this new development and it frees him to look beyond his



David Roth, MDM's Executive Director, says thanks to all at Morningside Presbyterian Church, Morningside Presbyterian Preschool, and our community who helped make the Diaper Drive a

huge success!





immediate area for employment. The kids are doing great, but Namih (mother) has multiple dental problems that need attention. If you know any dentist who might be willing to help out at a deep discount please let Holly Campbell know.



ECOLOGICAL TIP OF THE MONTH

Save the water you use to rinse rice and produce.

Use it to water your plants. Rice water in particular is more beneficial to plants thanks to the added starch, which encourages the growth of healthy bacteria.

-Aaron Hutcherson and Matt Brooks, Washington Post

MPC C.A.R.E. HIKES

MPC C.A.R.E. hosted a hike to Clyde Shepherd Nature Preserve on Thursday, May 21, a wetland area with lots of birds and other wildlife in North Decatur - not far from MPC! It is completely flat with boardwalks - a good hike for any age and experience. Stay tuned for more hikes this summer, coordinated by MPC C.A.R.E.



.รับทั 🐣	MON.	TUË,	. WED	* THU* •	FRI.	ŞAT .
	JN	IE	6:30 Morningside Sings! Principal Rehearsal 7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal	8:45 M(side) Lift 12 Centering Prayer 7 Deacons Meeting		4
Pentecost Sunday 9:15 Faith Development 10 Worship, Baptism, & Communion 11:15 Morningside iings! Solo Rehearsal	6 9 Partner with the Preacher	7 1:30 Staff mtg	8 7:30 Chancel Choir	9 8:45 M(side) Lift 12 Centering Prayer Theology on Tap RSVP Deadline	10	11 Theology on Tap Refreat
2 Trinity Sunday :15 Faith Development 0 Worship 1 Congreg. Mtg 1 Food Truck iellowship 1:15 Morningside ings! Solo Rehearsal	13 Vacatio	14 10:15 ICM Grocery Delivery 1:30 Staff mtg	15 7:30 Chancel Choir	16 Father's Day Tribute Deadline	Adventice ISLAND	18
9 2nd Pentecost :15 Faith Development 0 Worship, Baptism 1:15 Morningside ings! Solo Rehearsal 1:30 RHO Reader	9 Partner with the Preacher 7 Session	21 Run Off Election 1:30 Staff mtg	22 7:30 Morningside Sings! Rehearsal	23 8:45 M(side) Lift 12 Centering Prayer Matthew 25 Montgomery, AL Day Trip	24	25 10 Morningside Sings! Rehearsal
6 3rd Pentecost :15 Faith Development 0 Worship 1:15 Morningside	27 9 Partner with the Preacher	28 1:30 Staff mtg	29 7:30 Chancel Choir	30 8:45 M(side) Lift 12 Centering Prayer		