



This was supposed to be the month where we got to celebrate that "everything is back to normal!" The delta variant seems to prevent going back to normal. And yet, the more I reflect on it, the reality is that there is no "going back" and that's a gift from God. No, I don't want to be wearing a mask any more than the rest of you. Yes, I crave the ability to move freely without fear for myself or my kids. But "going back" would be akin to the Israelites asking Moses to go back to Egypt--they knew what to expect, but it wasn't the life of abundance God had promised. God didn't call them "back to normal," God called them forth toward promise and abundance.

So what if we approach this fall with the bigger, more important question: What does it mean to go forth with God? The pandemic is still raging. Injustices are still present all around us. What does it look like for us to be the church in this time, in this place, and to journey together with God now?

That's what your Session will be praying about as they hold their planning retreat next week.

That's what your Deacons are asking when they reach out to ask how can we be praying for one another.

That's what your staff ponder when we prepare worship, teach Bible studies and book studies, instruct our children, and seek opportunities to serve.

And that's what we need each of you to pray about and share with us.

*What does it mean for us to go forth with God...now?*

We cannot forget what we have been through in these past 18 months. But we can carry those lessons with us alongside faith in God who is always at work redeeming the world.

This month we kick-off the fall with many of the things we have missed this past year--Worship in person, Sunday school, a fall retreat, fellowship opportunities, Morningside Sings!, and the Morningside Mingle. But alongside the familiar, we'll be praying about how God is calling us to the yet uncharted waters where God's grace and hope abide. I hope you'll join us on the journey!

With courage and hope, Pastor Katie

Worship returns  
to 11 o'clock  
on Sunday,  
August 1.



**SANCTUARY FLOWER SIGN-UP**

If you'd like to commemorate a special occasion, celebrate a birthday, or "just because," sign up [here](#) to provide flowers for the Sanctuary for Worship on Sundays. The large arrangements are broken down after worship, by the Flower Guild, into smaller bouquets for our deacons to take to members of our community who are in need of a "pick-me-up."



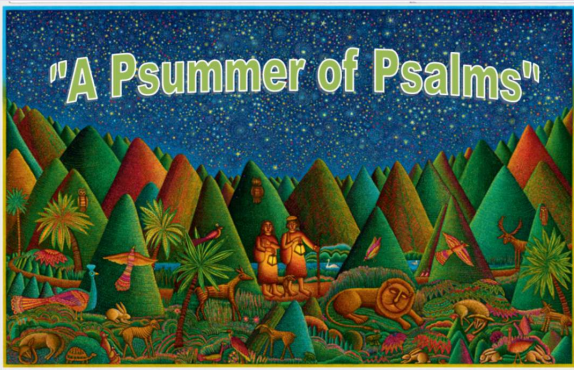
**BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS; SUNDAY, AUGUST 1**

MPC kids will have the opportunity to bring their backpacks forward during our Time with Children to participate in a back-to-school blessing and will receive something special to put on their backpacks to remind them of the love of God and their MPC community. Bring your backpacks!!!

**KONA ICE AFTER WORSHIP!**

Kona Ice will also be here after worship on August 1 for all ages to enjoy! Come out and enjoy a sweet treat and time with our MPC kids and families!





## AUGUST PREACHING SCHEDULE

### "A Psummer of Psalms"

For any of you who have ever wondered how to pray or how to speak to God, the Psalms offer us language and music to approach the Holy. Whether you need to lament, to rejoice, or something in between, the Psalms give us permission and in fact invitation to bring our full selves to our relationship with God. No matter where you are emotionally or spiritually, there is a psalm for you.

#### 8/1—10th Sunday after Pentecost

*Promises, Promises*; Psalm 139

Katie Owen Aumann, preaching

#### 8/8—11th Sunday after Pentecost

*There's a Hymnal in My Bible?*; Psalm 146

Katie Owen Aumann, preaching

#### 8/15—12th Sunday after Pentecost

*Psalms of Thanksgiving*; Psalm 100

Emma Neishloss, preaching

### "BACK TO BASICS—UNPACKING EPHESIANS"

As we kick off the fall and launch into activities, we return to the central question: What does it mean to be "the church"? The letter to the Ephesians takes us back to some of the core aspects of what it means for us to be a community journeying together in Christ. We'll consider what sets the church apart and how God is calling us to be, worship, and serve.

#### 8/22—13th Sunday after Pentecost

*Why Church?*; Ephesians 1:3-14

Katie Owen Aumann, preaching

#### 8/29—14th Sunday after Pentecost

*Unity*; Ephesians 2:11-22

Amanda Kemery, preaching



#### CENTERING PRAYER

Centering Prayer is the practice of sitting in the presence of God. Through

the month of July as we embraced Sabbath, we've learned what it means to sit still and be with God. The prayer practice invites you to "Recognize your thoughts, Release them back to God, and Return to the presence of the Sacred." If you're looking for a way to slow down and listen, this practice might be for you! To learn more and find ways to dive into the practice in the coming months, talk to Pastor Katie.

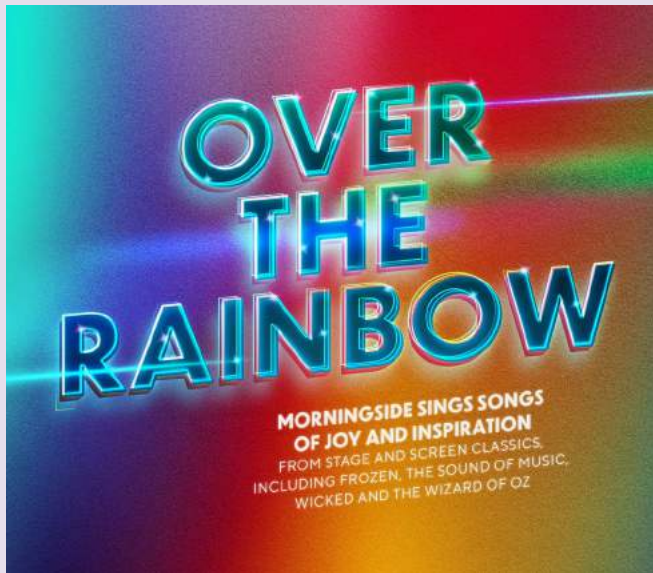
#### SESSION UPDATE

Your Session is meeting this month to do some strategic planning for the coming year and we need your prayers! The elders will be gathering for a Saturday retreat to ponder where God is calling us as we emerge from isolation and navigate being the church in this brave new world. We cannot do this without a healthy grounding in prayer, so we ask you to reflect on Jeremiah's words with us:

*Thus says the Lord:*

*Stand at the crossroads, and look,  
and ask for the ancient paths,  
where the good way lies; and walk in it,  
and find rest for your souls. (Jeremiah 6:16)*

The elders with the support of the strategy team have listened well and prayed about all the things you shared in the listening sessions this spring and now they will be helping us set sail for the coming year. We look forward to sharing our discernment about MPC's areas of focus and energy as we journey together!



## MORNINGSIDE SINGS!

*OVER THE RAINBOW: SONGS OF JOY AND INSPIRATION*

7TH ANNUAL BENEFIT PRODUCTION

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28 @ 7 PM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29 @ 3 PM

Rehearsals, design collaboration and production planning are igniting teamwork among more than thirty singers, arrangers, instrumentalists, designers, and volunteers from Morningside's congregation. *Over the Rainbow: Morningside Sings Songs of Joy and Inspiration* will be presented Saturday, August 28th at 7:00PM and Sunday August 29th, at 8:00PM. Donations collected at the performances will benefit our music programs and mission partners.

When planning this year's production, Jonathan Crutchfield, Derek Matthews, and Jeff Peters were intent on selecting joyful material that would resonate with audience members of all ages. The show includes songs from the stage and screen representing a century of material from the American Standards songbook. The 100-year cycle includes Jerome Kern's "Till the Clouds Roll By" (1917) and Lin-Manuel Miranda's "How Far I'll Go" from *Moana* (2016). The production will feature other timeless songs of inspiration like "You'll Never Walk Alone," "People," "Climb Ev'ry Mountain," and "Look for the Silver Lining".

The creative team chose the benefit production's title tune, "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," with care, noting that it captures the essence of this annual evangelism event: to create a performance of inspiring harmony that enables guests, families, and friends to experience the warmth of our beautiful church home.

Mark your calendar for Saturday August 28th at 7:00PM and Sunday August 29th at 3:00PM and join your friends and neighbors for this exciting production. The Saturday evening production will also be livestreamed from Morningside's YouTube channel. Go to MPC's homepage on Saturday, August 28 at 7:00PM or click [here!](#)

This year we continue our tradition of asking members to consider becoming part of our 2021 Morningside Sings Patrons' Circle. To make your tax-deductible contribution, click [here](#) and select "Morningside Sings!" in the drop-down box.



# MUSIC @ MORNINGSIDE



## NEW ORGAN CONSOLE UPDATE

The old organ console moved out on Monday, July 26, and while we will miss it, our new console will be in soon. And we're pretty excited! Thanks Coulter Organbuilders!



SAVE-THE-DATE  
NOVEMBER 12, 2021!!!  
MAC FRAMPTON  
IN CONCERT



Pianist, Mac Frampton brings his immense talents to MPC Saturday, November 12 at 7pm for a fund raising event to aid the Nancy Frampton Rising Star Series. The word, versatility cannot adequately describe Mac. Piano masterpieces by Chopin, Liszt, and Rachmaninoff quickly will be followed by audience favorites from Broadway to the Beatles. Mark your calendars now for this not-to-be-missed evening.

## THE NANCY FRAMPTON RISING ARTIST 2022 SERIES LINE-UP!

Three incredibly talented artists comprise the first subscription series. Mark your calendars now to hear:



**April 2, 2022** — Colombian tenor, **David Rivera Bozón** has charmed audiences internationally from Spain to Bogota, to the US. He was a finalist in the 20-21 Canto Latino competition. He will sing repertoire from operas and art song in addition to songs from his native Colombia.

**July 23, 2022** — English organist, **David Davies** is one of the most exciting concert organists of his generation. His abilities as a solo keyboard player have taken his career all over the world. Most recently he held the Assistant Director of Music position at Exeter Cathedral in the UK. Mr Davies was educated at Eton College, at Magdalen College, Oxford (where he was organ scholar), and at the Institute of Sacred Music at Yale University. David was organist St. Philip's Cathedral in Atlanta in the early 2000's. He conducted Schola Cantorum while in Atlanta, becoming close friends with Nancy and Mac Frampton.



**October 29, 2022** — Macon, GA native, **Jasmine Habersham**, soprano will end our 2022 series with vocal fireworks. A versatile and dynamic singer, Jasmine has appeared on opera stages in America and, most notably, with Phoenicia International Festival of the Voice. She returns to Atlanta this year to sing the role of Cleopatra in Giulio Cesare with the Atlanta Opera. Jasmine's repertoire is vast, covering opera arias, art song, American spirituals, and Broadway.

JOIN MPC CHANCEL CHOIR

WEDNESDAYS @ 7:30 PM

SUNDAYS @ 9:45 AM

'Tis the season to be singing, fa la la la la-la la la la!  
Have you considered singing with the Chancel Choir? Have you sung in choirs previously? Do those around you complement you on your singing? Step right up.

Contact [Jonathan](#) to set up an audition. The choir retreat Saturday, August 21 would be a perfect time to dive in and have fun.





## SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22 @ 9:30 AM

We are so excited about this year's kickoff event. This event for all ages will include breakfast, games, music, and fun! Registration opens August 1st.



## SUNDAY FUNDAY RETURNS

SUNDAYS @ 9:45 AM

Beginning August 29th, We are thrilled to be welcoming children and families back into the building for regularly scheduled Sunday School, Children's Church, and Nursery services! Be sure to check out the ways that we are staying safe below in our COVID Precautions section.

In order to welcome children back, we need volunteers! **We are asking all parents for a once-a-month commitment.**

Volunteers will be given ready-made lessons and resources to use at their discretion, but providing a little love and time for play and fellowship is the primary mission of our volunteers.

Click [here](#) to volunteer. There are lots of slots, so be sure to check out all the pages of the sign-up!

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

1ST-5TH GRADE, SUNDAYS @ 9:15

The children's choir is returning to Sunday mornings! Beginning on September 12th, the choir will meet on Sunday mornings at 9:15am. See below for dates to put in your calendar. We can't wait to have our children leading in worship again!

- September 12 - Children's Choir Begins
- October 24 - Children Sing in Worship
- October 31 - Christmas Pageant Choir Rehearsals Begin
- December 5 WEDNESDAY Pageant Dress Rehearsal in Sanctuary 6pm - 7pm
- December 12 Christmas Pageant 11am

## COVID PRECAUTIONS - MPC KIDS!

We are committed to keeping our kids safe! We will continue to monitor relevant data and utilize guidance from the CDC to establish best practices to keep our children healthy in the coming months. Please see our current safety measures below:

- All children (2 years-old +) and adults working with children will be required to wear a mask indoors. Masking is optional outdoors.
- All paid staff members and adults working with children on a regular basis will be required to receive the COVID vaccine.
- Children will be encouraged to wash hands and/or use hand sanitizer regularly.
- Children or adults exhibiting symptoms of COVID will be asked to refrain from participating in any on-campus activities.
- Check-in procedures will be implemented to allow for contact tracing in the event of an exposure to COVID or other disease.

# August Birthdays

- 1 Emery Selness
- 3 Bill Southwood
- 4 Greg Wolters
- 5 Nancy Coomes
- 5 Shannon Harris
- 5 Sandy Jones
- 6 Bree Gordon
- 6 Lucy Grant
- 7 Tristin Loomis
- 8 Megan Reader
- 9 Emma Kate Ward
- 10 Madeleine Harris
- 12 Jake Jones
- 12 Charlotte Gaare
- 13 Charlie Irwin
- 13 Jennye Guy
- 13 Myles Smith
- 15 Emma Lawson
- 16 Ted Fleming
- 16 Preston Ladds
- 17 Katie Davis
- 17 Marti Adams
- 18 Sandra Ward
- 20 Megan Mitchell
- 20 Caroline Parrish
- 21 Jack Brewster
- 22 Jon Bradway
- 22 Sarah Chatel
- 22 Patrick Gilbert
- 22 Bill Means
- 23 Ericson Harris
- 23 Tim Holbrook
- 23 Sarah Beth Sommerfeld
- 24 Madelyn Millard
- 26 Doug Davis-Selph
- 27 Michelle Gorman
- 28 James Mitchell
- 29 Randy Parrish
- 30 Jill Klotz
- 31 Lyla Fowler
- 31 Charlsie Woolley



## RHO READERS AUGUST READ:

*THE VANISHING HALF* BY BRIT BENNETT

Weaving together multiple strands and generations of this family, from the Deep South to California, from the 1950s to the 1990s, Brit Bennett produces a story that is at once a riveting, emotional family story and a brilliant exploration of the American history of passing. Looking well beyond issues of race, *The Vanishing Half* considers the lasting influence of the past as it shapes a person's decisions, desires, and expectations, and explores some of the multiple reasons and realms in which people sometimes feel pulled to live as something other than their origins.

RHO Readers meets on Sunday, August 15 at 1 p.m. via Zoom; discussion lead by Beth Baer. Click [here](#) for more info and to join the fun!



## REALM MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY PROJECT

Realm serves as MPC's online membership directory, however its default privacy settings restrict members from viewing one another's contact information. In an effort to allow members to more easily be in touch with one another, we will be removing the default privacy settings from member profiles by **September 1**, unless you choose to keep all your contact information private. The removal of the default privacy settings will allow members to see each others' home address, phone numbers, and email address. Click [here](#) if you would like to opt out of allowing your information to be viewed by MPC members.

*\*Note: you can also customize your privacy settings by updating your profile in Realm.*



## NAME TAGS ARE READY!

Thanks to many volunteers, you will now be able to find your name tag on the board in the Narthex! Please wear your name tag whenever you are at a church event.

If you don't find your name, email [Megan](#).

## SEPTEMBER SAVE-THE-DATES

Mark your calendars for the many, many things coming up on the MPC horizon!

- **Affinity Groups**—MPC Couples & Friends, LGBT & Friends, Theology on Tap, RHO Readers, Women's Roundtable get back into the swing of things. Be on the lookout in next month's MAG and emails for specific gathering (in-person and virtual) event information.
- **Yoga with Pam**—In-person classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11am resume in Room 201 on 9/7, with MPC yogi, Pam Sharpe. Contact [Pam](#) for more info.
- **Food Trucks**—Skip cooking dinner on Thursday, September 9 from 5:30-7:30pm and come feast and fellowship in the MPC parking lot. Sweet Auburn and Repicci's food trucks will be there!
- **Morningside Mingle**—Saturday, September 18—mark your calendars! The Deacons are looking forward to bringing EVERYONE together for food, drinks, and a chance to reconnect after so long apart. All are welcome. More info to follow.



# Serve Together.

Researched  
and compiled  
by Jill Klotz

## INTOWN COLLABORATIVE MINISTRIES

### OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE: GROCERY DELIVERY

Grocery delivery drivers are still needed for recently-housed clients. Routes are available on Tuesday and Saturday. Click [here](#) if you would like to volunteer to deliver. For more info about ICM contact shepherds [Nancy Collins](#) or [Sophie Ryan](#).

### SAVE-THE-DATE: HEART & HOME ICM FUNDRAISER

The 9th Annual fundraiser for Intown Collaborative Ministries is in person at Terminal West on October 3, 2021 from 4-7 pm. Early bird tickets are \$100 through Labor Day and then increase to \$125. Go to [intownicem.org/heartandhome](http://intownicem.org/heartandhome) for more information. There will be a Live Auction, Silent Auction, Golden Ticket, Raffle, Wall of Wine, and a Grub Grab.

### FIGHTING FOOD INSECURITY

Did you know that 1 in 10 seniors live in poverty? Food insecurity for people of all ages is still ongoing in our community. ICM relies on donations from people like you. Below is the list of current items needed for the Food Pantry.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP—DONATE FOOD!

ICM needs right now are:

Canned chicken	Tuna packets
Uncrustables	Canned soups
Cereal	Beans
Cooking oil	Instant oatmeal/grits
Sandwich and gallon sized ziplocks	
Single use plastic bags (EX: Publix bags)	
UHT Milk (shelf stable)	



### THANK YOU! SUPPLY DRIVE

Thank you for donating supplies which will be given to the children of Nicholas House, Memorial Drive Ministries, and Dobbs Elementary. Have a safe and happy school year!





## CLIFTON SANCTUARIES MINISTRIES

THANK YOU!

Many thanks to Shepherds Ann Watson and Joe Floyd for hosting a fried chicken picnic dinner on the evening of Saturday July 25th. Rev. Katie and John Watson are in the picture enjoying food and conversation with the guys at Clifton. Thanks to you, the Mission Committee was able to purchase much-needed and much-used picnic tables. MPC provides dinner for Clifton on a bi-monthly basis. Stand by for ways you can help!



### CLIFTON SANCTUARY DINNER

The bi-monthly meal that Ann Watson and Joe Floyd are in charge of will be Saturday, September 25 at 6 pm. Click [here](#) for more info or to volunteer.

### SAVE-THE-DATE MOWA FUNDRAISER

#### BENTLEY GOLF CLASSIC, OCTOBER 12

This tournament at Piedmont Driving Club provides a great opportunity for corporations to impact the communities they serve. All tournament proceeds are donated to Meals On Wheels Atlanta, which supports senior independence through meals, shelter, education and community.

[Click](#) for more info.



## LEGACY PARK

• DAY CAMP •

City of Decatur®

### THANK YOU FROM DORCAS AND EZEKIAL!

Bienfait and Georgine's kids, Dorcas and Ezekial, had a blast attending the Legacy Park day camp in Decatur. Many thanks to Nancy Collins, Sarah Beth Gehl, Holly Campbell and all who made this wonderful summer experience a reality for our refugee family. And a special shout-out to Sophie Ryan for tutoring Dorcas! If you would like more info contact shepherds [Sandy Ryan](#) or [Holly Campbell](#).

### NICHOLAS HOUR FUNDRAISER; A NIGHT TO REMEMBER, AUGUST 7

Click [here](#) to purchase tickets for this Nicholas House Fundraiser at the Marriott Marquis Hotel Atlanta. Joining us for the keynote address is acclaimed actress Lynn Whitfield. She has appeared in numerous films and television shows for which she has earned many awards including an Emmy for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Miniseries or a Special. Attendees will also experience an electrifying special performance by instrumentalist Ken Ford. Ken was born in St. Louis, MO and lived in Detroit, MI before his parents settled in Atlanta, GA. His parents recognized a special gift in their only child long before his first music lesson! From that point on, they kept an instrument in his hands but he never had a formal lesson until he settled on violin at age nine. Ken's talents have earned him the ultimate honor of playing for the First Lady Of The United States, Michelle Obama, and brought him on stage and into the recording studio with a range of superstar artists including Bruno Mars, Jill Scott, Wyclef Jean, Chaka Khan, Ledisi, Brian Culbertson, the late Barry White, Cee-Lo Green, Erykah Badu and more.



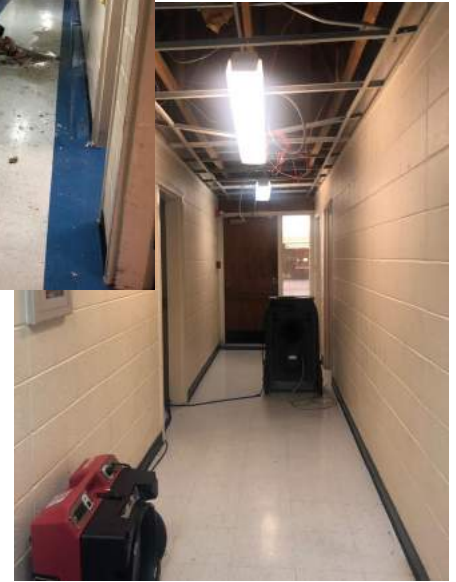


## MEMORIAL DRIVE MINISTRIES

### UPDATE FROM AMY JENSEN, MDM SHEPHERD:

“On June 13, Memorial Drive Ministries experienced a fire in the kitchen of the main office building on campus (home to Shalom, Solid Foundation Christian Academy, and MDM's offices, among other partners). Fire fighters arrived quickly in response to the alarm and were largely able to contain the damage to the kitchen, but there was extensive smoke damage throughout the building. Since then, extensive remediation work has taken place to remove all carpets and roof tiles in the building, and MDM is just starting the process of choosing new finishes to restore the building in time for fall classes to start. Fortunately the building was unoccupied at the time of the fire and insurance is covering many of the costs of remediation and restoration, but we expect additional costs will arise. We will keep Morningside informed of any specific needs as the building is returned to full use. “

Amy says that Just Bakery, Amani Women's Center, and Mommy & Me were not affected. You can still order fresh baked goods from Just Bakery! Order [here](#).



### CREATE A FIREFLY-FRIENDLY HABITAT

The best way to create a firefly-friendly habitat is to have an unruly yard. But to balance local ordinances with the call of the wild, you can mimic the nurture of nature with small changes. Instead of clearing fallen branches, build a small woodpile. Rather than burning leaves, collect them in paper bags for nutrient-rich compost. To enhance soil quality, which supports fireflies, aerate your lawn, avoid pesticides and plant native trees and grasses of varying heights.

“When it comes to fireflies, everyone can do something to help,” said Candace Fallow, a conservation biologist with the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation.

“Even if you don't have a yard, you can turn your lights off at night. You can spread the word that this is a species of concern. We get awed by fireflies' shows in summer, but they're there all year. We need to give them safe places to live so that they can keep sharing their light.”



**MPC C.A.R.E.**  
Cultivating Awareness Renewing Energy



### FALL HIKES

Come hike with MPC C.A.R.E. this Fall! Join us in September for a trip to Arabia Mountain and in October as we hike along the Nickajack Creek! The van will be available for carpooling. Check upcoming publications for sign ups!



**Morningside**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



## FALL RETREAT—OCTOBER 15-17

Registration will open this month for an incredible weekend in Montreat with your MPC family! If you haven't been on the retreat before, this is a chance to get away for some casual time with your church family and to spend time in Montreat, one of those "thin places" where you can feel near to God. We'll eat, hike, study, play board games, rock on the porch, play in the creek, enjoy nature, and laugh plenty!

We are pleased to welcome Rev. Dr. Christopher Holmes as this year's guest speaker. Rev. Holmes is the Stembler Scholar in Residence at First Presbyterian Atlanta. He holds a PhD in New Testament studies from Candler School of Theology (Emory) and is ordained in the PC(USA). He's an incredible teacher and scholar who will help us unpack scripture in a way that is engaging and fun!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 10 Adult Sunday School 11 Worship—Communion and Baptism <b>BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS</b>	<b>2</b> 9 <a href="#">Partner with the Preacher</a>	<b>3</b> 1:30 Staff meeting	<b>4</b> 7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 9 Session Retreat
<b>8</b> 10 Adult Sunday School 11 Worship 12 Outdoor Fellowship 12: 15 Morningside Sings! Rehearsal 12:30 Deacons Meeting	<b>9</b> 9 <a href="#">Partner with the Preacher</a>	<b>10</b> 1:30 Staff meeting	<b>11</b> 7:30 Morningside Sings! Rehearsal	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 10 Adult Sunday School 11 Worship 12 Outdoor Fellowship 1 <a href="#">RHO Readers Zoom</a>	<b>16</b> 9 <a href="#">Partner with the Preacher</a>	<b>17</b> 1:30 Staff meeting	<b>18</b> 7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 10 Chancel Choir Retreat
<b>22</b> <b>Sunday School Kickoff</b> 11 Worship 12 Outdoor Fellowship 6 Youth Group	<b>23</b> 9 <a href="#">Partner with the Preacher</a>	<b>24</b> 1:30 Staff meeting	<b>25</b> 7:30 Morningside Sings! Rehearsal	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7:30 Morningside Sings! Rehearsal	<b>28</b> <b>7 Morningside Sings!</b>
<b>29</b> 10 Adult Sunday School 11 Worship <b>3 Morningside Sings!</b> 6 Youth Group	<b>30</b> 9 <a href="#">Partner with the Preacher</a>	<b>31</b> 1:30 Staff meeting	<h1>August 2021</h1>			