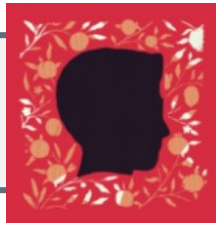




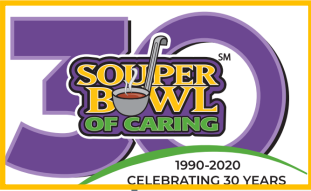
# SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE

Worshiping, Serving, Growing, & Being Together

Join LGBT and Friends at Actor's Express for the performance of *Fun Home* on 2/1 at 2 p.m. If you can't join us then, please attend another performance. Click [here](#) for tickets and info.



Coro Vocati presents *The Art & The Artist* on Saturday, 2/1 @ 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Don't miss unique interpretations of renowned works of art by Da Vinci, Van Gogh, Rembrandt, and Monet! Our very own Jonathan Crutchfield, Brandon Odom, and Kirby Eicholtz are part of this fantastic group. Visit [corovocati.org](http://corovocati.org) for tickets & info.



After Worship on 2/2, MPC youth will be stationed outside of the sanctuary doors collecting donations for the 30th Annual Souper Bowl of Caring, a youth-inspired, youth-led movement working to tackle hunger in local communities. 100% of collections goes to an anti-hunger nonprofit of our choice. Over the last two years, we've raised \$2360! *Will you help us beat that total this year?*

The history-making, nationally-acclaimed, [Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus](#), takes up residence at MPC this month! They'll be rehearsing regularly in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday evenings.



Get ready for a new and exciting group designed just for students in 4th-6th grade. Club 46 is a place where students can get together, build relationships, and grow in faith. We will meet 3 times this semester, both on and off campus. Our first gathering is 2/2 immediately after Worship and will include lunch and a Mystery Destination. Contact [Emma & Amanda](#) for more information.

Save the dates for our spring gatherings: March 22 & May 17



The next stated [meeting](#) for the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta will be held on 2/8 at Alpharetta Presbyterian Church.



Grab a cup of coffee at Morning(side) Lift, which meets every Thursday at 8:45 a.m. at San Francisco Coffee. Bring a friend!



Join us during the fellowship hour immediately following worship on 2/9 and help us assemble hygiene kits for the clients at ICM. This is a great mission project for families and kids of all ages!



VBS Registration is Now Open! Join us for another year of fun and excitement as we invite children to be strong in the Lord. We will explore how we put on the armor of God at "Knights of the North Castle," June 8-11. Click [here](#) to register your child or to volunteer.



On President's Day Weekend, 2/14 - 2/17, over 20 Morningsiders, of all ages along with other Atlanta Presbytery families will be going on a **Florida Panhandle Mission Trip** to help with Hurricane Michael recovery. They will be staying at the Dogwood Acres Retreat Center in Chipley, FL. The team from MPC will be commissioned in Worship on 2/9. Pray for a safe, productive, faithful and fun trip!

**February 2 - 4th Sunday after Epiphany      February 16 - 6th Sunday after Epiphany**

**Communion**

Micah 6:1-8

Psalm 15

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Matthew 5:1-12



**Baptism**

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalm 119:1-8

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Matthew 5:21-37



**February 9 - 5th Sunday after Epiphany      February 23 - Transfiguration of the Lord**

Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12)

Psalm 112:1-9 (10)

1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16)

Matthew 5:13-20



Exodus 24:12-18

Psalm 2 and Psalm 99

2 Peter 1:16-21

Matthew 17:1-9



We're collecting \$10 gift cards to put inside Valentine cards made by MPC children for the women sheltered at Rebecca's Tent. Let's spread some love! Bring gift cards (Walmart/McDonald's) to the church office between 2/1 - 2/10.



Scouts BSA Troop 29 chartered at Morningside Presbyterian Church on 2/1/2019 when the iconic Boy Scouts program opened its doors to girls and rebranded the program "Scouts BSA". The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law. Since its founding one year ago, Troop 29 has participated in four service projects, organized 10 weekend camping trips and participated in two separate summer camp programs. The original 10 girls have earned 65 Merit Badges to date, and the troop has just added six new Scouts during our January recruitment drive. Scout Sunday is February 16.

Morningside Presbyterian presents

# Pancakes AND PJ's

**TUESDAY FEB 25**  
5:30PM TO 6:45PM  
FELLOWSHIP HALL

\* Live magic show!  
\* Bring a pair of pj's to donate to Threads.

To RSVP contact Whitney Warren, wswarren@cda.gov or look for the link in the MPC e-news.

CLICK HERE TO RSVP TO PANCAKES AND PJ'S

Please consider volunteering for at least one Sunday this semester with our MPC Kid's Sunday School and Children's Church programs. Come see our kids grow in faith and share in their journey! Click [here](#) to sign-up!



**MPC Affinity Groups**



**LGBT and Friends**

Fun Home at Actor's Express on February 1 at 2:00 p.m.



**Arts & Crafts**

Monday, 2/3 @ noon

Monday, 2/17 @ noon

MPC, Room 201



**MPC Couples & Friends**

Saturday, 2/8 @ 6 p.m.

[Fado Irish Pub](#)

RSVP to [Kathy](#).



**RHO Readers**

Sunday, 2/16 @ 12:30 p.m.

MPC, Session Room

*A Well-Behaved Woman:*

*A Novel of the Vanderbilts*

by Therese Anne Fowler



**Theology on Tap**

Tuesday, 1/21 @ 7 p.m.

[DBA Barbecue](#)

RSVP to [Lloyd](#).



**Women's Roundtable**

Monday 2/24, @ 6:30 p.m.

Lynn Young's [home](#)

RSVP to [Sanda](#).

Guest speaker, TBD.

New PJ's, socks, and underwear donations are needed for our annual THREADS clothing drive. Bring your items to the Welcome Center baskets. The collection culminates at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on 2/25. Click [here](#) for more information about all the good that THREADS does to provide for families in need.





## OUR NEW OFFICERS SHARE THEIR STATEMENTS OF FAITH

TAMARA NIX

### SUSAN ODER

As a small child who spent almost every weekend at her grandparent's house, I was taken to church every Sunday with them. I learned to read by my Grandmother running her finger under the lines of the hymnal as we sang and under the lines of the Bible during the readings...and it is amazing how a child's vocabulary is enhanced by exposure to the King James Version of the Bible!

I remember a World Mission dinner where I and my other five and six year old friends sang "Jesus Loves the Little Children" together in the Fellowship Hall of Woodland Presbyterian. You know the lines....."red and yellow, black and white, they are precious in his sight". Those words became the basis of my belief in racial equality. As Nashville became one of the leading cities of sit-ins and riots in the 1950s, even as a child I wondered how people who could teach and sing that song could say one thing in church on Sunday and be so hateful during the week to decent, kind people.

As I grew older and made friends with people who were gay and lesbian, this belief in God loving all his children because they were all made in his image was an extension of what I had learned at that early age. We are ALL children of God and we are ALL made in his image. That small three letter word covers a lot of ground!

In the intervening years, I have been a member of several other Presbyterian churches but have not found the home I had at Woodland until we joined Morningside where not only is everyone welcomed and accepted but people are kind and supportive.

This is a huge reason that I support any and all children's programs and activities and having them in worship. Children remember vividly things that they see and hear and will gravitate toward what they have learned later in life. Morningside Presbyterian will be with our children in their hearts as long as they live.

Oh, and Woodland? After many years in a declining area of town that is now re-gentrifying, it is now a More Light Presbyterian Church that welcomes any and all Believers and is an inclusive congregation. While funds are an enormous issue with an historic building that is deteriorating, the joy and acceptance are still there as I saw when I was able to visit this past summer while in Nashville.

Glory Be to God.

### LISA LADDS

I believe God...

Is the creator of Heaven and earth

And gave His only son to forgive our sins

There is only one God, the Father

He is holy and righteous, merciful and steadfastly loving

Everything created by Him is good

He wants us to love ourselves and each other

I believe Jesus...

is the Son of God

He suffered for us

He lived and died for us

He forgives all of our sins

I believe the Holy Spirit...

Comes to us in different ways

Is the presence of God

guides our way of life

and is always with us

I'm still learning about and growing in my faith. I am blessed that God has called on me for this role as a deacon. I look forward to working with all of you and to continue to learn and grow in my faith.

Self-help books often recommend that when setting a goal, one should start from the desired result and work backwards, determining the steps required to reach that goal. I see my Faith Journey much like striving to reach a goal, albeit a constantly evolving and never completed one. I wanted to speak about my Faith goals, with the hope of better understanding the steps needed to get closer to realizing them. The hopes for my current Faith Journey include a desire for a more personal relationship with God, to be able to offer true forgiveness – to myself as well as others, and to better demonstrate love of neighbor.

I've had a few pure, still moments in my life when I have truly felt God's presence, and I wonder if having more of those is part of living a truly faithful life. I've often felt the most connected to God through music and nature. Sitting in our sanctuary on Christmas Eve, joining voices to sing "Silent Night" by candlelight, brings my soul a peace and joy rarely felt at other times of year. And my family of four talks about the moment on our trip to Alaska when we hiked out of the woods into a vista of a crystal clear lake with a glacier and snow-capped peaks flowing to meet it. We all stood in quiet awe for several minutes. Tapping into that feeling of being connected to God and the beauty of his creation is much harder during rush hour traffic. I recently saw the movie, *Harriet*. She was one of my idols growing up; I literally read every book at my age level in my local library about her. Watching the movie, I was so moved by her deep faith and sure knowledge that God always marched with her. I hope to make small steps toward that kind of connectedness with God.

God's grace to us is his abiding love and his forgiveness of our sins through his son Jesus Christ. True forgiveness between humans, and within our own hearts, is one of the most Christian of acts. That forgiveness is essential for repairing and sustaining relationships. Forgiveness is also so important for our own souls; carrying around anger and resentment is the worst kind of burden. Pastor Baron Mullis once spoke about forgiveness, and I paraphrase, "not as an immediate release or achievement but as a daily commitment made to yourself and God." I felt such relief hearing those words. Getting up every day, and treating forgiveness like I might treat a daily commitment to really start that exercise routine – that is something that seems achievable.

The directive to love thy neighbor has always been one of the most appealing lessons in the Bible to me, and one I've felt most capable of actually doing. My family taught me to see others through the lens of that person's life experience, not my own, and to truly appreciate our differences, while knowing that we all have more in common than not. And loving my neighbor is the way I like to share my Christianity. For example, serving at Clifton Ministry, or painting a classroom at Dobbs, and even in my work as a Pediatrician. The moments when I really feel stuck with this directive are in moments of conflict and deep disagreement – whether it be over how to manage a decision for our medical practice with a partner who has a very different vision, or speaking of politics with a friend, or even in that rush hour commute. Finding the ability to love through the frustration of deep disagreement, in order to see our common humanity and offer that all important forgiveness, is likely the aspect of my faith journey which will take my entire life. But to use my now favorite line from our Officer Training, "with God's help", I hope to make small steps towards all of these faith goals in this challenging but beautiful life he gives us.

- 1 Fiona Harris
- 2 Tom Daniel
- 5 Alex Page
- 5 Kirk Adams
- 6 Will Barnette
- 6 Gene Turner
- 7 William Kitchens
- 9 Nancy Collins
- 9 Leslie Grant
- 11 Heather Regnault
- 11 Lawton Williams
- 12 Domenick Treschitta
- 12 Finley Watts
- 12 Gwen Brady
- 12 Graham Mogge
- 12 Whitney Fowler
- 14 Michael Pittman
- 15 John Turner
- 17 Liza Burke
- 18 Leo Libby
- 18 Todd Jones
- 19 Jennie Stockstill
- 20 Emmett Mashburn
- 20 Liz Mills
- 21 Elaine Wilmer
- 22 Lib Boggs
- 23 Preston Barnette
- 24 Georgia Marshall
- 24 Ellie Spears
- 25 Barbara Ray
- 25 David Mogge
- 27 Curt Barrett
- 28 Beth Baer
- 29 Nancy Cunningham

**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**



Click [here](#) to sign up to make food and bring supplies to the ICM Breakfast on Saturday, 2/22, 10:30-noon.



We received a generous donation of cream-colored coffee mugs for Coffee & Conversation time, which assist in our Fellowship initiative to “go green.” We are also using glass coffee mugs for Fellowship Hour to reduce cost and waste.



**OUTSTANDING PROGRESS**

**@ DOBBS ELEMENTARY READING BUDDY PROGRAM**

Dobbs principal, Priscilla Lovett, extended thanks as well as invitations to the school’s Partnership Breakfast at the Georgia Aquarium to the faithful members of MPC’s Reading Buddy Program. Principal Lovett was stunned at the progress made by the students in the Reading Buddy Program. Leslie Prince reports, “Evidently, under normal circumstances, they are thrilled if a K-2nd grader improves 5 points [on reading test scores] and if 3-5 graders improve more that 15 points. [Principal Lovett] said when she saw the scores of our kids, her jaw hit the ground.” The children involved in MPC’s Reading Buddy Program scores improved anywhere between 20 and 200 points! Anne Barnette, Pastor Emma Neishloss, and Cindy Humphries represented MPC at the Dobbs Partnership Breakfast. Congratulations and thank you to our dedicated Reading Buddies for making such a difference in the lives of these students and in the community of Dobbs Elementary. If you’d like to get involved or hear about first-hand accounts of this amazing program, ask any of the below listed MPC members and they’ll point you in the right direction!



**MANY THANKS TO:**

Leslie Prince  
 Bill Means  
 Holly Campbell  
 Linda Johnson  
 Sanda Means  
 Bob Wells  
 Georgia Marshall

Lisa Jern  
 Jim Antenucci  
 Pat Antenucci  
 Anne Barnette  
 Emma Neishloss  
 Beth Baer  
 Mary Chapman

Cindy Humphries  
 Sandra Ward  
 Richard Brownlee  
 Sarah Brownlee  
 Tom Oder  
 Amanda Kemery  
 Bill Southwood



**MPC @ Memorial Drive Ministries  
 Work Day on MLK Day, 2/20/2020**



**MAKE IT A DAY ON,  
 NOT A DAY OFF**

JANUARY 20, 2020

#MLKDAY



# February 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

*"Let the morning bring me word of Your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in You. Show me the way I should go, for to You I entrust my life."*

-PSALM 143:8

1

9 Session Retreat  
2 LGBT & Friends (offsite)  
7 Coro Vocati

2

**Souper Bowl of Caring**

9:30 Coffee & Convo  
9:45 Sunday School - all ages  
Confirmation Class  
9:45 New Members Class  
11 Worship - Communion  
12 Fellowship  
6 Youth Group

3

12 Arts & Crafts Guild  
7 Children's Ministry mtg

4

1:30 Staff mtg  
2:15 Parkinson's Tai Chi  
4:30 Tai Chi  
6 PNC mtg  
7:30 Handbell Choir

5

6:15 Children's Choir  
7:30 Chancel Choir

6

8:45 Morning(side) Lift (offsite)



7

8

9 Presbytery mtg (offsite - Alpharetta Presbyterian)  
6 MPC Couples & Friends

9

9:30 Coffee & Convo  
9:45 Sunday School - all ages  
Confirmation Class  
9:45 New Members Class  
10:30 Called Session mtg  
11 Worship  
Children's Choir  
Commission Mission Team  
12 Fellowship  
12:30 Deacons mtg  
Christian Education mtg  
6 Youth Group

10

6 PNC mtg

11

1:30 Staff mtg  
2:15 Parkinson's Tai Chi  
4:30 Tai Chi  
7:30 Handbell Choir

12

10:30 Dobbs Tutoring  
7:30 Chancel Choir

13

8:45 Morning(side) Lift (offsite)



14

**Florida Panhandle Mission Trip**



15

16

**Florida Panhandle Mission Trip**

9:30 Coffee & Convo  
9:45 Sunday School - all ages  
Confirmation Class  
11 Worship - Baptism  
12 Fellowship  
12:30 RHO Readers  
6 Youth Group

17

12 Arts & Crafts Guild  
7 Session

18

1:30 Staff mtg  
2:15 Parkinson's Tai Chi  
4:30 Tai Chi  
7:30 Handbell Choir

19

7:30 Chancel Choir

20

8:45 Morning(side) Lift (offsite)



21

22

10:30 Intown Collaborative Ministries Breakfast



23

**Transfiguration of the Lord**

9:30 Coffee & Convo  
9:45 Sunday School - all ages  
Confirmation Class  
11 Worship  
12 Fellowship  
6 Youth Group

24

6:30 Women's Roundtable

25

1:30 Staff mtg  
2:15 Parkinson's Tai Chi  
4:30 Tai Chi  
5:30 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper  
7:30 Handbell Choir

26

**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
7:00 Ash Wednesday Service  
7:45 Chancel Choir

27

8:45 Morning(side) Lift (offsite)



28

29

Deacons retreat (offsite; detail TBD)