

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

It's hard to believe that a month has passed since I officially joined you as your pastor. The PNC asked me recently, "Did we tell the truth about the church?" Having described Morningside to me throughout interviews as a warm, gracious, hospitable, open, curious, faithful, talented, inclusive family, they wanted to know whether my experience meeting you had lived up to their description. I replied joyfully, "You absolutely told the truth about all this incredible family of faith. You just didn't tell me I would begin in the midst of a pandemic!"

It has certainly been a strange time to begin, and it is requiring a great deal of patience and creativity on all of our parts as we slowly get to know one another, but it has also been full of rich blessings. ZOOM fatigue is real (I've logged 50+ zoom meetings in 3 weeks), but because of those gifts of technology, I have had the chance to meet you through virtual fellowship hours, committee meetings, affinity group gatherings, and one-on-one conversations with your elders. We've looked for creative ways to encounter one another "in the flesh" through the drive-thru meet & greet and a prayer vigil at our newly installed prayer wall. And I am hard at work with your preparedness team and the Session looking at how we are going to "be church" together in the coming weeks and months. If we have not yet had a chance to meet, please drop me an email (katie@morningsidepc.org) or give me a call, and keep your eye out in the coming weeks for additional ways for us to connect.

As we look toward the future, I am reminded that we are still in the season of Pentecost, a season where we are challenged to follow God's Spirit with fresh vision and dreams. While I am hard at work exploring ways for us to "return from exile," I am also mindful that God has guided people through wilderness seasons before and that those times require us to pay attention to where God is present right now. Rather than focusing on what isn't possible because of health and safety precautions during the pandemic, the Spirit seems to be inviting us to ask What CAN we do? What IS possible? I invite you to be conversation partners with me as we explore how the Spirit is calling us to journey together through this season.

With courage and hope,

Pastor Katie



Hi MPC friends!

Our records database, Realm, has so much to offer, in terms of staying connected, especially as we continue to practice social distancing. Access other member's contact information, message your Affinity group, get last-minute notifications of schedule changes, and a comprehensive church calendar through your computer or your smart phone. Click [here](#) for a short video tutorial on how to update your privacy settings, so other church members can get in touch with you! Take a minute or two, right now, to update your profile picture, so Pastor Katie can get to know you by face and name!

- Your admin, Megan

Click graphic below to read our plans!

**SAFELY RETURNING TO
WORSHIP AND BEING
TOGETHER**

A Plan to Reopen Morningside Presbyterian Church and Preschool

Morningside
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WORSHIP TOGETHER | SERVE TOGETHER | GROW TOGETHER | BE TOGETHER



Prayer Wall and Vigil

Members gathered this month in light of recent acts of racial injustice to pray together, to lament, and to hope for a world that is a better reflection of God's beloved community. Our prayer wall remains open--on our campus and virtually--for prayers of all kinds. Stop by the church and add your prayers so that we can be united lifting our voices to God.



Our Pastor Emerita, Rev. Dr. Joanna Adams speaks out about racial injustice and issues a call to respond. Read her [CNN Op-Ed](#) as we continue to reflect upon issues of racial injustice and hope for a beloved community.



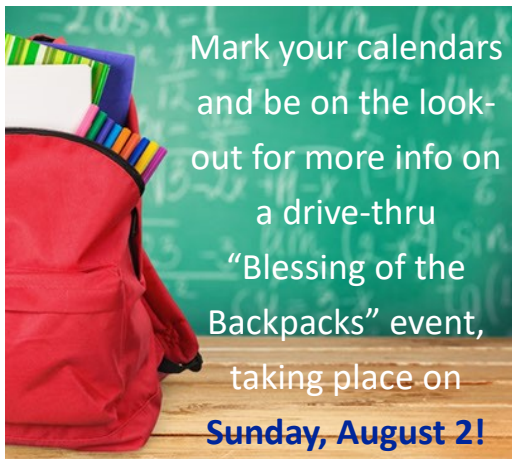
Popsicle Pop-Ups!

Our children and youth are invited to sign up to receive a special visit and sweet treat delivered right to their front yard! Click [here](#) to sign-up.

Compassion Camp for Kids and Families

7/22-24 & 7/27-28

The MPC Kids are excited to offer a new experience for this special summer! We will be offering a hybrid camp experience that includes digital resources to use at home as well as optional Outdoor Assemblies, which are a chance to gather at a social distance outside of the church for music, Bible stories, and mission briefings! All sessions are "stand-alone" so you can do just one, two, or all five. You can also choose to participate using *just* the digital resources or participate in *just* the assemblies. The possibilities are endless! All families are welcome to join the fun, not just MPC members. Join our MPC Kids! email list by clicking [here](#) to receive full details or email [Amanda](#) for more information.



Mark your calendars and be on the look-out for more info on a drive-thru "Blessing of the Backpacks" event, taking place on **Sunday, August 2!**

Summer Sermon Series
“Building Faithful Relationships Together”

If we’re going to *Journey Together*, we have to *know* each other. Our lives are full of all kinds of relationships - God, family, church, work, city, etc. All of those relationships are spiritual matters. We’ll take one “relationship” a week throughout the summer.



July 5 - 5th Sunday after Pentecost

KATIE OWEN AUMANN, PREACHING
 “Relationship with City”
 Jeremiah 29:1-7

July 19 - 7th Sunday after Pentecost

KATIE OWEN AUMANN, PREACHING
 “Relationship with Self”
 Psalm 1
 Matthew 26:36-46

July 12 - 6th Sunday after Pentecost

KATIE OWEN AUMANN, PREACHING
 “Relationship with Body”
 2 Samuel 6:12-23
 John 12:1-8

July 26 - 8th Sunday after Pentecost

KATIE OWEN AUMANN, PREACHING
 “Relationship with Creation”
 Psalm 104
 Genesis 1

- 1 [Cindy Humphries](#)
- 1 [Mark Mashburn](#)
- 1 [David Terry](#)
- 2 [Emma Neishloss](#)
- 2 [Charles Woolley](#)
- 4 [Lisa Ladds](#)
- 5 [Anna Mary Smith](#)
- 6 [Mary Hardy Cromer](#)
- 6 [Frank Hofland](#)
- 6 [Lee Anne Sapp](#)
- 10 [Laura Ulep](#)
- 12 [Susan Oder](#)
- 12 [Tom Oder](#)
- 13 [Erik Selness](#)
- 13 [Michael Siedschlag](#)
- 16 [Anna Bradway](#)
- 17 [Laura Coogle](#)
- 17 [Casey Durden](#)
- 17 [Henry Hylton](#)
- 18 [Sophie Ryan](#)
- 23 [Carolyn Cobb](#)
- 24 [Graham Gordon](#)
- 24 [Dixon Sapp](#)
- 24 [Doug Scribner](#)
- 25 [Anthony Owens](#)
- 27 [Cameron McIntosh](#)
- 28 [Kim Nuckols](#)
- 30 [David Batchelor](#)
- 30 [Leigh Gobbel](#)
- 31 [Emilee Terry](#)

JULY BIRTHDAYS (Click on a name to send a birthday greeting. A child's name will link to a parent's email.)

STAY CONNECTED

CLICK ON THE GRAPHIC FOR MORE INFO!



A Bigger Table:
 Building Messy,
 Authentic,
 and Hopeful
 Spiritual Community

Weekly Book Study with
 Pastor Emma
 Wednesdays or Sundays

RHO Readers

Meets Sunday,
 July 19 @ 1 p.m.

Click [here](#) for more
 details on the book!

Virtual Yoga on Tuesdays @ 11

Contact MPC member, [Pam Sharp](#)
 for more information.

Namaste!



MPC Mission Partners

Serve Together



Click [here](#) to read about MPC's on-going partnership with **Dobbs Elementary**, MPC Members and the Mission Committee.



While many shelters divide families by age and gender, **Nicholas House** keeps families together no matter their composition.

Memorial Drive Ministries

Although the campus is temporarily closed, **Memorial Drive Ministries (MDM)** still seeks to provide a safe and transformational space for literacy and educational services to adults and students, worshiping communities, and vocational training opportunities. This international community hosts five different worshiping groups, as well as the *Amani Women's Center*, *Just Bakery*, and *Global Growers*, as well as after-school programs for refugee children. The MPC Mission Committee was able to provide \$275 worth of cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer, and paper products to MDM. Executive Director David Roth says MDM needs 4 vacuum cleaners in good working order as well. Contact [Amy](#) if you can help! Donations to MDM can also be made via [Realm](#).

Click [here](#) to read the stories of real families impacted by the mission of **Nicholas House**.

Throughout July, **Nicholas House** is hosting a virtual fundraiser, "[Dream Builders](#)," with a goal of raising \$350,000 to help homeless families achieve self-sufficiency.

Click [here](#) to donate!

Nicholas
House

[Joe's Place](#), **Clifton Sanctuary's** transitional living program, offers an additional component to men who have demonstrated the ability to live by Clifton's guidelines and are making positive progress in achieving their goals. A guest who is admitted into Joe's Place can stay in the program for up to 2 years. During this time, they receive intensive counseling in life skills management such as budgeting, job skills training, and relationship building.

As a result, we congratulate Mr. Rudolph "Rudy" Johnson, who moves into his own apartment on July 1. Rudy needs various household items, so check out this [wish list](#) if you would like to donate a housewarming gift! Donations can be left at the door at Clifton to maintain social distancing. For more info, contact Clifton's Chief Administrator, [Mia Covington](#).

Clifton Sanctuary



2020 Mission Update!

Your Mission Committee has distributed \$15,000 to our outreach ministries so far this year, but during this unusually difficult time, your donations are more important than ever.

You can give via [Realm](#) or by going on the outreach's website.

The Mission Committee has also dispensed more than \$600 in supplies to our mission partners!

Looking for more mission opportunities? Click [here](#)!

“ One day, you will wake up and there won't be any more time to do the things you've always wanted. DO IT NOW. ”
-Paulo Coelho

On behalf of the teachers and the Preschool we would like to acknowledge Melinda Sandkam for her endless dedication and years of rich leadership at the Preschool. Melinda always made time for her teachers and she was captivated by the children daily. It is obvious to those who know her that she truly embraced and enjoyed her position at the school. Over the years Melinda always remained perpetual and positive for her staff in an ever evolving landscape.

Certain people in life take on a role and do what is expected of them, perhaps just enough to get by. A special individual takes on the role and knocks it out of the ballpark with their self determination, ongoing passion and talent. Thank you, Melinda, for not just being a certain person but a special person; the person that always got the job done and could be counted on by everyone.

Our director will surely be missed. We are excited for Melinda and what the future will hold for her. We wish her the very best! We are certain that whomever Melinda meets along the way or wherever she may end up, it will be very colorful and happy.

Godspeed, Melinda, and Many Thanks,
The Staff of Morningside Presbyterian Preschool



Click [here](#) to send Melinda a farewell message or a note of encouragement as she embarks on this new path.

We give thanks for **Melinda's 15 years of service** to MPC and MPP! If you would like to help us honor Melinda, you can make a designated gift ([online](#), selecting “In honor of Melinda Sandkam” from the drop-down box or via check, denoting your gift in the memo line) toward plans for an **outdoor classroom for MPP**, one of Melinda's hopes and dreams.



The Music Ministry says “farewell” to our tenor staff singer, Kirby Eicholtz, who is moving, along with his girlfriend, Afton, to Pennsylvania to begin a new life and career. It seems that Kirby has been with this choir for ever; he is well beloved. In addition to his vocal studies at Georgia State University, Kirby joined the Chancel Choir and the Morningside Sings cast in 2018. He has been a staple of the tenor section and the choir, and has sung as a Principal singer in both the 2018 and 2019 Morningside Sings concerts. It is with sadness that we say goodbye to Kirby. We wish both Afton and Kirby well in their new life together in Pennsylvania. (Auditions for this position have drawn to a close. Soon you will see a new face and hear a new voice in our tenor section.)