

**S**uffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. -Romans 5:3-5



One of my favorite hymns begins, "O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home." If there has ever been a season to consider where we put our hope, it is now. We are all wondering if we can put our hope in a vaccine? in a political candidate? in a mask? in a virtual platform for school? in the Instacart delivery service? in the YouTube premier for worship at 11am on a Sunday? As much as we try to place our hope in any of those things, our faith calls us to consider a deeper, more lasting hope made known in the love of Jesus Christ. As we look to Jesus, we recognize that his hope and love were not without challenge or suffering; his hope and love did not offer immediate gratification; his hope and love required our commitment toward acts of forgiveness, justice, and mercy. But Jesus' life, death, and resurrection showed that there was no power in this world in which love does not ultimately win. So we are invited in this commitment season to consider how we place our hope in God made known in Christ.

As we look to commitment season, the question I invite you to ponder is this:

***Where will you put your hope?***

One thing I have learned about the MPC family is that you put your time, talents, and treasures—your embodied hopes—in places where Jesus' love shines through, even in this dark and stormy time. This Month-at-a-Glance is overflowing with the ways you reflect your hope in God's love by sharing love with neighbors, friends, and those in need. Your generosity is present in your ongoing financial support through this time, to be sure. But those financial gifts keep on giving in our support of mission ministries across the city. They are embodied in our own opportunities for connection through affinity groups, Sunday school, outdoor study halls and MPC Kids! gatherings. They come to life online as we worship together virtually on Sunday mornings. They manifest themselves in church pen pals across generations, in flowers and meals shared, and in phone calls just to check-in. Where you put your time, talents, and treasure are emblematic of where you place your hope.

We cannot discern the future. I cannot tell you exactly when we will return to worship indoors or when coronavirus will go away. And I know that uncertainty can stir fear and anxiety in us. But this commitment season, I invite you to reflect on where you place your hope. Then, allow your life and your resources to flow in ways that lean into that hope and make it a reality. I, for one, am placing my hope in the only thing I have seen again and again to overcome fear, anxiety, hatred, and division: the love of Jesus Christ.

With abiding hope,

Pastor Katie

**Nominate a Hidden Hero!**



Is there someone who has been the face of Christ for you through this pandemic? A church member who has quietly cared for you or others? Someone who has helped keep the work of the church going through this time? This commitment season we give thanks for the time and talents of so many who have made the journey through the wilderness possible! Nominate a "Hidden Hero" for their acts of care and service by clicking [here](#)! Our Hidden Heroes will be featured in the November MAG!

## Worship Together @ Morningside

### October 4 - World Communion Sunday

The first Sunday in October is designated as World Communion Sunday, which celebrates our oneness in Christ with all our brothers and sisters around the world. We will celebrate Holy Communion during our online service at 11 a.m. While we recognize that we are physically apart, we trust that the Holy Spirit unites us with Christ and the communion of saints around the table and connects us across distance. In preparation for this shared meal next week, you will need to prepare your table at home - make sure you have some sort of bread and cup ready - whatever you have on hand is fine.

### October 11 - Mission Sunday

Tune in to worship, as Director of Memorial Drive Ministries, David Roth, will be our preacher, and friends from all of our mission partners will serve as worship leaders. This will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our mission partners, to see some familiar and new faces, and to worship together! We will also be taking up the [Peace & Global Witness offering](#) which enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world.

### October 18 - Outdoor Worship

Mark your calendars and be on the look-out for a sign-up link in the mid-week eNews and other resources for our 2nd Outdoor Worship experience at both 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. on the MPC campus. Like our first Outdoor Worship service in September, registration is limited to 50 people each service.

### October 25 - "This I Believe" Sunday

Join us for this beloved tradition of hearing three of our own MPC members speak about what they believe and why. Hearing one another's journeys encourages us to "keep the faith" and reflect on our own stories of God's grace and provision in our lives.

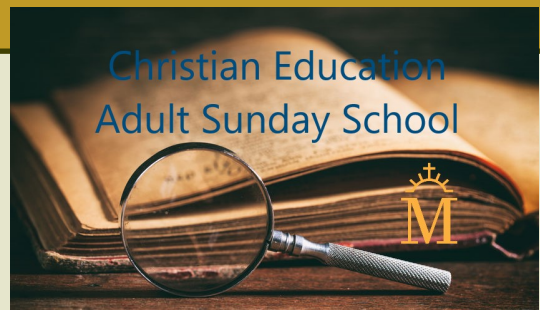
### Looking ahead to November...

11/1 - All Saints' Day

11/15 - Commitment Sunday

11/22 - Christ the King Sunday

11/29 - 1st Sunday of Advent



The Faith Development class will be continuing its study of Richard Rohr's book, *The Universal Christ*. John Watson, Jeanne McCarthy, Beth Baer, and Mary Chapman each leading a week. This will be followed by a 3 part series beginning October 25th on grief lead by Roland Behm. The Zoom link for all classes remains the same. If you have questions or need the Zoom link, please email [Joe Floyd](#).

**T**extually and musically, Requiems tell the story of passing from one life into another. French composer, Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924) wrote his famous Requiem during the years 1887-1890. One hears his focus on Eternal rest and consolation through his beautiful melodies and texts. Members of our Chancel Choir combined to record selected movements of this work as part of All Saints Sunday worship. We remember through music and word those who have gone before us. "May the angels lead you into paradise; may the [saints] receive you at your arrival and lead you to the holy city Jerusalem" (from *In Paradisum*).

- Jonathan Crutchfield

### Call for Names for All Saints' Necrology

As we look forward to All Saints' Day on November 1st, let us take this opportunity to reflect on those who have joined the great cloud of witnesses in the last year. Submit your loved one's name by clicking [here](#). The list of names will be scrolled during the singing of the Fauré *Requiem* as part of worship on All Saints' Day. Submissions are due **October 25th**.

"...surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses..."

HEBREWS 12:1

# STAY CONNECTED...

\*\*\*Connect to Affinity Groups through the October Calendar on the back page!

## October Birthdays

### AFFINITY GROUPS

Historically, Morningside Presbyterian Church has sponsored several groups with shared interest who meet on a regular basis. A brief description of each group follows, along with contact information for their respective leaders. Contact the leaders for more information. Each group is open to ALL!

- 1 [Gus Libby](#)
- 1 [Charlotte Spears](#)
- 3 [Anna Gray Sapp](#)
- 4 [Isobel Hadden](#)
- 5 [Miranda Brownlee](#)
- 5 [Liza Knezevich](#)
- 6 [Christopher Gair](#)
- 6 [Duncan Spears](#)
- 8 [Julia Kneeland](#)
- 11 [Daniel Sommerfeld](#)
- 12 [George Coogle](#)
- 13 [Ali Bradway](#)
- 14 [Quade Ladds](#)
- 14 [Lily Brooks Woolley](#)
- 15 [Alex Regnault](#)
- 17 [Rachel Reed](#)
- 17 [Reagan Slayton](#)
- 18 [David Stewart](#)
- 20 [Sienna Weis](#)
- 21 [Sadie Irwin](#)
- 21 [Elin Page](#)
- 24 [Daniel Fowler](#)
- 25 [Riley Ruby](#)
- 26 [Catherine Fleming](#)
- 26 [Finley Holloway](#)
- 26 [Pam Sharpe](#)
- 28 [Abigail Ward](#)
- 29 [Terry Lawson](#)
- 29 [Jason Loring](#)
- 29 [Rob Payne](#)

#### MPC COUPLES & FRIENDS

Currently, MPC Couples & Friends meets via Zoom on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 6 pm. This month, Pat and Jim Antenucci host the gathering.

Leaders: [Kathy and Alan Bremer](#)

#### LGBT & FRIENDS

This group meets via Zoom for "Social Hour" on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm. Grab a fun drink and get ready to laugh!

Leader: [Michael Siedschlag](#)

#### RHO READERS

RHO Readers meets the 3rd Sunday of each month at 1 pm to discuss selected books. Check church communications for info about the book schedule!

Leader: [Jill Klotz](#)

#### THEOLOGY ON TAP

This men's group meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month via Zoom at 6:30 pm. Enjoy your favorite brew and ponder the important things in life!

Leader: [Lloyd Prince](#)

#### WOMEN'S ROUNDTABLE

This women's group meets on the 4th Monday of the month via Zoom at 7:30 pm. Enjoy conversation and speakers who enlighten us to service opportunities.

Leader: [Betsy Holland](#)

#### MORNING(SIDE) LIFT

MPC's newest affinity group took a brief hiatus, but returns for a socially-distant, in-person meeting on Thursday, 10/15 at 8:30 a.m.

Leader: [Emma Neishloss](#)

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

## WHAT'S OUR NEXT STEP IN THE PANDEMIC?

For those tracking the data, you know that the Covid numbers across our state have improved dramatically in recent weeks. State-wide, our 7-day average positivity rate is down to 6.3% and we're under the 5% mark in Fulton and DeKalb counties. *Hallelujah!* As we live in hope for continued decline in cases, here's a reminder about what that means for us as a church:

We will move to Phase 2 when:

- We have <5% positive test rates for 21 days AND
- City and state officials allow groups of 50 or less to gather indoors

Phase 2 allows for small group gatherings with masks and distancing indoors as well as the possibility of 50 or less in the sanctuary with modifications for health and safety. The Session and ministry teams will discern the best way to live into that loosening of restrictions in a way that maintains the core values of MPC: a church that is welcoming, hospitable, and inclusive for all. Rest assured that even when limited in-person activity resumes, we will continue to make online engagement our primary way of gathering until all can safely return together. This is an ever-evolving situation for our community and we will continue to track the data should our situation change. If you have questions, do not hesitate to be in touch with Pastor Katie or a member of the Covid Taskforce.



### BIBLE DEDICATION - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH @ 4PM

Our scriptures are a source of comfort and wisdom, especially for our children. We want to be sure that all of our MPC Kids have a Bible that is age-appropriate and fun to read.

This year, we will be presenting a Bible to ANY child who would like one at our November 8th outdoor event. Even if you can't attend the event, you are invited to sign-up to receive a Bible. Click [here](#) to see the kinds of Bibles being presented. Click [here](#) to let us know that your child would like a Bible.

***Please sign up by October 15th!***

### SAVE THE DATE

Pumpkin Carving - Oct 24th

Plans for a family-friendly pumpkin carving event are being coordinated by our Strategic Implementation team.

**Save the date for this fun event!**



## November Month-at-a-Glance

### Mission Edition



# Serve Together

Our friends **Bienfait and Georgine Kinumbe and their children Ezekiel, Dorcas, and John** are settling in to their new home in Stone Mountain! If you'd like to give them a housewarming gift, we suggest Visa gift cards so they can purchase what they need for their new home. We are also looking for youth bedroom furniture such as dressers, nightstands, and lamps, along with a couple small bookcases and a fire extinguisher. If you have any of these items you'd like to gift, or have questions, please contact [Holly Campbell](#). Their new address is: **1362 To Lani Farm Road, Stone Mountain, 30083**.



MPC Mission outreach partner **Clifton Sanctuary Ministries** continues to need your financial support, so please consider a donation to assist with their day-to-day expenses. This can be done through Realm on the MPC website or by sending a check to the church office. Also, please consider restaurant gift cards, like those from Subway or Pizza Hut! For more info, contact [Ann Watson](#) or [Joe Floyd](#) or visit [www.cliftonsanctuary.com](http://www.cliftonsanctuary.com).

*Did you know that our Leslie Prince is President of the Clifton Board? Thank you for your leadership!*

It was hard to look into the future back in March of this year and see what an impact COVID-19 would have on our lives. Or, what that impact would look like for our mission partners and how MPC would respond to their ever-changing and increasing needs. Now over 6 months later, I have been moved by the time, talent, and sharing of treasure of our members and leadership. Members have been delivering **Meals on Wheels** every Saturday for 6 months, members are delivering meals to **Clifton** every other month, and the response to calls for food, school supplies, and money have been met beyond expectation. The response to our recent school supplies drive was so plentiful that we were able to provide school supplies for **Dobbs, MDM, and Nicholas House**. MPC's participation in the **Hearts & Homes Virtual Auction** helped **ICM** achieve record-breaking proceeds! THANK YOU, each and every one of you for helping the least of these, our neighbors during this time of COVID.

-Jack Klotz, Mission Elder

**Intown Collaborative Ministries** is working hard to serve the community. A donation drop off table is open outside Mclver Hall Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 9-12.

The current food donation needs are:

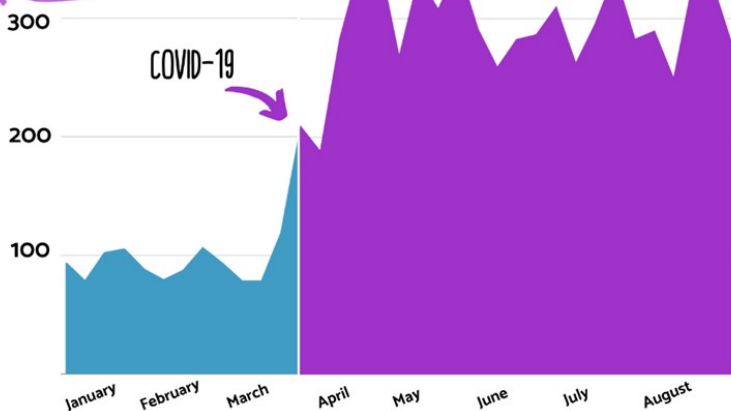
Pop top canned or packets of tuna  
Canned green veggies  
Uncrustables  
Vienna sausages

Pop top canned chicken  
Shelf Stable Milk (quart size)  
Pop top potatoes  
Individual milks (8oz)

Pop top green veggies  
Water bottles  
Spam  
Instant oatmeal/grits

ICM is still looking for Food Pantry volunteers. Click [here](#) to sign up on the ICM website or contact MPC's shepherd for ICM, [Nancy Collins](#), for more info.

*Families Visiting the Food Pantry Weekly*





# Mission Milestones

The congregation of MPC, the Mission Committee, and our outreaches wish to thank **Phyllis Grimes** for her many years of vital service shepherding **Rebecca's Tent Women's Shelter**. Also, many thanks to **Gail Kitchens** for serving as the **THREADS** coordinator and the many children's clothing collections she coordinated through the years. We would also like to honor and say thank you to **Laura Ulep** for co-shepherding **Intown Collaborative Ministries** and her work to help the hungry in our midst. We appreciate your leadership and the years of your commitment that have touched the lives of so many of God's people. Blessings abound for you all!

## INTOWN COLLABORATIVE MINISTRIES



- Mission partner Intown Collaborative Ministries Heart & Home Virtual Auction was a huge success and the grand total was \$128,185., which DOUBLED their expectations!
- Did you know that our **Bill Humphries** is the Board Chair of ICM and that our **Alex Watts** is a Director at ICM? Congratulations and thanks for your leadership!
- Click [here](#) to see our Pastor Emerita, Joanna Adams, receive the *Beloved Community Award*!



thank you



## NICHOLAS HOUSE

- MPC is now an official *Champion Level Faith Partner* at Nicholas House! And, thanks to your overflowing response to the Dobbs Back-to-School Supply Drive, the Mission Committee was able share this abundance with Nicholas House.
- The annual Nicholas House *Off the Street, On Their Feet: Sleeping Outside to Support Homeless Families* event is virtual on 10/2. Click [here](#) to learn more about participating or donating!



"I want to be a math teacher so that I can help kids learn and a gymnastics coach because it makes me happy when I do gymnastics. Every kid should be happy."

-Sacarrie, age 8



## DOBBS ELEMENTARY

- Dobbs Elementary namesake, James Wesley Dobbs, believed that the power of the ballot was key in overcoming segregation. When Mr. Dobbs started his registration drives in 1936, less than 600 blacks were registered to vote in Atlanta. His goal was to register 10,000 people, but after a record breaking 20,000 voters were registered, Mayor Hartsfield kept his promise and several of Mr. Dobbs' goals were reached- including the first black Atlanta police officers. John Wesley Dobbs died on the evening of the day the Atlanta School System was desegregated. His grandson, Maynard Jackson, Jr. became the first black mayor of Atlanta.
  - Virtual tutoring resumes at Dobbs Elementary on October 21! Contact [Bill Means](#) if you would like to become a tutor.
  - Principal Tiffany M. Ragin's Book of the Month is *Stellaluna* by Janell Cannon.



# MEMORIAL DRIVE MINISTRIES

☞ The **radical, counter-cultural generosity** of Christians from across Atlanta, especially during these difficult months of COVID-19, is remarkably inspiring to me personally. And it's something that is motivated by the same thing that motivated the generosity of those earliest Christ-followers: the **radical generosity** of God and the abundant inheritance received in Christ Jesus."

- David Lee Roth, MDM Executive Director

- MPC Mission partner Memorial Drive Ministries (MDM) is a church-based, non-profit located in the most diverse square mile in North America!
- After sharing the bounty from the Dobbs School Supply drive with Nicholas House, we had a loaves & fishes moment and were able to send MDM's school programs, Inspire Afterschool Initiative and Solid Foundation Christian Academy materials, as well! Click [here](#) for more info or to donate to MDM.
- Did you know that our own **Amy Jensen** is on the board of MDM? Thank you, Amy, for your leadership!

Did you know that our Lloyd Prince is on the Advisory Council of Shalom Ministries at MDM? Thank you for your leadership!



- After the successful pick-up last month, Amy Jensen will be hosting a monthly, 1st Thursday pick-up for [Just Bakery](#), a Clarkston-area nonprofit that provides job training and a living wage for resettled refugees and amazing baked goods.
- [Order online](#) before noon Wednesday, choose pickup in Candler Park, and make a contactless pickup from Amy's porch on McLendon near Oakdale between 5-7 p.m. on Thursday. You can also have your order delivered to your door, but pickup saves you a delivery fee.



- Click [here](#) to order your masks from Amani Women's Center, another outreach of MDM.
- Amani Women's Center is open only on Saturdays from 11 am—6pm and weekdays by appointment only.
- Despite COVID-19, Amani Women's Center remains committed to supporting women in the community. Your support right now has never been more important as we're developing new and innovative ways to provide refugee women with emergency relief assistance.



- Johari Africa is a social enterprise of Amani Women's Center and partner of Memorial Drive Ministries. Johari Africa is Swahili for Jewels of Africa. It has a double meaning; the beautifully hand-crafted jewelry by African women, and the women themselves. These lovely handmade products have a story to tell. They are made with care by refugee women in Clarkson and low income women from various parts of Africa.
- Visit the shop at 3550 Clarkston Industrial Blvd, Clarkston or shop [online](#).





# October 2020

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

CLICK ON THE [HYPERLINKS](#) FOR MORE INFO!

1

2

3

4

9:30 MPC Kids! & Adult Sunday School Zoom  
 9:30 New Members Zoom  
 11 Virtual Worship with Communion  
 12:30 Mission Committee Zoom  
 2 [Book Study with Pastor Emma](#)  
 7 [Youth Group Zoom](#)

5

9 [Partner with the Preacher](#)

6

11 [Virtual Yoga with Pam](#)  
 1:30 Staff meeting  
 5:30 [MPC Kids Small Group](#) (PreK & K)

7

7 [Book Study with Pastor Emma](#)  
 7:30 [Chancel Choir Zoom](#)

8

7:30 [LGBT & Friends Social Hour Zoom](#)

9

10

6 [MPC Couples & Friends Zoom](#)

11

9:30 MPC Kids! & Adult Sunday School Zoom  
 9:30 New Members Zoom  
 11 Virtual Worship  
 12:30 Deacons Meeting  
 2 [Book Study with Pastor Emma](#)  
 7 [Outdoor Youth Group](#)

12

9 [Partner with the Preacher](#)

13

11 [Virtual Yoga with Pam](#)  
 1:30 Staff meeting  
 5:30 [MPC Kids Small Group](#) (1st & 2nd)

14

3 [Youth Group Study Hall](#)  
 7 [Book Study with Pastor Emma](#)

15

8:30 [Outdoor Morning\(side\) Lift](#)

16

8 [Club 46 & Youth Activity](#)

17

18

8:30 Outdoor Worship  
 9:30 MPC Kids! & Adult Sunday School Zoom  
 10 Outdoor Worship  
 11 Virtual Worship  
 1 [RHO Readers Zoom](#)  
 2 [Book Study with Pastor Emma](#)  
 7 [Outdoor Youth Group](#)

19

9 [Partner with the Preacher](#)  
 7 Session Zoom

20

11 [Virtual Yoga with Pam](#)  
 1:30 Staff meeting  
 5:30 [MPC Kids Small Group](#) (3rd-5th)  
 6:30 [Theology on Tap Zoom](#)

21

3 [Youth Group Study Hall](#)  
 7 [Book Study with Pastor Emma](#)  
 7:30 [Chancel Choir Zoom](#)

22

23

24 Save-the-date  
 Pumpkin Carving Event

25

9:30 MPC Kids! & Adult Sunday School Zoom  
 11 Virtual Worship  
 2 [Book Study with Pastor Emma](#)  
 7 [Outdoor Youth Group](#)

26

9 [Partner with the Preacher](#)  
 7:30 [Women's Roundtable](#)

27

11 [Virtual Yoga with Pam](#)  
 1:30 Staff meeting

28

3 [Youth Group Study Hall](#)

29

30

31

