MONTH AT GLANCE - SEPTEMBER 2020

Is God calling you in this season?

God has called leaders for the church in the middle of the night, in the wilderness, on stormy seas, and along the road. It may be the middle of a pandemic, but this might be just the time that God is calling you to dive deeper into your faith and to step into servant leadership at Morningside. In the coming weeks, the Officer Nominating Committee (ONC) will be compiling our next classes of elders, deacons, and ONC members. If you are feeling called to serve, nominate yourself! If you have noticed the service of others and know someone well-suited to step into leadership at this critical point for the church, nominate them! If you're not sure where your or someone else's gifts might best be used, talk to a member of the ONC or to me! I am confident that God has given us everything we need to continue to be a voice of hope, love, and justice in the world!

With courage, Pastor Katie

Click <u>here</u> to access

the Officer Nomination Form

According to the *Book of Order*, being elected as a church officer is a high calling—an opportunity for servant leadership and spiritual growth. Morningside holds yearly congregational elections for the office of **Ruling Elder, Youth Elder, Deacon, and the Officer Nominating Committee.** Below are descriptions and requirements of the Offices.

Ruling Elder:

- 3 year term
- Active member for at least 1 year
- Given assignments that reflect their interests
- Can assist with Sacraments
- Serve as rotating Elder-on-Call
- Expected to participate in church events
- Attend Annual Elder & Deacon Retreat
- Attend monthly Session meetings
- Attend occasional called Session meetings
- Opportunities for growth at the Presbytery and General Assembly levels

Deacon:

- 3 year term
- Active member for at least 1 year
- Attend Annual Elder & Deacon Retreat
- Attend second quarter Deacon Retreat
- Attend monthly Deacons meeting
- Charged with ministries of care, witness, service, contact, and prayer.
- Serve as rotating Deacon-on-Call
- Can provide Communion with Pastor to homebound members

Youth Elder:

- 1 year term
- Active, confirmed member
- In High School
- (*Generally, there is only one Youth Elder on Session.)

Officer Nominating Committee:

- 1 year term
- Performs search and selection of church officers for election by congregation
- Selects special search committees, should need arise
- Chaired by an elder
- Comprises an elder and a deacon representative and 3 active members
- Preferably, but not required, former MPC officers
- Act with discretion regarding recruitment issues
- Ability to communicate clearly and persuasively
- Meets regularly over the course of 3-4 months



Current Officer Nominating Committee: Miranda Brownlee Mark Gilbreath David Hunter Jill Klotz Rachel Reed

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Save-the-Date for the Installation of Rev. Katie Owen Aumann Pastor and Head of Staff A ZOOM Service for a Pandemic Season Sunday, September 27, 2:00 p.m. More details and registration/ZOOM link to follow. On September 6, we will celebrate Holy Communion during our online service. 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, 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.



We continue with our sermon series, Unraveled: Seeking God When Our Plans Fall Apart through September.

September 6, Pastor Emma preaches from 2 Samuel 3:7; 21:1-14, about Rizpah's mourning—a public grief that inspires action.

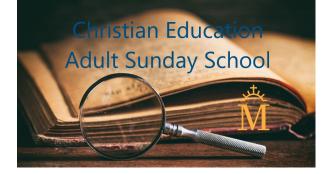
September 13, Amanda Kemery preaches from Exodus 1:22, 2:1-10, about what happens when our plans for our children unravel. We'll focus on the story of Moses' mother giving him up so he can live.

September 20, Pastor Katie preaches about Jesus healing Legion and the unraveling of the mind from Mark 5:1-20.

September 27, Pastor Katie preaches from Genesis 18:10-15, 21:1-7 — the story of Sarah laughing at the surprising joy of a late-in-life pregnancy.

Save the Date for Outdoor Worship

Our first outdoor worship service will be held on Sunday, **September 20 at 9:30 a.m.** on the MPC campus. Due to our outdoor guidelines placing a cap of 50 on attendance, we will ask for registrations beginning next week. Masks and social distancing are required. More details to come. For now, save-the-date. Sunday School for Adults began meeting via Zoom on August 30 at 9:30 a.m. and will continue weekly. Pastor Katie kicks off the year discussing the mission of the Church as laid out by the PC(USA). Then our very own Joe Floyd will lead a 3 week series on "The Great Ends of the Church." All are welcome! Email <u>Pastor Emma</u> with questions and for the Zoom links!



September Birthdays

1 Nash Burke 2 Amelia Millard 2 Randy Young 4 Tyler Ryan **5** Maggie Mashburn **5 Drew Slayton** 6 Sandy Mashburn 8 Zane Jensen 9 Greyson Anderson **9 Will Hunter** 11 Audrey Anderson 11 Peter Cobb 12 Molly Durden 13 Lisa Jern 14 K. J. Nuckols 15 Matt Frease **15 Sophia Regnault 16 Genine Shafer 19 Jason Williams** 20 Ryan Gorman 21 Callie Stewart 23 Ben Bradway 24 Hugh Bell 24 John Kinumbe-Baume 25 Peter Chatel 28 Ellis O'Brien 28 Kyle Ulep 29 James Scribner

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

STAY CONNECTED...



September Outdoor Fellowship

BINGO Night!

Friday, September 11, 6 - 8 p.m.

Bring your own chair, snacks, and drinks. We'll have the bingo supplies for a night of fun together!



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

Gathering Outdoors

As a covenant community, the Session has set guidelines for how we will promise to *be together* in this season. As we begin planning outdoor opportunities, please love your neighbor as yourself by abiding by

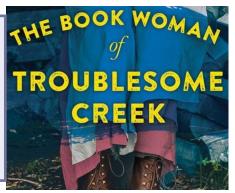
these practices:

- Wear your mask (everyone >2 years old) Maintain your distance and respect others'
- distance Wash hands/sanitize frequently Let us know you're in attendance (accurate attendance records ensure we can contact trace
 - if someone tests positive) *Most events will ask for sign-ups in advance to ensure that we keep groups small (<50)
- Stay home if you're not feeling well (if you have a known exposure to Covid-19, are awaiting test results, or show symptoms).

Our year of **Youth Group** looks very different than it has in years past, but we are excited for new ways to be together! We're mixing in person, outdoor, socially distanced gatherings with meetings via Zoom. On our scheduled Sundays, we will gather (in person or online) for fellowship and games and conversation. Additionally, starting in mid September, we're adding a (weather permitting) mid week Study Hall! It will be an informal gathering at the picnic tables from 3pm to 5pm on Wednesdays. Our hope is that students will bring their school work, have a snack, and enjoy a change of scenery. You can find the Fall 2020 Youth Schedule <u>HERE</u>.

Join the RHO Readers via Zoom on Sunday, September 20 from 1-2 p.m. to discuss Kim Michelle Richardson's *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek*. Click <u>here</u> for info!

The people of Troublesome Creek don't have much but they do have books and periodicals, thanks to Roosevelt's Kentucky Pack Horse Library Project, and young Cussy Mary Carter, their roving librarian. But Cussie is one of the blue-skinned people, for whom suspicion and prejudice cause her untold grief. However, Cussie's joy of books and her commitment to her patrons is the driving force that inspires her to carry on.



MPC's Pandemic Response Update

What Can We Expect Looking Toward the Fall?

"Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." Psalm 119:105

We seek to follow Christ no matter what form or setting in which we gather; thus, the Session has prayerfully discerned the variety of ways that we can help others see, hear, and experience the love of Christ in this time.

At this juncture, we are not yet prepared to return to gathering indoors. A more detailed explanation of our phased approach to re-gathering in the church building is listed <u>HERE</u>.

As we look toward the fall, we will offer two "pathways" for participation within the safety and health restrictions of our current stage. Virtual offerings will continue to be our primary way to connect as a community; however, the Session has approved a set of outdoor gathering criteria to allow for some in-person outdoor engagement under strict rules. To the best of our ability, we will offer similar types of engagement across both pathways so that there is a place for everyone to safely participate according to their comfort level.



FREE COVID TESTING CLINIC at Morningside Presbyterian Church Spread the word!!! Saturday, September 12, 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Morningside Presbyterian has partnered with CORE, Fulton County and the Fulton County Board of Health to host a FREE, walk-up Covid testing site. Self-administered, shallow nasal swab tests will be available for individuals with and without symptoms. *No ID or insurance required*. Walk-ups welcome; parking available on-site. To pre-register, text COVID to 678.802.9624. Results in 2-5 days. Click <u>here</u> for page with more details that you can also keep and print for a reminder.



Community Organized Relief Effort





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Congratulations to Bienfait and Georgine on the purchase of 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 a washer and dryer and furniture for the children's rooms, like dressers, night stands, and lamps. They could use a couple of small bookcases, as well as books for Pre-K through 2nd grade levels. If you have any of these items you'd like to gift, please contact <u>Holly Campbell</u>. Their new address is:

1362 To Lani Farm Road, Stone Mountain 30083.



On Sunday, August 16, Eliza Smith was ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in her home church, Shandon Presbyterian. Eliza, who served for two years at Morningside, began a hospital chaplaincy in Greenville, S.C. at the end of August. We are so grateful for the gifts she shared with Morningside, and we are so excited for this next step in her journey! Send Eliza an <u>email</u> or note of congratulations (902 E. Washington Street, Apt. 101, Greenville, S.C. 29601).



PC Green Group is looking for volunteers to help set up guidelines and plan for education and projects for our congregation. Help us discover how we as a church can improve our environment...God's incredible creation. We need people of all ages to start and maintain this effort and come up with a better name for the group! Why not you? Come join us - bring your energy and ideas to help! Contact Jeanne McCarthy.

Looking for a socially distant way to connect with someone in your faith community? Contact <u>Amanda</u> if you are interested in being matched up with an MPC Pen Pal.

MPC KIDS AND FAMILIES KICKOFF THE SCHOOL YEAR

We had so much fun celebrating the start of the new school year and the new Sunday School season. We celebrated with music, crafts, mission, and breakfast treats. We want to say thank you to everyone who has donated school supplies to support our mission partners and give a special shout out to all of the volunteers who helped make this event happen. We can't wait to see what learning and adventures this year will bring!





A Virtual Fundraiser for Intown Collaborative Ministries Celebrate 10 Years With Us Sunday, September 20, 2020 6-7 PM

This year Intown Collaborative Ministries celebrates its 10th anniversary. The annual **Heart & Home** gala is virtual this year and will include a special inaugural presentation, "The Beloved Community Award," which will be given to our own Pastor Emerita, The Reverend Joanna Adams, ICM's founding board president. The virtual gala is Sunday, September 20th, beginning at 6 p.m. Registration is free and begins September 6. Click <u>here</u> for more information.



Ever wonder, "How is my donation being used?"



Click <u>here</u> for an exciting update from your Mission Committee!

INTOWN COLLABORATIVE MINISTRIES

- As the pandemic has progressed and the expanded unemployment relief expired, ICM has continued to see new faces at the pantry and is serving about 300 families per week. ICM could really use your help during their distribution times to ensure the process runs smoothly for our guests! Click <u>here</u> to volunteer.
- ICM is also in need of volunteers to pick up food from the Atlanta Area Food Bank on Tuesday mornings. Sign up here!
- Donate food: Packets of tuna and instant oatmeal and grits; pop-top canned chicken, beans, veggies, potatoes, Spam and Vienna sausages; single-serve individual and shelf milk; mini cereal boxes; pasta sauce. *NOTE: Donations may be delivered directly to the Food Pantry at Miclver Hall behind Druid Hills Presbyterian Church (1026 Ponce de Leon NE, <u>Atlanta, GA 30306</u>, entrance on St. Charles Ave.) Donations are accepted Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 9am-12pm. If you would like to schedule another time to drop off a donation larger than 50 lbs., email Laura DeGroot. When you drop off, scan the QR code with your smart phone camera and fill out the form, so staff can record your donation. Once you return to your car, ICM staff will collect the donation.
- For more information, contact <u>Nancy Collins</u>, MPC's Shepherd to ICM.

CLIFTON SANCTUARY MINISTRIES

- Great cooks and Clifton Shepherds, Ann Watson and Joe Floyd will prepare and deliver dinner to the gentlemen at Clifton on September 26.
- Our friends at Clifton are also in need of dinner meals in the upcoming weeks. It's simple: prepare food for 7 guys and drop it off at the shelter front door. You can also place an order from a restaurant and have the meal delivered. No allergy restrictions or special dietary needs at this time. Contact Lori to schedule your contribution!



DID YOU KNOW that Clifton Sanctuary Ministries is the oldest house-of-worship shelter operating in Atlanta? Clifton is open 365 days/year!

MEMORIAL DRIVE MINISTRIES UPDATE—From David Lee Roth, MDM Executive Director:

Faithfulness in the little things, perhaps especially during challenging times, is always what sustains the grand vision. So many of you, our supporters, have shown such faithfulness and care during these challenging months. Thank you. I am truly grateful for your partnership, generosity, and presence (even when it has to be mediated via screens!).

While our campus remains closed and in-person activity remains significantly limited, I am reminded that the cathedral we strive to build at MDM is not one made of marble, stained glass, or stone. It is a cathedral of welcome, prayer, service, and mutual relationships. Those commitments may require new expressions during a global pandemic. But they remain our blueprint as we build together. Thank you for being a part of this work and this mission!

Click here to see the MANY ways YOU can help Memorial Drive Ministries!

September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Click on <u>HYPERLINI</u>		1 11 <u>Virtual Yoga</u> <u>with Pam</u> 1:30 Staff meeting	2 7 <u>Book Study</u> with Pastor Emma	3 8:45 <u>Morning(side)</u> Lift Zoom	4	5
MORE INFO!						
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9:30 MPC Kids! Sunday School Zoom 11 Virtual Worship with Communion 2 <u>Book Study</u> with Pastor Emma 7 <u>Youth Group Zoom</u>	Labor Day! Church Office Closed	 9 Partner with the Preacher 11 Virtual Yoga with Pam 1:30 Staff meeting 	7 <u>Book Study</u> with Pastor Emma 7:30 <u>Chancel Choir</u> Zoom	8:45 <u>Morning(side)</u> <u>Lift Zoom</u> 7:30 <u>LGBT & Friends</u> <u>Social Hour Zoom</u>	6 BINGO Night!	8 - 2 <u>Free</u> <u>COVID Testing</u> 6 <u>MPC Couples &</u> <u>Friends Zoom</u>
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
 9:30 MPC Kids! Sunday School Zoom 11 Virtual Worship 12:30 Deacons Meeting 2 Book Study with Pastor Emma 7 Outdoor Youth Group 	Welcome Back MPP!! 9 Partner with the Preacher 7:30 Officer Nominating Committee	 11 <u>Virtual Yoga</u> with Pam 1:30 Staff meeting 6:30 <u>Theology on</u> <u>Tap Zoom</u> 	3 <u>Youth Group</u> <u>Study Hall</u> 7 <u>Book Study</u> with Pastor Emma	8:45 <u>Morning(side)</u> <u>Lift Zoom</u>	8 <u>Club 46 &</u> <u>Youth Screen</u> on the Green	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
 9:30 MPC Kids! Sunday School Zoom (8:30 Overflow Outdoor Worship) 9:30 Outdoor Worship 11 Virtual Worship 1 RHO Readers Zoom 2 Book Study with Pastor Emma 6 ICM Fundraiser 	9 <u>Partner with</u> <u>the Preacher</u> 7 Session Zoom	 11 <u>Virtual Yoga</u> <u>with Pam</u> 1:30 Staff meeting 	3 <u>Youth Group</u> <u>Study Hall</u> 7 <u>Book Study</u> with Pastor Emma 7:30 <u>Chancel Choir</u> <u>Zoom</u>	8:45 <u>Morning(side)</u> <u>Lift Zoom</u>		Clifton Sanctuary Ministries Dinner Delivery
27	28	29	30			
 9:30 MPC Kids! Sunday School Zoom 11 Virtual Worship 2 Book Study with Pastor Emma 2 Installation of Rev. Katie Owen Aumann 7 Outdoor Youth Group 	9 <u>Partner with</u> <u>the Preacher</u> 7:30 Women's Roundtable	 11 <u>Virtual Yoga</u> <u>with Pam</u> 1:30 Staff meeting 	3 <u>Youth Group</u> <u>Study Hall</u>			