

MONTH AT A GLANCE

**How are you marking
these 40 days in Lent?**

**Did you give something up?
Take something on?**

Are you trying a new practice?

Perhaps it was my mom's Catholic upbringing, but I was taught as a child that Lent was the time we were supposed to think about Christ's sacrifice for us. It followed a formula: We're sinners. We can't save ourselves. Christ sacrificed for us. Therefore...In order to appreciate Christ's sacrifice, you have to sacrifice something too. And so we ended up giving up Diet Coke or chocolate ice cream in order to "feel sacrificial" like Jesus. It invites a certain kind of reflection that's not all bad, but it was motivated by guilt and shame, which it turns out doesn't lead to life-long change. Mostly I spent the time counting down how many days were left in Lent.

So Paul offers us a fresh take this Lent. I must say that it's felt like a refreshing change to view the Lenten road as a chance to grow closer to God rather than purely as a season of penance. What if the formula for Lent looks a little different? We're imperfect. We can't save ourselves. Christ died and rose for us. Therefore...we choose practices that help us draw closer to Christ so that our life looks like his.

This month, we're looking at 5 practices Paul points to in his letter to the Philippians: Worship, Giving/Serving, Fasting/Feasting, Study, and Prayer. Each offers a chance to engage your mind and heart through action. Then you're invited to try on a similar practice (or 25) at home from the Lenten practice list.

Here is what I know to be true: a life in relationship with God doesn't happen miraculously in 40 days. It is formed over a lifetime of practice, of choosing patterns that help us draw closer to God and to each other. It is those patterns and relationships that let the grace and light of the resurrection shine through. So this Lent, we don't walk to the cross weighed down by shame but we practice our way to the cross trusting that what will come from these practices is a relationship with the crucified and risen One.

WITH JOY & HOPE

THIS LENTEN SEASON,

PASTOR KATIE

Lenten Worship & Holy Week

Sunday, March 3

Fast & Feast - Philippians 4:12-13

Pastor Katie Aumann Owen, preaching

Sunday, March 10

Prayer - Philippians 4:6-7

Pastor Katie Aumann Owen, preaching

Sunday, March 17

Study - Philippians 4:8

Pastor Emma Neishloss, preaching

Palm Sunday, March 24

Pastor Katie Owen Aumann, preaching

We're taking a break from the neighborhood park and gathering on the steps of the sanctuary at 10:30 am to share in fellowship and process into worship together! Come for Sunday School that morning and then meet outside to wave palms as we process into worship.

Maundy Thursday, March 28

Our tradition of in-home potluck dinner and communion continues on Maundy Thursday at 6:30 pm. Watch the eNews and sign up in the narthex in March for a house and an item to bring. We will break bread around ordinary tables the way Jesus did with his disciples as he shared the Last Supper.

Good Friday, March 29*

Join us for a Tenebrae service at 7 pm in partnership with Central Presbyterian and Covenant Presbyterian. Joint choirs will offer music that helps us reflect on the crucifixion as we read the story of Jesus' death and sit in darkness together.

**Worship is at Central Presbyterian. Free parking is available in the directional map for free underground parking in the state garage, accessible off Central Avenue between Mitchell Avenue and MLK Drive.*

Easter Sunday, March 31

9 am & 11 am

Worship with Communion

Pastor Katie Owen Aumann, preaching

40 Days of Practice

STUDY

- Read the book of Philippians. It was the inspiration for our Lenten Sermon Series
- Read a Psalm everyday
- Check out *[A is for Alabaster](#)* by Anna Carter Florence to meet a new biblical character everyday
- Contemplate your mortality with Pastor Katie's Lenten book study
- Read *Nature's Best Hope* or watch the accompanying [short film](#)



FAST & FEAST

- Feast with your people! Have a screen free meal with loved ones
- Fast from social media
- Feast on the outdoors. Take a walk without your phone. What do you notice that you haven't before?
- Fast from the ordinary. Take a picture of something you see every day from a unique angle
- Feast on joy. Name something that brings you joy and make time to experience that joy today

PRAY

- Visit the memorial garden at MPC
- Say a prayer for someone you miss
- Pray the church prayer list by name. Send a note to someone on the list
- Download and commit to a daily devotional app like [D365](#)
- Practice gratitude. List all the things (big and small) you are thankful for. Then, thank God for them
- Join Centering Prayer at 12pm on Thursdays in the Sanctuary

GREEN

- Have one meatless meal (or more) per week
- Plant something native in your own yard. The [Georgia Native Plant Society](#) is a great resource
- Find alternative transportation to work or church – bike, walk, MARTA, carpool
- Use only reusable bags at the grocery store
- Support your local Farmer's Market at Morningside or elsewhere

SERVE

- Donate items to the Lenten food drive for [Intown Cares](#)
- Prepare & serve dinner for Clifton Sanctuary Ministries on March 23
- Sign up for and attend [Lobby Day at the Capitol](#) with Presbyterians for a Better Georgia
- Research & write a [land & labor acknowledgement](#) for where you live
- Visit the Center for Civil and Human Rights

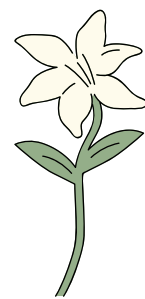


EASTER FLOWER CROSS

As we celebrate the good news that Christ is risen and new life comes, bring flowers from your garden or grab a bloom out of the buckets at church and help us cover the cross with budding life and beauty on Easter Sunday!

EASTER TRIBUTES

Submit your Easter Tributes by Wednesday, March 27. Suggested donation for each tribute is \$10, payable by cash, check, or by choosing "Easter Tribute" in the drop-down menu on [Realm](#). Please submit one form per tribute. Your tribute will appear in the bulletin for the worship services on Easter Sunday, March 31 and in the April Month at a Glance. Your donation funds our Flower Guild's budget for holiday decorations at Advent, Christmas, Palm Sunday, Easter, and many other beautification projects around our church.



[Easter Tributes](#)

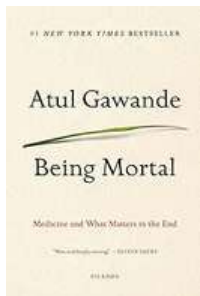
MIDDLE GROUND

Wednesday, March 13
Gather for a time of fellowship at 5:30 pm, dinner at 6 pm, and a short-form casual worship service on Wednesday, 3/13 at 6:30 pm. For those with children, MPC Kids programs and Children's Choir meets simultaneously. *Middle Ground only meets once this month.* Email Pastor Amanda for more info.



LENTEN BOOK STUDY

The study continues this month as we work through the book *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande. If you are navigating questions of aging as a caregiver, as one navigating priorities in any stage of life or just reflecting on your own mortality, this discussion is for you! Join Pastor Katie on Sundays from 7-8 pm on Zoom. The book study is underway but email to join for the remaining chapters.



CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm
Miss Rosie welcomes kids to choir on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm with an optional pizza dinner beforehand at 6 pm. All kids 4 years old - 3rd grade are encouraged to come sing.

- Sing Sunday, March 3
- Rehearsal March 13 & 20
- Rehearsals April 10, 17, 24 and May 1
- Sing for Children's Sabbath, May 5
- No rehearsals 2/21, 3/6, 3/27, or 4/3.



Choir will conclude on May 5. We look forward to helping these young singers prepare to lead in worship.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sundays at 9:45 am
Click the buttons to sign up to teach or assist in Sunday School classes for Children and Youth in the weeks coming up. Please consider signing up to help with at least one or two Sundays.



[Children's Sunday School](#)

[Youth Sunday School](#)

FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Beginning March 3, Rev. Dr. Sarah Bogue begins a three week series, "The Stories We Tell: Medievalism and White Supremacy." A famous once suggested that culture was

Sunday School



was simply "the stories we tell ourselves, about ourselves." These origin stories matter, and the way we tell them matters even more. In Western Europe and the United States, many white supremacists seek out stories from the "Middle Ages" as evidence supporting ethnic nationalism (wherein a particular story about a certain people, is tied to a particular political entity). In this short series, we will build on the work of scholars like Chord Whittaker and Geraldine Heng to dig into these stories, interrogating the ways in which our own context shapes the way we read and tell the stories of the past. All are welcomed and encouraged to join.

SCREEN ON THE GREEN

Friday, March 15
@ 6:30 & 7:30 pm

Save the Date for our first Screen on the Green of the year! Pack your picnic and join us on the front lawn. We'll have a short film for our youngest kids and families at 6:30 followed by our feature film at 7:30.



VBS 2024

Registration is Open!

Register now for Camp Firelight at MPC, June 10-14th, 2024. Campers will learn ways we can connect with and put our trust in God whenever we are afraid, challenged, or called to share God's love in the world. VBS is open to 2 year-olds through 5th graders. VBS will run from 9-noon with optional aftercare and Mission Camp until 3pm. [Click to register and for more information.](#) We also need volunteers! [Sign up today](#) to lead our campers through everyone's favorite summer activities or to help with camp preparations.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 30
@ 10 am

Egg Fillers Needed!

Our annual egg hunt on Saturday, March 30 will have over 2,000 eggs on the front lawn. We need YOU to take some of our recycled eggs home, fill them with nut-free treats, and return them to the church office by Sunday, March 24. You can find the empty eggs and spare bags in the stairwell by the front office and welcome center. Thank you for supporting this fun event for the community!



MPC NEW MEMBERS

Morningside is growing! We welcomed new members on February 4. Next time you see one of our new members, please take the time to introduce yourself and get to know them. Click [here](#) to watch the portion of the service where our new members are introduced.

From to right, clockwise:
Allison & Chip Hutton and daughters, Amelia & Sarah (not pictured); Hilda Patrick; Jason & Hope Dwyer; Jane & Turner Plunkett.



SPOTLIGHT ON FACILITIES



It takes a lot to keep the church running and there is always a project underway! This month, some of the projects include:

- Installation of an ice maker in the kitchen
- Installation of a new TV in the youth room (fresh paint coming soon!)
- Repair of the handicapped button on the welcome center door
- Buffing the floor of the elevator landing by the fellowship hall (no more scuffs!)
- Network and wifi upgrades

What's in progress? For those of you who are tired of being "blinded by the light" on a sunny Sunday morning in the sanctuary, the facilities team is evaluating shade options for the sanctuary windows. Stay tuned!

The Nancy Frampton Rising Artists Series at Morningside Presbyterian Church



2024 SEASON LINE-UP

- **Eleomar Cuello**, baritone - Saturday, 7/6 @ 7 pm
- **Yunwen Chen**, cello & **Xiyu Deng**, piano - Saturday, 9/21 @ 7 pm
- **Sage Harrison & Juan Riveros**, duo cello - Saturday, 11/2 @ 7 pm

BECOME A BENEFACTOR OF THE NFRAS!

If you have enjoyed the Rising Artist Series concerts and would like to see this music ministry continue, become a benefactor today! We are looking for a handful of individuals to help underwrite this season through a special gift for this third season. Your contribution of \$500 includes two season tickets to the 2024 concerts, invitation to a reception with the artists, and recognition in the concert programs. If you would like to make a contribution, speak to Jonathan Crutchfield or Pastor Katie. Click [here](#) to find out more about this amazing season of talented young artists.

REMINDER!

Daylight Saving Time begins **Sunday, March 10** at 2 a.m. Spring forward an hour.

MPP BOOK FAIR

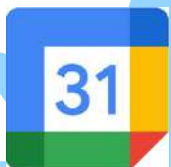
SHOP IN PERSON MARCH 4TH- 8TH OR ONLINE

SHOP ONLINE! USE COUPON CODE MPP AT CHECK OUT

www.littleshopofstories.com
A portion of all proceeds benefit the school!

MPP ENROLLMENT

Enrollment is open!!! Come see our preschool in active play! Courtney is hosting group tours every Wednesday at 10am. Please sign up for a tour by clicking the button below. Or pass the information on to friends or families. Click [here](#) to book a tour.



MPC GOOGLE CALENDAR

Click [here](#) to add the MPC Events calendar. This public calendar will help you keep track of all the church-wide events happening at the church. We will add as many events and details that we have, so you can have them too!

MPP DINE OUT WITH SWEET AUBURN!

Wednesday March 27th

15% of all orders will go towards our continued Green Initiatives at school

Online Orders available! Use code "MPP" at check-out.

PICTURES OF FEBRUARY

CONCERT

MPC COUPLES

SPELMAN GLEE CLUB

& FRIENDS



This group celebrated 20 years of existence and welcomed back its founder, Pastor Emerita Joanna Adams!

The Youth @ Morningside led an incredible worship service on February 11. Thank you to all of the youth and their families for the hard work and creativity they put into making that service so special. A particular thank you to Mac Barnette and Austin Smith for their thoughtful and inspiring homilies. If you missed the service and want to check it out, you can watch a full recording [here](#).

YOUTH @ Morningside

YOUTH SUNDAY



SUNDAY SCHOOL

VALENTINES



Some of our Sunday Schoolers making Valentines for our college students.

At trivia at The Family Dog, the FAM young adult group at MPC came in 1st place, winning some fancy cornhole boards!

TRIVIA VICTORY



FRIENDS @ MPC

PANCAKE DINNER

SHROVE TUESDAY



MIDDLE GROUND

ASH WEDNESDAY



ON TAP

THEOLOGY



DEVELOPMENT

FAITH



The class was blessed by Rabbi David Helfand at Shearith Israel's teaching on Mitzvot (commandments) and spiritual practices that grow from them. Grateful for a growing friendship between our two communities.

Affinity Groups



Women's Roundtable

Monday, March 4 @ 6:30 pm

Women's Roundtable welcomes Ariel Fristoe, co-founder & artistic director of Out of Hand Theatre - the theater works at the intersection of art, social justice and civic engagement. They work to create a more just world through programs that combine theater and education and conversation. Join us for dinner and this amazing speaker at Hillery McNeill's home! RSVP to [Sarah Brownlee](#).

MPC Couples & Friends

Saturday, March 9 @ 5 pm

This group gathers at the Gilbreath's home and they will provide heavy hors d'oeuvres. Bring an appetizer, side or dessert item, plus a beverage of choice. We don't yet have a host for April 13—anyone want to step up? Time and location are super flexible! RSVP to [Kathy Bremer](#).



LGBT & Friends

Thursday, March 14 @ 7 pm

Join us for food, fellowship and discussion. We gather at the home of David Lowery. We will have an informal discussion of what "Lent" means to us, how we make changes or meditate during the season, and how we can carry that with us past Easter. Please RSVP to [Michael Siedschlag](#).



Friends at Morningside

Sunday, 3/3 @ 5 pm; offsite

Sunday, 3/24 @ 12:30 pm; offsite

MPC's young adults meet at Sweetwater Brewing, Sunday 3/3 at 5 pm for Game Night! Mark your calendar for Sunday Brunch after worship on Sunday, March 24, 12:30 pm at the Wises' home for a discussion about the parable of The Widow & The Judge.

Email [Pastor Emma](#) for more info on the group.



RHO Readers

Sunday, 3/17 @ 12:30 pm;
Room 201 or Zoom

The RHO Readers book selection for March is *Under the Whispering Door* by T.J. Klune. Pastor Emma will lead the discussion. Click [here](#) for a short summary of the book. Email [Jill](#) for more info.



One Gray Hair

Wednesday, 3/20 @ noon

RSVP to [Sarah Brownlee](#) to attend lunch and a program - with the topic to be determined. Meet in the Fellowship Hall.



Theology on Tap

Tuesday, 3/19

@ 7 pm; offsite

Details on location and program topic to be determined! Stay tuned! Email [Pastor Emma](#) for more info on the group.



Men's Coffee

Fridays @ 8 am

Men of MPC are invited to stop-in for coffee and conversation. Meet at Press & Grind Coffee on Fridays at 8 am. Contact [Mark Gilbreath](#) for info.



MARCH birthdays

- 3 ALEX WATTS
- 5 ANN WATSON
- 6 SARAH BROWNLEE
- 10 SAWYER BARNETTE
- 11 AVA AREPALLY
- 11 EMILIE PAILLE
- 11 AUSTIN SMITH
- 11 CLAIRE STRONG
- 12 JERRY MASHBURN
- 13 DORCUS KINUMBE-BAUME
- 13 MAGAN WARD
- 15 SHEPHERD MCPHERSON
- 15 OWEN PAGE
- 16 ALET HODSON
- 17 CASPER ADAMS
- 17 CHARLIE STRONG
- 18 GAIL KITCHENS
- 19 BETH FARNSWORTH
- 20 EZEKIEL KINUMBE-BAUME
- 22 KATE DURDEN
- 22 BRENDA FISHPAW
- 25 COLLEEN MCCLINKTOCK
- 26 CAROLINA WILLIAMS
- 28 DALE GUSTAFSON
- 29 LINDSAY BOORMAN
- 29 ADAM BOWERS
- 29 HUNTER SAPP



MISSION @ MORNINGSIDE

Researched & compiled
by Jill Klotz

SERVE TOGETHER

"During Lent, let us find concrete ways to overcome our indifference."

- Pope Francis

SPECIAL OFFERING: ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Palm Sunday
March 24

The special offering, *One Great Hour of Sharing* supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Self-Development Program. For 75 years, the PC(USA) has come together in generosity to support communities who walk alongside those in need. *We will collect this offering during worship on Palm Sunday, March 24.* Click [here](#) to read real stories about how this offering helps our siblings across the globe.



LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

MPC's Lenten Food Drive for Intown Cares ends on Palm Sunday, March 24. Bring your donations to the Mission barrels in the church Welcome Center at the preschool entrance. Please do NOT donate expired foods. Click

[here](#) to see the current greatest needs of the food pantry. You can also click this [Amazon Wishlist](#) link to purchase goods and have them shipped directly to the church. For more info contact [Suzanne Macpherson](#).



SUPPORT INTOWN CARES AT THE HUNGER WALK/RUN

Register for the Hunger Walk and join the Intown Cares team, in-person or virtually! 80% of the proceeds raised by our team will be donated to our food pantry at Intown Cares and 20% goes to the food bank itself. Click [here](#) for more information.

Sunday, March 10
Noon - 4 pm
The Home Depot Backyard



VALENTINE DELIVERY

Every year, Morningside Presbyterian Preschoolers make Valentines for the Meals on Wheels Atlanta community. Wyatt and Maddy Boorman hand-delivered the Valentines! Wyatt and Maddy are MPC Kids and MPP alumni! *Thank you MPP for serving our neighbors and spreading love!*

GROCERY DELIVERY

Sign up [here](#) to deliver groceries to Maggie Russell Towers. New dates for 2024 are available! Each delivery date can use a driver and a ride along helper. Meet at MPC at 10:15 am, and then travel to Intown Cares where you load groceries into van at 10:30 am then head out for delivery. Deliveries take 1-2 hours.





LOBBY DAY Tuesday, March 5; 8 am - noon

Join us at the Capitol for Lobby Day 2024. We'll gather at Central Presbyterian for coffee, an issues update, team organizing, a brief training review and a bit of practice. At 9:45 we cross the street to the Capitol. You must bring your photo ID. We'll speak with legislators from our districts, seek out key legislators and committee chairs, and advocate for issues that matter most. and dive into advocacy in a meaningful way. Our voices will be heard at the state Capitol! Click [here](#) to register.



CLIFTON DINNER

Saturday, March 23
@ 5 pm

Did you know that every other month, Morningsiders serve dinner to the men of Clifton Sanctuary Ministries? We hope you'll join this month to make and serve dinner! Contact [Ann Watson and Joe Floyd](#) to help with this mission opportunity.



KENNESAW MOUNTAIN HIKE

Wednesday, March 27; 9:15 am - 2 pm

Plan to join the hike up Kennesaw Mountain on Wednesday, March 27, led by Karen Ruetz from Chestnut Ridge Christian Church. It's easy hike to the top of Kennesaw Mountain with lots of opportunities for stops along the way...to be rewarded by a spectacular view and lunch at the top. Bring a sandwich and water. Enjoy God's creation, hiking and friends! Click [here](#) to sign up and get more details.

XMAS LIGHTS UPDATE



Our congregation and community collected 94.4 pounds - almost 1/4 mile - of Christmas lights to recycle at CHARM! We've kept them out of the landfill!

COMPOST UPDATE

In the month of January, MPC's compost has impacted in the following potential ways:

- Waste diverted - 1,377 lbs
- Compost created - 138 lbs
- CO2e miles not driven - 4,019 miles
- Methane avoided - 143 lbs
- Tomato potential of compost - 1,033 tomatoes



We are excited about the partnerships that worked together to move Khalid into his new home. While going through the Night Hospitality Program for 6 months, Khalid worked with Clifton's Case Manager, Richard Cook, a member of the Intown Cares team. Through a connection at Church of the Common Ground, Richard found out about the opportunity for Khalid to move into Atlanta's new tiny home

property. **Morningside Presbyterian Church provided him with a "Welcome Home" basket** with all kinds of essentials that Khalid will need in his new home. Food Coordinator, Amy Eckles, and volunteer, Bee Bordeaux made sure he had plenty of food from Clifton's food pantry to make sure his pantry and refrigerator were stocked.







Protect the Okefenokee.

TAKE ACTION

PROTECT THE OKEFENOKEE

Click [here](#) to learn more about how to join MPC C.A.R.E. in helping stop strip mining in the Okefenokee Swamp - just by sending an email! Tell Governor Kemp and Georgia regulators that the risks to the Okefenokee, endangered wildlife that call it home, and the Georgians who depend on it, are too great. Tell Georgia to reject this dangerous mining plan and protect the Okefenokee Swamp.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
3 3rd Sunday of Lent 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship with Communion & Children's Choir 12:30 Club 46 (Offsite) 12:30 Nominating Comm. 7 Lenten Book Study	4 9 Partner with the Preacher (Zoom) 6:30 Women's Roundtable (Offsite) 5:30 NFRAS Meeting 	5 8 Lobby Day with P4BG 1 Staff meeting 7:30 Handbell Choir Rehearsal	6 7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7 12 Centering Prayer 4 Tai Chi Class 	1 8 Men's Coffee (Offsite) 7 Middle School Mystery Night 8 8 Men's Coffee (Offsite)	2 9 Grace AA Group 9 9 Grace AA Group 5 MPC Couples & Friends
MPP Book Fair March 4 - 8						
10 4th Sunday of Lent 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship 12:30 Fellowship 12:30 Matthew 25 12:30 Deacons Mtg 6 Youth Group 7 Lenten Book Study (Zoom)	11 9 Partner with the Preacher (Zoom)	12 MPC is a Polling Place. VOTE 10:30 Intown Grocery Delivery 1 Staff meeting 7:30 Handbell Choir Rehearsal	13 5:30 Middle Ground 6:30 Children's Choir 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	14 12 Centering Prayer 4 Tai Chi Class 6 LGBT & Friends Gathering	15 8 Men's Coffee (Offsite) 6:30 Screen on the Green 7 High School Mystery Night	16 9 Grace AA Group
17 5th Sunday of Lent 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship 12:30 RHO Readers 7 Lenten Book Study (Zoom)	18 9 Partner with the Preacher (Zoom) 7 Session Mtg	19 1 Staff meeting 7 Theology on Tap 7:30 Handbell Choir Rehearsal	20 12 One Gray Hair 6:30 Children's Choir 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	21 12 Centering Prayer 4 Tai Chi Class	22 8 Men's Coffee (Offsite)	23 9 Grace AA Group 5 Clifton Dinner
24 Palm Sunday 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Fellowship & Procession 11 Worship with Handbells 6 Youth Group 7 Lenten Book Study	25 9 Partner with the Preacher (Zoom)	26 10:30 Intown Grocery Delivery 1 Staff meeting 7:30 Handbell Choir Rehearsal	27 MPP Dine Out @ Sweet Auburn 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	28 Maundy Thursday 12 Centering Prayer 4 Tai Chi Class 6:30 Maundy Thursday Potluck In-Home Dinners	29 Good Friday 8 Men's Coffee (Offsite) 7:30 Good Friday Service at Central Presbyterian	30 9 Grace AA Group 10 Easter Egg Hunt 
31 Easter Sunday 9 Worship with Communion 11 Worship with Communion		MARCH			