

AT A GLANCE

DEAR DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.

It's Eastertide and Christ is risen! When we think about the work of the church, we are called to lots of things: to pursue justice, to demonstrate compassion and care for those in need, to tend to the last of these as our Matthew 25 initiative calls us. And we can get weighed down with the weight of all of that good and important work as disciples seeking to show God's kingdom to a broken and fearful world.

But sometimes the best way to proclaim the promises of God is simply to celebrate! The first question of the Westminster Catechism is:

What is the chief end of humanity?

The chief end of humanity is to glorify God and enjoy God forever.

That is really what May is all about! This month we experience the good news of God across the generations, especially in worship. We were led yesterday by our children for Children's Sabbath and what a blessing it was. This Sunday we will confirm five new youth as members of the church. We'll be blessed this month by special music from Vivaldi's Gloria sung by our own chancel choir. And on May 22, we'll welcome our mission partners to lead us in worship as we celebrate the ways God's love and care is made known through each of their ministries!

In addition to all of those aspects of worship, we'll be celebrating Dobbs teacher's with a special luncheon, watching another class of MPP students graduate, thanking our MPP teachers, and enjoying an annual Memorial Day cookout with our friends at Clifton! Both in our building and around the city, this month is about joy and celebration across the generations.

I hope that however you find yourself engaged with MPC this month that you find ways to be filled with Easter joy.

WITH HOPE AND **CELEBRATION. PASTOR KATIE**

FINANCIALS AS OF **APRIL 1, 2022**

March Total YTD Total March Budget YTD Budget \$42,741 \$320,168 \$217,731 \$65,467 Income \$67,973 \$72,654 \$217,962 Expenses \$203,938 (\$25,232) (\$7,187)\$116,230 (\$231) Net Revenue

SPECIAL OFFERINGS ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING Your generosity speaks volumes!

This year, you gave \$1295 as part of the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering, which supports local and national mission!

MOTHER'S DAY TRIBUTES

Due Thursday, May 5

Click here to submit your Mother's Day Tribute. Your tribute(s) will appear in the Mother's Day bulletin on May 8. 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. Suggested donation for each tribute is \$10, payable by cash, check, or by choosing "Easter Floral Tribute" in the drop-down menu on Realm.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

We've started out the year strong. Thanks to a number of members who gave their whole pledge early in the year, we're in a stable place as a congregation.

A friendly reminder to those of you who travel during the summer: You can setup Realm to make recurring contributions even when you're away! For those who want to avoid any service charges, you can do the same thing through online bill pay with your bank.

Your finance team works to ensure oversight and good stewardship of your gifts, and your contributions enable us to gather to worship God and to share that good news in word and deed! THANK YOU!



WE'RE A MATTHEW 25 CHURCH!

In April, Session officially voted to make MPC a Matthew 25 Congregation! This reflects the church's commitment to three focal areas:

- Ensuring congregational vitality
- Dismantling structural racism
- Eradicating systemic poverty

Becoming a Matthew 25 church is a sign of our commitment and intention to strive toward Christ's kingdom for all. It recognizes that there are many things the church is already doing to work toward this vision—from mission efforts with our mission partners to educational and spiritual formation of ourselves as disciples with an eye for God's kingdom where all can live peaceably together.

It also recognizes that there is much we still have yet to do. In the coming months, we'll be offering ways for you to engage individually and with others at MPC—around these topics through education, reading, field trips, and conversation. The Matthew 25 team is also in a season of discernment about what particular actions we can take as a congregation to draw near to Christ made known among "the least of these." Join us in prayer!

FAITH DEVELOPMENT

May 1 - MPC's Environmental Stewardship Initiative, led by Jeanne McCarthy & GIPL representative, Gayla Tillman

May 8 - Effective Mental Health Advocacy in the Georgia Legislature, led by Roland Behm

May 15 - MPC's Mission Partners: What They Do & What They Need, led by Leslie Prince & a Mission Panel

May 22 - MPC's Shift to Socially Conscious Investing, led Bill Humphries & Finance Committee Representatives

May 29 - A Year-End Review and Self Assessment of Faith Development's Curriculum, led by Jim Martin

WORSHIP TOGETHER IN MAY

Encountering Christ Through the Generations We began a new sermon series on Easter Sunday and continue it through the month of May. The Risen Christ seeks to meet all of us and we can all be changed by the experience of resurrection. This Easter season, our worship will seek to share God's good news from voices across the generations.

5/1 - CHILDREN'S SABBATH

"Brave Enough to Love" Luke 15:1-7 A special service led by MPC Kids!

5/8 - CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

"Passing the Torch" 1 Samuel 2:1-10, 1 Samuel 3:1-18 Pastor Emma, preaching

5/15 - SPECIAL MUSIC SUNDAY

"Easter in the Voices of our Elders" Pastor Amanda, preaching Selections from Vivaldi's Gloria by MPC Chancel Choir

5/22 - MISSION SUNDAY & SENIOR RECOGNITION

"The Impotent Man" Acts 4:9-10 Grady Green, guest preacher from Clifton Sanctuary Ministries

5/29 - 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"Encountering Christ Among Each Other" Acts 1:1-11 Pastor Katie, preaching



DEACONS' CORNER

Here are some of the activities the deacons have been involved in for the month of April. Please contact a deacon if you or anyone you know is in need or has an idea of how the deacons may help.

- · Activated several meal trains.
- Sent cards and notes expressing encouragement and best wishes.
- Delivered flowers to those needing cheer.
- · Maintained the church prayer list.
- · Provided outreach and ways to engage.

ART IN WORSHIP: CONTEMPLATING THE CROSS BY MYLES SMITH

God invites us to worship and to reflection using all of our senses. So much of our worship is experienced through hearing. This Lent, we were blessed to add a visual art component to our worship. Myles Smith offered reflections on the cross through art. We hope that his contribution helped you to reflect further on what the cross means to you and where you find hope amidst despair and life amidst death. Below is the final piece

from Myles Smith's Lenten art installation, which had two sides.

Shroud Linen, wire, concrete, acrylic paint

This cross is made of linen dipped in concrete set against a black background. It represents the time between the crucifixion and resurrection. It is shrouded in black awaiting the day of resurrection in which all things are made new through Christ.

Joseph of Arimathea went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. Luke 23: 52-54.



He Is Risen Linen, wire, concrete, acrylic paint

The dogwood blossoms come from a twentieth century American legend that says the original cross was made of wood from the dogwood tree. After the crucifixion, Jesus transformed the trees into a twisted, compact plant so that it could never again be used for execution. According to the story, on the day of resurrection all the dogwoods of the forest bloomed in joy. Look closely at a dogwood blossom and you will see that they bear rusty marks on the petals signifying the nails and surround a center that wears a crown.

Because you live O Christ, the garden of the world has come to flower,
The darkness of the tomb is flooded with your resurrection power.
The stone has rolled away and death cannot imprison.
O sing this Easter day for Jesus Christ is Risen.
Hymn text by Shirley Murray, 1987

EASTER FLOWER CROSS

Thank you to the Libby family for making and installing the Easter Flower Cross for Easter Sunday and to the many Morningsiders who helped cover it with new life, celebrating the resurrection!



We welcomed 435 members and friends to worship on Easter Sunday!







FLOWER SIGN UPS

The sign up to provide flowers for worship is available for the first Sunday in July, August, October and November. Click here if you would like to sign up for any of these dates. To provide flowers for another Sunday, contact Lynn Daniel or Georgia Marshall.

EASTER FLORAL TRIBUTES

In memory of...

Darcie Hartford

• TYLER RYAN & SUZANNE MACPHERSON

Frank & WyNona Taylor, Ruby White, beloved & missed grandparents

KIM ROCKWOOD

Faye McKay Clegg

ANN & JOHN WATSON

Virginia Grimes, mother of Phyllis Mary Katherine Hogan Davis, mother of Katie

PHYLLIS GRIMES & KATIE DAVIS

Bert & Nanell White, beloved parents

NANCY LANE

Marilyn Hairston Gladys Bogard

SARAH BOGUE & ADAM BOWERS

Mark Henry, on his and Sylvia's 40th anniversary

Meredith Henry

Art Sweum

LINDA SWEUM

John Hamilton

NANCY HAMILTON

Gay V. Land Lillie Mae & Ernest Humphries

CINDY & BILL HUMPHRIES

My parents, Linda Vytal & John Vytal

KATYE WATTS

Marie & Avery Goodwin Virgie & James Brownlee

SARAH & RICHARD BROWNLEE

Katie Ellis Mike Cochran Cleve Ellis

KIMBERLY WILLIAMS

Warren & Alvine Johnson

LINDA MARIE JOHNSON

Barbara & Chester Cobb,
Peter's parents
Dorothy & Alex Nichols,
Carolyn's parents
Alan Nichols, Carolyn's brother

CAROLYN & PETER COBB

Georgia & Robert Klingbeil Mary & Al Marshall Bert Marshall Harry Marshall Philip Marshall Zeb Osborne Ruthlyn Newell

GEORGIA K. MARSHALL

In honor of...

Morningside Pastoral Staff: Rev. Katie Owen Aumann Rev. Emma Neishloss Rev. Amanda Kemery Rev. Dr. Jonathan Crutchfield

JOE FLOYD

Liz Land Yuanyuan & Durf Humphries

Betsy, Jason, & Alex Holland

CINDY & BILL HUMPHRIES

Shari Tant

KIM ROCKWOOD

The amazing MPC staff

ANN & JOHN WATSON

Cindy Humphries, our wonderful Sunday School teacher

MPC KIDS!

Pastor Emma & Pastor Amanda

THE KIDS OF CLUB 46

The staff & members of Morningside Presbyterian

- NANCY & ANDY ANDERSON
 Patricia Watts
- KATYE & ALEX WATTS

Laura, Jake, Charlie, & Claire Strong Taylor Marshall Hillary & Andrew Marshall

CAROLYN & PETER COBB



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MAY 15!

June 13-17, 2022



Register by Sunday, May 15 for **Discovery on Adventure Island** at MPC! Campers will be guided on an exciting quest to find mysterious infinity lanterns to help light their way. On their quest, campers will venture through art, discovery,

recreation, music, and storytelling stations. This year, we will also be offering optional extended hours from 12-3pm for all ages, including **Adventure Mission Camp** for 2nd-5th graders. Register here today to receive updates and additional information.



We invite all youth and adults to volunteer to help with VBS! No matter what your schedule, we have a way for you to plug in before, during, and after camp week. This is one of the largest events at MPC and it wouldn't be possible without you all! Volunteer here!



A big thumbs up goes out to our Morningside Presbyterian Preschool community that threw a top notch day of fun for the whole neighborhood. Spring Fling was a huge success! We are so grateful for the hard work of our parent volunteers and staff! MPC member Ken Williams maintains his title as the Spring Fling Grill Master! Congratulations, Ken!



FACILITIES @ MORNINGSIDE

AND THERE WAS LIGHT!

For years people have said that the front of our Sanctuary was dark, especially at night. Often we have opined the need for brighter lighting. Enter a wonderful anonymous donor who funded new lighting in its entirety this year. You may not even have recognized that there are new flood lights tucked discreetly into the transepts of the Sanctuary. These give gentle lighting to the floor area where the piano and baptismal font sits, to the pulpit and lectern which so desperately has needed lighting, and to the center of the chancel area. In February 2022 MPC entered into a contract with PDH Lighting company who provided stellar work. We thank our donor for this amazing gift to our church.









Welcome to our 2022

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Greyson Anderson Sawyer Barnette Harris James Preston Lowery Lily Brooks Woolley

Many thanks to our wonderful mentors for walking alongside our confirmands

this year:

Alex Watts Curt Barrett

Wait Aumann David Terry

Stephanie Libby

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

MAY 8, 2022

CONGRATULATIONS

MPC SENIORS

Class of 2022

GRADUATES OF MIDTOWN HIGH SCHOOL



KEIRA

University of Georgia

DUNCAN TANNER

University of √irqinia

SPEARS

Rhodes College



SOPHIE RYAN Mount Allison University

The Mission Committee sends many thanks to Youth Elder Sophie Ryan

for her exceptional service and commitment as our Intown Collaborative Ministries co-shepherd. We wish her well on her college journey and look forward to seeing her on her breaks. Our future is in good hands with young people like Sophie who walk the Matthew 25 talk!

B. A. in Integrated Communication from the University of



Strategic

Kentucky

LINDSEY

HOWEL



B. A. in Voice and Pipe Organ from the Townsend School of Music at Mercer University







RHO READERS HYBRID

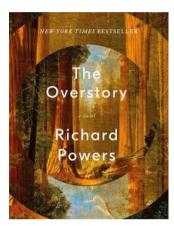
Sunday, May 15; 12:30 p.m.
Choose to meet with other RHO Readers in-person
(Room 201) or online. Contact Jill for the Zoom link.
Check out the book up for discussion below.

Contact Kathy for more information on this gathering.

RHO Readers May Book Overstory

by Richard Power

Winning the 2019 Pulitzer in Fiction, Overstory is a novel of activism and resistance to the natural world, of interlocking stories over time from antebellum New York to the Timber Wars of today. This is the story of a handful of people who despair of humanity's self-imposed separation from the rest of creation and who hope for the transformative, regenerating possibility of a homecoming.



THEOLOGY ON TAP

Tuesday, May 17; 7:00 p.m..

This group will get together for a meal for the last meeting before summer. Contact <u>Lloyd</u> for more details.

ONE GRAY HAIR

Wednesday, May 18; 12:00 p.m.. Meet in the church Fellowship Hall for lunch, conversation, and a program. RSVP to <u>Sarah</u>.

LGBT & FRIENDS THEATER OUTING

Sunday, May 22; 3:00 p.m..
Onstage Atlanta is performing the stage version of Del Shores' A Very Sordid Wedding. Megan Reader's husband, Josh Schicker, will be appearing in this production. For anybody who wants to join, some LGBT & Friends folks will be attending the Sunday matinee, May 22 at 3:00 p.m. Click here to purchase tickets. For those attending who may be interested in brunch before the show, email Michael.





SERVE TOGETHER

"The world is before you and you need not take it or leave it as it was when you came in."

- James Baldwin

Researched & compiled by Jill Klotz

MAY IS FOR MISSIONS

Sunday, May 22 is our annual Mission Sunday. Friends from our Mission Partners will be participating in the Worship Service and they would love to speak with you about their ministries. Fellowship will feature cookies from Just Bakery and back by popular demand is Doris Mukangu of Amani Women's Center, who will be selling handmade items from Johari Africa.



GIPL SCREEN ON THE GREEN: "THE HUMAN ELEMENT"

Wednesday, May 4; 7-9

Georgia Interfaith Power and Light hosts a film screening of "The Human Element" here on MPC's front lawn. The documentary follows environmental photographer James Balog as he captures the lives of everyday Americans on the front lines of climate change. Learn more about the film here. The cost is \$5; register here.

DOBBS TEACHER APPRECIATION LUNCH

Thursday, May 5; 10:30 - 12:30

Celebrate the teachers at Dobbs Elementary School on Cinco de Mayo! Click here to



volunteer or donate food items for the taco bar. Meet in the main church parking lot at 10 a.m. to carpool in the church van. We'll arrive at 10:30 and serve lunch through 12:30. For more details, contact Leslie Prince.

MEMORIAL DRIVE MINISTRIES DIAPER DRIVE

Ends Friday, May 6

MPC mission partner Memorial Drive Ministries hosts a Diaper Drive to benefit refugee families connected to Amani Women's Center, Refugee Family Literacy, Embrace, and MDM campus. Order diapers and ship them to MPC through the Amazon Wish List here or bring diapers to MPC by Friday, May 6 and put them in the blue Mission barrel in the Welcome Center.

CSM SPRING CLEAN DRIVE

May 7 - May 26

Spring Cleaning is underway at Clifton Sanctuary Ministries and they need cleaning supplies, like floor cleaner (Mop-n-Glo), all purpose cleaner (409, Lysol), bleach solutions (Clorox Clean-Up wipes), microfiber cleaning cloths, tissues, paper towels, and rag mops. Place donated items in the blue Mission barrel in the Welcome Center or order from the Amazon Wishlist and send items to the church.





HIKE WITH MPC C.A.R.E.

Thursday, May 21, 10:00
Join us for a hike at The Clyde Shepherd Nature
Preserve, a wetland area with lots of birds and
other wildlife in North Decatur not far from MPC. It
is completely flat with boardwalks and good for all
ages – a great intergenerational opportunity! If
you would like to ride in the church van, meet in
the church parking lot at 9:45 a.m. Contact
Jeanne McCarthy for more info.



The Annual Clifton Cookout is Sunday, May 28. Please contact Clifton Shepherds Ann Watson and Joe Floyd if you can help. A grillmaster is especially needed!

ICM FOOD PANTRY

ICM is always in need of the following:

- Tuna packets
- Peanut butter
- Jelly
- UGT Milk (shelf stable)
- · Canned pop-top veggies

Click <u>here</u> to see a full list of items that the ICM Pantry need.

HOW TO DROP OFF DONATIONS

A donation drop off table is open outside McIver Hall Fridays and Saturdays from 9-12. You can pull your car right up to McIver Hall and volunteers will be able to unload your donation. Please tell them you are from MPC.

Please scan the QR code with your phone and fill out the form so ICM can record your donation. If you need a weight total, please be sure to let them know at the time of donation.

Thank you for your generosity and commitment! Over 500 lbs. of food was collected for the Intown Collaborative Ministries Lenten Food Drive! Way to go, Morningside!



Since Russia invaded Ukraine late last month,
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) has
committed rapid response solidarity grants to five
ecumenical partners in Eastern and Central
Europe addressing the humanitarian crisis created
by the unprovoked attack. Click here to donate.
Click here to learn more about PDA.



GLOBAL GROWERS: CULTURE IN AG
DECATUR'S KITCHEN GARDEN IN LEGACY PARK

After a two year break, **Culture in Ag** is back, celebrating the diverse cultures that make up Atlanta's local food system. This family-friendly event offers the opportunity to experience diverse foods, agricultural practices, and music, and to

Thursday, May 21, 3-5 p.m.

There are MANY ways to volunteer at ICM. Click here to find out ways you can help.



Thank you so much for supporting ICM's Heart and Home event. Expectations were shattered with the anticipated fundraising number almost doubled, bringing in \$204.659 for Intown Collaborative Ministries!

UPDATE ON THE EMRAN FAMILY

Collaborative Ministries



Good news! Emran has gotten a job at Emory, paying \$14/hour, plus benefits. There are other Afghani immigrants working there, giving him a good place to connect. In addition, he has passed his driving test and now has a license. Someone from another church, within the Six Star Group has donated a car for the family. The Emran family is saving up enough money to afford the six month insurance premium, a requirement of the Six Star Group to receive a donated car. Emran is anxious for the car and is quite motivated to save up the money as soon as possible!

Mozil just turned 6 years old and is enrolled and thriving at Indian Creek Elementary. Mother, Naeem and little brother, Adil love practicing English along with Mozil and his flashcards. The International Rescue Committee was able to secure the family a 3-month free rent extension, through July.

MPC Kids! will serve at Global Growers during Adventure Mission Camp this summer!

explore the community garden for New American Growers. Click <u>here</u> for tickets. All proceeds go toward equipping New American Growers with land and resources for producing fresh food. **Global Growers is** a partner of Memorial Drive Ministries.



Join the MPC C.A.R.E. team for a 5 mile hike to the beautiful Hike Inn on the Appalachian Trail. Spend the evening enjoying a great home cooked meal, relaxing in the Sunrise Room and learning about their conservation practices and sustainability. After a good night sleep, enjoy your morning breakfast before the hike back. Click here to sign up and get more information.











SUN	MON	TUF	WFD	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Children's Sabbath 9:15 Children's Sabbath Rehearsal 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship + Communion 6 Youth Group	2 6 Confirmation & Session Dinner	3 1:30 Staff mtg 5:30 MPC Kids (PreK - 2nd) 7:30 Handbell Choir	7 GIPL Screen on the Green 7:30 Chancel Choir	5 8:45 Morning(side) Lift 10:30 Dobbs Lunch 12 Centering Prayer 7 Deacons Meeting	6 MDM Diaper Drive Ends	7 CSM Spring Clean Drive Begins
8 Confirmation Sunday 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship 12 Fellowship 6 Youth Group	9 9 Partner with the Preacher	10 10:15 ICM Grocery Delivery 1:30 Staff mtg 5:30 MPC Kids (2nd- 5th) 7:30 Handbell Choir	11 7:30 Chancel Choir	12 8:45 Morning(side) Lift 12 Centering Prayer	13 4 Club 46 Club 46	14 9 Shredding Event 2 Troop 29 Work Day 7 MPC Couples & Friends
15 Vivaldi's Gloria 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship 12:30 RHO Readers 3 LGBT & Friends 6 Youth Group VBS Registration Deadline	16 7 Session	17 1:30 Staff mtg 7 Theology on Tap 7:30 Handbell Choir	18 12 One Gray Hair 7:30 Chancel Choir	19 8:45 Morning(side) Lift 12 Centering Prayer	20 10 MPP Graduation	21 10 MPC C.A.R.E Hike 7 Coro Vocati Concert
22 Mission Sunday & Senior Recognition 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship 12 Fellowship 2:30 Coro Vocati Concert	23 9 Partner with the Preacher	24 1:30 Staff mtg	25 7:30 Chancel Choir	26 8:45 Morning(side) Lift 12 Centering Prayer	27	28 5 Clifton Sanctuary Cookout
29 Easter 7 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship	30 Office Closed *** MEMORIAL DAY ***	31 1:30 Staff mtg	1	$\mathbf{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{\Lambda}}$	47	