

# Welcome, Pastor Katie!

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ. My family and I are so excited to *officially* join the Morningside family! It feels fitting that I join you on Pentecost as we celebrate the Spirit moving the church toward a new season in our life together.

So where do we begin? We begin by getting to know one another! This summer (starting at 10am next week!), worship will feature a 10-week sermon series *Building Faithful Relationships Together* as we explore a breadth of ways that we relate to God and one another. Alongside worship, the transition team, the PNC, and I are planning ways for me to connect with you and for you to re-connect with one another. Keep an eye out in upcoming weekly emails for details about virtual fellowship hours, a drive-and-wave meet-and-greet, affinity group gatherings and more! During a season when we find ourselves physically apart, we will find new ways to BE together.

Admittedly, a global pandemic is a challenging time for transition, but we worship a God who has always made a way in the wilderness. I am already at work with the preparedness team to explore when and how we can safely and joyfully return to in-person worship. But as we await that day, I believe this with all my heart: the church has never closed. Wherever God's love shows forth in big and small ways, wherever two or three are gathered (even six-feet apart), we trust that God is there, and we will follow the Spirit into this new chapter with energy, intelligence, imagination and love.

Joyfully,  
Katie

Be on the look out in your mid-week eNews and other communications for opportunities to get to know Katie!

Here are a few hints for what's in the works:

1. Sign up for a Virtual Fellowship!
2. Pastor Katie meets with the Affinity Groups!
3. A "Getting to Know You" look-book!
4. A Socially Distant Drive-by Ice Cream Social!

More details to come for each opportunity!



Click [here](#) to send Pastor Katie an email.



O God, we gratefully acknowledge that Sunday, May 31 was a noteworthy and important day full of significant meaning for Morningside Presbyterian Church and Reverend Katie Owen Aumann and her family.

O God, we give you complete and full praise for bringing Morningside Presbyterian Church and Katie together at this unique and unprecedented time.

O God, we deeply appreciate all who loved, nurtured and supported Katie along her journey.

O God, we thank Wait for his devotion to Katie and her personal and professional passions.

And O God, we ask for your exact and true blessings of Katie and her Morningside Presbyterian Church flock as we all go forward together.

And O God, we ask you to help prepare our minds and hearts to listen to and accept Your word.

And then O God, that we join forces with Katie and her team to act together to accomplish Your will.

Through Christ our Lord, Amen!

Welcome Our Newest Members!

After 15 weeks of study (10 in person and 5 via Zoom), our 8 confirmands were received by session on Monday, May 6. Together with their mentors, they learned about everything from the Trinity to the historical person of Jesus to baptism to what it means to be a Presbyterian. We are so proud of these confirmands, and we are deeply grateful to the mentors who walked alongside the youth every step of the way. We celebrate our 8 newest members in worship when we can all return to the sanctuary.

**Confirmands**

Mac Barnette  
Sadie Irwin  
Quinn Jarratt  
Quade Ladds  
Caroline Lowery  
Rex Ruby  
Vanessa Ryan  
Austin Smith

**Mentors**

Matt Frease  
Sarah Beth Gehl  
Bill Southwood  
Martin Dunlap  
Whitney Fowler  
Tony Fishpaw  
Ashley Hoffman  
Kasey Libby

[Click here to read a few of our Confirmands' faith statements.](#)

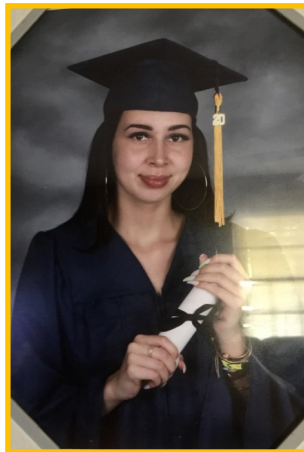


Congratulations to MPC's Seniors!!!

"We pray that You would bless these seniors, their peers and their families as they continue along their faith journeys. Wherever their road leads, whatever the next step looks like, remind them that You are with them."



Anthony Cochran  
Attending Georgia Tech



Tristin Loomis  
Attending Clayton State University



Caroline Parrish  
Attending Wake Forest University



Brynn Smith  
Attending Rhodes College



Charlotte Spears  
Attending Davidson College



Will Tanner  
Attending University of North Carolina



**Worship starts at 10 a.m.  
in June and July!!!!**

**BUILDING  
RELATIONSHIPS  
TOGETHER**

**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 relationship are spiritual matters. We’ll take one “relationship” a week throughout the summer.

<p><b>June 7 - Trinity Sunday</b>            KATIE OWEN AUMANN, PREACHING            “Relationship with God”            John 1:1-18            Psalm 8            Genesis 18:1-10a</p>	<p><b>June 21 - 3rd Sunday after Pentecost</b>            EMMA NEISHLOSS, PREACHING            “Relationship with Family”            Matthew 12:46-50</p>
<p><b>June 14 - 2nd Sunday after Pentecost</b>            KATIE OWEN AUMANN, PREACHING            “Relationship with Family of Faith”            1 Corinthians 12:12-26</p>	<p><b>June 28 - 4th Sunday after Pentecost</b>            KATIE OWEN AUMANN, PREACHING            “Relationship with Friends”            Psalm 133            John 15:1-5, 12-17</p>

**STAY CONNECTED**

**Morning(side) Lift**

Coffee & Fellowship  
 Thursdays @ 8:30 a.m.

**THEOLOGY ON TAP**  
 meets virtually  
 Tuesday, June 30  
 @ 7:30 p.m.  
 Email for details!

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

Weekly Book Study with Pastor Emma  
 Wednesdays or Sundays

**CLICK ON THE GRAPHIC FOR MORE INFO!**

**Women’s Roundtable**  
 with Pastor Katie  
 Monday, June 22  
 @ 7:30 p.m.

**RHO Readers**

Meets Sunday, June 21 @ 1 p.m.  
 Click [here](#) for more details on the book!

**LGBT & Friends**  
 Zoom Social Hour with Pastor Katie  
 Thursday, June 11 @ 7:30 p.m.

**Virtual Yoga on Tuesdays @ 11 a.m.**  
 Contact MPC member, Pam Sharpe for more information.  
 Namaste!

# JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1 [Jill Davis](#)
- 1 [Carly Dubay](#)
- 1 [Lisa Harris](#)
- 4 [John Hadden](#)
- 5 [Jackson Markovic](#)
- 5 [Betty Treschitta](#)
- 6 [Wally Fleming](#)
- 6 [Joe Knezevich](#)
- 7 [Caleb Tuuk](#)
- 8 [Bill Humphries](#)
- 8 [Joanna Irwin](#)
- 9 [Holly Greene](#)
- 10 [Eleanor Roach](#)
- 10 [Sarah Tomaka](#)
- 11 [Anne Barnette](#)
- 11 [Nathaniel Gehl](#)
- 13 [Kathy Bremer](#)
- 14 [Lynsley Tyler](#)
- 14 [Zane Yntema](#)
- 15 [Rebecca Stewart](#)
- 16 [Quinn Jarratt](#)
- 16 [Peter Tuuk](#)
- 17 [Martin Dunlap](#)
- 17 [Carol Southwood](#)
- 18 [Preston Lowery](#)
- 18 [Ken Sharpe](#)
- 19 [Rich Boggs](#)
- 21 [Margaret Hofland](#)
- 23 [Elaine Tomkinson](#)
- 24 [Kim Brewster](#)
- 24 [Nicolas Hoffman](#)
- 24 [Amy Millard](#)
- 26 [Kent Balch](#)
- 26 [Jacob Frease](#)
- 27 [Patty Nelson](#)
- 27 [Daniel Ward](#)
- 28 [Marian Wilmer](#)
- 29 [Bart Engram](#)
- 29 [Lloyd Prince](#)
- 30 [David Hunter](#)
- 30 [Denton King](#)



## MPC Kindness Rocks! Project and Scavenger Hunt

All are invited to join the fun! The MPC Kids are excited to share a new project with the MPC congregation and our community as we participate in the Kindness Rocks project, a nationwide movement to spread kindness and inspiration. The project will begin Monday, June 1st (and runs through the end of the month). Click [here](#) to see how MPC is making the project our own and to join us in the Kindness Rocks Scavenger Hunt!



With bittersweet emotions we share that God is calling our esteemed MPP director Melinda Sandkam forth from our community to further education and future service in a new capacity. Melinda has faithfully served the children of Morningside for over a decade. She served as the Director of MPP for the last five years and as the Director of Christian Education for 10 years before that. We are eternally grateful for her ministry and are excited to support her as she has been accepted into a graduate program for Library and Information Sciences and will pursue her degree full-time starting this fall. She will continue to serve the MPP community until August 7 and we look forward to celebrating her work and ministry later this summer.

### MPP Teacher Position Openings

Morningside Presbyterian Preschool is seeking to fill two Lead Teacher positions for next school year.

Click [here](#) for more info!

Click [here](#) to learn more about MPP's Search Committee

To send a birthday email - click a name! A child's name will link to his or her parent's email address.





## CURRENT EVENTS

### The Matthew 25 Invitation

“The church never closed, and worship never stopped,” she said. “Worship literally means ‘to bow down.’ It is a lifestyle, and most worship takes place in the ordinary. I am excited about churches losing their life and gaining it...They are rediscovering what it means to be an authentic believer and follower of Christ, which should challenge us every day.”

Click [here](#) to read the Rev. Dr. Dianne Moffett’s thoughts on the church as a balm to a hurting world.

# SAFELY RETURNING TO WORSHIP AND BEING TOGETHER

A Plan to Reopen Morningside Presbyterian Church and Preschool



WORSHIP TOGETHER | SERVE TOGETHER | GROW TOGETHER | BE TOGETHER

Informed by both the CDC and the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, MPC’s COVID-19 Response Team is working to get us back together!

The team is developing and preparing plans to reopen the church building. The plan will proceed cautiously and will, likely, involve three phases, but please know that we are having these discussions and making these plans.

We cannot wait to be (safely & responsibly) back together!

We are grateful for the work of the entire team — and particularly for the wisdom of Michael Lowry, Tamara Nix, and Whitney Warren. If you have questions, please contact [Tamara](#).

Dear members and friends of Morningside Presbyterian Church,

Yesterday we marked Pentecost with joy, celebration, and hope for the ways the Spirit is calling us new forms of neighborly compassion. Yet alongside that joyful day when the Spirit offered breath to the church, we cannot help but also hear the echo of George Floyd’s cry “I can’t breathe.” And so, we cannot proceed faithfully as a church without naming the brokenness of our systems and ourselves that perpetuate racial injustice and harm to black and brown bodies.

On Pentecost, the Spirit gave voice to the great diversity of people gathered not so that they could all agree but so that we could *listen* to voices long silenced and *understand* one another with deeper compassion and love. Many of you are wondering how to respond to the violence in our city and the racial injustices in our country. So in the Spirit of Pentecost, we would like to invite you to begin by *listening* and *learning* together.

For those looking to take action today, you are invited to participate in the 21-Day Race Equity Challenge. Our brothers and sisters at Myers Park Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, NC have curated resources to **read, listen, watch, and reflect** on issues of racial equity from voices and perspectives that have long been silenced. To sign up, simply click on the link [here](#). As the 21-day challenge concludes, we will offer multiple settings to reflect in small groups as a Morningside community (whether virtually or socially-distanced) and pray fervently about where God is calling us next.

This work is not easy. It begins with confession of our own complicity in systemic racism and requires us to confront difficult truths and sins in our own lives. But we do not engage in this work without hope. As Presbyterians, we are called to confess not simply to feel guilty but that Christ might transform our hearts through the work of forgiveness and reconciliation and move us toward deeper, more loving, neighborly compassion.

With deep hope,

Rev. Katie Owen Aumann & Rev. Emma Neishloss



## InTown Collaborative Ministries

MPC Mission Outreach partner, Intown Collaborative Ministries, saw a dip in donations at the beginning of the month, the cause likely due to unemployment, disability, and social security checks, but those numbers are quickly bouncing back thanks to donations from people like you. ICM is working on gathering concrete data of new visitors to the pantry since March. The early data suggests that more than half of those who have accessed the pantry in the last two months have never utilized a food bank before, which equates to three times the amount of food distributed before the pandemic. Intown's homeless outreach team has deployed in two phases during this emergency to educate and test our neighbors experiencing homelessness. Intown has helped to distribute over 3,000 bottles of hand sanitizer throughout unsheltered communities and is assisting in COVID screening and hosting testing sites with partner agencies. Individuals who test positive are being transported to a hotel for shelter. Those who test negative and are considered high-risk have the opportunity to be placed in a second hotel specifically for isolating healthy but high-risk individuals. ICM has assisted with over 50 people moving in to the COVID-19 negative hotel. Through partnerships with the City of Atlanta and other non-profits in the community, people who are staying at that hotel have access to case management with a goal of having them move in to their own homes within 90 days. No one should have to move out of the hotel back in to an experience of homelessness.

From Director Brad Schweers, "Looking for a way to help our neighbors experiencing homelessness and hunger? A [donation](#) of items needed to stock the new home of a client moving off the streets can help an individual feel right at home! Shop online using our Amazon Wish List or Dollar Tree Wish List and items will ship directly to our office."

Many thanks to those donated over \$1250 to ICM via the [Realm app](#) or on the MPC website! However, the financial need is still critical as the number of clients continues to rise as more people lose their jobs. Click [here](#) to give through MPC!



Pastor Katie is here and she can't wait to get to know you! [Log in to Realm](#) and update your profile with pictures of yourself and your family. Make sure your contact information is up-to-date! Make sure to include your birthday! Double-check your privacy settings so other MPC members can reach out to you, as well! Since we still can't be together in person, make sure that your faith family can still connect with you!

Click [here](#) for updates on all our ministry partners!

# Serve Together



## Amani Women's Center

MPC Mission outreach, Memorial Drive Ministries, partners with the Amani Women's Center. Amani Women Center (AWC) educates and empowers both refugee and immigrant African communities in Clarkston and the Atlanta metro area. Amani's global initiative includes artisans and partners in West Africa, East Africa, Central Africa, and South Africa. Amani is "Stitching Lives Together" through wrap-around services – workforce development, health, domestic violence services, financial literacy, nutrition, hygiene workshops, navigation of social services, civic engagement, youth programming, multi-media, and creative arts all through training and workshops. Amani believes in a holistic approach to ensure that refugee women and youth have improved well-being and are able to be productive members of their families and the community. Amani is making and selling beautiful 100% cotton fabric masks following Emory Healthcare Guidelines. Click [here](#) to order your masks!



## Global Growers Network

Global Growers Network, an outreach of Memorial Drive Ministries, partners with people from diverse cultures who grow fresh food for their families and for local marketplaces. Global Growers is proud to offer fresh veggies grown right in Decatur through a safe, no-contact order and pickup system. Let's Eat Well, Stay Safe, and Do Good! Place your order online from Thursday 9 am to Friday 5 pm. Pick up your order at our Umurima Farm (121 Sams St., Decatur) on Saturdays from 9-11 am. Click [here](#) to order.

