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Church Office Hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

April 2008 Worship at Morningside

Sunday, April 6, 11 a.m.

Sermon: "Heartburn"

Text: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19;

Luke 24:13-35

Joanna Adams preaching

The sacrament of communion will be celebrated.

A Summons to Faith, Hope and Love

"And now abideth faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love." I Corinthians 13:13

A Three-Sermon Series by Joanna Adams

Sunday, April 13, 11 a.m.

Sermon: I. "Faith: The Conviction of Things Not Seen"

Text: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-10

Joanna Adams preaching

Earth Sunday, April 20, 11 a.m.

Sermon: "An Alliance for Faith"

Text: Psalm 24; Luke 16:1-9

Joanna Adams preaching

New Member Sunday

A Summons to Faith, Hope and Love

A Three-Sermon Series by Joanna Adams

Sunday, April 27, 11 a.m.

Sermon: II. "Hope Has Two Daughters"

Text: Romans 8:18-25

Joanna Adams preaching



Dear Friends,

I am often asked by friends around the city, "How are things at Morningside?"

"Things are wonderful at Morningside," I unfailingly reply, and I mean it. Signs of vitality are visible around here every day of the week.

- The west parking lot is a beehive of activity on weekday mornings as parents bring their children to preschool, often stopping to chat with one another and always being warmly greeted by Preschool Director Martha Hartzell and teachers.
- Every evening, gatherings take place all over the building. Everyone – from the Mandolin Society to the Morningside Lenox Park Association - is welcome here.
- The Fellowship Hall is one happy place after church on Sunday, as people enjoy munching on tasty tidbits and visiting with one another.
- The Narthex hums before church on Sunday, as members, visitors, ushers, and greeters speak to

one another, then enter the Sanctuary with a genuine of anticipation for the worship hour ahead.

I say things are wonderful at Morningside, not because we are perfect by any measure, but because this is a place where a spirit of hospitality is at the core of who we are and all we do. Diana Butler Bass writes, "Christians welcome strangers as we ourselves have been welcomed into God through the love of Jesus Christ." Amen!

It is amazing to realize that two-thirds of our members have joined in the past three years. All of us, new members and long-time Morningsiders, are being woven by God into a beautiful variegated fabric of belonging! Some of us have never been a part of a church before. Others come from faith backgrounds that were strict and punitive; others were well-nurtured by the church from the cradle roll on. Now, we are "no longer strangers...but citizens of the saints and also members of the household of God." (Ephesians 2:19)

Authentic community is, I believe, one of the ways the world is changed into God's peaceable kingdom.

I like being in this place with you!

Your friend in Christ,

Joanna



Elders on Call for April

Apr. 6-12	Lucy Enniss
Apr. 13-19	Carolyn Morton
Apr. 20-26	Bill Southwood
Apr. 27-May 3	Chip Edgerton

Deacons on Call for April

Apr. 6-12	Bradley Odom
Apr. 13-19	James Klotz
Apr. 20-26	Nancy Collins
Apr. 27-May 3	Collier Maxwell

Children's Choir Director to Be Celebrated May 4

When the Morningside Children's Choir opens our worship May 4 with song, it will be a poignant moment for their director, Sandra Crawford. This will be her last "hallelujah" as she retires from leading the Children's Choir, which she has directed for the past 18 years.

Sandra will be guest of honor after worship that Sunday in Fellowship Hall. She and husband Bill relocated from Atlanta to Warrenton GA, more than 100 miles away and finds the commute to attend the children's rehearsals and special events cuts severely into her time to en-

joy her "life in the country." She will continue to employ her soprano voice in the Chancel Choir, in which she's sung for 21 years.

Choir Director Walter Huff notes, "We are now at the highest enrollment (21) since Sandra's appointment. Having sung in a choir myself since the age of five, I believe this experience is invaluable in the life lessons that can be learned—group discipline and respect, confidence, and consistent practice—not only to sing well, but to offer our voices in God's name."

Youth Intern Working on Confirmation Plans

Our youth intern, Rebekah Diehl, has been reviewing curriculum and communicating with families whose children have not been confirmed to get plans in place for confirmation in the 2008-09 school year. There

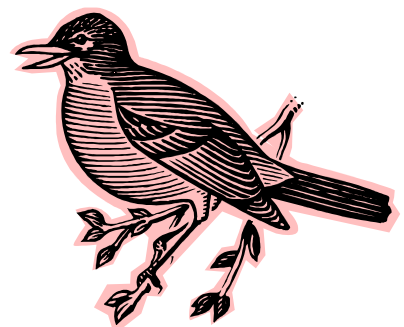
will be a meeting at the end of April to look at options and talk about the details. If you need more information, please contact Rebekah at Rebekah.diehl@gmail.com.

Morningside Milestones

- Thanks to everyone whose tributes and memorials helped beautify our Sanctuary during this blessed time and especial thanks to Guerry Mashburn and Linda Jenkins who spearheaded the Flower Guild's efforts to make our Easter worship service visually lovely.
- Welcome to Sawyer Barnette, who joined parents Will and Anne and brother Mac on Mar. 10.
- We share our Christian sympathy with our Associate Pastor Chris Henry on the death of his grandfather, Roy Henry, in Pennsylvania, also Mar. 10.
- Our most recent group of new members includes Tim Gargis, Mike and Cathie Gay, Mark and Mary Johnson and Jim and Suzanne Walker. Mike fulfilled an ancient tradition by participating in the sacrament of baptism on Easter Sunday. Welcome these new Morningsiders and their children to our fellowship!

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

3 Robert Bartis	13 Greg Johnson	23 Jesse Neill
4 Henry Jonas	13 Brent Mooneyham	24 Rebecca Holmes
6 Joe Ballay	14 Amy Santy	25 Caroline Tanner
6 Emma Christopher	16 Bryson Hankinson	26 Ruth Wells
7 Michael Perez	20 Isabella Perez	28 Alan Bremer
9 Austin Davis	20 Georgia Corbett	29 Walter Huff
12 Hope Bothwell	22 Sue Ballay	29 Ann Bowers
	22 William (Liam) Harris	30 David Fairleigh
	23 John Fillyaw	30 Marta Ringenberg
	23 Chip Edgerton	



MPC Delivers ‘Hope with a Hammer’

Many American corporations sponsor expensive ‘team-building exercises’ to foster cooperation and bonding among its groups. Morningside Presbyterian offers team-building at little or no cost plus great benefit to our community not found while completing the average “ropes course.”

Our Pearlington MS home-building team, 10 strong, came back energized by their service to that hurricane-ravaged Gulf town. “When we arrived, all I could see was the amount of terrible devastation left even more than two years after Katrina—it looked hopeless,” says volunteer Peter Cobb. “But by the end of the week I could see progress and how the people there could live and work with hope for their community’s future.” Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has been organizing work missions on site for more than two years and forecasts the rebuilding effort will last another five years. Team leader Richard Brownlee and returning volunteer John Watson noted progress—mountains of debris removed from the beaches and many townspeople living in temporary cottages instead of trailers. While more experienced builders such as David Cox

took on plumbing and electrical work, everyone found plenty of hands-on work, constructing, painting or cooking for the crews.

The same challenges face willing workers closer to home as MPC joins with First and Northwest Presbyterian churches, our neighbors from Haygood Methodist and Sacred Heart Catholic Church to build a home for Diane Jones and her family under the auspices of Habitat for Humanity. The new homeowner works for the City of Atlanta and has a teenaged daughter and a need to care for her aging mother.

Saturday builds kick off at 8 a.m. and run until 4 p.m., Apr. 5 through May 17. We need to provide 10 builders each week and provide lunch for all on Apr. 12. Signup sheets are outside the Session Room or contact our coordinators, Lynsley Tyler lynley@bellsouth.net or Chip Edgerton edgertons@mindspring.com. A few Saturdays even have themes to help build like-minded teams within our congregation, although all participants are welcome on any Saturday.

‘Care of Creation’ Themes April Activities

In line with the annual Earth Day observance, several April events offer opportunities to show our commitment to caring for God’s gift of creation. Apr. 3’s Community Forum at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall offers two speakers on the question “Is Nature Ours?” Rabbi Hillel Norry of Congregation Shearith Israel and Professor Mark Douglas of Columbia Theological Seminary will present a Jewish-Christian dialog.

On Apr. 5, Morningside’s participation in the first city-wide Presbyterian Day of Service will get us in touch with our “roots,” as we refresh the landscaping at Clifton Sanctuary Ministries from 9 a.m. until noon. Sign up in the Narthex or contact Chris Henry.

Our Environmental Action Committee, chaired by Sarah Tomaka, will be working with Georgia Interfaith Power and Light (GIPL), the Property Committee and

Facilities Manager Ray McCullough to conduct an energy audit of our building. This is an important preparatory step not only to identify opportunities to improve our energy efficiency but also for a subcommittee working on writing a grant for GIPL funds to help complete *A Time of Promise*.

A new opportunity to recycle alkaline batteries, electronics and cardboard is being offered by Grady High School, Keep Atlanta Beautiful and Midtown Neighbors’ Association the third Saturday of every month from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Look for the big Georgia E Waste recycle truck in the Grady High parking lot off 8th St. Almost everything is accepted except car batteries, furniture, household appliances, smoke detectors and lamps/light fixtures. Apr. 19, the day before our Earth Day worship, is this month’s e-waste date.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group; Weight Watchers 7:30 p.m. MLPA Zoning	2 9:15 a.m. Women's Bible Study 5:45 p.m. Family Dinner 6:30 p.m. Children's Choir 7 p.m. Small Group Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir; Venture Crew	3 Deadline to order <i>Godspell</i> tickets 7 p.m. Community Forum 7:30 p.m. MLPA Public Safety	4 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Pre-school in Fellowship Hall	5 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Habitat Build 9 a.m.-12 noon Presbyterian Day of Service 8:15 a.m. Weight Watchers 9:30 a.m. Weight Watchers 10:30 a.m. Atlanta Opera Chorus
6 9:45 a.m. Church School Classes 11 a.m. Worship; Communion 12 noon Fellowship 6:30 p.m. Atlanta Opera Chorus	7 7 p.m. Mandolin Society 7:30 p.m. Nicotine Anon	8 10 a.m. Common Ground 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group; Weight Watchers 7:30 p.m. MLPA Zoning	9 12 noon Senior Luncheon 7 p.m. Small Group Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir; Venture Crew	10 7 p.m. Finance committee; Atlanta Opera Chorus	11	12 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Habitat Build MCP provides lunch for Habitat Build 8:15 a.m. Weight Watchers 9:30 a.m. Weight Watchers
	Preschool out for Spring Break					
13 9:45 a.m. Church School Classes 11 a.m. Worship 12 noon Fellowship 1:30 p.m. RHO Readers 6:15 p.m. Druid Hills dinner 6:30 p.m. Atlanta Opera Chorus	14 7 p.m. Mandolin Society; MLPA 7:30 p.m. Nicotine Anon	15 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group; Weight Watchers; Preschool committee	16 12 noon Preschool (FH) 5:45 p.m. Family Dinner 6:30 p.m. Children's Choir 7 p.m. Small Group Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir; Venture Crew	17 6 p.m. New Member family dinner	18 Newsletter Deadline 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Pre-school in Fellowship Hall	19 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Habitat Build 8:15 a.m. Weight Watchers 9:30 a.m. Weight Watchers 10 a.m. Preschool Spring Fling
				Spring Fling Set-up in Fellowship Hall		
20 Earth Sunday 9:45 a.m. Church School Classes 11 a.m. Worship; New Member Sunday 12 noon Fellowship 12:30 p.m. Confirmation meeting 2 p.m. Guitar Atlanta	21 6 p.m. Human Resources 7 p.m. Session; Mandolin Society 7:30 p.m. Nicotine Anon	22 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group; Weight Watchers 7 p.m. Theology on Tap	23 5:45 p.m. Family Dinner 6:30 p.m. Children's Choir 7 p.m. Small Group Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Venture Crew	24	25 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Pre-school in Fellowship Hall	26 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Habitat Build 8:15 a.m. Weight Watchers 9:30 a.m. Weight Watchers
27 9:45 a.m. Church School Classes 11 a.m. Worship 12 noon Fellowship; Playground Picnic 12:15 p.m. Deacons 5 p.m. Men's Social	28 6:30 p.m. Women's Roundtable 6:45 p.m. Parliamentarians 7 p.m. Mandolin Society 7:30 p.m. Nicotine Anon	29 6:30 p.m. Prayer Group; Weight Watchers	30 5:45 p.m. Family Dinner 6:30 p.m. Children's Choir 7 p.m. Small Group Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir; Venture Crew			

Up and Coming

Two Studies To Deepen Faith Through Bible Reading

"How do Presbyterians read the Bible?" A good question, and one that will be explored two Sundays, Mar. 30 and Apr. 6, between 9:45 and 10:45 a.m. Do we take God's Word literally? What role does scripture play in our worship, mission, and ministry? The *Exploring the Book* class will discuss the role of the Bible in our Presbyterian theology and worship led by Associate Pastor Chris Henry in the New Morningside Room (107).

If you are a new Presbyterian, you will especially be interested in this short series. No experience or knowledge required, simply bring yourself!

On the other hand, answering a call for even deeper Biblical understanding, a small-group study kicks off Apr. 2, meeting for eight consecutive Wednesday evenings in members' homes to explore New Testament writings. To join and to receive the text, contact Chris.

April 3 Deadline To Order 'Godspell' Tix

If you've been meaning to reserve your ticket "Day by Day" to MPC's group outing to Theatrical Outfit's production of the 1970 hit musical "Godspell," you have just a few days to get your check in to the office. Write

your \$24 checks to MPC with a "Godspell" notation. The performance will be Sunday, May 4, at 2:30 p.m. at the Balzer Theater at Herren's, downtown. Refer questions to Betsy Holland.

Senior Luncheon Features Flowers—To Grow

We're 'cultivating' our senior members and friends with a new—and growing—monthly event. Seniors--those who consider themselves seniors—are welcomed to the New Morningside Room the second Wednesday of the month for luncheon (\$5) and a program. On

Apr. 9 the featured speaker will be the Flower Guild's Georgia Marshall who will talk about easy-care flowers and plants for small spaces. To reserve your spot, contact Leslie Prince at 770 377.0027 or qccleslie@aol.com.

Time to 'Fling' Up Our Heels with MPP

Morningside Presbyterian Preschool's fourth-annual Spring Fling invites everyone for a fun frolic for all ages Apr. 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the church parking lots. Parents and grandparents can treat their families to pony rides, a petting zoo, a train ride, and many more activities perfect for young children.

Musical entertainment will highlight Goatville Jam, the country band so popular at last fall's Time & Talent Fair, led by Wade Medlock (husband of our office administrator Sherrill Terry), in the morning and a DJ will lead dancing in the afternoon. The MPP promises lots to eat and lots to do.

'Meet at Marketplace' Sign-up For VBS

The village well and other components at the heart of a town Jesus might have visited will provide the setting for this year's Vacation Bible School, June 23-27. Registration deadline is May 4. Forms are available at the church and on the website. All children ages 3 years old by May 31 through 5th grade are welcome - friends and neighbors, too.

Program Director Melinda Sandkam reminds, "We need the support of the congregation to make this great

event happen, so watch for a range of opportunities to participate. You may be able to take on a leadership role such as registration or snacks coordinator; you may be excited to join us one or five mornings during the week, or to donate items that will help share our 'Jesus is' messages through the marketplace environment." Reach her at 404 876.7396 x 15 or msandkam@morningsidepc.org today to join the crew.

Your Session at Work: March 17 Meeting

- **Joanna Adams**, on behalf of **Greg Morton** and **Ray McCullough**, updated the *A Time of Promise* building plan. We're still waiting for necessary building permits. An expediter is helping advance the process. As Greg and Ray continue to ride herd on the permitting process, we still hope to complete construction by Sept. 1.
- **Kathy Bremer** presented the executive summary of Vision 2012, Moving Forward in Faith, the church's new draft strategic plan. The Session offered comments. Final approval is scheduled for April. Prior to that time, standing committees with items on the plan need to review the document—for example, a plan priority is a second worship service, informal and in the afternoon or evening, which requires action from the Worship Committee.
- Representing the Preschool Committee, **Sarah Tomaka** distributed updated Morningside Preschool bylaws. The only new item was clarification of MPP's admission priority policy, which reads... Admission shall be given to applicants in the following order: 1) presently enrolled students; 2) siblings of presently enrolled students; 3) children of Morningside Presbyterian Church members; 4) the community at large. Sarah Tomaka moved that Session approve this policy; the motion passed by a majority vote.
- **Carolyn Morton**, Mission Committee chair, offered special thanks to **Richard Brownlee** for his leadership in organizing MPC's mission trip to Pearlinton, MS to aid families still suffering in the wake of hurricanes that hit the Gulf Coast in 2005.
- Sarah Tomaka, Environmental Action Committee chair, distributed a resolution for the Session's consideration for approval. The document consists of five points the church would commit to as part of a pledge to heal God's creation. She also noted the EAC is working on a new recycling plan.
- Children's enrollment in Sunday school is "blossoming," according to **Emilie Paille**, chair of the Christian Education Committee, especially among the three- and four-year-olds. Emilie also noted that more and more members are involved in children's Sunday school, teaching classes and otherwise assisting.
- **Bill Humphries**, chair of the Stewardship and Commitment Committee, emphasized that the committee this year will endeavor to make stewardship education a full-year exercise. This should help us all to better think of stewardship as a spiritual discipline and help keep the congregation more fully informed about the fiscal status of the church.
- **Chip Edgerton**, chair of the Community and Evangelism Committee, reported that we have added greeters, including members working outside to help with parking. **Cindy Humphries** is leading this effort, making ready use of a new set of walkie-talkies to improve communication.
- Joanna noted that the copper guttering on our church was stolen recently. Insurance will pay only for replacement with aluminum gutters and so that's what we will do. **Bill Southwood** noted that such theft has unfortunately become common.

Ruthlyn Newell
Clerk of Session



No Running, Just Our Scrapbookers Playing with Scissors

Morningside Presbyterian has collected more than 80 years' worth of history: photos, clippings, flyers, bulletins and other fascinating artifacts. Preserving these memories is the mission of a new volunteer group that meets on the third Saturday of each month—and welcomes you to join them.

Some of these materials are in old scrapbooks; some are loosely organized. The object is to protect the originals by transferring them to modern, acid-free scrapbooks and identifying as many of the events and participants as possible.

Deacon Nan Cunningham leads the cut-and-paste effort. "About eight of us got together in February and created two new scrapbooks out of quite a few piece-parts," she said. "Honestly, it's a lot of fun—like being in the first grade again without the performance pressure."

Nan pointed out that no experience is necessary and all materials and tools are provided. "Not only are we preserving the church's past, we're learning many of the stories behind the pictures, especially if Nell Roberts or Jeannette McClure is there. Plus, our scrapbookers are finding out how to preserve their family histories along the way."

The group meets in Fellowship Hall from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., followed by lunch for those who would like to enjoy a meal together. The next meeting will be Apr. 19. For more information, contact Nan at 404 873.6499.

Preschool Prepares For Summer Camp

Registration is open now for Morningside Presbyterian Preschool's summer camp, offering a different and fun emphasis from MPP's school-year offerings during four two-week sessions. Campers can attend any or all of the sessions, which are offered from 9:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. three days a week for two-year-olds and five days a week for threes, fours and fives.

Sessions start June 6, July 7, July 21 and Aug. 4, with a one-week break during Morningside Presbyterian's Vacation Bible School. To see the exciting activities planned each session for each age group, and to register for the sessions, which cost \$180 for twos and \$225 for all other ages, visit www.morningsidepc.org.