

# The Messenger

The Monthly Newsletter of  
Morningside Baptist Church  
Spartanburg, SC

We **Seek** a personal, life-changing relationship with God through prayer, engaging worship, and Bible teaching.  
We **Serve** others by modeling the love of Christ through missions and ministry involvement.  
We **Share** God's grace through genuine, loving fellowship and discipleship.

Morningside Baptist Church

August 2024

Volume 67

Number 8

## Calendar of Weekly Events

### Sundays

A Time for Prayer - 9:00 A.M.  
Infinite Mercy Rehearsal - 9:00 A.M.  
Coffee Fellowship - 9:30 A.M.  
Bible Study - 9:45 A.M.  
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - 10:35 A.M.  
Worship - 11:00 A.M.

### Mondays

### Tuesdays

Bicycle Ministry - 8:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.  
Staff Meeting - 11:00 A.M.  
Scouts - 6:30 P.M.

### Wednesdays

Infinite Mercy Rehearsal - 5:00 P.M.  
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - August 14, 28 -  
6:30 P.M.

### Thursdays

### Fridays

Prayer Warriors - 9:30 A.M.

## Additional August Events

- 4 Rev. Robert Mitchell Preaches - 11:00 A.M.  
Observance of The Lord's Supper  
Deacon Nominations  
Operation Christmas Child Packing Party - 12:00 P.M.
- 5 Beautiful Hats Bible Study - 11:00 A.M.
- 7 Back to School Prayer Walk - 6:00 P.M.
- 11 Children/Youth Promotion Sunday - 9:45 A.M.  
Blessing of the Backpacks  
Rev. Laura White Preaches - 11:00 A.M.  
Deacon Nominees Meet with Leaders - 12:00 P.M.  
Deacons' Meeting - 4:00 P.M.
- 12 Deadline to Accept or Decline Deacon Nomination
- 13 Stitchers and Sowers Ministry - 1:15 P.M.
- 15 Prayer Shawl Ministry - 10:30 A.M.  
Church Town Hall with Pastoral Candidate - 6:00 P.M.
- 18 Trial Sermon with Pastoral Candidate - 11:00 A.M.  
Church Vote
- 20 Stampin' Up - 10:00 A.M.
- 22 Hearts and Hands Crafters - 10:00 A.M.
- 25 Dr. Drew Hines Preaches - 11:00 A.M.  
Deacon Vote
- 26 Deacon Orientation - 5:30 p.m.  
Election of Officers - 6:30 P.M.

## Update from the Pastor Search Committee

Throughout the Lead Pastor search process, so many of you have prayed for the team members as we have sought God's Will for our church. Those prayers have been crucial to the entire process, and they bring us to this announcement.

The Lead Pastor Search Team, in conjunction with the Staff and Diaconate, announce the following schedule for meeting the candidate that we feel God, through His Holy Spirit's direction, has led to Morningside:

### Churchwide Town Hall

**Thursday, August 15 at 6:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall**

The congregation will meet the pastoral candidate. A time for questions will be provided.

### Trial Sermon by Our Pastoral Candidate

**Sunday, August 18 at 11:00 A.M. in the Sanctuary**

The congregation will vote immediately following the sermon.

We anxiously await the day when we can publicly introduce our candidate.  
Please continue to pray for these two special times in the life of our church.

Brian Alexander, Lynn Alexander, Kathy Covington, Cathy Godfrey, Malcom McClure, Butch Rhoads, and Jody Welch

# inside family



We will gather together for a time of corporate prayer at 6:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall. Then we will form groups of ten or more and travel to the following schools:

#### **Elementary Schools**

Pine Street  
Jesse Boyd  
E.P. Todd

#### **Middle and High Schools**

McCracken Middle  
Spartanburg High

Prayer guides will be available. Bring some money because after our time of prayer, we will meet for a summer fellowship at Bruster's Ice Cream.



We ask that all children and youth bring their backpacks to worship. During the service, we will have a special time of prayer for our students, teachers, and staff heading back to school for fall.



## **Sanctuary HVAC Update**

The Trane installation team completed the inspection of the Sanctuary for the installation of the new HVAC system on Monday, July 22. The unit, which has been ordered, has a lead time of ten weeks. Preliminary installation will begin in late September, and the projected completion time is late October. We will continue to provide updates as they become available.



Don't forget! If you registered to help pack our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes, we will meet Sunday, August 4. We will enjoy a pizza lunch and then pack our boxes with the gifts we have been collecting this year! Who will get the pie in the face? Robert and Laura both might just get pied!



*If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him. John 12:26*

## **Deacon Election Cycle**

**Sunday, August 4**

Nomination Sunday

(May Nominate up to Fourteen Eligible Members)

**Sunday, August 11**

Nominee Meeting - 12:00 P.M. in Youth Room

**Monday, August 12**

Deadline to Accept or Decline Nomination  
Turn in Digital Picture and Information Sheet

**Sunday, August 18**

Bio-sketches of Nominees Available at  
Entrances to the Sanctuary

**Sunday, August 25**

Election of Fourteen Deacons

**Monday, August 26**

Orientation for Newly-elected Deacons - 5:30 P.M.  
Election of Officers - 6:30 P.M.

**Sunday, September 1**

Deacon Ordination and Commissioning - 11:00 A.M.



# inside music

## Summer Choir

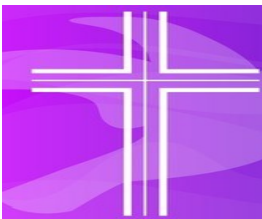
It is not too late to give singing in the Sanctuary

Choir a try. During the month of August, we will again observe a limited choir practice schedule that's both fun and energizing! What a great way to serve our Lord. We would love to have you sing with us!!

**Wednesday Choir Rehearsals**  
**August 14, 28                      6:30 P.M.**



## What Is the Most Important Part of Worship?



Is it praise songs? No. Is it scripture reading or prayers? No. Is it the doxology...offertory...choir anthem...or sermon? No, no, no and no. The most important part of worship is ... worship.

Now, before you say that I'm engaging in "word salad," consider that "worship" is much more than any one of the individual elements of our services. It is more than praising God with our voices, or hands, or hearts. It is more than singing and listening to music, offering prayers, reading scripture, or preaching. Worship goes much deeper than that. Worship is immersing our whole being into glorifying the God who made us, who loves us, and who redeemed us from our own sin. It is putting aside every other concern or distraction and focusing solely on God.

We set aside time each Sunday morning to gather in God's house to engage in worship. Sure, we can worship God anywhere, but coming together is fashioned to bring us closer to Him.

When the opening strains of the prelude ring forth, we can reflect on familiar or stirring sacred tunes as we put aside the concerns of everyday and focus our hearts and minds on our Lord. We call on the Lord in prayer and invoke His Holy Spirit to be among us. We join in with Infinite Mercy and the Sanctuary Choir, lifting songs of praise and worship to our Lord as we joyfully celebrate God's blessings on us. We sing together as we have an opportunity to come to God when professing our faith, rededicating our lives, and becoming a church member. God has commanded us more than fifty times in His Word to sing.

We also bow to God in prayer, thanking Him for His blessings, asking Him to bless the gifts we return, and reflecting on God's grace.

*Continued at right*

# inside youth and children

CHILDREN AND YOUTH EVENT FOR GIRLS!

## GLITZ AND GLAM PARTY!

JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF GLAMOROUS FUN!

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 3**  
**NOON-3:00P.M.**  
**THE MAGNANTIS HOUSE**

Girls of all ages are invited to join in an afternoon filled with glamorous fun! We will enjoy a taco lunch, swim, and apply lots of glitz and glam during our time for manicures, pedicures, facials, styling hair, and applying makeup. Mothers of our girls are welcome to join in on the fun, too!

## PROMOTION SUNDAY

**August 11**

## Sunday School Promotion Day

During the last fifteen minutes of our Sunday School time, our children and youth will get the opportunity to visit and meet their new teachers and friends for the upcoming school year. The following Sunday, August 18, they will begin attending their new class.

## What Is the Most Important Part...?

We listen to God's Holy Word and hear it proclaimed in a sermon or message, guiding us in examination and application. During the charge to go forth from God's House, we sing a parting chorus. Finally, a stirring or inspirational postlude rings in our hearts as we go out into the world.

The most important part of worship? It is the act of worship itself. From beginning to end, may we let the elements of worship wash over us like healing and cleansing waters. May all elements anoint us and energize us to joyfully glorify God. And, may we be challenged to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to the lost world around us.

Grace and peace,  
Robert Mitchell, Worship Pastor

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Spartanburg, SC 29302

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Watch for more information about the following events in future publications.



**Wednesday,  
September 11  
3:00 - 7:00 P.M.**

Morningside will host a blood drive in the church parking lot.



## Pastors on Call

**August 2-4,  
16-18, 30-31**

**Laura White**  
828-447-2175

**August 9-11,  
23-25**

**Robert Mitchell**  
864-597-3966

## Thank You Notes for Your Prayers and Support Received from

*Ruth and Amy Dodds*

## Sympathy Extended to

... Ricky and Erin Heath and family in the death of Ricky's sister, Kay Bryant on July 23, 2024, in Waxahachie, Texas.

... Family and friends in the death of Doris Shurburt on July 15, 2024, in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

... Jerry Page and family in the death of his wife, Joyce, on July 26, 2024, in Spartanburg, South Carolina.



*Morningside*  
Baptist Church  
*Seeking, Serving, Sharing*

## Staff

Laura White, Associate Pastor (Ext. 4)..... lwhite@msidechurch.org  
Robert Mitchell, Worship Pastor (Ext.5)..... rmitchell@msidechurch.org  
Ricky Heath, Administrator..... rheath@msidechurch.org  
Paula Joye, Organist..... paulajoye@charter.net  
Gail Medlin, Pianist..... ggmedlin@outlook.com  
Jayne Belmont, Ministry Assistant (Ext. 1)..... jbelmont@msidechurch.org  
Kathy Green, Ministry Assistant (Ext. 2)..... kgreen@msidechurch.org  
Diah Henderson, Finance..... dhenderson@msidechurch.org

Ministers - All Members of the Congregation

## Now Is the Time to Get Involved!

Can you believe that our annual bazaar will be here in fewer than three months! Pull out those crowd-pleasing recipes, and find instructions for those one-of-a-kind crafts to create. Let's make this the best bazaar yet! Contact Gail Medlin or Debby Byars in the coming weeks if you plan to contribute to this missions effort.

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Office Hours: Monday - Thursday

8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.



## Mside Weekday Preschool

Ashley Searcy, Director

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