

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

February 2025

Volume 67

Number 2

Calendar of Weekly Events

Sundays

A Time for Prayer - 9:00 A.M.
Infinite Mercy Rehearsal - 9:00 A.M.
Coffee Fellowship - 9:15 A.M.
Bible Study - 9:30 A.M.
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - 10:35 A.M.
Worship - 11:00 A.M.
Clarion Sounds - 5:00 P.M.

Mondays

Golden Tones - 1:30 P.M.

Tuesdays

Bicycle Ministry - 8:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
Home School - 9:00 A.M.
Ladies' Bible Study - Part 2 - 10:00 A.M.
Staff Meeting - 1:00 P.M.
Scouts - 6:30 P.M.

Wednesdays

Infinite Mercy Rehearsal - 5:00 P.M.
Praise and Prayer - 6:00 P.M.
Biblical Round Table - 6:15 P.M.
Mside Youth - 6:15 - 7:30 P.M.
Kingdom Kids (Choir) - 6:15 - 6:45 P.M.
Journey Kids (Missions) - 6:45 - 7:30 P.M.
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - 7:00 P.M.

Thursdays

Good News Club at Pine Street Elementary - 2:30 P.M.

Fridays

Prayer Warriors - 9:30 A.M.

Additional Weekly Events

- 2 Scout Sunday
Scouting for Food Drive
Personnel Meeting - Following Worship
- 3 Beautiful Hats Bible Study - 11:00 A.M.
- 8 Scout Troop 11 Banquet and Training - 8:00 A.M.
- 9 Scouting for Food Drive
Men's Breakfast - 8:30 A.M.
Deacons' Meeting - 4:00 P.M.
- 12 Stitchers and Sowers - 1:15 P.M.
- 18 Stampin' Up - 10:00 A.M.
- 20 Prayer Shawl Ministry - 2:00 P.M.
- 22 Love the Church Workday - 9:00 A.M.
- 25 Joy of Missions - 12:00 P.M.

Monthly Donation List for Operation Christmas Child

March: puzzles, chalkboard and chalk, jump ropes, coloring books, playdough, stickers, books/picture books, sewing kits, fishing kits, card games

April: children's t-shirts (Sizes XS-L), shoes, sunglasses, small purses, hair accessories, hats/visors

May: dolls, soccer/football and pumps, small toys, stuffed animals, musical instruments, solar-powered flashlights

June: fun Band-Aids, eating utensils, collapsible water bottle or bowl, combs, brushes, nail clippers, bar soap

July-August: pencils (sharpened), pencil sharpeners, pens, crayons, markers, notebooks, scissors

September: tennis balls, bouncy balls, playing cards, frisbees (foldable ones), Legos, Slinky, yo-yos, cars, trucks, boats,

Save the Date of Sunday, October 27,
for Our Packing Party.



February Collection: Personal Care Items

comb, brush, toothbrush, nail clipper, lip balm,
bar soap, collapsible water bottle or bowl,
reusable utensil sets & fun band-aids

Collection boxes are labeled and located at the
sanctuary entrances and in the information hallway.

Words from Our Pastor

Research shows that only 9% of Americans who make New Year's resolutions complete them. Incredibly, 23% of those who set these new goals for the New Year quit by the end of the first week. By month's end that number rises to 43%. After factoring in that only three in ten people make resolutions, it means that only 2.7% of Americans find success in making a New Year's resolution.

So, how are you doing? Perhaps we should just stop making New Year's resolutions! Really, we should just quit. Well, kind of...

Two problems exist with the way most people make resolutions. First, our motivation is all wrapped around the new year and getting a fresh start. But we never truly make a fresh start. We come into the year with commitments, schedules, and habits from the previous year. We have little incentive for staying resolved to our goals. After all, tomorrow is just as good of a starting point as today. At least that is the reasoning we conjure when the goal provides any resistance.

Instead of finding motivation from the new year, we should find motivation from God. Colossians tells us that we should do everything as though it is for Jesus, not man (Col 3:17, 23-24). Elsewhere, Paul asserts that our bodies are to be living sacrifices (Rom 12:1-2). So our very lives—how we work, play, eat, talk, and treat others—is all part of our worship. We should be motivated to accomplish all goals to the best of our ability, not because we set some arbitrary objective but because it is an act of worship to our heavenly Father. Having the right motivation goes a long way, and Scripture is clear that God should be our motivation.

Second, our resolutions are typically based on achieving results rather than on establishing habits. Even if the stated goal is to work out three times a week, our actual desire is to drop twenty pounds. We lose the motivation to continue with our workout if we don't see results. Therefore, I have become a firm believer in setting routines instead of setting goals. Doing so makes me more focused on faithfulness and less on infatuation with the results. This realignment in thinking draws a parallel with the words of Paul in Galatians 6:9, "And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."

Perhaps you have already failed to meet your New Year's resolution. Maybe you never even made one. Regardless, start a new routine today. Be motivated by the fact that your growth brings glory to God. The outcomes are not yours to control, but the process is.

"The greatest spiritual work happens in the normal moments of domestic life."

Justin Whitmel Earley

Habits of the Household: Practicing the Story of God in Everyday Family Rhythms

In Christ,
Brandon Malone

Music Ministry

Calling All Who Love to Sing!

We are so excited about what God is doing in our church! If you have ever thought that you might enjoy singing with our Morningside Sanctuary Choir, this is a wonderful time to join us! We are always looking for new choir members, and the start of a new year is no better time to jump in and give it a try! You won't be signing up for a heavy commitment; you will just be committing to praise God with your voice. No experience is necessary. You don't even have to read music! Just have a willingness to share your voice, learn great songs, and express your love for the Lord.

I would like to warmly invite you to attend a regular practice on Wednesday evening at 7:00 P.M. in the Choir Room. If you love to sing and want to enrich our worship services with your voice, we would be delighted to have you.

Grace and peace,
Rev. Robert Mitchell
Worship Pastor



**Scout Troop 11
Asks for Your
Help in their
Annual Food
Drive,
February 2-9.**

Please bring non-perishable items and paper products to benefit TOTAL Ministries. Specific requests include

Vegetables: canned corn, beans, potatoes, peas

Canned Meat: chicken, ham, tuna

Other Items: pastas, sauces, oatmeal, mac-and-cheese, breakfast bars, Pop-Tarts, soups, peanut butter, and jelly

Paper Products: paper towels and toilet paper

Barrels will be located at the entrances to the Sanctuary and in the Welcome Center.



February 2

Morningside's Scouts will take an active role in the Worship Service by Presenting the Colors, leading the Pledges of Allegiance to the Christian and American Flags, offering the Invocation, and reading Scripture. Please welcome the Scout families who will be our guests.

inside family

PRAISE & PRAYER

Families, gather in the Sanctuary at 6:00 P.M. for corporate prayer and songs of praise before regular Wednesday night activities.

WE HOPE YOU WILL JOIN US FOR OUR
Biblical Round Table Talks
The Book of Hebrews
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT 6:15 P.M.
FOLLOWING PRAISE & PRAYER IN THE SANCTUARY



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Sunday, February 9
8:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall
Sponsored by Morningside Men's Ministry

Sign up in the Information Hallway by Wednesday, February 5, if you plan to attend.



Love the Church Workday

Saturday, February 22
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Lunch will be provided



inside students

MUSIC AND MISSIONS FOR KINDERGARTEN - 5TH GRADE



WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

6:15 P.M. - 6:45 P.M.
ROOM 102 CHILDREN'S WING



WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

6:45 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.
ROOM 104 CHILDREN'S WING

WISDOM FOR THE NEW YEAR

YOUTH MINISTRY WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
6:15 - 7:30 P.M. IN THE YOUTH ROOM

FEBRUARY 5: FRIENDSHIP

OUR FRIENDSHIPS SHAPE WHO WE BECOME

Upcoming Wednesday Night Youth Series



February 12: Known, Loved...HIS
The God who created the universe knows and loves us deeply, and we are His.

February 19: An Adopted Child of God
We give our hearts to Christ, we receive a new identity as children of God!

February 26: Forgiven & Changed
When we become God's children, we are forgiven and we forgive.

March 5: Those Who Hope
With our identity in Christ, we bring hope and light into a dark world.

Family Fun Day at Big Air Sunday, February 16



Pizza Lunch
after service in
Fellowship Hall

Big Air Jump Time
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Sign up with Laura by Sunday, February 9

SECOND \$25 CAMP PAYMENT DUE BY SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Please give all payments (checks payable to Morningside or cash) to Laura



CentriKid Children's Camp
June 9-13
Ridgecrest Conference Center NC



MFuge Youth Camp
July 14-18
Milligan University TN

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Mark Your
CALENDAR



*Dinner Banquet and
 Talent Show*

**Saturday, March 22
 6:00-8:00 P.M.**

Contact Laura if you want to be a part of
Morningside's Got Talent

Sympathy Extended to

... Tony and Flonnie Shaw and family in the death of their brother-in-law, Charles McDonald, on January 12, 2025, in Greenwood, South Carolina.

... John and Jean Donald and family in the death of John's sister-in-law, Gaynelle Donald, on January 13, 2025, in Cowpens, South Carolina.

Pastors on Call

January 31 - February 2, February 21-23
 Robert Mitchell, 864-597-3966

February 7-9, February 28 - March 2
 Laura White, 828-447-2175

February 14-16
 Brandon Malone, 404-861-1872

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

Martha Griffin
 Paula Joye
 Keith Sellers
 Spartanburg Soup Kitchen



Staff

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 Robert Mitchell, Worship Pastor (Ext.5) rmitchell@msidechurch.org
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 8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Mside Weekday Preschool

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