The Worship of God
at
Myers Park Baptist Church
Charlotte, North Carolina

The Ninth Sunday
after Pentecost

Rice Bowl

11 August 2019
10:00a
THE COMMUNITY GATHERS BEFORE GOD

Inspired by the bold and boundless hospitality of Jesus, we are “open to all,” which means we welcome and accept all people into the life of our Church without regard to race, gender, sexual orientation, age, economic status, political affiliation, physical or mental capacity, or religious belief. We believe that God’s call is given to all people, and we embrace the Spirit that continues to cross boundaries in order to unite the world.

Silent Meditation

“Tell us what the world has been to you in the dark places and in the light. Don’t tell us what to believe, what to fear. Show us belief’s wide skirt and the stitch that unravels fear’s caul.”

“You wanna fly, you got to give up the stuff that weighs you down.”

“The function of freedom is to free someone else.”

“Freeing yourself was one thing, claiming ownership of that freed self was another.”

“If you surrendered to the air, you could ride it.”

“At some point in life the world’s beauty becomes enough.”

― Toni Morrison

Ringing of the Angelus Bell

Prelude

“Suite Gothique: Prière à Notre-Dame” Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)

Call to Worship Jennifer Jennings

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Childcare is available for children ages birth through TK/K. Please meet our paid staff at the rugs. Worship kits for children are available in the Narthex.

*Opening Sentences

Leader: As we come to worship, let us leave all of our burdens behind.
People: Fearless, we come to the altar of mercy and love.
Leader: As we come to worship, may we open our hearts to experience the perfect love that casts out all of our fears.
People: Fearless, we come to the altar of mercy and love.
Leader: As we come to worship, may we come trusting God who cares for us.
People: Fearless, we come the altar of mercy and love.

*Procession and Opening of the Bible

“Come and Find the Quiet Center” BEACH SPRING

*Prayer of Invocation

*Please rise in body or in spirit.
THE PEOPLE CONFESS AND RECEIVE FORGIVENESS

The Kyrie Eleison

Invitation to Silent Confession

Prayer of Confession

God, we confess that we often let hopelessness have too much power over our lives.
In the face of crisis, our faith has frequently faltered.
In the midst of calamity, our fearlessness has faded.
In the presence of tribulation, our worry has weakened our ability to act justly.
Bring us back to you, O God.
Remind us of the unfailing treasure that is in your love and care for all of creation—
for if your grace is sufficient for the ravens and lilies,
your grace can be sufficient for us.
Embolden us, again. Revive our spirits.
Make us brave as we face the waves of injustice,
unafraid, unashamed, and unapologetic.

Assurance of Pardon

*The Canticle (Glory to God in the highest.)

*Passing of the Peace

Preschool children will leave with paid providers and may be picked up in Room 107
after Sermon TalkBack. Children in grades 1 - 5 are invited for a time of Children's Worship.
Please meet Jennifer Jennings at the door by the lectern. They will be downstairs in Room 3.
They may be picked up on the lectern side in the back of the Sanctuary after worship.

Welcome of Our Guests

If you are our guest today, please text “guest” to 474747 or fill out a guest card located
in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate during worship as your gift to us.
Jesus said to his disciples, “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will God clothe you—you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and God knows that you need them. Instead, strive for the kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is God’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those servants. “But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

Leader: For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Sermon Hymn
“Be Still, My Soul”

Rev. W. Benjamin Boswell

Time for Silent Reflection

THE CONGREGATION RESPONDS TO GOD’S WORD

Church at Prayer

Rev. Leigh Anne Hagerman

The Lord’s Prayer

Our God in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.
**Offertory**

*Mobile giving* is available – see page 7.

*Gifts of loose cash* in August will benefit Time Out Youth, which offers support, advocacy, and opportunities for personal development and social interaction to LGBTQ+ youth ages 11-20.

**Anthem**

“The Wilt Keep Them in Perfect Peace”

Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

**Anthem**

Thou wilt keep them in perfect peace whose minds are stayed on thee.
The darkness is no darkness with thee, but the night is as clear as the day.
The darkness and the light to thee are both alike.
God is light, and in God is no darkness at all.
O let my soul live, and it shall praise thee,
for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forevermore.

--Isaiah 26:3a, Psalm 139:11, 1 John 1:5b, Psalm 119:17a, and Matthew 6:13

**Rice Bowl**

*If you wish to help alleviate hunger in the world through the Rice Bowl Offering, come forward and place your contribution in the basket at the Chancel steps. The Rice Bowl Offering is designated for Hunger Relief: Loaves and Fishes (local) and Stop Hunger Now (international).*

**Presentation of Gifts**

As the Deacons move down the center aisle, the congregation is asked to stand.
This presentation to God enacts our self-offering and gratitude to God.

**Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures, here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**Prayer of Dedication**

Mia M. McClain

THE COMMUNITY IS SENT INTO THE WORLD FOR MINISTRY

**Procession into the World and Closing of the Bible**

“O Day of God, Draw Nigh”

ST. MICHAEL

**Benediction**

Rev. W. Benjamin Boswell

**Postlude**

“Suite Gothique: Menuet Gothique”

Léon Boëllmann

Following worship, all are invited to Sermon TalkBack in Heaton Hall.

Following worship, 3's and 4's and TK/K may be picked up in Room 107; children in grades 1-5 will be in the back of the sanctuary on the lectern side. There will be childcare for TalkBack in Room 107 for children of all ages.
Leading worship today with Rev. W. Benjamin Boswell, Senior Minister, are Rev. Leigh Anne Hagerman, Church Administrator, Mia M. McClain, Associate Minister, Jennifer Jennings, Children’s Ministry Intern, and Deb Steiner, member of the congregation.

The Chancel Choir leads worship through music with Dr. Matt Caine, Minister of Music and Worship, and John Richardson, Organist.

Today’s opening sentences were written by Jennifer Jennings, Children’s Ministry Intern.

The acolyte is Anne Judge.

The sound technician is Spencer Rackley.
The webcast technician is Van Wilson.

Flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Gus Lee Kerlin, Jr. by his family.

We give God thanks for the ministry of Belinda Geuss, Director of Through-the-Week School, who joined our staff on August 12, 2001.

We give God thanks for the work and ministry of Jennifer Jennings, Children’s Ministry Intern, who joined our staff this summer and is returning to Gardner-Webb University.
THEOLOGY OF WORSHIP

Why do we worship?
Worship at Myers Park Baptist is the gathering of a diverse, intergenerational, ecumenical community of faith, celebrating God’s active and timeless presence in the world. In worship, God re-forms our hearts, minds and bodies, and ignites our imaginations with sacred stories—stories that invite us to question, explore mystery, express joy and grief, and deepen our faith. We worship to learn how to develop caring, empowering relationships with each other, and to stay centered in God as the world swirls around us. We worship to be inspired and prepared to exemplify the compassion and justice of Jesus in our church family and in the world. Through worship, God frees and transforms us in heart, mind and body, so we can make a difference within ourselves, in our relationships and in our community.

How do we worship?
Focusing on God, worship at Myers Park Baptist unfolds consistently with the Isaiah 6 scriptural model: praise, confession, pardon, calling to respond, commitment and sending out. All our worship services are built on this ancient structural form, regardless of worship style, venue or theme. Communal practices within worship — radical hospitality, confession and assurance of pardon, passing the peace, silence and listening, spirited hymn singing, presentations of gifts, and active participation in Communion—transform worshipers into newness with God and one another. Themes for services, based on lectionary scriptures, annually portray the narrative arc of God’s redeeming love for humankind.

HOW TO JOIN MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Becoming a member of Myers Park Baptist is as easy as filling out a Joining Card. To receive a card or learn more, stop by the Welcome Table in the Narthex.

MOBILE GIVING

You can now text your contributions and offerings to MPBC! It is secure, simple, and efficient:
• Start a new text message to phone number 73256.
• In the message of the text, enter 1900Q, a space, and the amount you want to give (i.e., 1900Q 100).
• The system will return a message to you; click on the link provided and follow instructions.
• You will then receive a receipt to confirm your gift was received. It is that simple!
• Next time, since your setup is already done – just text “1900Q, a space, then amount you wish to give” to 73256.

Questions? Contact Rev. Leigh Anne Hagerman, Church Administrator, at 704.334.7232 x116 or lhagerman@myersparkbaptist.org
Welcome.
We’re glad you’re here.

If you are our guest, we’d love to hear from you! Please share with us a little about who you are:
- text “guest” to 474747 OR
- fill out a guest card located in the pew rack. Simply return the guest card in the offering plates during worship as your gift to us.

If you would like to learn more about us, stop by the Welcome Table in the Narthex after worship to speak with one of our members or ministers.

WEEKLY NEWS

PRIDE Weekend
Saturday, August 17 - Sunday, August 18, 2019

Sunday, August 18
The Tenth Sunday of Pentecost | PRIDE Sunday | Rev. W. Benjamin Boswell Preaching
"It's a Great Time to be Divided" | Luke 12:49-56

What is PRIDE? and How Are We Participating?
Since the 1970s, Charlotte has had a variety of PRIDE events at different locations around the city. In 2000, Charlotte PRIDE was officially organized; and since then, there have been events and programs to show support for the LGBTQ+ Community. This year we recognize the 50th Anniversary of the events that took place at the Stonewall Inn in Greenwich Village, New York City.

MPBC will again host a booth and march in the PRIDE Parade to show our support. You can take part by volunteering at the booth and/or marching in the parade. Make sure you wear your MPBC t-shirt so we can show the community who we are as a Church. If you haven't gotten one yet, contact Caroline Manning (cmanning@myersparkbaptist.org | 704.334.7232 x 115) to purchase one for $15.

The Saturday events begin at 11:00a and run until 6:00p. If you are thinking about marching with us on Sunday, you must register online through myMPBC to obtain details about arrival location. Be prepared to arrive no later than 11:45a.

For more information, visit our website or contact Nancy Walker (nanwalk7@icloud.com), Lewis Bozard (lewis.bozard@gmail.com), Mia McClain (mmcclain@myersparkbaptist.org) or Carrie Veal (cveal@myersparkbaptist.org).
We are looking for

**BLOCK PARTY VOLUNTEERS**

**Saturday, September 7 | Noon - 4:00p**

We are excited about our first-ever Block Party to kick off a new church year. And we need a few volunteers. We will have some swag (gifts) for everyone, games, and more. We are looking for volunteers to be greeters, swag table hosts, game hosts, and more. If this is something you are interested in, please contact Rev. Carrie Veal (cveal@myersparkbaptist.org | 704.334.7232 x 118).

**Room In The Inn (RITI) Supply Drive Begins at our Block Party**

The Ministry of Outreach is gearing up for our 24th season of RITI and we need your help! We are planning some renovations to our guest quarters and refilling our supplies. Collection will begin on Saturday, September 7 at our Start-Up Weekend Block Party. Listed below are some of the major items we need in order to provide a caring space for our neighbors. Please bring new items only.

For more information, contact Mia McClain at mmclain@myersparkbaptist.org.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bed Sheets (twin)</th>
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<td>Socks</td>
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**Awakening Shalom | PROUD THEOLOGY: a 4-part podcast series**

Does my sexuality separate me from God? Is there relevant God-talk that centers LGBTQ+ people?

On August 18, we will march as a people on a journey through the streets of Charlotte as we celebrate our PRIDE. In conjunction with that celebration, join Rev. Ben Boswell and Mia McClain as they embark on a conversational journey centered on Queer Theory and Queer Theology, rooted in groundbreaking publications that center the voices of queer-identifying theologians. This integrative dialogue will also highlight the 50th Anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, the Emmy Award-winning show, POSE, and other cultural and theological references.

Episode 1 is available now on ITunes and our website.

Relevant publications for your library:

- *Radical Love: An Introduction to Queer Theology*, written by Patrick S. Cheng, PhD, a pastor and theologian who offers us an excellent introduction to LGBTQ theology.
• Our Lives Matter: A Womanist Queer Theology, written by Pamela R. Lightsey, PhD, a contextual theologian who explores the impact of oppression against Black LGBTQ women.
• Queer Theology: Beyond Apologetics, written by Linn Marie Tonstad, PhD, a constructive theologian working at the intersection of systematic theology with feminist and queer theory.

**Town Hall Meetings**
The Board of Deacons would like to hear your thoughts about the "Reimagining Lay Leadership" proposal that was presented at the Congregational Meeting on June 2. We are offering two more one-hour Town Hall meetings. Both will be led by Marcy McClanahan. Childcare will be provided. We encourage you to sign up through myMPBC to attend either **Saturday, August 17** at 10:00a or **Wednesday, September 11** at 7:00p.

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**CHILDREN & YOUTH PROTECTION POLICY**

**Trainings: Sunday, August 18 at 8:30a | Sunday, September 1 at 8:30a**

We are encouraging all congregants of MPBC to attend a training of our Child and Youth Protection Policy. Even if you are not actively involved in the youth or children's ministries, all of us are called to protect the children and youth on our campus. We will have a series of trainings available in person and online. Sign up for one today through myMPBC. Questions? Contact Rev. Carrie Veal (cveal@myersparkbaptist.org | 704.334.7232 x 118).

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**IDENTITY CRISIS**

**EXAMINING OUR IDENTITY**

**Awakening Shalom Podcast Series: Identity Crisis**

Those who have listened to the series have shared how wonderful, educational, funny, informative, and thought provoking they found it to be. If you haven’t taken time to listen yet, please do! We think you will be glad that you did. The series includes conversation about topics like: Who are we? How are we communicating who we are? What does it mean to be Baptist? Do denominations even matter anymore? What's in a name? You can easily access it on your computer either through iTunes or the Church website.
We Don't Want You to Miss Out!
Have you signed up to receive emails and updates from the Church? Did you know that if you opt out of ONE email from us, you are not going to get ANY email from us? Maybe your email address changed and you forgot to let us know. We want to make sure that you are up-to-date on all that's happening, because we have lots to share throughout the new church year! Have a specific list you want to be on, contact Amy Jones (ajones@myersparkbaptist.org or 704.334.7232 x 126) and she will take care of it! We also hope you will follow us on social media - the links are available at the bottom of this email.

Volunteer Temporary Parking Permits
You may have noticed that the parking lot next to the Church Offices is now a "Permit Only" parking lot with the exception of a designated handicapped parking space. This applies Monday through Saturday. If you are coming to the Church, please use the other parking spaces around campus. If, however, you are coming to drop off items or are serving as a volunteer for an event that requires you to be able to unload/load several items from your car, please see Carol Cedar at the reception desk in the Church office to obtain a temporary parking pass to place on your dash board. We appreciate your cooperation.

LOOKING AHEAD

Awakening to Environmental Injustice | Launching September 22
Reconciling with the earth, Reconciling with each other, Reconciling with God
"The Lord God took Adam - made from the ground - and put him in the garden of Eden to serve, work, and worship the earth." Genesis 2:15

We are a people on a journey, and this fall, we eagerly invite you to join us on a voyage through an exploration of environmental injustices in our city, state, country, and beyond. From August 2019 to May 2020, we aim to explore how the mismanagement of natural and human-made resources are in direct relation to racism, class-ism, and disembodiment - how the misuse of our planet stems from a lack of seeing ourselves, our neighbors, and the earth as divine - sacred - holy. Find out more about the series on our website.

Save the date for this exciting event that will be part of our Awakening to Environmental Injustice series:
Awakening Now! Featuring "Little Miss Flint"
Saturday, November 2 | Noon - 3:00p
Join us this fall for our first ever intergenerational Awakening Forum, featuring Amariyanna "Mari" Copeny, popularly known as "Little Miss Flint." In early 2016, the then 8-year-old from Flint, Michigan wrote a letter to President Obama, describing the unending plight of her community, which had been living with lead-contaminated water since 2014. Since then, Mari has fundraised over $500,000 with the nonprofit organization, "Pack Your Back," that has impacted over 25,000 children in Flint and beyond. Come and engage with local environmental justice organizations and initiatives, and hear what "Little Miss Flint" has to say about the ongoing crisis and how young people can get involved in justice movements around the country. This event is free and open to the public. All ages are encouraged to attend.

Children's Ministry Faith Formation Training
Saturday, August 17 | 11:00a - 1:00p | Youth Hall
Curious if working with the children of our Church is for you? Then join our training on Saturday, August 17. Lunch will be provided. We will share the details of what being on this team is all about! Sign up now through myMPBC. To learn more, please contact Rev. Carrie Veal (cveal@myersparkbaptist.org | 704.334.7232 x 118).

SAFE SEMINAR
SEXUAL AWARENESS AND FAMILY EMPOWERMENT
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28
How did you learn about body image? Who told you the facts about life? Where was the church in all of this?

On September 27 and 28, we will host the SAFE Seminar, a workshop for parents, grandparents, educators, non-parents, all of us who are on this journey of faith together. The workshop is led by LeAnn Gardner, an ordained minister, a mom, a social worker, and a professional therapist. To get a sense of what you can expect visit our website to watch a short video where LeAnn shares how SAFE came about and why she is so passionate about the topic.

Cornwell Center Wellness Seminar: Just A Dash
Tuesday, August 20 | Noon - 12:30p | Cornwell Lounge
You will learn why your body only needs a dash of salt. Find out if there is too much salt in your body and what the symptoms are. How do you flush salt out of your body? What are the different types of salts and what effect do they have? Presenter: Humana Representative, John Vandervoot. This event is free.

Intergenerational Family Retreat
February 28 - March 1
We will be heading to the mountains for a weekend of sabbath and fellowship at Montreat Conference Center. We are excited to announce
that our retreat leader will be Rev. Dana Trent, author of Saffron Cross, For Sabbath's Sake, Dessert First, and One Breath at a Time. Mark the dates Friday, February 28 - Sunday, March 1 on your calendars and stay tuned - many details to come!

COMMUNITY SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

Hang Out with the Pastor
Tuesday, September 3 | 5:00p | The Common Market South End
Enjoy the Labor Day holiday on Monday, then join us for our monthly hang out on Tuesday, September 3. We will return to the first Monday of each month in October at 5:00p at The Common Market in South End at 235 W. Tremont Avenue. All are invited to this casual time of fellowship! Bring the family, bring your appetite, or just come and hang out. There is something for everyone. We hope to see you there.

Meditation With the Pastor
Wednesdays | 11:30a - Noon | Room 250
Rev. Ben Boswell will guide a weekly meditation on Wednesdays throughout the summer. This dedicated time begins with a word, poem, or insight pertaining to mindfulness, followed by peace, quiet, calm, clarity, and quite possibly a transformed life. Inhale, Exhale. Our lives rest in the balance of these simple actions. Come catch your breath with us.

Rituals and Relationships
School, work, sports, vacations, and more - our lives are full, and we are constantly moving. Taking time to talk can become challenging. Rituals and Relationships is designed to help families make space for this important time together. The topic for the week of August 12 will be "fasting (Jesus in the wilderness)." This session of Rituals and Relationships will be emailed to you, posted on the Children's Ministry Facebook Page, and the Children's Ministry website page. For more information, please contact Rev. Carrie Veal (cveal@myersparkbaptist.org | 704.334.7232 x 118).

Summer Youth Gatherings
This summer, we have fun opportunities to get together. MPBC youth are going to the Whitewater Center on August 13. Please check your inbox for an email from Allen Davis with details about this gathering and others. If you have any questions, please email him at adavis@myersparkbaptist.org.

Stephen Ministry Is Here For You
Are you feeling stressed, lonely or depressed? Do you need support? We are here to help. Contact Rev. Ben Boswell.

**SUNDAYS**

**Sunday, August 25**

The Eleventh Sunday of Pentecost || Rev. W. Benjamin Boswell Preaching


**Sermon TalkBack is Also Online!**

Note: In lieu of TalkBack on August 18, all are encouraged to join us at the PRIDE Parade. Details are listed above.

We continue our tradition of Sermon TalkBack following worship. We are excited to also offer online TalkBack. Rev. Ben Boswell will field questions from both those present in Heaton Hall and those who will be able to tune in online and send in their questions through the MPBC Facebook page. Our goal is to provide TalkBack to everyone who wishes to participate, even if they can't be onsite. So, join the conversations this summer!

**Summer Sunday Morning Yoga**

On Sunday mornings, a Yoga 1, 2 class will be offered at 9:00a in the Cornwell Center's Group Exercise Studio. This gentler, slower paced practice makes it more accessible for people of all sizes, ages, and fitness levels. It assists with stress management and restoration of the mind, body, and soul while creating an atmosphere of safety and comfort that fosters self-esteem and body awareness. Childcare is available in Room 107.

**Summer Choir - All Are Welcome!**

Summer is a great time for anyone who would like to give choir a try without making a commitment and for any who would love to sing throughout the year but are unable to do so to join us! Questions? Contact Matt Caine (mcaine@myesparkbaptist.org | 704.334.7232 x 158). We rehearse before worship on Sundays at 9:00a and the service begins at 10:00a in the Sanctuary.

**Children's Summer Worship**

This summer, our interns will lead children's worship on a rotation basis. Since a child's faith formation is paramount to any church, we want to give the interns as much exposure as possible. We will follow our usual worship liturgy with the children hearing different voices and experiencing different styles of leadership. Be sure you offer encouragement to our interns who are learning while teaching! Questions? Contact Rev. Carrie Veal (cveal@myesparkbaptist.org | 704.334.7232 x 118) or Jennifer Jennings (jjennings@myesparkbaptist.org | 704.334.7232 x 610).

**SCHEDULE**
Looking for Our Schedule of Activities and Meetings?
An always-current calendar is available on our website, through myMPBC, and on the ChurchLife App (find out how to get the app on the Communications page or our website).

CONGREGATIONAL JOYS AND CONCERNS

Please remember the following members of our congregation (as of Tuesday, August 6, 2019.)

PRESBYTERIAN/NOVANT

- Jerry Hoogenakker

DISCHARGED

- Mary Lou Buck

LOVE AND SYMPATHY TO

- Saxby and Elizabeth Chaplin on the death of his sister, Ann Chaplin McNinch, on July 27, 2019 in Charlotte, NC.

We rely on friends and relatives to keep us posted on hospitalizations, births and deaths.

If you know of any member not listed, please contact Carol Cedar
(704.334.7232 x 100 | ccedar@myersparkbaptist.org).
OUR COVENANT

We, the members of the Myers Park Baptist Church, are a people on a journey of faith. By God’s grace we are experiencing God’s love through Jesus Christ and in the community of the faithful. We are discovering in this experience our freedom to become new creatures and our responsibility to be faithful stewards of our lives and of this world.

We will be open to all new light, strengthened by God and each other in our faith. We will sustain a critical examination of Scripture, belief and ritual as interpreters of God’s active presence in the world. We will accept controversy as a reality of life together and an opportunity for growth toward maturity. We covenant to be a community of God’s new creation and affirm that we are open to all and closed to none.

We covenant to nurture this Church as a community of faith and as an instrument for reconciliation in this world: by worship, by Christian education, by the dedication of our personal and material resources and by all the other ways we express the significance of our lives with God and one another.

We covenant together to be priests celebrating God’s presence in community and in the world, believing we are participants in God’s kingdom on earth.

OUR MINISTERS

Rev. W. Benjamin Boswell | Senior Minister | bboswell@myersparkbaptist.org
Dr. Matt Caine | Minister of Music and Worship | mcaine@myersparkbaptist.org
Rev. Joseph D. Aldrich | Associate Minister | jaldrich@myersparkbaptist.org
Mia M. McClain | Associate Minister | mmclain@myersparkbaptist.org
Rev. Leigh Anne Hagerman | Church Administrator | lhagerman@myersparkbaptist.org
Rev. Carrie Veal | Minister of Children and Community Life | cveal@myersparkbaptist.org
John Richardson | Organist | jrichardson@myersparkbaptist.org
Charlotte C. Judge | Associate Director of Music | cjudge@myersparkbaptist.org
Allen Davis | Director of Youth Ministry | adavis@myersparkbaptist.org
Pamela Handon | Director of the Cornwell Center | phandon@cornwellcenter.org
Belinda Geuss | Director of Through-The-Week School | bgeuss@myersparkbaptist.org