

December 20, 2015

PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PC (USA)

Rev. S. J. Wilson, Pastor – cell: 404-642-0255

Pastor Wilson's Email: pastorppc@bellsouth.net – Church Office: 404-366-1851

Cindy Adair, Church Secretary: 404-366-1851; Prayer Requests & E-mail: secyppe@bellsouth.net

Weekday Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 8:00am - 2:30pm; Website: www.ppc-usa.org

Philadelphia Presbyterian Church

351 Morrow Road, Forest Park, Georgia 30297

404-366-1851

CHURCH STAFF

Alisa Kirk, Choir Director/Accompanist404-580-0329 Hal Banke, Sunday School Supt.770-471-9527
Darr Johnson, Treasurer770-478-7468 Diane Banke, Librarian706-636-3259

SESSION COMMITTEES – TEAMS

Administrative

Jennifer Rohrbach '15, Admin. Chair

Finance & Stewardship

Jim Phillips '17, Finance Chair
Darr Johnson, Treasurer

Christian Education & Fellowship

Mary "Pat" Smith '16, Member, Chair

Property Management/Memory Garden

Fred Rohrbach '17, Property Chair

Worship & Music Committee

Greg Durden, W&M Co-Chair
Debbie Durden, W&M Co-Chair

Clerk's Committee

Rick Pierce '16, Clerk's Comm. Chair

OutReach Team

Philippe Karka '16, Chair

OTHER COMMITTEES

Officers of the Corporation

Greg Durden, Chair
Darr Johnson, Corp. Treasurer
Rick Pierce '16, Corp. Secretary

Funeral Stewards

Fred Rohrbach '17, Chair

Cemetery Committee

Jim Phillips, Chair

Bereavement Committee

Barbara Barlow, Chair

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Debbie Bray, Co-Moderator
Evelyn Murdock, Co-Moderator
Kathie Pierce, Secretary/Treasurer
Jennifer Rohrbach, Historian
Connie McWilliams, Community Missions
Barbara Barlow, Worldwide Missions

Debbie Durden, Search
Pat Randolph, Spiritual Growth, Retreat
Connie McWilliams, Spiritual Growth, Poinsettias
Kathy Banke, Spiritual Growth, Advent
Carol Masdon, Spiritual Growth, Cantata

Frances Youngblood, Busy Bees Chair
Joyce Smith, Circle One Chair
Kathy Banke, Mary & Martha Chair

MISSION OUTREACH

Calvary Refuge Center*
Child's Fund (PW)*
Christmas Joy Offering***
Columbia Friendship Circle (PW)**
Good Shepherd Clinic*
Kinship Care Resource Center**
Local Benevolences (Pastor's Discretion)*

Mission Haven (PW)***
One Great Hour of Sharing (Easter)***
Presbyterian Homes***
PW Birthday Objective**
PW Blessing Boxes**
PW Least Coin**
PW Presbyterian Mission Pledge*

Samaritans Together for Clayton County*
Securus House (PW)***
Session & PW Misc. Benevolences*
Shared Mission - PC (USA)*
Souper Bowl of Caring**
The Gideons International**
Thank Offering (PW)*
Thornwell***

*Budgeted **Contributions from the Congregation ***Budgeted + Contributions from the Congregation



4th Sunday of Advent

Welcome

*“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”*

Luke 2:14

*Our vision is to be a light in the community
that brings all people to God through Christ-centered worship and ministry
and nurtures their faith in order to extend His kingdom.*

PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
351 MORROW ROAD, FOREST PARK, GA 30297, 404-366-1851

December 20, 2015

11:00 AM



4th Sunday of Advent

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Enter expectantly. Breathe prayerfully. Worship reverently. Greet others cordially. Leave thoughtfully.

In Gathering Around The Word

The Chiming of the Hour & The Choral Call to Worship

The Announcements and The Declaration “God is good – **all the time!**”

Fred Rohrbach

The Greeting and The Ritual of Friendship including signing of Pew Pads

Pulpit Assistant

The Gathering Song

Call to Worship

(based on Micah 5, Luke 1)

L: God has done great things for us!

P: **God’s love is heralded in the promise of Christ.**

L: Holy is God’s name!

P: **God’s promises are fulfilled in the coming of Christ.**

L: God’s mercy extends from generation to generation.

P: **God’s salvation is offered in the gift of Christ.**

Opening Prayer

(based on Micah 5, Luke 1)

M: Holy God, your prophet Micah foretold with faith that a new ruler would come forth from Bethlehem

P: **today we celebrate the fulfillment of your promise;**

M: your daughter Elizabeth proclaimed with faith that her cousin was to be the mother of her Lord—

P: **today we celebrate the fulfillment of your promise;**

M: your servant Mary proclaimed with faith that she would be called blessed by all generations—

P: **today we celebrate the fulfillment of your promise.**

M: Make us bold enough to proclaim with faith—

P: **the coming of your kingdom....the coming of your justice....the coming of your peace.**

M: May we sing out the good news of your salvation, trusting in fulfillment of your promises. All this we pray in the name of the one who comes. Amen.

The Lighting of the Angel CandleRick Pierce family & Chris and Mallory Banke

The Scripture Reading Luke 2:8-14

*The Hymn of Praise # 270“Joy to the World”

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

(based on Micah 5, Luke 1)

Loving God, even in the midst of this season of goodwill, there is much to confess. In spite of holiday cheer, we are filled with stress and anxiety. The reason for the season fades us as we focus on cooking, cleaning, decorating, parties, family gatherings and lists that are way too long. We barely think about your reordered world—a world where the lowly are lifted up and the hungry are filled with good things. Help us adjust our Christmas priorities, that we might join with you, O God, in preparing a world that welcomes the one who brings us peace. Remind us of the vows taken at the time of our baptism so that, like Mary, we will bring forth Good News into the world.

Words of Assurance

The ancient promises of God are fulfilled. God does not forget us. God’s mercy extends from generation to generation. Let our souls rejoice in God!

Sacrament of Baptism for Kaya Daniela Yusufji

In Prayers to God

The Contemplation of God through Silence and Prayer

Prayers of Intercession & The Lord’s Prayer.....forgive us our debts, as forgive our debtors

*Congregational Hymn # 601.....”Yes, Lord, Yes”

In Stewardship Of All Things

The Worship of God with Our Gifts and Offerings unto the Lord

The Offertory

*The Doxology (#815)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below;
praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

In Proclaiming The Word

Anthem

Scriptures: . . . Micah 5:2-5a (OT-820) . . . Hebrews 10:5-10 (NT 208) . . . Luke 1:39-55 (NT 54)

Pastor: Holy Wisdom Holy Word. **PEOPLE:** Thanks be to God.

The Sermon **MARY’S SONG** **Pastor Wilson**
Response to the Word **A Prayer for Children** (insert)

Following the Word Into the World

*Closing Hymn #244 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

*Charge, Benediction & Postlude

PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, December 20, 2015

WELCOME! We hope your worship today will be meaningful. We encourage you to participate in all aspects of our congregational life, and invite you to become part of our Christian family. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to join with us.

FRIENDSHIP PAD – Please complete the Friendship Pad and pass it toward the center aisle. Visitors are asked to provide an address and phone number.

MEMBERSHIP – Please speak with an Elder or the Pastor if you would like to receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior or if you would like to become a member of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church.

I WISH CARDS - PPC is a praying church and a caring church. We welcome your thoughts, comments and prayer requests on the blue cards. You may drop them in the offering plate when it is passed. If you provide your contact information the pastor will be happy to visit or pray with you.

\$ 2016 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE: Please pick yours up in the narthex during December. \$

THIS WEEK AT PHILADELPHIA

TODAY **8:30am - Session**
09:00am – Pastor’s Bible Study
09:30am – Sunday School
11:00am – Worship Service
07:00pm – Christmas Cantata w/Cookie Reception

Thursday 07:00pm – Christmas Eve Service

Next Sunday **11:00am – Casual Worship Song Service**

PLEASE NOTE: The church office will be closed from December 23 thru December 31 for the Christmas holidays. Should you need to get in touch with anyone, please call and leave a message.

OUR MISSION: To exhibit the kingdom of God to our community by being a witness to everyone who is within our reach that Jesus Christ is LORD. To proclaim the gospel by telling the good news of Jesus Christ while equipping all who will to be evangelist so the church will grow. To provide for the worship of God through traditional Sunday morning worship and offer alternative times and styles of worship to the community. To promote the ministry of compassion by providing opportunities for ministry and encouraging others to seek God’s call for compassionate service. To preserve the truth of God’s word by defending the faith against any deviation from the bible as objective truth. To educate the members of the body of Christ so they are equipped to live as becomes the followers of Jesus. To maintain the spirit of unity through the fellowship of the children of God. To expand the kingdom of Jesus Christ.

Core Values of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church

Radical Hospitality (Romans 12:9-21)
Passionate Worship (John 4:21-24)
Intentional Faith Development (I Corinthians 9:19-24)
Risk-Taking Mission and Service (Matthew 25:14-30)
Extravagant Generosity (II Corinthians 9:6-15)

TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER AND WITH CARDS (new info in bold)

Please notify us concerning updates. Inquiring minds – and prayerful hearts – want to know!

Christian Sympathy is extended to Nancy Phillips and family in the death of her cousin, Ed Downey.

- 11/24 Regina Allen (Dot Pearce’s niece) – recovering from cancer surgery, chemo to follow
- 12/13 Chris Banke & co-workers—several have recently perished in horrible auto accidents
- 11/24 Ruby Chapman (Serena Staats’ mother) –blood clot in heart
- 11/08 Philippe Karka and his extended Togo family dealing with death, an automobile accident
- 12/14 KayLynn LaFoy—fractured foot
- 11/30 Amanda Nevins (Jim & Nancy Phillips’ niece) – heart surgery on January 4
- 12/1 Charles NeSmith at Atlanta Medical, in rehab—eating and doing much better, should come home soon
- 11/22 Dawn Smith (Frances Youngblood’s daughter-in-law) – continuing chemo
- 11/30 Joyce Smith – recovering from heart attack, uneventful return trip from West Virginia and is doing nicely
- 11/29 Cookie Straughter – prayers for children

OUR HOMEBOUND: *Please refer to the Church Directory for contact information*

Tye Bryant Becky Huie Jean Ray JoAnn Tatzel Dot Upchurch

Prayer Request: Call 404-366-1851, Email secyppc@bellsouth.net or fill in the I WISH card and drop in the offering plate.



The Christmas Joy Offering provides much-needed assistance to PC(USA) church workers and their families, and Presbyterian-affiliated racial ethnic schools & colleges, enabling students to develop their gifts and find their calling.

CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY There is a drop off area in the narthex for Christmas Cards you wish to go to your PPC friends attending during this season. We will make sure they are hand delivered and you will save the stamps. That way, you can use the savings for your donations to the Christmas Joy offerings this year.

SECUR’US HOUSE is the refuge for abused women and their children. We are collecting supplies in December. See the list of items needed in your December Crossroads. You may also make monetary donations. Make your checks payable to Philadelphia Presbyterian and mark for Securus House. Place your items in the collection bin in the narthex. All gifts must be received by TODAY. **Connie McWilliams, Community Missions**



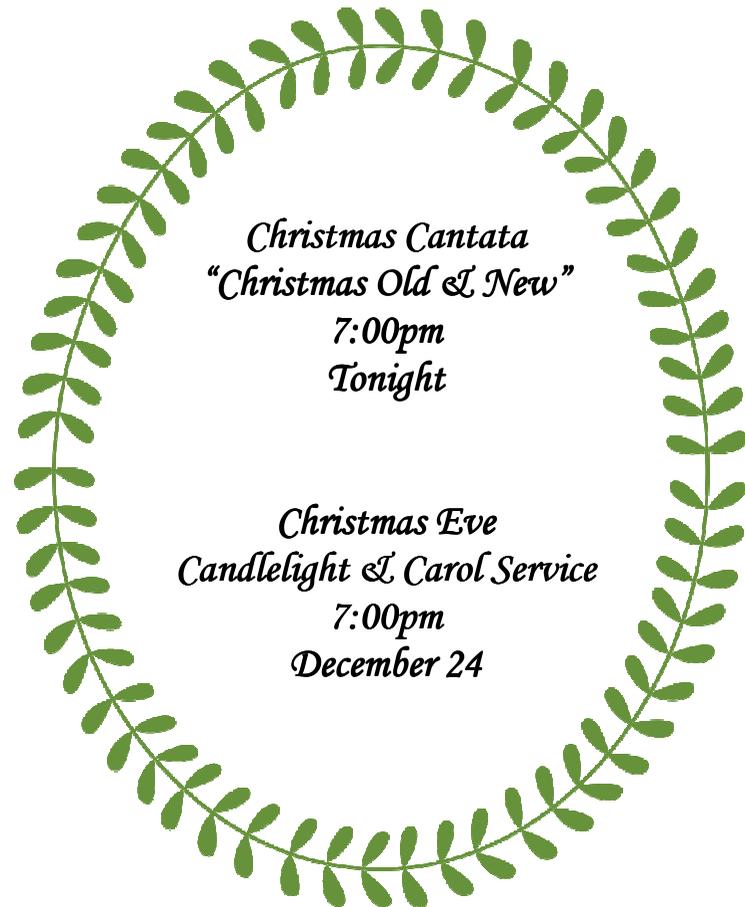
PLEASE NOTE: Pastor’s Bible Study continues on Sundays at 9:00 - 9:45 a.m., looking at various translations of passages in the Gospel of Mark.

YOUR FAVORITE SONGS OF CHRISTMAS: Please write numbers of Christmas songs you'd like to sing during the informal service on Dec. 27 on the blue "I Wish" cards (#240 - #295 in the hymnal). You may not hear many of them in churches during Advent as we await the birth of Jesus. Waiting makes the next week even more special at PPC! So don't miss the Cantata, the Christmas Eve Service or the informal service next Sunday when the congregation sings some of their favorite Christmas hymns.

We pray for children...

who want to be carried and for those who must, who we never give up on and for those who don't get a second chance. For those we smother and . . .for those who will grab the hand of anybody kind enough to offer it.

Dear God, we pray for our children, for your children, for all children, for childhood's dreams and nightmares. In each child let us behold anew your promise of the creation. Sustain these little and not so little ones. By your grace may they live the lives for which they were created. AMEN.



A Prayer for Children - By Ina J. Hughs

We pray for the children...

who put chocolate everywhere, who like to be tickled, who stomp in puddles and ruin their new pants, who sneak popsicles before supper, who erase holes in math workbooks, who can never find their shoes.

And we pray for those...

who stare at photographers from behind barbed wire, who can't bound down the street in a new pair of sneakers, who never "counted potatoes," who are born in places where we wouldn't be caught dead, who will never go to the circus, who live in an X-rated world.

We pray for children...

who bring us sticky kisses and fistfuls of dandelions, who sleep with the dog and bury goldfish, who hug us in a hurry and forget their lunch money, who cover themselves with Band-aids and sing off key, who squeeze toothpaste all over the sink, who slurp their soup.

And we pray for those...

who never get dessert, who have no safe blanket to drag behind them, who watch their parents watch them die, who can't find any bread to steal, who don't have any rooms to clean up, whose pictures aren't on anybody's dresser, whose monsters are real.

We pray for children...

who spend all their allowance before Tuesday, who throw tantrums in the grocery store and pick at their food, who like ghost stories, who shove dirty clothes under the bed, who never rinse out the tub, who get visits from the tooth fairy, who don't like to be kissed in front of the carpool, who squirm in church or temple and scream on the phone, whose tears we sometimes laugh at and whose smiles can make us cry.

And we pray for those...

whose nightmares come in the daytime, who will eat anything, who have never seen a dentist, who aren't spoiled by anybody, who go to bed hungry and cry themselves to sleep, who live and move, but have no being.

(continue on back)