

PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PC (USA)

Rev. Jack Westlund, Pastor

Pastor Westlund's Email: westlund.jack@gmail.com – 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

December 2, 2018

Philadelphia Presbyterian Church

351 Morrow Road, Forest Park, Georgia 30297

404-366-1851

CHURCH STAFF

Verena Anders, Choir Director/Accompanist
Darr Johnson, Treasurer

Mary "Pat" Smith, Sunday School Superintendent
Diane Banke, Church Genealogy/Historian 706-636-3259

SESSION COMMITTEES

Administrative

Eliot Lawrence '19, Admin. Chair

Finance & Stewardship

Darr Johnson '19, Finance Chair & Treasurer

OutReach Team

Diane Kitchen '18, Outreach Chair

Property Management/Memory Garden

Fred Rohrbach, Property Co-Chair
Jim Phillips, Property Co-Chair

Worship & Music Committee

Greg Durden '19, W&M Co-Chair

Clerk's Committee

Jennifer Rohrbach '18, Clerk's Comm. Chair

Christian Education & Fellowship

Beverly Johnson '18, CE&F Chair

OTHER COMMITTEES

Officers of the Corporation

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

Funeral Stewards

Fred Rohrbach, Chair

Cemetery Committee

Jim Phillips, Chair

Bereavement Committee

Barbara Barlow, Chair

PPC Men's Fellowship

Jim Phillips, Chair

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Debbie Bray, Moderator
Nancy Phillips, Secretary/Treasurer
Pat Randolph, Historian
Connie McWilliams, Community Missions
Barbara Barlow, Worldwide Missions

Debbie Durden, Search
Connie McWilliams, Spiritual Growth, Poinsettias
Debbie Durden, Spiritual Growth, Advent
Connie McWilliams, Cantata Reception
Debbie Bray, Spiritual Growth, PW Retreat

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

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



SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS: For the benefit of the congregation, please try to give announcements to Cindy before Wednesday. When that doesn't work, please write them down for the Pulpit Assistant or come to a microphone to speak. Your consideration is appreciated.

Welcome

PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

351 Morrow Road
Forest Park, Georgia 30297

December 2, 2018

11:00 AM

The First Sunday of Advent

The Hanging of the Greens

The Chiming of the Hour and the Choral Call to Worship

The Welcome and Announcements

Jennifer Rohrbach, Liturgist

The Gathering Song

The Call to Worship

Leader: Prepare the way for the Lord;
make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God.

People: Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill
made low; the rough ground shall become level,
the rugged places a plain.

All: And the glory of the Lord will be revealed,
and all mankind together will see it.
For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

*The Hymn of Praise “Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus”

No. 151

*The Prayer of Confession (In Unison)

O God of the future,
You are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule.
We confess that we have not expected your kingdom,
for we live casual lives, ignoring your judgment.
We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth,
and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us.
Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things
that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*The Prayer Response (All Sing)

“O Holy Child of Bethlehem! Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in; Be born in us today.”

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Meaning of the Candle of Prophecy

This is the first Sunday of Advent.

**Each year on the four Sundays preceding our celebration of Christmas Day
we prepare ourselves for the coming of our Savior.**

Hear now the prophecy of his coming.

The Advent Scripture Matthew 1: 18-23

The Lighting of the Candle

**We light this first candle, the Candle of Prophecy,
to remember the prophet’s promise of Christ’s coming
to be the savior of the world.**

The candle is purple signifying the Messiah’s royalty.

The Advent Prayer (In Unison)

**God of the prophets,
you sent your messenger into the wilderness of Jordan
to prepare human hearts for the coming of your Son.**

Help us to prepare for Christ’s coming.

**Let us hear once again the good news and repent,
that we may be made ready to welcome our Lord
and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Prayer Response (All Sing)

**“O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.”**

The Presentation of Our Offering and Congregational Response

*The Response “Bring We the Frankincense of Our Love” (All Sing)

**“Holy the Infant and holy the mother and holy and precious the gifts that we bring;
Praise to the Father and praise to the Spirit and praise to Christ Jesus our King.”**

*The Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Gracious God, we give our best to you, not out of guilt or fear,
but with gratitude and faith. We would be awake and watchful
for opportunities to make a difference, to help others be alert for your presence, to value
life in all its fullness, and to learn to care.**

**We dedicate these acts of thankfulness and all the days of our lives
to those purposes. Amen.**

The Hearing of the Word

Leader: What shall we do to prepare our hearts for the coming of our Lord?

People: We shall listen and hear the word of faith from the Scriptures.

The Old Testament Reading Psalm 72: 1-2

The Anthem

The New Testament Reading Luke 1: 67-79

The Sermon "A Christmas Prayer" Rev. Jack Westlund

*The Affirming of Our Faith

We believe that in the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways. We believe, as did the Apostles, that God has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom God made the universe. We believe the Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. We believe that he has provided purification for sins and that he sits at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. (from Hebrews 1: 1-3)

*The Act of Praise (All Sing)

***"Glo - - - ria in excelsis D-eo
"Glo - - - ria in excelsis D-eo"***

The Presenting of the Holly and the Poinsettia

Leader: Holly and the Poinsettia have become symbols of Christ's passion, the holly with its prickly leaves represents the crown of thorns; the berries of the holly and the leaves of the poinsettia represent the blood shed for us; the bitter bark of the holly symbolizes the drink Jesus was offered on the cross.

The Hymn "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne" No. 184

The Hanging of the Garlands

Evergreens have long been considered a symbol of eternity, like God's everlasting nature. The ancients regarded evergreens as a symbol of peace, joy and victory. Early Christians placed them in their windows to indicate that Christ has entered their home. Garland comes from the French word meaning "wreath of flowers". Garlands usually are comprised of a circular band of flowers or foliage. We hang garlands of evergreens to remind us of God's vastness, God's abiding love in Jesus Christ and our never ending fellowship with God.

The Hymn "Away in a Manger" No. 157

The Lighting of the Chrismon Tree

Leader: In ancient times the cedar was known as the tree of royalty. Today we often use cedar, along with other greens... pine, fir, spruce, juniper, and rosemary... which we prize for their fragrance as well as their symbolism of our expectation and hope of the coming of the Christ child again. As we light our tree, we remember that Christ is ever-present and that he is the "Tree of Life". The lights on our tree remind us that the Christ Child came to earth as the "light of the world."

The Giving of the Chrismons

Leader: The word Chrismon comes from a combination of Christ's Monograms. Chrismons are symbolic of the life of Christ and the meaning of Christmas. They are usually handmade by the congregation in colors of white and gold... white for the purity of Christ, and gold for His royalty.

The Sending of God's People

*The Hymn of Departure "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" No. 160

*The Benediction and Congregational Response (All Sing)

***"Go, tell it on the mountain Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!"***

The Postlude

****Please stand as you are able***

Note: We are using the Red Hymnal for this service

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.

THIS WEEK AT PHILADELPHIA

- TODAY 09:45am – Sunday School
- 11:00am – Hanging of the Greens Service
- 12:15pm – PWCT
- Tuesday 09:00am – The Breakfast Club @ **Ann & Bills Restaurant, FP**
- Saturday 10:30am – Circle One
- Next Sunday* 09:30am – Annual Christmas Breakfast (see notice)

Please Note: There will be no Mary & Martha Circle meeting in December.

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.

Our Mission: is to offer spiritual peace in a chaotic world through the stability of traditional Christ-centered teaching, worship and prayer.

- Our Core Values:**
- 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)

SOCK DRIVE

We are extending our sock drive until the Christmas season. This year, we mainly need ladies' and children's sizes. Thank you for participating in this much needed ministry.

Jim, Phillips, Men's Fellowship



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

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

- 10/02 Angela Brantley (Dot Pearce's niece) – infection from reconstructive surgery
- 11/12 Connie Busby (Serena Staat's friend) – needs a miracle (unknown issue)
- 10/11 Nell Cates – recovering from a fall
- 10/09 Pat Culver (Bob & Becky's daughter) – chemo for bone cancer
- 11/28 Marshall Dodgen (Pat Randolph's friend) – recovering from cancer surgery & infection**
- 10/23 Bob Langley (Jennifer & Pam's dad) – recovering from pacemaker surgery
- 10/10 Charles NeSmith – to receive a series of Procrit shots for anemia, prayers appreciated
- 09/23 Cody Roberson (Nancy Phillips' grand nephew) rehab for broken neck
- 11/12 Sandy Staats (Guy's mom) – fell and broke arm – had surgery to repair
- 11/12 Derek Stone – (Serena Staats' cousin) – 36 year old diagnosed with cancer
- 11/20 Michael Trotter – (Joyce Smith's brother) –under hospice care
- 11/06 Charles Trotter (Joyce Smith's brother) – recovering from heart bypass surgery

OUR HOMEBOUND: *Please refer to the Church Directory for contact information*
Patty Boone Becky Huie

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



2018 PPC—Christmas Season

- December 2—11:00am—Hanging of the Green Service**
- December 9—9:30am—Christmas Breakfast**
- December 15—11:00am—Cantata Dress Rehearsal**
- December 16—7:00pm—Christmas Cantata & reception**
- December 24—7:00pm—Candlelight & Communion Service**
- December 24-31—Church Office closed**
- December 30— Casual Service**
- January 1—Church Office closed**



CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST 2018

We are celebrating Christmas with a fellowship breakfast on Sunday, **December 9**, at 9:30am in the fellowship hall. *PLEASE note the change of date.* The Session is providing all the food and drinks. We ask everyone, who is able, to bring a gift for the children of **Securus House**. Do not wrap them so Securus can direct their distribution. They will also need paper to wrap the gifts.

Some suggested items are: toys, games, cars, trucks, baby dolls, puzzles, crayons & coloring books, all kinds of children's books. The children range in age from babies to 17. We will place them under the tree when we come for breakfast. If you are unable to get a gift, come anyway and join in the fellowship. There will be no Sunday School that day.



SECURUS HOUSE

SECUR'US HOUSE is Clayton County's refuge for abused women and their children. We will be collecting some of their needed supplies in November and December.

Place your donations in the collection bins in the narthex.

PLEASE NOTE: You may make monetary donations. Make your checks payable to **Philadelphia Presbyterian** and mark for **Securus House**. Place them in the offering plate when it is passed.

All gifts must be received by Sunday, **December 16**.

Connie McWilliams, Community Missions

ITEMS NEEDED

Items for infants & children include:

diapers (all sizes, but esp. large & x-large), baby oil, baby wipes & Vaseline bottles with nipples, socks, underwear & undershirts (all sizes)
crayons, coloring books, markers

Items for the women include:

new underwear (all sizes), pajamas, gowns & slippers (all sizes)
personal hygiene products, hair care products for women of all color
hair blow dryers

Items for the shelter include:

toiletries (deodorant, shampoo, bar soap), paper towels, toilet tissue & facial tissues
tooth brushes, toothpaste & mouthwash, first aid products; cough drops; lip balm
Infant & Children's Tylenol (non-generic)

"Bring We the Frankincense of Our Love"

Refrain

Ho - ly the In - fant and ho - ly the moth - er And ho - ly and

pre - cious the gifts that we bring; Praise to the Fa - ther and

praise to the Spir - it And praise to Christ Je - sus our King.