

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 23, 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 23, 2018

11:00 AM

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The Fourth Sunday of Advent

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: The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise:
I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David;
and he shall execute justice and righteousness.

**People: Salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed;
the night is far gone, the day is near.**

Leader: My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord,

People: And all flesh will bless his holy name forever and ever.

*The Hymn of Praise "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" No. 163

The Call to Confession

The Prayer of Confession (In Unison)

**God of glory and light, you come to make your home among us,
Yet we try to keep you at a distance, in temples on the periphery of our lives.
You have drawn near to us, but we have shrunk back from you.
In mercy, forgive our resistance and revive our love,
for the sake of Jesus our Emmanuel, God with us. 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 Angel's Candle

This is the Fourth 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 Luke 2: 8-20

The Lighting of the Candle

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

We light the second candle, the *Candle of Bethlehem*, to remember the dark
night when Joseph and Mary found light and warmth in the stable.

We light the third candle, the *Shepherd's Candle*, to remember the great light
and joy which surrounded the shepherds at the announcement of Jesus birth.

We light this fourth candle, the *Angel's Candle*, to remember the glorious
announcement that an angel of the Lord made to the Shepherds of the
Messiah's birth. The first three candles are *purple* signifying the Messiah's
royalty. This fourth candle is *rose* signifying the Messiah's suffering for the
sins of the world.

The Advent Prayer (In Unison)

**God of all wisdom, our hearts yearn for the warmth of your love,
And our minds search for the light of your Word. Increase our longing
for Christ our Savior and strengthen us to grow in love, that at the dawn
of his coming we may rejoice in his presence and welcome the light of
his truth. This we ask in his holy name. 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 (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."*

(continue to back of insert)

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 – Worship Service
Monday 7:00pm – Candlelight & Communion Service
Tuesday Christmas Day
Next Sunday 11:00am - Casual Worship

PLEASE NOTE: The church office will be closed until Jan 2.

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)



Please make sure you are using your 2019 offering envelopes beginning on January 1. The envelope numbers change with each new year and the old envelopes need to be discarded. Thank You!

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!

- 11/12 Connie Busby (Serena Staat’s friend) – needs a miracle (unknown issue)
- 11/09 Pat Culver (Bob & Becky’s daughter) – chemo for bone cancer
- 11/28 Marshall Dodgen (Pat Randolph’s friend) – recovering from cancer surgery & infection
- 12/12 Wade Keeton (Ethel Lynn’s son) – In CCU in Portland, Or. with blood disorder
- 10/23 Bob Langley (Jennifer & Pam’s dad) – recovering from pacemaker surgery
- 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 24—7:00pm—Candlelight & Communion Service**
- December 24-31—Church Office closed**
- December 30— Casual Service**
- January 1—Church Office closed**



*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 symbols of thankfulness and all the days of our lives to those purposes. Amen.

The Hearing of the Word

The Hymn of Preparation "While Shepherds Watched" No. 169

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 89: 1-8

The Anthem

The New Testament Reading Luke 2: 8-20

The Sermon "Christmas Wonder" Rev. Jack Westlund

The Affirming of Our Faith

We believe that Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death...even death on a cross.

We believe that God therefore also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! *from Colossians 1: 15-20*

*The Act of Praise (All Sing)

"Gloria in excelsis Deo"

"Gloria in excelsis Deo"

The Sending of God's People

*The Hymn of Departure "Angels We Have Heard on High" No. 158

The Benediction and Congregational Response (All Sing) and Postlude

"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

