

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 15, 2019

Philadelphia Presbyterian Church

351 Morrow Road, Forest Park, Georgia 30297

404-366-1851

CHURCH STAFF

Verena Anders, Choir Director/Accompanist
Emory Pearce, 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

Rose Enow '20, Finance Chair

OutReach Team

Diane Kemper '19, 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

Rick Pierce '20, Clerk's Comm. Chair

Christian Education & Fellowship

Serena Staats '20, CE&F Chair

OTHER COMMITTEES

Officers of the Corporation

Greg Durden, Chair
Eliot Lawrence, 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
Kathie Pierce, Worldwide Missions

Debbie Durden, Search
Connie McWilliams, Spiritual Growth, Poinsettias
Debbie Durden, Spiritual Growth, Advent
Connie McWilliams, Cantata Reception
Pat Randolph, 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*

Forest Park Ministers Association*
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

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2019

Eleven O'clock in the Morning

The Chiming of the Hour and The Choral Call to Worship

The Welcome and Announcements

Debbie Durden, Liturgist

The Gathering Song

The Call to Worship

Leader: God is in our midst; do not fear.

God rejoices to renew our lives in steadfast love.

People: God Gathers us for this time of worship.

God claims us and promises us a home.

Leader: Trust in God who is our strength and life.

Give thanks to God, the source of our salvation.

People: We will sing praises and exalt God's name.

With joyous shouts, we will tell of God's glorious deeds.

Leader: Rejoice in God, whatever your circumstances.

Remember the good fortune God has shared with you.

People: We will not worry as we seek God's peace.

We open our hearts and minds to God's leading.

*The Hymn of Praise "Angels From the Realms of Glory" No. 168

The Call to Confession

*The Prayer of Confession (In Unison)

All-knowing God, we confess our worry and anxiety over unimportant matters. We admit the fears that make us defensive instead of loving. We acknowledge our resentment over losses we have sustained and oppression we have suffered. We recognize that we have been far more concerned for our own welfare than for the building up of Christ's body, the church. In our congregation, we have focused on survival more than service. We look for what we can gain more than for what we can give. Re-establish your rule among us, we pray, and save us from ourselves. Amen.

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Announcement

Jesus said: "I am the light of the world, whoever follows me will have the light of life and will never walk in darkness."

The Meaning

Advent means coming.

We are preparing ourselves for the coming days when the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war any more.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.

The Lighting Proclamation

ALL: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

The Lighting of the Candle (three purple candles)

The Lighting Response

ALL: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The Advent Prayer

God of hope and joy, the day draws near when the glory of your Son will brighten the night of the waiting world. Let no vanity hinder the joy of those who seek him. Let no sin obscure the vision of wisdom seen by those who find him. We ask this through 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 Offering of Our Gifts

The Offertory

The Response "Bring We the Frankincense of Our Love" (*See insert*)

(continue order of worship on back of insert)

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 24: 1-10

The Anthem

The New Testament Reading Revelation 22: 1-21

The Hymn of Preparation "There's a Song in the Air!" No. 155

The Sermon "An Air of Expectancy" Rev. Jack Westlund
The Affirming of Our Faith

We believe this is how God showed His love among us:
He sent His one and only Son into the world
that we might live through Him.
We believe since God loved us, we also ought to love one another.
We believe no one has ever seen God: but if we love each other,
God lives in us and His love is made complete in us. *I John 4: 9-12*

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

*The Benediction and Choral Response

The Postlude

**Please stand as you are able*

PLEASE NOTE: The 2020 Offering Envelopes are available in the narthex throughout December. Please pick yours up today.

"Bring We the Frankincense of Our Love"

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Bring We the Frankincense of Our Love". It features a treble and bass clef staff with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "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." The score includes a "Refrain" section and various chord markings such as F, Am, Dm, Gm, C, F, G, C, F, C7, F, Bb, and F.



Philadelphia Presbyterian Christmas Cantata:
A Festival of Lessons and Carols



Although the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols is popularly associated with King's College, Cambridge, the tradition had existed before the 19th century with singers visiting people's homes and singing Christmas Carols. The tradition now includes 9 biblical readings that cover the stories of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and Jesus' birth. Each reading will have a musical response, either a carol for all to join in singing, or a choir anthem.

This year we have a very special addition of a string quartet, playing along with our hymns, carols and choir anthems. This will be a very special evening with warming Christmas music and cheer. Please join us and invite friends and family!

TODAY, Sunday, December 15th at 7pm.

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
- Christmas Card Exchange**
- 07:00pm – Christmas Cantata with reception to follow**
- Tuesday 09:00am – The Breakfast Club
- Next Sunday Deadline for Securus House donations

PLEASE NOTE: Monday is the deadline for all articles and info for the January Crossroads. Please send to the church office as soon as possible.

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)

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!

Christian Sympathy is extended to Ray Morgan and family in the passing of his grandson, Jeff Hyladik, in Chicago. **Christian Sympathy** is extended to Angie Tharp & Kathy Banke in the passing of their niece/cousin, Jill LoBiondo. **Christian Sympathy** is extended to Annelle Maxwell and family in the passing of Buck. **Christian Sympathy** is extended to the family of Linda Sparrow, a former PPC member, who passed away December 9.

- 11/19 James Ballew (Joyce Smith’s son) – colon problems – surgery on December 20
- 12/02 Steve Cooper (Kathy Banke’s cousin) – serious motor cycle accident
- 10/26 Pat Culver (Bob & Becky’s daughter) – new medicine & chemo for bone cancer
- 12/10 Becky Earls, a former member, recently treated for lung cancer and broken leg**
- 12/10 Marie Foster is in early stages of dementia**
- 12/04 Charles NeSmith – at Laurel Park for rehab, COPD issues
- 11/18 Emory Pearce— recovering from surgery to repair fractured hip
- 11/13 Doris Ragan (Cindy Adair’s mom) – doing well, thank you for your prayers**
- 12/10 Pat Randolph – recovering from mild heart attack**
- 11/09 Bill Smith (Tom’s brother) – treatment for lung cancer
- 11/03 Claude Shaddix (Serena Staats’ friend) – bone cancer – out of treatment options
- 12/11 Emily Wallace (Huie’s granddaughter) – recovering from additional cancer surgery**

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

Marie Foster 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.



Please join us at 7:00pm, December 24, 2019, for a Candlelight and Carols Service, a time for casual family worship.

Thru the **Christmas Joy Offering** we support the unmet needs of families who devoted their lives to the mission of the PC(USA). It is shared equally by the Assistance Program that provides assistance to current and former Presbyterian church workers and their families, and Presbyterian-affiliated racial ethnic schools and colleges. **Envelopes are provided in the pews.**



Christmas Joy