

Philadelphia Presbyterian Church
351 Morrow Road, Forest Park, Georgia

THE CROSSROADS



"Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls."

Jeremiah 6:16

MAY 2013

Does God Give Christians Favor?

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.

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God certainly does grant favor to his children. Psalms 90:17 (NIV) says, "May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us - yes, establish the work of our hands." Additionally, the Apostle Paul in his second letter to the Corinthians said, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you. I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation." (II Cor 6:2 NIV) I would encourage a search of the word favor in the New International Version. The word appears dozens and dozens of time throughout Scripture. Many of those uses refer specifically to the favor of the Lord upon his people.

Psalms 112 (NIV) is an interesting case study in the favor that the Lord grants upon his people "who fear the Lord and find great delight in his commands." While the word favor doesn't appear in this particular chapter, the concept can certainly be seen as expressed in the chapter as 'blessings'. Verse 2 promises that this man's children will be mighty in the land; verse 3 speaks to the prosperity of the committed person; verse 4 speaks of light dawning for the upright in the midst of darkness, etc. Each verse in that chapter is packed full of promises to the man who fears the Lord and delights in his commands. It is important to consider that God showing favor to His people is not the same as 'favoritism'. Acts 10:34 (NIV) tells us that God does not show favoritism.

A couple of years or so I went on a personal retreat at the Monastery in Conyers with the intent of staying the night. No room in the inn. So I went passed the chain that kept visitors out of the sanctuary and sat down to pray for a while. During that time God reminded me He had been good to me. I agreed. He said I have given you a lot of favor. I agreed. Then He said from now on you will be my FAVOR-MEISTER. When I tell you and only when I remind you I want you to pray for people but only those I bring to mind. I said God there no such word as meister. Then I looked it up and it is German for Master. So God selectively has me prayer for favor because there is no such other Word that God has to show He grants favor and blessing in His providence.

Pastor Spencer

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.

Thank You!

Thank you for your cards, e-mails, calls, food, and most of all your prayers during my unexpected visit to the hospital and the recovery time at home. My sincere thanks also, to Fran and Cindy for fulfilling my obligations at church. God is Good all the time.

Barbara Barlow

Thank You!

Dear Ms. Church Mouse,

What an angel you are! When you surprised us with your gift at Christmas it was just in "the Nick" of time. Imagine our surprise when you once again blessed us. Please know that we both appreciate your kindness, and we both feel very blessed by you. Though you choose to remain "Ms. Church Mouse" just know if there is anything either of us can do for you we are here to help.

Love,

Fred and Jennifer

FROM THE CLERK ...

It did not occur to me until a recent circle meeting that several of you may not be aware that you – Philadelphia congregants – helped birth a new church! Elder Philippe Karka approached the Session awhile back about the possibility of our sending a financial contribution to help support the work of an ecumenical group of ministers in his home country of Togo in Africa. The purpose of ATLET, the minister group, was to carry the word of God out to villages and rural areas where the word had not yet been preached. The Session voted to send \$200 to help support this ministry.

Philippe shared with us a report received from Essokoussinam Soukoude, President of ATLET, following completion of the 2012 evangelism campaign which ran last fall. Sixty-two people from six churches (Presbyterian Evangelical Church of Togo, Assembly of God, Baptist, Deep Life, Catholic, and Pentecostal) participated in the campaign, visiting 203 families in outlying areas. Those visits resulted in 64 professions of faith: 12 men, 15 women and 37 young girls and boys and the establishment of a new Presbyterian church to be supervised by the Presbyterian Church of Togo! Our support of this effort was to have been "known to all the members" during their General Assembly meeting in January, 2013.

A copy of Mr. Soukoude's letter (along with Philippe's kind translation of the French), and a list of the names of the members of the new church will be passed along to Philadelphia's current historian, Nancy Phillips, to be placed in church history for 2012.

So congratulations! You helped birth a church and carry out the Great Commission to "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19

Lynn Vandiver
Clerk of Council (Session)

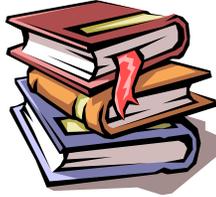
Forest Park's

"Swing Into Spring" Festival

Saturday, May 4, 2013, at Starr Park

from 11:00am to 6:00pm

Admission is free and there will be arts & crafts, games, food and entertainment.



FROM THE LIBRARY...

The following materials have been added to the Philadelphia Presbyterian Church Memorial Library collection. Many thanks for donations to the church library. Diane

Philadelphia Presbyterian Church Board of Deacon Minutes, 1948-1953, 1976 **ORIGINAL AND COPY ARC 262.75

History of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church Homecoming
185 yrs.: Without Hesitation 1825-2010 (2 copies) ARC 285.7

Minutes: Presbyterian Women, Philadelphia Presbyterian Church, 2011 ARC 266.7

History of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church, 2011 ARC 285.75

History of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church, 1996-1997 ARC 285.75

Philadelphia Presbyterian Church Bulletins, 2009 ARC 264.74

Philadelphia Presbyterian Church Bulletins, 2010 ARC 264.74

Philadelphia Presbyterian Church Bulletins, 2011 ARC 264.74

Philadelphia Presbyterian Church Bulletins, 2012 ARC 264.74

Minutes: Presbyterian Women, Philadelphia Presbyterian Church, 1998-9 ARC 266.7

PW Message Corner . . .



- May 5—12:15pm—PWCT
- May 11—10:30am—Mary & Martha @Lynn Vandiver's home
- May 21—10:30am—Busy Bees Circle
- May 25—10:30am—Circle One



Family Life Luncheon

The Women of the Church will host a covered dish luncheon, celebrating "Family Life" on Sunday, May 19, 2013 immediately following the morning worship service. Please come and bring your favorite dish and an offering for our annual PW Birthday Objective. The 2013 recipient, to whom our donations will be dedicated, is Westminster Neighborhood Ministries in Indianapolis, Indiana.

THE CRAFT GROUP SCHEDULE

- May 14— 11:30am— Golden Buddha Restaurant, Morrow
- May 28— 11:30am—J Henry's, Griffin
Carpool from church at 10:30am



Work Day

Saturday, May 11, 9:00am to 12:00 noon

There will be something for everyone to do. Please come and help us out.

WE CELEBRATE!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ...

- 01/Eddie Upchurch
- 03/ Parveen Yusufji
- 04/Anita DeBey
- 07/ Rusty Taylor
- 08/ Diane Banke
- 12/ Annelle Maxwell
- 16/ Chandler Murphy
- 17/ Tye Bryant
- 17/ Martha Smith
- 18/ Kaif Nevrekar
- 19/ Don Fleming
- 20/ Carole Masdon
- 25/ Kathy Banke
- 27/ Philippe Karka
- 30/ Dinah Bingham
- 31/ Jackie Hill

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO ...

(no May anniversaries)

—————
 CATCH US ON
 THE WEB AT
 WWW.PPC-USA.ORG
 —————

THIS MONTH'S VOLUNTEERS

Nursery Workers

Ushers

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| 05/ Diane Kitchen | Rick Pierce |
| 12/ Guest | Danny Morris |
| 19/ Debbie Durden | Nell Cates |
| 26/ Evelyn Murdock | Tom Smith |

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)

PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 351 MORROW ROAD
 FOREST PARK GA 30297

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!

03/26 Dwayne Ballew (Joyce Smith's son) – chemo for colon cancer began 4/22

03/14 Timothy DeBey – treatment for prostate cancer

04/10 Betty Foster – recovering from 2nd knee replacement surgery – doing well

04/18 Dan Graddy (nephew of Lee Casey, Good Shepherd Clinic) New Orleans seminary student, whose hearing was damaged by accidental cannon blast.

04/04 Faye Hood (Pat Randolph's friend) – cancer surgery to remove bladder

03/25 Connie McWilliams – procedure to loosen frozen shoulder

04/09 Ann NeSmith – dealing with IBS, back pain and anxiety issues

04/09 Charlie NeSmith – dealing with kidney disease & COPD

04/10 Dot Pearce – recovering from surgery to remove blockage in intestine

04/17 Jean Ray – recovering from carotid artery surgery

OUR HOMEBOUND:

Mary Binkney

Marie Foster

Eddie Upchurch

Tye Bryant

JoAnn Tatzel

Dot Upchurch

Please refer to the Church Directory for contact information.

To make a prayer request, you may call the church office at 404-366-1851, send an email to se-cyppc@bellsouth.net or click on the prayer request button on our website at www.ppc-usa.org.