

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

SEPTEMBER 2013

DID Y'ALL READ MY AUGUST NEWSLETTER?

I WANTED YOU TO SEEK GOD

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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Some of you were aggravated enough to say August was not that bad because you were born that month or married that month and or children came along that month. I did not mean to offend anybody. I just wanted to give you something to do spirituality in a month with no real holidays and with school starting again. And that which I wanted was for you to pray more.

When I was young I was taught to pray in a certain way. Perhaps you were, too. The prayers either were standard ones, steeped in the tradition of the Church, or prayers of supplication, asking the Lord to fill some need in my life. For me, the things pleaded for in prayer were happiness for my parents, rescue from a difficult problem ("Please, Lord, tell my brother to stop being mean to me!"), maybe some snow to release me from school (a rare treat!).

Part of the whole process of prayer was getting it right, so that even to embark on prayer evoked a sense of mission, a drive to achieve the task. It did not occur to me then that this whole approach to prayer was not necessarily universal or even desirable. As I struggled with saying the words with just the right oomph, with the acutest sense of holy drama, the gentle advice of saints such as Francis De Sales and Peter Julian Eymard was unknown to me. How they might have smiled at the awkward belief that prayer was a matter of me doing it right!

Saint Peter Eymard instructs the soul to stay with any closeness to the Lord, rising up in emotion, that comes through prayer. Forget the words and just rest in the moment with the Lord. Saint Francis De Sales says something similar when he tells us to not fret about formulas and to not start over again when, in the midst of our prayers, we get off track and want to berate ourselves for being distracted. Both these saints remind us that prayer is not so much driven by us, but is a response to the Lord's ever-present invitation to live in Him, to have, as Saint Paul says, our very being in the Lord. Prayer is meeting the Lord and being with Him.

These wise instructions would have been a revelation to me as a ten year old, striving to get all the words out in just the right order. Prayer as an invitation to the greatest freedom, rather than struggling to make your innermost yearnings fit a certain well-defined structure, would have been a very novel idea! But that is prayer, after all – a union with the Lord. It is in prayer that we can share in a grace so joyous, so unbound by human strictures, so radically divergent from the world-lust for things that fizzle. It is also in prayer that we can find the strength to return everyday to cleaning the latrines of sin and sloppiness and suffering that often overwhelm us.

So, how to pray? That's a question that's at once very easy and very difficult to answer. One standard response is that prayer is talking to the Lord, so, just talk! Speak right up and seize every moment to remind Him of your presence (or vice versa). That's one easy answer. A more difficult one recognizes that there are so many different ways of praying, ways that are not equally suitable to each of us. There are active ways of praying in which we do seize the moment. There are also ways of praying in which we relax and the constraints of the will fall away and the Lord shares Himself with us according to His way. You can pray in silence. Saint Vincent said that the best form of prayer is when we run out of things to say and are simply silent before our God. So why not try that????????????????????

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.

PHILADELPHIA
LADIES' FALL RETREAT

October 26, 2013

Mark your calendars and plan to join us Saturday, October 26 in the beautiful lake-view room at Calvin Center for our annual ladies' retreat. We will gather at 9:00 a.m. for a continental breakfast and plan to leave by 2:30, spending all the time between in great fellowship and maybe a little learning about the Bad Girls of the Bible. Who do you think they are? What can we learn from them? We always have a great time at our retreat and encourage those who have not attended in the past to make a special effort to come this year. And invite your friends ~ I know I'm going to invite some of mine. Cost for the event will be \$25.00 per person and will include continental breakfast, lunch, snack and insurance. Make checks payable to Lynn Vandiver and mark for Retreat. Hope to see you there!



Thank you so much for your donations to Kinship Care Resource Center, the group that helps grandparents rearing their grandchildren. The school supplies were greatly appreciated.

*Nancy Kemper
Community Missions*



To our very Special Church Family:

The people here at Philadelphia are second to none in showing their love and concern for people within and outside the church. That is what makes Annelle and I proud to be a part of this church and of God's family

We have received so many beautiful cards reminding us of God's peace which we receive when we look to Him. We especially appreciate all of the prayers, which have helped with the loss of our youngest brother.

Our love, prayers and God's peace goes out to each of you as we worship our Lord.

*In Love,
Buck and Annelle*



In September we will be collecting supplies for Secur'us House, a refuge for abused women and their children. A list of items needed is located below. You may leave your donations in the narthex.

Nancy Kemper
Community Missions

SECURUS HOUSE NEEDS

all manner of paper products:

- paper plates
- paper towels
- napkins
- tissues
- toilet paper
- diapers
- 9x12 manila envelopes
- writing paper
- etc.

all kinds of soap:

- liquid & bar soap (but not hotel soap)
- laundry detergent
- hand sanitizer
- dish-washing detergent (hand & machine)
- and so forth

other needs:

- luggage

PW Message Corner . . .



- September 1—12:15pm—PWCT
- September 14—10:30am—Mary & Martha
@ Pat Randolph's home
- September 17—10:30am—Busy Bees
- September 21—10:30am—Circle One
- September 22—12:00pm—PW Annual Meeting

THE CRAFT GROUP SCHEDULE

September 10, 11:30am @ TBA

September 24, 11:30am @ Longhorn, Morrow
Carpool from the church 11:15am

MORROW MARKET DAYS

**Every Saturday, from 9:00am to 1:00pm,
until October 29**

On the lawn of the Morrow Tourist Center

Food demonstrations at 10:00am by Thelma & Keven Williams

Local vendors with fresh fruits, vegetables,

homemade goods & crafts

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

September 8, immediately following worship

The purpose of this meeting is to elect members to the Elder Nominating Committee.

WE CELEBRATE!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ...

- 03 / Dot Pearce
- 06 / Mona Steele
- 06 / Pam Langley
- 08 / Gwen Steele
- 11 / Jean Ray
- 11 / Greg Durden
- 13 / Zareen Nevrekar
- 20 / Sherri Frye
- 21 / Dot Upchurch
- 23 / Aurora Staats
- 24 / Zara Nevrekar
- 27 / Nell Cates
- 27 / Kekeli Dossouvi

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO ...

- 17 / Jennifer & Stan Ashmore
- 20 / Diane & Anthony Kitchen
- 22 / Jean & James Ray

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

THIS MONTH'S VOLUNTEERS

Nursery Workers

Ushers

9/01 Diane Kitchen	Danny Morris
9/08 Guest	Nell Cates
9/15 Debbie Durden	Tom Smith
9/22 Evelyn Murdock	Don Nelson
9/29 Mona Steele	

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!

08/04 Dwayne Ballew (Joyce Smith's son) – still undergoing chemo for colon cancer

08/08 Diane Banke – recovering from hysterectomy

07/11 Nancy Biles (friend of Jenni & Stan Ashmore) – stage 4 lung cancer

07/31 Timothy DeBey - seed implant for prostate cancer

07/29 Karen Hatch (David's sister) – taking chemo treatments for cancer

07/23 Jean Kernan (Nancy Phillips' 86 yr old aunt) – treatment for omentum cancer

OUR HOMEBOUND:

Mary Binkney

Tye Bryant

Marie Foster

Charles NeSmith

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.