



PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
351 MORROW ROAD
FOREST PARK, GEORGIA 30297

NOVEMBER 2014

THE CROSSROADS

Pastor's Corner . . .

There is lots of talk about "missional" churches in church circles today. Missional churches are basically those that take seriously the Command to "go, teach and serve". It is only one of the possibilities God may reveal to us in the months ahead.

Brad Brisco identified nine elements of a missional church in a 2010 article entitled "Transitioning From Traditional to Missional". Please take a few minutes to identify these excerpts then let me know what you think by leaving a note in my mailbox or sending a comment to pastorppc@bellsouth.net. Looking forward to hearing from you.

1. Start with Spiritual Formation - God calls the church to be a sent community of people who no longer live for themselves but instead live to participate with Him in His redemptive purposes... If the church is to "go and be," rather than "come and see," then we must make certain that we are a Spirit-formed community that has the spiritual capacity to impact the lives of others...

2. Cultivate a Missional Leadership Approach - The second most important transition in fostering a missional posture in a local congregation is rethinking church leadership models that have been accepted as the status quo... This missional leadership approach will involve creating an apostolic environment throughout the life of the church. ...A culture of experimentation must be cultivated where attempting new initiatives is expected, even if they don't all succeed.

3. Emphasize the Priesthood of All Believers - Martin Luther's idea of the priesthood of all believers was that all Christians were called to carry out their vocational ministries in every area of life. Every believer must fully understand how their vocation plays a central part in God's redemptive Kingdom... God's purpose for His church would be better served if we encouraged people to recognize that "every member is a missionary." This missionary activity will include not just being sent to far away places, but to local work places, schools and neighborhoods.

4. Focus Attention on the Local Community - The church must begin to develop a theology of the city that sees the church as an agent of transformation for the good of the city (Jeremiah 29:7). This will involve exegesis of each segment of the city to understand the local needs, identify with people, and discover unique opportunities for the church to share the good news of Jesus.

5. Don't Do It Alone - ...Missional churches must learn to create partnerships with other churches as well as already existing ministries that care about the community.

6. Create New Means of Measuring Success...we must create new scorecards to measure ministry effectiveness. ...For the missional church it is no longer about the number of people active in the church but instead the number of people active in the community. It is no longer about the amount of money received but it is about the amount of money given away.

7. Search for Third Places - ...more and more people are less and less interested in activities of the church, (therefore) it is increasingly important to connect with people in places of neutrality, or common "hang outs." ... These places of common ground must take a position of greater importance in the overall ministry of the church as individuals begin to recognize themselves as missionaries sent into the local context to serve and share.

8. Tap into the Power of Stories - Stories create new possibilities and energize people to do things they had not previously imagined... Moreover, we can reflect deeply on biblical images of mission, service and hospitality by spending time on passages such as Genesis 12:2, Isaiah 61:1-3, Matthew 5:43; 10:40; 22:39; 25:35; and Luke 10:25-37.

9. Promote Patience - The greatest challenge facing the church in the West is the "re-conversion" of its own members. We need to be converted away from an internally-focused, Constantinean mode of church, and converted towards an externally-focused, missional-incarnational movement that is a true reflection of the missionary God we follow.

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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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OUR PEOPLE!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ...05/ Emory Pearce, 06/ Dot Lenderman, 06/ Debbie Bray, 07/ Ruth Gettys, 12/ Elizabeth Clayton, 15/ Fred Mann, 15/ Emily Lyle, 16/ Addison Murphy, 20/ Ray Morgan, 23/ Nancy Phillips, 25/ Bob Huie, 26/ Janice Lockhart, 30/ Danny Morris

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO ... 11/ Erin & Jeff Randolph, 14/ Cathy & Danny Morris

THIS MONTH'S VOLUNTEERS

Ushers: Darr Johnson, Buddy Ashmore, Jim Phillips, Ray Morgan

Nursery Workers: 02/ Mary Smith, 09/ Guest, 16/ Diane Kitchen, 23/ Guest, 30/ Barbara Barlow

A Note from Pastor Wilson

Thank you for Sunday's service and meal. Your Core Values of Radical Hospitality and Passionate Worship were evident. That is a very good thing.

Some loved ones were understandably concerned about the call to PPC but that's no longer the case for those who came yesterday. Several commented on the beauty of the church "campus" as well as the warm welcome they received from ushers and members alike. They felt the Spirit, heard the Word proclaimed in many ways, enjoyed the music and saw that God is at the center of our partnership.

The presence of the Spirit was also felt during the luncheon. My family and friends loved the decorations in the Fellowship Hall and the good food, especially the scrumptious desserts (that we didn't need but sampled anyway). They were also impressed by the sincerity of those who went out of their way to make them feel comfortable.

Good news travels fast so you can expect to see other visitors in the days and weeks ahead. Thank you for trusting the Spirit and my leadership.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Wilson

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!

- 10/14 Russell Adair (Cindy's brother in law) – carcinoid tumor in abdomen attached to blood vessels and organs
- 09/29 Patty Bormolini (friend of Pat Randolph) –terminal brain cancer – blind, unable to walk, barely speaks
- 09/23 Amanda Burns (friend of Vandivers) - recovering from serious auto accident, 20 yr old Sydney Burns killed
- 09/02 Charles Brooks (request to Breakfast Club) – recovering from broken back
- 10/20 Laralaine Morrow (friend of Barbara Barlow & Cindy Adair) – very slow recovery from stroke, affected speech
- 08/26 Dennis Hermosilla (Tom Smith's nephew) – recovering from pancreatic cancer surgery /further treatment unknown
- 10/15 Ann NeSmith – recovering from cataract surgery on 10/22
- 10/14 Randy Ragan (Cindy's brother) – recovering from surgery for peripheral vascular disease, facing another
- 09/22 Mary Hill Scott (Mary Smith's friend) – kidney failure
- 10/20 Dawn Smith (Frances Youngblood's daughter-in-law) –omentum cancer, 9 weeks chemo, surgery, 18 weeks chemo
- 09/07 David Trautman (Joy Fisher's father) – complications following kidney transplant

OUR HOMEBOUND:

Please refer to the Church Directory for contact information

Tye Bryant

Jean Ray

JoAnn Tatzel

Dot Upchurch

Prayer Request: Call 404-366-1851, Email secyppc@bellsouth.net or click on www.ppc-usa.org.

WHAT'S HAPPENING!



ADVENT 2014

The Advent Season is fast approaching. The First Sunday of Advent will be observed on November 30th during the morning worship service. Individuals or family groups are needed to lead the congregation in the observance of Advent. If you or your family would be willing to participate in this special part of the Christmas season, please use the sign up sheet in the narthex to indicate your preference of dates available. All of the information you will need for the service will be provided.



Poinsettias

Each Christmas we decorate the sanctuary with poinsettias in honor or memory of someone special. We will order red and white plants, with gold sleeves.

The cost will be \$11.00 per plant. You may order a plant in honor or memory of someone by filling out the order form and giving it to Connie McWilliams or the Church Office. It is not necessary to purchase more than one plant in order to honor more than one person. Make checks payable to Connie McWilliams and not to the church. Order forms will be available soon inside the bulletin. The deadline to order this year is November 30.

THORNWELL THANKSGIVING OFFERING

November is our time to contribute to the Thornwell Offering. These gifts respond to the needs of the children and families who turn to Thornwell in their time of crisis.



Join us in **HONORING**
our Veterans

PW Message Corner. . .

- **NOVEMBER 2—12:15PM—PWCT**
- **NOVEMBER 8—10:30AM—** Mary & Martha @ the home of Kathy Banke
- **November 15—10:30AM—**Circle One meets
- **November 18—10:30AM—**Busy Bees Circle meets



**THANKSGIVING
STEWARDSHIP
LUNCHEON**

On November 16, there will be a covered dish luncheon immediately following worship service. We will be celebrating Thanksgiving and Stewardship. Please plan to join us for this GREAT celebration.

THE CRAFT GROUP

**November 11 - 11:30 @ Monastery of the Holy Spirit
Conyers, Georgia**

Lunch will be served by the monks. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED and must be made no later than Monday 11/03 (Call or e-mail Barbara Barlow) Meet @ the church to carpool, 10:30 am.



PRESBYTERY HONORING DR. SPENCER FRYE

Presbytery meeting is November 11, 9:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., at Peachtree Presbyterian Church, 3434 Roswell Road, NW, Atlanta. They will honor Spencer Frye at that meeting. As many from the congregation who would like to attend, are encouraged to do so in support.



Campbell soup labels (or just the bar code) and education tabs found on canned goods, cereal boxes etc. can be placed in the box underneath the bulletin board for the Thornwell Ministry.



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.

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)



VISIT US ON THE WEB AT:
WWW.PPC-USA.ORG



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