



PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
351 MORROW ROAD  
FOREST PARK, GEORGIA 30297

DECEMBER 2015

# THE CROSSROADS

## *From Your Pastor's Desk*

*And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; (Luke 2:9-10)*

Even in times like we are experiencing, I bring good news of great joy for all people. Christ is coming again! Throughout this Advent season, let us prepare our hearts and minds to receive him...and share him with a world that really needs to know him.

### **Into The Darkest Hour**

**by Madeleine L'Engle**

It was a time like this,  
War & tumult of war,  
a horror in the air.  
Hungry yawned the abyss—  
and yet there came the star  
and the child most wonderfully there.

It was time like this  
of fear & lust for power,  
license & greed and blight—  
and yet the Prince of bliss  
came into the darkest hour  
in quiet & silent light.

And in a time like this  
how celebrate his birth  
when all things fall apart?  
Ah! Wonderful it is  
with no room on the earth  
the stable is our heart.

May your holy-days be blessed with love, laughter and a deep, abiding awareness of God's presence.

*Your pastor, sister and friend,*

*Sylvia*

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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.

## **Inside this issue:**

<b>Birthdays &amp; Anniversaries</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Volunteers &amp; Thank You's</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Prayer Requests</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>What's Happening</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Calendar</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Securus House</b>	<b>6</b>

# OUR PEOPLE!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ...** 01/ Dot Morgan, 08/ Joyce Smith, 20/ Guy Staats, 21/ Betty McDonald, 21/ Van Banke, 25/ Frances Youngblood, 27/ Sylvia Wilson, 29/ Ann NeSmith

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO ...** 01/ Kathy & Hal Banke, 01/ Debra & Greg Durden, 20/ Jo & Don Nelson, 21/ Serena & Guy Staats, 23/ Jane & Bud Ashmore, 28/ Dot & Ray Morgan

## THIS MONTH'S VOLUNTEERS

**Ushers:** Danny Morris, Mary Smith, Pat Randolph, Emory Pearce

**Nursery Workers:** 06/ Guest, 13/ Cathy Morris, 20/ Guest, 27/ Jennifer Rohrbach

### THANK YOU

Thank you for the lovely Sunday we spent with you. We so appreciate your including us in the Homecoming Celebrations, honors, and fellowship! We enjoyed visiting with old friends, making new friends, walking the cemetery and remembering family past, seeing the Joseph Hugh Lasseter window in the sanctuary, hearing a wonderful choir, a meaningful message and scriptures. And wow! What wonderful food! Great cooks all! We appreciate the tremendous planning and hours of work to decorate, to organize, and to make this day so special! 190 years.

God has richly blessed this congregation and our prayer is for membership growth and service to God.

To God Be The Glory,  
Suzan & Reuben Lasseter

### THANK YOU

A big Thank You to Jackie Hill for donating 337 household items to the Calvary Refuge to be used at the shelter and for clients progressing to their own apartments.

It is through generosity like this that the Calvary Refuge and our many other ministries are able to do what they do for the community.

### AN EMAIL ISSUE

We have been having an issue with emails going to AOL accounts. Most of the time, the email does not go thru. If you have an alternative account, please contact the church office. We use these for the church-wide messaging.

### A thought from your Finance/Stewardship Committee

Ever wanted to give to someone, but excused yourself from proceeding just because you didn't know what to do? Perhaps you have wanted to do something nice for someone but know you really can't afford to give much. The reality is that God is pleased when we are givers. What we give can be time, money, energy, and even our talents.

Here are 10 ideas:

1. Make a contribution to your local church.
2. Call or visit a homebound friend.
3. Call a homeless shelter and ask what their current need is.
4. Commit to giving to others this Christmas.
5. Bake something and give it to an elderly person.
6. Give a favorite book to someone who might benefit from the topic.
7. Send a care package to a member of our armed forces.
8. Buy extra groceries and drop them in a donation or pantry box.
9. Build something for someone.
10. Do a craft and give it to someone.



Christmas Joy

The Christmas Joy Offering provides much-needed assistance to PC(USA) church workers and their families, and Presbyterian-affiliated racial ethnic schools and colleges, which enable students to develop their gifts and find their calling.

### ADVENT 2015

Advent material is available in the narthex for everyone in the congregation. There is a calendar that includes scripture and reflections for each day of the Advent season. There is also "Unto Us a Child is Born" devotional booklet by Henri J.M. Nouwen. Please use these to prepare your heart and soul for the celebration of Jesus' birth.



# WHAT'S HAPPENING!

## PW Message Corner . . .



- DEC 6—12:15pm—PWCT
- DEC 15—10:30am—Busy Bees Circle
- DEC 19—10:30am—Circle One

## Session Summary...

The Session of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church held its monthly business meeting on November 15, 2015. The Financial Committee reported the PPC October 2015 financial report as follows:

Balance in the Operating Fund	\$33,943.30
Total Assets	95,368.54
Total Revenue October	15,386.58
Total Expenses October	13,067.93
Balance for October	2,318.65

- Homecoming was a great success with 155 in attendance to hear Rev Trey Harper deliver the sermon.
- Session approved Pastor's Wilson attendance at the Wee Kirk conference in N.C.
- Approved Pastor Wilson's request for vacation Sunday 12/27.
- Yearly Congregation Meeting:
  - Elder Jennifer Rohrbach elected to the Class of 2016-18
  - Corporation Assets as of September 19, 2015 equal \$79,335.75
  - Cemetery Assets as of August 31, 2015 are \$93,204.90
    - Fred Rohrbach has been hired to be the manager of the cemetery.
- Advent Schedule:
  - 11/29 – Hanging of the Green
  - 12/6 – Christmas Breakfast
  - 12/20 - Cantata 7 pm.
  - 12/24 – Christmas Eve Communion service 7 pm.

**Rick Pierce – Clerk of Session**

## THE CRAFT GROUP

December 8 – 11:30am - @ Meridian Club House

## 2015 PPC Christmas Events

- ≈ November 29—11:00am—Hanging of the Green Service
- ≈ December 6—9:30am—Church Christmas Breakfast
- ≈ December 20—7:00pm—Christmas Cantata & reception
- ≈ December 24—7:00pm—Candlelight & Communion

## CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST 2015



We are celebrating Christmas with a fellowship breakfast on Sunday, December 6, at 9:30am in the fellowship hall. The Session is providing all the food and drinks.

We ask everyone, who is able, to bring a gift for the children of Securus House. Do not wrap them so Securus can direct their distribution. They will also need paper to wrap the gifts.

**Some suggested items are:** toys, games, cars, trucks, baby dolls, puzzles, crayons & coloring books, all kinds of children's books. The children range in age from babies to 17.

We will place them under the tree when we come for breakfast. If you are unable to get a gift, come anyway and join in the fellowship.



## CHRISTMAS CANTATA DRESS REHEARSAL

The choir will have a dress rehearsal for this year's cantata on Saturday morning, December 19, at 10:00am. If you would like to see the program but are unable to come at night, please feel free to come.

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)



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VISIT US ON THE WEB AT:  
[WWW.PPC-USA.ORG](http://WWW.PPC-USA.ORG)

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**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!*

*Christian Sympathy is extended to Mary Smith & family in the sudden death of Mary's niece.*

*Rev. Dr. William "Bill" Conine, Jr.* passed away on November 12, 2015 after a lengthy illness. Bill, as he was known to most of us, and his sister, Pegge Conine Murphy, grew up at Philadelphia. Bill's mother, Ollie Conine, was very active at Philadelphia and was perhaps best known for organizing trips to North Georgia during apple picking time. Bill was cremated and some of his ashes will be returned to Philadelphia at a later date for interment in our cemetery. If a grave side service is arranged we will let you know the date and time.

11/1 Linda (Buddy Ashmore's sister-in-law) – recovering from a stroke

**11/24 Ruby Chapman (Serena Staats' mother) - in ICU at Piedmont Mountainside, Jasper—heart procedure**

11/1 Ed Downey – (Nancy Phillips' cousin) – battling cancer

10/12 Betty & Rowland Downing (Greg's parents) – are back home and recovering well

11/08 Philippe Karka and his extended Togo family dealing with death, an accident & Celestine's father's illness

10/01 David Newberry (Pat Randolph's friend) – radiation & chemo for several advanced stage cancers

10/22 Dawn Smith (Frances Youngblood's daughter-in-law) – continuing chemo

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

Tye Bryant    Becky Huie    Jean Ray    JoAnn Tatzel    Dot Upchurch

**Prayer Request: Call 404-366-1851, Email [secyppc@bellsouth.net](mailto:secyppc@bellsouth.net) or fill in the I WISH card and place it in the offering plate.**



Clayton County Association Against Family Violence, Inc.

**SECUR'US HOUSE** is the refuge for abused women and their children. As usual, we will be collecting supplies in December.

**Connie McWilliams, Community Missions**

**ITEMS NEEDED**

**Items for infants & children include:**

diapers (all sizes, but esp. large & x-large)  
diaper rash cream  
baby oil, baby wipes & Vaseline  
bottles with nipples  
diaper bags & baby strollers  
socks, underwear & undershirts (all sizes)

pajamas & slippers (all sizes)

crayons, coloring books, markers

**Items for the women include:**

new underwear (all sizes)  
pajamas, gowns & slippers (all sizes)  
personal hygiene products  
hair care products for women of all color  
hair blow dryers  
casual clothes (all sizes)  
folders for personal documents

**Items for the shelter include:**

toiletries (deodorant, shampoo bar soap)  
laundry detergent & fabric softener  
dish-washing detergent (hand & machine)  
paper towels, toilet tissue & facial tissues  
trash bags (large kitchen & heavy-duty yard)  
toothbrushes, toothpaste & mouthwash  
first aid products; cough drops; lip balm  
Infant & Children's Tylenol (non-generic)  
twin sheets sets (any color)  
9-oz. & 16-oz. cups  
paper plates  
office supplies  
8 ½ x 11 copy paper

Post-it notes (all sizes)  
9 x 12 manila envelopes

**New Start Items:**

(new or slightly used)  
suit case  
towels & wash cloths  
sheets sets (any color)  
flatware & glasses  
pots & pans  
kitchen utensils

**PLEASE NOTE:** *You may make monetary donations. Make your checks payable to Philadelphia Presbyterian and mark for Securus House. Place your donations in the collection bins in the narthex. All gifts must be received by Sunday, December 20, 2015.*

**ALSO**

**Check the Christmas Breakfast invitation for Christmas Gift items for the children.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**