



PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
351 MORROW ROAD
FOREST PARK, GEORGIA 30297

NOVEMBER 2015

THE CROSSROADS

Thoughts from your Pastor,

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights. James 1:17

God, Sovereignty Of God, The Eternal God Reigning Forever

No doubt you've been greeted by Halloween displays and then surrounded by summer sales on your left, thanksgiving decorations on your right and Christmas ornaments being shelved as you walked down the aisles of any store. How can we make sense of it all?

Many nations designate special days for giving thanks and our Thanksgiving Day always falls on the fourth Thursday in November. For any thanksgiving to happen there must be something to be thankful for and somebody to thank. Followers of Christ have the greatest reason to give thanks and an amazingly awesome God who actually receives our gratitude.

Thanksgiving leads to the next great celebration on our calendar — Christmas. While we give thanks during the last week in November, we also step into the season of Advent, signaling the start of a new Christian year, and the imminence of the Incarnation which the Western church observes on December 25th.

This year the first day of Advent falls on the Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend. Then for the next four weeks, it's as if we seek to re-enact, remember and reflect upon the thousands of years God's people were anticipating and longing for the coming of God's Messiah, for Jesus. "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" captures the essence of that longing.

Our redemption is far from complete though. There is still pain, suffering, tragedy, and death in the world. And sometimes we have trouble believing God's promises. Our spiritual redemption came with the baby of Bethlehem yet we are still waiting for the redemption of our bodies — waiting for Jesus' Second Advent - waiting for him to come again.

So here we are. Standing in the middle. Looking forward to a season of Thanksgiving. Looking back remembering how it must have been for the Hebrew children to wait for the promised salvation of God. Looking to Jesus through the eyes of faith trying to imagine what the future might bring. Not knowing what to expect. But trusting that God is working all things out for good.

May your month be filled with thanksgiving, leading into a season of reflection, gratitude for the promises that were fulfilled when God gave us the gift of his son, and anticipation of/preparation for Christ's coming again.

In the midst of the madness, my prayer is that our lives, homes, activities, and celebrations will center on the true "Reason for the Season".

Your pastor, sister and friend,

Sylvia

Adapted from an article by Noel Piper <http://www.desiringgod.org/articles/how-to-make-your-holidays-christian>

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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/ Debbie Bray, 07/ Ruth Gettys, 12/ Elizabeth Clayton, 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 & Jeffrey Randolph, 14/ Cathy & Danny Morris

THIS MONTH'S VOLUNTEERS

Ushers: Ray Morgan, Darr Johnson, Don Nelson

Nursery Workers: 01/ Evelyn Murdock, 08/ Debbie Bray, 15/ Pat Randolph, 22/ Guest, 29/ Diane Kitchen

THANK YOU

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for all the calls, cards, visits, concerns and prayers for my Mom and Dad during their recent illness. Everyone's kindness has been such a comfort to my parents and me.

Much Love,

Gregory Downing

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!

10/01 Russell Adair (Cindy's brother-in-law) – sinus surgery along with cancer treatments

10/12 Betty Downing (Greg's mom) - recovering from pneumonia

09/16 Roland Downing (Greg's dad) – recovering from knee surgery, at Laurel Park

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

08/30 Bud Steele – dealing with cellulites

08/30 Mona Steele – severe digestive issues

09/03 Mitchell Trotter (Joyce Smith's brother) – recovering from back surgery

09/27 Akhtar Yusufji (Feroze's brother) – cancer in the neck, had surgery starting radiation & chemo

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 fill in the I WISH card and place it in the offering

WHAT'S HAPPENING!

PW Message Corner. . .

- NOV 1—12:15pm—PWCT
- NOV 14—10:30am—Mary & Martha @ Kathy Banke's home
- NOV 17—10:30am—Busy Bees Circle
- Nov 21—10:30am—Circle One



THE CRAFT GROUP

NOVEMBER 10—11:30am—@ Cracker Barrel, Morrow

MANY THANKS

Many, many thanks to the **Homecoming Committee - Pam Langley, Diane Kitchen, Jim and Nancy Phillips, Connie McWilliams, Carol Masdon, and Pam Rountree**. Homecoming was a wonderful event and your hard work made it happen. Thank you so much for serving on this committee!

A special thanks to **Carol Masdon and her crew - Connie McWilliams, Mabel Smith, Blondell Brown, and Pam Rountree**. The Fellowship Hall, overflow room, and Meet and Greet room were absolutely gorgeous! Thank you for taking time out of your days to come up and decorate for Homecoming.

A special thanks to the **Women's Circles**. The breakfast goodies at the Meet and Greet were delicious. I also want to thank you for helping with getting the food put out and getting everything ready for lunch. Your help was greatly appreciated.

*Jennifer Rohrbach &
PPC Church Family*

Thanksgiving Luncheon—November 15, 2015

On November 15, there will be a covered dish luncheon immediately following worship service. We will be celebrating Thanksgiving. This year we have invited the international students from Clayton State. Please plan to join us for this GREAT celebration.



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 29.

Session Summary...

The Session of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church held its monthly business meeting on October 18, 2015. The Financial Committee reported the PPC September 30 financial report as follows:

Balance in the Operating Fund \$32,627.84
 Total Assets 93,049.89
 Total Revenue September 11,554.60
 Total Expenses September 14,128.97
 Balance for September (2574.37)
 Balance YTD \$9,353.90

Administration and Session extended Pastors Wilsons call for a period of up to one year.

Final planning is in place for the 190th Homecoming celebration.

Pastor Wilson is attending the WeeKirk conference in Montreat the week of 10/19.

Congregational meeting 10/18

Jennifer Rohrbach has been elected by the congregation to serve in the Elder class of 2016.

Corporate assets 9/19: \$79,335.75

Cemetery assets 8/31: \$93,304.90

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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