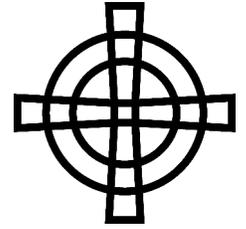


**MARCH 2016**

## *Philadelphia Presbyterian Church*

351 Morrow Road, Forest Park, Georgia 30297



# THE CROSSROADS

PASTOR:

Rev. S. J. Wilson

PHONE:

404-366-1851

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### *Thoughts from your Pastor,*

*And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship,  
to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Acts 2:42*

Chris Walker at [EvangelismCoach.org](http://EvangelismCoach.org) provides the following list that focuses on ways to increase numbers in the small(er) congregation. He also extends a caution, "As a church adds to its numbers, do not forget the actual [work of evangelism](#): sharing the gospel message with those becoming part of your unity of faith." The session and pastor are responsible for some of these tasks but are there a couple you might try, especially during the remaining weeks of Lent?

- 1. Set a growth target for your church** - While we might agree that evangelism in the small church is not about numbers, you can't reach a goal if you don't set one.
- 2. Increase the number personal invitations** - The [invitation of a friend or family member](#) is still the most effective form of adding people to your church.
- 3. Serve your church visitors and guests with honor** - [Your hospitality system](#) plays a role in shaping a visitors decision to return and get involved. Greet visitors when they come, visit with them after the service, and most of all, remove the unnecessary barriers that keep visitors from making that second visit.

- 4. Be on a Mission in the community** - What is your church doing to be an agent of transformation in the community? Churches that spend themselves on behalf of those on the margins (and sharing their faith as well as serving) have an attractional element for people who want to do something with their lives, not just attend a monologue bracketed by a few songs.

- 5. Prayer** - there are two keys to effective prayer in general.

Abide – an intimate relationship with Christ.

Ask – Jesus invites us to ask.

What is something measurable can you ask for?

That your unchurched neighbor will accept your invitation and come to your church?

That your church would add 15 new believers this year and celebrate their baptism?

That 4 visitors would join the church over the course of the next 8 weeks?

That you could invite 5 people in the next 10 weeks who express a need for church?

*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.**

**TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER AND WITH CARDS** (new info in bold)

**THIS MONTH'S BIRTHDAYS**

- 02/ Chris Banke
- 03/ Jennifer Rohrbach
- 05/ Rose Enow
- 10/ Lee Cushing
- 15/ Angie Tharp
- 18/ Diane Kitchen
- 19/ Dan Nelson
- 19/ Andrew Durden
- 20/ Pat Randolph
- 24/ Pegge Murphy
- 26/ Henry Brock
- 27/ Charles NeSmith
- 28/ Erwin Gettys

**THIS MONTH'S ANNIVERSARIES**

- 20/ Howard & Karen Kelly Nelson
- 26/ Buck & Annelle Maxwell
- 28/ Philippe & Celestine Karka

**THIS MONTH'S VOLUNTEERS**

**USHERS**

- Jim Phillips
- Buddy Ashmore
- Darr Johnson
- Pat Randolph

**NURSERY**

- 06/ Mallory Banke
- 13/ Diane Kitchen
- 20/ Debbie Bray
- 27/ Guest (Easter)

*Please notify us concerning any updates you may have.*

*Christian Sympathy is extended to the Ray family in the home-going of long time PPC member Jean.*

- 01/24 Regina Allen (Dot Pearce's niece) – chemo treatments
- 02/22 Blondell Brown—recovering from a fall
- 02/01 Ruby Chapman (Serena Staats' mom) – recovering from blood clot in heart and Serena for safe travels while she is caring for her
- 02/16 Dennis Hermosilla (Tom Smith's nephew) – pancreatic cancer, under hospice care
- 02/01 Kayre Hines (Kathie Pierce's mom) – recovering from fall, fractured both wrists and jaw and Kathy for safe travels to care for her
- 02/08 Maci Johnson age 4 (Debbie Bray's great grand daughter) – heart surgery 2/19 to repair artery
- 02/01 Dene Long (Nancy Phillips' sister) – surgery & treatment for breast cancer
- 02/01 Betty Mullins (former member) – under hospice care for congestive heart failure & dementia
- 02/01 Charles NeSmith – recovering from fall and facial fracture, not ready for visitors but improving
- 02/01 Niki (Kiere Coan's friend) – grandparents recently lost everything in a house fire
- 02/22 William Rosenberry—recovering from surgery
- 01/22 Dawn Smith (Frances Youngblood's daughter-in-law) – continuing chemo
- 02/22 Martha Smith—recovering at home
- 02/16 Michael Trotter (Joyce Smith's brother) – recovering from Pneumonia, at home with oxygen

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

- Tye Bryant
- Becky Huie
- 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 drop in the offering plate.

*A note of Thanks . . .*

Thank you for another successful Souper Bowl of Car-ing. The Chili Cook-off was fun and the collection of 185 items of canned goods and non perishables and a donation of \$200 went to a local charity, **Samaritans of Clayton County**.



*Securus House*  
CCAAFV

We were also able to donate to **Securus House** during February, 295 items to help with their ministry, such as clothing, paper products, toiletries, medicines and organizational supplies.

Thank you for your continued support of our ministries and local ministries.

Connie McWilliams  
Community Missions





During worship on Sunday, January 17, the current Session announced their decision to remain with the PC(USA). The decision was reached after a lengthy season of discernment that included results from the CAT Scan, congregational input from several Listen and Learn Luncheons, morning

meetings, notes, private conversations and of course fervent prayers on the part of many members. The decision was unanimous and reflects the wishes of the great majority of members.

The Session will be reviewing the current mission/vision/values statements in preparation for writing the Church Information Form. Their goal is to have the congregation elect a Pastor Nomination Committee (PNC) by the end of March. Delaying the decision would have added a month or more to the process.

In the days ahead, Session will provide additional opportunities for congregational involvement. Your concerns and suggestions may also be shared at any time with any member of Session or submitted to them by mail noting that your signature will ensure a response. Please continue to pray for PPC, her members and her leaders.

### PW MESSAGE CORNER



- MAR 12—10:30AM—Mary & Martha Circle @ Debbie Bray's home
- MAR 12—10:30AM—Circle One
- MAR 13—12:15PM—PWCT
- MAR 15—10:30AM—Bussy Bees Circle
- MAR 20—02:30PM—Annual PW Gathering @ Shallowford

### CRAFT GROUP

- MARCH 8—11:30am @ Southern Cooking, McDonough
- MARCH 22— 11:30AM @ Cracker Barrel, Morrow

### Annual PW Gathering



All women of the church are invited to attend the Annual Gathering of Presbyterian Women on Sunday, March 20, at 2:30pm at Shallowford Presbyterian Church. This year, our own Debbie Durden will be installed as the new Moderator for the Greater Atlanta Presbyterian Women. Please plan to attend in support of Debbie. Carpooling is available.

P.S. If you are a Life Member, please wear your pin.



Church-wide

## Workday

Saturday, March 5  
& Saturday, March 19  
From 9:00am to 12:00 noon.  
There are many things to do.  
Please join us if you can.

### ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

"I was hungry and you gave me food" Matthew 25:35

We will be receiving this important offering thru Easter Sunday. By supporting OGHS, you're sustaining programs that provide disaster relief, food, clean water, training, and resources to people all over the world.



## Holy Week 2016

A week of worship in anticipation of the joy of Easter through the recognition of God's goodness. Each Sunday's service will include special music and Communion will be served during our Easter Service.

- March 20—**Palm/Passion Sunday**—Service begins at 11:00am.
- March 20-April 3—**Stations of the Cross**—community self-guided tour on PPC grounds to reflect on Jesus' final days in Jerusalem (booklets provided)
- March 24—**Maundy Thursday**: We will be hosting a **Tenebrae Service** at 7:00pm.
- March 25—**Good Friday**: you are encouraged to go to a church in your area to attend a service.
- March 27—**Easter Sunrise Service**: begins at 7:00am with breakfast to follow in the fellowship hall.
- March 27—**Easter Worship Service**: begins at 11:00am.

**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.

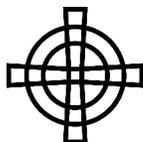
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Find us on the web  
[ppc-usa.org](http://ppc-usa.org)

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<p><b>Radical Hospitality</b> (Romans 12:9-21) <b>Passionate Worship</b> (John 4:21-24) <b>Intentional Faith Development</b> (I Corinthians 9:19-24) <b>Risk-Taking Mission and Service</b> (Matthew 25:14-30) <b>Extravagant Generosity</b> (II Corinthians 9:6-15)</p>
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## THE CROSSROADS

*PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH*  
*315 MORROW ROAD*  
*FOREST PARK GA 30297*