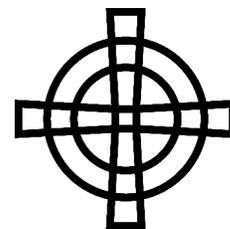


*Philadelphia Presbyterian Church*

351 Morrow Road, Forest Park, Georgia 30297



**THE CROSSROADS**

**PASTOR:**  
**Rev. Dave Omerod**

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**404-366-1851**

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 dbomerod @ att.net

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*The Pastor's Page . . .*

**IS IT POSSIBLE?**

Recently someone said to me that if we grow she sure hoped we don't become a huge congregation. I told her that I doubted that would happen. I do, however, believe we can grow to 300 members again. Do you think it's possible?

If we don't think it's possible, it won't happen, for sure. If we do think it's possible, that means we would need to see ourselves in a new way. We have been at around 125 members for a while. This means we see ourselves as a small 125 member congregation. To become a 300 member congregation, we need to see ourselves as a much larger church. After all, our facilities are designed for 300 members.

Some of us already know what it means to be a 300 member congregation because we were here when the congregation was that size. To return to 300 members means we need to think like a 300 member congregation again. It means that we need to win little victories, such as finding someone without a congregation or someone looking for a congregation or someone who we can tell needs Jesus. These are examples of small victories.

It means looking at the challenge God has given us and using the words: "we, can, will and yes" and not the words: "me, can't, won't and no." It means having a congregation filled with energy and excitement for new possibilities, because God is sending them to us daily.

Parker Palmer wrote: "Our real freedom comes from being aware that we do not have to save the world, we must merely make a difference in the place where we live."

Making a difference is what grows congregations! Changing lives, being there for others outside our congregation, finding those in need, keeping our ears open to conversations that want us to talk about Jesus and our congregation, are all opportunities sent to us by Jesus. Little victories are available to us, once we get past thinking that growing our congregation is a difficult thing to do.

*Dave*

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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)

*Please notify us concerning new info and updates. Inquiring minds – and prayerful hearts – want to know!*

08/01 Regina Allen (Dot Pearce's niece) – chemo for ovarian cancer

08/14 James Ballew (Joyce Smith's son) removal of skin cancer on ear requiring skin graft

**09/19 Charlie Darr Johnson—fell and broke right shoulder in several places. Surgery to repair with a rod. Darr & Beverly are seeing to his care.**

08/08 Pastor Dave Omerod – 1<sup>st</sup> surgery on September 22 to repair knee

09/13 Doris Ragan (Cindy Adair's mom) – recovering from 3 cracked ribs and medical issues

09/01 Pat Randolph – continuing chemo & radiation treatments

08/29 Linda Smith (Joyce Smith's sister) – recovering from a Cardiac ablation

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

Patty Boone    Becky Huie    Dot Upchurch

**PLEASE NOTE:** if you make a prayer request or give an update during the Sunday worship service, please follow up with a call to the church office on Monday so we can update our prayer list.

**Secur'us House**

We normally run a campaign to collect donations for Secur'us House in April, September and December. This year, because of extra needs at Calvary Refuge, we have postponed our collection until December. At that time we will be collecting small gifts for the children along with items included in the shelter's ongoing needs. You may find a list of these needs on the bulletin board. As you are shopping and find bargains, you may go ahead and bring donations in using the Ministry Pantry to collect them for December.



Clayton County Association Against Family Violence, Inc.

**THIS MONTH'S BIRTHDAYS**

- 03/ Ethel Lynn Keeton
- 09/ Connie McWilliams
- 12/ Blondell Brown
- 13/ Gloria Dossouvi
- 16/ Jim Phillips
- 17/ Feroze Yusufji
- 25/ Lynn Vandiver
- 30/ Bud Steele
- 30/ Pam Rountree
- 31/ Karen Kelly Nelson

**THIS MONTH'S ANNIVERSARIES**

- 06/ Ed & Pegge Murphy
- 12/ Tom & Joan Murphy
- 21/ Feroze & Parveen Yusufji

**THIS MONTH'S VOLUNTEERS**

**USHERS**

- David Hatch
- Tom Smith
- Tom Murphy
- Mary Smith

**NURSERY**

- 01/ Dossouvi Family
- 08/ Mallory Banke
- 15/ Debbie Bray
- 22/ Mary Smith
- 29/ Cathy Morris

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent Make Sandwiches and Lunch Bags for **Calvary Refuge Center!** With your help and support, we were able to make approximately 100 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and approximately 170 lunch bags!

Our next Make Sandwiches and Lunch Bags for Calvary Refuge Center will be on Sunday, November 19th after a church-wide luncheon. Please plan on staying and helping out. This is the Sunday before Thanksgiving and we will be making extra sandwiches and lunch bags since school is out that week and they will need more to feed the children who would otherwise eat at school.

We are in need donations of the following items for the lunch bags in November:

- Individual cups of applesauce, fruit, pudding
- Granola Bars
- Cookies, Rice Krispie Treats, Little Debbie treats, etc
- Cracker packs
- Individual bags of Chips
- Ziplock type sandwich bags
- plastic spoons
- Bottled water
- Capri Sun and/or juice boxes

If you have any questions or would like to make a donation, please contact Connie McWilliams or Diane Kitchen.



## PW MESSAGE CORNER



- OCT 1—1215pm—PWCT
- OCT 12—10:30am—Mary & Martha Circle @ Debbie Bray's home
- OCT 14 —10:30am—Circle One
- OCT 17—10:30am—Busy Bees Circle

### —Our Annual PW Retreat—

All Women are invited and encouraged to attend our Annual PW retreat on Saturday, Oct. 28, 2017. This year we are honored to be invited by Debbie and Greg Durden to have our Retreat at their lake house on Lake Oconee! We always enjoy the fellowship and great programs at our retreats and we are looking forward to another wonderful retreat this fall. Our speaker is Peggy Smith, who is Pat Randolph's sister, and Peggy is excited to present "The Gospel According to Dr. Seuss". We have all read Dr. Seuss books to our children and grandchildren and love the rhymes, but with this study we will recognize important messages in these pages that we didn't know we were getting - messages that we recognize from the Bible. Both fun and inspiring!

Our Retreat will begin with breakfast at 9:30am as the group arrives, then the program will begin at 10:00am, followed by lunch around 1pm, and the program will conclude at 4:00pm.

The cost is \$20 and includes both breakfast and lunch. To reserve your spot, please give your checks or cash to Debbie Bray. Checks should be made out to Debbie Bray. We will arrange carpools from the Church and probably the Jonesboro or Stockbridge areas -- leaving about 8am. Please let Debbie know your carpool preferences when you reserve your spot with your check. **OCTOBER 22** is the deadline to reserve a spot.



## Congregational Meeting—October 8

There will be a Congregational Meeting on October 8, 2017 immediately following the worship service. The original purpose for this meeting was to elect two members of the congregation to serve on the nominating committee. This will be for a 1 year term. In addition to the election of two nominating committee members, we will also present and vote on changing one bylaw involving the length of time an elder will serve on Session. We will also present a proposal involving the use of some of the corporation's funds for the purpose of repairing or repainting the siding of the Church. Please plan to be present for this important meeting.



## CRAFT GROUP

- OCT 10 - 11:30am - @ Gabino's Restaurant, Rock Quarry Rd., Stbg
- OCT 24—11:30am—@ Mike's Restaurant, Apple Barn, Ellijay.  
**HUSBANDS of members invited, reservations required no later than October 22.**

### SESSION SUMMARY...

The Session of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church held its monthly business meeting on September 18, 2017. The Financial Committee reported the PPC August 2017 financial report as follows:

Total Revenue August	\$12,406.61
Total Expenses August	\$14,280.23
Balance for August	(\$1,873.62)
Balance in the Operating Fund	\$26,917.45
Total Assets *	\$87,537.46

\*(This includes operating fund, money market, and investments in cd's)

YTD Revenue	\$102,032.77
YTD Expenses	\$103,671.39
Difference of	(\$1,638.62)

#### In other news:

We are still looking for some Congregational members to serve on the committee which will be tasked with how to pay for the cost of the exterior project. While we do have the funds to cover the costs, we feel it's important to not just rely on our current assests. If you are interested in working on this committee please notify one of the elders. If you are asked to be on this committee, we hope you will help with this important task.

Many thanks to **Pat (Mary) Smith** who has become our new Sunday School Superintendent.

A big "Thank You" to the Praise Dance Team. You and your students did a great job on September 17<sup>th</sup>, and we look forward to the next performance.

Yours in Christ,  
Jennifer

## Congregational Meeting—October 29

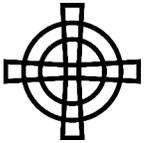
There will be a Congregational Meeting on October 29, 2017 immediately following the worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to elect the new elders as well as to vote on some additional changes to the bylaws. In addition to the Congregational Meeting, we will have our annual corporation meeting and will hear from the cemetery committee. Please plan to be present for this important meeting.

**OUR MISSION:** is to offer spiritual peace in a chaotic world through the stability of traditional Christ-centered teaching, worship and prayer.

**OUR CORE VALUES:**

- 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)

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



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315 MORROW ROAD  
FOREST PARK GA 30297



## Outreach

### Community Missions Pantry & Clothes Closet



Thank you, everyone, for your continued support and donations to our local ministries. We have recently been able to set up a storage area in the new Community Missions room (previous library). We will now be able to stock non-perishable items for our campaigns throughout the year. You may find lists of our individual ministry needs on the bulletin board. As you are able and find bargains, you may bring these items in to be stored in the **Missions Pantry**.

Included in the room, is our **Clothes Closet** that is used for the same ministries. The items needed are also listed on the bulletin board.

Our three major ministries are Calvary Refuge, Secur'us House, and Kinship Care:

**Calvary Refuge** is our local shelter for the homeless. We have committed to preparing sack lunches periodically. This information will be in the bulletin when Preparation Day is near so that you may participate. A list of their ongoing needs can be found on the bulletin board. They are also in need of men's clothing and shoes. We try to meet this need thru our clothes closet.

**Secur'us House** is our local shelter for battered women and children. Along with gifts for the children at Christmas, we collect supplies for the shelter's ongoing needs. Since many of these families must leave their homes quickly, we use the clothes closet to meet their clothing needs.

**Kinship Care** is our local organization that supports grandparents raising grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Each year, we collect school supplies for the children going back to school. The clothes closet is used to help the grandparents and children with their clothing needs.

**Special Needs** In addition to the above named ministries, we have campaigns during the year to support local needs as they arise. These special needs vary from year to year.

Thanks to our **Men's Ministry**, we are doing a sock drive. We have found that all our local ministries are in continuous need of good new or slightly used socks.

Thank you,

*Connie McWilliams, Community Missions*

*Jim Phillips, Men's Ministry*

