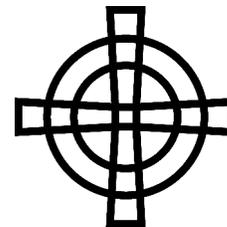


Philadelphia Presbyterian Church

351 Morrow Road, Forest Park, Georgia 30297



THE CROSSROADS

PASTOR:
Rev. Dave Omerod

PHONE:
404-366-1851

PASTOR E-MAIL:
dbomerod @ att.net

SECRETARY E-MAIL:
secyppc@bellsouth.net

WEBSITE:
ppc-usa.org



The Pastor's Page . . .

WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

I had a great time in Americus, Georgia. I was there for morning worship and stayed for lunch. It was a good time to talk to many people and to renew friendships of people I hadn't seen for 9 years. Everyone had changed! Imagine that!

It didn't take long at all during worship at Americus to see that **the church was not the building, but the people**. Lots of stories were told, lots of people remembered. The Bible tells us that wherever two or more are gathered in Jesus name, He will be there. The early church was first of all a local congregation and they experienced the Lord in this way.

But none of these congregations stood apart from the rest of the new congregations. The early church helped each other when there was a need. They depended on each other and supported each other, just as we do in the Presbyterian Church. We are not a stand-alone congregation. We belong to a group of congregations, and if there is a need, we help through our giving to presbytery. Sometimes we help directly.

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Having been a new church pastor, I organized congregations in double-wide trailers, a school gym, a community center and movie theater. It became apparent "at once" that the church is a group of people and not a building. The church can exist and function quite nicely without a building. Perhaps our own congregation was begun in someone's living room or outside under a tree. Worship might have gone on like that for a while.

As our society has changed, so have we. Much of the ministry of the church reflects the changes around us. People will travel to a church where they feel close to others and the work of the congregation is something they enjoy. We need more opportunities in our congregation for people to participate in the work of the Lord.

We need to discover and begin new ministries outside the walls of our building. Helping others takes us in direct contact with Jesus and **that feels like church**.

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.

Dave

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!

08/14 Nick Adair (Cindy's son) – on mission trip in Kenya (with civil unrest), Tanzania & Uganda for 21 days

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

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

08/01 Gene Harris – (Dot Pearce's nephew) –dealing with kidney cancer

8/08 Pastor Dave Omerod – surgery in September to repair knee

08/01 Pat Randolph – continuing chemo treatment

08/14 Linda Smith (Joyce Smith's sister) – recovering from heart and defibrillator trouble

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

Patty Boone Becky Huie Dot Upchurch

Prayer Request: Call 404-366-1851, Email secvppc@bellsouth.net or fill in the I WISH card and drop in the offering plate.

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.

THIS MONTH'S BIRTHDAYS

- 03/ Dot Pearce
- 06/ Mona Steele
- 06/ Pam Langley
- 08/ Gwen Steele
- 10/ Eliot Lawrence
- 11/ Greg Durden
- 13/ Zareen Nevrekar
- 21/ Dot Upchurch
- 23/ Aurora Staats
- 24/ Zara Nevrekar
- 26/ Betty Sue Downing
- 27/ Nell Cates
- 27/ Kekeli Dossouvi

THIS MONTH'S VOLUNTEERS

USHERS

- Philippe Karka
- Rick Pierce
- Jim Phillips
- Fred Rohrbach

NURSERY

- 03/ Debbie Bray
- 10/ Mary Smith
- 17/ Cathy Morris
- 24/ Diane Kitchen

THANK YOU

Thanks to you, we were able to deliver 2,752 items of school supplies to the Kinship Care Resource Center for the grandchildren returning to school this year.

THANK YOU

We were able to deliver 6 baskets of muffins to the surrounding Clayton County schools this year for the Teachers first day back. Again, thank you for your generosity and love for our community.

Connie McWilliams

Community Missions

THANK YOU

Mrs. Connie McWilliams & Philadelphia Presbyterian Church,

I would like to thank you and Philadelphia Presbyterian Church for opening your doors to people that are in need.

I have had the opportunity to visit and take home clothes from your clothing ministry. The clothes have always been very nice, clean, with no holes or damaged.

You will never know how much this means to me. I am a stranger and not a member of your congregation but you still opened your doors and invited me in and gave me at no cost what I wanted and needed. No church has to do what you have done.

Mrs. McWilliams, you have always been so friendly and polite, not looking down on anyone, always giving with a smile. May God Bless you and the ministries of your church.

Again, thank you for the many blessings.

Yours Truly,
Joyce Kemp

THANK YOU

Dear Philadelphia Presbyterian Church,

We would like to thank you for your donations on the First Day of school for teachers. Our staff really appreciated it and the muffins were delicious.

We hope to see you in future school activities.

Thanks

Gabysol Quiroz
Parent Liaison
Fountain Elementary School

PW MESSAGE CORNER



- NO PWCT next one Oct. 1
- SEP 9 —10:30am—Circle One
- SEP 14—10:30am—Mary & Martha Circle @ Parveen's home
- SEP 19—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.



Appreciation

Luncheon

September 24

after Worship

We will be celebrating our Sunday School Teachers with a covered dish luncheon immediately after service. In addition to recognizing our teachers, we will be celebrating Hal Banke and the work he has done as our Superintendent over the years.

Congregational Meeting—September 24

We will have a called Congregational Meeting on September 24th for the sole purpose of electing 2 congregational members to serve on the Nominating Committee.

CRAFT GROUP

SEP 12 – 11:30am - @ Padre's Mexican Restaurant, Publix Shopping Center, Hwy 81 & Lake Dow, McD

SEP 26—11:30am—@ 15th Street Pizza, 2130 Jodeco Rd., McD



A big thanks to everyone who supported the Good Shepherd Clinic's Annual Tomato Sandwich Party fundraiser held August 5 at the Morrow Center. This is the Good Shepherd

Clinic's MAJOR fundraiser to support the work and ministry of the clinic. The GSC is a 501 © non profit organization operating solely from gifts, fundraisers and grants. We were honored this year to have the City of Morrow as a MAJOR sponsor. I was honored to emcee the event this year and when the final count was announced the event had raised over **\$66,000** dollars. Again, thanks to everyone who supported the event.

*Jim Phillips, Member
Executive Advisory Committee*

SESSION SUMMARY...

The Session of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church held its monthly business meeting on August 21, 2017. The Financial Committee reported the PPC July 2017 financial report as follows:

Total Revenue July	\$11,395.31
Total Expenses July	\$10,000.84
Balance for July	\$1,394.47
Balance in the Operating Fund	\$28,769.13
Total Assets *	\$89,510.02

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

YTD Revenue	\$89,626.16
YTD Expenses	\$89,391.16
Difference of	\$ 235.00

In other news:

Over the last several weeks, the committee that's comparing the exterior quotes for repainting the Church exterior or replacing the exterior has met. They have narrowed the choices to 2 quotes but are awaiting some information from one of the contractors before a final decision/recommendation is made. This committee has also received bids on the replacement of the Plexiglas which protects our stained glass windows.

We are 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 assets. 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.

We will have a covered dish luncheon on September 24, 2017 in order to recognize and "thank" our Sunday school teachers and Superintendent. Please plan to bring your favorite dish and stay for lunch after service.

Also, on September 24, 2017 we will have a Congregational meeting to nominate members to serve on the Nominating Committee. Nominating Committee members will serve for a 1 year term. We will need two members from the congregation to serve on this committee. Please consider serving on this committee.

One final note - We are still in need of a Sunday School Superintendent. If you would be interested in serving in this capacity please let either myself or one of the other elders know.

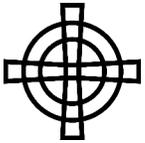
Yours in Christ,
Jennifer

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



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

Philadelphia Presbyterian Church Memorial Library Finale

In 2005, I contacted the Georgia Archives to ask if they would be interested in the materials we housed in the church library. They informed me at that time that they would not be interested unless the items were clean copies...meaning unprocessed. So, that was a dead end. The subject was dropped until I was in the church library in February, 2017 and noticed some of the children's books were beginning to mildew. At that point I decided to ask the PPC session permission to disperse the holdings of the library so that the materials would be useful to others, because the last item to be officially checked out of the PPCML was in 2005. As the session gave their permission, I began searching for good places for the materials to be safely placed.

First, I contacted Amanda Beck at the Henry and Clayton County Genealogy Society (The Brown House) in McDonough, Henry County, Georgia. Amanda came and retrieved the specific genealogy items. She also informed me that the Clayton County genealogy room that was located at the Clayton County Headquarters Library closed. They sold some of their items but the majority were taken to the Brown House and they are still processing them. There is currently no place in Clayton County to search genealogy except the Georgia State Archives in Lake City. The historical genealogy photographs were copied by Bob Huie. Amanda also wished to copy and digitally scan so the genealogy society would have copies.

Second, I notified the congregation to come into the church library and retrieve any materials that were important to them personally. Some of these were donated by relatives and some were just of personal interest.

Third, after a month passed, Amanda notified me that she had contact with a relative who was in mission work in Africa, (Jeremy and Danielle Campbell, <http://awinjo.com/>), who wished to receive the children's books. Also, she was informed by Jeremy that an intern was going to his location during the summer of 2017 and would assist in bringing more of the children's books so there would not be as much cost to the location. This took care of the remainder of the children's books.

Fourth, I contacted several ministers and the Atlanta Presbytery to see if any ministers in training would be interested in the religious subject books. That basically was another dead end. Due to many books now online, and many of our items out of date, I was unable to disperse the religious materials in this way.

Fifth, I tried to donate paper library items to public libraries. Items such as cards and pockets are no longer used. Technology has replaced them with barcodes. I had contact with an art teacher in LaGrange, Georgia who took all the paper items to be used in his art classes.

Sixth, I contacted a friend whose father is a minister in Commerce, Jackson County, Georgia. She was interested in taking all the posters for use in their church.

Seventh, Fred Rohrbach took all the church history related VHS tapes to transfer to CDs. These will remain at the church in the church office when completed as well as the bound bulletin books. These are items the seminary will not house.

Eighth, I contacted Erica Durham at Columbia Theological Seminary Library. CTS takes no donated religious books, but I was informed they house church history materials. In earlier days, the church sent historical materials to Montreat, North Carolina. Montreat still has a history/museum area but no longer houses individual church history materials. Montreat sent their holdings to Columbia Theological Seminary Library archives. So, in May 2017, Van and I loaded up all the PPC church history materials including the older session books and took them to the seminary archives. If doing church research, you may call to ask research questions and they will search for the answer for you in our church history holdings now housed in a climate controlled and fire proofed area. It is quite an interesting area. Before giving the seminary the older session books, I digitally scanned the registers that were located in the back of session books #1-6. I made copies of the session book indexes that were compiled by Belle Lawrence and Jim and Billie Goldwire. I also made copies of the current church registers. These registers give dates of baptisms, dismissals/deaths, and marriages...if recorded. I have also compiled a timeline history of the ministers who have served Philadelphia Presbyterian since 1825 (still in progress). A copy of each was given to the seminary, the church secretary has a copy of each in the church office, and I have a copy at home. I have 2 to 3 calls a year concerning genealogy questions related to the church. Jim Phillips gave the church office a CD with (1) a list by name and (2) a list by plot and (3) a copy of the Excel file related to the cemetery that I update as warranted. Jim also explained the layout of the cemetery i.e. numerical from North to South and alpha from right to left. The cemetery chart that was located in the library was also moved to the church office for reference. I finalized the collection of items to be housed at CTSL on 16 July 2017 meeting with Caitlin Reeves, the new receiving archivist for the seminary.

Ninth, in June, I had contact with Kristy Lucio, who is beginning a new library in Williamson, Pike County, Georgia. She expressed interest in the remainder of the books and any other useful items for that endeavor. So, the remaining library books as well as some left by past ministers were retrieved by Kristy 27 July 2017 for the Williamson Library.

With only a few materials remaining in the PPCML I declared this church library as closed as of 8 May 2017. As I have been PPCML librarian since 1996, there is no further need for that title. So, I resign as the Philadelphia Presbyterian Church Memorial Librarian as of 8 May 2017. I would still like to be designated as a genealogy/church history contact for the church as long as possible if the session agrees.

Diane Banke
Retired Librarian, PPCML