

PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

351 Morrow Road, Forest Park, Georgia 30297

THE CROSSROADS

Dear Friends in Christ,

Summer has landed with heat and storms and bugs, but I can't complain. It is also causing our garden to produce tomatoes, green beans, squash, bell peppers, and cucumbers. We've almost eaten all the blueberries on our one bush that is producing. We finally cut back our older ones to help them get bushier, so no fruit from them this year. We have our one little fig bush covered in fabric to keep the deer from eating it, so maybe this year we'll actually get a fig before the deer do! There is something about that first tomato, or that first watermelon, that I dream about all winter. The smell and taste tantalize me during those cold months. Although I can buy tomatoes and watermelon in the winter, they don't taste the same. So I hope you are enjoying fresh fruits and vegetables this summer.

I've been watching the garden and our flowers as they begin to bloom. I just see God everywhere in these miraculous events. One day there's a bud, then there's a flower, and then there's the beginning of a fruit or vegetable. I'm also struck by all the variety of growing things around me – we have a balloon flower that starts out as a deep purple "balloon" and then pops open to a beautiful flower. The adder's tongue makes these deep orange flowers up and down a tongue-shaped bloom stem. The bougainvillea starts out with a green leaf that gradually turns color and becomes a bloom. The moss roses open in the morning and close as it gets dusk. Each thing I see grows in a different way. God didn't just give us beautiful plants, but he gave us thousands of different ones. There must have been delight in thinking up new ideas for shapes and sizes and colors!

Summer always reminds me of the fullness and wonder of creation, even when I get too hot and have to come inside. It's a rich season, with bright light and color and new growth. I hope you get some time away from your daily routine to "vacation," whether away from home or at home. As we celebrate picnics and July the Fourth, I hope you enjoy "summer" foods, like potato salad and fresh squash. Life seems to slow down a little, and that is also a nice change.

I'm reminded of Jim's grandmother's favorite hymn. She was called "Big Mama" even though she was barely five feet tall, but she was "big" in so many ways – she loved her family and flowers and gardening and cooking good food. And every day to her was a good day. She loved "Count Your Blessings," because that's what she did – every day. I leave you with the first verse:

"When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed,
 When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,
 Count your many blessings – name them one by one,
 And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.
 Count your many blessings, name them one by one;
 Count your blessings, see what God hath done."



May you have a glorious and fruitful July.

Jeanne

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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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THIS MONTH'S BIRTHDAYS

06/ Rachel Rohrbach
08/ Joan Murphy
12/ Cathy Morris
12/ Thomas Thigpen
12/ Fred Rohrbach
13/ Wallace Dunn
19/ Ed Murphy
26/ Beverly Johnson
27/ David Hatch
31/ Rick Pierce

THIS MONTH'S ANNIVERSARIES

01/ Mary & Willie Smith
12/ Betty & Henry Brock
15/ Joyce & Tom Smith
16/ Kathie & Rick Pierce
21/ Pat & John Randolph



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!

Christian Sympathy is extended to Rose Enow and family in the passing of Rose's nephew in Cameroon, Africa.

06/09 Nell Cates – is recovering from a fractured sacrum

06/22 Rose Enow—upcoming biopsy

06/08 Marie Foster – home from hospital to withdraw fluid around heart

06/22 Carol Hamrick (friend of Phillips') - hospitalized with abdominal pain-awaiting tests

06/02 Becky Huie – diagnosed with congestive heart failure, doing better now

06/02 Carole Masdon—cancer, outpatient surgery recently, see bulletin board for phone number

06/08 Butch Pierce (Rick's brother) – recovering from prostate cancer surgery

06/16 Rick Pierce - recovering from knee replacement surgery

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

Nell Cates Marie Foster Patty Boone Becky Huie Ann NeSmith

Prayer Request: Call 404-366-1851, Email secyppc@bellsouth.net or call a Session member

Man of the Year – 2021

This is the 3rd year that our Presbyterian Women honored one of our Men in the church who have shown dedication to God by service to our Church. Over the years there have been many men who have shown their love of God by serving our Church and the Members of our Church in many ways. We are excited to be honoring these men by presenting a Man of the Year Award each Fathers Day.

This year's Man of the Year has been an Elder of our Church since about the time his first child was born. And he is a person who does so many things that might be somewhat behind the scenes or even taken for granted -- but he makes a big impact on our Church and our worship services.

Some of the things he has done -- He has served as Sunday School Superintendent, Worship Committee Chairman, and he gets our Christmas tree for the Sanctuary and then puts it up every year. He sings in our Choir and has even served as Choir Director on Sundays when the regular Choir Director is unavailable. He is the one who found our current wonderful Choir Director and pianist – Verena. And another difficult task he has done for our Church countless times, especially in the past few years, is to arrange for a minister for the pulpit on Sundays that our regular minister has been sick or on vacation. He also sets up for our communion services each month. He has definitely made a great difference in our Church.

He shows his dedication to God each Sunday as he serves our Church and in the wonderful way he lives his life.

This year's Man of the Year is **Greg Durden**. Well Deserved! We Thank Greg for all he does!

Greg's Man of the Year Honor was presented on Father's Day, June 20, 2021 with a certificate which states "For Dedication to God, our Church, and Family". Greg was also presented with a \$75 Amazon gift card – so he can buy more books to read on his Kindle.

PW MESSAGE CORNER:

June 10—10:30am—Circle One
June 12—11:30am—Mary & Martha luncheon @ Olive Garden, Morrow



-- **Save the Date:** All women in the Church to save the date and plan to come to our annual **Fall Retreat** on Saturday, October 23rd. More details will be available later.

-- Women of our Church are encouraged to contribute to **Columbia Friendship Circle** in July to help sponsor PW Scholarships to students at Columbia Seminary. Contributions can be made at Circle meetings or put in the collection plate on Sundays. The students we have sponsored in the past have been so appreciative of their scholarships! This year Columbia Friendship Circle is hoping to award 5 scholarships with your help. Thanks for giving!

--**Debbie Bray**

WORLD WIDE MISSIONS:

Currently we are continuing to collect soup labels (some other Campbells products count too—like Spaghetti-Os and broths) and pop-tops from cans. We are not collecting the box tops as that program changed and the customer has to register individually to collect points. Soup labels and pop-tops can be left at the church in the bulletin board collection box in the hallway outside the Sunday School room. Thank you for participating in our mission efforts!

Kathie Pierce, World Wide Missions

Thank You for your participation in the Securus House donations. We were able to donate 1638 items valued at \$972.81.

Connie McWilliams, Local Missions



Workday

Saturday, July 17, at
09:00 am
Come and help out if you can

KINSHIP CARE RESOURCE CENTER

In July, we will be collecting school supplies for Kinship Care Resource Center, a group that helps grandparents who are raising their grandchildren. A list of the types of supplies they need is below. You may leave your donation in the narthex on or before July 25. *If you wish to make a monetary donation, see:*



Connie McWilliams, Community Missions

Suggested school supplies are:

- large book bags
- clear book bags
- 3-ring binders (1-inch to 3-inch)
- 5-tab divider sets
- pens (blue, black and red)
- highlighters
- mechanical pencils and refill pencil lead
- colored folders (with and without prongs)
- calculators (Scientific for high school students)
- hand sanitizer
- tissues (small packets)
- crayons (24-count only)
- wooden pencils & pencil sharpeners
- pencil holders/bags for inside notebooks
- envelopes—white, small & large
- rulers, compasses and protractors
- spiral notebooks (1-subject mainly, also 3- & 5-)
- notebook paper (wide & college rule)
- index cards (3x5; ruled; white and colored)
- colored pencils
- staplers and staples
- markers (10-pack)
- copy paper
- tri-folder notebook with 3 sides
- Trapper Keepers
- tape, glue sticks, scissors



Thank you for all your support.

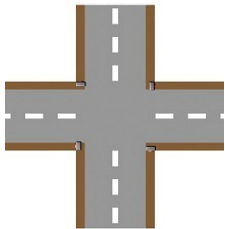


OUR MISSION: is to offer spiritual peace in a chaotic world through the stability of traditional Christ-centered teaching, worship and prayer.

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



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315 MORROW ROAD
FOREST PARK GA 30297*

PPC Clerk's Corner

Greetings from the Clerk of Session,

I hope this finds you and your family doing well and enjoying summer. As most of you know, we have now returned to a "normal" service. We have started back with Sunday School, we're now able to sing hymns together during service, the tape is now down in the sanctuary, and masks are not required if you have been fully vaccinated. If you have not been vaccinated, we ask that you continue to wear your mask.

For the last several weeks, we have had the opportunity to enjoy cookies and drinks after service and this is something that we plan to continue to do – unless it's a Sunday when we are having a luncheon. Speaking of luncheons, we are planning to go back to a monthly luncheon. We have definitely missed our luncheons this last year and are ready to start back with these. When we have the monthly luncheon, we plan to focus/spotlight one of our local charities and provide you with the opportunity to support them whether through monetary donations or bringing actual items. Please continue to watch the Crossroads and weekly bulletins to see who we are helping during a particular month.

The Session did meet on June 17, 2021 via Zoom to conduct our monthly business, and it is our plan that we will meet on the third Thursday of each month. Starting in September, we plan to return to face to face meetings on a Sunday morning before service. For the month of May, our financial information was as follows:

Total Assets - \$57,784.31

Monthly Total Revenue – \$14,597.01

YTD Revenue – \$70,416.24

Monthly Total Expenses – \$11,428.55

YTD Expenses – \$60,018.74

Thank you so much for your continued financial support. Our church is very blessed by your generosity.

Please continue to check on one another and please let either myself or one of the other elders know if someone is in need.

May God continue to bless each of you and your families.

Much love to you all!!!

Jennifer

America the Beautiful

- 1. O beautiful for spacious skies,
for amber waves of grain;
for purple mountain majesties
above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood
from sea to shining sea.***