

PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

351 Morrow Road, Forest Park, Georgia 30297

THE CROSSROADS

Dear Friends in Christ,

I'm ready for Spring. My jonquils are in full bloom (hope you enjoyed them on the communion table this past Sunday), my poor blueberry bush is blooming with no bees to fertilize it, and the roses are making new buds. But I know about March. March always fools you. You think Spring is coming, you go outside and work in the garden, and may even get foolhardy and plant some early vegetables. And then another cold spell hits, the buds freeze, and Winter reminds us that it's too soon. Jim's grandmother, Big Mama (and no she wasn't big in stature – she was about 5 feet tall – but she was big in character) used to tell us not to plant any garden until after Easter Sunday. And to make sure we didn't plant it on Easter Sunday, because if you plant garden on the Sabbath, it won't come up!

Jim has been perusing seed catalogues and some things have already come. He's getting the itch to plant. We're so tired of the cold. We want to get going on bell peppers and green beans and squash, and most importantly, tomatoes. Tomatoes are the filet mignon of the vegetable world, in my opinion. A home grown tomato beats store bought every time. So we'll try to wait.

We're also tired of waiting for COVID to calm down so we can take off these masks that drive us crazy. And if we knew that being vaccinated and boosted would prevent getting the Omicron version, I think we'd all be sitting pretty in church with our smiles showing. But we know the shots aren't preventing us from getting Omicron – and that's what makes me pause in terms of wandering around unmasked. I want CDC or somebody to tell me the incidence of that variety of COVID is low enough that we are safe. After all, if I come down with it and have to quarantine, you won't have a preacher for at least one Sunday! So I'll try to wait.

We are beginning Lent on March 2 with our Ash Wednesday service. So please try to join us at noon as we celebrate communion and then the imposition of ashes to remind us that we are 40 days away from Holy Week. We will journey with Jesus as he moves toward his destiny, knowing that it is one of betrayal and crucifixion. We can't go from Christmastide to Easter without walking this path with Jesus. It's not an easy one. We want to celebrate the resurrection with Easter lilies and bunnies and dyed eggs and chocolate. But we have a ways to go to get there. So we'll wait.

I'm reminded of those words from Psalm 130:

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;
my soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.

So we must wait. But we know that God is with us whenever we wait, whether it is for Spring or the end of a pandemic or Easter. God is always there, giving us hope and courage. May you feel that loving support this month. Because Spring is coming. Unmasking is coming. Easter is coming.

Yours in Christ,

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

- 02/ Chris Banke
- 03/ Jennifer Rohrbach
- 05/ Rose Enow
- 15/ Angie tharp
- 18/ Diane Kitchen
- 19/ Don Nelson
- 19/ Andrew Durden
- 20/ Pat Randolph
- 24/ Pegge Murphy
- 26/ Henry Brock
- 28/ Erwin Gettys

THIS MONTH'S ANNIVERSARIES

- 20/ Karen & Howard Nelson
- 28/ Celestine & Philippe Karka

THIS MONTH'S USHERS

- Emory Pearce
- Danny Morris
- Celestine Karka
- Thomas Thigpen

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!

- 02/02 Eve Hines Hanie – (Kathy Pierce's sister) recovering from an sledding accident, skull fracture
- 01/25 Rev. Bill Hines (Kathy Pierce's dad)—clear now of bacterial pneumonia, to see lung specialist
- 02/15 Beverly Johnson – recovering from knee replacement surgery
- 02/15 Barbara Sutton (Joyce's niece) spine cancer, chemo treatment with bad side effects
- 02/15 Sarah Trotter (Joyce's niece) recovering from breast cancer surgery
- 01/26 Charles Trotter (Joyce's brother) – recovering from surgery to remove tumor from behind ear
- 02/28 ByeonSoon Yoon (Heawoon's mom) – recovering from brain surgery for cancer, Heawoon is in Korea with her mom for now

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

Nell Cates Patty Boone Becky Huie Pam Langley Ann NeSmith

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



Service at 12 noon
 March 2, 2022
 imposition of ashes and communion

March 6 is Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday - all women in the church - bring something that shows a gift that you've been given! For example, Jennifer Rohrbach's poppy seed cake!



Workday

Saturday, March 19, 9:00am

Come and help out if you can.

PW MESSAGE CORNER:

- MAR 06—12:15pm—PWCT
- MAR 12 – 10:30am—Circle One
- MAR 15 — 10:15am—Busy Bees
- MAR 22 — 7:00pm—Mary & Martha (virtual)

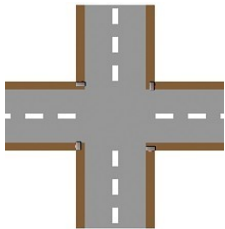


OUR MISSION: is to offer spiritual peace in a chaotic world through the stability of traditional Christ-centered teaching, worship and prayer.

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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