



**PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

351 Morrow Road, Forest Park, GA 30297 - PO Box 871028, Morrow, GA 30287

**THE CROSSROADS**

***Dear Friends in Christ,***

Veterans Day is November 11, and I want to talk about a special veteran who was a long time member of this church. Annie (Belle) Caroline Price Lawrence, Eliot’s mother, was born March 4, 1925, and grew up near the airport. She was fascinated with planes, even as a child. In those days, the planes could fly in low, and she would look up at the pilot and wave to him, and he’d wave back. At age ten, her uncle managed to get her a visit in a copilot seat for a flight in a small airplane, and that helped hook her on the desire to fly. Annie, who many at PPC knew as Belle, graduated from Sacred Heart High School at 16, and instead of going to Agnes Scott as expected (“I’ve had enough of all-girls schools”), she learned to fly. She spent her college money to buy half an airplane. At the age of 17 she had earned her pilot’s license flying a Piper Cruiser and joined the Atlanta chapter of the Civil Air Patrol. In 1944 she earned her restricted radio telephone operator permit from the FCC, and she was a Sergeant with CAP as Squadron Airport Operations Officer at the Atlanta Municipal Airport. Not to be stopped in her desire to fly for the military, she applied to the Army Air Force Women Service Pilot group (WASP). However, she was informed that they had raised the minimum acceptable height from 62 ½ to 64 inches. Belle was 63 inches tall.

So Belle stayed with the Civil Air Patrol flying “trainer” planes all over the country to airfields, so that new pilots could be trained. By 1945 she had passed her written examination for a commercial pilot’s license. Additionally, she flew CAP missions up and down the east coast, looking for German submarines. Belle also became an apprentice mechanic and licensed parachute rigger. For five years she was a partner in a fixed base maintenance operation in Deland, Florida, and rebuilt planes. She also taught this work to Ocala High School students. Belle married Ben Lawrence, a flight superintendent of Delta Air Lines, and worked for a short while at Delta as a ticket agent. After their two sons were older, Annie returned to the Civil Air Patrol and became a Lieutenant. She joined the Ninety-Nines, a group of women pilots formed by Amelia Earhart, while being active in the Forest Park Women’s Club and teaching Sunday School at PPC. In 2001 Belle retired from the CAP after more than 25 years of service.

Belle didn’t let criticism of women pilots stop her. She believed that “women had the right to do what they wanted just like any man.” In an interview in 2001 at her retirement, she said she “just did what she believes anyone else should do: follow a dream.”

I am so inspired by this incredible woman. At a time when women generally did not step outside of traditional roles, Belle blazed the way. I hope more little girls have a chance to learn her story and get an opportunity to fly planes. I am also jealous of her. When I was a little girl, my father would take me out to Hickory Municipal Airport where we would watch the occasional Piedmont Air Lines plane come in, as well as number of small planes. I too was fascinated by airplanes. At age 16 I was invited to join a friend of ours to ride in his company’s Lear Jet to Poughkeepsie, N.Y. The plane dropped him off and I got to fly back with just the pilots. I was in heaven. I still watch planes fly with a sense of awe, and I ride in them whenever I get a chance, “escaping the bounds of earth.”

I hope you have a veteran in your family who inspires you too. Their bravery has kept us a free country for close to 240 years.

***Jeanne***

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**Rev. Jeanne Simpson**

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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**

- 05/ Emory Pearce
- 06/ Debbie Bray
- 07/ Ruth Gettys
- 12/ Elizabeth Clayton
- 20/ Ray Morgan
- 23/ Nancy Phillips
- 25/ Bob Huie
- 26/ Janice Lockhart

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 11/ Erin & Jeff Randolph
- 14/ Cathy & Danny Morris

**THIS MONTH'S USHERS**

- Fred Rohrbach
- Rick Pierce
- Mary Smith
- David Hatch



**Secur'us House**

**SECUR'US HOUSE** is Clayton County's refuge for abused women and their children. Each Christmas we ask everyone, who's able, to bring a gift for the children. The children range in age from babies to 17. Do not wrap them so Securus can direct their distribution.

**Some suggested gift items are:** toys, games, cars, trucks, baby dolls, puzzles, crayons & coloring books, all kinds of children's books.

We will also be collecting some of their needed supplies. You may bring your donations in right away. Place them in the collection bin in the narthex.

**PLEASE NOTE:** *You may make monetary donations. Make your checks payable to Philadelphia Presbyterian and mark for Securus House. Place them in the offering plate or mail to the church office. All donations and gifts must be received by Sunday, December 18.*

**Connie McWilliams, Community Missions**

**ITEMS NEEDED FOR THE FACILITY**

**Items for infants & children include:** diapers (all sizes, but esp. large & x-large), baby oil, baby wipes & Vaseline, bottles with nipples, socks, underwear & undershirts (all sizes), crayons, coloring books, markers

**Items for the women include:** new underwear (all sizes), pajamas, gowns & slippers (all sizes), personal hygiene products, hair blow dryers, hair care products for women of all color

**Items for the shelter include:** toiletries (deodorant, shampoo, bar soap), paper towels, toilet tissue & facial tissues, tooth brushes, toothpaste & mouthwash, first aid products, lip balm

**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 Thomas Thigpen and family in the home-going of Rose on 10/26.*

10/05 Barbara Barlow – recovering from lumpectomy, follow up treatments ongoing

08/24 Philippe Karka – recovering from colon surgery, doing better

08/28 Connie McWilliams – recovering from knee replacement surgery, doing well

10/16 Mark McWilliams (Connie's son) – prostate cancer and shingles

10/06 Donna Randolph (Pat & John's daughter-in-law) – recovering from knee surgery

**10/23 Joanie Rayburn—trying to find housing after home burned**

10/16 Willie Smith – recovering from leg amputation

08/25 Barbara Sutton (Joyce's niece) spine cancer, chemo treatment pills now

10/16 Charles Trotter (Joyce's brother) – recovering from eye surgery & two heart stents

**10/23 Herb Wood (Rick's bro. in law) - on cruise, pneumonia & congestive heart failure**

10/16 Sid Woodham (Debbie Bray's brother-in-law) –tests and evaluation after collapse

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

Nell Cates

Patty Boone

Becky Huie

Ann NeSmith

**Prayer Request:** Call 404-366-1851, Email [secyppc@bellsouth.net](mailto:secyppc@bellsouth.net) or call a Session member or Shepherd.

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your prayers, cards, phone calls, and all your well wishes during my recovery. A very special thanks to Beverly Johnson. She took very good care of me. Jennifer Rohrbach, thanks for the wonderful food she fixed for us. Thanks to Rev. Simpson as well. I want to thank my circle sisters for all the help. Joyce Smith and Janice Lockhart for the good food and all their help they gave me at home. Good Bless you all,

Love, Connie McWilliams



**Thanksgiving Luncheon**

Sunday, November 20, we will gather for a Thanksgiving Luncheon immediately following Worship. The Session will provide the meats. Please bring side dishes & desserts to share and join in the fellowship.

**Hanging of the Green Service**

Sunday November 27 is the 1st Sunday of Advent. Please join us in this very special service.



## PW MESSAGE CORNER:

NOV 10—07:00PM—Mary & Martha Circle – virtual  
NOV 15—10:30am—Busy Bees Circle  
NOV 19—10:30AM—Circle One



**On November 6, we will present PW Life Membership with a reception after worship**



**Workday**  
**November 19**  
**9:00am**

## CRAFT GROUP

NOV 8—11:30am @ O'Charleys, Stockbridge

(no second outing this month due to Thanksgiving)



### Community Outreach

#### The Babb Project

Each Friday afternoon, the staff at Babb Middle School send home bags of food items with some of the students who are homeless or very low income so that they can eat over the weekend. We have partnered with them to provide some of the needed items for these bags. There are 20 students involved as of today.

**Breakfast Items:** Individually wrapped cereal, Pop tarts  
Cereal bars, Granola bars, Nutria-grain bars, Individual packs of Grits or Oatmeal, etc.

**Lunch Entrees:** (in microwavable containers) Ravioli with Meat Sauce, Spaghetti O's with Meatballs, Individually wrapped Mac and Cheese, Vienna Sausages, Beef Stew, Red Beans and Rice, Beans and Franks, Beef a Roni, Soup, Corn Beef Hash, Ramen Noodles, etc.

Juice Boxes , Milk Boxes (shelf-safe)

**Snacks:** Dried or canned fruits, fruit chews, peanut butter crackers, cheese crackers, goldfish, pudding or jello cups, mini microwave popcorn, etc.

Monetary gifts are also welcomed. We are looking into providing coats, hats, & scarves as well. Make you check payable to PPC and mark it for the Babb Project. For more info, see **Mary Smith** or **Eliot Lawrence**.

**Community Outreach**

## PPC Clerk's Corner

Greetings from the Clerk of Session,

Happy Thanksgiving!!! We see God's artwork in the trees leaves as they are changing colors. As I mentioned last month this is my favorite time of the year!

The Session did meet on Tuesday, October 18, 2022, via Zoom to conduct our monthly business. For the month of September, our financial information was as follows:

**Total Assets - \$76,377.58**  
**Monthly Total Revenue – \$17,008.23**  
**YTD Revenue – \$123,605.64**  
**Monthly Total Expenses – \$16,760.63**  
**YTD Expenses – \$116,027.20**

Your continued financial support is greatly appreciated!!!

As we head into November, we have a couple of special activities occurring. We will have a Thanksgiving luncheon on Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. The Session will provide the meats, and we are asking that everyone else bring the sides and desserts. Then on Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, the first Sunday in Advent, we will have the greening of the Church.

As you know, we were having issues with someone breaking into the mailbox. We now have a P.O. Box address so if you need to mail anything to the Church, please use the new address.

We're very excited about the new Outreach opportunity that Mary Smith shared with the Congregation on Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. We feel this is a great opportunity to help some of the children in our community. We hope that you will be excited about this project and will help us with supplying additional food items. Mary is also getting information about the childrens' sizes so that we can look into possibly purchasing coats.

Finally, I want to say "Thank You" to Serena Staats, Philippe Karka, and Rick Pierce as they plan to come off of Session. They have served our Church these last two years, and their willingness to serve is greatly appreciated.

As always, if you know of someone who is in need, please let an elder know or that person's shepherd. If you have an idea as to how we can help one another or an organization within our community please share your idea(s). Together we can accomplish much!

Happy Thanksgiving to you All!!!

Love, 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](http://ppc-usa.org)



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