

**PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

**THE CROSSROADS**

***Dear Friends in Christ,***

I want to thank the Session for generously letting me take 3 months off to take a longed for bucket list trip that Jim and I have thought about for many years. I retire from my corporate job December 31, so we will leave out of San Diego January 2 and be gone through April 6 while we visit Hawaii, South Pacific islands, Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, and a little tip of Indonesia (where the Komodo dragons are found). I was out of the country for three months in 2012, serving my ministerial internship in South Africa, but Jim only came to visit for three weeks, so leaving the house for this long makes us a little nervous, but we have a good friend who will check on things daily for us. I have been interested while reading about shore excursions to read of the South Pacific Islander and Maori cultures and religion. We will be visiting some historic places and cultural centers, and if the internet on the ship holds up, I'll share some of that with you.

You will be in good hands with Jack Westlund and your Session. You are the church, and I know you will continue to participate in worship and mission programs while I am gone with your usual enthusiasm and generosity.

In the meantime, Advent is here! A minister recently commented that it is hard to have hope when there is so much pain in the world, but we MUST have hope, because that is what Jesus is calling us to do. I pray during this time for the world that is in such turmoil, as I sing "O Come, O Come Emmanuel, and ransom captive" – all of us, actually. This world is captive to its fears and rage and inability to do what Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter did so beautifully throughout their lives – sit down with those who they didn't necessarily agree with and work toward consensus and respect for each other. Rosalynn left an incredible legacy behind her for us all to aspire toward. I hope as we celebrate this waiting for our Savior to be born at Christmas, once again, that we will remember those who have gone before us who give us hope.

***Jeanne***

**PASTOR:**  
**Rev. Jeanne Simpson**

**PHONE:**  
**404-366-1851**

**PASTOR E-MAIL:**  
[revjeannesimpson@gmail.com](mailto:revjeannesimpson@gmail.com)

**SECRETARY E-MAIL:**  
[secycppc@bellsouth.net](mailto:secycppc@bellsouth.net)

**WEBSITE:**  
**ppc-usa.org**

**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.**

**Inside this issue:**

Prayer List	2
Birthdays & Anniversaries	2
Secur'us House	2
Babb Project	3
PW Corner	3
Session Report	3
Craft Group Christmas	3

**THIS MONTH'S BIRTHDAYS**

- 12/08 Joyce Smith
- 12/20 Guy Staats
- 12/21 Van Banke
- 12/25 Frances Youngblood
- 12/29 Ann NeSmith

**THIS MONTH'S ANNIVERSARIES**

- 12/01 Debbie & Greg Durden
- 12/01 Kathy & Hal Banke
- 12/20 Jo & Don Nelson

**THIS MONTH'S USHERS**

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

**THANK YOU**

Because of your generosity, we were able to donate 161 bath towels and wash cloths to Securus House in October.

**Connie McWilliams,  
Community Missions**

**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 Joan & Tom Murphy and family in the passing of Joan's brother, Charles Dunaway on Saturday, November 18.*

- 10/22 Gerri Bradley (Mary Smith's sister) – new lung cancer treatment
- 10/26 Sidney Cooper (Angie Tharpe's brother) – new leukemia meds
- 11/12 Pam Langley – recovering from fractured toe & sprained ankle
- 11/07 Eliot Lawrence –rehab for leg amputation below knee
- 10/21 John Lovern – (former member, Tom & Joan Murphy's BIL) – hospice care for heart failure
- 10/10 Mark McWilliams (Connie's son) – many health issues with recovery from fall
- 11/14 John Randolph – recovering from removal of another bladder tumor
- 11/03 Barbara Sutton (Joyce's niece) spine cancer spread to other bones, looking for new meds.
- 11/03 Charles Trotter (Joyce's brother) –heart problems are causing breathing issues

**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.

***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 10.*

**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



## PW MESSAGE CORNER:

DEC 8—11:30am—Mary & Martha Circle members will be meeting at Jim and Nick's Restaurant for lunch. There will not be a business meeting in December. The address for the restaurant is: 1480 Hwy 20 W., McDonough. Please let Kathy Banke know if you are able to attend.

DEC 09 —10:30am—Circle One

DEC 19—10:30AM—Busy Bees Circle



## THANK YOU

Community Outreach spent \$469.23 for food to go into the weekend bags for the Babb Project in the month of October.

Thank You for your donations.

**Mary Smith**  
Community Outreach

## The Babb Project—Community Outreach



Thru the newly awarded **Diaconal Ministry Grant** from the Presbytery to serve the Babb Project, we are in the process of forming a "uniform closet" at the school for homeless and other transient or disadvantaged students who have no uniforms. More details available soon.

We are always in need of **food items** for the bags we give them each week. See the bulletin board for a complete list. Keep in mind that the food items we give the students need to be in cups or containers that can be eaten out of and be individually wrapped when purchased. It is better if the milk is in bottles that are easily poured from. Monetary gifts are also welcomed. Make you check payable to PPC and mark it for the Babb Project. For more info, see Mary Smith.

## Craft Group Christmas Party

The Craft Group will have their annual Christmas Party December 12, 11:30 am, at the Meridian Club House, Stockbridge. This will be a covered dish lunch. Husbands and/or Boyfriends of members are invited. RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED. Please call, email, text or see Barbara Barlow in person to make your reservations if you have not done so.



Tuesday, **DEC 5**, 9:30am  
@ Eggs Up, Morrow.  
We would LOVE to see you there!

## PPC Clerk's Corner

### Greetings from the Clerk of Session,

Merry Christmas!! I know it's still a few weeks away, but I just had to start with this anyway. It is a time of year that for many is filled with joy, laughter, and lots of love. But it can also be very stressful and lonely at times. My hope is that each of you will experience joy, laughter, and love throughout this month.

The Session met on Tuesday, November 21, 2023, via Zoom to conduct our monthly business. For the month of October, our financial information was as follows:

**Total Assets - \$94,341.37**

**Monthly Total Revenue - \$17,088.92**

**YTD Revenue - \$142,742.34**

**Monthly Total Expenses - \$14,663.35**

**YTD Expenses - \$137,645.88**

For such a little church - we are mighty!!! Your generosity is greatly appreciated!!! We could not help as many organizations as we do if it weren't for you. Thank you so very much!!!

As we approach the Christmas Season, we have a lot going on. The first day of Advent is December 3<sup>rd</sup> and we will have the Greening of the Church. We are collecting items for Securus House - please look in the Crossroads for a suggested list of needed items. On December 10<sup>th</sup>, we will have a Congregational Christmas Breakfast and members are asked to bring a breakfast dish to share. On December 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. we will have our Christmas Program - A Lesson in Carols with a Cookie Reception afterwards.

We are also going to have our Christmas Card Swap again this year. **If you want to participate, please bring your Christmas Cards to church NO LATER THAN SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>. Please only bring cards for members who attend regularly - we will not mail cards to those not at church.** Christmas cards will be sorted and handed out on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. Also, don't forget to bring a bag so we can put your cards in it when we sort them.

Just a reminder that we will celebrate 200 years on October 12, 2025. We are now a little under 2 years away. We are continuing to work on various projects so that there's not so much to be done at once. If you see something that you think needs to be repaired/updated, please let Fred Rohrbach know. Also, we want to reach out to as many former members as possible. We are going to need lots of help gathering names and addresses, so if you are in touch with former members, please let them know about Homecoming. We also will need their addresses so that we can mail them a "Save the Date" card as we get closer to Homecoming.

This is my last Clerk's note for now. Thank you all for the opportunity to serve you and our Church. I pray that God blesses each of you during this special time of year.

Merry Christmas to you all!!!

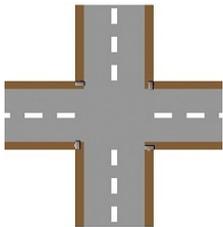
*Much love,*  
*Jennifer*

**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)



*THE CROSSROADS  
PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
P.O. Box 871028  
Morrow GA 30287*