
The Crossroads

Philadelphia Presbyterian Church
351 Morrow Road
Forest Park, GA 30297
Phone: 404-366-1851
Fax: 404-366-6117

Dr. Spencer R. Frye, Pastor
Pastor e-mail: srfppc@bellsouth.net
Secretary e-mail: secyppc@bellsouth.net
Website: ppc-usa.org
February 2008

♡ ♡ ♡ ♡ ♡

Valentine Beatitudes



To help usher in Valentine's Day, here are a few Valentine Beatitudes that help define years of success in a relationship – whether on a first date or married 50 years:

BLESSED (Happy) are couples who love each other more than any other person in the world and joyfully fulfill vows of fidelity.

BLESSED (Happy) are couples who respect one another.

BLESSED (Happy) are couples who forgive each other and create a peaceful environment.

BLESSED (Happy) are couples who continue to be affectionate, considerate and loving no matter how many years they are together.

BLESSED (Happy) are couples who are as polite and courteous to one another as they are to their friends and even passing acquaintances.

BLESSED (Happy) are couples who faithfully attend the local church and together work for the Lord.

BLESSED (Happy) are couples who can work through problems knowing that each person reflects the best interest of the other.

BLESSED (Happy) are couples who understand that money is on loan from God to fulfill His purposes.

BLESSED (Happy) are couples who humbly dedicate their lives to Christ.

BLESSED (Happy) are couples who set aside time each day to read the Bible and pray.

BLESSED (Happy) are couples who remember to thank God for their many blessings.

Some information and ideas taken from Christian Cyber Ministries.



Birthdays

- 10 Jeff Randolph
- 17 Lauren Fleming
- 17 Kaylynn LaFoy
- 18 Hal Banke
- 21 Barbara Barlow
- 22 Billie Goldwire
- 25 Nella Ree Dunn
- 28 Dot Dunn



Anniversaries

- 10 Bob & Becky Huie
- 14 Timothy & Anita DeBey
- 14 Eliot & Kathy Lawrence
- 25 Spencer & Sherri Frye

♡ ♡ ♥ ♡ ♡

MESSAGES TO OUR MEMBERS



I wish to thank those of you who faithfully kept our friend Sonny Strohm in your prayers. Both his mother and sister have now gone home to be with the Lord and are no longer suffering. For these blessings, we all give thanks. *The Lockharts*



We wanted to send a note of thanks to each of you at Philadelphia Presbyterian Church expressing our appreciation for your gracious generosity and support for Securus House, a shelter for children and mothers affected by family violence.

Our organization provides emergency shelter, 24-hour crisis line, and counseling services for both children and mothers that are devastated from the results of family violence. We have support groups, legal advocacy, community education and outreach programs along with numerous other services. We provide a safe environment for new beginnings.

The items you donated were very much needed and appreciated. We wish to thank each of you again for your support and commitment, and hope we can continue to count on you in the future.

Thanks again! *Gaye Griffith, Volunteer/Donation Coordinator, and Patricia Altemus, Executive Director*



Shalom from New York City! Hope you enjoyed the Christmas and New Year holidays. We visited family and friends. Earlier in December, we took chocolates to several Jewish friends for Hanukkah. We call it "The Great Chocolate Outreach!" (Hey, somebody has to do it.)

We are excited to be refocusing on Russian-speaking work. We may split an English worship group out from the Russian one. Luda has started a women's Bible study in Russian. Our last home Bible study was dominated by Russian-speakers, including five deaf Russian adults using a mixture of American and Russian Sign Languages (ASL and RSL). It turns out the mother of one of Eliana's little Russian friends is deaf. We introduced her to our deaf believing friends, which led to a flood of deaf Russian folks visiting our home.

Our friendships caught the attention of local Jehovah's Witnesses, who have targeted deaf immigrants for several years. They sent missionaries to monitor our worship meeting. Please pray for those interested in the Gospel to make a decision completely free from other influences. We feel there is spiritual warfare over our beloved deaf immigrant friends.

Luda is enjoying the weekly women's Bible study group. She plays guitar and leads worship in Russian, English and Hebrew! Great job, Luda! Singing fills our home, and we feel a spiritual breakthrough coming to this closed Bukharan Jewish community. Luda plans to reduce her work schedule by half, to facilitate more Russian meetings like this one. Please pray for some Bukharan Jewish women who previously confessed faith but have no fellowship with other believers. We are praying they will attend Luda's group.

Our existing Bible study is going well. We hope to begin an English group in our home, plus restart English classes in our old neighborhood. We want to try the home Bible study approach in our old neighborhood, so we are praying about renting an apartment there. The public facilities are very uncomfortable and not suited to intimate fellowship.

Please pray for us, for God's work to be done in God's way. May He bless you this New Year 2008 and always. Thank you for your friendship.

Yours in Messiah, *Randall & Luda Ford*



I have two notes of gratitude to pass along. First, to whoever nominated me to be a recipient of our youth's "Cans for Carols" program, I want you to know how much I really enjoyed the carolers. The group filled my little apartment, and the caroling was just beautiful! Also, to those who have sent out prayer cards on my behalf, know that they always lift my spirits and brighten my day. Thanks again, *Tye Bryant*



I appreciated all the Christmas cards and calls that I got. Everybody was so thoughtful and made me feel really good, knowing that I'm not forgotten. I'm doing very well. I had a nice Christmas, and the New Year looks great. So I think everything is going to be okay. I hope to see you all before too long. *Virginia Billington*



I appreciate all the prayers for my sister. She got to come home from the hospital. She was really suffering, so at least she is not suffering now and she's gone to be with Jesus and my dad. And my dad will look after her, so she's in a better place. But we're going to really miss her. Thank you for all your prayers. *Valerie Gill*



Don and I had the flu several weeks, with mine going into pneumonia. Due to the highly contagious nature of both illnesses, we were understandably not accepting visitors at that time. Even family members bringing food and other necessities were stopped at the door. We certainly, however, welcomed your thoughts and prayers. *Elizabeth Ford*



I want to thank the many people who sent us Christmas cards. We appreciate them very much, and thank you all for keeping us in your prayers.

Love, *Linda Harvey Shepherd*



Dear Friend,

On behalf of our Grandparents and Grandchildren, we would like to thank you for your Christmas donation. Your donation assisted in providing Christmas gifts for over two hundred children.

Please accept our apology for the lapse of time in sending this thank you. We have been overwhelmed with receiving and distributing gifts. It was a labor of love.

Thank you again for caring about these children and their families. We hope that your New Year will be the best yet.

Sincerely, *Kinship Care Staff*

Bobbie Davis, Angie Burda, Sandra McConnell, Yolanda Purvis

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren



Thank you to all who donated Campbell's soup labels, canceled postage stamps and greeting card fronts to the Duvall Home. We sent almost 34 pounds in 2007.

The soup labels are exchanged for merchandise (the entire label with bar code). The stamps are sold to collectors (they accept all stamps except "Presorted"

ones). The card fronts are recycled into arts & crafts projects for residents of the Duvall Home.

We will continue to collect these items in 2008. Our donations do make a difference.

Barbara Barlow, Worldwide Missions



The Craft Group met in January and planned the calendar for 2008. We have some new places to go and some old favorites to revisit. The schedule will be posted in the bulletin and *The Crossroads*.

If you would like to join us (ladies only) but do not attend on a regular basis, notify Jackie Hill or Barbara Barlow so you can be contacted in the event of a last-minute change in plans (which has been known to happen).

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month except November and December, only the 2nd Tuesday. If you would like to carpool, meet at the church.

We look forward to a new year of fun and fellowship. *Barbara Barlow*



Don and I are much better now. Thank you for all the prayers and cards and letters. They certainly brightened a dark time. *Elizabeth Ford*



A PENNY SAVED...

The church just switched trash collection companies and will save \$800 a year. A special thanks goes to Janice and Kenneth Lockhart for this suggestion and to Fred Rohrbach for setting up the change.

Also, the Admin. Committee recently worked with Dr. Fyre to switch his insurance coverage to a Presbytery plan which helped avoid a large HMO increase and lower his overall rates.

While we're at it, thanks again to Janice for helping to renegotiate the cleaning crew contract last year, which also resulted in a big savings for the church. *Rick Pierce, Clerk of Session*

*It's a comforting thought to know
that angels work and move among us
to make the most of the love we have.
Where love is concerned, an angel will do
whatever it takes to get the job done.*



It gives us great joy to announce the addition of *William (Fred) Mann* to our church rolls.

Fred united with our congregation on January 13 by profession of faith and baptism, joining his mother (Anita DeBey) and daughter (Felicia Mann) as an official member of the PPC family.

Fred resides with his family at 86 McFerrin Circle, Riverdale, GA 30274, and can be reached by phone at 770-210-2306.

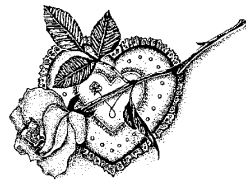


Dual congratulations are in order for *Lindsey Johnson*, who graduated on Sunday, December 16 from Georgia State University with a double major in psychology and sociology – and with honors, no less! Her future plans include grad school, for which she is currently prepping for the GRE.

Congratulations are also due *Jeff Foster*, who just passed his 20-year anniversary as a firefighter with Morrow Fire Department!

And congratulations to *Rachel Rohrbach* for making All A's Honor Roll for the second 9 weeks at M.D. Roberts Middle School.

We extend our love and deepest Christian sympathy to Serena Staats at the death of her uncle, J.C. Chapman; to Valerie Gill at the death of her sister, Vanessa Bloodworth; and to the family and friends of Montine Tomasello.



*Men always want to be a woman's first love;
women like to be a man's last romance.*

– Oscar Wilde

ODDS & ENDS

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE – *Valerie Gill*, 438 Sylvia Drive, Apartment F-5, Forest Park, GA 30297; Phone: 404-361-4069.

FINANCIAL FIGURES – Income for December was \$18,600.70; expenses were \$18,037.65 – creating a monthly surplus of \$563.05. Our total income for 2007 was \$190,813.46; total expenses were \$191,750.78 – creating a deficit for 2007 of \$937.32.

TAX INFO – Contribution statements for 2007 hopefully will be available within the next week. In addition, if you would like a receipt from the church for noncash contributions (such as items for the Food Pantry, paper goods and gifts for Securus House, and purchases for other outreach programs of the church) for which you have retained receipts, please contact the church office.

GEORGIA PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY – The church fellowship hall will be in use all day *Tuesday, February 5* as a polling place.

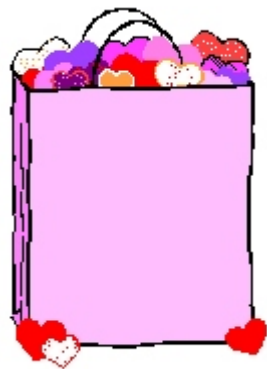
PRESIDENTS' DAY – In observance of this national holiday, the church office will be closed on *Monday, February 18*.

PW BLESSING BOXES

This special offering by circle members helps keep us mindful of and thankful for our many blessings. Each coin represents a “thanks” to God for whenever something good happens to us or for when some unexpected blessing comes our way. We pour out our Blessings Boxes in February and October to represent the blessings that have been poured out to us.

Well, the time has arrived. So, circle members, be sure and bring your Blessing Box offering to your circle meeting this month.





We will meet on *Sunday afternoon, February 10* for our annual **“SECRET PAL PARTY.”** We will gather at 2:00pm in the fellowship hall for some Valentine treats, gift exchange and fabulous fellowship. And we will finally get to learn who our “Secret Pals” for 2007 were!

Please bring 2-3 dozen cookies to share with everyone present. The cookies that are left over will be part of the “cookie exchange” – you will be able to take an assortment home with you!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Betty Foster & Dinah Bingham, Hostesses



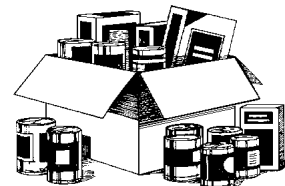
WHAT IS ASH WEDNESDAY? IS IT REALLY PRESBYTERIAN?

Although Ash Wednesday has not been very important for many Presbyterians until recent decades, it's as “Presbyterian” as repentance, confession, and pardon. Presbyterians and others have begun to recover Ash Wednesday in recent years, discovering in it powerful symbols that have helped to lead us into the spiritual disciplines of Lent. Traditionally the palms that we waved on Palm Sunday are burned to ashes and brought out for use on Ash Wednesday. On that day, a minister, elder, or other marks our foreheads with a cross-shaped sign, saying “You are dust, and to dust you shall return,” from Gen. 3:19. The ashes remind us of our mortality, the brevity of life, and our need for confession and pardon. At the same time, because the sign on our foreheads is cross-shaped, it's meant to remind us of our baptism. We who have died to Christ will be raised with him. So the ultimate point of Ash Wednesday is to face up to some hard realities, buoyed by our confident hope in the One who raised Jesus from the dead and who will have the last word over our lives, too.

Information from the PC(USA) website and *The Presbyterian Outlook*.

EVENTS FOR “SOUPER BOWL” SUNDAY

“Souper Bowl” Sunday is *February 3*. On that day, the youth will be collecting soups and other various canned and boxed goods. Monetary donations will also be accepted. All canned/boxed good and donations will be given to a local charity.



In conjunction with “Souper Bowl” Sunday, the youth will be hosting another Soup, Salad and Dessert Luncheon. The cost for lunch will be \$3.00, and all proceeds will go toward sending our youth to Camp Calvin in the summer.

KROGER CARDS AND THE GOOD SHEPHERD CLINIC

Recently, on several occasions, the PPC family has purchased almost \$900 in Kroger Cards in a single week!!! Cards are available in denominations of \$20, \$50 and \$100. The Good Shepherd Clinic receives 5% of each purchase. For every \$1 the clinic receives, they are able to provide \$10 in medical care. To obtain a card, see Janice Lockhart, Emory Pearce or Jim Phillips, and make your check payable to The Good Shepherd Clinic. And here's a big THANK YOU to all those who so faithfully support this mission project!

GOOD NEWS TO SHARE

*Keep up those prayers!
They really do make a difference.*

- Doctors were able to relieve the pressure on *Mike Terrell's* bladder through medication rather than the planned prostrate procedure.
- *Nella Ree Dunn* felt well enough to attend the most recent Breakfast Club meeting.
- *Lisa Page* continues to work and, as we heard, “looks so good and has such a good attitude.”
- At his most recent visit to the oncologist, *Darrell Youngblood* was told “everything looks good.”

TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER AND WITH CARDS

Please notify us concerning updates. Inquiring minds – and prayerful hearts – want to know!

(Based on January's bulletins. **New info in bold.**)



Serena Staats and the family of J.C. Chapman

Valerie Gill and the family of Vanessa Bloodworth

The family and friends of Montine Tomasello

Lee Allen (prostate cancer; treatments to reduce testosterone; radiation to come)

Buddy Ashmore (fell off ladder; broke elbow in 3 places; surgery)

Betty Ballew (Joyce Smith's sister-in-law - had a stroke; fell; now in rehab)

Sophia Bannis (co-worker of Angela Lyle - surgery for breast cancer)

Melanie Barnes (wife of Keith at Berean - multiple sclerosis)

Megan Beck (Nell Cates' granddaughter - colitis; infusions continue; meds reduced)

Jamie Brady (Joyce Smith's niece - gamma knife radiation on brain tumor; no ill effects)

Tammy Burroughs (Jennifer Rohrbach's principal - stage 2 cancer of breast/lymph nodes)

Douglas Chapman (Serena Staats' father - cannot have another bone marrow transplant)

Beryl Chown (friend of Jim & Nancy Phillips - ovarian cancer; chemo)

Rex Coplen (surgery to repair an ulcerated/perforated bowel; at home now)

Nora Cordova (friend of the Fries - breast cancer; radical mastectomy)

Dalva (mother of Fernanda Ferreira Garcia Vaz - nodules in liver; surgery; chemo)

Gail Downing (Judy Baird's sister - pulmonary fibrosis; currently stabilized)

Freddie Dunn (Nella Ree Dunn's daughter-in-law - cancer has returned)

Nella Ree Dunn (went to ER; extremely low potassium levels causing severe pain in legs)

Wallace Dunn (shoulder surgery; **physical therapy**)

Doris Ellis (problems with blood sugar level; blocked artery in heart; difficulty breathing)

Mary Lou Fuller (friend of the Dunaways - cancer in remission; pain & mobility problems)

Larry Greene (Nell Cates' nephew - recurring colon cancer; also in lungs & liver)

Debbie Gurley (Frances Youngblood's daughter-in-law's sister - breast cancer)

Kim Harpe (Diane LaFoy's co-worker/friend - cancer has spread; treatment to be determined)

Dorothy Harris (Dot Pearce's sister-in-law - breast cancer)

Ed Henry (Beth Moore's father - Alzheimer's has gotten much worse)

Pat Henry (Beth Moore's mother - now on dialysis; heart condition worse; mini strokes)

Elizabeth Hollandsworth (friend of Judy Baird - inoperable liver cancer)

Cindy Hopkins (Pam Langley's close friend - incurable lung cancer; radiation, then chemo)

Becky Huie (heart rate is extremely slow; treatment to be determined)

Larry Kidd (golfs with Ray Morgan - pancreatic/lymph node cancer; not doing well)

Corine Knight (James Ray's sister - cancer has returned)

Nina Kyle (Serena Staats' grandmother - hospitalized with numerous medical problems)

Annelle Maxwell (surgery for breast cancer; on preventative medicine now)

Janine Montgomery (friend of Gwen Steele - ICU; final stages of emphysema)

Greg & Scott Montgomery (friends of Gwen Steele - accept God's decision for their mom)

Bill Morgan (Ray & Dot Morgan's son - **prostate cancer surgery 01/22**)

Lisa Page (acting administrator for Good Shepherd Clinic - double mastectomy)

Regina Page (friend of Dot Dunn - awaiting a liver transplant)

Larry Patrick (the Tomasello's nephew - surgery for bleeding on both sides of brain)

Rory Patrick (Barbara Barlow request - Iraqi IED caused loss of hearing in both ears)

Lucius Power (the Fries' friend with 2 little boys - inoperable brain cancer)

Erin Randolph (facial spasms with severe pain)

Nevaeh Robinson (Christine Jefferson's granddaughter - feeding tube surgery to come)
Linda Smith (Joyce Smith's sister - incurable small cell cancer; pacemaker recalled)
Lou Smith (Karen Kelly-Nelson request - treatment for ovarian cancer)
Aurora Staats (hydrocephaly - spinal fluid pooling; treatment to be determined)
Buddy Stanton Jr. (Cathy Morris' nephew - serving our country in Afghanistan)
Mike Terrell (Opal Seeby's son - **to wound specialist for diabetic ulcer on foot**)
Arlene Tolleson (friend of Nella Ree Dunn - colon cancer)
Jerry Tomasello (pulmonary fibrosis progressively worse; confined to a wheelchair)
Harold Westbrook (liver cancer; P.O. Box 1324, Villa Rica, GA 30180)
Barbara Wetherington (Janice Lockhart's friend - painful anti-viral injections into spinal cord)
Hal White (friend of Bob Huie - leukemia)
Mollie Whitehead (Linda Harvey Shepherd's niece - home from rehab; chemo)
Loretta Wilson (Janice Lockhart's cousin - inoperable pancreatic/liver cancer; **chemo**)
L.M. York (friend of the Morgans & Ralph Kelly - lymphoma; completed radiation treatments)

Our Homebound:

Virginia Billington (The Heritage, Rm. 229, 3039 Sandy Plains Rd., Marietta, GA 30066; Phone: 770-321-1499)
Joan Cushing (6184 San Juan Street, Forest Park, GA 30297; Phone: 404-361-5514)
Martin Ebbesen (Jonesboro Assisted Living, Rm. 116, 2620 Hwy. 138 SE, Jonesboro, GA 30236)
Ed Huie (6114 Huie Drive, P.O. Box 3, Morrow, GA 30260; Phone: 770-961-6092)
Belle Lawrence (1210 Lochshyre Way, Lawrenceville, GA 30043; Phone: 678-376-9807)
JoAnn Tatzel (Lafayette Nursing Home, Rm. 404, 110 Brandywine Blvd., Fayetteville, GA 30214)
Grover Tharp (275 N. Victoria Court, Ellenwood, GA 30294; Phone: 770-981-5732)