



THE CROSSROADS

MARCH 2010

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

Burying the Alleluia

During Lent it has been the intent that we persist in repentance of our sin with thanksgiving for salvation we find in Jesus Christ. However in the early church during Lent they had a practice of not singing Alleluia, the song chanted by angels, because we have been excluded from the company of the angels on account of Adam's sin. In the Babylon of our earthly life (remember Babylon was a time of captivity and mourning) the early church remembered the Psalmist saying, "we sat by the streams, weeping as we remember Zion. For as the children of Israel in an alien land hung their harps upon the willows, so they we felt they must forget the Alleluia song in the season of sadness, of penance, and bitterness of heart." (Bishop William Duranti, 1296).

Before the reform of the liturgical calendar by Vatican II, the three weeks before Ash Wednesday were an additional time of preparation for Easter. The third Sunday before Lent was called Septuagesima Sunday (Latin for "seventy"). This was to remind the church of the seventy years of exile spent by the Jews in Babylon. Psalm 137 recalls how they prayed their tongues would be silenced if they forgot Jerusalem in ruins. From this psalm came the practice of fasting from singing the "Alleluia" during the Gospel proclamation throughout Lent and replacing it with a different acclamation of praise for Christ.

During the Middle Ages, the practice of "burying the Alleluia" on the eve of Septuagesima Sunday became popular. This ritual included a solemn procession to the church cemetery with a plaque, scroll, banner or even a coffin inscribed with the word "Alleluia." Those in mock funeral procession wept while some sang the hymn known today as the hymn, "[Alleluia, Song of Gladness](#)". The "Alleluia" was then laid to rest with the hope of its resurrection on Easter Sunday.

This burial was also called depositio, a Latin legal term meaning "the giving on deposit." (Gravestones in Catholic cemeteries may have the inscription Depositus, or simply D, which comes from depositio.) When the burial of the Alleluia or of the faithful departed is understood by this term, the Christian belief in resurrection is clear. We do so with confidence that what has been deposited into the earth—our dead, our Alleluia—will rise again. In my opinion it already has in the resurrection of Jesus.

The Rev. Dr. Spencer R. Frye Sr., Pastor

Our vision is to be a light in the community that brings all people to God through Christ-centered worship and ministry, and nurture their faith in order to extend his kingdom.

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OUR MISSION: To exhibit the kingdom of God to our community by being a witness to everyone who is within our reach that Jesus Christ is LORD. To proclaim the gospel by telling the good news of Jesus Christ while equipping all who will to be evangelist so the church will grow. To provide for the worship of God through traditional Sunday morning worship and offer alternative times and styles of worship to the community. To promote the ministry of compassion by providing opportunities for ministry and encouraging others to seek God's call for compassionate service. To preserve the truth of God's word by defending the faith against any deviation from the bible as objective truth. To educate the members of the body of Christ so they are equipped to live as becomes the followers of Jesus. To maintain the spirit of unity through the fellowship of the children of God. To expand the kingdom of Jesus Christ.

Thank You!

"A simple act of kindness has a beauty all its own."

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Souper Bowl Sunday event. We were able to donate many, many pounds of food to the food pantry at Morrow Presbyterian. We also made a donation of \$143.00 to the Samaritans Together for Clayton County. Thank you again for your generosity.

Dates to remember for the Easter Season

*March 28—Palm Sunday
11:00am—Special Easter Music*

*April 1—Maundy Thursday
7:00pm—Communion Service*

*April 2—Good Friday
church office closed*

*April 4—Easter Sunday
7:00am—Sunrise Service
11:00am—Special Easter Music*

*...At the name of Jesus every knee
should bow, ...and every tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord...*

Philippians 2:10-11



A Memorial Service

You are all invited to the memorial service for Larry D. Kohn, the son in law of Opal Seeby. He was very active in the community. His Commemorative Service will be a covered dish affair at the Morrow Masonic Lodge from 1pm until 3pm on Saturday, March 13. The Masons are creating a new library in his honor there at the lodge.

Homecoming Committee News

Homecoming is September 26th. We are in the process of compiling a list of former members and their families and addresses to send out Save the Date cards. If you have any addresses of former members/families, please give them to Diane Kitchen.

Thank you!

Don't forget to set your clocks forward by one hour on Saturday, March 13, in preparation for the Daylight Savings time, beginning March 14.





Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God’s love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities.

Recognizing that the hope we have in Christ is lived out in our hope for one another, we respond with gifts that help our sisters and brothers around the world find the hope for a brighter future.

You are given opportunity during the Easter season to participate in this offering.



Raceway Ministries—Atlanta is a group of volunteers that have a passion for God’s people. They will be heavily involved in ministry during the race weekend coming on March 5-7. Their team is an enthusiastic bunch but can’t do it all. They need your help! If you would like to come out and get involved, contact Elliott Yancey at 404-507-6285 or email at elliottyancey@gmail.com. Check the bulletin board for a copy of their latest newsletter. The Session has set up an account here so that you may make donations thru the church. Just make your check payable to Philadelphia Presbyterian and mark it for the Racetrack Ministry. Thank you for your support.

And the people said,...

KIDS IN CHURCH

3-year-old Reese :

' Our Father, Who does art in heaven, Harold is His name.
Amen. '

A little boy was overheard praying:

' Lord, if you can ' t make me a better boy, don ' t worry about it.
I ' m having a real good time like I am.. '

After the christening of his baby brother in church, Jason sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car.

His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, ' That preacher said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I wanted to stay with you guys. '

One particular four-year-old prayed,
' And forgive us our trash baskets
as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets. '

A Sunday school teacher asked her children as they were on the way to church service,

' And why is it necessary to be quiet in church? '
One bright little girl replied,
' Because people are sleeping. '

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin 5, and Ryan 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson.

' If Jesus were sitting here, He would say,
' Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait. '
Kevin turned to his younger brother and said,
' Ryan , you be Jesus ! '

A father was at the beach with his children when the four-year-old son ran up to him, grabbed his hand, and led him to the shore where a seagull lay dead in the sand.
' Daddy, what happened to him? ' the son asked.
' He died and went to Heaven, ' the Dad replied.
The boy thought a moment and then said,
' Did God throw him back down? '

A wife invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to their six-year-old daughter and said,
' Would you like to say the blessing? '
' I wouldn't know what to say, ' the girl replied.
' Just say what you hear Mommy say, ' the wife answered..
The daughter bowed her head and said,
' Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner? '

contributed by Sherri Frye



Happy Birthday to . . .

- 2—Opal Seeby
- 2—Chris Banke
- 3—Jennifer Rohrbach
- 6—Valerie Gill
- 7—Chyanne Patterson
- 15—Angie Tharp
- 18—Diane Kitchen
- 19—Don Nelson
- 19—Andrew Durden
- 20—Pat Randolph
- 23—Shanna DeBey
- 24—Pegge Murphy
- 26—Henry Brock
- 27—Charlie NeSmith
- 28—Erwin Gettys

Happy Anniversary to . . .

- 26—Buck & Annelle Maxwell

MARCH VOLUNTEERS

Nursery Workers

- 3/7—Debbie Bray
- 3/14—Barbara Barlow
- 3/21—Dot Pearce
- 3/2/ - Guest

Ushers

- Don Nelson*
- Fred Rohrbach
- Ray Morgan
- Jim Phillips
- * *Head Usher*

Core Values of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church

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)

WE'RE ON THE WEB AT WWW.PPC-USA.ORG



PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
351 MORROW ROAD
FOREST PARK GA 30297



TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER AND WITH CARDS (new info in bold)

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

Patrick Allen (Dot Pearce's nephew –lung cancer, has started chemo, doing good so far)

Megan Beck - (Nell Cates granddaughter - previous health issues returned)

Patty Bormolini (Pat Randolph's friend – stomach cancer – chemo & radiation)

Dianne Campbell (cancer; follow up tests & treatment continuing)

Betty Carter (Pat Randolph's friend – fractured bone in hip)

Jenny Chambers (Becky Huie's sister-in-law - doctors still struggling to save her leg)

Ron Cleveland (Elizabeth Ford's nephew – undergoing radiation treatment for sinus cancer)

Dakota Coddington (Deven & Michael's 2 year old - developmental concerns)

Besse Cooper (Angie Tharp's 113-year-old mother - not doing well; dementia)

Don Curlee (Karen Kelly-Nelson's friend - recently diagnosed with bone cancer)

Norma Deaton (Dot Dunn's sister – at Southern Regional – colon surgery)

Gail Downing (Judy Baird's sister – struggling to keep weight at 99 but holding her own)

Joan Dunn (Dot Dunn's sister-in-law – condition worsening)

Doris Ellis (back at home now and doing much better)

John Herendeen (father of Bob & Becky Huie's neighbor - cancer)

Elizabeth Hollandsworth (Judy Baird's friend - inoperable liver cancer)

Cindy Hopkins (Pam Langley's close friend - experiencing harsh chemo)

Shannon Hubbell (Tony Kitchen's sister – physical therapy left knee – working - limited)

Abigail Jordon (Dawn Batchelor's friend's baby daughter – serious health issues)

Charles Kimbro (Christine Jefferson's fiancé – prostate cancer – surgery in February)

Dr. Lopez (Doris Ellis' doctor - bone cancer; finishing chemo & radiation)

Rita Marballi (Zareen Nevrekar's sister-in-law - 3rd recurrence of uterine/ovarian cancer)

Monetta Metzker (Fran Youngblood's friend – oral cancer – facing chemo & radiation)

Cindy Moats (friend of Spencer & Sherri Frye - cancer)

Ann Nesmith (under pain management care and physical therapy)

Landy Ponder (friend of Spencer Frye – 3 brain tumors)

Donna Randolph (Pat's daughter-in-law – cancer in tear duct – surgery 2/24 in Newnan)

Opal Seeby (knee replacement surgery; getting around on a walker)

Linda Shealy (friend of Spencer & Sherri Frye - breast cancer; radical mastectomy)

Connie Smith (Kathy Vandiver's friend's mother – battling cancer and a stroke)

Debbie Smith (Tom & Joyce Smith's niece – has shingles now – recovering from heart attack)

Lloyd Weaver – (Serena Staats' uncle – anal cancer)

Carol White Tipton (the Huie's friend's daughter with 2 little boys - cancer; not doing well)

OUR HOMEBOUND:

Mary Binkney

Martha Conrad

Joan Cushing

Nella Ree Dunn

Doris Ellis

Ed Huie

James Ray

Bert Tatzel

JoAnn Tatzel

To make a prayer request, you may call the church office at 404-366-1851, send an email to secyppc@bellsouth.net or click on the prayer request button on our website at www.ppc-usa.org.