



THE C R O S S R O A D S

Philadelphia Presbyterian Church

351 Morrow Road, Forest Park, Georgia 30297

Our vision is to be 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.

THE REFORMATION:

“ALL HALLOWS EVE,” 10/31, “ALL SAINTS DAY,” 11/1

My, my, my you would not believe how much “thought” went into the reformation and how much “theology” came out of the Reformation. It is mind boggling. Having studied so much Protestant theology it is over whelming to grasp all that was said and done. Maybe I can drill down and get at the basic stuff. First Christians did NOT create Halloween. They established November 1 as the day to remember the saints of the church. Not unlike what we do at Presbytery when annually we read the “Necrology” report and that is we honor all elders who have died in the previous year. From November 1 we back up a day and prepare for the next day and that day we called “All Hallows Eve,” which the secular world turned into Halloween. They drew from the Celtic worship of false Gods on that day and had bon fires and did things to scare away evil spirits and dressed up like evil spirits to appease them. We Christians do not believe that way. All Hallows Eve was meant to be like Christmas Eve. Prepare for the next day.

Regarding the Reformation itself, theologically the Protestant Reformation sprang out of two issues, authority and salvation. Protestants and Catholics agreed in accepting the authority of the Bible as the word of God. But Catholics believed they had an additional deposit of faith and that the Church had authority equal to that of Scripture so long as it did not contradict Scripture. Protestants and Catholics agreed that we are saved by faith in Christ. But Catholics also believed it was necessary to supplement this initial faith by the merit of good works and by drawing on the treasury of good merit won by the saints and held in trust by the Church. Protestants thus asserted the two great sola (a Latin term meaning alone):

Sola Scriptura - the authority of Scripture alone, and

Sola Fide - salvation by grace through faith (fide) alone.

Not surprisingly these issues surface in the Thirty Nine Articles. Never heard of them? Do not worry. Some are saying today that the issue of “Sola Scriptura” is dead. Our own Vice-Moderator of the General Assembly said Scripture is “not the Word of God.” In my opinion he is a heretic. Despite the theological issues the Reformation, was really facilitated by political and social changes in Europe and also the intellectual climate. There had been those who had tried to reform the Catholic Church before and who held to what would later be considered Protestant principles. But it was it was in part the political issues that created the climate where reform could really take place without the reformers being persecuted and executed. Not only has Scripture been under attack but justification by faith is called into question these days.

Martin Luther made his famous comment that the doctrine of justification by faith alone is the article upon which the church stands or falls. John Calvin added a different metaphor, saying that justification is the hinge upon which everything turns. In the twentieth century, J.I. Packer used a metaphor indicating that justification by faith alone is the “Atlas upon whose shoulder every other doctrine stands.” This is where I stand concerning the Scriptures and salvation by faith alone and I hope you do as well.

Dr. Spencer R. Frye

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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.

Congratulations!



Congratulations to **Francis Youngblood**. Frances has been diligent in her work here at Philadelphia for many years, especially in the choir - Sunday School and Women of the Church.

At the worship service on October 10th, she received the Honorary Life Membership given by the Philadelphia Presbyterian Women. This honor is conferred upon a woman in recognition of faithful service to the church and to the women's work.

In recognition of this honor, Frances received a personalized certificate and the silver Honorary Life Membership pin. This pin is in a design of the caring supportive hands, representing women who seek to build an inclusive community of Presbyterian Women. The leaf represents growth of our personal and corporate response to Jesus Christ as we nurture our faith. The dove indicates our work for peace in our own lives and throughout the world, shown in the globe. At the center of the design is the cross, by which our sins are forgiven and we are freed to live in Christ, who is the center of our lives. The overall design is of a butterfly, the symbol of newness in Christ.

We will be so proud to see Frances join other women in the church wearing this pin of honor, and we are sure she will wear it with pride!

As usual, the Philadelphia members came forth with a wonderful covered dish luncheon in Frances' honor. Her family members were the honored guests. Thank you to all the volunteers who made this luncheon a great success!

Thank You!

Dear Friends,

Thanks to everyone for your prayers and cards and visits.

My writing is not too good. I will let you know when I get home.

Feel free to call me at any time when I get home.

Please continue your prayers for me.

Sincerely,

Tye Bryant

Notes of Appreciation

Dear Philadelphia Presbyterian Church,

Congratulations for 185 years of service. Thank you for the service you have given to others and especially Riverdale Presbyterian Church. Members from your church and other churches helped organize Riverdale Presbyterian. Thank you and God bless your church.

Members of Riverdale Presbyterian Church

All friends at Philadelphia,

Many thanks for the great Homecoming Day. We were so pleased and honored to be a part of this church's history and life!

Suzan & Reuben Lasseter

Dear Philadelphia Friends,

What a joyful meaningful celebration of Philadelphia's 185th anniversary. Everything about the day was special: being present in the lovely sanctuary among dear and familiar faces, Reverend Morrison's timely message, the beautiful heartfelt musical gift from the choir, and the covered-dish dinner that overflowed with delicious food. It was truly a day to remember and cherish and represented many long hours of planning and preparation, for which we are all grateful.

Although it has been thirty five years since my family and I were members of Philadelphia, I was warmly welcomed by a sea of friendly faces as if I belonged there and in my heart I always will.

A very special debt of gratitude to my dear friends, Jean and James Ray, who have maintained contact with me down through the years expressing interest and concern for my family and being my link to the heart beat of Philadelphia.

The heritage of this dear church and the loving faithfulness of its members have imparted my life in enduring ways. It is a church family in the essence of the meaning of family.

The words of a favorite song describes well the profound influences of Philadelphia and its family: "There's a sweet, sweet spirit in this place, and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord. There are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the Presence of the Lord.

Love,

Lena Lou Thomas

From your Clerk –

The holiday season is fast approaching and with it comes several special events and services. At the October Session business meeting we approved a request from the United Daughters of the Confederacy to host a special veterans' observance on Sunday, November 7 at 2:00 in the afternoon. As in the past, attendance by any of our members would be most welcome. Our usual 2:00 service of healing and praise will be cancelled on that date.

November brings stewardship season and we will be observing Stewardship Sunday on November the 14th with a covered-dish dinner after the morning worship service. We hope you will all plan to be with us on that date. Bring your usual dish. :)

Advent begins the Sunday following Thanksgiving!!! Can you believe it? We will celebrate with a "Hanging of the Green" (we've been corrected about making "green" plural) service at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, the 28th. Hopefully, those of you who do not live too far away will be able to return to church that evening to help us kick off the Advent season.

And a final calendar note... Presbytery will met on November 30 at St. Luke's. Spencer will be attending; Lynn Vandiver and Barry Billington are scheduled to be elder representatives. *We encourage each of you to include the Presbytery and its staff on your personal prayer list.* The national economic crisis has affected our Presbytery just as it has our congregation, our personal incomes, that of our families and our friends. As congregation members throughout the Atlanta area are less able to contribute to their churches, the churches are less able to contribute to the workings of our Presbytery. Session members were saddened to hear Spencer report that two of our friends are losing their jobs. Forrest Palmer, who brought greetings from Presbytery at our recent Homecoming and has been a friend to Philadelphia over the years, is losing his job after 18 years and is four years from retirement. Mary Dyche, who some of you may remember served briefly as our interim church secretary, is losing her job at Presbytery after one year. *Please pray for Forrest and Mary as well.*

As you well know, we've been forced to make difficult financial decisions ourselves in the past 18 months or so but I am happy to report that we seem to be holding our own. We are tithing to the greater church – something many of us feel we should do before all else. With your help and generous donations from the Huie descendants and Alice James' family, we were able to accomplish all the renovation work related to the new roof and exterior paint of the education building and finished *with no related debt.* And finally, as to operational expenses, we are living within our income; but then we have not tried to accomplish all that was budgeted for the year. As they say, "It's all good."

The Session members are currently reviewing our proposed budget for 2011 and we will have a report for you at the dinner on Stewardship Sunday.

Remember...God is good; all the time! And you are loved at Philadelphia.

Lynn Vandiver

P.S. Doesn't our choir do a stupendous job each Sunday? We are truly blessed!!!



PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THIS SPECIAL EVENT

December is *typically* the month that Circle One and The Busy Bees have a joint Circle Christmas Program and Luncheon *instead of* their separate regular Circle Meetings. THIS year, as Program Planners for the 2010 December Meeting, Circle One cordially invites *not only* The Busy Bees, *but also* the Mary & Martha Circle, *as well as ALL other members of the congregation* (MEN too!) for a very special program and covered-dish luncheon that is sure to appeal to every patriotic soul in our membership!

On Saturday, December 11th beginning at noon, following a lunch consisting of all the wonderful food brought by attendees (beverages will be provided by Circle One), MRS. HELEN K. DENTON will be our guest speaker, and I promise you will find her presentation most enthralling! Why?--- Mrs. Denton was the former secretary to Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower while he was the Supreme Commander of Allied Forces during WWII. Her service to her Country included typing the top secret June 6, 1944 D-Day Invasion plans! Now that more than 50 years have passed since this date, she is legally able to talk about this important Historical time. Under General Eisenhower's Command, she served in the European Theater from January 1944 to October 1945. She has also been instrumental in helping to recruit more women into the Army, has been an active volunteer with the American Red Cross and the Delta Pioneers, *and* she has also served as Past Commander of VFW Post 3650 in Riverdale. She has had a most interesting life, and now that she is retired, she enjoys sharing her story with those groups interested enough to hear. Although she does this "pro bono", we will take up a Love Offering for her that day. Since this meeting takes place just 4 days after Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, it is a great time to celebrate our Patriotism in addition to celebrating the Christmas Story.



Please note: Because of Philadelphia's Annual Christmas Luncheon occurring the very next day on Sunday, December 12 after the Worship Service (also a covered-dish-luncheon), in order to enjoy the festivities on both days, we encourage you to simply make a double batch of whatever dish you will be providing on Saturday, thereby bringing half of it on Saturday, and the other half on Sunday!

The Craft Group Schedule

November 9, to Reynolds Plantation

9:45am—meet at the church for carpool



NOVEMBER VOLUNTEERS

Happy Birthday to ...

- 05—Emory Pearce
- 06—Dot Lenderman
- 06—Debbie Bray
- 07—Ruth Gettys
- 07—Deven Coddington
- 12—Elizabeth Clayton
- 15—Fred Mann
- 15—Emily Lyle
- 16—Addison Murphy
- 20—Ray Morgan
- 23—Nancy Phillips
- 25—Bob Huie
- 26—Janice Lockhart

Happy Anniversary to ...

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

Nursery Workers

- 11/01—Dot Pearce
- 11/14—Juanita Debey
- 11/21—Beckie Huie
- 11/28—Guest

Ushers

- Tom Murphy*
- Emory Pearce
- Barbara Barlow
- Tom Smith
- * 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!*****PRAISE: Landy Ponder, diagnosed with three cancerous brain tumors, who has been on our prayer list for about a year, has recently undergone testing and was declared cancer free! Praise the Lord!**

10/24 Mack Bethea (Spencer & Sherri's friend) inoperable prostate cancer, radiation treatments

10/10 Beth Brogdon (Patty Boone's cousin) knee replacement surgery recovering well, lowering meds

10/1 Jenny Chambers (Becky Huie's sister-in-law) hip replacement surgery coming on injured leg

10/1 Sara Cleveland (Tom and Joan Murphy's friend) breast cancer, radiation treatments

10/1 Besse Cooper (Angie Tharp's 114-year-old mother) not doing well; dementia

9/5 Gail Downing (Judy Baird's sister) recent hospital stay for intestinal problems, weight at 85 lbs.

10/1 MaryAnn Garwood (Joyce Smith's friend) recovering surgery colon cancer, awaiting treatment

10/1 Sandra Huie (Bob & Becky's daughter-in-law) Crohn's Disease, trouble with meds, possible surgery

10/1 Kyle Neal (Bob & Becky's friend) in German hospital, neck brace, injured by Afghanistan IED

10/1 Kera Parr (Pat Randolph's friend) 16 year old with life threatening cancer, complications with chemo

10/1 Landy Ponder (Spencer's friend) 3 brain tumors still on chemo treatment, further test soon

10/17 Linda Smith (Joyce Smith's sister) – testing for a new defibrillator

9/26 Mike Sorrow (Pat Randolph's friend) – Cancerous brain tumor removed, facing radiation & chemo

10/1 Sue Wagner (former member) – cancer contained to just the colon – awaiting surgery

10/10 Nicole Williams (Beth Brogdon's friend) uterine cancer, testing other organs

OUR HOMEBOUND:**Mary Binkney****Tye Bryant****Martha Conrad****Joan Cushing****Nella Ree Dunn****Doris Ellis****Marie Foster****Myrtice Ormond****James Ray****Bert Tatzel****JoAnn Tatzel***Addresses of
our homebound are
on the bulletin board.*

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.