

THE CROSSROADS

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 Rush of a Mighty Wind"

Since Pentecost Sunday is in June before the next newsletter goes out I thought I would address this important feast day in May's newsletter. As a child, one of my favorite stories was Hans Christian Anderson's "Emperor's New Clothes," because I was a kid and I thought stories about naked people were funny! It's the story about a very vain ruler who cared more about his wardrobe than the well being of his subjects. Well, one day two con artists convinced the Emperor that they could weave material with the most beautiful colors and elaborate patterns, that truly the Emperor would be dressed in the finest, most elegant wardrobe in the entire kingdom.

But there was a catch. The SPIN DOCTORS claimed the cloth remained invisible to anyone "simple in character" or "unfit for royal office." After weeks of "purported weaving" and bundles of money, the invisible cloth was completed and sewed into royal "threads."

Of course, none of the royal officials who inspected the material could see it, but fearing loss of their royal positions, they proclaimed the invisible cloth as the finest they had ever seen. And so it went. In the final chapter of the story, the king is seen strutting down the street dressed in nothing but his "skin," while the crowd ooh's and awe's over his supposed royal robes. It takes a child to state what is painfully obvious to all, "The Emperor is 'naked!'" blurts out the kid.

And get this...despite knowing that everyone is now in the on the joke, out of pride the Emperor commands the procession to continue. ...Not a pretty sight!

And what does this story have to do with Pentecost? As strange this may sound, I'm not "normal." And neither are you! Think about it...to believe in something you can't see or touch ... that's just plain weird! Besides, what good is something if you can't see it or feel it or hear it? God is not only real but in Acts 2 He proves it! And that's exactly what the story Pentecost is trying to do...its dishing up the reality of God and setting it out, steaming before us, tantalizing us with its delicious smell and rich colors. In Acts 2 there is proof that God is real and with us in the form of the Holy Spirit.

This church has been a force to be reckoned with for 185 + years. Any time after the resurrection of Jesus means we are in the last days. Acts 2:17 quotes Joel the prophet and says "In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions and your old men shall dream dreams." As it was in the day of Joel and as it was in the days after Jesus went to heaven, so is it now. But what are the signs of the Kingdom

18—"Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days, I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy." God's Spirit being meted out to people regardless of their means, social standing, or ethnic identity was a sign of the "coming of the day of the Lord," the initiatory event of God's reign, when justice and peace would rule the earth and human kind.

You see, people being made whole and being restored into the community are signs of God's reality and presence. Feeding the hungry through ministries like Samaritans Together, helping someone homeless or poor finding safe and affordable housing, that's a glimpse of the reality of God. Praying for others to be healed are all signs of God's reality and presence. Leading someone to Christ and seeing the change is the visible sign of God's Kingdom.

Sunday after church, a Mom asked her very young daughter what the lesson was about. The daughter answered, "Don't be scared, you'll get your quilt." Needless to say, the Mom was perplexed. Later in the day, the pastor stopped by for tea and the Mom asked him what that morning's Sunday school lesson was about. He said "Be not afraid, thy comforter is coming." "Somebody has said there are only two kinds of people in the world. There are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good morning, Lord," and there are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good Lord, it's morning" Which one are you?

Dr. Spencer R. Frye Sr.

MAY 2011

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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.

*The Faculty and Graduating Class
of
Gordon College
is pleased to announce that
Lauren Ashley Fleming
is a candidate for the degree of
Bachelor of Science in Education
at the
Commencement Exercises
Saturday, May fourteenth, Two thousand eleven
Eight-thirty in the morning
Lambdin Green, Gordon College
Barnesville, Georgia*

*Please join us for
a bridal shower honoring
Lauren Fleming
Saturday, May 14, 2011, at 2:00pm
in the Fellowship Hall
at Philadelphia Presbyterian Church
hosted by: Judy Etheridge-Dortch,
Anita Payseur & Terri Etheridge
rsvp—Judy Etheridge-Dortch 601-941-4376
or judyetheridge@hotmail.com
(registered at Bed Bath & Beyond)*

A Note of Thanks. . .

I want everyone to know how important the coupons are for our troops and the prayers of the people. Read a note of thanks we received.

Barbara Barlow

April 14, 2011

Good Afternoon Ladies,

Sorry, it has been so long since I have written. We here in Baumholder with the 170th IBCT have been very busy bees since all the Soldiers deployed to Afghanistan 2 months ago. I would like to say the coupons and shopping bags you all have sent have been fantastic. Army Community Services still runs their monthly Coupons and Coffee program. The coupons you all send not only keep that program going they, keep money in our families pockets!

The reusable cloth bags that Barbara sent were great and we gave them away at the Coupons and Coffee event. In Germany, you have to actually provide your own shopping bags. The Germans are very environmentally friendly. Also, the bag you made out of shopping bags was fun and fantastic, must have taken forever to make!!

We also want to thank you for the cooking magazines!! Myself, FRSA's, and even some of the Soldiers' who like to cook in my office building love reading them. We are truly grateful for everything that you all do for us. The post office calls you all my surrogate Grandmothers because, you send me so many packages!

I would like for you all to keep the Soldiers and Families of the 170th Infantry Brigade Combat Team in your prayers. Over the past week we have had 3 Soldiers Killed in Action and our community is working together to keep their memories alive.

<http://www.stripes.com/news/third-baumholder-soldier-killed-in-afghanistan-in-a-week-1.140841>

Again, thank you all!!!!

Rachel A. Dooley
170th IBCT FRSA
170th Infantry Brigade Combat Team

THE CRAFT GROUP

May 10 11:30am @ Bay Breeze Restaurant, Lovejoy,
meet at the church to car pool at 11:00am

May 24 11:30am @ Ted's Montana Grill, Peachtree City,
meet at the church to car pool at 10:30am

PWCT

The PWCT will not meet in May. Our next scheduled meeting is June 5.

Thank You!

2011 Graduate Luncheon

A Covered Dish Luncheon is planned for May 15th.

We will be honoring the 2011 High School Graduates, **Emily Lyle, Brittany Johnson** and **Juan Rodriguez**. We will also acknowledge College graduate, **Lauren Fleming**.



NEW
PICTORIAL
DIRECTORY

We will be taking pictures for the new Church Pictorial Directory beginning Sunday, May 8, and each Sunday throughout the month of May.

The studio will be set up in a classroom in the Educational Building. You can come anytime before and after services.

There will also be a make-up day in June.

Since we are able to take the pictures without using an outside source, there will only be a setting fee of \$5.00 per person.



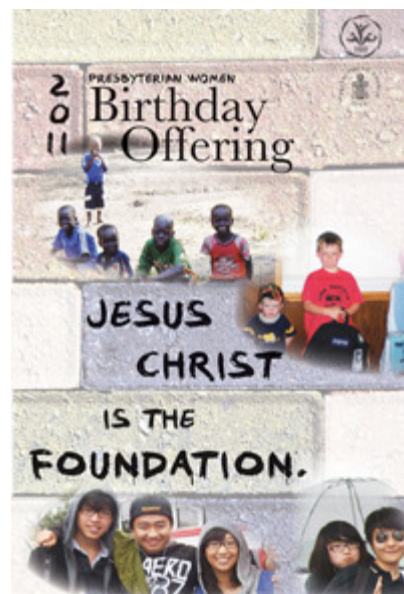
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN!

Each year we celebrate Presbyterian Women's history of mission giving by collecting a birthday offering that will provide needed funds for selected grant recipients. Grant recipients are selected from applications around the world. This year there are three recipients,

- **ACROSS**-Bring Peace Now in Jonglei, South Sudan
- **MENAU SCHOOL**-Bringing the World to Menaul in Albuquerque, New Mexico
- **ANDERSON INTERFAITH MINISTRIES, INC.**- Women and Children Succeeding (WACS) Program in Anderson, South Carolina.

The worldwide goal for the 2011 offering is \$900,000.

In 1922 a challenge was made that each woman give one penny for each year of her life or a dollar if a woman preferred not to reveal her age, today we are ask to give as we have been blessed. Thank you for helping PW celebrate and for making available much needed funds to better the lives of others. Watch for pew offering envelopes on May 22.





MAY VOLUNTEERS

Happy Birthday to ...

- 03 / Parveen Yusufji
- 04 / Anita DeBey
- 07 / Rusty Taylor
- 08 / Diane Banke
- 12 / Annelle Maxwell
- 16 / Chandler Murphy
- 17 / Tye Bryant
- 17 / Martha Smith
- 18 / Kaif Nevrekar
- 19 / Don Fleming, Jr.
- 20 / Carole Masdon
- 25 / Kathy Banke
- 25 / Juan Rodriguez
- 27 / Philippe Karka
- 30 / Dinah Bingham
- 31 / Jackie Hill

Happy Anniversary to ...

Nursery Workers

- 01 / Jennifer Rohrbach
- 08 / Guest
- 15 / Debbie Bray
- 22 / Diane Kitchen
- 29 / Guest

Ushers

- Fred Rohrbach
- Tom Murphy
- Emory Pearce
- Barbara Barlow

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

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)



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!

Christian Sympathy is extended to Spencer & Sherri Frye in the passing of their long time friend, T. George Kelly.

4/2 Barbara Gibson – moved to rehab center after leg surgery to repair break

3/20 Mary Hearst (Leonard Selph’s friend) – Alzheimer’s

3/20 Linda McDuffie (Leonard Selph’s friend) - cancer

3/20 Ann Painter (Leonard Selph’s friend) - cancer

3/28 Lee Rohrbach (Fred’s dad) – radiation seed planted for prostate cancer

3/20 Violet Selph (Leonard Selph’s sister) – mental problems

4/14 Elizabeth Simpson (Nancy Maxwell’s daughter) – in Houston, hole in heart, facing surgery

4/06 Charles Trotter (Joyce Smith’s brother) - recovering from surgery to place stint in heart

3/7 Bob Wood (Fran Youngblood’s brother) - liver abscess, still critical but stable

4/25 Kevin Wright (Bob & Rebecca Huie’s son-in-law) - suffered heart attack

OUR HOMEBOUND:

Mary Binkney

Tye Bryant

Joan Cushing

Doris Ellis

Marie Foster

Myrtice Ormond

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.

FAITH

When you walk to the edge of all the light you have
and take that first step into the darkness of the unknown,
you must believe that one of two things will happen:
There will be something solid for you to stand upon,
or, you will be taught how to fly.

by Patrick Overton