



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.

FELLOWSHIP OF PRESBYTERIANS—PLEASE READ. IMPORTANCE NOTICE!

This is for clarification regarding the meeting we had October 23, 2011. The following is a portion of the letter from the Fellowship of Presbyterians who gathered together last summer to respond in a positive way to changes in the ordination standards of the PC(USA) that took effect in June of 2011. The news standards allow for the ordination of homosexuals. Furthermore we expect stricter standards of inclusion regarding ordination and representation of this special group in sessions, committees and other such groups. The FOP is not mad nor do they want to go on and fight. They are offering a way for us to either maintain a relationship with the PC(USA) and have fellowship with "like-minded" Christians in different ways or completely leave the PC (USA). The following is a portion of the letter sent out by the FOP on October 17, 2011.

"Detailed plans are coming together for our next gathering, a Covenanting Convention in Orlando January 18-20, 2012...We have expanded the Steering Committee to include both women and racial ethnic participants. This leadership team has been renamed the interim Board of Directors for both the Fellowship and the new reformed body (NRB). ... Our theology work group, headed by Jerry Andrews, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church San Diego, is working in three different areas. Initial documents will be available in November for discussion and review:

1. Determining and defining the confessional documents that connect both the Fellowship of Presbyterians and the NRB to the faith of the whole Church,
2. Creating a fresh theological statement that addresses the essentials of the Reformed faith, and
3. Creating a proposal for sustained, committed conversation on the faith of the Church.

Our polity work group, headed by David Dobler, Executive Presbyter in the Presbytery of Alaska, is creating documents that will serve the NRB, but will also have implications for how congregations anywhere underneath the Fellowship umbrella can relate to each other. ... And we have more information on each of the "Tiers" presented in Minneapolis:

• Tier 1 Congregations can expect to find information in Orlando visibly identifying themselves as part of the Fellowship of Presbyterians, information on vows pastors and other leaders can take that call them to specific theological and missional commitments, and other resources and networks under the umbrella of the Fellowship of Presbyterians, www.fellowship-pres.org

• Tier 2 Congregations (working to create overlay presbyteries) have learned since the Gathering in Minneapolis that the Office of the General Assembly has ruled that the creation of an overlay presbytery requires an amendment to the Book of Order. Included in the work of our polity group will be sample overtures to the 2012 General Assembly regarding overlay presbyteries and presbyteries with porous boundaries.

• Tier 3 Congregations (exploring the possibility of dual COMs/CPMs within a presbytery) is currently possible under the new Form of Government and is being explored in some presbyteries. (Our own Presbytery of Greater Atlanta has already presented this idea for exploration.)

• Tier 4 Congregations (the New Reformed Body). Those interested in the NRB are exploring two different ways this can be accomplished:

1. dismissal in 2012 to the NRB—there are many presbyteries currently creating and passing gracious dismissal policies. (Presbytery of Greater Atlanta will vote on this December 1st)
2. becoming a "union" congregation or presbytery—part of both the PC(USA) and also part of the NRB. This possibility may appeal to many for a variety of reasons. More information is coming. Several regional gatherings have already been sponsored and more are on the way. Find a list at <http://www.fellowship-pres.org/upcoming-gathering-events>. If congregations in your area want to gather to share information, ideas, resources, and prayer, either before or after the Orlando Covenanting Conference, contact our Administrative Consultant Paul Determan, paul@pfrenewal.org, for help getting organized and getting the word out. There is a great deal of discussion across the denomination about moving congregations from one middle governing

(continued on page 2)

NOVEMBER 2011

Pastor
Dr. Spencer R. Frye

Phone: 404-366-1851
Fax: 404-366-6117

Pastor e-mail:
srfppc@bellsouth.net

Secretary e-mail:
secyppc@bellsouth.net

Website: ppc-usa.org

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

THANK YOU 2

CHURCH HISTORY 2

LOCAL FOOD PANTRY 3

NURSERY 3

PW MESSAGE CORNER . . . 3

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & VOLUNTEERS 4

PRAYER NEEDS 5



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.

(continued from page 1)

body (or "council" in the New Form of Government) to another. ... We will be sending you communications like this to help you see more and more what is developing in this very important season. Bless you in your ministry!"

Your session is studying these options. Any decision to leave the PC(USA) must be made by a congregational vote. Other relationships would require great input from the congregation and could be made by the Session such as being an affiliate with the FOP. Changes are coming. Renewal has begun. Let us covenant in prayer for God to lead us through these waters until we reach where He wants us to be.

Your Pastor, Spencer

MINISTRY UPDATE

Dear Philadelphia Presbyterian,

We are seeing remarkable things happen, but ask for more prayer, as several of our friends are experiencing opposition and spiritual warfare.

Mr. I recently asked us to lead him in a prayer of surrender to Jesus. He is Orthodox and very active in the synagogue. His family accused us of misleading him, and we are praying the relationship will stay intact, and God will enable him to grow in faith, in spite of opposition. We hope to see them again during the Jewish holidays this month.

A famous female Jewish leader, a "rebbe'sin"--a kind of Orthodox scholar and holy person-- accused Ms. Z of desecrating the Jewish people and the memory of the Holocaust by believing in the New Covenant (Jer. 31:31). Z stood her ground but was shaken by the incident.

Ms. R is struggling with cancer. She read Isaiah 53 with Luda and was astounded it is from the Old Testament Jewish prophets! She is very skeptical about religion, but afraid of dying. Please pray she becomes a believer soon, her life is threatened by cancer. We have tried several times, but have not been able to meet with her for a month.

D, whose parents are believers, but who attends an Orthodox school, recently prayed to rededicate himself to Jesus, asking for God's help during huge family pressures. His sister is also at risk of losing her faith, as she faces peer pressure at her Jewish school.

Mrs. A's mother wants to be baptized. She has drifted in her faith until recently.

Thank you for praying. God is answering prayer and working powerfully in many lives here.

Love from New York City,
Randall and Luda Ford, Chosen People Ministries

THANK YOU

Many thanks to all my church friends for the telephone calls, cards, and flowers I received during my hip replacement and recuperation.

I appreciate your strength and support, and for being there for me. "God is Good all the Time".

With sincere gratitude, Bob Huie

THANK YOU

On behalf of the Kinship Care resource center I would like to thank you for your generous donation of school supplies.

Each year Kinship continues to advance its mission of helping grandparents raise grandchildren. Through our programs we have seen many lives changed for the better.

The goal of the Kinship Care Resource Center is to continue to make a difference in helping grandparents raise grandchildren. With your help we will continue to see improvements.

Thanks again for your generous donation.

Sincerely, Mary Byrd, Director

ADVENT 2011

There will be Advent Calendars and "What Are We Waiting For?" booklets available on the narthex beginning Sunday, November 27.

If you wish to participate in the lighting of the Advent Candles, please sign up on the list in the narthex beginning November 13.



CHURCH HISTORY

We always want to make sure that the events and activities of our church family are recorded correctly in our church history.

If you have participated in any activities such as church leadership workshops, special training, etc. please make sure to contact me so that it can be included in the 2011 records.

Also, If someone in your family was married, graduated, etc., and you have an extra announcement or invitation, please send that to me or the church office. I have a mail box in the Session room and the church office.

Thanks,

Diane Banke, Historian

From way back when . . .

THANK YOU FOR BEING
My friends are little lamps to me.
Their brightness warms and lights my ways;
And all my pathways, dark or lone,
Are brightened by their rays.
I try to keep them lit with faith,
And never let them dim with doubt;
For anytime I lose a friend,
A little lamp goes out.

Bert Coleman

*from the August 1976 "Philadelphia at the Crossroads" newsletter
 contributed by Nell Cates*

PW Message Corner . . .



- There will be no PWCT meeting in November.
- On November 6, 2011 the women of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church will be presenting the Honorary Life Membership Award. There will be a CHURCHWIDE covered dish luncheon following service so please bring your favorite dish to share with everyone at lunch.

CRAFT GROUP SCHEDULE

We're still planning our November activity.

Check you weekly bulletins for details.

HELPING THE LOCAL FOOD PANTRY

We will be collecting canned goods and non-perishable food items for our local food pantry. Cereal, canned veg/fruit/peanut butter/pastas/speghetti sauce/soup/ rice/jelly/also diapers all sizes.



Please place your donations in the narthex.

NURSERY SCHEDULE

The nursery is need of more volunteers. If your name is not on the list and you would like to serve the church in this way, please contact Barbara Barlow.

There will be a paid worker on holidays and special occasions such as Easter, Patriotic Celebration on 4th of July and the month of December for the Christmas Music and Worship Services.

A Special Thank-You to the volunteers who have served so faithfully this past year, we appreciate your service.

THORNWELL THANKSGIVING OFFERING



November is our time to contribute to the Thornwell Offering. These gifts respond to the needs of the children and families who turn to Thornwell in their time of crisis. They provide resources needed to reach out with hope and healing to abused, abandoned and neglected children.

You may send your gifts by making checks payable to Philadelphia Presbyterian Church and placing in the special offering envelopes provided.

Poinsettias



Each Christmas we decorate the sanctuary with poinsettias in honor or memory of someone special. We will order large plants, both burgundy and

white, with gold sleeves. The cost will be \$13.50 per plant. You may order a plant in honor or memory of someone by filling out the order form and giving it to Dot Dunn or the Church Office. It is not necessary to purchase more than one plant in order to honor more than one person. Make checks payable to Dorothy Dunn and not to the church. Order forms will be available soon inside the bulletin. The deadline to order is December 4.



OCTOBER VOLUNTEERS

Happy Birthday to ...

- 05/ Emory Pearce
- 06/ Debbie Bray
- 06/ Dot Lenderman
- 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 & Jeffrey Randolph
- 14/ Cathy & Danny Morris

Nursery Workers

- 06/ Juanita Debey
- 13/ Becky Huie
- 20/ Lynn Vandiver
- 27/ Guest

Ushers

- Bob Huie
- Buddy Ashmore
- Tom Murphy
- 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!*****10/25 Bryan Allen (Dot Pearce's nephew) - a marine serving in Afghanistan**

9/19 Erin Banke Randolph – facing additional jaw surgery November 17

9/22 Mary Binkney – recovering from a fall – is in South Georgia with children

09/25 Anna Bower (friend of Jim & Nancy Phillips) – tongue cancer, daughter of L.C. Thomas

10/19 Phylis Gaddy (Joyce Smith's niece) – recovering from another breast cancer surgery

10/10 Bill Fenton (Lynn Vandiver's step father) – health declining

9/18 Cliff Hewitt (friend of Murdocks) – colon cancer has returned - chemo

9/18 Vanita Knight (friend of Murdocks) – breast cancer

10/10 Michael Messick (Rohrbach friend) – prostate cancer

9/06 Linda Moats (Doris Ellis' daughter) – rare virus, must be quarantined 4 months

9/18 Ron Whiddon (friend of Murdocks) – reoccurring cancer

OUR HOMEBOUND:

Mary Binkney	Marie Foster
Tye Bryant	Myrtice Ormond
Joan Cushing	Bert Tatzel
Doris Ellis	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.