

The Philagram

**Philadelphia Presbyterian Church
Mint Hill, North Carolina
December 2016 - January 2017**



From Rev. Rusty Benton, Head Pastor

Happy New Year!

Ok, so I know it's early yet, but so many folks have written about Christmas and done it so well, that I am not sure that anything that I could add would be, value added. So, I'll take this opportunity to just join in *the celebration of the birth of the savior of the world with exuberance and joy proclaiming the great news* for all people that God is the true author and light of this hope filled season! And of course.... Merry Christmas!

Following the great news of Christmas, is more great news. That news is the continuing great celebration that doesn't stop when the Christmas season ends. Instead of ending, in fact, it's actually just getting started! Jesus' birth is the beginning of our new life. The celebration of a New Year is a wonderful reminder of that, in Jesus Christ, we have the opportunity to begin every new day, as well as every New Year with optimism and hope in our Lord. This is the gift for every season of our lives because as Christians, we believe that God's eternal presence is a helpful, positive, hope filled reality that gives us cause to celebrate each day.

In 2017, we at PPC will surely see lots of change. For instance, we have plans to begin an alternative worship service that will help us further reach out to our church and community in the name of Christ. In addition, there are plans for new events and ministries across our faith community. In 2017, our ministry teams have dedicated themselves to be open and prayerful about both exploring new opportunities for ministry as well as serving in established ministries with anticipation of the newness that God's presence and power can bring into life.

The New Year? It reminds us that it is a new day, and that is something to celebrate. However, in God, this newness is something that we are blessed to be able to celebrate every day. It is the newness of God that brings new life to us as individuals, a church and a world. It is the blessing of knowing that our unchanging God's plan is a plan of hope and love and a way of life that brings us all together around the goodness of life that never changes.

Holiday Schedule

December 3—Christmas Tree Giveaway at Kerr Building
December 10—Community Christmas Party, Kerr Building, 11:00 a.m.

December 11—9:00 a.m. Coffee/Fellowship in Bigham Hall

December 18—10:30 a.m. Christmas Cantata in Sanctuary

December 24—5:30 p.m. Children's Christmas program in Sanctuary

December 24—11:00 p.m. Worship in Sanctuary with Communion

December 25—10:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary, no Sunday School

From Katie Sloan, Outreach Minister

Reverse Advent Calendar

'tis the Season for Giving



Can you believe that Christmas is right around the corner and Advent has just begun? It's hard to imagine! Advent is the perfect time for focusing on the joy of the season, but it can also seem really commercial. The season of Advent is a time when we both look back to the first coming of Jesus Christ, and also look forward to His future second coming. We remember both what He has already accomplished, and look forward with hope and expectancy for what He will accomplish.

The tradition of the Advent Calendar was intended as a countdown to Christmas. When I was young I remember opening the little doors of my calendar and reading a special Advent focused scripture each morning with my dad. Now it seems that Advent calendars are less about Advent and more about receiving a piece of chocolate or small gift each day. This year I want to challenge everyone to join in on the **Reverse Advent Calendar** movement and be on the giving end this season — *for it is better to give than to receive*.

Pick a box or even basket and every day in December put one item in your box. On December 24 donate the entire box to the charity of your choice. A reverse advent calendar is perfect to do as a group, too. You can put the box in your classroom, workplace or do it as a larger family group and take turns at adding to it.

Two great charities to consider this season are Backpacks of Love and Bright Blessings. Below you will find a list of suggested items each charity needs to get you started. These are just a few suggestions!

Bright Blessings: fleece blankets, bibs, bottles, diaper bags, receiving blankets, hooded towels

Backpacks of Love: poptarts, canned tuna/chicken, hearty canned soup, beanie weenies, packaged oatmeal, packaged grits, canned vegetables

The church staff is taking part in a reverse Advent Calendar! Come on and join the fun!

Joy! Love! Peace!

Katie

Christmas morning “Come As You Are” worship service

What's all this talk about pajama's at church on Christmas morning?

The atmosphere at Philadelphia Presbyterian Church's Christmas morning worship will be joyful and relaxed, with the full tone of Christmas. We welcome you to “come as you are” on Christmas morning. Whether you wear casual clothes, your Sunday go-to church finest, or YOUR PAJAMAS! Yup, I said pajamas! Nothing crazy of course, just some warm comfy PJs!

December 25 is a day that is reserved and protected as a day for family. Christmas morning starts early with the kids racing to see what is under the tree and the kitchen is overflowing with deliciousness. Each moment of the day is packed full of things to do. This year December 25 happens to fall on a Sunday. That being the case, we are all adding worship to our Christmas Day schedules. The last thing you should have to worry about is rushing around trying to get all dressed up just to come to church. If you have a beautiful Christmas outfit, by all means, please wear it. But, if you have been up since 5:00 a.m. preparing food or unwrapping gifts with the kids, feel free to come in some comfy clothes and enjoy worship.

There will not be any Sunday School on Christmas morning. Worship will begin at 10:30 a.m. You will want to arrive a little early. We are having cocoa and coffee!!! Bring your favorite coffee cup, we'll have a refill for you!



Backpacks of Love

At this time of year, it is especially important to remember the children at Clear Creek Elementary. In the next several weeks we'd like to build up our supplies at the school to be sure we can fill backpacks to capacity for the long Christmas break. We tend to run low on oatmeal/grits packets, PopTarts, small containers of meats/poultry/seafood/macaroni and cheese for lunches, and larger cans of the same for dinners as well as hearty meat-based soups. We like to include 16 oz. jars of peanut butter, individual packs of crackers, and cranberry sauce for the long break. Thank you for caring for these children.



Text Alerts

You may sign up to receive text alerts of service and activity changes or closing due to bad weather by going to wsoctv.com/s/closings. Look for the “School closings and delays text alerts” link.

From your Endowment Council

This is a season that is full of wonder and reflection. It is a time that we may reflect on and become particularly grateful for the blessings God has bestowed on us. This gratitude may lead to making a charitable contribution to our church or to a favorite charity. The endowment council asks you to consider making that end of the year contribution to the Endowment Fund of Philadelphia Church.

Each person's financial situation is different. When you itemize your tax deductions, please consider these options to eliminate federal income tax on up to half of your adjusted gross income. You may also be eligible for state income tax savings.

Using appreciated securities such as stocks, bonds, mutual funds, for your charitable giving can provide you with additional tax savings since you do not realize long term capital gains and the current value, rather than your cost, may be reported as a contribution.

Donations from IRA funds are now allowed under a tax bill signed December 2015.

The Endowment program is a tremendous source of income at PPC. The funds are often established by someone wishing to create a memorial or a legacy gift that will provide a source of support to our church in perpetuity. Funds are created to support a favorite mission or program that already exists in our church. Perhaps there is a program that yet needs to be started and funded. We invite you to explore the opportunity to impact Philadelphia's future by considering a tax deductible charitable contribution this year to one of the more than 20 endowed funds or by creating a new fund in support of a mission or ministry that is dear to your heart.

To be sure that you receive your 2016 tax deduction, make your gift by December 31. Contact a member of the Endowment Council or our minister, Rusty Benton.

Becky Griffin
Endowment Chairman

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Ten years ago our church was involved in The Kingdom Project. Thirty unsuspecting volunteers were given a one hundred dollar bill and asked to creatively find a way to increase that money and report back in three months. Later the stories of how the money was used and grown were incredible. In fact just this month Doug and Kaye Vass entertained their Tenth International Tasting Party to help fund the Heifer Project. That initial \$100 from ten years ago has now topped over \$15,000. The wonderful fact is that those who attend are asked to bring an international hors d'oeuvre and to donate \$30. Duke Energy generously adds fifty percent of each donation to the total gift.

So how is this fund raiser connected to endowments? It's an idea that has continued to give. Our church has a number of endowment funds, but the cornerstone of any church is our involvement in our community, country and world. A mission endowment fund could help our youth reach out to others each year. A mission endowment fund could send a group to Lumberton and surrounding communities to help with flood victims. If you are looking for a way to serve your church and community why not think about giving an endowment to fund missions.

The year is drawing to a close. Have you turned in your volunteer hours?
Turn in **all** your volunteer hours, not just the ones you do at church!
They all count!



	December Birthdays
1	Anna Haney
1	Inez Paschal
1	Thomas Petry
1	Lee Smith
1	Avery West
2	Karen Davis
2	Jean Hargett
2	Kay Hastings
2	Grace Phillips
3	Vicki Crossman
3	Ryan Dayton
3	Millie Mullis
4	Gayle Williams
5	Liz Biggers
5	John Nofsinger
5	Daniel Phillips
5	Rachel Phillips
6	Ashle Basden
6	Nona Pourlos
7	Sue Tilley
8	Kathy Bartlett
8	Corey Gargiola
8	Cathy Snelson
9	Chelsea Johnson
10	Buddy Knotts
10	Kaitlyn Szymanski
11	Austin Owens
11	Randall Snelson
12	Christy Davis
12	Anna McEntee
13	Bob Long
13	Rachel Tweed
16	Carleton Hamrick
16	Cindi Hoffner
17	Lizzie Blanchard
17	Katherine Ellis
17	Becky Robison
18	Cathy Haney
18	Amy Stanley
19	Amy Lewis
19	Wesley Morris
19	Jimmy Smith
19	Carl Street
20	Sue Aycock

20	Nancy Flowe	10	Allison Watts
20	Savannah Garbark	11	Justin Flowe
21	J.D. Carter	11	France Starr
22	Abby Governale	12	Bob Bourgeois
22	Kristin Leavell	12	Richard Saia
22	Ashley Ponscheck	12	Eva White
22	Polly Ross	13	Arnold Bokhoven
23	Mary O'Rourke	13	Marianne Smith
24	Handy Cooper	13	Doug Vass
24	Jane Long	14	Kyle McAlister
24	Sandy Roberts	15	Tom Connors
24	Caleb Simmons	15	Kaitlyn Linscheid
24	Mike West	16	Barbara Kistler
25	Shane Griffin	17	Martha Carriker
26	Eloise Black	17	Brenda Funderburk
26	Mary Muehl	17	Angel McClure
26	Tracy Thomas	17	Judith Orr
27	Lila Corrigan	18	Shelley Guerin
27	Angie Cuartas	19	Rusty Benton
28	Leslie Anderson	19	Jean Butler
28	Sonya Kelley	19	Jane Carriker
29	Mikey Dellinger	19	Dottie Kastner
29	Erin Owens	19	Amy Lewis
29	Becky Szymanski	19	Wesley Morris
30	Christopher Simmons	19	Carol Timblin
31	David Houck	20	Woody Cummins
31	Holland Stanley	20	Roger Hagy
1	Matt Corrigan	20	Carolyn Platts
2	Jerry Mullis	20	Danielle Vanasse
3	Tanya Briner	22	Richard Gilbert
4	Mike Hastings	22	Toby Vosburgh
5	Elizabeth Griffin	24	Pam Crowder
5	Andrew Jaeger	26	Don Jamison
5	Emily Plummer	26	Peyton Sailors
6	Alice Pamplin	26	Thomas Luke Shedd
6	Sylvia Gill	26	Helen Swiger
7	Porter Behrendt	26	Carlene Tucker
7	Amy Cervantes	29	Ted Morris
7	Rachel Nance	30	Caroline Reed
8	Sam Basden	30	Carolyn Smith
8	Erin Moses	31	Betty Ford



6	Alice Pamplin
6	Sylvia Gill
7	Porter Behrendt
7	Amy Cervantes
7	Rachel Nance
8	Sam Basden
8	Erin Moses
10	Charlie Jones, Sr.

Gifts to the church

in memory of:

Lewis Holland—Doris Miller (James Lee Miller Scholarship Fund)
Charley McMurray—Doris Miller (James Lee Miller Scholarship Fund)
Thelma Campbell—Doris Miller (James Lee Miller Scholarship Fund)
Phyllis Garner—Doris Miller (James Lee Miller Scholarship Fund); PW Circle #5 (Stephen Ministry Fund)
Frances Middleton—Doris Miller (James Lee Miller Scholarship Fund)
Robert Ann Phillips—Doris Miller (James Lee Miller Scholarship Fund)
Lee Robinson—Doris Miller (James Lee Miller Scholarship Fund)
Betty Ross—Doris Miller (James Lee Miller Scholarship Fund)
Martha Strohm—Doris Miller (James Lee Miller Scholarship Fund)
Kaylee Smith—Doris Miller (James Lee Miller Scholarship Fund)
Carlene Tucker—Doris Miller (James Lee Miller Scholarship Fund)
Robert Tucker—Doris Miller (James Lee Miller Scholarship Fund)
Peggy Wilson—Doris Miller (James Lee Miller Scholarship Fund)
Ellis Yeargins—Doris Miller (James Lee Miller Scholarship Fund); Herb & Sylvia Gill (Capital Needs Fund)
Isabelle Martinez—Doris Miller (James Lee Miller Scholarship Fund)
Janice McEwen—PW Circle #5 (Stephen Ministry Fund)
Luella White—Presbyterian Women (Backpacks of Love Fund)

in honor of...

Emily Davis—Doris Miller (James Lee Miller Scholarship Fund)

December Anniversaries

3	Bill & Anne Cloaninger
5	Sandra & Berry Ferguson
11	Don & Becky Jamison
12	Buddy & Sherry Knotts
15	Mark & Ginny Setzer
17	Andrew & Candace Starnes
19	Dan & Becky Oke
20	Tom & Debbie Connors
21	Jack & Mary O'Rourke
26	Lee & Carolyn Smith
27	David & Melissa Johnson
28	Joe & Margaret Smith
29	Sam & Ashle Basden
29	John & Colleen Ellis
29	John & Patti Nofsinger
29	Betty & Bill Weatherly
31	Tony & Julie Griffin

January Anniversaries

2	Harry & Martha Hood
8	Bill & Melinda Johnston
11	Butch & Leslie Allen
15	Jerry & Millie Mullis
18	Ron & Inez Paschal
28	Jason & Heather Williams

If your name was omitted from the birthday or anniversary list, please contact the church office.

PPC Birthday Endowment Fund

Celebrate your big day by sharing your blessings. Or remember anyone you love by giving a gift to the PPC Birthday Endowment Fund. Each donor and honoree will be acknowledged in the *Philagram*. By growing this fund, our church will be able to use the interest for much needed improvements and repairs to the buildings and grounds of our campus. Donation envelopes are available in the narthex of the sanctuary and chapel and outside the church office.



The following donations have been made to the Birthday Endowment Fund:

In Honor of:

Nona Pourlos from Nona Pourlos
Demetrios Pourlos from Nona Pourlos

If you made a donation to the Birthday Endowment and it is not listed, please contact the church office.

We extend sympathy for the following death:

D. J. Houston—November 26th



December



Thursday, December 1

12:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building
 6:30 p.m.—Officer Training—Heritage Room
 7:00 p.m.—Personnel & Admin. Ministry Mtg.—Session Rm.
 7:00 p.m.—Basketball—Kerr Building
 7:00 p.m.—A.A. Mtg.—AA Building

Friday, December 2

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (closed)—AA Building

Saturday, December 3

8:00 a.m.—Christmas Tree Distribution—Kerr Building

9:00 a.m.—Circle #7—Heritage Room

Sunday, December 4

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School
 10:30 a.m.—Worship Service—Sanctuary
 6:30 p.m.—Bell Choir Practice—Bell Choir Room
 7:30 p.m.—Sanctuary Choir Practice—Adult Choir Room

Monday, December 5

6:00 p.m.—Christian Education Ministry Meeting—Session Room
 6:30 p.m.—Scouts—Bigham Hall/Chapel
 7:00 p.m.—Deacons Meeting—Heritage Room
 8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Tuesday, December 6

10:00 a.m.—Circle #4—Kerr Building
 10:30 a.m.—Circle #1 & 2—Heritage Room
 6:00 p.m.—Basketball—Kerr Building
 6:00 p.m.—Girl Scouts—Bigham Hall
 7:00 p.m.—Planning & Review Committee Meeting—Session Room
 8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Wednesday, December 7

5:30 p.m.—Room in the Inn—Kerr Building
 5:30 p.m.—Children's Choir Practice—Children's Choir Rm.
 8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (open)—AA Building

Thursday, December 8

6:00 p.m.—Basketball—Kerr Building
 7:00 p.m.—A.A. Mtg.—AA Building

Friday, December 9

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (closed)—AA Building

Saturday, December 10

7:00 a.m.—Blood Drive—Bigham Hall
 7:30 a.m.—Men's Breakfast—Kerr Building
 11:00 a.m.—Community Christmas Party—Kerr Building

Sunday, December 11

9:00 a.m.—Coffee & Fellowship—Bigham Hall
 9:30 a.m.—Sunday School
 10:30 a.m.—Worship Service—Sanctuary
 4:30 p.m.—Worship & Music Committee Mtg.—Session Rm.
 6:30 p.m.—Bell Choir Practice—Bell Choir Room
 7:30 p.m.—Sanctuary Choir Practice—Adult Choir Room

Monday, December 12

6:00 p.m.—Evangelism & Outreach Ministry Mtg.—Session Room
 6:30 p.m.—Endowment Council Mtg.—Fred Brown Classroom
 6:30 p.m.—Cub Scouts—Bigham Hall
 8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Tuesday, December 13

6:00 p.m.—Girl Scouts—Chapel
 6:00 p.m.—Basketball—Kerr Building
 7:00 p.m.—Circle #6—Session Room
 7:00 p.m.—Shawl Ministry—Fred Brown Classroom
 8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Wednesday, December 14

2:00 p.m.—Philadelphia Class—Bigham Hall
 5:30 p.m.—Room in the Inn—Kerr Building
 5:30 p.m.—Children's Choir Practice—Children's Choir Rm.
 7:00 p.m.—Vision Committee Mtg.—Session Room
 8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (open)—AA Building

Thursday, December 15

8:00 a.m.—Lifeline Screening—Kerr Building
 6:00 p.m.—Basketball—Kerr Building
 6:30 p.m.—Girl Scouts—Bigham Hall
 7:00 p.m.—Finance Ministry Meeting—Session Room
 7:00 p.m.—A.A. Mtg.—AA Building

Friday, December 16

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (closed)—AA Building

Saturday, December 17

No Meetings

Sunday, December 18

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School

10:30 a.m.—Choir Cantata—Sanctuary

Monday, December 19

7:00 p.m.—Session Meeting—Session Room
 8:00 a.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Tuesday, December 20

7:00 p.m.—Building & Grounds Committee Mtg.—Fred Brown Class
 8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Wednesday, December 21

5:30 p.m.—Room in the Inn—Kerr Building
 5:30 p.m.—Children's Choir Practice—Children's Choir Rm.
 8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (open)—AA Building

Thursday, December 22

7:00 p.m.—A.A. Mtg.—AA Building

Friday, December 23

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (closed)—AA Building

Saturday, December 24

5:30 p.m.—Children's Christmas Program—Sanctuary
 11:00 p.m.—Worship Service—Sanctuary

Sunday, December 25

10:30 a.m.—Worship Service—Sanctuary (Come as you are)

Monday, December 26

Church Office Closed for Christmas
 8:00 a.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Tuesday, December 27

Church Office Closed for Christmas
 7:30 p.m.—Basketball—Kerr Building
 8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Wednesday, December 28

5:30 p.m.—Room in the Inn—Kerr Building
 7:00 p.m.—Vision Committee Mtg.—Session Room
 8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (open)—AA Building

Thursday, December 29

7:00 p.m.—A.A. Mtg.—AA Building

Friday, December 30

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (closed)—AA Building

Saturday, December 31

No Meetings

Thank you from Bright Blessings®

This is a shout out to our PPC Youth (and the wonderful accompanying adults), to say thank you for recently serving at Bright Blessings and for the great care kits you put together for us during Let's Connect. Your awesome support makes a world of difference to us and shines a light of love for local homeless kids. Thank you again PPC Youth, we love having you at Bright Blessings!

Yours in Christ,
 Amy & John Cervantes and the
 Bright Blessings team



Sunday, January 1

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School
10:30 a.m.—Worship Service—Communion—Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.—Sanctuary Choir Practice—Adult Choir Room

Monday, January 2

Church Office Closed
6:00 p.m.—Christian Education Ministry Meeting--Session Room
6:30 p.m.—Scouts--Bigham Hall/Chapel
7:00 p.m.—Deacons Meeting--Heritage Room
8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Tuesday, January 3

10:30 a.m.--Circle #1&2--Heritage Room
6:00 p.m.—Girl Scouts--Chapel
7:00 p.m.—Youth Basketball—Kerr Building
8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Wednesday, January 4

5:30 p.m.—Room in the Inn—Kerr Building
8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (open)—AA Building

Thursday, January 5

10 a.m. & 6 p.m.—Believe—Heritage Room
7:00 p.m.—Basketball--Kerr Building
7:00 p.m.—Personnel & Admin. Ministry Mtg.—Session Rm.
7:00 p.m.—A.A. Mtg.—AA Building

Friday, January 6

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (closed)—AA Building

Saturday, January 7

10:00 a.m.—Basketball—Kerr Building

Sunday, January 8

9:00 a.m.--Coffee & Fellowship--Bigham Hall
9:30 a.m.—Sunday School
10:30 a.m.—Worship Service— Sanctuary
4:30 p.m.—Worship & Music Ministry Mtg.—Session Rm.
5:00 p.m.—Middle School Youth—Bigham Hall
5:45 p.m.—Youth Snack Supper—Kerr Building
6:30 p.m.—Bell Choir Practice—Bell Choir Room
6:45 p.m.—High School Youth—Bigham Hall
7:30 p.m.—Sanctuary Choir Practice—Adult Choir Room

Monday, January 9

6:00 p.m.—Scouts—Bigham Hall

Tuesday, January 10

6:30 p.m.—Believe Small Group—Heritage Room
6:30 p.m.—Girl Scouts—Chapel
7:00 p.m.—Shawl Ministry--Fred Brown Classroom
7:00 p.m.—Circle #6--Session Room
7:30 p.m.—Basketball--Kerr Building
7:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Wednesday, January 11

1 & 6 p.m.—Believe Small Group—Heritage Room
5:00 p.m.—Let's Connect Program
5:30 p.m.—Room in the Inn—Kerr Building
8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (open)—AA Building

Thursday, January 12

10:00 a.m.—Believe Small Group—Heritage Room
6:00 p.m.—Believe Small Group—Fred Brown Classroom
6:30 p.m.—Girl Scouts—Bigham Hall
7:00 p.m.—Stephen Ministry Mtg.—Heritage Room
7:00 p.m.—A.A. Mtg.—AA Building
7:30 p.m.—Basketball—Kerr Building

Friday, January 13

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (closed)—AA Building

Saturday, January 14

7:30 a.m.—Men's Breakfast—Kerr Building
10:00 a.m.—Basketball—Kerr Building

Sunday, January 15

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School
10:30 a.m.—Worship Service—Sanctuary
12:00 p.m.—Philafeast—Kerr Building
6:30 p.m.—Bell Choir Practice—Bell Choir Room
7:30 p.m.—Sanctuary Choir Practice—Adult Choir Room

Monday, January 16

Church Office Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Tuesday, January 17

10:00 a.m.—PPC Good Timers—Kerr Building

6:30 p.m.—Girl Scouts—Chapel

7:00 p.m.—Believe Small Group—Room 114

7:00 p.m.—Building & Grounds Committee Mtg.—Rm. 208

7:30 p.m.—Basketball—Kerr Building

7:00 p.m.—PW Council Meeting—Heritage Room

7:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Wednesday, January 18

1 & 6 p.m.—Believe Small Group—Heritage Room

5:00 p.m.—Let's Connect Program

5:30 p.m.—Room in the Inn—Kerr Building

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (open)—AA Building

Thursday, January 19

10:00 a.m.—Believe Small Group—Heritage Room

6:00 p.m.—Believe Small Group—Heritage Room

7:00 p.m.—Basketball—Kerr Building

7:00 p.m.—Finance Ministry—Session Room

7:00 p.m.—A.A. Mtg.—AA Building

Friday, January 20

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (closed)—AA Building

Saturday, January 21

10:00 a.m.—Basketball—Kerr Building

Sunday, January 22

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School

10:30 a.m.—Worship Service—Sanctuary

2:00 p.m.—Children's Choir Practice—Kerr Building

5:00 p.m.—Middle School Youth—Bigham Hall

5:45 p.m.—Youth Snack Supper—Kerr Building

6:30 p.m.—Bell Choir Practice—Bell Choir Room

6:45 p.m.—High School Youth Mtg.—Youth Room

7:30 p.m.—Sanctuary Choir Practice—Adult Choir Room

Monday, January 23

7:00 p.m.—Session Meeting—Session Room

6:30 p.m.—Scouts—Bigham Hall

Tuesday, January 24

6:00 p.m.—Girl Scouts—Chapel

6:30 p.m.—Believe Small Group—Heritage Room

7:00 p.m.—Shawl Ministry—Fred Brown Classroom

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Wednesday, January 25

1 & 6 p.m.—Believe Small Group—Heritage Room

5:00 p.m.—Let's Connect Program

5:30 p.m.—Room in the Inn—Kerr Building

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (open)—AA Building

Thursday, January 26

10:00 a.m.—Believe Small Group—Heritage Room

6:00 p.m.—Believe Small Group—Heritage Room

7:00 p.m.—A.A. Mtg.—AA Building

Friday, January 27

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (closed)—AA Building

Saturday, January 28

10:00 a.m.—Basketball—Kerr Building

Sunday, January 29

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School

10:30 a.m.—Worship Service—Sanctuary

2:00 p.m.—Children's Choir Practice—Kerr Building

6:30 p.m.—Bell Choir Practice—Bell Choir Room

7:30 p.m.—Sanctuary Choir Practice—Adult Choir Room

Monday, January 30

6:30 p.m.—Scouts—Kerr Building

8:00 a.m.—AA Mtg.—Old Scout Hut

Tuesday, January 31

6:00 p.m.—Girl Scouts—Chapel

6:30 p.m.—Believe Small Group—Heritage Room

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building



MEMBERS IN THE



MILITARY

Major Grant Cloaninger
1337 Judge Tyler Drive
Clarksville, TN 37043

Staff Sergeant Rachel Brinegar
6608 S. Westshore Blvd.
Apt 2207
Tampa, FL 33616

Chief Davis, Matthew B.
awaiting new address

Foreman, Jack W.
51105-1 Waco Ct.
Fort Hood, TX 76544

From your Christian Education Ministry

Kids' Corner

The Kingdom Kids collected over 100 pairs of shoes to donate to Soles 4 Souls where new and used shoes are sent to impoverished areas in the US and other countries. Many cannot afford footwear, a luxury we take for granted each day. The Kingdom Kids are sharing the love of Jesus in the form of a shoe which will hopefully put smiles on faces around the world!

Let's Connect

Our mid week program has ended for the fall semester and will begin again on January 11. Thank you to all who participated in this program. If you were unable to attend this fall, please come for the second semester! There are Believe activities, missions and choir for kids and youth. The adults have time with Rusty and Katie where interactive learning, individual and group participation, laughter and tears, questions and answers, grows ones spiritual life in a casual, small group setting. Please join in on the fun and fellowship!

PPC Mission Statement

Growing the Kingdom of God by Spreading the Good News, Serving the least among us, Working for justice, and Teaching future generations



If you are a widower, come have breakfast at Showmars at 8:00 the third Friday of each month. It would be helpful to let Tony Baker know (704-545-4730) that you will be there, but it's not necessary. Just come around to the back room at Showmars in Mint Hill.

The Morning Glories meet the last Monday of the month at Showmars in Mint Hill at 9:15 a.m. If you are a widow lady, please join this group for breakfast..

All announcements or inserts to be included in the weekly bulletin MUST be received in the office by noon on Thursday of each week. Announcements or inserts received after noon will be included in the following week's bulletin. Please be aware that any submissions may need to be edited for space!

Angel tree gifts are due in the entryway on December 11!

As has been our tradition for many years, poinsettias provided in honor or memory of friends and loved ones


POINSETTIA ORDERS will grace the chancel during the Advent season. The cost for the 6" pots of poinsettias will be \$7.50 (same as last year). The plants will be 14-18" tall. Orders should be turned in to the church office by December 5.

The poinsettias may be removed from the sanctuary after the Christmas Eve services.

Presbyterian Women's Bazaar Update

The Presbyterian Women give thanks to the Lord for the 2016 bazaar! Over 100 people, men, women, boys and girls, several who are not PPC members, participated in making this event a huge success raising over \$33,000! It takes a village and every single contribution is needed and appreciated! Thank you one and all for your participation!

Also at the bazaar, Ellen Street was awarded with the PW highest honor, Honorary Lifetime member. Congratulations to Ellen for her wonderful and appreciated contributions to the PW and our church.

Ladies, please mark your calendars for February 12 for the annual Valentine Tea. Be watching for details!

New directories are in the works!

We are planning to print updated church directories in December. If you would like a new picture in the directory, you may submit one electronically to Cynthia by **December 5, 2016**. The picture must be with a plain background and must be a head shot. An example would be like a passport picture. Your second choice is to drop by the rotunda after the 10:30 service on Sunday December 4, 2016. We will be taking pictures then. Also, if you have a new address, email, and/or new phone numbers, be sure to get this information to Cynthia by December 5, 2016.



December 2016
January 2017

Rev. Rusty Benton, Head Pastor
Katie Sloan, Outreach Minister
Pamela Revak, Youth Director
Judy Clinton, Office Manager
Cynthia Stokes, Secretary
Linda Cummins, Webmaster/Administrative Assistant



www.philadelphiachurch.org

Gary Forbis, Director of Music
Marnie Gallagher, Youth Choir Director
Melinda Johnston, Children's Choir Director
Leslie Anderson, Organist
Shirley Simmons, Philagram Editor