The Philagram

Philadelphia Presbyterian Church Mint Hill, North Carolina July 2017



From Rev. Rusty Benton, Head Pastor

Please fill in the blank: "What is _____ with you?"

Of all of the options out there, one of the very best ones is the word "right!" Certainly we might have thought of the more commonly used word "wrong." But I'd like to suggest that maybe the former offers a better answer to the question. There is no doubt that there are things wrong in the world. Likewise, it can be easy to see and hear stories and reports of trouble and pain and problems in the lives of others and begin to be concerned that those difficulties might find their way into our lives, too. Ok, so here's the truth. Those difficulties might actually find their way into our lives. That's how life works. Super amounts of cash have been made from things like blues songs, tragic movies, novels about failed romance and news reports that sensationalize terrorism and violence. The truth is, we have legitimate reasons to consider the question "what's wrong?" as an opener for just about every conversation that we have.

But, there is another option. Sure, difficulties are going to come along for us. But what if we understand that such things are a part of life and decide that instead of letting events dictate our lives, we will dictate life to those events? Yes, I'm serious.

I'm serious because we are a people who hold to faith in the God who says things like "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)....AND.... "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30)... AND....For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. (I John 5:4)

God never promises us an easy road as Christians. In fact, in the scriptures, most folks that follow God deal with huge challenges. Take a second and revisit the lives of folks like Noah, Mary, Abraham, Ruth, David, Hannah, Jeremiah, Peter, Paul, and of course Jesus. In each case, these wonderfully faithful folks had lots of opportunity to ask the question "What's wrong with the world?" and be defeated or frightened or scared by the answer. However, they chose to follow God and in the place of difficulty, found the opportunity to help make the world a better place powered by the strength, love and hope that they knew in their awe-some God!

Like our Biblical heroes, we are blessed with the good news that we have been given God's Spirit of goodness that can overcome all things! God has given us the great blessing of being able to both live with and into hope! God is all about good being in the driver's seat and kicking evil to the curb! God's focus is never what's wrong, but is instead, about making ways for things to be right!

God has given us the opportunity to come at life the same way that He does. Yep, we can be, get ready for it, eternal optimists! We have the chance to take everything that comes along and, even when some of it really is challenging, realize that our God is our life, our hope, our love and our strength. In this, we are able to know life beyond our circumstance, because of the God who is in and beyond our circumstance and who always wants the best for us and our world.

The good news is, That's what's *right* with us all!

From Katie Sloan, Associate Minister

Attention PPC Youth! PHILAGRAM SUMMER INSTAGRAM CHALLENGE!

PPC youth group, this is just for you! There's been so much talk about Jesus-on-the-Go, I'm ready to see just how create the PPC youth can be! So here is your challenge, should you choose to accept it!

You have been given 20 photo prompts. You have the entire month of July to post all 20 pics.

Use the prompt as inspiration and take a photo. Don't worry if you're not the most awe-some photographer in the world, just have fun with it!

Complete the challenge and trust me, you'll be really glad you did!

RULES:

- Follow me on Instagram @katie_2u
- tag me on your post
- You cannot post more than one picture a day
- each post MUST include #PPC_philagram_challenge and the hashtag that corresponds with the prompt

Ready? GO!

Katie

1- Funky Food	#funkyfood
2- Red, white, blue	#redwhiteblue
3- Just add water	#justaddwater
4- Down	#down
5- Street art	#streetart
6- On the menu	#onthemenu
7- Praise	#praise
8- Flip	#flip
9- Sweet tooth	#sweetthooth
10- Work and Play	#work and play
11- 1st thing I saw	#1stthinglsaw
12- Hot	#hot
13- Thank you	#thank you
14- Reflection	#thank you
15- Just Bought	#justbought
16- Letters	#letters
17- Music	#music
18- Family	#family
19- Matchy Matchy	#matchymatchy
20-Summer	#summer

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PPC is proud to announce another exciting opportunity to worship!

The Journey (J9) will begin on September 10 at 9:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary! The new service will feature a looser order of worship, more varied styles of music and be a more relaxed service. Our pastors, Rusty and Katie, will preach the message and the Praise Team will lead the music.

> The new Sunday schedule will be: The Journey (J9) 9:00 a.m.- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m.-10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

We can use your help with singing, playing an instrument, technology, set-up, advertising, childcare and so much more. Pray and consider how you can be a part of this exciting opportunity to spread the Good News! You can contact any Marnie Gallagher 704-661-1352 for more information. Can't wait to see you on The Journey!

Thank You

My family and I wish to express our appreciation for the love and support when Bill died. Thanks for all the prayers, cards, visits and meals provided. I feel blessed to be a member of such a caring congregation.

> With love and gratitude, Betty Weatherly

Backpacks of Love

Congratulations to this generous, caring congregation. A whopping 16,749 items were donated to provide weekend food for a group of students at Clear Creek Elementary School. This act of compassion has enabled these children to start the school week without hunger pangs dis-The staff, teachers and families tracting them. thank you all with grateful hearts.

Time to go through your books

A book drive for Habitat for Humanity will be held throughout the month of July. To drop off books, look for the blue Habitat bin in the hallway near the church office. Sales of all



fiction, fiction, and children's books will benefit the Habitat ReStore, 1133 Wendover North Road, Charlotte. onate your Books will be sold at Julia's Café and Books adjacent to the ReStore.

Mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School August 6-10!

Starts at 6:00 in the Kerr Building for dinner, dismissal 8:30

Ready to travel back in time? Join us in Rome! You'll explore the caves of the Underground Church, meet the Apostle Paul, create cool Bible-times projects, experience thrilling reallife dramas, play high-energy games, sample tasty Mediterranean snacks, and hear unforgettable music. Plus, you'll meet lots of new friends!

The VBS team would love your help!! If you would like to serve in any way, please contact Susan Griffin at smgriffin@griffinmasonry.com

This year's theme is ROME-Paul and the Underground Church. Invite your family and friends to join us! Register you and your family on sign up genius beginning June 4. VBS is for ALL ages with activities for children, teens and adults!!



For the adults: Come join Rusty and Katie in the Session Room as we journey with Paul through Ancient Rome and the Underground Church. Discover what life was like in First Century Rome. We will explore Roman architecture, trade, and fashion. We'll even have some fun with food and games, and the week wouldn't be complete unless we talked about all those other gods! Come discover why there is no love like God's love!

The mission focus for our VBS week will be school supplies for Classroom Central. Here's what they need: filler paper, crayons, pocket folders, glue sticks, scissors, colored pencils, pencils, composition books, and markers. There will be bins inside the Kerr Building in which you may put your donations.

Plans are underway for a new season of Wonderful Wednesdays!

The program will start on September 6. Be making your plans to be a part of this fun and exciting mid-week opportunity for fellowship, learning, and worship! Watch for details in the weeks ahead

Make plans to participate in the **Dale Jones Memorial Golf Tournament!**

The 11th Annual Dale Jones Golf Tournament will be held on October 16, 2017 at Pine Lake Country Club. For information about playing, sponsoring, or volunteering, contact Ed Simmons at jes0903@aol.com or at 704-545-8620. Help yourself to one of the brochures that will be available around the

Registration will be at 10:30 a.m., and the shotgun start will be at noon. Proceeds will be used to support PPC youth mission trips, Bright Blessings, Charlotte Rescue Mission, and Habitat for Humanity Matthews, NC.

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- 1 Charlie Ponscheck
- 1 Franny Rukenbrod
- 3 Ann Brown
- 3 Elizabeth Jeffers
- 4 Van Chilton
- 6 Kirby Dellinger
- 7 Jacob Gallagher
- 8 Henry Griffin
- 8 AJ Lukjanczuk
- 9 Robert Briner
- 9 Robert Briller
- 9 Beverly Caldwell
- 9 Pattie Gilbert
- 10 Jacob Alphin
- 10 Emily Davis
- 10 David Kafitz
- 10 Debbe King
- 11 Scott Jeffers
- 11 Cameron McClure
- 12 Ben Flowe
- 12 Abby Mock
- 12 Pam Rosmon
- 13 Matthew Davis
- 13 Elizabeth Garbark
- 14 Margaret Morris

- 15 James Blanchard
- 15 Tammy Dayton
- 16 Mark Jetton, Jr.
- 17 Colene Houck
- 17 Dick Lamb
- 17 Judy Myers
- 17 Kristina Simmons
- 18 Gerald Garner18 Hunter Reed
- 19 Frank Garrett
- 20 Catherine Andrews
- 20 David Hodgin
- 21 Griffin Basden
- 21 Ginny Setzer
- 21 Lana Tannenbaum
- 22 Violet Corrigan
- 22 Jack O'Rourke
- 23 Brenda McManus
- 24 Bill McWhirter
- 24 Dale Reed
- 25 Katie Garbark
- 25 Cameron Morris
- 25 Shelby Watts
- 26 Scott Griffin
- 28 Brenda Mayberry
- 29 Saylor Guerin
- 30 Gary Downer
- 30 Rick Santiago
- 30 Jay Strand
- 31 Laura Cummings

Gifts to the church

In memory of...

Olin Flowe—Carolyn Platts, Kathryn Heyward, James & Susan Hinson, Larry & Ginger Black, Moore & Van Allen, Earl & Jean Fortner, The Philadelphia Sunday School Class, Laurin & Makie Quillen, Perry & Sue Davis, Frances Leete, Sigrid Morris, Dave Nixon, Ron & Nancy Norelli (Current Fund/Music Fund); Ernest & Linda Jamison (Capital Needs); Peggy Graham (Cemetery Fund); Herb & Sylvia Gill (Capital Needs Fund); Janice Wilson (Love Thy Neighbor Fund)

Faye Ross—The Philadelphia Sunday School Class (Endowment Fund)

Joy Long—Frances Leete (Endowment Fund)

James Black—Frances Leete (Endowment

Fund)

Anne Dobbins—Perry & Sue Davis (Endowment Fund)

Birthday Endowment...

Katie Newton—Lisa & Richard Newton

We extend sympathy for the following deaths

Olin Flowe on June 2

[Faye Ross] mother of Nona Pourlos on June 11

Anne Dobbins on June 20

July Anniversaries

- 1 Bob & Ginger Bourgeois
- 2 Don & Merle Price
- 3 Robert & Barbara Kistler
- 5 David & Ann Houck
- 6 Gayle & Doug Williams
- 13 Andy & Brenda Mock
- 21 Emily & Edmund Dee
- 24 Richard & Lisa Newton28 Aubrey & Dot Bartlett
- 29 Richard & Marjorie Gledhill

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

Summer Mission Opportunity—we need you!

Homeless shelters in Charlotte are over capacity and have had to turn away women and children. The Center for Hope has reached out to the faith community for help in providing overnight shelter to homeless women. PPC will host 10-12 women in the Kerr Building from Sunday, July 9 to the morning of Friday, July 14. We will provide transportation back and forth to The Center for Hope, a simple supper and breakfast and a safe place to sleep for the night. WE NEED YOUR HELP! Please sign up as a driver, overnight host, or dinner host on the sign up sheet outside the office or contact Snelson cellensnel-Cathy son@gmail.com or 704-607-7487.

The Bain Cane history, Cane's new recipient

In ancient Israel, history was a HUGE part of life. Family traditions, religious traditions and telling stories of thepast were big parts of everyday life for God's people. In face, in many waysm remembering and honoring th past help shape everyday contemporary religious, civil and social life of God's people. On Sunday, June 25, we at PPC had an opportunity to celebrate a great part of our heritage and history as we shared in a rare and long-standing tradition of the church, the Presentation of The Bain Cane. The Bain Cane was presented to the oldest living male member of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church. This tradition started in 1888, when, in appreciation for his service to God and community and helping to establish Bain Academy, Mr. John Bain was presented a gold banded cane by the congregation of PPC. Mr. Bain later willed that the cane be continually held by the oldest living male in the church.

The Bain Cane was presented to Mr. Ken Epley during our 10:30 worship service. We look forward to celebrating with Ken this time honored tradition of Philadelphia Presbyterian as we are reminded at this time of the unceasing and ever present faithfulness of our God!

Ken Epley is 94 years young. He was born in Asheville NC on November 22, 1922. He graduated for Haw Creek High School School in Asheville and Rollins College in Winter Park Florida. He was married to his first wife Ruth for 54 years beautiful years until her death and they had 3 children. Two sons, Keith and Kirk who are no longer with us, and his daughter Ginger.

Ken went on to join the Navy serving as a Lieutenant on ten different ships. He worked for Pan America and Bendix at Kennedy At the Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

He has been a member here at Philadelphia for 15 years. He met his second wife, Frances Blanchard at the hot meals program when he was 79 and she was 80. What a special love story.

He is a member of the Fred Brown Sunday School class.

His daughter Ginger said that the most important thing to her dad has always been family and that no matter where he was stationed during his tour of duty in the Navy, he made sure that it was always some place where the family could always be together.

Congratulations to Mr. Ken Epley, the new holder of the Bain Cane!

Saturday, July 1

No Meetings

Sunday, July 2

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School 10:30 a.m.—Worship Service-

Baptism—Sanctuary

Monday, July 3

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Tuesday, July 4

Church Office Closed

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.--AA Building

Wednesday, July 5

10:00 a.m.—Craft Workshop—Craftroom

6:00 p.m.—Craft Workshop—Craftroom

7:00 p.m.—Men's Small Group—Session Room

7:30 p.m.—Youth Director Search Comm. Mtg.— Heritage Room

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (open)—AA Building

Thursday, July 6

6:00 p.m.—Youth Basketball—Kerr Building

6:00 p.m.—Small Group—Heritage Room

7:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Friday, July 7

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

Saturday, July 8

No Meetings

Sunday, July 9

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School

10:30 a.m.—Worship Service—Communion— Sanctuary

Monday, July 10

6:00 p.m.—Christian Education Ministry Mtg.— Session Rm.

7:00 p.m.—Stephen Ministry Meeting—Heritage Room

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Tuesday, July 11

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

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Wednesday, July 12

10:00 a.m.—Craft Workshops—Craftroom

6:00 p.m.—Craft Workshops—Craftroom

7:00 p.m.—Men's Small Group—Session Room

7:30 p.m.—Youth Director Search Comm. Mtg.—Fred Brown Class

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (open)—AA Building

Thursday, July 13

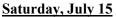
6:30 p.m.—Finance Ministry Mtg.—Session Room

7:00 p.m.—Small Group Meeting—Heritage Room

7:00p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Friday, July 14

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



No Meetings

Sunday, July 16

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School

10:30 a.m.—Worship Service—Sanctuary

Monday, July 17

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Tuesday, July 18

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Wednesday, July 19

 $10:\!00~a.m.\!\!-\!\!Craft~Workshops\!\!-\!\!Craftroom$

6:00 p.m.—Craft Workshops—Craftroom

7:00 p.m.—Movie in the Kerr Building

7:30 p.m.—Youth Director Search Comm. Mtg.—Fred **Brown Class**

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (open)—AA Building

Thursday, July 20

Kerr Building Closed for Cleaning

7:00 p.m.—Small Group Meeting—Heritage Room

7 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Friday, July 21

Kerr Building Closed for Cleaning

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

Saturday, July 22

Kerr Building Closed for Cleaning

Sunday, July 23

Kerr Building Closed for Cleaning

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School

9:30 a.m.—Connections Class—Session Room

10:30 a.m.—Worship Service—Sanctuary

Monday, July 24

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Tuesday, July 25

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

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Wednesday, July 26

 $10:00~a.m. \color{red} - Craft~Workshops \color{red} - Craftroom$

6:00 p.m.—Craft Workshops—Craftroom

7:30 p.m.—Youth Director Search Comm. Mtg.—Fred **Brown Class**

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (open)—AA Building

Thursday, July 27

6:00 p.m.—Youth Basketball—Kerr Building

7:00 p.m.—Small Group Meeting—Heritage Room

7 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Friday, July 28

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

Saturday, July 29

No Meetings

Sunday, July 30

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School

10:30 a.m.—Worship Service—Sanctuary

Monday, July 31

8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building



You spoke and we listened!

Summer movies will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be shown in the Kerr Building!

Up – Wednesday July 19 Finding Dory - Wednesday, August 16



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MILITARY

Major Grant Cloaninger 1337 Judge Tyler Drive Clarksville, TN 37043

Rachel Brinegar 6730 S. Court Drive Tampa, FL 33611

Chief Davis, Matthew B. USS Anchorage (LPD 23) Unit 100520 FPO AP

Foreman, Jack W. 51802-2 Comanche Ave. Fort Hood, TX 76544

Philadelphia Presbyterian Kindergarten news

Registration for the 2017-2018 school year is underway! If you are planning to register your child for next year, please send in your application as soon as possible. Classes are filling up! You may obtain an application from our website: philadelphiachurch.org or from Vicki Crossman.

Don't forget to turn in your volunteer hours!

A flower calendar has been posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. Anyone wishing to put flowers in the sanctuary on Sunday may sign up on the calendar. Remember you are responsible for ordering flowers. You will need to call (704-545-6172) or email cynthia@philadelphiachurch.org in the church office to let her know what you would like put in the church bulletin about the flowers.

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.

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!

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.

Celebrate the season of summer and give to PPC online

Summer is a time for relaxing and celebrating family, friends, and fun. But while vacations are a blessing for both body and soul, church attendance and the budget's bottom line traditionally suffers. Now, with online giving, you can continue to support the work of the church no matter where your summer travels may lead. Whether you are fishing on the lake, jumping in the waves, or exploring exotic locales, you can log on to ACS or www.philadelphiachurch.org and click on the "GIVE" tab. Using your debit or credit card and smart phone or tablet you can keep current with your giving wherever summer may lead. Thank you for your continued financial support as we continue to work together to support Christ's church no matter the season!

Jesus on the Go

This summer our Kingdom Kids

will be using a "Jesus on the Go" cutout to remind them that Jesus is with them wherever they go. They are encouraged to snap photos of their summer adventures with Jesus. Where did they find Jesus? Where did they take Jesus? We would love the entire congregation to join in



on this fun adventure. Jesus on the Go has his own Facebook page: PPC Jesus on the Go and his own Instagram page: PPC Jesus on the Go. Like both pages and stay tuned for special "Where is Jesus?" pictures. Answer the question correctly and you never know what might happen. We want you to post your photos as well. Not into social media? That's ok. Write a note and tell us about your adventures. Are you ready? Let's have some fun with the Kingdom Kids and Jesus on the Go! Check out the photos on Jesus on the Go facebook page or go to our photo gallery page.

Have a safe and happy summer!

Rev. Rusty Benton, Head Pastor Katie Sloan, Associate Minister Judy Clinton, Office Manager Cynthia Stokes, Secretary Linda Cummins, Webmaster/Administrative Assistant



Jane Mendlik, Interim Director of Music Marnie Gallagher, Youth Choir Director Melinda Johnston, Children's Choir Director Leslie Anderson, Organist Shirley Simmons, *Philagram* Editor