

The Philagram

Philadelphia Presbyterian Church
Mint Hill, North Carolina
May 2018



From Rusty Benton, Head Pastor

Kudos!

There is so much amazing stuff happening in May! And that means that May comes with so many reasons to celebrate and appreciate the blessing of life with God, each other and the world!

First, everything is leafing out or blooming or growing like crazy. Now, of course, that means that once in a while we might have to cut grass. But the weather is turning warmer and it's nice to get outside again after being cooped up for winter, so we can even count the opportunity to be out there working as a great thing! Kudos Spring, sunshine, ladybugs and yardwork!

Along with all of the great stuff that nature is doing in May, there are also lots of great events that happen this month. In lots of places students finish their school year. (ok, around here that happens in early June, but likely in most of those folks' minds this is close enough to begin celebrating!) For some students the end of this school year means graduation! Yee-Haa! To all who have achieved that incredible accomplishment, congratulations! You have worked hard and learned so much both academically and also about what you can accomplish with perseverance and dedication. You have done amazing things, and surely more will follow. Kudos!

Next, May brings the opportunity to celebrate Mother's Day. There is never enough good that can be said about the importance of who mom is our life. Mom is that person who willingly gives themselves to and works for the best for the rest of us. They willingly believe that their success lies in us being given all we need to be able to achieve. They live for love, work for love, and sacrifice for love. They are by God's design, physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually the well that we draw from to water humanity and help make it grow. They are the ones who, at bedtime, help make the monsters in our bedroom closets not seem so scary. They are the ones who can, at the same time, accomplish the monstrous effort of keeping us on the straight and narrow when we might become a little monstrous ourselves. Mom, for all that you do and for every way that you share the love and care of God with us. Thank you---and Kudos!!!

May is also the time that we as a country observe and celebrate Memorial Day. This is a day that we in the US set aside to remember and honor those who have given their lives defending this country. While it always brings an extra day off from work and unofficially represents the beginning of summer, its true purpose is to give us the opportunity to pause and appreciate all that has been done, at such a great cost for the people of this country and the causes of freedom and liberty. To all for whom this remembrance was established, thank you for your service....and Kudos!

In addition to all of this great stuff, at PPC this year, May will bring great reasons to celebrate what God is doing in our faith community! May at PPC brings unique worship opportunities that include Choir Sunday and the celebration of the holy day of Pentecost. It also brings our PPK end of year musical and of course we so often get to celebrate the excitement and beauty of weddings in May. May at PPC means Sunday School classes sneaking outside once in while to worship in "the original sanctuary" of God's creation. It means Sunday morning breezes that end with open sanctuary doors and feeling the warm breezes of late spring blow in as we, blessed with God's work and call to serve go back out.

For the church, the opportunity to worship, the opportunity to experience life in the newness of spring....for achievement and those who support and love us in ways that make that possible...for the strength and dedication that causes us to answer the call to service....and for all that you are and do to make all of this possible in our lives, dear God.....KUDOS!.....KUDOS AND THANK YOU!!

From Associate Pastor, Katie Sloan

Things Don't Always Go As Planned

When I was in high school my guidance counselor always asked me "what are your plans for college?". In college I was planning for my career. After college I was planning five-year goals and life-long goals. No matter what stage of life we are in, it seems that we are forever planning for what comes next. After all in the words of my dad "You can't run through life by the seat of your pants, you have to have some kind of plan".

Even if we don't have formal plans that are written down, we all have dreamed of our future or mapped them out in our head. Whether you've imagined starting a business or having a family, traveling the world in a boat. We all want to accomplish things.

But the truth of the matter is, that all the planning in the world doesn't stop "life" from happening. There are so many times when God derails OUR plans because he has plans of his own for us and while we cannot see it at the time, God's plans are always better than our own and always work out in our favor.

God threw a monkey wrench in Joseph's plans when his brothers threw him into a well and sold him into slavery. His Egyptian master's wife tried to seduce him and when he refused her advances, she turned him over to the Egyptian cops, who then tossed him in to prison. He spent years in prison, waiting to be released. I don't imagine that Joseph included prison time in his life plan. Finally, after many painful years, God exalted him to the second in command in all of Egypt.

When all was said and done, what did Joseph say to his brothers?

"Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? But as for you, you intended to harm me, but God intended it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many lives.'" (Genesis 50:19-20)

This was definitely not as Joseph had planned, but it turns out that it was all for the greater good. He did for Joseph what Joseph could never have done for himself.

Life can throw us some curve balls that we never expect, no matter how much we have our lives planned out in advance. But the truth of the matter is that God really knows what he is doing, even if we can't seem to understand HIS plans because it seems as if he is leading us down strange pathways or destroying our dreams. God will accomplish more in you and through you than you could ever have imagined or planned for yourself.

I'm so grateful that God doesn't leave our plans entirely in our hands, aren't you?

Katie



God Bless America!

On Sunday, July 1, our Sanctuary choir will present "Prayer For America, A Declaration of Dependence", a patriotic cantata that will celebrate our

veterans, our military, our country and our amazing God. But we need your help!

As part of the service, we would like to display pictures of service members in uniform - past and present, family and friends. We would also like to include pictures of medals or other military memorabilia that may be meaningful to you. Please send digital pictures to cynthia@philadlephiachurch.org or make a copy of the picture (no originals please!) and drop off in the church office.

Also, on cantata day, we invite you to wear your uniform (if you can squeeze into it!) or a hat that signifies your service so that we can celebrate you!

If you have any questions, please call choir director Jane Mendlik, 704-609-0008, or

May 6 is Choir Sunday

Plan to join us for worship as we celebrate our choirs. It is PPC's tradition to have a Philafeast following the 11:00 service on Choir Sunday, so break out your favorite recipes! Your covered dishes and/or desserts can be dropped off in the Kerr Building when you get to the church that morning. Bring enough for your family and extra to share.

**THANK YOU
TO OUR CHOIRS**



Thank You Note

To our Philadelphia Presbyterian Church Friends,

We so much appreciate all the kind expressions of love and care you showed Don as he fought his battle with cancer and to us after his death. The prayers, cards, visits, calls, food and memorials have given us comfort. We thank you for being the caring church family you are.

The Don Jamison Family

**Be looking through your books.
We will have another book drive during
the month of July.
Watch for more information to come!**

Magical Wonderland



Claire's Army returns to the Kerr Building on May 19. Tickets cost \$20 each, and a table for six is \$120. See or call Millie Mullis at 704-545-5313 or Pam Jack at 704-882-0461 to reserve your table or your seat for this event.

Breakfast will include chocolate chip (Claire's favorite) and plain pancakes, fresh fruit, a variety of biscuits and muffins. Coffee, orange juice and milk will be served at theme decorated tables that will delight any age.

Claire's Army was inspired by 2-year-old Claire Ratliff's battle against Neuroblastoma. During treatment her family received support from friends, family and strangers for which they are forever grateful.

Although Claire received the ultimate cure and gained her angel wings, her fight inspired thousands of people and her legacy lives on through Claire's Army.

A Teacup Raffle follows breakfast with tickets selling for \$1, seven for \$5, and an arm's length for \$10. There will be a wide array of great prizes.

Kristen Miranda, morning news editor at WBTV Charlotte will again serve as Mistress of Ceremonies. Entertainment will also be part of the program.

Claire's Army strives to act as God's hand and feet with support for families fighting childhood cancer. Claire's Army is endorsed by Novant/Hemby Childrens Center and is a recognized 501(c) corporation.

We hope to see you all there for this fabulous event.

Please note: May 12 is the deadline for money to be turned in along with the names of sponsors and guests and the theme for your table. To sponsor and decorate a table for 6 is \$120. To sponsor a table but not decorate it or furnish table favors is \$150.

Mark your calendars for this year's Vacation Bible School

Join us August 5-9 as we learn about Superheroes of the Bible! The week's activities are for all ages, infant-adult! There's something for everyone! This is a free event and dinner will be served each night! Bring a friend! More info on registrations will be coming soon!!

If you would like to help make VBS a success by volunteering your time and talents that week as a teacher, helper, decorator, kitchen worker, or other, please contact Susan Griffin @ smgriffin@griffinmasonry.com



Backpacks of Love

We received a sweet note from a Clear Creek student: "Thank you for braing the food on Fridays". It is decorated with a church and a school. Check it out on the bulletin board next to the church office. Our current needs are large cans of white meat chicken (these work well for 2 or 3 children's need in one backpack), small cans of tuna, fruits in standard size cans, and vegetables other than green beans in standard size cans, or microwaveable bowls.



- 1
Ted Biggers
- 1 Jackson Mitchell
- 2 Cassie Fauser
- 2 Jack McGahey
- 4 Amber Garagiola
- 4 Mason Jeffers
- 4 Katie Kafitz
- 4 Jeremy White
- 5 Jane Foreman
- 5 Pamela Reed
- 5 Candace Starnes
- 6 Buz Hamilton
- 6 Glenda Minott
- 7 Steven Hall
- 8 Alex Cervantes
- 9 Mickey Ellington
- 9 Ernest Jamison
- 9 Angela Martin
- 9 Anna Williams
- 11 Marian Vosburgh
- 12 Kathryn Burr
- 13 Barry Long
- 13 Doris Miller
- 13 Donna Simmons
- 13 Liesl West
- 14 Joan Diehl
- 14 Jill Linscheid
- 15 Dale Mayberry
- 15 Franklin McSwain
- 15 Susan Santiago
- 15 Tom Watson
- 16 Jay Cummings
- 16 Rick Davis
- 16 Shelley Lukjanczuk
- 16 Lorelei McSweeney
- 17 Mitchell Anderson
- 17 Teddy Biggers
- 17 Lauren Hessler
- 17 Lilly Ponscheck
- 18 Frances Leete
- 18 Augusta Newton
- 18 Jackson Shedd
- 19 Katy Porter
- 21 Linda Jamison
- 21 Ben Strand
- 22 David Fee
- 22 Will Harding
- 23 Michael Lohrer
- 23 Jeff Ziliani
- 24 Heather Williams
- 24 Barbara Wolf
- 25 Randy Alexander
- 25 Jamie Blanchard
- 25 Christopher Clark
- 25 Madison Lewis
- 25 Jack Strand
- 26 Shelley Shedd
- 27 Allen Hardy
- 27 Miah Williams
- 30 Davy Fee
- 30 Andrew Starnes
- 31 Brooke Barnes

May Anniversaries

- 3 Boyd & Amy Stanley
- 4 Mike & Katie Garbark
- 7 Joe & Brenda McManus
- 7 Randall & Cathy Snelson
- 11 Christopher & Kristina Simmons
- 11 Toby & Marian Vosburgh
- 17 Jeff & Regina Ziliani
- 20 Catherine & Christopher Goetchius
- 20 Brett & Erin Owens
- 22 Tom & Tina Duke
- 26 Brooks & Ron Gullledge
- 26 Geof & Pam Martin
- 26 Thomas & Noreen Petry
- 30 Bruce & Mary Muehl
- 31 Mike & Beth Barnes

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

Gifts to the church

- In memory of...*
- Don Jamison—James Ross,
Frances Leete (Current Fund)
- Benny Davis—Frances Leete
(Current Fund)
- Lynda Irby—Joyce Riales
(Endowment Fund); Anonymous
(Pastor’s Discretionary Fund)
- Neal Broome—Anonymous
(Pastor’s Discretionary Fund)

- Birthday Endowment...*
- Sylvia Gill from Herb Gill



Pentecost Sunday is May 20 - wear red!

Would you like to place flowers in the church?

A flower chart is posted outside the church office. Members are encouraged to sign up to have flowers placed in the sanctuary in memory or honor of loved ones.



Plan to attend the PPC Men’s annual pancake breakfast on Saturday, May 12 from 7:30 to 10:00 a.m. in the Kerr Building. Cost for everyone ages 7 and up is \$8.00.

Our condolences for the following deaths:

- [Lynda Irby] mother of Reggie Tamez on April 2
- Neal Broome on April 20
- Henry Griffin on April 29

Graduation Sunday, June 3

If your high school, college, or higher learning graduate would like to be recognized on this day, please contact the church office by email at Cynthia@philadelphiachurch.org or call 704-545-6172. A breakfast will be provided for the graduates and their families. Caps and gowns may be worn if desired.



Presbyterian Women Missions

One of our missions for May and June is Claire’s Army. Please see the article about that in this Philagram issue. Typically, we have two missions per two months. PW Council will decide at next meeting (May 3) what the other mission will be. Please be watching the bulletin for that news or check with your circle moderator. Donations can be left at the church or brought to a circle meeting. You don’t have to be active in a circle to help out with these missions!



Tuesday, May 1

10:00 a.m.—Circle 4—Home of Ellen Street
10:30 a.m.—Circle 1 & 2—Heritage Room
6:00 p.m.—Girl Scouts—Chapel
7:00 a.m.—Girls Basketball—Kerr Building

Wednesday, May 2
9:30 a.m.—Craft Workshops—Craftroom
5:00 p.m.—Joyful Noise/Cherub Choir Practice—Children’s Choir Rm.
5:30 p.m.—Celebration Singers Choir Practice—Children’s Choir Rm.
8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (open)—AA Building

Thursday, May 3
7:00 p.m.—Basketball
7:00 p.m.—PW Council Mtg.—Heritage Room
7:00 p.m.—Personnel & Admin. Min. Mtg.—Session Room
7:00 p.m.—A.A. Mtg.—AA Building

Friday, May 4
8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (closed)—AA Building

Saturday, May 5
9:00 a.m.—Circle 7—Heritage Room

Choir Sunday, May 6
9:00 a.m.—The Journey—Kerr Building
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School
11:00 a.m.—Worship Service—Sanctuary
12:30 p.m.—Philafeast—Kerr Building

Monday, May 7
6:00 p.m.—Christian Education Ministry Mtg.—Session Room
7:00 p.m.—Scouts—Bigham Hall
7:00 p.m.—Deacons Meeting—Heritage Room
8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Tuesday, May 8
10:30 a.m.—Circle #5—Heritage Room
7:00 a.m.—Voting—Kerr Building
6:00 p.m.—Girl Scouts—Bigham Hall
7:00 p.m.—Prayer Shawl Ministry Mtg.—Fred Brown Classroom
8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Wednesday, May 9
9:30 a.m.—Craft Workshop—Craftroom
8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (open)—AA Building

Thursday, May 10
6:00 p.m.—Basketball—Kerr Building
7:00 p.m.—Finance Ministry Meeting—Session Room
7:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Friday, May 11
11:00 a.m.—Bible Study
8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (closed)—AA Building

Saturday, May 12
7:30 a.m.—Men’s Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser—Kerr Building

Sunday, May 13
9:00 a.m.—The Journey—Kerr Building
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School
11:00 a.m.—Worship Service—Sanctuary
4:30 p.m.—Worship & Music Ministry Mtg.—Heritage Room

Monday, May 14
7:00 p.m.—Scouts—Kerr Building
6:00 p.m.—Evangelism & Outreach Ministry—Session Room
8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Tuesday, May 15
10:00 a.m.—PPC Good Timers—Kerr Building
6:00 p.m.—Circle #6—Courtyard Lobby
7:00 p.m.--Resource Team Mtg.—Session Room
7:00 a.m.—Girls Basketball—Kerr Building
7:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Wednesday, May 16
9:30 a.m.—Craft Workshops—Craftroom
8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (open)—AA Building

Thursday, May 17
10:30 a.m.—Bible Study—Session Room
7:00 p.m.—Preschool Program—Kerr Building
7 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Friday, May 18
8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (closed)—AA Building

Saturday, May 19
10:00 a.m.—Claire’s Army—Kerr Building

Sunday, May 20
9:00 a.m.—The Journey—Kerr Building
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School
11:00 a.m.—Worship Service—Sanctuary
5:00 p.m.—Middle School Youth Meeting—Kerr Building
5:45 p.m.—Youth Snack Supper—Kerr Building
6:45 p.m.—High School Youth Meeting—Kerr Building

Monday, May 21
6:30 p.m.—Journey Practice—Kerr Building
7:00 p.m.—Session Meeting—Session Room
7:00 p.m.—Boy Scouts—Bigham Hall

Tuesday, May 22
6:00 p.m.—Girl Scouts—Bigham Hall
7:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building
7:00 a.m.—Girls Basketball—Kerr Building
7:00 p.m.—Prayer Shawl Meeting—Fred Brown Classroom

Wednesday, May 23
9:30 a.m.—Craft Workshops—Craftroom
8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (open)—AA Building

Thursday, May 24
6:00 p.m.—Basketball—Kerr Building
7 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building

Friday, May 25
11:00 a.m.—Bible Study—Kerr Building
8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (closed)—AA Building

Saturday, May 26
No Meetings

Sunday, May 27
9:00 a.m.—The Journey—Kerr Building
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School
11:00 a.m.—Worship Service—Sanctuary

Memorial Day—Monday, May 28
Church Office Closed

Tuesday, May 29
6:00 p.m.—Girl Scouts—Bigham Hall
7:00 a.m.—Girls Basketball—Kerr Building

Wednesday, May 30
9:30 a.m.—Craft Workshops—Craftroom
8:00 p.m.—AA Mtg. (open)—AA Building

Thursday, May 31
6:00 p.m.—Basketball—Kerr Building
7:00 p.m.—AA Mtg.—AA Building





The banner features a grey background with colorful decorations. At the top, there are strings of triangular bunting flags in pink, blue, and yellow. In the center, two white llamas stand facing each other. The llama on the left wears a pink graduation cap and a colorful beaded necklace. The llama on the right wears a floral crown and a similar beaded necklace. Between them, the text 'Let's Celebrate!' is written in a large, black, cursive font. Below this, in a smaller, black, sans-serif font, it says 'KATIE & MELINDA ARE GETTING THEIR DIP-LLAMAS!'. In the center, a large yellow sun with rays contains the text 'MAY 12'. Below the sun are four small, colorful pom-poms in pink, teal, yellow, and blue. At the bottom, there are several stylized cacti in pink, teal, and blue, some with flowers. A teal banner at the bottom contains the RSVP information.

Let's Celebrate!

KATIE & MELINDA
ARE GETTING THEIR
DIP-LLAMAS!

MAY
12

THE GRIFFIN BARN
12809 BAIN SCHOOL ROAD

DROP-IN:
5:30-7PM

IN LIEU OF GIFTS, PLEASE BRING PARTY PLATES, NAPKINS, WRAPPING
PAPER, TABLECLOTHS OR CHILDREN'S BOOKS TO BE DONATED TO BRIGHT
BLESSINGS SO THAT OTHERS CAN CELEBRATE THEIR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

RSVP BY MAY 9TH TO SMGRIFFIN@GRIFFINMASONRY.COM

Philadelphia Presbyterian Kindergarten news

Registration for the 2018-2019 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.



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!

In the event of bad weather, be sure to tune in to WSOC-TV for information concerning delays or cancellation of services or events. You may sign up to receive text alerts of service and activity changes or closings due to bad weather by going to wsoc.tv.com/s/closings. Look for the “School closings and delays text alerts” link. The church ID# is 0426.

Ten Cents a Meal offering received on second Sundays

The offering continues to be received on the second Sunday of each month to support hunger-fighting programs within the Presbytery of Charlotte bounds, and to feed the mind, body and spirit of people in our communities to include hunger related and “at-risk” youth programming.

Members in the Military

Major Grant Cloaninger
1337 Judge Tyler Drive
Clarksville, TN 37043

Rachel Brinegar
6730 S. Court Drive
Tampa, FL 33611

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



Rev. Rusty Benton, Head Pastor
Katie Sloan, Associate Minister
Shane Sledd, Youth and Family 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