

The Philagram

July | 2019



: @PPCMintHill



: @PhilaPres



: @ppc.minthill

From Mark Lee, Interim Senior Pastor:



We are now halfway through this year and I just cannot believe how quickly the calendar is turning. It wasn't that long ago when our children started the new school year, but now they are on summer break. I'm sure my children and probably your children as well, would vehemently refute how quickly the school year has passed. To them, it probably felt like 10 years and not 9 months of school.



ate studies.

Another sign of passing time for me is the fact that our daughter, Karis, has graduated from high school and now she will be entering college in August to begin her undergraduate studies. Karis just came back from her Freshmen Orientation program and Minah and I also attended the parent portion of the program. As I sat there listening to different people from the school tell us about various subject matters, I was trying to fully comprehend that our daughter is no longer a little girl anymore. The school counseling and student support staff reminded all the parents that our children are adults now with independent minds, but they still need guidance, support and love from the parents.

Another encouragement that I received during the orientation was to let the students make their own mistakes and learn from such mistakes, but always let them know they are loved and supported by you. In many ways, I believe the encouragement that I received during the orientation is very much evident in our relationship with God.

God does not forcefully impart His will upon us, but He has given us freedom to choose and make mistakes of our own. But when we do make mistakes and commit sin, He does not discard us or cast us away, but rather, He showers us with His love and grace as we acknowledge our sins before Him.

Continues on Page 2...

From Katie Sloan, Associate Pastor:



How is Your Battery?

I keep my phone in low battery mode. It helps me stretch out my battery as long as I can without draining it completely. I hate to have to slow down and plug in to recharge.

The same goes for my life. I don't like to slow down to recharge. But by not doing so, sometimes I sacrifice one thing for another.

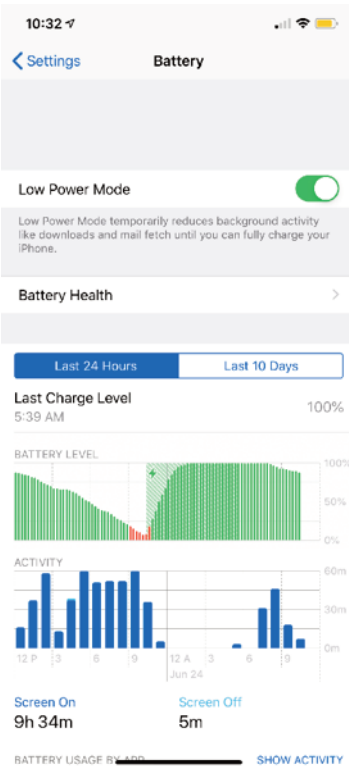
It is important to stop and create a pause in our day to recharge, in order to create fuel for our soul. We plug into so many areas in our lives that we wear busyness as a badge of honor.

Our culture seems to teach us that being busy equals success and a good life. Our households are abuzz with work, school, family, volunteering, commuting, activities for family, church and so we feel accomplished.

The truth is many times we plug into things that drain our battery and the areas that should recharge us no longer seem to feed our soul because we are too drained to appreciate their goodness.

God wants us to plug into HIM and receive our spiritual recharge from Him. That means that we need to stop justifying our busyness. That means rearranging our schedules. That means recognizing that we need to make connecting with God a habit. Ask yourself regularly throughout your day: "do I see God working for my good in what I'd doing right now?" "Is this feed my soul or draining my battery?"

Continues on Page 2...



From Rev. Mark Lee Continued...

I hope to be a better parent to our children, in the manner of our God, who showers His children with love and grace, even as the children make mistakes.

I just recently completed the sermon series on the Ten Commandments... felt like it took years to finish :-). Beginning on Sunday, June 23, I will be beginning an 8 part series on the Beatitudes from Matthew 5. Matthew chapters 5~7 are known as the Sermon on the Mount and it consists of the best known teachings of Jesus Christ. Jesus taught these lessons to his closest disciples and the Beatitudes make up the introductory phase of the Sermon on the Mount.

The Beatitudes consist of 8 descriptions of the people who make up the Kingdom of God. These are character sketches of God's servants where Jesus describes what kind of people have received, are receiving, and will receive the blessings of God in this life and in the afterlife.

One of the first observations that you will probably make about the Beatitudes is the paradoxical nature of each verse. What this means is that the statements of Jesus Christ seem to be contradictory and even ridiculous and ludicrous to all of us who think in finite and limited ways, but they are all true statements, without any flaws.

The standards of the Beatitudes and the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount are quite high and no one can perfectly perform the teachings and vision of the Sermon on the Mount, except Jesus Christ. But this does not mean that the teachings are irrelevant to our lives. I believe by faith and also through God's grace, Jesus is inviting all of us to partake in the practical application of discipleship that is found in the teachings of Sermon on the Mount and the Beatitudes. So I hope you will come and join me in learning more about the Beatitudes and prayerfully seek to apply them in your journey of faith.

Rev. Mark Lee



From Katie Sloan Continued...

Often times we teach Sunday school or sing in the choir, serve on committees, participate on something in the community but we forget to ask ourselves "is this feeding MY soul?". We think that is selfish. Sometimes we are so used to giving and serving others that we think that doing something that is completely for ourselves is selfish.

Only God alone can recharge a thirsty, drained soul. Jesus himself found time to pause and be alone with the Father to recharge.

Great crowds gathered to hear him and to be healed of their infirmities. But he would withdraw to desolate places and pray. (Luke 5:15-16)

And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. (Mark 1:35)

And after he had taken leave of them, he went up on the mountain to pray. (Mark 6:46)

When we, like Jesus, realize everything in our life flows out of our individual time with the Father, it changes the way we view our schedules and priorities and everything else. We submit to our need for the Holy Spirit to daily recharge our hearts, and we plug into him for the grace and strength to survive and thrive in our busy lives and fractured world.

Do not neglect the chance to spend time with the Lord to recharge your OWN battery. Be sure you are find some way to feed your soul. If not, ask me about small groups. You need to be plugged in and I want to help.

You are loved,

Katie



@PPCMintHill



@PhilaPres



@ppc.minthill



Monday, July 1

6:30 pm Deacons Meeting | Heritage Room
7:00 pm Praise Team Practice | Kerr Building
8:00 pm AA Mtg. | AA Building

Tuesday, July 2

9:00 am Staff Meeting | Session Room
5:00 pm Christian Education Mtg. | Session Room
8:00 pm AA Mtg. | AA Building

Wednesday, July 3

9:30 am Craft Workshops | Chapel Annex
6:30 pm Martial Arts Class | Chapel
8:00 pm AA Mtg. (open) | AA Building

Thursday, July 4 - Church Office Closed

7:00 pm AA Mtg. | AA Building

Friday, July 5

8:00 pm AA Mtg. (closed) | AA Building

Saturday, July 6

No Meetings

Sunday, July 7

9:00 am Journey Alternative Worship |
Communion | Kerr Building
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Sanctuary Traditional Service |
Communion | Sanctuary

Monday, July 8

8:00 pm AA Mtg. | AA Building

Tuesday, July 9

7:00 pm Building & Grounds Mtg. | Heritage Room
8:00 pm AA Mtg. | AA Building

Wednesday, July 10

9:30 am Craft Workshops | Chapel Annex
5:00 pm Evang./Outreach Mtg. | Session Room
6:30 pm Martial Arts Class | Chapel
7:00 pm Finance Mtg. | Session Room
8:00 pm AA Mtg. (open) | AA Building

Thursday, July 11

7:00 pm Personnel & Admin. Mtg. | Session Room
7:00 pm AA Mtg. | AA Building

Friday, July 12

8:00 pm AA Mtg. (closed) | AA Building

Saturday, July 13

No Meetings

Sunday, July 14

9:00 am Journey Alternative Worship | Kerr Bldg
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Sanctuary Traditional Service | Sanctuary

Monday, July 15

7:00 pm Praise Team Practice | Kerr Building
8:00 pm AA Mtg. | AA Building

Tuesday, July 16

9:00 am Staff Meeting | Session Room
8:00 pm AA Mtg. | AA Building

Wednesday, July 17

9:30 am Craft Workshops | Chapel Annex
6:30 pm Martial Arts Class | Chapel
8:00 pm AA Mtg. (open) | AA Building

Thursday, July 18

7:00 pm Basketball | Kerr Building
7:00 pm AA Mtg. | AA Building

Friday, July 19

7:00 pm Summer Movie | Kerr Building
8:00 pm AA Mtg. (closed) | AA Building

Saturday, July 20

No Meetings

Sunday, July 21

9:00 am Journey Alternative Worship | Kerr Bldg
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Sanctuary Traditional Service | Sanctuary

Monday, July 22

10:00 am PW Council Meeting | Session Room
7:00 pm Endowment Council Mtg. | Heritage Room
8:00 pm AA Mtg. | AA Building

Tuesday, July 23

8:00 pm AA Mtg. | AA Building

Wednesday, July 24

9:30 am Craft Workshops | Chapel Annex
6:30 pm Martial Arts Class | Chapel
7:00 pm 250 Committee Mtg. | Session Room
8:00 pm AA Mtg. (open) | AA Building

Thursday, July 25

7:00 pm Basketball | Kerr Building
7:00 pm AA Mtg. | AA Building

Friday, July 26

8:00 pm AA Mtg. (closed) | AA Building

Saturday, July 27

9:00 am PW Arts & Crafts Sale | Annex

Sunday, July 28

9:00 am Journey Alternative Worship | Kerr Bldg
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Sanctuary Traditional Service | Sanctuary

Monday, July 29

7:00 pm Praise Team Practice | Kerr Building
8:00 pm AA Mtg. | AA Building

Tuesday, July 30

8:00 pm AA Mtg. | AA Building

Wednesday, July 31

9:30 am Craft Workshops | Chapel Annex
6:30 pm Martial Arts Class | Chapel
8:00 pm AA Mtg. (open) | AA Building

MEMBERS IN THE

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

MILITARY

Major Grant Cloaninger
1337 Judge Tyler Drive
Clarksville, TN

Rachel Brinegar
6730 S. Court Drive
Tampa, FL

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

Ten Cents-A-Meal
Offering
received on
2nd 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.

STAY UP-TO-DATE

Access the calendar anytime online at <http://www.philadelphiachurch.org> or by logging on the ACS Church Life app. It's free on the iTunes App store and Google Play store.



Time to Celebrate!!!



1	Charlie Ponscheck
1	Franny Rukenbrod
3	Ann Brown
3	Elizabeth Jeffers
3	Caroline McSweeney
7	Annie Clark
7	Jacob Gallagher
8	AJ Lukjanczuk
9	Robert Briner
9	Beverly Caldwell
9	Adam Day
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.
16	Emily Sledd
17	Dick Lamb
17	Judy Myers
17	Kristina Simmons
17	Lynn Taylor
18	Gerald Garner
18	Hunter Reed
20	Catherine Andrews
20	David Hodgins
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	Richard Gledhill
26	Scott Griffin
27	Phil Boling
28	Brenda Mayberry
29	Saylor Guerin
30	Gwyn Clark
30	Gary Downer
30	Rick Santiago
30	Jay Strand
31	Laura Cummings




1	Bob & Ginger Bourgeois
2	Don & Merle Price
3	Robert & Barbara Kistler
5	David & Ann Houck
6	Gayle & Doug Williams
13	Andy & Brenda Mock
17	M. D & Shirley Hill
20	Kurt & Charlotte Karriker
21	Emily & Edmund Dee
24	Richard & Lisa Newton
28	Aubrey & Dot Bartlett
31	Richard & Marjorie Gledhill

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

Gifts to the Church

In Memory of...
Harrell Junker, Jr.
Susan Kever, Philadelphia Sunday School Class, Jeff & Bernie Taylor, Sharon Heath, Marsha & Sid Martin, Larry Blythe, Steve & Susan McDowell (Elizabeth Junker Scholarship Fund)

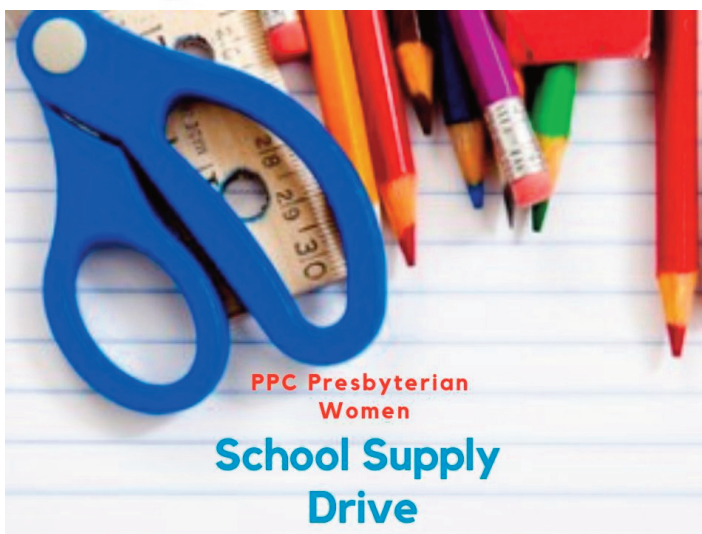
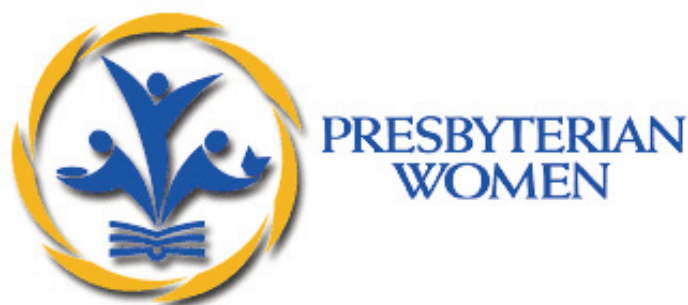
Jean Hargett
Nancy Lakeman (Current Fund)



WITH PRAYERS & DEEPEST
Sympathy

Timothy Terry June 1st Father of Misty Rigo	Jean Rorie Hargett June 4th
Harrell McDonald Junker, Jr. June 1st	Robert (Bob) Edward Wilson June 15th

News from Presbyterian Women...



July Mission: School Supplies

The Presbyterian Women are having a school supply drive for their July Mission. All month long, they'll collect school supplies to benefit Bright Blessings, Alexander Youth Network, and Clear Creek Elementary School. School supplies may be dropped off in the hall near the glass entry or in the Kingdom Kids area.

News from Christian Education Committee...



Camp Character:

This summer we are having Camp Character each Sunday morning during the Sunday School hour. We are learning a positive character trait each week, tying it to a Bible story, relating it to our life today, and having fun!

Kingdom Kids Mission Update:

The Kingdom Kids and teachers would like to thank everyone for participating in our Mission Project "Pennies for Pete & Penelope". We have officially met our goal! We will be purchasing a

cow and sheep from Heifer International in loving memory of Tina Ross, who had a strong passion for Heifer International.

The goal of Heifer is to help families achieve self-reliance, which increases access to medicine, food, clothing, and school. They do this by providing tools and training from the donations of givers. Their core model is "Passing on the Gift", meaning families share their training and pass on the first female offspring of their livestock. This extends the impact of the original gift.



In Kingdom Kids, we feel missions are very important. We want the kids to find ways to minister to others by sharing their time, talents and resources. This year, besides "Pennies for Pete & Penelope", we have made pillows for Room in the Inn, decorated birthday bags for Bright Blessings, collected shoes for children in Dominican Republic, and sent cards to congregational members.

We are continuing our mission for Heifer International with "Bunnies, Bees, Chicks and Trees". You are invited to help us with this project too! Look for the donation boxes in the KK hallway and outside the office. Thanks so much in advance!

Calling All Volunteers:

If you are a teacher, leader, or volunteer who work with children and youth, ages 0-18, and you want to continue to volunteer, please remember to fill out the criminal background form in front of the church office, or print one from the church website and return to Judy Clinton in the church office. This also includes volunteering for short term events and activities including Vacation Bible School, youth trips and other activities. The Christian Education ministry team appreciates your cooperation to ensure safety and to comply with the policy of the PCUSA.



SAVE THE DATE FOR VBS, AUG. 4TH-8TH!

Grab your paddle, hop aboard the raft and get ready for the ride of a lifetime with God during PPC's Vacation Bible School, "Rolling River Rampage" from August 4th through 8th.

Each night from 6:00 to 8:30 pm, kids will play games, make crafts, sing songs and hear Bible stories all to learn that life with God is a fun adventure and they can trust God to help through any rapids in their life's journey.

There will also be a separate adult class taught by Pastors Mark Lee and Katie Sloan. Dinner will be served each night as well.

For more information or to register, go to www.PhiladelphiaChurch.org.



@PPCMintHill



@PhilaPres



@ppc.minthill



It's Movie Time!

Join us for our second movie night of the summer on Friday, July 19th. We'll be showing "Mary Poppin Returns" at 7pm in the Kerr Building. Bring a chair, sleeping bag, blanket or whatever you'd like to sit in. Popcorn and drinks will be provided!



Summer Backpacks of Love is Back!!!

For the second straight summer, our Backpacks of Love program continues with a special "summer edition", so keep your food donations coming! Be sure to look for the items most in need in each week's PPC News Flash!

Groups will pack on Fridays just as in the school year, but with school out, families will come pick up the bags at a specified time.

If you would like to help pack and make sure families get the backpack each week, contact Hilary Hall at htureski@yahoo.com or drop a note in box 94.

NOW ENROLLING:

The Philadelphia Presbyterian Preschool and Transitional Kindergarten is currently accepting applications for the 2019-2020 school year. If you know of a parent or grandparent looking for a wonderful Preschool or TK Program please share this information with them.

Applications are available through the church website, and in the Preschool information slot on the bulletin board across from the church office.

Thank you,
Becky Brown, Director
704-545-3439 ext., 122.



Share Your PPC Story:

Stories are the memory of where we have come and help shape where we are going!

In honor of the 250th birthday of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church, we want to cherish and save those stories and memories for the next 250 years. Whether you are age 2 or 102, you have a story to tell! Please consider sharing with us.

Some ideas may include a mission trip experience, participating in the choir or a special musical performance, being a part of the men or women of the church, a unique project on campus, attending Sunday School, a special service you remember. Anything and everything is valuable and worth treasuring. We are encouraging ALL generations to participate - so gather your whole family to contribute together!

You can share your stories in two ways: by writing an account or by sharing on film. The 250 committee will be conducting film interviews in the next few months and would be honored to highlight your account of Philadelphia's 250 years.

Reach out to Becky Griffin or Elizabeth Griffin if you are interested!

Becky Girffin: Beckygriffin@bellsouth.net | (704) 506-8867
Elizabeth Griffin: egriffin10@gmail.com | (704) 506-5392

PPC Pictures, Documents & More Through

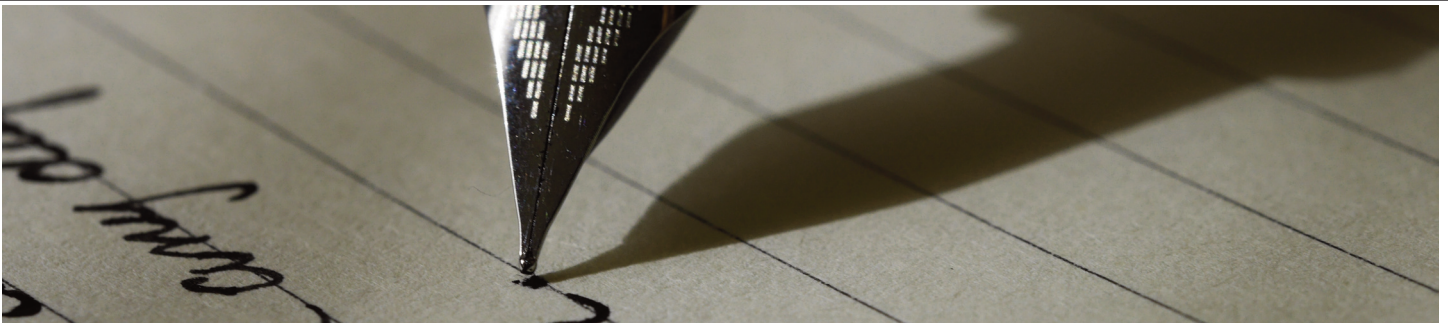
The 250 Committee is also looking for past pictures, documents, choir music, Sunday School books - anything that speaks to and shows the history of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church. Items will be temporarily collected, captured digitally for use in the 250th celebrations, and returned back in the same conditioned received.



If you have any items you would like to include, please contact Becky Griffin at 704-545-5766.

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.





Letters to the Church:

Dear PPC,

With another summer season now under way and the school year completed, we want to give thanks to you all for helping us serve 2,515 students with birthday packages, and helping to distribute 7,385 care kits across Mecklenburg and Union counties. Already this year we are receiving staggering service numbers and with your help we've been able to keep up with the demand over the 2019-2020 academic year. This could not have been done without the amazing support of the PPC church family. On behalf of the team here at Bright Blessings, we thank everyone who gave of their time and resources to make deliveries throughout the school year. We are so grateful to have a team that we can call on for our last-minute needs too. Our PPC friends, without fail, graciously came to the rescue to make sure children received their packages! Together with every delivery made, caring messages of joy and support reached the hearts of homeless and impoverished children, letting them know they are worthy and loved.

PPC continues to bless the children we serve by donating gifts and supplies, volunteering at the Giving Village, organizing collection drives, giving monetary contributions, and by helping spread the word. We say thank you for all of the other ways in which you are shining a light of hope and continue to bless the lives of local homeless and impoverished children too.



With Gratitude,

Tisha Margraves
and the Bright Blessings team



Rev. Mark Lee, Interim Senior Pastor
Katie Sloan, Associate Pastor
Shane Sledd, Youth and Family Minister
Judy Clinton, Office Manager
Cynthia Stokes, Secretary
Linda Cummins, Webmaster/Administrative Asst



www.philadelphiachurch.org

Jane Mendlik, Interim Director of Music
Marnie Gallagher, Youth Choir Director
Melinda Johnston, Children's Choir Director
Susan Griffin, Volunteer Kingdom Kids Coordinator
Leslie Anderson, Organist
Matt Hall, Philagram Editor