



## NEWSLETTER

November / December 2017

### A few words from Pastor Ray

There's so much going on right now...and it is all so exciting. The fall has represented the birth of new things, and the shift from things of old. We have joyfully commissioned and sent our Youth Pastor of nearly 5 years, off to Pittsburgh to get married and start a new life there. We are so pumped for what God is going to do through Matt and Sara in this new season. We have also seen the birth of our new season of Student Ministry under the guide of Rick Labastida. We are so blessed to have him. Please pray for Rick as he seeks to lead our students going forward.

Prior to leaving Matt faithfully toiled in getting a few projects finished for us. One of those projects was over hauling our website. The next time you visit, let us know what you think. We are hoping and praying that it is more user friendly and phone friendly. Our podcasts and newsletters are easily found on there, so please stay connected with us. Any concerns for content or functionality of the site can be sent to [roxpresby@rpcnet.org](mailto:roxpresby@rpcnet.org)

I'd like to offer a special thank you to everyone who reached out to me and my family during the month of October. Pastor's appreciation month is a special time when we feel deeply cared for by our church and staff. Thank you.

Blessings,  
Pastor Ray



## Table Talk

Amy Karl, Food Ministry Coordinator

It's hard to believe we are already planning for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Here are a few ways you could be a blessing during the Holiday season; 1) Holiday meals are available to anyone who is in need of a meal to celebrate the holidays. Please let Amy Karl know if you or someone you know are in need during this time of year ([267-908-4553](tel:267-908-4553)). 2) Consider donating toward the cost of \$30.00 per meal, designate "holiday meals" on the memo line of your check and envelope. 3) Pick up a bag with a shopping list attached, place your purchases in the bag and return to church no later than December 10. Needs in our neighborhood are increasing, and we find our pantry is being stretched to assist more guests who have food insecurities. Thank you for continually donating shelf stable foods, thank you for caring, thank you for praying for our neighbors. With your help working alongside the pantry, we can make sure there is enough food in our pantry to feed our neighbors through the Holiday season.

On November 6th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm Elder Diner will hold a harvest feast, and on December 4th we will have a beautiful Christmas celebration. At Elder Diner we share our lives during fellowship, we share a meal at lunch, and we share great conversation. Please come and enjoy these great days with us.



### November Birthdays

14 Georgina Vercoe

27 Pastor Ray

### December Birthdays

3 Stephen LaCrosse	17 Kimberly Karl
5 Geri Morhard	19 Marion Cooper
6 Carol Bice	22 David LaCrosse
7 Lee Gordon	29 Matt Hillanbrand
14 Vernon Vercoe	31 Michael Karl

*If your birthday has not been listed, please contact the church office, we would like to include everyone on our Birthday List!*



## A Word on Worship

- Scott Granato,  
Director, Music & Worship

Hey everyone! I hope that you are enjoying the autumn season. As November is approaching I often begin to think about the things I am thankful for. Probably many of us do this since Thanksgiving is coming up soon. So what am I thankful for this year? I am thankful for my loving and beautiful wife Heather, my awesome son Maximo, as well as, our son Luca who will be here before we know it. I am thankful for my extended family and friends that encourage me in growing in my faith. I can definitely see how God is using people in my life to grow me in the places he find necessary at this point in my walk with him.

What else am I thankful for? I am thankful to serve our church with the gifts God has given me. I am so thankful for the encouragement my church gives me to continue to grow into these gifts. I can remember a number of years ago when I started leading this ministry. I was younger and didn't have everything figured out, but I knew God was calling me to serve and bring him glory through worship ministry. I look back now and see how much I have grown. I am a little older now and still don't have everything figured out, but each day I have learned more and more, as I continued growing deeper and deeper in my relationship with God. God has revealed areas in my life in which I needed to grow and he faithfully has worked in those areas. I know that as I continue walking in my relationship with God, he will point out more areas of my life where I need to grow, but I know he is faithful and will work in those areas. In thinking about this, I guess I am really thankful for God's grace. That he would love a broken, sinful person like myself, so much so, that he went to the cross and died so that I may be reconciled back to him. His grace means so much more when I realize that I could never do anything to earn it. In fact, I don't even deserve it. "What great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called his children!"

Continue praying with me for the global church, our local church in particular, and our church's worship ministry. I believe that as we pray, amazing things can happen and that we will be very aware of God's movement and call. I also want to encourage us all to take some time and think about the things we are thankful for. For God has blessed us in many ways, the most important being the gift of salvation given through Jesus our Lord and Messiah.



## TPP Preschool & Nursery Update

We have had a fun-filled fall here at The Philadelphia Project Preschool! In honor of fire safety month, we had Engine 66 come visit our school and teach us about fire safety. The firefighters let us sit in the firetruck and even let us spray the water hose! We really enjoyed learning from the Philadelphia Fire Department. Later in the month, we had a chance to pick pumpkins and decorate them! It was a wonderful time!

We also enjoyed a great time with Roxborough Church at the annual hayride! We had a fire, hayride, time for worship, hot dogs, and s'mores. It was a great time together! At the end of the month is our annual costume parade. Our students and their families are really looking forward to it!



## Congregational Meeting

The *Annual Meeting of the Congregation* will be held on Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup> immediately following worship. The purpose of this meeting is to receive the 2018 Budgets, and for the election of Church Officers.

## Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submitting articles and information to be included in the January/February 2018 edition of the Roxborough Church Newsletter is **Wednesday, December 20th**

## Christmas Poinsettia's



If you would like to purchase a Poinsettia plant in memory of or to honor someone you love, complete the form below, return it to the church office, and enclose \$7.50 for each plant. Checks can be made payable to Roxborough Presbyterian Church. Orders must be received no later than Sunday, December 3th.

The plants will be placed around the church for both services on Christmas Eve. A list of the names in Memory & Honor will be included in the worship bulletins on Christmas Eve.

I would like to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ plants:  
(\$7.50 each):

In Memory of:

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In Honor of:

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Given by:

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(Please Print Clearly)



## Children's & Family Ministry

- Ricky Gomez, Family Ministry Coordinator

Fall is here! The weather is getting cooler, leaves are changing, coffee shops have their pumpkin spice and fall-inspired drinks brewing and finally, I can break out the flannel shirts.

September and October were full of exciting events. Fall, Family, Friends Day and The Annual Hayride had great turnouts and parents and children enjoyed themselves amongst great food, activities and friends. Highlights for me included watching adults and kids try and eat a donut from a string without it falling to the ground and without using their hands--part of our FFF Day Minute-to-Win It Challenge. At Merrymead Farm, after the hayride, we had a bonfire and a time of worship. It was good getting to know families a bit more and getting to worship with them as well. I believe that as the church continues to gather and worship together and seeks to display his love to one another, those around us who do not yet know the goodness of God, will become more attracted to Him.

In Children's Church, we've finished our study of Judges. The big question we've been asking the kids throughout this series is "How does God accomplish His plan?" The answer? God uses people for His glory and our good. The judges were heroic but were still imperfect people just like the people they were called to deliver. It was only because of God's power and his compassion for His people that they were able to do what they did. Please be praying that God would "connect the dots" for the kids. Pray that they can see their weakness and sin but in greater measure God's grace in Jesus and his enabling power that he gives us who believe.

Lastly, I'm excited for what God is up to with the RUSH ministry. I'm thankful for the leaders he's given us thus far and how they are connecting with the kids. We've been discussing for the last month about how the Kingdom of God is a treasure and worth our highest affection. We've challenged the kids whether they currently see that and it's been good seeing the kids wrestle with some of the ideas and questions we pose to them. Please pray that myself and the leaders would be those who model what it means to delight in Jesus wholeheartedly and continue to share the hard truths that Jesus presents while doing in winsomely and in love.



### UPCOMING DATES:

RUSH - October 27th  
RUSH/TPP Blitz Weekend-Nov.  
3rd-5th  
RUSH - Nov. 17th  
RUSH - Dec. 1st  
RUSH - Christmas Party-Dec. 15th



# XMAS TREE SALE



**Thurs: 2-9**  
**Fri: 2-9**  
**Sat: 9-9**  
**Sun: 11-8**

**8230 Ridge Avenue**  
**Philadelphia PA 19128**

100% of the net proceeds benefit  
**The Philadelphia Project**

**\*\* During the week before Christmas,  
tree's will be for sale every day.**

**Contact**  
Joel Bielefeldt  
908.581.2298  
admin@thephiladelphiaproject.com



**The Philadelphia Project**



## Youth Update

### THANK YOU ROXBOROUGH CHURCH

Hey Roxborough Church Family,

I am beyond grateful for all the love and support that I have received from you for almost 5 years as youth pastor. I am honored and humbled that you trusted me to love, serve and shepherd you and the student ministry. I have shared so many laughs, tears and joys with so many of you. I am beyond blessed to call you my friends and family.

I ask that as I begin this next chapter of my life with my wife, Sara, that you pray for us as we discern the Lord's call for my life, which I believe to be continuing in Pastoral ministry. I believe this could either be in church planting or church replanting.

I am beyond excited for the days ahead as I start a new family. Our wedding day is November 11 and we covet your prayers. I love you Church!

Thanks for everything!.



### Interim Youth Director!

- Rick Labastida

Hey Everyone! A little about myself! I'm originally from Atlantic City, New Jersey but moved to Philadelphia during the summer of 2017 to serve with The Philadelphia Project. After finishing up my summer internship, I joined Roxborough Church as Youth Ministry Director.



During my free-time I'm involved with Christian Hip-Hop music, creating music in hopes that it would encourage and inspire others to reflect the attributes of Christ.

### Join Our Team

Church, we are currently praying and looking for 4 adults (2 men and 2 women) to join us in serving our students on Sunday evenings. If serving middle school or high school students seems like a dream ministry to you, then we are the right place for you to serve!

Please email [youth@roxboroughchurch.org](mailto:youth@roxboroughchurch.org) for more info.

### Fall Schedule

IGNITE: Sundays at 6 pm

Guys Small Group: Wednesdays at 6:30 PM

Girls Small Group: Wednesdays at 7 PM





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<div>3</div> <p>10:30 AM Worship</p> <p>11:45 AM Fellowship Time</p> <p>TPP BLITZ WEEKEND</p>	<div>4</div> <p>8:30 AM -2:30 PM TPP Pre-School</p> <p>11:00 AM Elder Dinner</p> <p>3:30 PM -6:00 PM Fuel After School</p> <p>6:00 PM ASH Theater Auditions (s)</p> <p>6:00 PM Weight Watchers (w)</p>	<div>5</div> <p>8:30 AM -2:30 PM TPP Pre-School</p> <p>10:00 AM Intergenerational Bible Study</p> <p>3:30 PM -6:00 PM Fuel After School</p>	<div>6</div> <p>8:30 AM -2:30 PM TPP Pre-School</p> <p>3:30 PM -6:00 PM Fuel After School</p> <p>6:00 PM ASH Theater Auditions (s)</p> <p>6:30 PM Guys &amp; Girls Youth Bible Study</p>	<div>7</div> <p>8:30 AM -2:30 PM TPP Pre-School</p> <p>11:00 AM -1:00 PM THE TABLE Food Pantry</p> <p>3:30 PM -6:00 PM Fuel After School</p> <p>7:00 PM Worship Team Rehearsal (S)</p>	<div>8</div> <p>8:30 AM -2:30 PM TPP Pre-School</p> <p>3:30 PM -6:00 PM Fuel After School</p> <p>8:00 PM N/A Meeting (F)</p> <p>TPP Worship Night</p>	<div>9</div> <p>9:00 AM -11:30 AM WeightWatchers (w)</p> <p>9:00 AM Women's Ministry Small Group (confirm)</p> <p>RPC Christmas Party</p>																																																																																				
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<div>17</div> <p>10:30 AM Christmas Cantata</p> <p>11:45 AM Fellowship Time</p> <p>12:00 PM Deacon's Meeting</p>	<div>18</div> <p>8:30 AM -2:30 PM TPP Pre-School</p> <p>3:30 PM -6:00 PM Fuel After School</p> <p>6:00 PM ASH Theater (s)</p> <p>6:00 PM Weight Watchers (w)</p>	<div>19</div> <p>8:30 AM -2:30 PM TPP Pre-School</p> <p>10:00 AM Intergenerational Bible Study</p> <p>3:30 PM -6:00 PM Fuel After School</p> <p>6:30 PM Couples Small Group (cf)</p> <p>7:30 PM Session Meeting</p>	<div>20</div> <p>8:30 AM -2:30 PM TPP Pre-School</p> <p>3:30 PM -6:00 PM Fuel After School</p> <p>6:00 PM Jingles &amp; Jammies</p> <p>6:30 PM Guys &amp; Girls Youth Bible Study</p>	<div>21</div> <p>8:30 AM -2:30 PM TPP Pre-School</p> <p>11:00 AM -1:00 PM THE TABLE Food Pantry</p> <p>3:30 PM -6:00 PM Fuel After School</p> <p>7:00 PM Worship Team Rehearsal (S)</p>	<div>22</div> <p>8:30 AM -2:30 PM TPP Pre-School</p> <p>3:30 PM -6:00 PM Fuel After School</p> <p>8:00 PM N/A Meeting (F)</p>	<div>23</div> <p>9:00 AM -11:30 AM WeightWatchers (w)</p> <p>9:00 AM Women's Ministry Small Group (confirm)</p>																																																																																				
<div>24</div> <p>10:30 AM Worship</p> <p>11:45 AM Fellowship Time</p> <p>7:30 PM Christmas Eve Service</p>	<div>25</div> <p>6:00 PM Weight Watchers (w)</p> <p>Christmas</p>	<div>26</div> <p>10:00 AM Intergenerational Bible Study</p> <p>7:30 PM Women's Bible Study</p>	<div>27</div>	<div>28</div> <p>11:00 AM -1:00 PM THE TABLE Food Pantry</p> <p>7:00 PM Worship Team Rehearsal (S)</p>	<div>29</div> <p>8:00 PM N/A Meeting (F)</p>	<div>30</div> <p>9:00 AM -11:30 AM WeightWatchers (w)</p> <p>9:00 AM Women's Ministry Small Group (confirm)</p>																																																																																				
<div>31</div> <p>10:30 AM Worship</p> <p>11:45 AM Fellowship Time</p>																																																																																										

Roxborough Church  
8230 Ridge Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19128

**Address Correction Requested**

**DATED MATERIAL**

**FUEL After School**  
**Monday - Friday**  
**3pm to 6pm**



**TPP PreSCHOOL**

**Ages 2, 3 & 4**

**2, 3, & 5 Day Programs**

**8:30am - 2pm**

**Short-term Missions**  
**aimed at helping our neighbors**



**Food Pantry**  
**Every Thursday 11am to 1pm**  
**Meeting the needs of the Community**



## **Roxborough Church**

8230 Ridge Avenue \* Philadelphia, PA 19128  
215-483-2762 \* [www.roxboroughchurch.org](http://www.roxboroughchurch.org)  
[roxpresby@roxboroughchurch.org](mailto:roxpresby@roxboroughchurch.org)  
Office Hours: Monday to Thursday – 1 pm to 4 pm

### Church Staff:

Rev. Raymond Garcia. . . . . [pastorray@roxboroughchurch.org](mailto:pastorray@roxboroughchurch.org)  
*Pastor*  
Dan DiScala . . . . . [maintenance@roxboroughchurch.org](mailto:maintenance@roxboroughchurch.org)  
*Maintenance*  
Janice Fetscher . . . . . [roxpresby@roxboroughchurch.org](mailto:roxpresby@roxboroughchurch.org)  
*Church Administrator*  
Joan Granato . . . . . [Finance@roxboroughchurch.org](mailto:Finance@roxboroughchurch.org)  
*Treasurer*  
Scott Granato . . . . . [Worship@roxboroughchurch.org](mailto:Worship@roxboroughchurch.org)  
*Director of Worship & Music*  
Rick Labastida. . . . . [youth@roxboroughchurch.org](mailto:youth@roxboroughchurch.org)  
*Interim Youth Director*  
Amy Karl. . . . . [amykarl@roxboroughchurch.org](mailto:amykarl@roxboroughchurch.org)  
*Food Ministry Coordinator*  
Ricky Gomez . . . . . [slyw@roxboroughchurch.org](mailto:slyw@roxboroughchurch.org)  
*Family Ministry Coordinator*

RPC Elders . . . . . [elders@roxboroughchurch.org](mailto:elders@roxboroughchurch.org)  
RPC Deacons . . . . . [deacons@roxboroughchurch.org](mailto:deacons@roxboroughchurch.org)