

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT  
DECEMBER 14, 2014

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude and Acolyte *Children's Choir*

Lighting of the Advent Wreath *The Stephenson Family*

Call to Worship *From Isaiah 12*

Leader: *Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The Lord, the Lord, is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.*

People: *In that day you will say: Give thanks to the Lord, call on His name, Make known among the nations what He has done, and proclaim that His name is exalted.*

Leader: *Sing to the Lord, for He has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world.*

People: *Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, For great is the Holy One of Israel among you".*

Leader: *The time is coming when people will sing praise to the Lord.*

People: *God is our Savior, we will trust Him and not be afraid.*

Leader: *The Lord gives us power and strength; He is our Savior.*

People: *As fresh water brings joy to the thirsty, so we rejoice in the God of our salvation.*

\* Opening Hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" # 154

Confession of Sin (*In Unison*)

*God of infinite compassion, we come to You to confess and be renewed. The shepherds and wise men came to the manger to worship and offer gifts, help us to offer our God given gifts to share Your love and Gospel. We confess our hearts are hardened by the cruel and loveless world and we sin unashamedly in opposition to Your will. We deserve harsh judgment yet You offer us salvation. Open our hearts, O Lord, so we may understand the message and meaning of Christmas hidden amongst bright lights and glitter. Give us your Holy Spirit that we may be given all the gifts of grace needed to fulfill our common calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.*

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: *The Messiah is come and let the heavens sing!*

People: *Glory to God, through the Christ-child we are redeemed!*

\*Responsive Hymn "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" # 198

\* Passing of the Peace of Christ (*please begin the pew pads*)

Giving of His Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

\*Doxology *Hymn # 34*

Prayer of Dedication

Morning Prayers and The Lord's Prayer

"A Thrill of Hope" *Providence Presbyterian Church Choir*  
(*Please refer to the Cantata insert*)

\*Acolyte and Benediction

\* Postlude

*\*Signifies Congregation to Stand*

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December Scripture Passage

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup> But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup> He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."  
**Luke 1:26-33**

**Ministers of Providence Presbyterian Church  
The People of Providence Presbyterian Church**

*Pastor*  
Rev. Jim Davis

*Session*

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<i>Class of 2014</i>		
<i>Long Range Planning</i>	<i>Congregational Care</i>	<i>Fellowship</i>
Nathan Dry	Wayne Lamm	Gary Phillips

	<i>Class of 2015</i>	
<i>Finance</i>	<i>Mission/Outreach</i>	<i>Christian Ed. Youth</i>
Kristy Stephenson	Margie Taylor	Jeffrey Wood

	<i>Class of 2016</i>		
<i>Christian Ed. Children</i>	<i>Personnel</i>	<i>Worship/Clerk</i>	<i>Property</i>
Beth Breedem	Pete Booth	David Nelms	Steve Nordan

*Staff*

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<i>Accounting Treasurer</i>	<i>Collections Treasurer</i>
Ann Stephenson	Ann Benson

<i>Music Director/Organist</i>	<i>Pianist</i>
Brittany Jones	DeEtta Wood

<i>Website</i>	<i>Usher Coordinator</i>
David Nelms	Russell Wood

	<i>Secretary Group</i>	
Mary Ann Booth	Donna Stolle	Heather White

	<i>Copy Group</i>		
LaVette Morgan	Ann Stephenson	Margie Taylor	Mary Ann Booth

**Honoring our history.....building our future**

***Weekly Statistics***

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General Fund Receipts for November .....	\$17,203.76
General Fund Expenses for November .....	\$17,114.59
Total Receipts for December .....	\$7,916.10
*Receipts for December 7 .....	\$7,916.10
Capital Campaign Receipts for December 7 .....	\$1,210.00
Capital Campaign Giving (thru Dec. 7) .....	\$534,247.13
Funds Expended thru Capital Campaign (Thru Oct.) .....	\$1,278,094.69
Capital Campaign Reserve Account .....	\$165,588.66
Current Loan Balance .....	\$910,624.46
Attendance for Sunday School November 30.....	95
Attendance for Worship November 30.....	154

*\*Does not include Capital Campaign Giving*

## ANNOUNCEMENT

### Message from Finance Officer

To ensure we are in compliance with IRS guidelines for tax exempt organizations, Session has adopted a Guidelines for Giving and Fundraising document. The document may be found on the church's website; additionally, copies are available in the Narthex.

### Year End Finance Reminders:

- Contributions eligible for 2014 tax deductions must be receive/postmarked by December 31, 2014
- Stewardship cards for 2015 General and Capital Campaign giving should be turned in to Ann Benson. Cards are available in the Narthex.
- As we approach the end of the third year of the Capital Campaign, we have collect 65% of total pledged monies.

**Prayer List --** As has always been a part of worship at Providence, we ask for people or situations to be lifted up during the pastoral prayer. This will continue. If, however, you want their name placed on the prayer list printed in the bulletin, please contact Mary Ann Booth (maboorth1@gmail.com or 919-275-456). Also, when you ask to take someone off the list, let Mary Ann know. When a secretary is in place in the new facility, this will be the procedure we will follow, using the secretary as the point of contact.

**Church Secretary** - Providence Presbyterian Church is seeking a Christian individual to serve as part-time secretary. In addition to the responsibilities in the Job Description shown on our the website, this individual will need to have good people skills and feel comfortable dealing with both church members and the general public. A working knowledge of Microsoft Word is required, and familiarity with Microsoft Excel would be a plus. Apply at [www.providencepresb.org](http://www.providencepresb.org) and click on the Employment tab. Position closes January 31, 2015.

**The Joy Gift offering** will be collected on Sunday December 21. A gift to the Christmas Joy Offering helps provide financial assistance to current and former church workers and their families and also enables deserving students to attend Presbyterian-related racial ethnic colleges and schools. Please consider giving to this offering.

## SERVICE SCHEDULE

### Assisting in Worship this Sunday:

**Elder of the Month/Greeter:** Wayne Lamm  
**Ushers:** Mary Langdon and Sandra Lordi  
**Acolyte:** Paige Smith  
**Nursery:** Carolyn Stuart and Emma Phillips  
No Children's Church or Kids' Krusade (Christmas Cantata)

### Assisting in Worship next Sunday, December 21

**Elder of the Month/Greeter:** Wayne Lamm  
**Ushers:** Beth Pickens and Carolyn Stephenson  
**Acolyte:** Mary Elaine Wood  
**Nursery:** Eric and Lori Smith  
**Children's Church Teacher:** Heather Ennis  
**Children's Church Helper:** Beth Breeden  
**Kids Krusade Teacher:** Stephanie Bagley

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### Today at Providence:

**9:45 am:** Sunday School for Children and Youth  
**10:25 am:** Fellowship Time  
**11:00 am:** Worship Service – Christmas Cantata

### Weekly Events:

**December 16.** Presbyterian Women's Christmas Gathering at 6:30 p.m.  
**December 17.** Adult Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.

### Upcoming Events:

**December 23.** Newsletter Submissions Deadline  
**December 24.** Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight Services at 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

## PRAYER LIST OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

**JOYS:** We rejoice and praise God for the many kind, compassionate hearts reaching out to help those in need during this Christmas season.

### CONCERNS:

**Lynn Cross**, knee surgery Monday, December 15, *member of church family*

### Members of the Providence Family in Long-Term Care:

**Brack Johnson** at *Classic Care Assisted Living in Smithfield*, **Lacy and Marilyn Johnson** at *Barbour Court Nursing in Smithfield*, **Pauline Jones**, at *Liberty Commons in Benson*, **Grant Joyner**, **Bobbie Langdon**, and **Frances Schmidt** at *home*.

### Persons Living with Cancer, including:

**Vicky Austin**, *community*, **Sherry Baker**, *friend of Laura Langdon*, **Cheryl Beckham**, *friend of Laura McLamb*, **Jerry Benson**, *Randy Benson's cousin*, **Nancy Biernacki**, *friend of Bob Zattiero*, **Patsy Bowman**, *member of church family*, **Edith Bowser**, *friend of Bob Zattiero*, **Mickey Carroll**, *cousin of Kelly Nordan*, **Richard Davis**, *friend of Elaine Wood*, **Ann Hargis**, *member of community*, **P.B. Jernigan**, *relative of Sheila Dupree*, **Joey Johnson**, *friend of Randy Benson*, **Paula Johnson**, *friend of Dave and Edythe Natrass*, **Luke Jordan**, *friend of Christina Jones*, **Keith Langdon**, *member of church family*, **Carol Mayben**, *Sandy Kopanski's sister-in-law*, **Stacy Meadows**, *friend of Beth Wolak*, **Jackie Parker**, *friend of Amy Dupree*, **Jennifer Pearce**, *friend of Janice Parrish*, **Ben Snelling**, *friend of John Kopanski*, **Randy Stephenson**, *Jon Nooney's cousin*, **Chad Talley**, *friend of John Pickens*, **Karen Tew**, *friend of DeEtta Wood*, **Wayne Toler**, *Dorothy Nesselrodt's brother-in-law*, **Tammy Vann**, *friend of Sandy Kopanski*, **Cory Watt**, *friend of Jeff Wood*, **Kenneth Weathers**, *brother-in-law of Wendy Stephenson*, **Orene Wilburn**, *Becky Kleaver's sister-in-law*, **DeEtta Wood**, *member of church family*, and **Hannah Youngblood**, *friend of Kristy Stephenson*

### Persons with Ongoing Health Concerns, including:

**Levon and Nancy Allen**, *Sheila Dupree's parents*, **Mary Bass**, *Rev. Davis' mother*, **Velma and Ray Bost**, *grandparents of Heath White*, **Charlie & Mary Burke**, *Steve Wolak's parents*, **Skylar Duquette**, *Wendy Stephenson's great niece*, **Ed Fontana**, *Mary Langdon's father*, **Fred Ipock**, *Cathy Creech's father*, **Melinda Kendall**, *member of church family*, **Norbert Kopanski**, *John Kopanski's father*, **Stuart Kremer**, *friend of Andrea Jones*, **Phil Langdon**, *Mel Langdon's brother*, **Vic LaSaxon**, *Chris Nooney's brother-in-law*, **Wanza Mayben**, *Sandy Kopanski's mother*, **Sue Nicholson**, *Chris Nooney's sister*, **Jon Nooney**, *member of church family*, **Chellie Poston**, *former member*, **Kathy Rose**, *friend of Kim Schmidt*, **Kathy Ryals**, *community*, **Donald Salmon**, *Wendy Stephenson's brother-in-law*, **Gwen Walton**, *member of church family*, and **John Wright**, *Chris Nooney's father*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Presbyterian Women's Christmas Gathering** – All women of the church are invited to our annual Christmas Gathering Tuesday, December 16. A catered dinner will be served a 6:30 PM followed by a Christmas program in the Sanctuary.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Services** – Two communion services will be offered on Wednesday, December 24. Please join us at 5 PM or 10 PM to worship.

**Youth Retreats – Summer of 2015** – Any youth interested in attending the youth retreats this summer should have their deposit paid by January 11, 2015.

- **Middle School** will go to Massanetta Springs July 9 – 12. The non-refundable deposit is \$50 and due Sunday, January 11, 2015.
- **High School** will go to Fun in the Sun, Hilton Head, SC July 13 – 18. The non-refundable deposit is \$100 and due by January 11, 2015.

**Youth Mission Trip - June 14 – 20, 2015** – Middle or High School youth interested in participating in the mission trip this summer need to submit their \$89 deposit by January 11, 2015.

**January Senior Luncheon** will be Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2015 at Johnson Memorial Church 8280 NC Hwy 50 N. at 12 noon. Please make your reservations with Kay Dry (kaydry@embarqmail.com or 919-639-9784) by Wednesday, January 7th so the number in attendance can be reported to Johnson Memorial. The Senior Luncheons will meet each month of 2015 except July and October. Looking forward to another fun year of Senior Citizens' luncheons!

## Advent Schedule

### Presbyterian Women's Christmas Gathering

Tuesday, December 16

6:30 PM

### Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight Services

Wednesday, December 24

5:00 PM

10:00 PM

Providence Presbyterian Church Choir  
Christmas Cantata

# A Thrill of Hope

Words and Music by Joel Raney

December 14, 2014  
11:00 a.m.

Accompanist: *Angie DeJesus*  
Narrations: *Providence Choir*  
Music Director: *Brittany Jones*



Providence Presbyterian Church Choir  
Christmas Cantata

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*We trust that the message delivered in song today will touch your heart, and allow you to pause in the business of this Christmas season to remember that Christ was sent to this world to bring peace, hope, love, joy and salvation. Merry Christmas, and may God bless you and your family in the New Year!*

### **I. A THRILL OF HOPE**

Long Ago, Prophets Knew  
Sing We Now of Christmas  
The First Noel  
Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

### **II. A GIFT OF LOVE**

Love Came Down at Christmas  
*featuring Cathy Creech*  
Angels from the Realms of Glory  
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling  
Away in a Manger  
The Gift of Love

### **III. A PRAYER FOR PEACE**

Silent Night, Holy Night  
Let There Be Peace on Earth  
*featuring Georgeanna Phillips*  
O Holy Night

### **IV. A SONG OF JOY**

Rejoice  
Mary Had a Baby  
Angels, We Have Heard on High  
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing  
Joy to the World  
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

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