

**1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
COMMUNION SUNDAY
December 3, 2017**

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude and Acolyte

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Doug Sonderfan

Call to Worship (Psalm 25)

Marry Ann Booth

Leader: *Good and upright is the Lord; therefore He instructs sinners in the way.*

People: *He leads the humble in what is right,*

Leader: *To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.*

People: *O my God, in you I trust*

Leader: *Lead me in Your truth, and teach me,*

People: *for you are the God of my salvation*

Leader: *And teaches the humble His way.*

ALL: *All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.
Praise the LORD!*

*** Opening Hymn** “Angels, We Have Heard on High” #188

Confession of Sin (In Unison)

O Gracious God, we come to You to confess and be renewed. Hear our prayer and transform us through Your awesome Holy Spirit. 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 are unashamedly in opposition to Your will. Open our hearts, O Lord, so we may understand the message and meaning of Christmas hidden amongst the 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.

Silence for Personal Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: *Just as the Wise Men sought the Christ child, we seek Your Grace, O God.*

All: *The angels will shout good tidings of great joy of humanity’s salvation through Jesus Christ. Glory be to God!*

*** Responsive Hymn** “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” #191

***Passing of the Peace of Christ**

Giving of His Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

***Doxology**

Hymn # 34

Prayer of Dedication

Rite of Baptism (*see insert*)

First Scripture Lesson

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Musical Interlude for Children’s Worship

(Children ages 4 thru 5th grade led by Kristy Stephenson)

Morning Prayers and The Lord’s Prayer

Second Scripture Lesson

Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon

“Gifts from the Wise Men”

Rev. Jim Davis

Anthem

“Comfort Ye”

Doug Sonderfan

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

Invitation to the Table

Prayer

Words of Institution

Communion of God’s People

(We celebrate communion this morning and invite you to partake of the bread as you receive it – but please hold the cup so we may partake together)

***Dedication Hymn** “O Come Let Us Adore Him”

#114

***Acolyte and Benediction**

Postlude

**Signifies Congregation to Stand*

December Scripture Passage

⁸ *In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"*
Luke 2:8-14

Ministers of Providence Presbyterian Church
 The People of Providence Presbyterian Church

Pastor
 Rev. Jim Davis

Session

Class of 2017

<i>Long Range Planning</i> Tony Bryant	<i>Fellowship</i> David Collier	<i>Youth C.E.</i> Barri Martin	<i>Worship</i> Donna Stolle
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Class of 2018

<i>Finance</i> Sam Stephenson	<i>Congregational Care</i> Kent Walton	<i>Adult C.E.</i> Atlee Roberts	<i>Property</i> Russell Wood
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Class of 2019

<i>Children C.E.</i> Vickie Faircloth	<i>Mission & Outreach</i> John Kopanski	<i>Clerk</i> Mary Ann Booth
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Staff

Accounting Treasurer
 Kristy Stephenson

Collections Treasurer
 Ann Benson

Music Director/Organist/Pianist
 Brittany Jones

Pianist
 Angie Searcy

Website
 David Nelms

Usher Coordinator
 Russell Wood

Secretary
 Cindy Lynch

Honoring our history.....building our future

Weekly Statistics

Year-to-Date General Fund Receipts (thru Oct 31)	\$219,541.10
Year-to-Date General Fund Expenses (thru Oct 31)	\$246,763.97
General Fund Receipts for October.....	\$20,125.70
General Fund Expenses for October	\$24,147.88
Total General Fund Receipts for November	\$19,425.98
General Fund Receipts for November 26	\$5,365.00
Capital Reserve Account.....	\$84,739.16
Loan Balance as of October 31	\$982,549.62
Attendance for Sunday School November 12	61
Attendance for Worship November 12	108



SERVICE SCHEDULE

Assisting in Worship this Sunday:

Elder of the Month/Greeter: Kent Walton

Ushers: Anna Creech, Barri Martin and Allison Nelms (Back)

Acolyte: Phoebe Creech

Nursery: Richard and Andrea Jones

Children's Worship: Kristy Stephenson

Lay Reader: Mary Ann Booth

Fellowship Time: Young Adults Class

Assisting in Worship next Sunday, December 10

Elder of the Month/Greeter: Kent Walton

Ushers: Carolyn Stevenson, Margie Taylor and Sue Bryant (Back)

Acolyte: Hannibal Langdon

Nursery: Barri Martin and Mary Wood

Children's Worship: Carolyn and Adam Stuart

Lay Reader: Justin Wood

Fellowship Time: Seekers Class

CHURCH CALENDAR

Today at Providence:

9:45 am: Sunday School

10:25 am: Fellowship Time

11:00 pm: Worship Service

5:00 pm: Christmas Program

Weekly Events:

Dec. 3. Christmas Program Practice 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Dec. 5. Card Ministry 10:00 am

Dec. 6. Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm

Dec. 7. Long Range Planning Committee meeting 7:00 pm

Dec. 8. Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm

Upcoming Events:

Dec. 10. Cantata 11:00 am

Dec. 12. Presbyterian Women Day Circle 10:00 am
Senior Citizen Luncheon 12:00 pm

Dec. 13. Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm

Dec. 15. Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am

PRAYER LIST OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

JOYS: By Grace Ye Have Been Saved ...! Ephesians 2:8

CONCERNS: Please be in prayer for the family of Lorie Smith for the loss of her father, Cecil Stancil

Members of the Providence Family in Long-Term Care:

Brack Johnson at *Classic Care Assisted Living in Smithfield*; **Marilyn Johnson** at *Barbour Court Nursing in Smithfield*; **Pauline Jones**, at *Liberty Commons in Benson*; **Virginia Moore**, at *Brookdale Assisted Living in Smithfield*; **Bobbie Langdon**, and **Frances Schmidt** at home.

Persons Living with Cancer, including:

Charity Arrington, friend of *Georgianna*; **Sherry Baker**, friend of *Laura Langdon*; **Priscilla Beckwith**, friend of *Sandy Kopanski*; **Patsy Bowman**, member; **Joanne Boyle**, *Bob Zattiero's* niece; **Lisa Bradshaw**, member of the community; **Becky Hall**, friend of *Carolyn Johnson*; **Ann Hargis**, community; **Consuelo Hawkins**, *Joe Hawkins's* mother; **Carol Mayben**, *Sandy Kopanski's* sister-in-law; **Sarah Mulcahay**, sister of *Patsy Bowman*; **Ken Page**, family of *Atlee and Linda Roberts*; **Art Redmond**, *Pat Embrey's* niece's husband; **Ben Snelling**, friend, of *John Kopanski*; **Randy Stephenson**, *Jon Nooney's* cousin; **Chad Talley**, friend of *John Pickens*; and **Wayne and Mary Toler**, *Dorothy Nesselrodt's* sister and brother-in-law.

Persons with Ongoing Health Concerns, including:

Nancy Allen, *Sheila Dupree's* mom; **Sara Barber**, *Vickie Faircloth's* mother; **Randy Benson**, member; **Worth Bowman**, member; **Charlie & Mary Burke**, *Steve Wolak's* parents; **Shepherd Byrd**, member; **Elise Corona**, daughter of a friend of *Sue Bryant*; **Lynn Cross**, member; **Joan Daniel**, *John Daniel's* mother; **Wanda Johnson Dupree**, previous member; **Gayla Edmond**, *Stephanie Wood's* mom; **Barbara Ellis**, mother of *Georgeanna Phillips*; **Coby Foreman**, church family; **George Johnson**, *Debbie Sturgis's* father; **Sandy Kopanski**, member; **Harley Kremer**, *Andrea Jones's* niece; **Vic LaSaxon**, *Chris Nooney's* brother-in-law; **Hubert Lipscomb**, scout leader; **Scott Martinelli**, *Joe & Beverly Martinelli's* son; **Wanza Mayben**, *Sandy Kopanski's* mother; **Bill McClandless**, friend of *Bob Zattiero*; **Nancy Nelms**, member; **Sue Nicholson**, *Chris Nooney's* sister; **Jon Nooney**, member; **Lou Penny**, member; **Caleb Reese**, cousin of *Andrea Jones*; **Marie Rouse**, delivery driver's wife; **Barbara Walton**, member; **Candy Weaver**, friend of *Amanda McLamb*; and **John Wright**, *Chris Nooney's* father.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congregational Meeting and Vote January 7, 2018

All members are asked to be present for this important meeting. The Presbytery of New Hope requires that we formally express our desire to be dismissed from the PCUSA denomination by congregational vote. We require a minimum of 50% of all members to be on hand in order to conduct the vote. Please mark your calendar for this important date.

“Under The Sea” Christmas Program – The Providence Christmas Program will take place **today** at 5:00 pm! Our children and youth have been practicing during LOGOS for several weeks, and we look forward to celebrating the Christmas season with our church family.

Christmas Cantata – “Come To The Manger”. Presented by the Providence Choir. Please join us Sunday, December 10th, at 11:00 am as we tell the joyous story of Jesus’ birth through song.

Congregational Meeting to Elect Elders – A Congregational Meeting is called for Sunday, December 17, 2017 following Worship for the purpose of electing the Elder Class of 2018. The Session has approved the following list of nominees:

- Donna Stolle - 2 year term
- Joe Martinelli - 3 year term
- Cathy Simmons - 3 year term
- Kevin Creech - 3 year term
- David Collier – 3 year term

Donations of Stock and Other Securities can now be accepted by the Church. To make a donation or obtain more information, please contact Ann Benson, Collections Treasurer.

Senior Citizens Luncheon – The December Senior Citizen Luncheon will be Tuesday, December 12 at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church at 12:00 noon. Please contact Kay Dry at kaydry4@gmail.com and 919-639-9784 by Wednesday, December 6 with your reservation.

Charlene Sonderfan, mother of member Doug Sonderfan is relocating to Oak Hill Assisted Living facility on December 1st. Her new mailing address is: 9767 NC 210 North, Room 319A, Angier, NC 27501

Safety/Security Team – Anyone interested in learning more and helping; please contact Kent Walton or David Collier.

Long Range Planning Committee – The Long Range Planning Committee will meet on Tuesday, December 7 at 7:00 pm

Fellowship and Fitness Walking Group – “Exercise daily – walk with Jesus.” Come walk and fellowship with us on Wednesday and Friday mornings at 10:00am! As we await benches for the upper parking lot, we will continue to meet in the Upper Fellowship Hall until they are completed. All are welcome.

Poinsettias – Many thanks to all the responses to help with the Poinsettias. We are joyful in having those who are already maintaining the Poinsettias, please do not water the plants! Merry Christmas and Blessings to all who have purchased and contributed to the beauty of our sanctuary this Advent Season.

Food Pantry and Backpack Buddies – Please bring your food donations for these worthy ministries and place them in the blue bin near the foyer doors leading into the Upper Fellowship Hall.

Reminders – Please contact Cindy Lynch at secretary@providencepresb.org or 919-894-4063 if you need to: Add or remove anyone from the prayer list, schedule use of the old or new fellowship hall or directory updates.

Please Note – The Bulletin deadline is **Noon Thursday** if you wish for an announcement to appear in the bulletin for the upcoming Sunday. The Newsletter items deadline is the **23rd** of the month.

RITE OF BAPTISM

Presentation of Candidates for Baptism

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Obedying the word of our Lord Jesus, and confident of His promises, we baptize those whom God has called.

In Baptism God claims us, and seals us to show that we belong to God. God frees us from sin and death, uniting us with Jesus Christ in His death and resurrection. By water and the Holy Spirit, we are made members of the church, the body of Christ, and joined to Christ's ministry of love, peace, and justice.

Let us remember with joy our own baptism, as we celebrate this sacrament.

Elder: On behalf of the session, I present **Wyatt Michael Greene** for the sacrament of baptism.

Sacrament of Baptism

Thanksgiving Over the Water Baptism

Do you **Donald Joseph and Megan** desire that **Wyatt Michael** be baptized? **I DO**

Relying on God's grace, do you promise to live the Christian faith, and to teach that faith to your child?

I DO

Wyatt Michael Greene, I baptize you in the name of the Father
And of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Profession of Faith

With the whole church, let us confess our faith

(In Unison)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; On the third day he rose from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Words of Welcome

Through his baptism, **Wyatt** has been received into the one holy catholic and apostolic church, affirming the covenant into which we have been baptized. As members of the household of God let us welcome him to God's family.

Please greet the Greene family in the love and joy of Christ.

Wyatt Michael Greene