

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 23, 2018

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude and Acolyte

Lighting of the Advent Candle

By Sam, Wendy, Samuel, Hannah and Daniel Stephenson

Call to Worship (from Psalm 147) Doug Sonderfan

Leader: *Praise the LORD! How good it is to sing praises to our God;*

People: *for He is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.*

Leader: *The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel.*

People: *He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.*

Leader: *Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;*

People: *His understanding is beyond measure.*

Leader: *Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;*

People: *make melody to our God on the lyre.*

Leader: *The LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him,*

People: *in those who hope in his steadfast love.*

All: *Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem! Praise God!*

*** Opening Hymn** "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" # 185

Confession of Sin (In Unison)

O Holy 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 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.

Silence for Personal Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: *Jesus Christ is our peace who reconciles us both to God in one body through the cross.*

People: *In the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, we are forgiven!*

*** Responsive Hymn** "The First Noel" # 229

Affirmation of Faith

"The Apostle's Creed"

(Back cover of blue Hymnal)

***Passing of the Peace of Christ**

Giving of His Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

***Doxology**

Hymn # 34

Prayer of Dedication

Old Testament Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 9:6

Anthem

"Carol For Advent"

Special

Musical Interlude for Children's Worship

(Children ages 4 thru 5th grade led by Allison Nelms)

Morning Prayers and The Lord's Prayer

New Testament Scripture Lesson

1 Corinthians 13:12-13

Sermon

"Love"

Rev. Jim Davis

***Hymn of Dedication**

"We Three Kings of Orient Are"

233

***Acolyte and Benediction**

Postlude

**Signifies Congregation to Stand*

Please feel free to take home your printed bulletin. Thank you for placing any discarded bulletins in a trash receptacle as you depart the building.

If you desire to join Christ's Church here at PPC please contact the Pastor – office 919-894-4063, cell# 919-264-4324, or after worship!

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 2018

<i>Finance</i>	<i>Congregational Care</i>	<i>Adult C.E.</i>	<i>Long Range Planning</i>
Sam Stephenson	Kent Walton	Atlee Roberts	Russell Wood

Class of 2019

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

Class of 2020

<i>Fellowship</i>	<i>Personnel</i>	<i>Youth C.E.</i>	<i>Property</i>
David Collier	Cathy Simmons	Kevin Creech	Steve Newnam

Staff

Accounting Treasurer

Sam 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

2018 General Fund Receipts through November	\$221,814.18
2018 General Fund Expenses through November.....	\$258,449.51
General Fund Receipts for November.....	\$18,292.26
General Fund Expenses for November	\$19,977.67
General Fund Receipts so far for December	\$18,882.65
General Fund Receipts for December 16	\$8,389.65
Attendance for Sunday School December 16.....	74
Attendance for Worship December 16.....	169

Pastor's Office Hours – The pastor will be in the office Monday - Thursday from 9:00 am until 12:00 pm with varying additional hours in the afternoons. All hours are subject to pastoral demands.

Secretary's Office Hours – Monday - Friday, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm.
The office number is 919-894-4063.

SERVICE SCHEDULE

Assisting in Worship this Sunday:

Elder of the Month/Greeter: Mary Ann Booth

Ushers: Donna Stolle, Lisa Nelms and Carolyn Stevenson (Back)

Acolyte: Joey Crocker

Nursery: Sue Bryant and Emma Phillips

Children's Worship: Allison and Ryan Nelms

Lay Reader: Doug Sonderfan

Fellowship Time: Fellowship Committee

Safety/Security: Kent Walton

Assisting in Worship next Sunday, December 30

Elder of the Month/Greeter: Mary Ann Booth

Ushers: Joan Stuart, Elaine Wood and Beth Pickens (Back)

Acolyte: Kolton Crocker

Nursery: Kristy and Chris Stephenson

Children's Worship: Stephanie and Rob Wood

Lay Reader: Wendy Stephenson

Fellowship Time: Encouragers Class

Safety/Security: Kent Walton

CHURCH CALENDAR

Today at Providence:

9:45 am: Sunday School

10:25 am: Fellowship Time

11:00 pm: Worship Service
Christmas Joy Offering

Weekly Events:

Dec. 24. Christmas Eve Services 5:00 pm & 10:00 pm

Dec. 25. Christmas Day
Office Closed

Dec. 26. Office Closed

Upcoming Events:

Dec. 30. First Sunday After Christmas

Dec. 31. New Year's Eve

Jan. 1. New Year's Day
Office Closed

Jan. 2. Fellowship & Fitness Walking Group 10:00 am
Adult choir Practice 7:30 pm

Jan. 4. Fellowship & Fitness Walking Group 10:00 am

PRAYER LIST OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

JOYS: God is Love.

1 John 4:16

CONCERNS:

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*; **Virginia Moore**, at *Brookdale Assisted Living in Smithfield*; **Bobbie Langdon**, at *Highland Village in Cary*.

Persons Living with Cancer, including:

Sherry Baker, friend of *Laura Langdon*; **Priscilla Beckwith**, friend of *Sandy Kopanski*; **Joanne Boyle**, *Bob Zattiero's niece*; **Lisa Bradshaw**, member; **Jerry Hall**, extended family of *Wendy and Sam Stephenson*; **Ann Hargis**, community; **Consuelo Hawkins**, *Joe Hawkins' mother*; **Judy Morris**, community; **Norman Nelms**, brother of *Tom Nelms*; **Randy Stephenson**, *Jon Nooney's cousin*; **Chad Talley**, friend of *John Pickens*.

Persons with Ongoing Health Concerns, including

Nancy Allen, *Sheila Dupree's mom*; **H. A. Andrews**, father of *Andrea Jones*; **Sara Barber**, *Vickie Faircloth's mother*; **Carolyn Burns**, *Rich Lambert's sister*; **Worth Bowman**, member; **Mary Burke**, *Steve Wolak's mother*; **Emily Carr**, *Miriam Lambert's friend*; **Pamela Collier**, member; **Elise Corona**, daughter of a friend of *Sue Bryant*; **Joyce Crowson**, friend of *Dick Embry*; **Sandra Dail**, friend of the church; **Wanda Johnson Dupree**, previous member; **Barbara Ellis**, mother of *Georgeanna Phillips*; **Mike Kefauver**, *Brittany Jones' father*; **Harley Kremer**, *Andrea Jones niece*; **Vic LaSaxon**, *Chris Nooney's brother-in-law*; **Hubert Lipscomb**, scout leader; **Bill McClandless**, friend of *Bob Zattiero*; **Nancy Nelms**, member; **Sue Nicholson**, *Chris Nooney's sister*; **Jon Nooney**, member; **Lou Penny**, member; **Wanda Presnell**, friend of *Beth Wolak*; **Caleb Reese**, cousin of *Andrea Jones*; **Kathy Rose**, friend of *Kim Schmidt*; **Ann King Stephenson**, member; **Wendy Stephenson**, member; **Justin Vess**, brother-in-law of *Andrea Jones*; **Barbara Walton**, member; **John Wright**, *Chris Nooney's father*; and **Eva Younts**, *Nadine Reed's Aunt*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements Continued

IMPORTANT: During the Advent season when wreaths hang on the exterior doors, please pay special attention that a door is closing all the way when you leave the building. Thank you for this extra consideration.

Wanted: Chicken Pastry Coordinator. See Ann Benson if you are interested in helping in this capacity with this fundraiser for PPC. The next Chicken Pastry Fundraiser is scheduled for March 15, 2019.

Fellowship & Fitness Walking Group - The Fellowship & Fitness Walking Group invite you to do something healthy for yourself and walk with us. We end each meeting in prayer for our church family and each other. We meet Wednesday and Friday at 10:00 am in the UFH.

All are welcome but please note:

THE FELLOWSHIP & FITNESS WALKING GROUP WILL NOT MEET THE WEEK OF CHRISTMAS.

2018 Poinsettias - Please remember to take home your purchases starting December 24, after the Christmas Eve Services. After that the plants will be moved to the Lower Fellowship Hall for retrieval. Thanks again for helping to make the sanctuary look so nice during this Advent season.

Advent Decoration Removal and Storage - We will be removing the decorations and returning them to storage on Saturday, December 29. Thank you in advance for any and all help.

Senior Luncheon at Providence Presbyterian Church will be held on Tuesday, January 8th at noon. We are not going to need anyone to bring food but will need help decorating and in the kitchen on that day. Check with Margie if you can help with the preparations, but also let her know if you are coming for the lunch so that she knows how much to prepare. Contact Margie at margieataylor@aol.com or call 919-552-6068. After all the holiday busyness, relax and enjoy some comradery with your friends or make some new ones.

BLOOD DRIVE on Friday, January 11th, 2019 from 2:00 pm until 6:30 pm. Because of the hurricanes, there is a severe shortage for blood of all types. Please, come and help out by giving a pint of blood or even a Power Red. Contact Margie Taylor at 919-552-6068 or email margieataylor@aol.com. You can also go into the American Red Cross website and sign up to give by putting in the Zip code of 27501. Please help us make our goal and save a life at the same time.

Limited Time Sale - The M&O Committee will be selling the new PPC coffee mugs today during the Fellowship time in the UFH. The mugs are \$5 and will include a pen. These mugs were made to be included in "welcome bags" to be given to new visitors at PPC. The PPC customized sacks will include the mug, a pen, church info flyer, and visitor's card. Selling some mugs now will help defray the cost of the first order of mugs.

Providence Presbyterian Women January Luncheon Event - All Providence Presbyterian Women are invited to a catered luncheon on **Saturday, January 12 at Noon** in the Upper Fellowship Hall. Please join us for fellowship, great food and musical entertainment by the "Clevettes". The cost for lunch is \$11.00. Please RSVP by Friday, January 4 to Cathy Simmons, cesimmons112@gmail.com or call 919-275-4399. We look forward to seeing you there!

Donation Option - Providence is accepting donations of stocks and other securities. To make a donation or obtain more information, please contact Ann Benson, Collections Treasurer.

Church Newsletter – The December issue of the PPC Newsletter "Presbyterians At The Crossroads" is available online at the church website. If you do not have a computer, you can pick up a paper copy of the Newsletter in the Narthex.

The Quarterly Service List of those that serve in our Worship Services is also available on our church website to help with scheduling for the next three months.

Ushers, Lay Readers, Acolytes - This is a reminder that if you have volunteered to serve but now need a sub in your place, just send Donna Stolle an email and let her know. Copy Cindy via "cc:" on that email. Donna will arrange the sub and let Cindy know who the sub will be. Thank you for your participation in our weekly worship service.

Please Note – Bulletin Deadline is the end of the business day Wednesday, for an announcement to appear in the bulletin for the upcoming Sunday.

The Newsletter items deadline is the 20th of this month.

For safety/security, no exterior doors will be propped open during services and all doors will be locked during the 11:00 am service except the main sanctuary door.