

# PRESBYTERIANS AT THE CROSSROADS

Providence Presbyterian Church

April 2013



## From the Pastor's Study...

Easter came early this year on March 31<sup>st</sup> but that's not the end of the story but the beginning of a very hope filled April. The temperatures should be on the rise ... although we haven't had much evidence that warmer days are on the way. Let's please keep those who are living on the margins of society in our prayers this cold and rainy season.

Even though Easter has come and gone, there is a much larger narrative in our lives and the life of the church which we are called to pay special attention. That is evangelization. Our risen Savior calls us out of our comfort zones and into meaningful ministry and relationship beyond those we have in the present. I once heard someone put it this way ... think of all the friends you have yet to meet, now go out and find just one new friend today! Jesus calls us out of our easy chairs, our of our man caves, our beauty salons, our cubical at work, or just out of hiding behind the gas pump and offer up our time, talent, gracious words, and everything else you can think of - relating to the service and ministry of Jesus Christ.

All too often we have the image of ministry being the guy on Sunday in the robe at the pulpit. I think Martin Luther, the German monk who began the Protestant Movement, got it right when he offered up the notion of all the people in the church as the "priesthood of the believers". What Martin Luther stressed was the ability of the individual to pray directly to God instead of through a mediator such as the Virgin Mary or one of the Patron saints of the day. The other facet of this notion of "priesthood of the believers" calls us

CONT'D on page 2



## April Scripture Passage

<sup>18</sup> Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her. <sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

**John 20:18-23**

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from  
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Office phone number is 919.894.4063  
Rev. Davis may also be reached at  
919.264.4324(m).

all out of what ever vocation we find ourselves in and to the business of evangelization. This is otherwise known as spreading the Gospel message. But don't take my word for it, read the Bible for your own edification and benefit.

We all benefit tremendously by reading of God's Word and in turn offer our selves for service, relationship, and ministry of God's love to all we meet. When is the last time you drove by a homeless man standing and holding a sign that says "Please Help! God Bless."?

In this month's scripture passage, we see the encounter of a risen Jesus Christ with Mary Magdalene and the disciples. It is interesting to note that Mary Magdalene may well have been the true evangelist when she proclaimed and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord". When is the last time we talked to anyone about the LORD Christ our Savior? Food for thought and prayer!

May God bless us with a deeper understanding of God's love through forgiveness purchased through the blood of Jesus. Please continue to support our church family and it's ministries in your thoughts, prayers, and actions.

Your Brother in Christ,  
Rev. Jim Davis

### **ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

will continue on Sunday, April 7 and Sunday, April 21, at 5:00 p.m. This group will continue to meet on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, in conjunction with Pioneer Clubs and Youth Group. Following the meeting, everyone is invited to eat dinner in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m. If you have questions, please contact Robert Joyner.

### **SENIOR CITIZEN'S LUNCHEON**

is planned for Tuesday, April 9 at 12 noon at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church. Please invite your friends and neighbors to join you for this special time of fellowship, food and entertainment. All those who are planning to attend are asked to RSVP to Kay Dry by April 2 at 919.639.9784

### **SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP TIME**

is held each Sunday from 10:25 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This is simply a time of coffee/juice, a light refreshment, and an opportunity to connect with members of your church family! A sign-up sheet for providing the refreshments is posted on the bulletin board just beside the door to the kitchen. Please take a look at the schedule, and sign-up to host for an available Sunday!

### **THANK YOU**

to the Young Adult Sunday School class and the Youth Group for cleaning all the tables and chairs in the Fellowship Hall and Adult Sunday School classrooms.

### **PIONEER CLUBS**

will hold their regular meetings on Sunday, April 7 and April 21 at 5:00 p.m. Following the meeting, all Pioneer Clubs members and their families are invited to eat dinner in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m.

**UPCOMING YOUTH ACTIVITIES:**

**Youth Car Wash** will be held on Saturday, April 13 from 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon at the church

**Youth BBQ** will be held on Friday, April 19

**Youth Breakfast** will be held on Sunday, April 28 at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

**Youth Group** will be held for all middle and high school youth at 5:00 p.m. every Sunday

If you have questions regarding the Youth, or any of their activities, please contact David and Pam Collier, Cathy Creech, Mark and Pam Nelms, or Wendy Stephenson.

**OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHIES ARE EXTENDED TO THE FAMILIES OF**

**Judy Raye Miklas, member of community**

**PACK 210 SPAGHETTI FUNDRAISER**

will be held on Friday, May 3 in the Fellowship Hall. They will be serving lunch and dinner. Please plan to come out and support our Scouts! If you have questions, please contact Christy Cross.

***Birthdays & Anniversaries***

**April Anniversaries**

- 4 Pete and Mary Ann Booth
- 12 Jon and Chris Nooney
- 17 Travis and Brittany Jones
- 20 Heath and Heather White
- 21 John and Beth Pickens
- 22 Nathan and Heather Reed
- 23 Hamilton and Debbie Greene
- 24 Wayne and Joyce Lamm
- 26 Billy and Peggy Barnhill

**April Birthdays**

- 3 Carlos Bagley and John Pickens
- 6 Thomas Lynch
- 9 Peggy Barnhill and Amy Reed
- 10 Margie Taylor and Sharon Stephenson
- 14 Brack Johnson
- 15 Jon Nooney
- 16 Charlotte Wood
- 17 Steve Newnam
- 19 Will Langdon and Bob Zattiero
- 20 Kathy Ryals
- 21 Hunter Joyner
- 22 Brent Frampton, Lacy Johnson and Norma Parsons
- 23 Joan Stuart
- 24 Joshua Collier and Leon Parrish
- 25 Meredith Tart

## March Session Highlights

Providence Presbyterian Church conducted a stated session meeting on March 11, 2013 beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the church. Present were Moderator Reverend Jim Davis, and Elders Stephanie Bagley, Robert Joyner, John Kopanski, Wayne Lamm, Gary Phillips, Atlee Roberts, Kristy Stephenson, and Jeffrey Wood. Excused was Elder Nathan Dry. A quorum was declared and Rev. Davis opened the meeting with prayer. Gary Phillips presented the devotional titled "Much Troubles" taken from Joshua 1: 1-7.

There was no correspondence presented at this meeting. The minutes of the stated Session meeting conducted on January 14, 2013 were reviewed and approved.

Committee reports were made from eight of the standing committees of Session. No Personnel Committee report was presented. The Worship Committee reported the resignation of Wendy Stephenson as Children's Church Coordinator effective September 1, 2013. The following actions were approved by Session:

- The February 2013 treasurer's report (including capital campaign fund) was reviewed and approved.
- The Session agreed to review the church rolls at the April session meeting.
- A motion to accept the Dupree family as members was approved.
- The Session agreed individuals joining the church will be invited to meet with the session, either at a regular stated meeting or a meeting called for that purpose.

The Pastor submitted a report that detailed congregational concerns including the reception of four new members, Andy Dupree (transferring from St. Barnabas Presbyterian Church, Raleigh, NC), Sheila Dupree (transferring from Piney Grove Chapel Baptist Church, Angier, NC) and their sons, Matthew and Will, to be baptized and joining by profession of faith. Chellie Poston requests her membership to be transferred from Providence to Hephzibah Baptist Church. The Pastor reported on many of the upcoming events at Providence. Rev. Davis will attend the Sprunt Lectures in Richmond, VA scheduled for April 30 through May 3 as a continuing education opportunity. Also, the Pastor reported that the next two Presbytery meetings will be on July 23 at White Memorial in Raleigh and on October 26, 2013 at First Presbyterian in New Bern.

There was no old or new business presented at this meeting. The next stated session meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 8, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the church. Rev. Davis closed the meeting with prayer.

## Prayer List of Joys and Concerns

### **JOYS:**

Praise the Lord for answered prayers!

### **CONCERNS:**

**Kathy Ryals**, *member of church family, health concerns*

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

**Brack Johnson** *at Classic Care Assisted Living in Smithfield*

**Lacy & Marilyn Johnson** *at Barbour Court Nursing in Smithfield*

**Pauline Jones** *at Liberty Commons in Benson*

**Grant Joyner, Bobbie Langdon, Bernard & Norma Parsons, Chellie Poston, and Ann Woodall** *at home*

**Our Nation's Leaders and All Persons Serving in the Armed Forces, including: Daniel Thorwart**, *-serving in Afghanistan.*

#### **All Persons Living with Cancer, including:**

**Carol Badalucco**, *friend of Sue Bryant*, **Alvin Bagley**, *Carlos Bagley's uncle*, **Sherry Baker**, *friend of Laura Langdon*, **Louise Benson**, *Randy Benson's sister-in-law*, **Nancy Biernacki**, *friend of Bob Zattiero*, **Shirley Bledsoe**, *member of community*, **Patsy Bowman**, *member of church family*, **Edith Bowser**, *friend of Bob Zattiero*, **Denise Brown**, *friend of Sandy Kopanski*, **Helen Creech**, *Ronnie Creech's sister-in-law*, **Brad Davis**, *Rev. Davis' father*, **Rowland Gilchrist**, *Becky Kleaver's brother*, **Ann Hargiss**, *member of community*, **P.B. Jernigan**, *relative of Sheila Dupree*, **David Kopanski**, *John Kopanski's brother*, **Carol Mayben**, *Sandy Kopanski's sister-in-law*, **Edna McLamb**, *Pauline Jones' sister*, **Barbara Owens**, *friend of Laura Langdon*, **Jackie Parker**, *friend of Amy Reed*, **Barbara Shaw**, *Kathy Ryals' aunt*, **Bob Stephenson**, *Ann Stephenson's cousin*, **Bobby Stephenson**, *member of community*, **Randy Stephenson**, *Jon Nooney's cousin*, **Crystal Stotter**, *friend of Sandy Kopanski*, **Kay Williams**, *friend of Sandy Kopanski*, and **Hannah Youngblood**, *friend of Kristy Stephenson.*

#### **Other Persons with Ongoing Health Concerns, including:**

**Nancy Allen**, *Sheila Dupree's mother*, **Kim Anderson**, *friend of Georgeanna Phillips*, **Taylor Anderson**, *friend of Joseph Phillips*, **Elaine Andrews**, *Andrea Jones' mother*, **Betty Campbell**, *David Collier's mother*, **Jean Carroll**, *Kelly Nordan's mother*, **Brenda Davis**, *friend of Lisa Nelms*, **Bill and Bobbie Ellis**, *Georgeanna Phillips' parents*, **Ed Fontana**, *Mary Langdon's father*, **Rose Hollingsworth**, *Ann Stephenson's sister-in-law*, **Fred Ipock**, *Cathy Creech's father*, **Norbert Kopanski**, *John Kopanski's father*, **Melinda Kendall**, *member of church family*, **Stuart Kremer**, *friend of Andrea Jones*, **Vic LaSaxon**, *Chris Nooney's brother-in-law*, **Wanza Mayben**, *Sandy Kopanski's mother*, **Sue Nicholson**, *Chris Nooney's sister*, **B.J. Parker**, *friend of Christina Nelms*, **David Raynor**, *friend of Sandy Kopanski*, **Kathy Rose**, *friend of Kim Schmidt*, **Donny Salmon**, *Wendy Stephenson's brother-in-law*, **Frances Schmidt**, *member of church family*, **Gary Schmidt**, *Kim Schmidt's brother*, **Pete and Brenda Skinner**, *friends of Sue Bryant*, **Nan Walker**, *Andrea Jones' grandmother*, and **John Wright**, *Chris Nooney's father.*

# APRIL EVENTS AND SCHEDULES

## NURSERY

- 7 Carolyn Stuart, Heath and  
Heather White
- 14 Amy Reed, Eric and  
Lorie Smith
- 21 Lauren Langdon, Ryan and  
Allison Nelms
- 28 Christina Jones, Emily Langdon  
and Laura Langdon



## USHERS

- 7 Jonathan Breeden and  
Kevin Crocker
- 14 Don Dupree and Jimmy Stuart  
Hamilton Greene and Heath  
White
- 28 David Collier and Gary Phillips

## ACOLYTE

- 7 Emma Roberts
- 14 Margot Porter
- 21 Riley Wood
- 28 Emma Phillips



## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

- 7 Israel and Karen Morrow
- 14 Barbie Frickman & Brandy Joyner
- 21 Travis and Brittany Jones
- 28 Scott and Barri Martin

## KIDS KRUSADE

- Apr. Jennifer Crocker

## April Upcoming Events

- 1 Long-Range Planning Committee at 7:00 p.m.
- 2 Prayer Shawl Group at 10:00 a.m.
- 3 No Choir Rehearsal this week
- 7 Adult Bible Study, Pioneer Clubs and Youth Group at 5:00 p.m.
- 8 Stated Session Meeting at 7p.m.
- 9 Senior Luncheon at 12 noon at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church
- 10 Adult Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.
- 13 Youth Car Wash from 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon
- 14 CommuniOn Sunday during Worship at 11:00 a.m.
- 14 Youth Group at 5:00 p.m.
- 16 Presbyterian Women Circle meetings at 10:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall
- 17 Adult Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.
- 19 Youth BBQ Fundraiser
- 21 Adult Bible Study, Pioneer Clubs and Youth Group at 5:00 p.m.
- 24 Adult Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.
- 26 Deadline to submit articles for the May newsletter
- 28 Youth Breakfast at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall