

PRESBYTERIANS AT THE CROSSROADS

Providence Presbyterian Church

December 2015



From the Pastor's Study...

Merry Christmas and Greetings in the name Jesus Christ!

Advent Season is here and this is the season to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Christmas is the time we celebrate the birth of Jesus and recognize true nature of following the Christ child - faith, hope, and love. Our Gracious God gives humanity hope in the gift of the Christ child and blesses with the gift of having faith to see beyond ourselves and acknowledge God as the one true source of life and joy.

With each breath we take in life, and in our own journey of faith, we should take time to reflect on Christ's presence in our lives. Let us encourage each other to share the gospel with those God places in our path. May we reach out, invite others to join God's family at Providence, to all our ministry and mission opportunities - Sunday School, Sunday Worship, Sunday Fellowship, the new member's class, the Christmas Program, the Christmas Cantata, Christmas Eve Services, Youth events and other various events - we have so much of to offer all of God's people.

Our Advent Season worship services begin with the lighting of the Advent candles. The candles represent God's gift to the world - Jesus Christ - and we understand this most awesome of gifts in terms of faith, hope, love and peace. The good news ushered in with the birth of Jesus as the Christ child, the one true messiah, in which God blesses us with a love that reaches well beyond our human understanding and proclaims redemption of all humanity contingent on only one thing and that

Cont'd on Page 2



December Scripture Passage

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 2:10-14

CHURCH OFFICE

Pastor Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday - 9:00 am -
12:00 pm and by appointment

Office phone number is 919.894.4063

Rev. Davis may also be reached at
919.264.4324(m).

Cont'd from page 1

is belief in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. God is faithful to all humanity and gives us the gift of having faith to see beyond ourselves and acknowledge God as the one true source of life and joy. We are so very blessed to be loved by our Lord God who sacrificed His only Son, Jesus, to proclaim a new covenant with humanity.

Our Lord God has blessed us in so many wonderful ways here at PPC this year. I am joyful, hopeful and excited about what God will do through us in 2016. Please pray for our church and its leadership so we might discern God's vision for us in the coming year. Please consider your call to ministry in our church. There is so much energy, hope and joy here in Providence; I can't wait to see where God leads us next.

As we come together in our homes, around a decorated tree, let us remember all those who have given us so much in this life and be convicted by the Holy Spirit to do for others. May we be compelled to share the good news of a messiah and savior who came into this world in swaddling clothes lying in a manger.

Glory to God in the highest!

Your Brother in Christ,
Rev. Jim Davis

SECRETARY

Kim Callis is available Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Please send your bulletin prayer requests or updates, announcements, email distribution additions/deletions or other messages for broadcast via email to the congregation. Her email is secretary@providencepresb.org and her office number is 919-894-4063.



COME JOIN THE FUN!

LOGOS ("The Word") is a four-part Sunday evening ministry for young people ages 3 years old through grade 12. Every first and third Sunday evening of the month from 5:00 - 7:00 pm, we will study the Bible, learn practical skills for leading worship, experience games and recreation, and share a family meal.

These four segments provide children and youth the opportunity to:

- Develop meaningful relationships with caring Christian adults
- Experience what early Christian communities lived out - study, fellowship, a shared meal and the practice of worship
- Learn and practice what it means to be a child of God and a disciple of Christ

All are welcome to LOGOS.

We ask for prior registration for safety and planning purposes.

LOGOS Adult Bible Study

This study is led by Ann Stephenson, lay Pastor of White Memorial Presbyterian Church. The study is entitled "Discovering God's Will" by Andy Stanley. The study will begin at 5:00 pm and supper will be served at 6:30 pm. Attendance is encouraged and welcome by all! If you have any questions please contact Barri Martin at martin78@nc.rr.com or 919-639-1138.

FELLOWSHIP HALL POLICY

As of October 1, 2015 we have adopted a new policy to be used on all scheduling request to use both Fellowship Halls. If you request to use either of our Fellowship Halls you will be required to complete a form and the approval will come from the Session. This will apply to all new requests for both halls. Requests that have already been approved or confirmed will not be required to complete the new form. New requests need to be made through the church office (Kim Callis) same as current process. If you have questions on this new policy please contact Kim Callis at 919-894-4063 or David Collier at 919-625-3026 or davidcollier123@yahoo.com.

USHERS

Johnny Wood, usher coordinator has requested a few items to be addressed with serving as ushers.

- If at all possible men please wear a tie when ushering.
- Be in position to usher by 10:40 am.
- After welcome and announcements ushers are to assist in seating guests.

With the addition of a third usher, we want to make it easy for members and visitors to know who our ushers are each week. If you are scheduled to be an usher, please look in the cabinet drawer in the vestibule for an usher pin that is to be worn. Please remember to place it back in the drawer after service. If you have any questions about the new third usher position or any usher duties, please contact our usher coordinator, Johnny Wood at rwood146@centurylink.net or 919-801-1892.

EMERGENCY NEED FOR FOOD

The food pantry is very bare and with winter coming on soon, we need to get it restocked. Please put your donations of non-perishable foods in the blue tubs. Please check expirations dates because we do not want to give out old food. The fourth Sunday of every month is collection day for the food pantry. Thank you for your help!

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Children ages 3 through 5th grade are welcome to participate in our kid-sized Children's Worship ~ an interactive worship service of music, scripture, and learning about God's word. Children's Worship will be held in the space formerly known as Classroom 5. We are thankful for the adults, youth, and little people who are committed to making this worship service meaningful for all involved. If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer, please contact Beth Breeden at 919-624-1633.



FELLOWSHIP TIME REMINDER

Please sign up for fellowship times on the bulletin board located in the kitchen of the new fellowship hall. You may also sign up by sending an email to David Collier at davidcollier123@yahoo.com or you can call him at 919-625-3026.



PRAYER LIST UPDATES

If you have someone that needs to be on the prayer list or someone that needs to be removed please let Kim Callis know by email at secretary@providencepresb.org or call the church office at 919-894-4063.



CARD MINISTRY

The Card Ministry, a sub-committee of Congregational Care, will be led by LaVette Morgan. This new Card Ministry involves making handmade cards to send to members of our congregation. Meetings will be held the first Tuesday of every month. There will not be a meeting in the month of December. Meetings will resume after the holiday on Tuesday, January 5, 2016. Anyone interested in participating in this Ministry is invited. If you would like to make a financial contribution toward the Card Ministry to help offset the cost of materials, please designate "Card Ministry" on the memo line of your check.



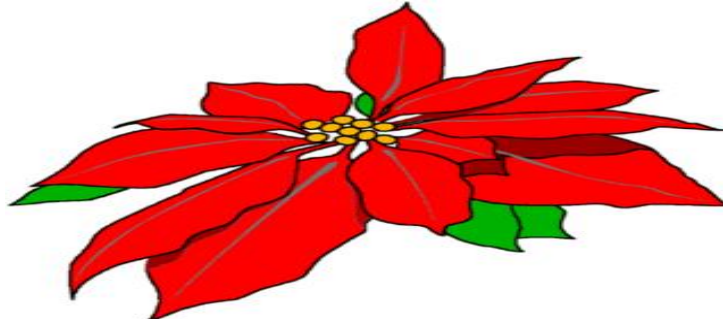
MUSICAL TALENT

We need your God given gifts! Brittany is searching for those within the congregation with musical talents who would be interested in sharing their talents with us; particularly piano talents, but we have ways of incorporating other musical gifts as well, so please don't let your instrument of choice be a factor in not coming forward. We can put your gifts to good use! Contact Brittany Jones at 910-814-7208 or blkefauver07@hotmail.com.



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Providence Christmas Program will take place at 5:00 PM on Sunday, December 6. 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. Children and youth who are in the Christmas Program are asked to attend the dress rehearsal at 10:00 AM on Saturday, December 5 and to arrive by 3:45 PM on Sunday, December 6 to get ready for the program. All practices other than the dress rehearsal will take place during LOGOS. If your child is not participating in LOGOS but would like to take part in the Christmas program, please contact Brittany Jones or Beth Breeden for practice times and parts.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN EVENTS

Presbyterian Women Christmas Gathering - Is planned for Thursday, December 10 at 6:30 pm at Ron's Barn. We will enjoy great food, gospel music, and fellowship. All women in the congregation are invited to attend. The cost is \$12.50 per person. Please RSVP to Sheila Dupree by December 1 if you would like to attend (919-427-1780 or sheila_dupree@yahoo.com).

Providence Presbyterian Women Chicken Pastry Fundraiser - Providence Women are collecting items for the silent auction that takes place during the Chicken Pastry fundraiser on January 22, 2016. Please let Allison Nelms, Stephanie Bagley, or Beth Breeden know if you or someone you know will be willing to donate to the silent auction, baked goods, or the store.

CONGRATULATIONS TO EAGLE SCOUTS 2015

**Dustin Barefoot
Jarrett Cross
Cody Davis
Sam Schon**

Great job on all of your hard work!



SENIOR CITIZEN LUNCHEON

The Community Senior Citizens' luncheon will be Tuesday, December 8 at Providence Presbyterian Church at 12 noon. Please contact Kay Dry at 919-639-9784 or kaydry@embarqmail.com or Margie Taylor at margieataylor@aol.com by December 3 with your reservations. All Seniors from Providence please try to attend to help make all of our guest feel welcomed plus we need you in hosting.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

There will be two Christmas Eve Services on Christmas Eve. There will be a service at 5:00 pm with Communion and there will be a 10:00 pm service with Communion. Please join us to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!



DEETTA JONES WOOD YOUTH CENTER

The Youth Committee is delighted to announce that the Session has approved plans to renovate the Old Education Wing, where we currently hold youth Sunday School and LOGOS, to create the DeEtta Jones Wood Youth Center. We look forward to sharing our progress as construction begins and to welcoming the entire congregation into this space when it is complete. We expect minimal impact on usage of the Nannie E. Coates Fellowship Hall during the construction process. (Funds for this project will come from the DeEtta Wood Memorial Fund, outside of the church operating and capital campaign budgets.) If you have any questions about this project, please contact Jeff Wood or Beth Breeden. The committee thanks Allison Nelms and Natalie Nordan for their leadership on this project.



YOUTH SPOTLIGHT

The Youth Mission Activity will be making “Comfort Blankets” for the Smithfield Rescue Mission on Sunday, January 24. (time to be determined)

Prayer List of Joys and 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; **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*; **Priscilla Beckwith**, *friend of Sandy Kopanski*; **Jerry Benson**, *Randy Benson's cousin*; **Nancy Biernacki**, *friend of Bob Zattiero*; **Patsy Bowman**, *member of church family*; **Edith Bowser**, *friend of Bob Zattiero*; **Christopher Conway**, *friend of Karen Morrow*; **Richard Davis**, *friend of Elaine Wood*; **Salley Dowsett**, *Laura McLamb's cousin*; **Kim Faircloth**, *friend of Amy Dupree*; **David Guss**, *cousin of Andrea Jones*; **Ann Hargis**, *member of community*; **P.B. Jernigan**, *relative of Sheila Dupree*; **Joey Johnson**, *friend of Randy Benson*; **Luke Jordan**, *friend of Christina Jones*; **Keith Langdon**, *member of church family*; **Carol Mayben**, *Sandy Kopanski's sister-in-law*; **Jackie Parker**, *friend of Amy Dupree*; **Larry Phipps**, *Allison Phipps's husband*; **Tania Query**, *Pat Davis's sister*; **Ben Snelling**, *friend of John Kopanski*; **Randy Stephenson**, *Jon Nooney's cousin*; **Chad Talley**, *friend of John Pickens*; **Wayne Toler**, *Dorothy Nesselrodt's brother-in-law*; **Tammy Vann**, *friend of Sandy Kopanski*; and **Hannah Youngblood**, *friend of Kristy Stephenson*

Persons with Ongoing Health Concerns, including:

Levon and Nancy Allen, *Sheila Dupree's parents*; **Velma and Ray Bost**, *Heath White's grandparents*; **Charlie & Mary Burke**, *Steve Wolak's parents*; **Ricky Faircloth**, *Beck McLamb's brother-in-law*; **Ed Fontana**, *Mary Langdon's father*; **Patricia Forren**, *church family*; **Janet Harris**, *Dorothy Nesselrodt's sister-in-law*; **Fred Ipock**, *Cathy Creech's father*; **Norbert Kopanski**, *John Kopanski's father*; **Sandy Kopanski**, *member of church family*; **Stuart Kremer**, *friend of Andrea Jones*; **Vic LaSaxon**, *Chris Nooney's brother-in-law*; **Hubert Lipscomb**, *scout leader*; **Joe Martinelli**, *member of the church family*; **Scott Martinelli**, *Joe & Beverly Martinelli's son*; **Wanza Mayben**, *Sandy Kopanski's mother*; **Kenneth Moore**, *Virginia Moore's son*; **Nancy Nelms**, *member of the church family*; **Sue Nicholson**, *Chris Nooney's sister*; **Jon Nooney**, *member of church family*; **Caleb Reese**, *cousin of Andrea Jones*; **Kathy Rose**, *friend of Kim Schmidt*; **Donald Salmon**, *Wendy Stephenson's brother-in-law*; and **John Wright**, *Chris Nooney's father*

PRAYER SHAWL TEAM

The last meeting time in 2015 will be as scheduled on Tuesday, December 1 at 10:00 am in the lower fellowship hall. Starting January 26, 2016, and every month thereafter, this team will meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month, at 10:00 am in the lower fellowship hall. We have switched Tuesdays with the Card Ministry Team, thus the change.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

December Anniversaries

5 Ashley and Crissy Porter
22 Tony and Sue Bryant
31 Beck and Laura McLamb

December Birthdays

2 Wayne Lamm
Heath White
4 Karen Sherrill
5 Nancy Nelms
6 Janice Parrish
7 Beck McLamb
12 Joseph LoCicero
18 Allison Nelms
19 John Daniel
26 John Kopanski
27 Brenda Byrd
Scott Martin
28 Sheila Dupree
29 Stephen Nordan
31 Cheyanne Nooney

Pastor

Rev. Jim Davis

Session

Class of 2015

Kristy Stephenson - Finance
Jeffrey Wood - Youth Christian Education
Margie Taylor - Mission and Outreach
Kent Walton - Congregational Care

Class of 2016

Beth Breeden - Children's Christian Education
Pete Booth, Personnel
David Nelms - Clerk of Session
Steve Nordan - Property

Class of 2017

Tony Bryant - Long-Range Planning
David Collier - Fellowship
Barri Martin - Adult Christian Education
Heath White - Worship

Church Staff

Secretary

Kim Callis

Accounting Treasurer

Wayne Lamm

Collections Treasurer

Ann Benson

Music Director/ Organist/Pianist

Brittany Jones

Organist/Pianist

Ann Stephenson & Susan Rudd

Website

David Nelms

Newsletter

Kim Callis

Usher Coordinator

Russell Wood

DECEMBER EVENTS AND SCHEDULES

NURSERY

- 6 Jonathan Breeden & Laura Langdon
 13 Mary Langdon & Beth Pickens
 20 Elaine Wood & Carolyn Stuart
 27 Todd & Barbie Frickman

USHERS

- 6 Carolyn Stevenson & Sue Bryant,
 Pat Davis (Back)
 13 Kay Dry & Lindsey Frampton,
 Joyce Lamm (Back)
 20 Mary Langdon & Sandra Lordi,
 Beth Pickens (Back)
 27 Carolyn Stevenson & Margie Taylor,
 Elaine Wood (Back)

ACOLYTE

- 6 Joey Crocker
 13 Caroline Frampton
 20 Gavin Annis
 27 Silas Porter

CHILDRENS WORSHIP

LEADER/HELPER

- Stephanie Bagley &
 6 Trey Bullock/Heather Ennis
 (Youth) TBD
 13 No Children's Worship - Cantata
 Beth Breeden &
 20 Trey Bullock/Heather Ennis
 (Youth) TBD
 Stephanie Bagley &
 27 Trey Bullock/ Heather Ennis
 Youth) TBD

ELDER

Steve Nordan

December Upcoming Events

- 1 Prayer Shawl 10:00 am
 2 Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
 3 Mission & Outreach Committee
 Meeting 10:00 am
 3 Personnel Committee Meeting
 7:00 pm
 5 Christmas Program Rehearsal
 10:00 am
 5 Youth Christmas Caroling &
 Progressive Dinner 3:45 to 8:30 pm
 6 Communion Sunday
 6 Christmas Program 5:00 pm
 7 Congregational Care Meeting
 10:00 am
 7 Long Range Planning Committee
 Meeting 7:00 pm
 Senior Citizen's Luncheon at
 8 Providence Presbyterian Church
 at 12:00 noon
 9 Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
 10 Presbyterian Women Christmas
 Gathering 6:30 pm
 13 Christmas Cantata 11:00 Worship
 14 Stated Session Meeting 7:00 pm
 15 Presbyterian Women Day Circle
 10:00 am
 15 Presbyterian Women Evening Circle
 7:30 pm
 16 Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
 20 Joy Offering Sunday
 23 January Newsletter Deadline
 23 Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
 24 Christmas Eve Service 5:00 pm
 24 Christmas Eve Service 10:00 pm
 25 Christmas Day - Office Closed
 30 Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
 31 New Year's Eve - Office Closed