

PRESBYTERIANS AT THE CROSSROADS

Providence Presbyterian Church

November 2017



From the Pastor's Study...

November is upon us once again ushering in All Saints Day, Veterans Day, Harvest Sunday luncheon, Stewardship Sunday, and Thanksgiving! This month also brings cooler weather, smells of pumpkin pie, hot chocolate, leaves changing colors on the trees and joyous occasions to gather together as sisters and brothers in Christ.

In just a few weeks we will celebrate Thanksgiving a time of recollection of just how blessed, by our LORD God, we truly are. It seems like only yesterday we were beginning to realize God's vision for Providence in terms of building new facilities. We reminded ourselves that to remain true to God's calling, the whole church would be required to lift each other up through: our prayers, our financial giving above our existing tithes, our individual talents, our willingness to stay the course, our love and support of each other, and most of all our faith in what God hath wrought in the hearts and minds of Christ's family here at Providence. And so, God blessed Providence PC in so many ways – through the prayers, sweat, time and talent of a great many.

All Saints Sunday provided us the opportunity to remember the lives of those who died this past year. Thanksgiving 2017 is a time for many of us to remember those who are not with us in body but still in spirit. We give thanks for all those who have done so much for us ... especially when they did so without invitation, but from their hearts – out of love. Let us reflect on how God has grown us in mind and spirit this past year so that we may be all the more encouraged to invite God even closer into our lives and the life of Providence Presbyterian Church.

In this month's scripture passage, from 1 Peter 4, Peter speaks of glorifying God in terms of Christian stewardship. Peter considers himself and all other Christians as "... stewards of the manifold grace of God". Stewardship in both Old and New Testaments is understood as : 1. a manager of people,

November Scripture Passage

⁸ Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Be hospitable to one another without complaining. ¹⁰ Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. ¹¹ Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 4:8-11



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).

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2. the head servant over other servants, or 3. a steward of the household. Peter understands Christian discipleship and stewardship as intimately connected to God's people and God's word. The ministry of Jesus Christ teaches us to *"... maintain constant love for one another ... hospitable to one another without complaining ... good stewards of the manifold grace of God ... serve one another ... (and) ... speak - the very words of God ... so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ."*

May the God of all possibilities bless you and your family - may the Grace of God fill you so completely that you overflow with laughter and joy that infects hearts and lives of all those you meet.

Your Brother in Christ,
Rev. Jim Davis

FELLOWSHIP HALL POLICY

As of October 1, 2015 we 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 same as current process. If you have questions on this new policy please contact David Collier at 919-625-3026 or davidcollier123@yahoo.com.

PRAYER LIST UPDATES

If you have someone that needs to be on the prayer list or someone who needs to be removed please email ppchurchsecretary@gmail.com or call the church office at 919-894-4063.



SUGGESTION BOX

Is up and running on the PPC website. To receive a response to your submission, please leave your name with your suggestion. Submissions are only viewed by members of Session and the submitter. Answers to concerns are sent to the submitter via email.



SECRETARY

Cindy Lynch 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. Send to ppchurchsecretary@gmail.com or call the office number 919-894-4063.



November 5 and November 19

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

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.

To help our volunteer cooks be good stewards of our resources, we ask that you take a minute to RSVP for your family. We’ve found a simpler way to handle RSVPs. Please click the direct link at the bottom middle of the main Providence Presbyterian Church webpage at <http://www.providencepresb.org>. to let us know whether or not to expect your children for supper.

Please be sure to join us even if you forget to RSVP ~ we always plan for a few friends and new attendees.

On **November 5** and **November 19**, we’ll be practicing for the Christmas program, as well as studying The Word, playing outside, and eating together.

November 5: The theme for family time is Pirate night.

November 19: The theme for family time is Armed Forces night.

We look forward to seeing your children, and as always, thank you for sharing them with us.

HARVEST SUNDAY

Providence will celebrate Harvest Sunday on November 5, 2017.

Following worship, lunch will be served in the Upper Fellowship Hall. Sam Stephenson, treasurer and chair of the Finance Committee, will give a presentation on the financial status of the church and the 2018 budget.

Everyone is invited!

FELLOWSHIP TIME REMINDER

David Collier would like to thank the groups who have volunteered for fellowship time and wants to extend an invitation to anyone or group if they would like to volunteer for a fourth or fifth Sunday this year to please contact him. You may contact David Collier at davidcollier123@yahoo.com or you can call him at 919-625-3026.



CARD MINISTRY

The next Card Ministry meeting will be on **Tuesday, November 7 at 10:00 am** in the Upper Fellowship Hall.

The Card Ministry Prep Team I will meet at LaVette Morgan's home on **Thursday, November 16 at 1:00 pm.**



SENIOR CITIZENS LUNCHEON

The Senior Citizen Luncheons in November are on **Tuesday, November 14** at Mount Zion United Methodist Church.

If you plan on going, please let Margie Taylor know by November 8th at 919-207-1049 so the cooks know how much food to buy and prepare.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CIRCLE

will meet on
Tuesday, November 20

Day Circle
10:00 am Upper Fellowship Hall

Evening Circle
7:00 pm Upper Fellowship Hall

Our study is "**Cloud of Witnesses - The Community of Christ in Hebrews.**"
All women of Providence Church are welcome to attend.

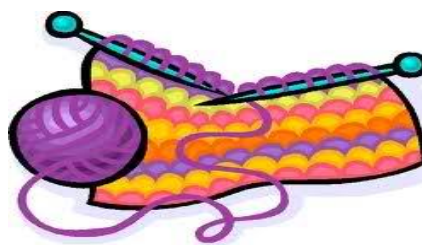


PRAYER SHAWL CIRCLE

Please join us on
Tuesday, November 27

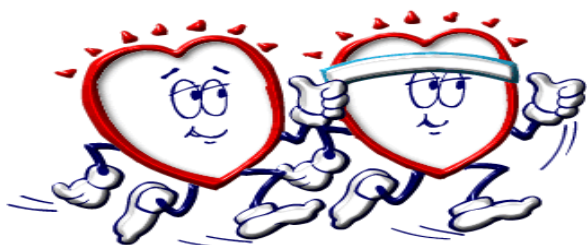
Anyone interested in crocheting and/or just meeting together for fellowship is welcome to participate at any time.

We meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month in the Lower Fellowship Hall.



FELLOWSHIP & FITNESS GROUP

The Fellowship & Fitness Walking Group will continue to meet for the Fall. We are so fortunate to be able to walk inside when it rains or is hot, otherwise we will be in the Upper parking lot. Come join us **Wednesdays and Fridays at 10:00 am.**



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

It is that time of year to pack a shoe box! It is simple, easy to do, and life changing, for both the sender and receiver.

We will be accepting packed shoe boxes on Sunday, November 12 and November 19, after which they will be transported to the local receiving center.

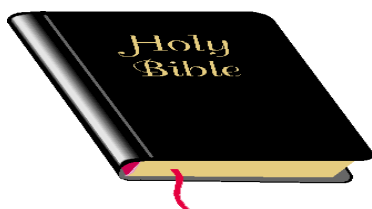
Suggested Contents:
Small Plush Toys, Balls
Toothbrushes, Nail Brush, Hair Clips
Combs, Hair Brush
Modeling Clay
Balloons, Crayons, Coloring Pencils
Stickers
Sketch/Drawing Pad

For More Information:
Samaritanpurse.org/occ



LAY READERS SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER

November 5	Donna Stolle
November 12	Travis Creech
November 19	Jeff Wood
November 26	Joe Martinelli



POINSETTIA SALES

It is that time of year, we are accepting poinsettia orders. The plants are grown by the Horticulture I and II Classes, and the Ag Science Class at West Johnston High School. Net proceeds help buy materials used by the students' for their horticultural work. This year the plants are **\$8.00** each. They are the red variety, in a green, foil wrapped pot, with a red ribbon. All plants will be delivered to the church on Saturday, November 25 to adorn the Sanctuary until after the Christmas Eve Service on Sunday, December 24. You are free to take home your purchases at that time. Complete an order form; supply the "In Honor Of" and "In Memory of" info, include payment and place in the offering plate. Checks payable to: Providence Presbyterian Church, "Poinsettia Sales" to appear on the memo line of the check. Sunday, November 19 will be the last day for taking orders.



ADVENT DECORATING

The Providence Presbyterian Women are seeking assistance with decorating our facilities for the upcoming holiday season. All able-bodied volunteers please meet in the Nannie Coates Fellowship Hall at 9:00 am, on Saturday, November 25, 2017. Your help would be greatly appreciated; many hands make light work! Thanks!



Highlights from Minutes of Stated Session Meeting on October 9, 2017

Correspondence – Clerk of Session reported that an email dated October 2, 2017 was received from the New Hope Presbytery Engagement Team (PET) requesting additional documents related to the mortgage loan from First Citizen’s Bank and asking that Providence hold a congregational vote on dismissal. Copies were provided to the Session.

Action Items

Mission & Outlook – Session was informed that a coordinating team from the Girl Scout Council would hold a troop organizing meeting for girls K-5th grade in the lower fellowship hall on Tuesday, October 24, 2017 from, 6:30 to 8:00 pm. A motion was passed to have the church sponsor the troop if there is sufficient interest.

Children’s Christian Education – Vickie Faircloth will seek a church member to fill the role of Nursery Director. Volunteers are now scheduled to staff the nursery through July 2018.

Suggestion Box – The Session reviewed two new comments in the suggestion box. The items were discussed and responses proposed.

Elder Class of 2020 – A nominating committee including elders from the Class of 2017 is being formed to nominate elders to fill five (5) open positions.

Gracious Dismissal – A draft response prepared by the Special Committee of the Congregation was distributed for Session approval. The letter asks the PET to recognize that the process has moved into the negotiating stage and beyond the point for a congregational vote. The letter also responds to the PET request for copies of additional loan documents. Proof that Providence is exempt from the requirement that loans be pre-approved by the Presbytery is included. Evidence is provided in the form of copies of minutes from both a Stated Session meeting and a Congregational Meeting in October of 1983 during which the vote was unanimously in favor of the exemption (Book of Order G-4.0208). The exemption gives Providence the authority to mortgage its property without Presbytery approval. A motion to approve the proposed response to the PET was approved unanimously.

Congregational Meeting on October 15, 2017 – Two items are on the agenda, 1) the vote to select either ECO or EPC as denomination of choice after dismissal from PCUSA and 2) the vote to change Reverend Davis’ Terms of Call. Session agreed that it will honor the denomination choice of the congregation.

Committee Updates

Adult Christian Education – Several of the adult Sunday School classes expressed dissatisfaction with current Sunday School lesson materials. One class has begun looking for substitute material.

Fellowship – Harvest Day is scheduled for November 5, 2017 in the new fellowship hall. Plans include lunch after worship.

Finance – The following was reported:

- The Men’s Fellowship will donate \$2,500 from the proceeds of the Fish Fry towards the principle of the building loan.
- As of September month-end, donations to the general fund continue to be less than expenses.

	<u>General Fund Revenues</u>	<u>General Fund Expenses</u>
September	\$22,267.10	\$24,469.28
YTD	\$199,415.40	\$222,616.09

- Sam reported to the Session that information from the PCUSA Board of Pensions had been received. For 2018, a mandatory 0.5% increase for Health Care has been assessed. The increase was approved by the Session and will be voted on by the congregation at the meeting October 1, 2017.

Property – The donor who wishes to finance repairs to the basketball court has been informed to move forward with repairs.

Youth Christian Education – The trip to Busch Gardens has been pushed to October 28, 2017. A \$20 stipend from the Youth discretionary fund will be used to reduce the individual cost to \$25 per youth.

Pastor’s Report – Highlights of the pastor’s report include:

- Don and Debbie Sturgis and Allen Fosmire joined the church on September 17, 2017
- Cindy, Lynch, the new church secretary began employment on October 1, 2017
- Upcoming vacation: October 22 – 24 - Joe Martinelli will preach; December 26-28



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; **Virginia Moore**, at Brookdale Assisted Living in Smithfield; **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*; **Patsy Bowman**, member; **Joanne Boyle**, *Bob Zattiero's niece*; **Lisa Bradshaw**, member of the community; **Ann Hargis**, community; **Consuelo Hawkins**, *Joe Hawkins' mother*; **Carol Mayben**, *Sandy Kopanski's sister-in-law*; **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*; **Sandy Kopanski**, member; **Harley Kremer**, *Andrea Jones 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*.

Concerns: **Harley Kremer**, *Charity Arrington, friend of Georgeanna Phillips*; **Charles Miller**, *Donna Stolle's brother, still missing in Orlando*

Our Christian Sympathies are extended to the families of:

Jerry Gilchrist, *nephew of Becky Kleaver*
Randy Johnson, *son of Sallie Johnson*
Stuart Kremer, *extended family of Andrea Jones*

Birthdays & Anniversaries

November Anniversaries

- 8 Dick and Pat Embrey
12 Johnny and Elaine Wood
13 Shepherd and Brenda Byrd
17 John and Sandy Kopanski
21 Todd and Barbie Frickman
24 Randy and Ann Benson
27 Steve and Beth Wolak
28 Jonathan and Carole Kershaw

November Birthdays

- 2 Kimsey Bagley
Joey Crocker
3 Gwen Walton
6 Nathan Reed
7 Ann Benson
Chloe Frickman
9 Gary Phillips
10 Hannah Stephenson
11 Virginia Moore
12 Rosyval Walton
15 Jane Ashley Porter
20 Alex Nooney
21 Candace Creech
22 Darren Stuart
23 William Blair
24 Chris Roberts
26 Jeffrey Wood
27 Audrey Whitley
Megan Sherrill
30 Laura McLamb



Pastor
Rev. Jim Davis

Session
Class of 2017

Tony Bryant - Long-Range Planning
David Collier - Fellowship
Barri Martin - Youth Christian Education
Donna Stolle - Worship

Class of 2018
Sam Stephenson – Finance
Kent Walton – Congregational Care
Atlee Roberts – Adult Christian Education
Russell Wood – Property

Class of 2019
Vickie Faircloth – Children C.E.
John Kopanski – Mission & Outreach
Mary Ann Booth – Clerk

Church Staff

Secretary
Cindy Lynch

Accounting Treasurer
Kristy Stephenson

Collections Treasurer
Ann Benson

Music Director/ Organist/Pianist
Brittany Jones

Pianist
Angie Searcy

Website
David Nelms

Newsletter
Cindy Lynch

Usher Coordinator
Russell Wood

NOVEMBER EVENTS AND SCHEDULES

November Assisting In Worship

NURSERY

5 Mary Langdon & Beth Pickens
12 Eric & Lori Smith
19 Jonathan Breeden & Emma Phillips
26 Elaine Wood

USHERS

5 David Collier, Ronnie Creech & John Daniel
12 Carlos Bagley, Don Dupree & Gary Phillips
19 Atlee Roberts, Jimmy Stuart & Rick Taylor
26 Wayne Lamm, Steve Wolak & Riley Wood

ACOLYTE

5 Charlotte Wood
12 Hannibal Langdon
19 Connor Frickman
26 Joey Crocker

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

5 Amy Dupree
12 Amy Dupree
19 Amy Dupree
26 Kristy Stephenson

ELDER

Mary Ann Booth

November Upcoming Events

- Nov 1.** Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
Fellowship Committee Meeting 7:00 pm
- Nov 3.** Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
- Nov 5.** Harvest Sunday
LOGOS 5:00 -7:00 pm
- Nov 6.** Congregational Care Meeting 10:00am
- Nov 7.** Card Ministry 10:00am
- Nov 8.** Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
- Nov 10.** Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
- Nov 12.** Stewardship Sunday
- Nov 14.** Senior Luncheon Mt. Zion Church - noon
- Nov 15.** Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
- Nov 16** Card Ministry Prep Team I LaVette Morgan's 1:00
- Nov 17.** Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
- Nov 19.** Barium Springs Offering
- Nov 22.** Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
- Nov 23.** Thanksgiving - Office Closed
- Nov 24.** Office Closed
- Nov 25.** Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
- Nov 29.** Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm