

# PRESBYTERIANS AT THE CROSSROADS

Providence Presbyterian Church

September 2017



## From the Pastor's Study...

September is upon us and fall is just around the corner! Here at Providence we have a calendar chocked full of activities. September ushers in, our Sunday evening LOGOS program of food - fun - fellowship -foundational Scripture lessons begin on 17th, Seniors luncheon on the 12th, and the Youth BBQ fundraiser on the 22nd. Some of us may even take that one last vacation while it's still warm, yet some of us have begun planning for Thanksgiving and even Christmas. Yes, that's right - only 16 weeks until presents are unwrapped under the tree!

This month's scripture lesson comes from 1 Timothy 6:12-16, where Paul speaks of faith as something to fight and struggle with. Paul also points out that we are all to make a "confession in the presence of many witnesses" whether this is to be understood as our public confession before our church family during our own baptism or our testimony as witness to the world - it means we are to be active and vocal in our faith and proclaim what God has done for us all. For all that we do and all that we say is in the presence of our LORD God. Christian integrity then becomes central to our lives - for this means keeping God the main thing in our lives and not just some interloper who shows up only when we get in trouble. Paul paints a much larger image of God as "Sovereign", "King of Kings", Lord of Lords", and "...dwells in unapproachable light".

Our LORD God is thankfully far greater than the sum total of all our problems combined. I am comforted by the knowledge that our "Sovereign" God is in control of all things and that even though I might not understand the events in my life - God is still God and has all things well in hand.

(Continued on Page 2)

## September Scripture Passage

*<sup>12</sup> Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. <sup>13</sup> In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you <sup>14</sup> to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup> which he will bring about at the right time-- he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. <sup>16</sup> It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.*

**1 Timothy 6:12-16**



## 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).

(Continued from Page 1)

May we encourage others to seek God in their lives for it is our Christian witness and calling to do so. God has given Providence Presbyterian Church many opportunities to reach out to others and proclaim the Gospel – let us continue to pray diligently that our church continues to recognize all the opportunities God places in our path.

May the Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift His countenance upon you, and give you peace.

Your Brother in Christ,  
Rev. Jim Davis



### VOTE ON FUTURE DENOMINATION

In the coming weeks, you will receive a letter from the Session inviting you to meet on separate occasions with representatives of two Presbyterian denominations – ECO and EPC. A Congregational vote will be held shortly after these meetings to determine which denomination the majority of members prefer. Please be alert to future communications from the Session about this upcoming opportunity.

### 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 same as current process. If you have questions on this new policy please contact David Collier at 919-625-3026 or [davidcollier123@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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.



### Updates

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](mailto:ppchurchsecretary@gmail.com) and the office number is 919-894-4063.



**BEGINS SEPTEMBER 17  
COME JOIN THE FUN!**

**Registration is now open at  
[www.providencepresb.org](http://www.providencepresb.org)**

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. Please register online at [www.providencepresb.org](http://www.providencepresb.org) or look for signup form in Sunday's Bulletin.

**September 17 Activities** - Several special activities will take place during our first meeting.

- **Children/Youth Christmas play practice** will be held beginning at 5:00 pm during Worship Arts time in the Choir Room and
- **Acolyte Training** will be held during Bible Study Time in the Sanctuary beginning at 5:30 pm for children in grades K-5.

If you feel called to serve in this ministry please contact Kristy Stephenson or Vickie Faircloth.

## PROVIDENCE YOUTH BBQ

The Youth BBQ will be held on **Friday, September 22, 2017**. We will need everyone's help to pull this wonderful fundraiser off successfully for our youth! There will be signup sheets in the Fellowship Hall and on the PPC information wall.

Any questions related to the BBQ can be directed to Scott Martin: [martin4nc@gmail.com](mailto:martin4nc@gmail.com) or Eric Faircloth: [ericfaircloth@embarqmail.com](mailto:ericfaircloth@embarqmail.com)

**September 22, 2017**

**11:00 am to 7:00 pm**

**Proceeds Support Youth Activities and  
Capital Campaign**

**\$8.00 per ticket**

**Plate of BBQ, Boiled Potatoes, Slaw  
and Dessert**



## BBQ BAKE SALE ITEMS NEEDED

In conjunction with the Youth BBQ, the PPC Women will hold a Bake Sale on **September 22, 2017 11:00 am to 7:00 pm**. Bake Sale items available at drive-thru and inside Fellowship Hall. Help will be needed to staff both. Please contact Carolyn Stevenson at 919-219-6105 or Carole Kershaw at [clkandjlk@yahoo.com](mailto:clkandjlk@yahoo.com) if you can volunteer or would like to donate items. We need lots of brownies, cakes, cookies, snack mix or whatever you would like to bake and donate.



## CARD MINISTRY

The next Card Ministry meeting will be on **Tuesday, September 5 at 10:00 am** in the Upper Fellowship Hall.

The Card Ministry Prep Team II will meet at LaVette Morgan's home on **Thursday, September 21 at 1:00 pm.**



## SENIOR CITIZEN LUNCHEON

The next Senior Citizens Luncheon will be on **Tuesday, September 12 at 12:00 (noon)** at **Johnson Memorial Church**. Please let Margie Taylor know by Wednesday, September 6, so that the cooks have an accurate headcount for food prep. You may contact Margie at 919-207-0149 or margieataylor@aol.com.



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The Presbyterian Women Day Circle and Evening Circle will meet in a Joint Circle Meeting on **Tuesday, September 19 at 7:00 pm** in the Upper Fellowship Hall. Our study will be "**Cloud of Witnesses - The Community of Christ in Hebrews.**"

All women of Providence Church are welcome to attend.

Day Circle - Bible Study  
Night Circle - Refreshments

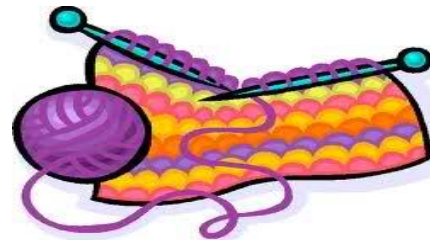


## PRAYER SHAWL CIRCLE

Prayer Shawl Circle starts back this month!!  
Please join us on  
**Tuesday, September 26**

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 will be in the Upper parking lot. Come join us **Wednesdays and Fridays at 10:00 am.**



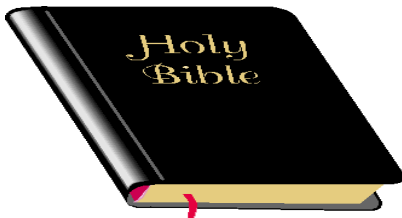
## FELLOWSHIP TIME REMINDER

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](mailto:davidcollier123@yahoo.com) or you can call him at 919-625-3026.



## LAY READERS SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER

September 3	Joe Martinelli
September 10	Donna Stolle
September 17	Doug Sonderfan
September 24	Kim Bagley



## SEARCH FOR CHURCH SECRETARY

The Session has begun its search for a new part-time secretary. The part-time job is posted on Johnston County Today – formerly 40/42 – and on the church website under "Employment." Please tell everyone you know whom you think would be interested in the position. Direct them to the church website as the easiest way to apply. The website is <http://www.providencepresb.org/>. Closing date is **September 15.**



## MISSION & OUTREACH COMMITTEE

We will be collecting health and hygiene items for **Military Missions in Action (MMIA)**. A list is included below and will also be posted on our bulletin board. Items collected are for their **Fill the Locker Program** for homeless veterans and will be handed out at the Homeless Veterans Stand Down. This event is held in Raleigh on **October 27, 2017**. **Please place your donated items in the designated container outside the Upper Fellowship Hall.**



These items are needed for low to no income veterans:

Packaged Hand Sanitizers	Conditioner	Shower Shoes
Baby Wipes	Lotion	Laundry Bags
Toothpaste	Combs/Brushes	Clothing
Toothbrushes	Chapstick	Tennis Shoes/Boots
Mouthwash	Razors	Carrying Bags
Deodorant	Q-Tips	Wash Cloths
Shampoo	Fingernail Clippers	

## THANK YOU "KITCHEN CREW"

We would like to give a gracious thank you to the "Kitchen Crew" for their many years of service. They have planned and prepared all of the meals for the Children and Youth programs at Providence including the Pioneers Program, VBS, LOGOS and many other Children and Youth related activities for over 10 years. They have also coordinated, cooked and served during the Chicken Pastry fundraiser for many years as well. Their Christian service and love have been greatly appreciated. The "Kitchen Crew" has decided to take a break from LOGOS this year. If you see a member of the "Kitchen Crew" let them know how much their service has been a blessing to Providence.

If you feel led to help in this ministry, please contact:

Vickie Faircloth, CCE Elder  
vickiefaircloth@yahoo.com or 919-902-1407



THANK  
YOU

## Highlights of Minutes of Stated Session Meeting August 14, 2017

### Communications

The Session received a letter from Stephanie Bagley announcing her desire to step down from the Session. An acknowledgement was sent to Stephanie expressing the Sessions regrets and thanking her for her service. A note of thanks and a love offering from the congregation was sent to Kim Callis, our former church secretary.

Providence was contacted by the local Girl Scout Council about the potential for holding meetings at the church of a proposed new troop.

### Action Items

Fellowship – A motion was approved to cover lodging and travel expenses for Steve Dupree, our Homecoming preacher.

Gracious Dismissal – Session approved plans to educate the congregation about the two Presbyterian denominations identified by a 2015 discernment committee whose core theological tenets and beliefs most closely match those of Providence. Plans include having speakers from presbyteries of both ECO and EPC come speak to the congregation and answer questions following worship on two Sundays in the near future. A congregational vote will be held to allow the congregation to determine by majority vote which denomination it favors. Communications about the meetings and the denominations will be mailed out in advanced.

Property – Session approved the design for construction of five (5) benches to be placed around the upper parking lot. Scout Spencer Campbell will build the benches.

Children's Christian Education – Session approved a five (5) week course of materials for Children's Worship that corresponds to the Christmas program.

Personnel – A motion passed to pay Angie Searcy her monthly salary during the month she will be absent following the birth of her child. Annual review for staff will be conducted in September. Session approved plans to advertise for a new part-time secretary. Kent Walton and Johnny Wood will co-chair the search committee.

### Committee Updates

Adult Christian Education – The Presbyterian Women will sponsor a Women's Conference at the church on Saturday, February 10, 2018. The half-day event will be held in the new fellowship hall and will include lunch.

Children's Christian Education – Session was advised that the organizers of LOGOS, which begins on September 17, 2017, are working to find cooks. The crew that previously prepared food for LOGOS has announced its plan to step down at this time. Approximately 75 people are fed at each LOGOS event. Volunteers will be sought to fill in on a rotating basis.

Finance - Sam Stephenson presented a detailed financial report updated through July, 2017. The church continues to experience a short-fall in general fund giving versus expenses. July and year-to-date figures:

	<u>General Fund Revenues</u>	<u>General Fund Expenses</u>
July	\$21,336.34	\$25,994.27
YTD	\$159,731.30	\$176,227.47

Property – A sign is planned for the entrance to the upper parking lot to advise that trucks (tractor) are not permitted.

Worship – A survey will be used to solicit input from the congregation regarding its thoughts about how to relieve overcrowding in the sanctuary.

Youth Christian Education – The Youth BBQ is set for Friday, September 22, 2017 from 11 -7 pm.

Pastor's Report – Highlights of his report:

Rev. Davis reminded Session of the September 18, 2017 Budget Meeting

Personal Leave – Rev. Davis will be on vacation September 27 - 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*; **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*; **Patsy Bowman**, member; **Joanne Boyle**, *Bob Zattiero's niece*; **Lisa Bradshaw**, member of the community; **Ann Hargis**, member of community; **Consuelo Hawkins**, *Joe Hawkins' mother*; **Luke Jordan**, friend of *Christina Jones*; **Carol Mayben**, *Sandy Kopanski's sister-in-law*; **Harold Pitman**, *Joyce Lamm's brother*; **Dina Poole**, *Becky Kleaver's daughter-in-law*; **Art Redmond**, husband of *Pat Embrey's niece*; **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*; **Randy Benson**, member; **Velma and Ray Bost**, *Heath White's grandparents*; **Worth Bowman**, member; **Charlie & Mary Burke**, *Steve Wolak's parents*; **Shepherd Byrd**, member; **Elise Corona**, daughter of friend of *Sue Bryant*; **Lynn Cross**, member; **Joan Daniel**, *John Daniel's mother*; **Wanda Johnson Dupree**, previous member; **Gayla Edmond**, *Stephanie Wood's mom*; **Coby Foreman**, church family; **Hugo Harris**, member of the community; **Sandy Kopanski**, member; **Stuart Kremer**, friend of *Andrea Jones*; **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*; **Kathy Rose**, friend of *Kim Schmidt*; **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**, *Andrea Jones niece*, has a heart condition; **Charles Miller**, *Donna Stolle's brother*, still missing in Orlando

### **Our Christian Sympathies are extended to the families of:**

**Norbert Kopanski**, *John Kopanski's father*  
**Juanita Honeycutt**, *Elaine Wood's aunt*  
**Justin Cole Bennett**, *member of the community*  
**Rose Stephenson Hollingsworth**, *member of the community*



## ***Birthdays & Anniversaries***

### **September Anniversaries**

- 8 David and Lisa Nelms  
9 Ronnie and JoAnn Creech  
10 Eric and Christina Jones  
17 Eric and Vickie Faircloth  
Brent and Lindsey Frampton  
19 Richard and Andrea Jones  
22 Melvin and Mary Langdon  
Ken and Sandra Lordi

### **September Birthdays**

- 1 Sue Bryant  
Stephanie Whitley  
Carolyn Stuart  
4 Kaitlin White  
5 Dorothy Nesselrodt  
Steve Wolak  
6 Rich Lambert  
10 David Collier  
Jessica Narron  
11 Nell Franke  
12 Joseph Phillips  
14 Stephanie Bagley  
Hannah Bullock  
16 Bobbie Langdon  
Mary Elaine Wood  
19 Ken Lordi  
Ashton Stuart  
21 Brock Nelms  
Meadow Creech  
22 William Stephenson  
28 Pat Embrey  
Haley Jones  
30 Nathan Dry



### **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*

#### *Accounting Treasurer*

Kristy Stephenson

#### *Collections Treasurer*

Ann Benson

#### *Music Director/ Organist/Pianist*

Brittany Jones

#### *Pianist*

Angie Searcy

#### *Website*

David Nelms

#### *Newsletter*

#### *Usher Coordinator*

Russell Wood

# SEPTEMBER EVENTS AND SCHEDULES

## September Assisting In Worship

### NURSERY

3	Mary Langdon & Carolyn Stuart
10	Jonathan Breeden & Emma Phillips
17	Christina Jones & Mary Wood
24	Eric & Lori Smith

### USHERS

3	David Collier & Ronnie Creech, John Kopanski (Back)
10	Tony Bryant & John Daniel, Riley Wood (Back)
17	Rick Taylor & Gary Phillips, Steve Wolak (Back)
24	Carlos Bagley & Jeffrey Wood, Ryan Nelms (Back)

### ACOLYTE

3	Hannibal Langdon
10	Connor Frickman
17	Joey Crocker
24	Kimsey Bagley

### CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

3	No Children's Worship
10	Stephanie Whitley & Kevin Creech
17	Kristy & Chris Stephenson
24	Stephanie Whitley & Kevin Creech

### ELDER

Atlee Roberts

## September Upcoming Events

- Sep 1. Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
- Sep 4. Labor Day/Office Closed
- Sep 5. Card Ministry 10:00 am Upper Fellowship Hall  
Long Range Planning/  
Worship 7:00 pm
- Sep 6. Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am  
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
- Sep 8. Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
- Sep 11. Session Meeting 7:00 pm
- Sep 12. Senior Citizens Luncheon 12:00 pm  
Johnson Memorial Church  
M&O Monthly Visit to Stagecoach  
Manor Residents at Universal &  
Pinecrest
- Sep 13. Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am  
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
- Sep 15. Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
- Sep 17. LOGOS 5:00 -7:00 pm
- Sep 18. Budget Meeting 7:00 pm
- Sep 19. Presbyterian Women Joint Circle 7:00 pm
- Sep 20. Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am  
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
- Sep 21. Card Ministry Prep Team II 1:00 pm  
at LaVette Morgan's home
- Sep 22. Youth BBQ and Bake Sale  
11:00 am – 7:00 pm
- Sep 24. Teacher Recognition
- Sep 26. Prayer Shawl 10:00 am Lower Fellowship
- Sep 27. Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am  
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
- Sep 28. Mission & Outreach Meeting 11:00 am
- Sep 29. Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am