

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
DECEMBER 31, 2017

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude and Acolyte

Call to Worship (From Psalm 76:1) Brittany Jones

Leader: *Glorious are you, more majestic than the everlasting mountains.*

People: *At your rebuke, O God of Jacob, both rider and horse lay stunned.*

Leader: *But you indeed are awesome!*

People: *Who can stand before you when once your anger is roused?*

Leader: *From the heavens you uttered judgment;*

People: *to save all the oppressed of the earth. Selah*

Leader: *Make vows to the LORD your God, and perform them;*

People: *let all who are around him bring gifts to the one who is awesome.*

All: *God is known, His name is great, Amen!*

***Opening Hymn** "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" # 59

Confession of Sin (In Unison)

Almighty God, we come before You this day to confess our unworthiness and sinful actions. You have called us to be Your people and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ. We confess that we have not lived up to our calling. Hear our prayer and transform us through Your awesome Holy Spirit. We place too much importance on that which is temporary and are blind to the eternal hope of the Gospel. You call us to the higher vision of Your love and grace through Christ our risen Lord. Forgive us for our lack of vision and short sighted behavior. Open our eyes this moment, may the Holy Spirit convict our hearts so that we might embrace our Christian calling to Your higher vision for us.

Silence for Personal Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: *The Messiah is come and let the heavens sing!*

People: *Glory to God, through the Christ-child we are redeemed!*

***Responsive Hymn** "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" # 190

***Affirmation of Faith** (Back cover of Blue Hymnal)
"The Apostle's Creed"

***Passing of the Peace of Christ** (please begin the pew pads)

Giving of His Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

***Doxology**

Hymn # 34

Prayer of Dedication

First Scripture Lesson

Matthew 2:1-12

Anthem

"Praise To The King"

Providence Choir

Musical Interlude for Children's Worship

(Children ages 4 thru 5th grade led by Kristy Stephenson)

Morning Prayers and The Lord's Prayer

Second Scripture Lesson

Matthew 2:13-21

Sermon

"Re-Gifting the Gospel"

Rev. Jim Davis

***Dedication Hymn**

"Go Tell It On the Mountain"

218

***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

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³ "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." **Matthew 1:18-23**

Ministers of Providence Presbyterian Church

The People of Providence Presbyterian Church

Pastor

Rev. Jim Davis

Session

Class of 2017

<i>Long Range Planning</i>	<i>Fellowship</i>	<i>Youth C.E.</i>	<i>Worship</i>
Tony Bryant	David Collier	Barri Martin	Donna Stolle

Class of 2018

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

Class of 2019

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

Staff

Accounting Treasurer

Kristy 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

Year-to-Date General Fund Receipts (thru Nov 30).....	\$238,985.46
Year-to-Date General Fund Expenses (thru Nov 30)	\$268,214.36
General Fund Receipts for Nov 30	\$19,444.36
General Fund Expenses for Nov 30	\$21,450.39
Total General Fund Receipts for December	\$28,786.81
General Fund Receipts for December 24	\$5,559.75
Capital Reserve Account	\$84,742.54
Loan Balance as of November 30.....	\$978,497.29
Attendance for Sunday School December 24	27
Attendance for Worship December 24	118



SERVICE SCHEDULE

Assisting in Worship this Sunday:

Elder of the Month/Greeter: Kent Walton
Ushers: Elaine Wood, Vickie Faircloth and Mary Wood (Back)
Acolyte: Ava Wood
Nursery: Jonathan Breeden & Emma Phillips
Children's Worship: Kristy Stephenson
Lay Reader: Brittany Jones
Fellowship Time: Fellowship committee

Assisting in Worship next Sunday, January 7

Elder of the Month/Greeter: John Kopanski
Ushers: Carlos Bagley, Austin Benson & Pete Booth (back)
Acolyte: Gavin Annis
Nursery: Chris & Kristy Stephenson
Children's Worship: Beth Breeden
Lay Reader: Mary Ann Booth
Fellowship Time: Young Adult Class

CHURCH CALENDAR

Today at Providence:

9:45 am: Sunday School
10:25 am: Fellowship Time
11:00 am: Worship Service

Weekly Events:

Jan. 1. New Year's Day, Office closed
Jan. 3. Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
Jan 4. Mission & Outreach meeting 11:00 am
Jan. 5. Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am

Upcoming Events:

Jan. 7. Congregational Meeting and Vote
Jan. 9. Senior Luncheon at Noon
M&O Stagecoach Visit 1:00
Jan. 10. Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
Jan. 12. Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am

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

PRAYER LIST OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

JOYS: With God as our Leader may we be prepared to live another year under His guidance.

CONCERNS: Continued prayers for Laura McLamb, Carole Kershaw, and the Sonderfan family. Also, Patsy Bowman and family as they mourn the loss of Patsy's sister, Sarah Mulcahay.

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:

Charity Arrington, friend of *Georgianna*; **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; **Ashley Faircloth**, niece of *Laura McLamb*; **Becky Hall**, friend of *Carolyn Johnson*; **Ann Hargis**, community; **Consuelo Hawkins**, *Joe Hawkins' mother*; **Carol Mayben**, *Sandy Kopanski's sister-in-law*; **Laura McLamb**, member; **Ken Page**, family of *Atlee and Linda Roberts*; **Linda Stangl**, friend of *Miriam Lambert*; **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*. **Candy Weaver**, friend of *Amanda McLamb*

Persons with Ongoing Health Concerns, including:

Nancy Allen, *Sheila Dupree's mom*; **Sara Barber**, *Vickie Faircloth's mother*; **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; **George Johnson**, *Debbie Sturgis' father*; **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*; **Kathy Rose**, friend of *Kim Schmidt*; **Marie Rouse**, delivery driver's wife; **Barbara Walton**, member; and **John Wright**, *Christiane Nooney's father*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congregational Meeting and Vote January 7, 2018

All members are asked to be present next Sunday for this important meeting. The Presbytery of New Hope requires that we formally express our desire to be dismissed from the PCUSA denomination by congregational vote. We require a minimum of 50% of all members to be on hand. Please plan to stay after worship next Sunday for this critical vote on the future of Providence.

Should church be cancelled next Sunday because of bad road conditions, the meeting and vote will be held the following Sunday, January 14, 2018.

Donations of Stock and Other Securities can now be accepted by the Church. To make a donation or obtain more information, please contact Ann Benson, Collections Treasurer.

The Senior Luncheon is planned for January 9th at Providence Presbyterian Church at noon. Please let me know by Thursday the 4th if you plan to attend so that I can plan how much food to have. We are taking donations of desserts if you would like to bring one. Contact Margie Taylor at 919-207-0149 or margieataylor@aol.com.

Our Chapter of Providence Presbyterian Women is planning a Ladies' Day for February 10, 2018. It will be a day of fellowship and worship. Starting from 8 am until 9 am, we will have a Continental Breakfast and fellowship in the Upper Fellowship Hall. We will then move to the Sanctuary to hear a phenomenal speaker, Phyllis Elvington. We will end with a wonderful luncheon. Cost will only be \$20 and you can sign up on line at the Providence Presbyterian Church website. You can then send a check to the church payable to Providence Presbyterian Church with "Ladies' Day" in the memo line. We hope that you will plan to come for this wonderful day. For more information, you can contact Margie Taylor at margieataylor@aol.com or Cathy Simmons at cesimmons112@gmail.com.

Fellowship and Fitness Walking Group -- Are you wanting to walk off your holiday celebration? Join us Wednesday and Friday mornings at 10:00 am in the Upper Fellowship Hall. All are Welcome!

High School Youth -- Mountain trip January 26 – 28. The youth will travel to Banner Elk, NC for a wonderful weekend of fun and fellowship with opportunities to snow ski, snow tube, and see the spectacular sights of our North Carolina Mountains. Please contact Eric Faircloth for further details.

Safety/Security Team -- Anyone interested in learning more and helping; please contact Kent Walton or David Collier.

Food Pantry and Backpack Buddies -- Please bring your food donations for these worthy ministries and place them in the blue bin near the foyer doors leading into the Upper Fellowship Hall. While all donations are appreciated, the most needed items are given below.

BACKPACK BUDDIES MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

- 1) individual serving/packets of 100% fruit juice
- 2) fruit cups (applesauce, peaches, pears)
- 3) individual serving packets of oatmeal/grits
- 4) soup

FOOD PANTRY MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1) sugar | 2) flour |
| 3) paper towels | 4) toilet paper |
| 5) clothes washing detergent | 6) dish washing detergent |

Mission & Outreach -- Our December meeting is now scheduled for Thursday, January 4, 2018. Please meet at 11:00 am in the Seekers Room.

The 2018 Flower Sign-Up Sheet -- Is now available on the "Sign-Up" bulletin board. Instructions are posted under the sign-up sheet. If you have any questions, please contact Beth Pickens. Thank you to the congregation for your years of support adorning our sanctuary with fresh flowers. A major debt of gratitude is due Beth for her twelve years of overseeing this ministry. Thank you Beth!

Reminders -- Please contact Cindy Lynch at 919-894-4063 or ppchurchsecretary@gmail.com if you need to: Add or remove anyone from the prayer list, schedule use of the old or new fellowship hall or directory updates.

Please Note -- The Bulletin deadline is **Noon Thursday** if you wish for an announcement to appear in the bulletin for the upcoming Sunday. The Newsletter items deadline is the **23rd** of the month.