

# PRESBYTERIANS AT THE CROSSROADS

Providence Presbyterian Church

August 2017



## From the Pastor's Study...

In the midst of this summer's heat God blessed us in so many ways! God's blessings truly overflowed here at Providence last month with celebration of Jesus Christ in the form of Vacation Bible School. What a joy it is to share the love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ to those in our community and our church family. And so a big Thank you! and well done to all who made this year's Vacation Bible School an awesome success.

In August's scripture passage, Psalm 25:8-11, the psalmist writes "All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness". From even the time of King David our God is a faithful and loving God who calls humanity to lives of faith and love - for ourselves, each other and especially in God. The psalmist writes of humility and being taught God's ways, which are all too often not our own. As we live each day, God encourages us to seek God's ways which uplift and encourage humanity to remember God's covenant that calls each one of us to love each other through example of Christ. Our paths as Christians are paved with fruits of the Holy Spirit as well as the fractured speed bumps from our own sinfulness which is why we are to cling to the Lord Almighty. Only God leads us in what is right and good - through lives of humility and instruction from the Bible and each others fellowship we might realize the kingdom of heaven.

Today's church of Jesus Christ has so many opportunities to engage the complex culture it finds itself in. Our Lord God has given Providence Presbyterian Church many opportunities to reach out to others and proclaim the Gospel message of God's higher law of love - let us continue to pray diligently that our church continues to recognize the doors of opportunity God places in our path.

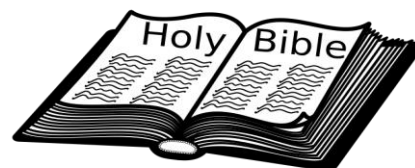
This month let us meditate on this message from our Savior and seek the things of life which are truly important - that which involves our own hearts, the hearts of others, and our relationship with God. May our hearts reflect the love of God to all those we meet.

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## August Scripture Passage

<sup>8</sup> ...Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. <sup>9</sup> He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble in his way. <sup>10</sup> All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees. <sup>11</sup> For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great.

**Psalm 25:8-11**



## 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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As this summer winds down and the cooler days of fall become more abundant, let's come together in prayer and conversation as we discern God's plan for the days to come. Please pray for our church's future, our church family, our session, and our pastor – that we may follow our Lord God's will more nearly day by day.

May the God of Grace strengthen you, may the love of Jesus lift you up, and may the power of the Holy Spirit empower you with the peace that passes all understanding, Amen.

Your Brother in Christ,  
Rev. Jim Davis



## 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](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 let Kim Callis know by email at [secretary@providencepresb.org](mailto:secretary@providencepresb.org) 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 [secretary@providencepresb.org](mailto:secretary@providencepresb.org) and the office number is 919-894-4063.



Praise the Lord! Our 2017 Vacation Bible School was a huge success and tremendous outreach to both our church and community! Children, youth, and adults have all enjoyed a week full of learning through a study of Maker Fun Factory. We spent the week learning about how we were Created by God and Built for a Purpose. Below is our breakdown of our attendance for each night.

<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>76 Children/Youth 63 Teachers/Helpers</b>	<b>8 Adults in Bible Study Total: 156</b>
<b>Monday:</b>	<b>86 Children/Youth 68 Teacher/Helpers</b>	<b>11 Adults in Bible Study Total: 161</b>
<b>Tuesday:</b>	<b>83 Children/Youth 70 Teacher/Helpers</b>	<b>12 Adults in Bible Study Total: 170</b>
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>88 Children/Youth 70 Teacher/Helpers</b>	<b>9 Adults in Bible Study Total: 151</b>
<b>Thursday:</b>	<b>82 Children/Youth 67 Teacher/Helpers</b>	<b>10 Adults in Bible Study Total: 162</b>

**We would like to thank EVERYONE who volunteered their time and talents, donated items, and offered up prayer support for “Maker Fun Factory”. There are not enough words to express our gratitude for all that you did to make VBS a success!**

### 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.



### PRAYER SHAWL CIRCLE AUGUST 2017

We do not meet in the summer. Our next gathering after the summer will be on the fourth Tuesday in September 2017. Anyone interested in crocheting and/or just meeting together for fellowship is welcome to participate at any time.



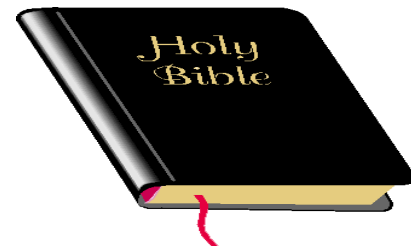
### SENIOR CITIZEN LUNCHEON

The next Senior Citizens Luncheon will be on Tuesday, August 8 at 12:00 (noon) at Providence Presbyterian Church. Please let Margie Taylor know by Wednesday, August 2, so that the cooks have an accurate headcount for food prep. You may contact Margie at 919-207-0149 or [margieataylor@aol.com](mailto:margieataylor@aol.com).



### LAY READERS SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST

August 6	Israel Morrow
August 13	Donna Stolle
August 20	Travis Creech
August 27	Justin Wood



## MISSION & OUTREACH COMMITTEE

**Mission & Outreach** – The Mission & Outreach Committee would like to thank the congregation for your generous financial donations to assist the residents of Stagecoach Manor. Your generosity provided nearly \$500. The M&O Committee will continue meeting with the residents to assess their needs so that your donations can be used to best suit each individual. Again, thank you all and please keep the residents in your prayers.



## CARD MINISTRY

The next Card Ministry meeting will be on Tuesday, August 1 at 10:00 am.

The Card Ministry Prep Team I will meet at LaVette Morgan's home on Thursday, August 24 at 1:00 pm.



## FELLOWSHIP & FITNESS GROUP

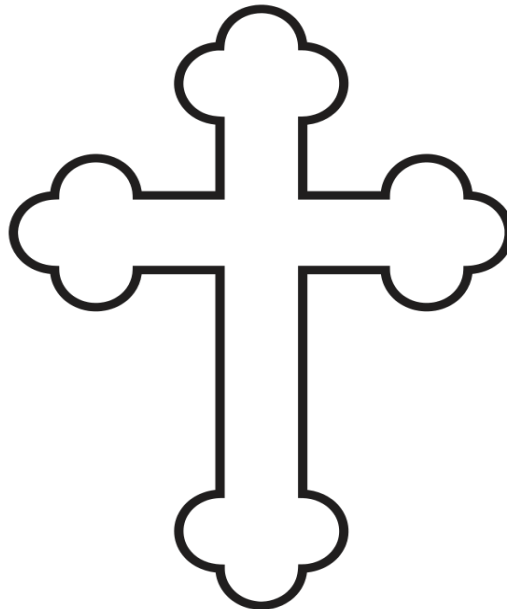
The Fellowship & Fitness Walking Group WILL meet for the Summer. We are so fortunate to be able to walk inside when it rains or is hot, otherwise will be in the Upper parking lot. Come join us Wednesdays and Fridays at 10:00 am.



It is with great honor that I, Kim Callis want to thank all of you here at PPC for allowing me to be part of your church as your secretary for the last two plus years. I have accepted a position at Wake Technical Community College and my last day will be Thursday, August 3. God has blessed me with getting to know many of you and I pray He will continue to grow this beautiful church as a light to the community. Thank you all for your kindness.

**Search for Church Secretary** – As most of you have heard by now, August 3 will be Kim’s last day as our church secretary. The Session asks for your help as we begin our search for someone to fill the position. We ask you to do two things:

1. Tell everyone you know whom you think would be interested in the position. Ask them to send their resume and a cover letter to the church in care of the Personnel Committee.
2. Consider volunteering to help with secretarial duties until the position is filled. Please let Rev. Davis or Mary Ann Booth know if you can assist. Task that you can help with:
  - Volunteering to take a shift to answer phones from 9 AM until 1:00 on a weekday
  - Helping Rev. Davis compose the weekly bulletin (update service schedule, announcements, etc.)
  - Photocopying of the bulletin each week
  - Putting together the monthly newsletter
  - Changing the sign in front of the church



## Highlights from Minutes of Stated Session Meeting July 10, 2017

### Action Items

- Motion from Youth Christian Education – Session approved a motion to permit a fundraiser for the Youth Ministry. The proceeds will be used to fund youth missions, retreats, and activities.
- Motion from Mission & Outreach – A motion was approved to add two new procedures related to the Food Pantry to the church policy manual.
- Gracious Dismissal - Plans for Congregational Vote on New Denomination – The Session agreed to move forward with plans to hold a congregational vote to determine the denomination we will transfer to after dismissal from PCUSA. A subcommittee was formed to develop information and a communications plan. As part of the communications, the Session will present its recommendation. The Session set a goal of holding the congregational vote in August.

### Committee Updates

Adult Christian Education - Session was informed of the plans by the Presbyterian Women to sponsor a Women's Event at the church on a yet to be determined Saturday in January or February of 2018. Additional details will be shared as available.

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

	<u>General Fund Revenues</u>	<u>General Fund Expenses</u>
June	\$22,397.51	\$24,710.11
YTD	\$138,394.96	\$150,233.20

Mission & Outreach – The committee will continue its monthly meeting with residents of Stage Coach Manor. They will meet with residents at the two locations where they are now residing.

Property – It was reported that the two doors that flank the double doors providing entry to the foyer outside the new fellowship hall were found unlocked. These doors should never be unlocked.

Worship – A meeting is planned with the ushers to provide additional training. The Committee seeks recommendations for a solution to an issue with the floral arrangement. The arrangement is blocking visibility for people seated on the left side of the pulpit.

Long Range Planning – The committee will work with the Worship committee to create an implementation plan in anticipation of a need for two worship services to accommodate more people.

Pastor's Report – Highlights from the report:

- Rev. Davis continues to meet with visitors who are interested in our church
- The Blood Drive held on June 16, 2017 was a success
- Personal Leave – Rev. Davis provided this schedule for dates during 2017:
  - September 27-28 – vacation
  - October 22-24 – vacation
  - December 26-28 – vacation

**Gracious Dismissal Update from the SCC** - The Special Committee of the Congregation (SCC) received word on Friday, July 28, 2017 that the Presbytery of New Hope has appointed a Presbytery Engagement Team (PET). The PET will negotiate with your SCC the terms of our dismissal from PCUSA. The PET, we are told, will be the same individuals who served on the Presbytery Discernment Team that met with the congregation earlier this year. Members of the Providence SCC are Kristy Stephenson, Jeff Wood, Steve Nordan, and Mary Ann Booth.

**Steps Completed:**

1. In early June, the SCC mailed our response to the Presbytery's Request for Information to Ed McLeod, the chair of the Presbytery Discernment Team.
2. The SCC met with members of the congregation and Session during June to review church history with special attention to the acquisition of land.

**Next Steps in the Process:**

1. Negotiation of the terms of dismissal – The July 28 communication indicated that one member of the PET is unavailable until sometime in early August. Once all members are available, the PET will meet to review our response to the Request for Information and schedule a date to meet with the SCC.
2. Once there is agreement between the PET and SCC on the terms of dismissal, the congregation of Providence will be called together to vote of the terms. Upon approval by the congregation, the Presbytery will vote on the terms of dismissal. Dismissal terms include such items as:
  - a. The name by which our congregation will be known following dismissal
  - b. Any donation agreed to by Providence to charitable organizations or the Presbytery
  - c. Retention by Providence of historical artifacts and documents
  - d. The Presbyterian denomination to which Providence will transfer following dismissal.

**Timeline for Dismissal:**

- The earliest possible date on which the Presbytery could vote to dismiss Providence to a new denomination is October 28, 2017, just three months after the commissioning of the PET by the Presbytery.
- The next date on which Providence could be dismissed is in February of 2018.

**Action Required by Providence Congregation** – The congregation must hold a vote to determine the denomination it will transfer to upon dismissal from PCUSA. The Session set a goal at its July Stated meeting to hold a congregational vote in August. A subcommittee of the Session is working to prepare information and communications for the congregation in advance of a vote. Please be alert to information about the selection of a denomination that you will receive by various means in the coming weeks.



## 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 Nesselrod'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; **Norbert Kopanski**, *John Kopanski's father*; **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:** **Charles Miller**, *Donna Stolle's brother, missing in Orlando*

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

**Ray Smith**, *Patsy Bowman's brother-in-law*

**Win Berrell**, *Beth Breeden's cousin*



## ***Birthdays & Anniversaries***

### **August Anniversaries**

- 14 Nathan and Kay Dry  
18 David and Pamela Collier  
Stephen and Samantha Nordan  
21 Darren and Joan Stuart  
23 Ron and Lynn Cross  
Don and Brenda Dupree  
29 Dave and Edythe Natrass

### **August Birthdays**

- 1 Dick Embrey  
Macie Wood  
2 Laney Gray  
3 Brenda Dupree  
Grace Martin  
LaVette Morgan  
4 Emma Phillips  
Eva Stephenson  
5 Silas Porter  
Robert Stolle  
7 Pauline Jones  
9 Richard Jones  
Sandy Kopanski  
Keith Langdon  
10 Joe Martinelli  
12 Liz Marley  
Sophie Marley  
Ann Stephenson  
13 Bob Reed  
19 Stewart Pickens  
Nadine Reed  
22 Candace Bullock  
23 Patsy Bowman  
26 Natalie Nordan  
27 Paige Smith  
28 Charleigh Morrow  
Natalie Nordan  
Elaine Wood  
29 Tyler Nordan  
30 Lauren Collier  
Israel Morrow  
31 Randy Benson

### **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  
Stephanie Bagley - Personnel

### **Church Staff**

#### *Secretary*

Kim Callis

#### *Accounting Treasurer*

Kristy Stephenson

#### *Collections Treasurer*

Ann Benson

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

Brittany Jones

#### *Pianist*

Angie Searcy

#### *Website*

David Nelms

#### *Newsletter*

Kim Callis

#### *Usher Coordinator*

Russell Wood

# AUGUST EVENTS AND SCHEDULES

## NURSERY

- 6 Sue Bryant & Beth Pickens  
 13 Barri Martin & Elaine Wood  
 20 Jonathan Breeden & Emma Phillips  
 27 Chris & Kristy Stephenson

## USHERS

- 6 Eric Smith & Russell Wood,  
 Eric Faircloth (Back)  
 13 Hamilton Greene & Don Dupree,  
 John Daniel (Back)  
 20 Ronnie Creech & Rick Taylor,  
 Justin Wood (Back)  
 27 Eric Faircloth & Carlos Bagley,  
 Riley Wood(Back)

## ACOLYTE

- 6 Hannibal Langdon  
 13 Gavin Annis  
 20 Ava Wood  
 27 Charlotte Wood

## CHILDRENS WORSHIP

- 6 Kristy Stephenson  
 13 Kristy Stephenson  
 20 Stephanie Whitley  
 27 Beth Breeden

## ELDER

Tony Bryant

## August Upcoming Events

- Aug 1. Card Ministry 10:00 am  
 Long Range Planning Meeting  
 7:00 pm  
 Aug 2. Fellowship & Fitness Group 1  
 10:00 am  
 Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm  
 Aug 6. Communion Sunday  
 Aug 7. Congregation Care 10:00 am  
 Aug 8. Senior Citizen's Luncheon at 12:00  
 (noon) at PPC  
 M&O Monthly visit to Stage Coach  
 Manor residents at Universal &  
 Pinecrest Nursing Homes  
 Aug 9. Fellowship & Fitness Group  
 10:00 am  
 Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm  
 Aug 11. Fellowship & Fitness Group  
 10:00 am  
 Aug 14. Session Meeting 7:00 pm  
 Aug 16. Fellowship & Fitness Group  
 10:00 am  
 Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm  
 Aug 18. Fellowship & Fitness Group  
 10:00 am  
 Aug 23. Newsletter Deadline  
 Fellowship & Fitness Group  
 10:00 am  
 Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm  
 Aug 24. Mission & Outreach Committee  
 Meeting 11:00 am  
 Card Ministry Prep Team I at  
 LaVette Morgan's home at 1:00 pm  
 Aug 25. Fellowship & Fitness Group  
 10:00 am  
 Aug 30. Fellowship & Fitness Group  
 10:00 am  
 Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm