

PRESBYTERIANS AT THE CROSSROADS

Providence Presbyterian Church

August 2018



From the Pastor's Study...

Last month God's blessings truly overflowed here at Providence and rendered awesome testimony to our Lord God's presence in our church and community. This year's Vacation Bible School was an awesome display of God's grace, caring Christians, great food, fun, sun and a little rain, crafts, and proclamation of the love of Jesus Christ in our lives. We also thank our in house guest preachers Kent Walton and Joe Martinelli, who offered an inspiring messages. A deep felt "thank you and well done" goes out to all who participated in this month's missions and ministries.

The scripture passage for August comes from Matthew 18:1-7, where Matthew chronicles the words of Jesus, "*Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.*" ⁵ *Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.*" In response to the disciples' question: Who will be the greatest in the kingdom of heaven amongst them? Jesus speaks of three actions and one condition: 1. change, 2. humility, 3. being welcoming, 4. and not being the cause for others to spiritually stumble. Change is so often the hardest thing we have to do, for old habits die hard. True spiritual change is transformation – becoming a new creature centered on God and God's plan for our lives and thereby allowing the old self to die. Humility is the condition of being willing to step out of a world centered around ourselves. True humility is the condition of being willing to step out of a world centered around ourselves and allow God to be the main focus of our lives. The act of welcoming someone is a facet of hospitality, following Christ's example is a mission of hospitality to declare God's redeeming love. It is a mission of hospitality because Christ meets each and every one of us where we are in life.

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August Scripture Passage

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" ² He called a child, whom he put among them, ³ and said, "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵ Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me. ⁶ "If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were fastened around your neck and you were drowned in the depth of the sea. ⁷ Woe to the world because of stumbling blocks! Occasions for stumbling are bound to come, but woe to the one by whom the stumbling block comes!

Matthew 18:1-7



CHURCH OFFICE

Pastor Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday – 9:00 am – 12:00 pm with varying additional hours in the afternoons 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 summer loses its momentum and fall moves ever closer, let us come together in prayer and conversation as we discern God's direction for the busy days to come. Please pray for our church, our church family, our session, and our pastor – that we may follow our Lord God 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

Food Pantry

Please bring your food donations for these worthy ministries and place them in the blue bins 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 | 3) paper towels | 5) clothes washing detergent |
| 2) flour | 4) toilet paper | 6) dish washing detergent |



Sign-Up Sheet for Flowers – Please sign up on the bulletin board just inside the door of the new part of the church building. You may contact Beth Pickens at 919-697-5663 or by email at bpickens80@gmail.com for help or information.



SECRETARY

Cindy Lynch is available Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Please send your bulletin prayer requests, updates, announcements, email distribution additions/deletions or other messages for broadcast via email: ppchurchsecretary@gmail.com or call the office, the number is : 919-894-4063.



FELLOWSHIP TIME REMINDER

David Collier would like to thank the groups who have volunteered for fellowship time and wants to extend an invitation to everyone to come. You may contact 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 who needs to be removed please let Cindy Lynch know by email at ppchurchsecretary@gmail.com or call the church office at 919-894-4063.



FELLOWSHIP HALL POLICY

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.

New requests need to be made through the church office (Cindy Lynch) at ppchurchsecretary@gmail.com or call 919-894-4063.

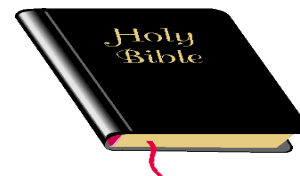
If you have questions on this policy please contact:
David Collier at 919-625-3026 or davidcollier123@yahoo.com.

Updates

Please send your bulletin prayer requests, updates, announcements, email distribution additions/deletions or other messages for broadcast via email to the congregation: ppchurchsecretary@gmail.com or the office, the number is : 919-894-4063.

LAY READERS SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST

Aug 5	Eric Faircloth
Aug 12	Jeff Wood
Aug 19	Mary Ann Booth
Aug 26	Doug Sonderfan



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.



SENIOR CITIZEN LUNCHEON

The Senior Citizen Luncheon will be held at 12 noon on August 14 at Mount Zion United Methodist Church. If you plan to attend, please let Margie Taylor know by the evening of Wednesday, August 8, so that the cooks know how much food to prepare. Contact Margie at margieataylor@aol.com or 919-207-0149.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The PW Coordinating Team including both incoming and outgoing officers will meet Aug 14, at 7:00 pm in the UFH. Regular PW Day and Night Circle Meetings will continue in September.



PRAYER SHAWL

The Prayer Shawl Circle will reconvene on Tues, Sept 25, at 10:00 am in the LFH.

If you don't crochet but have a different needle craft you enjoy doing, bring that and enjoy a time of fellowship. Don't do needle craft? Come out for fellowship anyway. The items we create are prayed over and given to those who are infirm. The 2018-2019 schedule will be published in the September Newsletter. We are looking forward to meeting again!



CARD MINISTRY

The Card Ministry will meet on Tuesday, August 7 at 10:00 am in the Upper Fellowship Hall.

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



Fellowship & Fitness Group

Meet us at the Upper Fellowship Hall on Wednesdays and Fridays at 10:00 am. All are welcome!



Providence Presbyterian Women start the 2018-2019 year with the following two meetings:

The next Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team Mtg will take place on Tues, Aug 14 at 7:00pm in the Seekers Rm. All current officers and 2018-2019 officers are invited to attend.

The 2018-2019 study year kicks off with a Presbyterian Women Joint Circle Mtg on Tues, Sept 25 at 7:00pm in the UFH. All women of PPC are invited to attend. Our Horizons Bible Study will be distributed in August. This year's book is "God's Promise -- I Am with You." Lesson #1 "God with Us Wherever We Are" will be lead by the Day Circle. Night Circle to provide refreshments. Mary Ann Booth will facilitate the Installation of Officers.

There will be a Presbyterian Women sponsored bake sale at the Youth BBQ Fundraiser on Friday, Sept 21, 2018. Carole Kershaw will be leading this effort. Mark your calendars and be on the lookout for the sign-up sheets to volunteer time and/or donations to this fundraiser effort.

Thank you everyone for your participation in the Presbyterian Women sponsored efforts and ministries at PPC. Truly, many hands make light work. It is wonderful to work, study and fellowship with brothers and sister in the PPC family.

Mission and Outreach

Thank you everyone! It is gratifying to see the donations being deposited in the red and white barn to support the Samaritan's Purse International Relief efforts. These donations help families in two ways, 1) provide families with an immediate food source for their own consumption, and 2) help families raise funds for their own household upkeep. Every quarter M&O will collect to support a different relief effort. This quarter (July/Aug/Sept) collections will help purchase chickens. Thank you to the PPC family and the VBS families for your support! *"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."* Matthew 25:40



PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Providence Presbyterian Church is approximately 200 members strong. Women are active in every aspect of life and service at Providence Church.

The Providence chapter of Presbyterian Women (PPW) sponsors and coordinates many opportunities for fellowship and service together. Every woman attending Providence is considered a welcome member of the chapter. The PPW calendar year runs from September to August; officers commit to serve one-year terms. PPW activities currently include the following:

- Bible Study -- Is conducted on the third Tuesday of each month from September to May during our Circle Meetings. Day Circle is held at 10:00am; Night Circle at 7:00pm. Both Circle meetings are conducted in the Upper Fellowship Hall.
- Prayer Shawl Circle -- Takes place on the fourth Tuesday of each month. We meet at 10:00am in the Lower Fellowship Hall. We take a break in June, July and August. (Any other exceptions to the schedule are posted in the bulletin and the weekly email. The PPW schedule is also posted on the PPW bulletin board in the hallway leading to the Upper Fellowship Hall.) Together we enjoy a time of fellowship while we crochet “lapghans” for distribution to folks who are dealing with illness or injury.
- Advent Decorating -- Is coordinated by the PPW and takes place on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. We enjoy a small brunch together afterwards.
- Poinsettia Purchases -- Take place each November. The plants are purchased by members of the congregation through the agriculture program at West Johnston High School. They are left on display in the church through the Advent Season. PPW coordinates the purchase, display and disposition of the poinsettias.
- Annual Christmas Gift Bags -- Are assembled by the PPW and given during the holiday season to folks in the church who are infirmed.
- Chicken Pastry & Silent Auction Fundraiser -- Is a very successful annual event at Providence, coordinated by the PPW. As are all annual fundraisers, this event is supported by the whole congregation.
- Bake Sales -- Are coordinated and executed by PPW at the Chicken Pastry & Silent Auction, the Men’s annual Fish Fry and the Youth’s annual BBQ.
- Lifetime Service Honor -- Is typically bestowed annually on a member who has demonstrated a consistent life of service through the ministries at Providence. An ad hoc committee of PPW members conducts the process from search to final presentation.

In addition to opportunities outlined above, women at Providence Church also enjoy socializing together throughout the year. The women of the church are very active in serving in the wide variety of ministries available at Providence. There is a place for everyone to plug in and become an integral part of the life of service at Providence Presbyterian Church. Join us in our journey as we do our human best to live the life espoused in our church mission statement.

Donna Stolle
860-214-6698, dms6330@gmail.com
2017-2018 Moderator, Providence Presbyterian Women



Praise the Lord! Our 2018 Vacation Bible School was a huge success with tremendous outreach to both our church and community! Children, youth, and adults have all enjoyed a week full of learning through a study of Shipwrecked, Rescued by Jesus. Below is our breakdown of our attendance for each night.

Sunday:	90 Children/Youth 73 Teachers/Helpers	5 Adults in Bible Study Total: 168
Monday:	91 Children/Youth 73 Teacher/Helpers	4 Adults in Bible Study Total: 168
Tuesday:	89 Children/Youth 70 Teacher/Helpers	3 Adults in Bible Study Total: 162
Wednesday:	79 Children/Youth 70 Teacher/Helpers	4 Adults in Bible Study Total: 153
Thursday:	90 Children/Youth 70 Teacher/Helpers	6 Adults in Bible Study Total: 166

We would like to thank EVERYONE who volunteered their time and talents, donated items, and offered up prayer support for our VBS - "Shipwrecked, Rescued by Jesus".

Highlights from Minutes of Stated Session Meeting July 9, 2018

Open and Actionable Items

Children's Christian Education – A motion was approved to accept three documents into the Providence Church Policy and Procedures manual: (1) Children's Christian Policy and Procedures Handbook; (2) Sunday School Teacher Handbook; and (3) Parent's Handbook

Property – Session approved a motion to limit meetings to 90 minutes. Unfinished business will carry over to the next meeting.

Financial Statistics – Session discussed the removal of some financial statistics from the back of the Sunday bulletin. The information will remain available in the monthly financial reports available to members in the Sanctuary foyer. An announcement regarding the change will be provided to the congregation at a Town Hall meeting on July 22, 2018. A motion was approved to allow the Special Committee of the Congregation (SCC) access to the designated fund titled "Development Fund."

LRP/Worship – Plan for a second service were discussed. The Session agreed that the Elder of the Month would serve at both services. The Elder preparing communion will set up for both services.

Committee Updates

Adult Christian Education – It was announced that the Presbyterian Women have chosen the third Friday in March as the date for the Chicken Pastry going forward.

Fellowship – Rev. Davis reported that he spoke with Rev. Westlund, pastor of Englewood Presbyterian Church (EPC) in Rocky Mount at the EPC Annual Gathering. Rev. Westlund confirmed his plan to be with us to deliver the Homecoming sermon in October.

Finance – The June 2018 financial report was reviewed, and a copy of the Men's Fellowship quarterly report was distributed. Giving to general funds was again insufficient to meet expenses. Giving for the year is down verses 2017.

	<u>General Fund Revenues</u>	<u>General Fund Expenses</u>
June	\$16,795.68	\$21,533.75
YTD	\$118,545.79	\$138,560.59

Committee chairs were reminded that they should be preparing their proposals for the 2019 budget.

Mission & Outreach – The committee is planning a rework of the flyer previously used in community outreach. The congregation will be asked to distribute the flyers in their neighborhoods.

Property – An announcement will be placed in the bulletin to inform the congregation about the covers placed over some light switches. This was necessary to ensure proper functioning of the automated lighting system.

Youth Christian Education – A report on the youth mission trip to Tennessee was received and a "thank you" note was read from the staff of Team Effort expressing their appreciation for the hard work and commitment of the Providence team. The youth will speak to the congregation about their experience at the start of the worship service on Sunday. On Monday, July 16, the youth will leave for a retreat at Fort Caswell.

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Highlights from Minutes of Stated Session Meeting, July 9, 2018
(Continued from page 8)

Pastor's Report – Rev. Davis provided a copy of his report. He noted that he was absent much of the month due to attendance at the EPC Gathering in Cordova, TN and personal leave.

Highlights include:

- Rev. Davis related his delight with the EPC experience and how very different it was from PCUSA. The focus was on the church and what it is doing in the world.
- Church Activities
 - Elder training is planned for July 14. He is working to provide copies of the EPC Book of Order. Those attending can car pool from the church on Saturday morning.
 - VBS begins Sunday, July 22 and runs through July 26
- Cindy Lynch, church secretary, will be on vacation the week of July 30 through August 3.
- A motion was approved to allow the pastor, choir, choir director and accompanists to forgo wearing robes June through August.

Homecoming Is Right Around The Corner

October 14, 2018

Do you have a favorite Homecoming memory you would like to share? What does Homecoming mean to you? Was there a guest speaker who delivered an unforgettable message at Homewcoing? Was there a humorous weather disaster? Do you have thoughts you want to share with our youth? We would love to capture some to these memories and share them via a bulletin sheet, one interviewee per Sunday for several Sundays prior to Homecoming. Please contact Donna Stolle at dms6330@gmailcom or call 860-214-6698



Prayer List of Joys and Concerns

Members of the Providence Family in Long-Term Care:

Brack Johnson at *Classic Care in Smithfield*; **Marilyn Johnson** at *Barbour Court in Smithfield*; **Pauline Jones**, at *Liberty Commons in Benson*; **Virginia Moore**, *The Laurels in Pineville*; **Bobbie Langdon**, at *Highland Village in Cary*.

Persons Living with Cancer, including:

Sherry Baker, friend of *Laura Langdon*; **Priscilla Beckwith**, friend of *Sandy Kopanski*; **Joanne Boyle**, *Bob Zattiero's niece*; **Lisa Bradshaw**, member; **Barbara Habina**, mother-in-law of *Miriam Lambert's nephew*; **Becky Hall**, friend of *Carolyn Johnson*; **Jerry Hall**, extended family of *Wendy and Sam Stephenson*; **Ann Hargis**, community; **Consuelo Hawkins**, *Joe Hawkins' mother*; **Carol Mayben**, *Sandy Kopanski's sister-in-law*; **Laura McLamb**, member; **Robert Royal**, friend of *Miriam Lambert*; **Ben Snelling**, friend of *John Kopanski*; **Randy Stephenson**, *Jon Nooney's cousin*; **Chad Talley**, friend of *John Pickens*.

Persons with Ongoing Health Concerns, including:

Nancy Allen, *Sheila Dupree's mom*; **Sara Barber**, *Vickie Faircloth's mother*; **Worth Bowman**, member; **Dakota Boyd**, niece of *Elaine Wood*; **Carolyn Burns**, sister of *Miriam Lambert*; **Brianna Bryant**, 9 month old daughter of friend of *Stephanie Wood*; **Mary Burke**, *Steve Wolak's mother*; **Elise Corona**, daughter of a friend of *Sue Bryant*; **Lynn Cross**, member; **Joyce and Jim Crowson**, friends of *Dick Embry*; **Sandra Dail**, friend of the church; **Wanda Johnson Dupree**, previous member; **Barbara Ellis**, mother of *Georgeanna Phillips*; **Mike Kefauver**, *Brittany Jones' father*; **Sandy Kopanski**, member; **Harley Kremer**, *Andrea Jones niece*; **Vic LaSaxon**, *Chris Nooney's brother-in-law*; **Hubert Lipscomb**, scout leader; **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 Reed**, *delivery driver's wife*; **Ann King Stephenson**, member; **Barbara Walton**, member; **John Wright**, *Chris Nooney's father*; and **Eva Younts**, *Nadine Reed's Aunt*.

Our Christian Sympathies are extended to the families and friends who lost loved ones this past month.

Linda Tear, wife of Rev. Ray Tear



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
- 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
Elaine Wood
- 29 Tyler Nordan
- 30 Lauren Collier
Israel Morrow
- 31 Randy Benson

Pastor

Rev. Jim Davis

Session

Class of 2018

Sam Stephenson - Finance
Kent Walton - Congregational Care
Russell Wood - Long Range Planning
Atlee Roberts - Adult Christian Education

Class of 2019

Mary Ann Booth - Clerk
Vickie Faircloth - Children C. E.
John Kopanski - Mission & Outreach
Donna Stolle - Worship

Class of 2020

David Collier - Fellowship
Cathy Simmons - Personnel
Kevin Creech - Youth C. E.
Steve Newnam - Property

Church Staff

Secretary

Cindy Lynch

Accounting Treasurer

Sam Stephenson

Collections Treasurer

Ann Benson

Music Director/ Organist/Pianist

Brittany Jones

Pianist

Angie Searcy

Website

David Nelms

Newsletter

Cindy Lynch

Usher Coordinator

Russell Wood

AUGUST EVENTS AND SCHEDULES

NURSERY

5	Liz Annis and Alisha Bradley
12	Richard and Andrea Jones
19	Barri Martin and Mary Wood
26	Amy Dupree and Sue Bryant

USHERS

5	Carlos Bagley, Pete Booth & Atlee Roberts (Back)
12	Tony Bryant, Ronnie Creech, & John Daniel (Back)
19	David Collier, Eric Faircloth, & Todd Frickman (Back)
26	Kevin Creech, Richard Jones, & John Kopanski (Back)

ACOLYTE

5	Connor Frickman
12	Hannibal Langdon
19	Eva Stephenson
26	William Stephenson

CHILDRENS WORSHIP LEADERS/HELPER

5	Annah Creech & Kevin Creech
12	Annah Creech & Ryan Nelms
19	Annah Creech & Jeff Wood
26	Annah Creech & Scott Martin

SAFETY/SECURITY

Eric Faircloth

ELDER

Steve Newnam

August Upcoming Events



- Aug 1 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
Secretary out of office through Aug 3
- Aug 3 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
- Aug 5 Communion Sunday
- Aug 6 Congregational Care Meeting 10:00 am
- Aug 7 Card Ministry 10:00 am UFH
Long Range Planning 7:00 pm
- Aug 8 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
- Aug 10 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
- Aug 12 Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost
- Aug 13 Session Meeting 7:00 pm
- Aug 14 Senior Luncheon – Mount Zion, Noon
M&O Universal Visit 2:00 pm
PW Coordinating Team Meeting 7:00 pm
- Aug 15 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
- Aug 16 Card Prep Team III at LaVette's Home, 1:00
- Aug 17 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
- Aug 19 Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost
- Aug 20 Personnel Committee Meeting 7:00 pm
- Aug 22 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
- Aug 23 M&O Meeting 7:00 pm, Seekers Room
Newsletter Deadline
- Aug 24 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
- Aug 26 Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost
- Aug 29 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
- Aug 31 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00