

PRESBYTERIANS AT THE CROSSROADS

Providence Presbyterian Church

January 2018



From the Pastor's Study...

Happy New Year!

The new year of 2018 is here, we stand on the precipice of our Lord God doing a new thing yet again! As we move from 2017 to 2018, we remember fondly the Advent season and carry the Christmas hymns in hearts into winter. The Lord our God has done wonderful things here at Providence Presbyterian Church and I am convicted by the passion and resolve of the Holy Spirit working in and amongst us. As this year unfolds before us, let us be mindful of our Lord and Savior's command to go out into the world and disciple, teach and baptize.

Jesus Christ's birth and ministry marks a paradigm for the world. God is a God of Love and redemption. Like the shepherds who heard the words of the angel ... they were convicted and they responded ... we to are to listen ... listen for God – in the words of others – in the words from scripture ... even in the mouths of babes ... God speaks in a countless ways to us. So let us be alert in listening for God and may we be convicted by what God speaks to our hearts AND may God give us the courage to respond lovingly and graciously. And let us be at least as receptive as the inn keeper ... and may way we find room for God in our hearts (even if it is in the back dusty dirt floor places) somewhere ... may we never shut out God or God's people.

In the Gospel according to Mark, the first words of the adult ministry of Jesus is, *"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."*

(Continued on page 2)

January Scripture Passage

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." ¹⁶ As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea -- for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people."

Mark 1:14-17



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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¹⁶ As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea -- for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." Jesus calls to us and compels us to share the Gospel – the good news of the Messiah who came into this world in swaddling clothes lying in a manger – who lived and died fully human and who loved and taught us the higher law of God's love fully divine.

Please pray for our church and its leadership so we might discern what God has in store for us in 2018. Please consider your own call to ministry in our church and in the world.

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

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. Her email is ppchurchsecretary@gmail.com and her office number is 919-894-4063.



COME JOIN THE FUN
JANUARY 7 and January 21 AT 5:00 PM

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.

FELLOWSHIP TIME REMINDER

Please sign up for fellowship times on the bulletin board. You may also sign up by sending an email to 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 that needs to be removed please let Cindy Lynch know by email at ppchurchsecretary@gmail.com or call the church office at 919-894-4063.



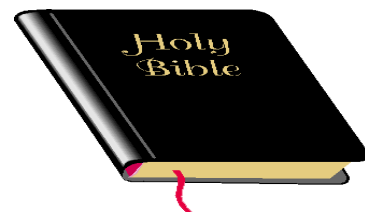
FELLOWSHIP HALL POLICY

If you would like to 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 requests for both halls. Requests need to be made through the church office with Cindy Lynch. If you have questions on this policy please contact

Cindy Lynch at 919-894-4063 or
David Collier at 919-625-3026 or
davidcollier123@yahoo.com.

LAY READERS SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY

January 7	Mary Ann Booth
January 14	Kevin Creech
January 21	Eric Faircloth
January 28	Brittany Jones



SENIOR CITIZEN LUNCHEON

The January, Senior Citizens Luncheon will be on **Tuesday, January 9 at 12:00 (noon), at Providence Presbyterian Church.** Please let Margie Taylor know if you will attend by Thursday, January 4 so that the cooks will know how many to prepare food for. We are taking donations of desserts for this if you would like to bring one. You may contact Margie at 919-207-0149 or margieataylor@aol.com.



Donation Option Added

Providence can now accept donations of stocks and other securities.

To make a donation or obtain more information, please contact Ann Benson, Collections Treasurer.



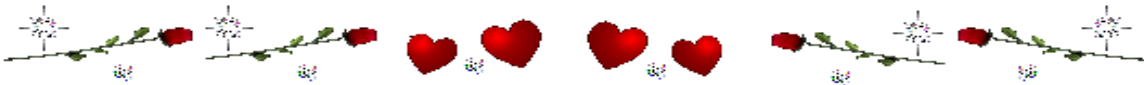
CARD MINISTRY

The Card Ministry Meeting Prep Team II will meet at LaVette Morgan's home on Thursday, January 18 at 1:00.



PRAYER SHAWL CIRCLES 2018

Meetings in Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May 2018 are scheduled to take place on the fourth Tuesday of each month, 10:00 am, in the Lower Fellowship Hall.



“Women After God’s Own Heart”

Providence Presbyterian’s Women’s Day

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 1 pm, 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.



Highlights from Minutes of Stated Session Meeting on December 11, 2017

Correspondence – Clerk of Session reported on the following communications during the past month:

- Emails from Rev. Ed McLeod, PDT Chair, and Ted Churn, Executive Presbyterian of New Hope, 1) approving the date, plans, and ballot for the January 7, 2018 Congregational Meeting to vote on dismissal from the Presbytery and PCUSA and 2) outlining the next steps of the Gracious Dismissal process following a congregational vote in favor of dismissal.
- Letters from the Presbytery: 1) Per Capita request for 2018; 2) Request for Statistical Report and report of Change to the Pastor's Call for 2018; and 3) Request for updates to names and addresses of church leaders.

Open and Actionable Items

Security – Chair of Congregational Care reported that plans are being made to set up a meeting for the Session with the Johnston County Sheriff's Department to discuss security. Volunteers have signed on to help with security. Changes to improve security have been made, including:

- All external doors are locked except the front door to the Sanctuary by 11:10 am.
- Periodic checks of the parking lot are made during worship.
- An informal security team consisting of at least one adult male is present on the back row during each worship service.

Fellowship – A new policy will be considered at the next Session meeting to allow leasing classroom space to outside entities for meeting for a fee of \$125. A church member would be required to be present.

Elder Election – Following Joe Martinelli's withdrawal as a nominee, the elder nominating committee nominated Steve Newnam for a three year term. Session agreed to postpone discussions of committee assignments until the January Stated Meeting.

Review of Membership Roll – Following review, individuals who have not been active in the life of the church during the last year were approved to be moved to the Inactive member roll.

Committee Updates

Children's Christian Education – Kristy Stevenson will not direct the LOGOS program after this year. Options for new leadership will be sought.

Finance – Chair of Finance, reported the following:

- An account was set up at Edward Jones to receive donations of securities
- General Fund receipts continue to lag expenses. Year to date, expenses exceed revenues by \$29,228.90

	<u>General Fund Revenues</u>	<u>General Fund Expenses</u>
November	\$19,444.36	\$21,450.39
YTD	\$238,985.46	\$268,214.36

Property – Chair of Property reported on repairs that have been made. The Session approved an offer by two men of the church to repaint the parking lot lines in the lower parking lot at no cost to the church. An offer was approved for an individual to repaint the wrought iron of the church. The paint will be donated.

Youth Christian Education – The Youth will go on a ski trip January 26-28. Lodging has been donated. Youth activity funds will be used to pay for lift tickets and ski rentals.

Pastor's Report – Rev. Davis handed out his pastor's report. Among the highlights of his report:

- Communion will be held on January 7, 2018
- Christmas Eve services are worship at 11 am and candlelight service at 5 pm.
- Offices will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, December 25 and 26
- Cindy Lynch will be on vacation December 18-20
- Rev. Davis will be on vacation on December 21 and December 27 and 28

Other Business – Session agreed to move Elder Installation to Sunday, January 14, 2018. The date for the January Stated Session Meeting was changed to Monday, January 15, 2018.

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:

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 Lambet*; **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; **Mary Burke**, *Steve Wolak's mother*; **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*.

Our Christian Sympathies are extended to the families of:

Charlene Sonderfan, *Doug Sonderfan's mother*
Sarah Mulcahay, *Patsy Bowman's sister*
Becky Cassidy, *Eunice Newnam's sister-in-law*
Charlie Burke, *Steve Wolak's father*
Dan Lee, *Lou Penny's brother*



Birthdays & Anniversaries

January Anniversaries

- 3 Carlos and Stephanie Bagley
11 Atlee and Linda Roberts
16 Rick and Margie Taylor

January Birthdays

- 2 Ron Cross
Samantha Nordan
7 Shelton Langdon
Tim Maddux
Wendy Stephenson
11 Gavin Annis
Matthew Dupree
12 Joy Jones
14 Georgeanna Phillips
18 Mary Ann Booth
Carolyn Stevenson
19 Justin Wood
21 Chris Stephenson
26 Laura Langdon
Kathy Wood
29 Carole Kershaw



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

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

JANUARY EVENTS AND SCHEDULES

NURSERY

7 Chris & Kristy Stephenson
 14 Mary Langdon & Beth Pickens
 21 Erick & Lori Smith
 28 Elaine Wood

USHERS

7 Carlos Bagley, Austin Benson & Pete Booth (Back)
 14 Jonathan Breeden, Tony Bryant & Johnny Wood (Back)
 21 David Collier, Kevin Creech & Ronnie Creech (Back)
 28 John Daniel, Don Dupree & Eric Faircloth (Back)

ACOLYTE

7 Gavin Annis
 14 David Breeden
 21 Meadow Creech
 28 Phoebe Creech

CHILDRENS WORSHIP LEADERS/HELPER

7 Beth Breeden
 14 Beth Breeden
 21 Beth Breeden
 28 Beth Breeden

ELDER

John Kopanski

January Upcoming Events

Jan 1 New Years Day - Office closed
 Jan 3 Long Range Planning Meeting 7 pm
 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10 am
 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm
 Jan 5 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10 am
 Jan 7 Congregational Meeting & Vote
 LOGOS 5 pm
 Jan 9 Sr. Luncheon at Providence - Noon
 M & O Stagecoach Visit 1 pm
 Jan 10 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10 am
 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm
 Jan 12 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10 am
 Jan 14 Installation of Elders
 Jan 15 Martin Luther King Day – Office closed
 Session Meeting 7 pm
 Jan 16 Presbyterian Women Day Circle 10am
 Presbyterian Women Evening Circle 7 pm
 Jan 17 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10 am
 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm
 Jan 18 Card Prep Team II at LaVette Morgan's Home 1 pm
 Jan 19 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10 am
 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm
 Jan 21 LOGOS 5 pm
 Jan 23 Prayer Shawl Meeting – Lower Fellowship Hall 10 am
 Newsletter Deadline
 Jan 24 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10 am
 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm
 Jan 26 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10 am
 Mission & Outreach 7 pm
 High School Youth leave - Mountain Trip
 Jan 28 High School Youth Return
 Jan 31 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10 am
 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm