

# PRESBYTERIANS AT THE CROSSROADS

Providence Presbyterian Church

March 2019



## From the Pastor's Study...

Where did January and February go? In many ways the beginning of 2019 has been a bit foggy for me. I want to thank everyone for your patience, prayers, cards, visits, and well wishes concerning my time away from the church convalescing from the surgery. I am joyful to be back in the swing of things and am doing my best to catch up at church and at home. Winter is coming to an end and both Spring and March Madness will begin on March 20<sup>th</sup> and don't forget to set your clocks forward. (*Spring forward – Fall backward*)

This year's Lenten season begins with Ash Wednesday on March 6<sup>th</sup> which concludes on Easter on April 21<sup>st</sup> this year. Traditionally, Lent is the forty-day time of fasting and prayer before Easter. The forty days represent the time Jesus spent in the desert, where, according to the Bible, he endured temptation by Satan prior to His crucifixion. The purpose of Lent is the preparation of the believer - through prayer, penitence, almsgiving and self-denial - for the annual commemoration of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus, as celebrated during Holy Week, which recalls the events linked to the Passion of Christ and culminates in Easter, the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. In our busy lives we often forget that our God blesses us in a multitude of ways. When we experience joys or sorrows, elation or devastation, love or hate – God is beside us through it all. Jesus calls us to follow God's will for our lives throughout the good and the bad. The awesome hope found in the Easter message is that our fate is not fate at all but our lives are in God's hands and that our sins have been redeemed through the blood of Christ and nothing to do with our actions at all. In fact our only decision is to accept or reject God in our lives.

*Cont'd on Page 2*

## March Scripture Passage

<sup>23</sup> Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.

<sup>24</sup> Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. <sup>25</sup> "I have said these things to you while I am still with you.

<sup>26</sup> But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.

<sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

<sup>28</sup> You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I.

John 14:23-28



## CHURCH OFFICE

### Pastor's 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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The Lenten season carries with it the prevailing message of our Lord and Savior; that is to keep God before the eyes of our hearts that we may be transformed by God's Grace.

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us ...May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

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, updates, announcements, email distribution additions/deletions or other messages for broadcast via email to the congregation to: [ppcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:ppcsecretary@gmail.com) or call the office number, 919-894-4063.



**Elder Contact Information**

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**Carolyn Johnson**

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**Donna Stolle**

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**Rev. Jim Davis**

[jimdavis10@hotmail.com](mailto:jimdavis10@hotmail.com)

### FELLOWSHIP TIME REMINDER

Jonathan Kershaw 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 the **fourth** Sunday this year to please contact him. You can reach him at 908-698-2501 or [jlucask222@gmail.com](mailto:jlucask222@gmail.com)



### 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](mailto: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 Committee or Session. New requests can be made through the church office (Cindy Lynch) at [ppchurchsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:ppchurchsecretary@gmail.com) or call 919-894-4063. Your request will be placed on the calendar as "Reserve" until it is "Approved" If you have questions on this policy please contact:  
Jonathan Kershaw at 908-698-2501 or [jlucask222@gmail.com](mailto:jlucask222@gmail.com)

### LAY READERS SCHEDULE FOR MARCH

March 3	Wendy Stephenson
March 10	Beth Wolak
March 17	Jeff Wood
March 24	Justin Wood
March 31	Mary Ann Booth



### SENIOR CITIZEN LUNCHEON

The March, Senior Citizens Luncheon will be on Tuesday, March 12 at 12:00 (noon), at Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church. Please let Margie Taylor know by Wednesday, March 6, so that the cooks will know how many to prepare food for. You may contact Margie at 919-207-0149 or [margieataylor@aol.com](mailto:margieataylor@aol.com).



## Recipient of the Presbyterian Women Lifetime Honorary Member Award

Congratulations to LaVette Morgan, the 2019 recipient of the Presbyterian Women Lifetime Honorary Member Award!

On Sunday, 24 February LaVette was honored with this award for her lifetime of service by example!

Thank you LaVette!



## PRAYER SHAWL CIRCLE

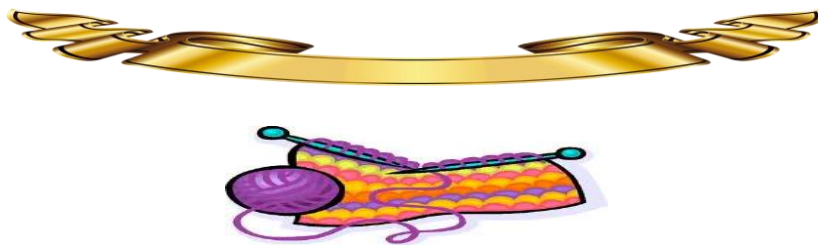
**Our next get together will be Tuesday, 26 March 2019 at 10:00 am in the UFH.**  
Bring your knitting or crocheting. Or bring your needle, we will supply you with the pattern and yarn to start your first "lapghan" to become a part of the inventory ready to give to those who become infirmed. The fellowship during this time is quite enjoyable.

And a hearty

*"Thank You!"*

to all the servants before us who have contributed to this great ministry.

**The PPC Prayer Shawl Circle is ten years old this year!!"**



## CARD MINISTRY

The PPC Card Ministry will meet on Tuesday, March 5 at 10:00 am in the Upper Fellowship Hall.

The Card Ministry Prep Team III will meet at LaVette Morgan's home at 1:00 on Thursday, March 21.



## Congregational Care Committee

**The Congregational Care Committee is inviting all members to join our committee if you have an interest in this area.**

**Also, if you have suggestions for the Congregational Care Committee please send them to the committee through Carolyn Johnson at 919-880-1272 or email at [cmoorejohnson2012@gmail.com](mailto:cmoorejohnson2012@gmail.com)**



## FELLOWSHIP & FITNESS GROUP

The Fellowship & Fitness Walking Group invite you to do something healthy for yourself and walk with us. We end each meeting in prayer for our church family and each other. We meet Wednesday and Friday at 10:00 am in the UFH.

**(The Walking Group will NOT meet Fri., March 8, 13, or 15 because of other church activities).**

All are welcome!



## COME JOIN THE FUN IN MARCH ON MARCH 3 AND 17 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
- Lean 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.

## M&O Outreach Universal Health Care Visit

Our visit this month is on Tuesday, March 12 at 1:00 pm.



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

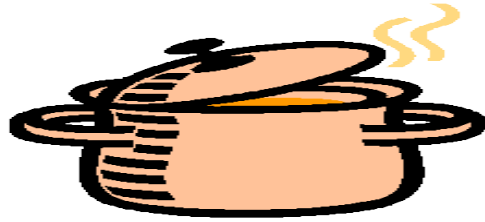
The Chapter of Presbyterian Women's Day Circle and Night Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 19 in the Upper Fellowship Hall.

The Day Circle meets at 10:00 am

The Night Circle meets at 7:00 pm

All are welcome!





## **CHICKEN PASTRY FUNDRAISER 2019**

**Mark your calendars for Friday, 15 March 2019,  
11:00 am to 7:00 pm.**

**Come enjoy a great meal of chicken pastry, green beans,  
candied sweet potatoes, rolls and dessert sponsored by the  
Providence Presbyterian Women, in support of ministries  
at PPC.**

**We all enjoy the delicious food and the deals we can get at the  
Bake Sale, Silent Auction and Fixed Price Sale.**

**It does take many hands to make this event the success that it  
is so please sign up.**

**If you have any questions please see Carole Kershaw & Arline  
Mott (2019 Chicken Pastry Co-Coordinator).**

**Thank you so much to everyone who is dedicated to supporting  
this event year after year!**





## Highlights of Minutes from February 11, 2019 Stated Session Meeting

### Correspondence

Clerk of Session reported the receipt of several notes and letters of thanks to the Session and congregation.

### Open and Actionable Items

**Early Worship** – Search for a pianist will resume with plan to initiate early worship in mid-March.

**Logo for Fundraiser** – Session agreed to the use of the logo that was used for VBS T-shirts last July for the apparel that will be sold to raise funds for children’s ministries

**Property** – Session declined a request to use the church parking lot as a training site from an individual in the community who has an fitness training business. Concerns regarding liability and church insurance coverage were raised as well as rejection of previous requests from small business owners to use church property.

**Copier Codes** – Copier codes were distributed to each Session member. They each know the code that they and their committees are to use. Discussion was held regarding recent problems with the copier. Sam Stephenson will contact Office Values, the supplier, and discuss the possibility of getting a replacement.

**Visitor Bag Insert** – Session agreed to the use of a flier in visitor’s bags with a list of the church Elders and their email addresses.

**One Great Hour of Sharing** – Session received a report that PCUSA is no longer providing “fish” boxes for children to use to collect donations. It was agreed that this is a giving tradition we want to continue. A search will be made for an alternative for the boxes.

### Committee Updates

**Children’s Christian Education** – The committee plans to meet in February to begin planning for VBS. Long term viability of LOGOS was raised as a concern.

**Congregational Care** – A renewed push to get pew pads circulated is needed. An invitation will be placed in church publications inviting members to let the Chair know how they want to be cared for.

**Fellowship** – The committee is getting under way. Rev. Davis suggested that Fellowship work with LRP on how the church can be more “visitor friendly.” The visitor signs will be placed back on the ends of the third pews to remind members that these rows are for visitors

**Financial** – A motion was approved to have Wendy Stephenson take over responsibility as the church Accounting Treasurer. Her responsibility will be to write checks in payment for church expenses. Session received the January 2019 financial report. The principle balance on the mortgage has dropped below \$900,000. Giving to the general fund, while much improved from January of 2018, continues to lag expenses.

	<u>General Fund Revenues</u>	<u>General Fund Expenses</u>
January 2019	\$20,130.52	\$25,866.72

Sam Stephenson stated that the church has not covered expenses since the beginning of the mortgage. The church needs to find a way to increase revenues.

**Mission & Outreach** – John Kopanski reported that lots of clothes have been donated for the residents at Universal Health Care.

**Youth Christian Education** – The “Souper Bowl” fundraiser was a terrific success and all who participated were thanked. More than \$1,500 was collected and nine of the church’s youth participated. Plans are being made for both a Youth Mission trip and a Retreat this summer. A motion was approved to hold Confirmation Sunday on May 12.

**Worship** – Donna Stolle reported that a suggestion had been received that “thank you” notes be sent to anyone making a donation to the church in memory or in honor of someone. Sam Stephenson remarked that he believed that this was being done, but that he would follow up with Ann Benson, the Collections Treasurer.

**New Business** – Session discussed the need to announce every time communion is held that the bread used is gluten free.

## 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*; **Virginia Moore**, at *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 of the community; **Sherri Cox**, friend of *Carolyn Johnson*; **Frances Elkins**, *Margie Taylor's mother*; **Jerry Hall**, extended family of *Wendy and Sam Stephenson*; **Ann Hargis**, community; **Consuelo Hawkins**, *Joe Hawkins' mother*; **Judy Morris**, community; **Norman Nelms**, brother of *Tom Nelms*; **Randy Stephenson**, *Jon Nooney's cousin*; **Chad Talley**, friend of *John Pickens*.

### **Persons with Ongoing Health Concerns, including:**

**Nancy Allen**, *Sheila Dupree's mom*; **H. A. Andrews**, *father of Andrea Jones*; **Sara Barber**, *Vickie Faircloth's mother*; **Carolyn Burns**, *Rich Lamberts sister*; **Worth Bowman**, member; **Mary Burke**, *Steve Wolak's mother*; **Emily Carr**, *Miriam Lambert's friend*; **Larry Creech**, *Father of Kevin Creech*; **Pamela Collier**, member; **Elise Corona**, *daughter of a friend of Sue Bryant*; **Joyce Crowson**, friend of *Dick Embry*; **Sandra Dail**, friend of the church; **Brenda Dupree**, *mother of Amy Dupree*; **Wanda Johnson Dupree**, previous member; **Barbara Ellis**, *mother of Georgeanna Phillips*; **Charles (Chic) and Mary Lou Folkman**, members; **Mike Kefauver**, *Brittany Jones' father*; **Jonathan Kershaw**, member; **Harley Kremer**, *Andrea Jones niece*; **Vic LaSaxon**, *Chris Nooney's brother-in-law*; **Hubert Lipscomb**, scout leader; **Bill McClandless**, friend of *Bob Zattiero*; **Nancy Nelms**, member; **Sue Nicholson**, *Chris Nooney's sister*; **Jon Nooney**, member; **Ed & Lou Penny**, members; **Wanda Presnell**, friend of *Beth Wolak*; **Caleb Reese**, *cousin of Andrea Jones*; **George Roberts**, neighbor of *Steve and Eunice Newnam*; **Kathy Rose**, friend of *Kim Schmidt*; **Ann King Stephenson**, member; **John Wright**, *Chris Nooney's father and Eva Younts, Nadine Reed's Aunt*.

*So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.  
Psalm 90:12*





## *Birthdays & Anniversaries*



### **March Anniversaries**

- 8 Tom and Nancy Nelms  
14 Robbie and Stephanie Wood  
26 Bob and Carolyn Zattiero

### **March Birthdays**

- 2 Linda Jackson  
Graycen Murray  
Debra Sturgis  
3 Lorie Smith  
5 Courtney Walton  
7 Melvin Langdon  
8 Sandra Lordi  
11 Riley Lynn Nordan  
13 Barbie Frickman  
16 Mac Jones  
19 Harris Bagley  
20 Abbey Walton  
22 Jarrett Cross  
Jack Sherrill  
27 Marilyn Johnson  
Travis Jones  
29 Jane Pickens  
30 Steve Nordan  
31 Nadia DeJesus



### **Pastor**

Rev. Jim Davis

### **Session**

#### *Class of 2019*

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

#### *Class of 2020*

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

#### *Class of 2021*

Sam Stephenson - Financial  
Jonathan Kershaw - Fellowship  
Scott Martin - Long Range Planning  
Carolyn Johnson - Congregational Care

### **Church Staff**

#### *Secretary*

Cindy Lynch

#### *Accounting Treasurer*

Wendy Stephenson

#### *Collections Treasurer*

Ann Benson

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

Brittany Jones

#### *Pianist*

Angie Searcy

#### *Website*

David Nelms

#### *Newsletter*

Cindy Lynch

# MARCH EVENTS AND SCHEDULES

## NURSERY

- 3 Jennifer Crocker and Robert Gilbert
- 10 Stephanie and Rob Wood
- 17 Allison and Ryan Nelms
- 24 Kristy and Chris Stephenson
- 31 Elaine Wood and Grace Martin

## USHERS

- 3 David Collier, Kevin Creech and  
Ronnie Creech (Back)
- 10 John Daniel, Don Dupree, and  
Eric Faircloth (Back)
- 17 Todd Frickman, Richard Jones, and  
John Kopanski (Back)
- 24 Wayne Lamm, Scott Martin and  
David Nelms (Back)
- 31 Ryan Nelms, Joseph Phillips and  
Atlee Roberts

## ACOLYTE

- 3 Meadow Creech
- 10 Connor Frickman
- 17 Hannibal Langdon
- 24 Landon Gilbert
- 31 William Stephenson

## CHILDRENS WORSHIP LEADERS/HELPER

- 3 Kristy and Chris Stephenson
- 10 Annah and Kevin Creech
- 17 Liz Annis and Jennifer Crocker
- 24 Allison and Ryan Nelms
- 31 Kristy and Chris Stephenson

## ELDER

Donna Stolle

## Safety/Security

David Collier

## March Upcoming Events



- Mar 1 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
- Mar 3 Transfiguration of the Lord  
Fellowship Comm. Mtg. after Service  
LOGOS 5:00 pm
- Mar 4 Congregational Care Mtg. 10:00 am
- Mar 5 Card Ministry UFH 10:00 am  
Long Range Planning Meeting 7:00 pm
- Mar 6 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am  
Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 pm
- Mar 8 No Activities Due To Maintenance
- Mar 10 First Sunday in Lent  
Daylight Savings Time
- Mar 11 Session Meeting 7:00 pm  
CP&SA Prep All Week, Times Vary
- Mar 12 Senior Luncheon at Mount Zion United  
Methodist Church at 12 Noon  
M&O Universal Health Care Visit 1:00 pm
- Mar 13 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm
- Mar 15 Chicken Pastry, Silent Auction & Bake  
Sale from 11:00 am – 7:00 pm
- Mar 17 Second Sunday In Lent  
LOGOS 5:00 pm
- Mar 18 Personnel Comm. Mtg. 7:00 pm
- Mar 19 Presbyterian Women Circle Meetings:  
Day Circle Meeting 10:00 am UFH  
Night Circle Meeting 7:00 pm UFH
- Mar 20 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am  
Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm
- Mar 21 Card Ministry Prep Group, Team III,  
1:00 pm, at LaVette Morgan's Home
- Mar 22 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
- Mar 23 Newsletter deadline
- Mar 24 Third Sunday In Lent
- Mar 25 Mission & Outreach Comm. Mtg 11:00 am
- Mar 26 Prayer Shawl Circle 10:00 am UFH
- Mar 27 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am  
Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm
- Mar 29 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am