

PRESBYTERIANS AT THE CROSSROADS

Providence Presbyterian Church

November 2020



From the Pastor's Study...

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

This morning, I woke up ten minutes after my alarm went off, I spilt my coffee all over my desk, including on my tablet (nothing was permanently hurt), and a pulled ligament in my ankle decided to rear its ugly head in warning that I went too far by wearing high-heel shoes in worship the day before. Did I also mention it was Monday?

And in the midst of all this I hear a sinister voice say, "Somedays aren't worth it, are they?"

Trouble, like the poor, seems as if it will always be with us. Somedays it's personal, knocking at your front door, spilling down the front of your white shirt; other days it's at arms distance, rumors of war and natural disasters. It can seem as if we're never going to get a break and the hamster wheel is only going faster. Trouble makes it hard to raise holy hands up in thanksgiving.

But this is the season of Thanksgiving, right?

Despite the trouble in our lives, there is a sure, steady reason to give thanks always. **Jesus told his disciples, "But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." (John 14:26-27)**

This is the season of Thanksgiving!

One of the gifts that only Christians have in this world is the power of the Holy Spirit which brings peace. He, the Holy Spirit, was promised to us by Jesus, and it is Him who reminds us that in the midst of trouble to rejoice, for we have been given the Peace of Christ.

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That is why when trouble comes we hear that voice ask if we truly believe that the Peace of Christ is real and that we have a reason to give thanks. It is the same voice that questioned Eve in the Garden of Eden, “Did God *really* say...?” (Genesis 3:1) Yet despite that sinister voice pushing us towards doubt and despair we can be confident because Christ’s peace is everlasting. God said that His word does not return void and therefore we can be confident in all his promises. (Isaiah 55: 11)

So, when the alarm doesn’t go off, the coffee spills and your body is weak and weary, look confidently in the mirror and say, “My God has got this!” And then tell the voice of doubt that you’ll be busy giving thanks to the Lord our God today and it can return from whence it came.

To God be the Glory Forever! Happy Thanksgiving!

Pastor Nadia



CHURCH OFFICE



Pastor Nadia can be reached by
cell phone, email or schedule a Zoom meeting
Monday thru Thursday, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm and by appointment.

Office phone number is 919-894-4063.
If you would like to reach Rev. Nadia Stropich after office hours, please call
937-903-9487 or email her at nstropich@hotmail.com

Please note that Pastor Nadia’s phone number has a Dayton, OH area code and therefore if you get a call from 937-903-9487, it is not a spam call. You are also more than welcome to call her at this number or email her at nstropich@hotmail.com

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:

ppchurchsecretary@gmail.com

or call the office number, 919-894-4063.



Congregational Care Committee

If there are members of the congregation or regular attendees who would like a member of the Congregational Care Committee to call them, please get that information to Carolyn Johnson at:

cmorejohnson2021@gmail.com



Elder Contact Information



David Collier – Personnel

davidcollier123@yahoo.com

Kevin Creech – Christian Education

kmocreech@gmail.com

Vickie Faircloth – Worship

vickiefaircloth@yahoo.com

Carolyn Johnson – Congregational Care

cmoorejohnson2012@gmail.com

John Kopanski – Mission & Outreach

jkopanski@live.com

Scott Martin – Long Range Planning

19smartin69@gmail.com

Steve Newnam - Property

bigfoot15@embarqmail.com

Sam Stephenson - Finance

samuelstephenson@me.com

Donna Stolle - Fellowship

dms6330@gmail.com

Reverend Nadia Stropich

nstropich@hotmail.com

919-894-4063 Office

937-903-9487 After Hours

All Saints' Remembrance Day, Sunday, November 1st



Megan Ashlaw	Tony Franklin
Charles Allen, Jr.	Don Martin
W.R. Atkins	Joe Martinelli
Ryan Barbour	Scott Martinelli
Billie Barefoot	Marie McLamb
Steven Blalock	Virginia Moore
Robert Burke	Nancy King Nelms
Chris Combs	Norman S. Nelms
Jerry Cranford	Doris Newton
Edith Deese	Frederick Parker
Richard Gully	Ken Passe'
Jerry B. Hall	David Price, Sr.
Lucy Harris	Bobby Prince
Christopher Bilbro Hogue	Earl Ray Honeycutt
Brack Johnson	George Roberts
George Johnson	Brian Stephenson
Lettie Johnson	Dennis Stevenson
George Justice	Olive Stone
Barbara Lancaster	Eric Vann
Wilt Lanier	Tommie Whitley
Tommy Lee	Peggy Womack



**Harvest Day Sunday
Congregational Meeting - November 15th
After Worship Service**

We will hold a Congregational Meeting immediately following worship
on Sunday, November 15, 2020.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the 2020 financial performance
and the 2021 budget.

Stewardship Sunday is November 22nd

Please complete a pledge card and place it in the offering plate or mail your pledge to the church to the attention of the collections treasurer, Ann Benson.



Helpful Information on Finance and Donations at PPC



On-Line Donations - We accept electronic checks as well as debit cards and credit cards. Processing costs are lowest with electronic checks. We have added a “GIVE” menu option on the top right of the main page of the church website, <https://www.providencepresb.org>. Selecting this menu option will open a page entitled “ONLINE GIVING.” Pressing the “DONATE” button on this page will open our donation web page. Please consider selecting the option to add 2% to your donation to help the church with processing costs. These processing costs are less when using a debit card compared to a credit card but donations of any type are always greatly appreciated. You can also access the donation web page directly by following this link: <https://pay.xpress-pay.com/?org=B5432DBFE5A94E6>. (You may also copy and paste the link into your browser.) Please contact Sam Stephenson at 919-757-5869 with any questions.

Finance - The finance committee would like to remind the congregation that you can mail your offering to the church: 14664 NC Hwy 210, Angier, NC 27501. Mailing your tithes and offerings will allow us to continue paying the mortgage and other monthly bills, like the light bill, without dipping into reserve funds. Providence will pick up mail directly from the post office.

Donation Options - Providence Presbyterian Church can accept donations of stocks and other securities. To make a donation or obtain more information, please contact Ann Benson, Collections Treasurer.

POINSETTIA SALES

Poinsettias for Advent -- Yes, WJHS was able to continue this program for 2020! We will be accepting poinsettia orders with payment, no later than Sunday, 22 Nov. All the plants will be delivered to the church on Saturday, 28 Nov; Advent seasonal decorating will take place that day. You will be free to take home your plants after Christmas Eve services. Complete the order form found in the Sunday bulletin. Be sure to include the "In Honor Of" and "In Memory Of" information. Place the form, together with payment, in the offering plate located in the Upper Foyer. Make checks payable to "Providence Presbyterian Church." "Poinsettia Sales" should appear on the check memo line. Any questions please contact Donna Stolle; 860-214-6698, <dms6330@gmail.com>. Thank you very much for your participation in helping to adorn our worship facilities with live plants during Advent.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Heartfelt thanks go out to everyone who took home empty shoe boxes, starting back in August! We have a record number of boxes that were adopted to be filled for kids around the world. Please return your full boxes on Sunday, 8, 15, and 22 Nov. Please don't forget to include the needed shipping fee. Thanks again for helping to be a light in the life of a deserving child.

Sincerely,
The M&O Committee.



Advent Season Decorating

Decorating will take place on Saturday, 28 Nov. Meet at 9:00 am in the Upper Foyer.

Poinsettias will be delivered to the UFH kitchen back door at 9:30am. The Presbyterian Women sponsor this event, but it is open to all members to come join in the fun. Any questions, contact Donna Stolle; 860-214-6698, <dms6330@gmail.com>. Merry Christmas!!



Advent Readers Wanted

We need readers for the four Sundays of Advent, as well as the Christmas Eve Service(s). Advent begins Sunday, November 29th. Singles, couples, families, any combination of readers is good. You will receive your reading material prior to the Sunday when you are scheduled to read. Look for the signup sheet on the Information Board or contact Vickie Faircloth. Thank you for choosing to be a part of the PPC worship service at this special time of year.



Providence Presbyterian Church Christmas Program Cast Call!!



“CAST CALL: This year the entire congregation is invited to participate in the Christmas program as we will tell the story of “Jotham’s Journey” through pictures and narration. **We are looking for adults, children and youth to participate who are willing to dress up and stage the scenes for the story as well as people willing to narrate the story the night of the performance, December 6th.** For more information, please call Pastor Nadia at 894-4063 or email her at nstropich@hotmail.com

Membership Class



Are you interested in becoming a member of Providence Presbyterian Church? Pastor Nadia is planning to start a new class soon and if you are interested, she would love to contact you! We will talk about the EPC, what it means to be a Reformed Presbyterian and qualifications for membership. Please write "Membership Class" on your "Who's Who in the Pew" form with your phone number and email address so she can schedule the class to fit as many people's schedules as possible. For more information, you can call Pastor Nadia at 919.894.4063 or email at nstropich@hotmail.com

Calling All Ushers and Greeters



If you have served as an Usher or Greeter in the past or would like to join this ministry and you are ready to start serving again, please contact Vickie Faircloth at 919-902-1407 or vickiefaircloth@yahoo.com

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 |



Card Ministry

Is still happening behind the scenes!

While practicing social distancing, LaVette, Joyce and Janice have managed to continue to create, assemble and send out the cards that continue to bless the recipients each month.

Those of us who were gathering together monthly are looking forward to the day when we can all meet again to be a part of this wonderful ministry.



The Congregational Care Committee supplies Prayer Shawls for anyone who may be in need of physical warmth during the Worship Service. The shawls are located in the UFHF.

** After the service, please leave the used shawl on the end of the row - they are cleaned after each use.*



If there are members of the congregation or regular attendees that would like a member of the Congregational Care Committee to visit with them, please get that information to Carolyn Johnson at cmoorejohnson2012@gmail.com

Congregational Care Grocery Pick Up

We have congregation members willing and able to pick up groceries and deliver them to congregation member's homes. If you are in need of such a service, please contact Carolyn Johnson at 919-880-1272 or Pastor Nadia at 919-894-4063.



Providence Presbyterian Church
Highlight of Minutes of Stated Session Meeting October 12, 2020

Providence Presbyterian Church conducted a Stated Session Meeting on October 12, 2020 at 7:00pm in the Choir Rehearsal Room. All seated Elders were present. Ruling Elder serving as Clerk, Mary Ann Booth and Moderator Rev. Nadia Stropich were present.

Omnibus Report

The Omnibus Report of committee minutes, communications, and reports from the Pastor and Clerk was reviewed. Session voted to approve a motion to accept the report.

Financial Report

Sam Stephenson reviewed the Financial Report for September 2020. Session approved a motion to accept the report. Monthly and annual expenses continue to outpace giving. Highlights of the report include:

- 2020 Homecoming offering to date \$15,070.00
- Loan Balance \$662,125.44
- Development Fund Balance to pay New Hope \$22,302.48
- Checking Account Balance \$46,831.24
 - General Fund Balance \$269.62
 - Designated Fund Balance \$46,561.62

	<u>General Fund Additions</u>	<u>General Fund Expenses</u>
September 2020	\$16,585.61	\$24,375.72
Year to Date	\$230,546.37	\$234,756.81

Report on General Assembly Meeting

Session received a verbal report from David Collier on the 2-day online General Assembly meeting, held September 17th and 18th. David reported that the meeting was very relaxed. There was prayer between each item on the docket. There was open debate that was cordial, but a true debate. Questions were accepted from anyone in attendance. Pastor Nadia remarked that this is how it always is and that we are very fortunate in our Presbytery (PMA).

Old Business

Personnel Committee motions to approve a revised job description for the Providence Administrative Assistant and work instructions for reserving use of the fellowship halls were considered. Copies were included in the Omnibus report. Both motions were approved.

New Business

- **Personnel**
 - David Collier presented the Committee's recommendation for the Pastor Compensation Package to be included in the Church Information Form (CIF). The total amount of the package is \$97,000.
 - A Motion from Personnel was approved to give a one-time addition of 5 days to the Church Administrative Assistant an additional 5 days of vacation for 2021. The addition will correct for an error in a previous year.

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- **Finance**

- Budget Review – Sam Stephenson presented the draft of the 2021 Budget. Several areas of potential savings were identified. The motion to accept the Budget of 2021 as presented was approved. November 15, 2020 (Harvest Sunday) was approved for holding a Congregational Meeting to review the budget. Stewardship Sunday will follow on November 22, 2020. A letter announcing Harvest Sunday and Stewardship Sunday was approved to be mailed to the congregation

- **Mission & Outreach**

- A motion was approved to obtain a church credit card so that the pastor can help with rental and utilities assistance was approved. Funds would come from the pastor's discretionary fund.
- A motion was approved to allow M&O to solicit financial gifts from the congregation to support the missionary outreach ministry of Andrew and Norine Brunson.

- **Elder Nominations for Class of 2023**

- Pastor Nadia reviewed the process with Session and referred Session to a letter and list of recommended readings that explain the spiritual nature of Elders. Scott Martin and Kevin Creech were approved by motion to serve as the two seated Elders on the committee. They will serve as co-chairs.
- Three "at-large" members of the congregation will be chosen from among recommendations provided by the members of the adult Sunday School classes. The Elder Nominating Committee will be in place by October 20th. The congregation will be encouraged to submit names of active members for consideration to the members of committee so that a slate can be presented to the congregation in advance of the vote.

Next Session Meeting – November 9, 2020

Prayer List of Joys and Concerns

Members of the Providence Family in Long-Term Care:

Marilyn Johnson at *Barbour Court Nursing in Smithfield*; **Bobbie Langdon** at *Highland Village in Cary*.

Persons Living with Cancer, including:

Sherry Baker, (*Laura Langdon*); **Scott Barns**, **Joanne Boyle**, (*Bob Zattiero*); **Lisa Bradshaw**, **Dede Bumgarner**, (*Brittany Parks*); **Frank Camarda**, (*Nicole Hughes*); **Sherri Cox**, (*Carolyn Johnson*); **Becky Hall**, (*Carolyn Johnson*); **Ann Hargis**, **Jamie Harris**, (*Andrea Jones*); **Sherwood Johnson**, **Nancy Lange**, (*John Mott*); **Teresha McChann** (*Bob Reed*); **Doug Parvin**, (*Steve Wolak*); **Bill Rice**, (*Carolyn Johnson*); **David Ryan**, (*John Pickens*); **Tammy Sullivan**, (*Frank Hugh*); and **Abby Stanley**, (*John Pickens*).

Persons with Ongoing Health Concerns, including:

Brenda Abbott; **Nancy Allen**, (*Sheila Dupree*); **H. Andrews**, (*Andrea Jones*); **Malory**, (*Lauren Bellissimo*); **Sara Barber**, (*Vickie Faircloth*); **Scott Barnes**, (*Ann Benson*); **Lauren Bellissimo**, (*David and Pamela Collier*); **Wilburn Berrier**, (*Patricia Forren*); **Worth Bowman**, **Patricia Chapin**, (*Carolyn Johnson*); **Elise Corona**, (*Sue Bryant*); **Larry Creech**, (*Kevin Creech*); **Ryan Crisco**, (*Brittany Jones*); **Chris Darden and wife**, (*Cathy Simmons*); **Barbara Ellis**, (*Georgeanna Phillips*); **Chic and Mary Lou Folkman**, **Ronda Fullenkamp**, (*Rick and Margie Taylor*); **Emma Gardner**, (*Christina Jones*); **David Guss**, (*Andrea Jones*); **Willie Hardisen**, (*Carol Sawyer*); **John Harris**, (*Andrea Jones*); **Diane Hefter**, (*Carolyn Stevenson*); **Laura Kershaw**, (*Jonathan & Carole Kershaw*); **Brian Johnson**, (*Don Dupree*); **Ken King**, (*Rich & Miriam Lambert*); **Harley Kremer**, (*Andrea Jones*); **Brianna Langreder**, (*John and Arline Mott*); **Lydia Leach**, (*Miriam Lambert*); **Tern Lee**, (*Lauren Bellissimo*); **Bill McClandless**, (*Bob Zattiero*); **Ken McGee**, (*Ann Benson*); **Judy Nemeth**, (*Rich & Miriam Lambert*); **Daphne Noles**; **Mary Tyler Nordan**, (*Tyler and Natalie Nordan*); **Zachary Parks**, (*Brittany Parks*); **Ed & Lou Penny**, **Finley Price**, (*Travis Jones*); **Caleb Reese**, (*Andrea Jones*); **Becky Roberts**, **John Rogers**; **Jake Shoop**, (*Rich & Miriam Lambert*); **Mitch Sonderfan**, (*Doug Sonderfan*); **Stephen Southers**; **Ann K. Stephenson**, **Wayne Stephenson**, (*Sam Stephenson*); **Amber Svejowsky**, (*Lamberts*); **Charles Tadlock**, (*Pamela Collier*); **Kevin Walton**, (*Kent Walton*); **Joy Wellons**, (*Brandon Mott*); **Austin Williamson**, (*Carolyn Johnson*); **Jean Yeager**, (*Rich Lambert's sister*); and **Eva Younts**, (*Nadine Reed*)

For Our Nation and Our World, including:

The governments of the world, our school and church safety, our military, and first responders.

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

Nancy King Nelms

Denny Stevenson



Men's Fellowship Group Assistance

Small chores & household assistance is available by the Men's Fellowship Group.
To schedule, contact Eric Faircloth at aefaircloth70@gmail.com, or 919-201-2696.



Due to Covid-19 Restrictions on large crowd gatherings, the following ministry activities are suspended until further notice:

Card Ministry and Prep Teams
Fellowship Time
M&O Universal Health Care Visits
Men's Fellowship Breakfast
PPC Cooking Class
PPC Fellowship & Fitness Group
(PPC F&FG walk outside only for now.)
PPC KIDZ
PPC Men's Fellowship and Fish Fry
PPC Prayer Shawl Circle
PPC Women's Circles
PPC Women's Fellowship Outings
Senior Citizen Luncheon

The Book of Order of THE EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (EPC)

The Book of Government The Book of Discipline
The Book of Worship
2018-2019



Now Available On PPC Website <http://www.providencepresb.org/>

Look for link "EPC BOOK OF ORDER"

EPC BOOK OF ORDER

November Events and Schedules

Birthdays & Anniversaries



November Anniversaries

5	Steve and Eunice Newnam
8	Dick and Pat Embrey
9	Frank and Nicole Hughes
12	Johnny and Elaine Wood
13	Shepard and Brenda Byrd
21	Todd and Barbie Frickman
24	Randy and Ann Benson
27	Steve and Beth Wolak
28	Jonathan and



November Birthdays

2	Kimsey Bagley
	Joseph Crocker
3	Gwen Walton
7	Ann Benson
	Chloe Frickman
	Audrey Whitley
9	Gary Phillips
10	Hannah Stephenson
20	Alex Nooney
21	Candace Creech
22	Darren Stuart
23	William Blair
24	Elizabeth Annis
26	Jeffrey Wood
30	Angie Searcy

November Service Schedule



ACOLYTE

1	Madelyn Stropich
8	Meadow Creech
15	Madelyn Stropich
22	Meadow Creech
29	William Stephenson

CHILDREN'S TALK

1	Wendy Stephenson
8	Annah Creech
15	Doug Sonderfon
22	Annah Creech
29	Wendy Stephenson

ELDER

Vickie Faircloth

GREETERS

Session

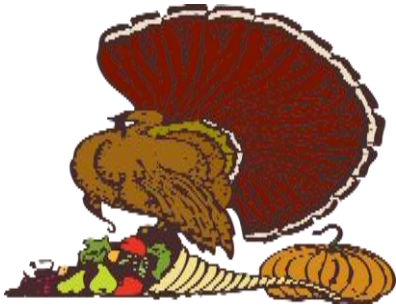
SECURITY

Kent Walton

USHERS

Session

November Upcoming Events



- Nov 1. Sunday Worship
All Saints Day
Youth Meet LFH 6:00 pm
- Nov 3. Election Day
JoCo Board of Elections UFH through 10/4
- Nov 4. Virtual Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
- Nov 8. Sunday Worship
Youth Meet LFH 6:00 pm
- Nov 9. Session Meeting 7:00 pm
- Nov 11. Virtual Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
- Nov 15. Sunday Worship
Harvest Day Sunday
Meeting following Worship for 2021 Budget
Youth Meet LFH 6:00 pm
- Nov 18. Virtual Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
- Nov 19. Fellowship Comm. Mtg.
- Nov 22. Sunday Worship
Stewardship Sunday
Youth Meet LFH 6:00 pm
- Nov 23. M&O Comm. Mtg. 11:00 am
Newsletter deadline
- Nov 25. Virtual Adult Choir Practice 7:30 pm
- Nov 26. Thanksgiving Day
- Nov 27. PPC Office Closed
- Nov 28. Advent Season Church Decorating 9:00 am
- Nov 29. Sunday Worship
Youth Meet LFH 6:00 pm

Pastor

Rev. Nadia Stropich

Session

Class of 2020

Kevin Creech – Christian Education

David Collier – Personnel

Steve Newnam – Property

Class of 2021

Carolyn Johnson – Congregational Care

Sam Stephenson – Financial

Scott Martin – Long Range Planning

Class of 2022

Donna Stolle - Fellowship

John Kopanski – Mission & Outreach

Vickie Faircloth – Worship

Church Staff

Custodial

Ray and Jamone Johnson

Music Director/ Organist/Pianist

Brittany Jones

Pianist

Angie Searcy

Secretary

Cindy Lynch

Accounting Treasurer

Sam Stephenson

Clerk

Mary Ann Booth

Collections Treasurer

Ann Benson

Newsletter

Cindy Lynch

Sunday School Superintendent

Kristy Stephenson

Website

David Nelms