

PRESBYTERIANS AT THE CROSSROADS

Providence Presbyterian Church

January 2021



From the Pastor's Study...

If you're like me the holiday decorations are down and the house looks bare without the tinsel, tree and Christmas ornaments filling every nook and cranny now that it is January. In the past, I've gotten a bit sad at this point of the season—all the joyful color and memories are back in the boxes. But this year I've decided to embrace the blank spaces because it means that there is a place to create something different.

Providence is entering into a season of blank spaces. The Session is finishing the Church Information Form (CIF) which will be used to guide the Pastor Search Committee to find the Pastor whom God has called for Providence. We are leaving 2020 and looking forward to new ministry opportunities as the COVID vaccine becomes more available and we are able to return to participating in ministries together. New opportunities present themselves as our new year unfolds. This is a time when we could say, "Gee, it's just not the same; I miss the way it was" or we could say, "Gee, it's just not the same; I wonder what God is calling us to do next!"

While there will be joys and concerns, excitement and hesitation in this new year, may we look at all the changes not as something to be disheartened about but as an season of opportunity—places where God will surprise us with blessings should we have eyes open to see them.

Continued ...

Continued ...

May God bless this New Year and our time together discovering God's preferred path for Providence Presbyterian Church!

Happy New Year!

Pastor Nadia



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.
If you would like to reach Rev. Nadia Stropich
after office hours, please call
937-903-9487.

*May God Bless Us
in this New Year *2021**



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.



**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**

PPC New Elders 2023



John Mott - Property
John Pickens - Personnel
Kristy Stephenson - Christian Education

Fellowship and Fitness Walking Group

**We would like you to walk and fellowship with us
on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 11:00 am**

**weather permitting in the upper parking lot,
otherwise in the UFH**

All are welcome!



PPC Youth

The Youth Group is in need of volunteers who will provide a snack for them Sunday nights Jan. through May. If you would like to help, contact Margie Taylor at 919-207-0149. Thank you for supporting our youth.

Youth Ski Trip - The ski trip for the high schoolers is planned for January 16-18th. We are going to Beech Mountain. Any questions, parents can contact Eric Faircloth, cell number: 919-201-2696.



PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

***Invites you to be part of a lifesaving journey
Donate blood!***



***Mark your calendar for Friday, January 8,
2:00 pm – 6:30 pm
Contact Margie Taylor at margieataylor@aol.com or
919-207-0149 to sign up***



American Red Cross

Flowers for 2021

**Save Your Date
To Honor, Remember or Celebrate!**

If you are interested in providing flowers to adorn our sanctuary on any given Sunday in 2021, please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Beth Pickens has been our Flower Coordinator for many years. Where someone has signed up to purchase flowers, Beth calls that person (that week), to remind them to call the florist and place their order. Your message regarding the celebration, person honored or person remembered for which the flowers were purchased will be included in the header of the printed bulletin on that Sunday. At the end of worship service that day you are free to then take your flowers home. Contact Beth Pickens at 919-697-5663, or at [<bpickens80@gmail.com>](mailto:bpickens80@gmail.com) for help or further information. Thank you to all who participate in this ministry that contributes to the beauty of our sanctuary!



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 your chair - they are cleaned after each use.*



Prayer List of Joys and Concerns

Members of the Providence Family in Long-Term Care:

Marilyn Johnson at Tower Nursing and Rehab Facility in Raleigh; **Bobbie Langdon** at Litchford Falls in Raleigh.

Persons Living with Cancer, including:

Scott Barnes, Ricky Baskett, (*Carolyn Johnson*); **Joanne Boyle**, (*Bob Zattiero*); **Lisa Bradshaw, Dede Bumgarner**, (*Brittany Parks*); **Frank Camarda**, (*Nicole Hughes*); **Ann Hargis, Jamie Harris**, (*Andrea Jones*); **Nancy Lange**, (*John Mott*); **Terasha 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:

Nancy Allen, (*Sheila Dupree*); **H. Andrews**, (*Andrea Jones*); **Malory**, (*Lauren Bellissimo*); **Sara Barber**, (*Vickie Faircloth*); **Lauren Bellissimo**, (*David and Pamela Collier*); **Wilburn Berrier**, (*PatriciaForren*); **Worth Bowman, Joe Champion**, (*Carolyn Johnson*); **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*); **Norma and Charles Evans**, (*Carolyn Johnson*); **Chic and Mary Lou Folkman, Ronda Fullenkamp**, (*Rick and Margie Taylor*); **Emma Gardner**, (*Christina Jones*); **Courtney & Jeff Gulley**, (*Kent Walton*); **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**, (*Lamberts*); **Harley Kremer**, (*Andrea Jones*); **Glen Langdon**, (*Wayne Langdon*); **Brianna Langreder**, (*John and Arline Mott*); **Tern Lee**, (*Lauren Bellissimo*); **Bill McClandless**, (*Bob Zattiero*); **Ken McGee**, (*Ann Benson*); **Judy Nemeth**, (*Rich & Miriam Lambert*); **Dorothy Nesselrodt, Eunice Newnam, Daphne Noles; Mary Tyler Nordan**, (*Tyler and Natalie Nordan*); **Zachary Parks**, (*Brittany Parks*); **Ed & Lou Penny, Finley Price**, (*Travis Jones*); **Caleb Reese**, (*Andrea Jones*); **Lycia Reese**, (*Andrea Jones*); **Becky Roberts, John Rogers; Mitch Sonderfan**, (*Doug Sonderfan*); **Stephen Southers, Ann K. Stephenson, Wayne Stephenson**, (*Sam Stephenson*); **Charles Tadlock**, (*Pamela Collier*); **Angie Walker**, (*Eunice Newnam*); **Kevin Walton**, (*Kent Walton*); **Austin Williamson**, (*Carolyn Johnson*); **Jean Yeager**, (*Rich Lambert's sister*); and **Eva Younts**, (*Nadine Reed*).

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

Susan Kirk



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 |



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 Kent Walton at kw Walton1@nc.rr.com



Men's Fellowship Group Assistance

Small chores & household assistance is available by the PPC Men's Fellowship Group. To schedule, call Eric Faircloth at afaircloth70@gmail.com, or 919-201-2696 with your needs.



Highlight of Minutes of Stated Session Meeting December 14, 2020

Providence Presbyterian Church conducted a Stated Session Meeting on December 14, 2020 at 7:00pm in the Choir Rehearsal Room. All seated Elders were present. Ruling Elder and Clerk, Mary Ann Booth, and Moderator, Rev. Nadia Stropich were present. Nominees for the class of 2023 and to fill a one-year term in the class of 2021 were in attendance and given Voice for the meeting.

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.

Old Business

Financial Report

Sam Stephenson's report included reminders that 1) we are still paying the mortgage at the old rate and 2) the dismissal payment of \$12,000 is due to New Hope Presbytery before the end of the month. Sam explained that a donation of \$1,000 had been received that provided two options for the use of the funds. Session supported placing the funds in the Development fund for next year's dismissal payment to New Hope. It was noted that total expenses once again exceeded receipts in the month of November.

- Loan Balance of \$651,037.37
- Development Fund Balance to pay New Hope - \$24,152.48
- Checking Account Balance \$82,637.15
 - General Fund Balance \$2,443.44
 - Designated Fund Balance \$80,193.71

	<u>General Fund Additions</u>	<u>General Fund Expenses</u>
November 2020	\$18,077.00	\$26,288.98
Year to Date	\$284,111.37	\$286,147.99

The committee **motion** to approve the November financial report was approved by all.

Session approved a motion to pay the annual \$12,000 dismissal amount to New Hope Presbytery by December 31, 2020

Property

- Motion to rekey the outer perimeter door – estimated at \$850 – was tabled until the January Stated Session meeting Steve Newnam says it will cost around \$850 to rekey each outside door. Motion tabled for more study.
- Motion to install security cameras around perimeter of building was tabled until January for additional information.
- **Motion was approved** to install a single light door with tempered glass and a digital key pad/keyed lock in the open doorway of the common area inside the Youth center.

(Continued on page 8)

(Highlights of Minutes of Stated Session Meeting Continued from page 7)

Church Information Form (CIF)

- Session reviewed the responses to Part 5, Questions 1 and 2 of the CIF. The responses will be updated in the CIF.
- Next Steps – A meeting of the current Session and the 2021 Session was set for 9 AM Saturday, January 9, 2021. Work to be done are finalizing the Vision and Mission statements and preparation of a strategic plan.

New Business

Congregational Care – Session approved a Motion to allow the Fellowship and Fitness walkers to resume walking inside the church.

Examinations of Elders

- Session heard the Statements of Faith of Ruling Elders (RE) Kristy Stephenson and Kent Walton. Kristy and Kent have been nominated as seated RE's in 2021. Kristy will become the chair for Christian Education and join the class of 2023. Kent will become the chair for Congregational Care and join the class of 2021, filling the 1-year term being vacated by Carolyn Johnson.
- John Pickens and John Mott shared their Statements of Faith with Session and were examined by Session. John Mott will serve as chair for Property; John Pickens will serve as chair for Personnel. Session agreed by consensus that they had successfully completed their examinations and were accepted as Ruling Elders in EPC. Both have been nominated for the for the Class of 2023.

Slate of Officer Nominees

Pastor Nadia turned the meeting over to Scott Martin and Kevin Creech to hear a report from the Nominating Committee. Session heard a **motion from committee to accept John Mott, John Pickens, Kristy Stephenson, and Kent Walton as the official slate of Ruling Elder nominees**. The motion was passed unanimously. A congregational vote will be held following Worship on Sunday, December 20, 2020 to vote on the slate of nominees. The Ordination/Installation Service will take place during the Worship service on either the first or second Sunday of January.

Next Stated Session Meeting: January 11 at 7 PM

Birthdays & Anniversaries



January Anniversaries

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

January Birthdays

- 2 Samantha Nordan
7 Wendy Stephenson
11 Gavin Annis
Matthew Dupree
12 Joy Jones
14 Georgeanna Phillips
15 Ethan Hughes
18 Carolyn Stevenson
Mary Ann Booth
Waylon Poole
19 Justin Wood
21 Chris Stephenson
26 Laura Langdon
Kathy Wood
30 Arline Mott



Pastor
Rev. Nadia Stropich

Session

Class of 2021

Kent Walton - Congregational Care
Scott Martin - Long Range Planning
Sam Stephenson - Financial

Class of 2022

Vickie Faircloth - Worship
John Kopanski - Mission & Outreach
Donna Stolle - Fellowship

Class of 2023

Kristy Stephenson - Christian Education
John Pickens - Personnel
John Mott - Property

Church Staff

Accounting Treasurer
Sam Stephenson

Clerk
TBD

Collections Treasurer
Ann Benson

Music Director/ Organist/Pianist
Brittany Jones

Newsletter
Cindy Lynch

Pianist
Angie Searcy

Secretary
Cindy Lynch

Sunday School Superintendent
Kristy Stephenson

Website
David Nelms

JANUARY EVENTS AND SCHEDULES

ACOLYTE

3	William Stephenson
10	Meadow Creech
17	TBD
24	William Stephenson
31	Meadow Creech

CHILDREN'S TALK

3	Rev. Nadia Stropich
10	Annah Creech
17	Mrs. Kay Dry
24	Wendy Stephenson
31	Doug Sonderfan

ELDER OF THE MONTH

Sam Stephenson

GREETERS

Session

SECURITY

Kent Walton

USHERS

3	John Kopanski, Kevin Creech, and John Mott
10	Jeff Wood, Tony Bryant, and Kevin Creech
17	John Mott, Vickie Faircloth, and Tony Bryant
24	Vickie Faircloth, Jeff Wood, and Eric Faircloth
31	John Kopanski, Jeff Wood, and Vickie Faircloth

CHILDRENS SUNDAY SCHOOL

3	Kristy Stephenson
10	Annah Creech
17	Miriam Lambert
24	Kristy Stephenson
31	Kristy Stephenson

January Upcoming Events



Jan. 1	New Year's Day 2021 PPC Office Closed
Jan. 2	Advent decorations removed 9:30 am
Jan. 3	Sunday Worship Communion Sunday Youth Meet LFH 6:00 pm
Jan. 5	Fellowship & Fitness Group 11:00 am
Jan. 7	Fellowship & Fitness Group 11:00 am
Jan. 8	PPC Blood Drive UFH
Jan. 10	Sunday Worship Youth Meet LFH 6:00 pm
Jan. 11	Stated Session Meeting 7:00 pm
Jan. 12	Fellowship & Fitness Group 11:00 am
Jan. 13	Adult Virtual Choir Practice 7:30 pm
Jan. 14	Fellowship & Fitness Group 11:00 am
Jan. 16	Youth Leave for Ski Trip, return on the 18th
Jan. 17	Sunday Worship
Jan. 18	Martin Luther King Jr. Day PPC Office Closed Youth return from ski trip
Jan. 19	Fellowship & Fitness Group 11:00 am
Jan. 20	Adult Virtual Choir Practice 7:30 pm
Jan. 21	Fellowship Comm. Meets LFH 11:00am Fellowship & Fitness Group 11:00 am
Jan. 23	Newsletter Deadline
Jan. 24	Sunday Worship Youth Meet LFH 6:00 pm
Jan. 25	M&O Committee Meeting 11:00 am
Jan. 26	Fellowship & Fitness Group 10 am
Jan. 27	Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm
Jan. 28	Fellowship & Fitness Group 10 am
Jan. 31	Sunday Worship Youth Meet LFH 6:00 pm