

PRESBYTERIANS AT THE CROSSROADS

Providence Presbyterian Church

March 2021



From the Pastor's Study...

The Only Thing We Have to Fear....

Franklin D. Roosevelt said during his first inaugural speech, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself." They were bold words for a country at the peak of the Great Depression. With his hand raised on the Bible open to 1 Corinthians 13, Roosevelt was sworn in and would see some of the most fearsome and greatest milestones of his generation. Anything was possible, and the President did not want fear to be one of those possibilities.

Providence is experiencing a new transition as we elect the Pastoral Nominating Committee, pray, and install the next pastor of God's calling. Transition can be a time of fear and challenge should we choose to allow fear to dominate our minds and hearts. However, fear does not have to be our only choice. Paul, in 1 Corinthians 13 writes: **And yet I will show you the most excellent way...Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known....And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.**

As Providence enters into the process of discerning God's choice for the next pastor, we need to clothe ourselves in Christ-like love. This means that as much as we may want to say to the PNC, "Hurry up!" "Slow down!" "Find a pastor!" We need to give grace upon grace, knowing that this process is going to affect each of us differently. Some of us will be excited about the future and want to get there as soon as possible ("When the new pastor is installed we can finally..."). Others may be just getting used to this new normal of the transitional pastor ("I think I'm okay worshiping in the new worship space....we do have more room for all the new members we're adding."). And still others may be in mourning over what used to be ("I miss Sunday mornings where we got up, went to Sunday school and worshiped in a proper sanctuary. I hope the new pastor will bring us back to those days."). All of these feelings are part of the transition process. It is okay for us to have these feelings as long as our actions from those feelings reflect Christ's love and grace. It is not okay for us to have these feelings react in fear, speak unkindly or act in a manner contrary to what Jesus modeled when someone of differing opinion states it. We are all on the journey together and we will be in different stages along that journey. Grace and love are what is needed most at this hour in Providence's history.

Being in transition is never easy...otherwise we would call it "normal." ☺ But transition is part of growth towards becoming who God wants you as an individual to be and who he wants Providence as His Church to become. It's a good thing, but we cannot let fear get in our way and cause us to resist transition because of the unknown. Love can keep fear in check. Trust in God and our Session can calm rough waters of emotions and prayer can cover a multitude of potential problems and hang-ups.

We have nothing to fear Providence, unless we choose fear, but as for me and my house, we choose to serve the Lord who has said, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous for the Lord your God goes with you wherever you go."

To the glory of God alone,
Pastor Nadia

MARCH SCHEDULES AND EVENTS

ACOLYTE

7 William Stephenson
14 Meadow Creech
21 William Stephenson
28 Madeline Jones

CHILDREN'S TALK

7 Nadia Stropich
14 Annah Creech
21 Kristy Stephenson
28 Doug Sonderfan

ELDER OF THE MONTH

Donna Stolle

GREETERS

Session

SECURITY

David Collier

USHERS

7 John Kopanski, Tony Bryant and
John Mott
14 Donna Stolle, Tony Bryant and
John Mott
21 Kevin Creech, John Kopanski and
Scott Martin
28 Tony Bryant, Steve Newnam and
Scott Martin

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

7 Kristy Stephenson
14 Annah Creech
21 Miriam Lambert
28 Miriam Lambert



Birthdays & Anniversaries



March Anniversaries

26 Bob and Carolyn Zattiero

March Birthdays

2 Debra Sturgis
3 Lorie Smith
5 Courtney Walton
8 Jim Abbott
11 Riley Lynn Nordan
13 Barbie Frickman
16 Mac Jones
19 Harris Bagley
20 Abbey Walton
27 Marilyn Johnson
Travis Jones
29 Jane Pickens
30 Steve Nordan
31 Nadia DeJesus



March Upcoming Events



- Mar 2 Fellowship & Fitness Group 11:00 am
Mar 3 Adult Virtual Choir Practice 7:30 pm
Mar 4 Fellowship & Fitness Group 11:00 am
Lenten Bible Study, 10:00 am and 7:00 pm
Mar 7 Sunday Worship
Communion Sunday
Congregational Meeting to Elect PNC
Youth Meet LFH 6:00 pm
Mar 8 Session Meeting 7:00 pm
Mar 9 Fellowship & Fitness Group 11:00 am
Mar 10 Adult Virtual Choir Practice 7:30 pm
Mar 11 Fellowship & Fitness Group 11:00 am
Lenten Bible Study, 10:00 am and 7:00 pm
Mar 14 Sunday Worship
Daylight Savings Time – Spring forward!
Youth Meet LFH 6:00 pm
Mar 16 Fellowship & Fitness Group 11:00 am
Mar 17 Adult Virtual Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm
Mar 18 Fellowship Committee Meeting 11:00 am
Fellowship & Fitness Group 11:00 am
Lenten Bible Study, 10:00 am and 7:00 pm
Mar 21 Sunday Worship
Youth Meet LFH 6:00 pm
Mar 22 Mission & Outreach Comm. Mtg. 11:00 am
Mar 23 Fellowship & Fitness Group 11:00 am
Newsletter deadline
Mar 24 Adult Virtual Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm
Mar 25 Fellowship & Fitness Group 11:00 am
Lenten Bible Study, 10:00 am and 7:00 pm
Mar 28 Sunday Worship
Youth Meet LFH 6:00 pm
Mar 30 Fellowship & Fitness Group 10:00 am
Mar 31 Adult Virtual Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm

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

Custodial

Ray and Jamone Johnson

Music Director/ Organist/Pianist
Brittany Jones

Pianist

Angie Searcy

Secretary

Cindy Lynch



Accounting Treasurer
Sam Stephenson

Clerk

John Kopanski

Collections Treasurer
Ann Benson

Newsletter

Cindy Lynch

Sunday School Superintendent
Kristy Stephenson

Website

David Nelms

Prayer List of Joys and Concerns

Members of the Providence Family in Long-Term Care:

Marilyn Johnson at *Barbour Court Nursing and Rehab Center, in Smithfield*; **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 Davidson*); **Frank Camarda**, (*Nicole Hughes*); **Ann Hargis, Jamie Harris**, (*Andrea Jones*); **John Husuley**, (*Carolyn Johnson*); **Karen**, (*Don and Debbie Sturgis*); **Nancy Lange**, (*John Mott*); **Terasha McChann** (*Bob Reed*); **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*); **Donna Adams and Family**, (*Wendy Stephenson*); **Sara Barber**, (*Vickie Faircloth*); **Lauren Bellissimo**, (*David and Pamela Collier*); **Worth Bowman, Joe Champion**, (*Carolyn Johnson*); **Patricia Chapin**, (*Carolyn Johnson*); **Elise Corona**, (*Sue Bryant*); **Larry Creech**, (*Kevin Creech*); **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*); **Courtney & Jeff Gulley**, (*Kent Walton*); **David Guss**, (*Andrea Jones*); **Willie Hardisen**, (*Carol Sawyer*); **John Harris**, (*Andrea Jones*); **Brian Johnson**, (*Don Dupree*); **Lisa Jones**, (*Atlee and Linda Roberts*); **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, Daphne Noles; Mary Tyler Nordan**, (*Tyler and Natalie Nordan*); **Ed & Lou Penny, Laura Polfuss**, (*Arline Mott*); **Page Powers**, (*Lamberts*); **Caleb Reese**, (*Andrea Jones*); **Lycia Reese**, (*Andrea Jones*); **Becky Roberts, John Rogers; Mitch Sonderfan**, (*Doug Sonderfan*); **Stephen Southers, Ann K. Stephenson, Wayne Stephenson and Debbie Jernigan**, (*Sam Stephenson*); **Debbie Sturgis, Charles Tadlock**, (*Pam Collier*); **Angie Walker**, (*Eunice Newnam*); **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.



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.

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 or address
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



Reminder!

Deadlines for the Month:

Bulletin and Friday Reminder Deadline: Wednesday, 12:00 pm
Monthly Newsletter: 23rd of the month, 1:00 pm

Available on the website:

Church Newsletter "Presbyterians At The Crossroads"
PPC Facebook

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 **buddies** needed items are given below.

Backpack 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
- 2) sugar
- 3) paper towels
- 4) toilet paper
- 5) clothes washing detergent
- 6) dish washing detergent



Donation Option

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

