

Presbyterians at the Crossroads

May 2004

Providence Presbyterian Church

www.providencepresb.org

Rev. C. Mark Scott

Minister's Minutes

In the closing of Luke's Gospel, Jesus, the one crucified and risen from the dead, reminds His disciples of an earlier promise:

"I am going to send you what my Father has promised..." (Luke 24:49).

This same promise is echoed in John's Gospel (14:16). It is an indication that not only is Jesus Christ alive, but also that He has plans for His Church, His Disciples. On Sunday, May 30, we will remember the coming of the Father's promise on Pentecost. Pentecost is the time when Jesus' presence as Lord and Savior could dwell within each believer as the Holy Spirit. So, while Jesus would not be physically present with us, He would send the Holy Spirit to be with us in new ways that He in his earthly body could not be with us.

Pentecost is often overlooked because May is such an eventful month: Mother's Day, School ending, Graduation Day, Memorial Day, Baseball and Softball games.... But in a quiet, reverent way we hope to emphasize the meaning of this special day by holding 3 house communions in three different homes at 3 different times: 3:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 30. You are invited to share in one of these communion services. Pick a time and place, and phone ahead so they will be prepared for you. Help us to give thanks to Jesus' Father for the promise He sent to us, the Holy Spirit.

<u>Time</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>
3:30	Bob & Nadine Reed	639.3407
5:30	Paul & Ann Stephenson	894.2728
7:30	Jeffrey & DeEtta Wood	331.9046

With joy in His Name,
Mark

One Great Hour of Sharing

We thank the Lord that \$261.69 was collected for our One Great Hour of Sharing Offering that was collected on Easter Sunday. This money will be used to assist families across the nation who have been impacted by disasters or are facing crisis situations.

Prayer Vigil

Thanks to the 33 people who signed up as prayer volunteers for our National Day of Prayer Vigil that begins May 5 at 6:00 p.m. and ends May 6 at 6:00 p.m. Also, the prayer requests and thanksgivings that were submitted to be remembered during this prayer vigil are appreciated.

Christian Sympathy

Our Christian sympathies are extended to the family of Lou Ann Pleasant, sister to Beck McLamb, who passed away on April 6, and to the family of Jeff Jackson, nephew to Tom Nelms, who passed away on April 27.

Thank You

A special thanks to all who participated in and helped with our Youth Easter Celebrations, Holy Week Services, Sunrise Service and Breakfast, and Easter Service. "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ." (1 Cor. 12).

"Got Dirt?" - Youth Car Wash

Is your car in need of a good washing? Does your Mom's or Grandma's car need washing? (Remember, it is the day before Mother's Day....). Come support the youth of Providence during our Annual Spring Car Wash at the Texaco at exit 319 on Hwy. 210. Cars will be washed from 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon. Parents are encouraged to come and assist the youth with this project. The kids will earn funding credit toward our July Emerald Pointe trip, and 10% of the monies raised will go towards our mission projects. The congregation's support will be much appreciated.

Street Dreams 2004

Boy Scout Troop 210 presents *Street Dreams 2004* to be held at West Johnston High School on Saturday, May 15 from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Providence's Men's Fellowship will be selling hot dogs and hamburgers with all the fixings, and the Girl Scouts will be selling brownies, cookies, and other goodies. There will also be a 50/50 drawing, music, and other entertainment at this event. If you have any questions, please contact John Pickens at 639.5318.

Camp Albemarle

It's that time of year again! Are you interested in sending your kids to camp? Camp Albemarle has been a Presbyterian summer camp since 1953 and is a part of the Presbytery of New Hope's summer camping program. Campers sail in the sound, swim in the Jr. Olympic size pool, play volleyball, basketball, soccer, and learn to work together on the low ropes course. They worship together in the vesper dell, play games in the pavilion, and live in one of six cabins with a spectacular view. Camp Albemarle's mission is to provide safe, fun and meaningful activities that allow campers an opportunity to build relationships with peers, staff, and God. The Session of Providence Presbyterian Church has agreed to pay ½ of the cost for any church youth that would like to go to Camp Albemarle. The 2004 schedule is provided below, but if you have any other questions please talk with Mark Scott or visit Camp Albemarle's website at www.campalbemarle.org.

Date	Camp
6/6 – 6/11	Junior Camp #1 Service Corp #1
6/13 – 6/18	Middle Camp #1
6/13 – 6/25	Two Week Camp
6/20 – 6/25	Middle Camp #2
7/4 – 7/9	Middle Camp #3 Sea Kayak #1
7/11 – 7/16	Middle Camp #3 Sea Kayak #2
7/18 – 7/23	Junior Camp #3 Service Corp #3
7/25 – 7/30	Last Blast

"Somebunny Loves You" Mission Project – Blessings for Givers and Receivers

Our first "Somebunny Loves You – God and Me" Mission Project was awesome! Providence collected 102 bunnies, chicks, and lambs. Our stuffed friends were distributed to children at the following area hospitals: Johnston Memorial, Betsy Johnson, Good Hope, Rex, and Wake Med.

In II Corinthians Chapter 8-9, Paul tells us that Christian giving is to be cheerful, generous, and responsive to the needs of others, and by doing this, we show God our many expressions of thanks... A stuffed bunny or chick might not seem like a "need", but to a child in the hospital or a tired mom or dad with a sick child our bunnies, lambs, and chicks fulfilled a need...of encouragement, of faith, of hope, of love and compassion...basic Christian values. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this wonderful project! May God richly bless you today and always.

Easter Celebrations

This year, lots of kids (50+) enjoyed celebrating Easter at Providence! We had three celebrations that were lots of fun!

Middle School and High School

On April 9, the middle and high school youth got together to celebrate Easter! They attended the Tenebrae Service, and enjoyed pizza and ice cream sundaes. There was lots of laughter and wildness with the "In the Dark" Clues Hunt, and "Flashlight Pictionary." The youth discussed the Easter story, learned about symbols in the story, and had some laughs (and confusion) with their craft project! The group also learned that "Reading is fundamental...bees buzz...being silly is still fun and of course cool...The Lord's Prayer starts with "Our Father"...Zaccheus was not a tall man...and we have a time capsule. They had a grand time!

3rd-5th Grade

On April 10, the youth in Grades 3-5 got together for a taco eatin', water balloon poppin' great time! This very smart group shared in the discussion of the Easter Story with assistance from the Resurrection Eggs. They enjoyed a challenging egg hunt and laughed a lot during game time, particularly with the water balloons! Ice cream sundaes, craft time, and face painting were also a big hit with this wonderful group of kids!

Nursery-2nd Grade

On April 10, this group was Easter joy...period. The kids' smiles were not dampened at all by the afternoon rainstorm/monsoon. Thankfully, the Lord provided us with rain after the egg hunt. As eggs were found, the looks of awe and excitement were completed with baskets and buckets overflowing with brightly colored eggs filled with candy and prizes. The kids learned the Easter Story with the assistance of the Resurrection Eggs. They had a pile of cookies and goodies to eat, and had a big time with their craft project – "Love God". The face (or foot) painting, and the pinwheels also brought many smiles!

A special THANK YOU to the Pioneer Clubs middle and high school students who worked at both celebrations on Saturday! Thank you to the adults that helped make these celebrations happen! What a trio of blessings!

Men's Fellowship

The Men of the Church are offering to rake leaves, pick up trash, and do other yard work for anyone within our congregation who has this need. If you need their assistance, please sign-up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board behind the sanctuary. The Men's Fellowship meets the 4th Sunday of each month at 7:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast; however, in May they will meet at the Cracker Barrel located on Hwy. 42. If you have any questions, please contact Kent Walton or Tom Nelms.

New Basketball Goals and Court

On March 7, the Session met with High School Senior, Shelton Langdon. Shelton proposed to redo the basketball court as his Senior Project at West Johnston High School, where he will graduate in May and plans to go to a North Carolina college and play basketball.

The Session approved his plans, which are to put up two goals and paint a full court (near to high school regulation size). Funds will come from the budget and from gifts and donations.

The Session appointed a Rules Committee of: Gary Phillips, Joey Porter, Shelton Langdon, Steve Nordan, and Mark Scott to make recommendations about managing the court once it is completed. The Rules Committee met on April 4 and recommended a new sign be placed on the court, and the Session has approved it. The sign will read as follows:

During Church Events, this court will be closed to the public. When you are on this Court, you are a guest of Providence Presbyterian Church Congregation. We expect the highest standards of behavior:

In speech

In courtesy

In sportsmanship

In keeping the court clean

Court Hours: Monday – Saturday 9:00 a.m. – Dark

Sunday 1:00 p.m. – Dark

Play at your own risk. The church is not responsible for any injury or accident.

Pioneer Clubs Celebration and Awards Ceremony

We thank the Lord for a successful first year of Pioneer Clubs. Pioneer Clubs has averaged 32 members at each meeting! We only have 1 more meeting this year. Our last meeting will be on Sunday, May 16 at 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This meeting will be a Celebration of the success of the program, along with an Awards Ceremony for the Clubs members. The members will be receiving awards based on their service projects and other activities that they have participated in this year. We encourage all the parents and other family members to attend the Celebration and Ceremony. We also invite everyone within the congregation to join us for this event, where we will enjoy hot dogs, hamburgers, homemade ice cream, and more! Please mark your calendars to join us for this fun-filled evening! Pioneer Clubs will reconvene in September for another successful year!

Graduates

Congratulations to Crystal Langdon who will graduate from East Carolina University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Graphic Design on Saturday, May 8 at 1:30 p.m.

Congratulations to Shelton Langdon who will graduate from West Johnston High School on Friday, May 28 at 6:00 p.m.

We wish Crystal and Shelton much success as they begin these new chapters in their lives!

Presbyterian Women News

The Presbyterian Women are looking forward to their Annual Beach Retreat to Carolina Beach leaving Friday, May 14 and returning Sunday, May 16. During this trip, the women will enjoy Bible Study, fellowship, food, and fun. On Saturday morning, our Bible Study will be led by Ruth McSwain.

On May 18, the Presbyterian Women Daytime and Evening Circles will have a joint meeting for the Birthday Program at 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The Presbyterian Women will not meet in June or July, but will resume their regularly scheduled meetings in August. During June and July, please give your pledge to JoAnn Creech. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Nelms.

Senior Citizens Luncheon

The Providence Presbyterian Women invite all Senior Citizens for lunch on Tuesday, June 8 at 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall for a meal of oven-fried chicken, steamed cabbage, garden peas, salads, desserts, rolls and tea. Please plan to attend this time of delicious food, great fellowship, and enjoyable entertainment!

Vacation Bible School

The Vacation Bible School Planning Committee will meet on Tuesday, May 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the Men's Classroom. Anyone committed to teaching, helping, or planning is invited and encouraged to attend. We need your help and support to make our 2004 Vacation Bible School a success. If you have any questions, please contact Amy Hovermale or Allison Tart.

Youth Pancake Supper Success

Thanks to all the youth and adults who prepared, cooked, served, and cleaned at our Youth Pancake Supper. Over \$350 was made at this fundraiser, but more importantly the youth had a great time. Children from the K-2 youth group waited tables, the 3rd-5th youth group served food, and the middle and high school youth group learned to fry bacon and flip pancakes!

May Schedules

Nursery Keepers

2	Richard and Andrea Jones
9	Eugene and Angie Schexnayder
16	Darren and Joan Stuart
23	Jim and Lisa Ingram
30	Mark and Pam Nelms

Nursery Floaters

2	Kelly Nordan
9	Elaine Wood
16	Deana Parrish
23	Beth Pickens
30	Jeffrey Wood

Ushers

2	Steve Nordan and John Pickens
9	Gary Phillips and Atlee Roberts
16	Charlie Porter and Russell Wood
23	Stephen Nordan and Robbie Wood
30	Bob Reed and Darren Stuart

Acolyte

2	Samuel Stephenson
9	Kendall Nelms
16	Will Langdon
23	Ethan Hovermale
30	Ryne Jones

Bell Ringer

2	Jane Pickens
9	Ryne Jones
16	Samuel Stephenson
23	Jack Sherrill
30	Emily Langdon

Children's Sermon

2	Ann Benson
16	Mark Scott
30	Jeffrey Wood

Children's Church

2	Sam and Wendy Stephenson
9	Jeffrey and DeEtta Wood
16	Allison and Meredith Tart
23	Richard and Andrea Jones
30	Robbie and Kathy Wood

Prayer List

The families of Jeff Jackson, Robin Lee, Justin Parrish, Pat Sealey, and Danny Mac Sauls. Also, Don Bullard, Annie Ruth Byrd, B.J. Clifton, Brenda Davis, Lovie Dorman, Jim Duncan, Patricia Evans, Ann Marie Faggenbaum, Kathy Henry, Alice Honeycutt, Bill Howard, Jon Michael Jarman, Marshall Manns, Gloria McLamb, Charles Mitchell, Woody Mitchell, Debbie Parrish, Judy Parsons, Becky Roberts, Jaime Sorenson, Kathy Stephenson, Ray Williford, and Ken Wiseheart. Serving in the Armed Forces: Stephen Barbour, Wayne Embrey, Calvin Erickson, David Ginn, Matt Guy, Joshua Langdon, Glen Parker, Percy Rachels, Scott West, and Mac Woods.

May Birthdays

♪♪♪ Happy Birthday to..... ♪♪♪

2	Joe Tart
5	Annie Lewis
6	Shepherd Byrd
7	Bernard Parsons
12	Kelly Nordan
19	Angie Schexnayder
24	Heather Langdon
26	Christina Nelms Ryan Nelms
28	Ronnie Creech

If your birthday is in May, but is not listed above, please notify DeEtta Wood at 331.9046. Thanks!

Upcoming Events

- May 2 Pioneer Clubs meet at 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall
- May 3 Stated Session Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Seeker's Classroom
- May 4 Vacation Bible School Planning Committee meets at 7:00 p.m. in the Men's Classroom
- May 5 Prayer Vigil begins at 6:00 p.m. and ends on May 6 at 6:00 p.m.
- May 8 Youth Car Wash at the Texaco at exit 319 from 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon
- May 9 Mother's Day
- May 14 Presbyterian Women leave for their Annual Beach Retreat to Carolina Beach, returning on May 16.
- May 15 Street Dreams 2004, presented by Boy Scout Troop 210 at West Johnston High School from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- May 16 Pioneer Clubs Awards Ceremony and Celebration at 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The congregation is invited to join us!
- May 18 Presbyterian Women Daytime and Evening Circles meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for the Birthday Program
- May 23 Men's Fellowship Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. at the Cracker Barrel at Hwy. 42
- May 30 Doughnuts, coffee, and juice in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45 a.m. Combined Adult Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.
- May 30 Pentecost Communion Services at the home of Bob and Nadine Reed at 3:30 p.m., at the home of Paul and Ann Stephenson at 5:30 p.m., and at the home of Jeffrey and DeEtta Wood at 7:30 p.m.

Deadline

If you have any information that needs to appear in the June newsletter, please have that information to DeEtta Wood by Thursday, May 20. Thanks!