

# Presbyterians at the Crossroads

## November 2005

Providence Presbyterian Church

Rev. Lisa Nance

www.providencepresb.org

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### Pastor's Paragraph

Looking at the calendar for November, I am overwhelmed by a sense of excitement! In our lives as believers, we have chances to choose God's will and the month ahead of us provides lots of opportunities to do just that! This is a season of renewed commitment as we gear up for Advent and the coming of the Christ child.

Our Confirmation Class will be wrapping up our classroom sessions during this month. Nine of our youth will be making the decision as to whether they are ready to accept the vows we took for each one of them when they were baptized as babies. And for those youth who are ready, we will celebrate their decision on November 20 during our Worship Service, as we welcome them into full membership. The process that these youth have gone through demonstrates their commitment to their faith.

As we step into the month of November, take some time, before the "holiday crazies" hit, to renew your own personal commitments – to your family, to your faith and to your God. God longs for our wholeness, yet we can get fragmented so quickly. Center yourself in the love of God, so that you can truly enjoy the season, the fellowship and the communion.

God tells us, in the book of Isaiah, that He is doing a new thing – feel the excitement that comes with the new opportunities God is preparing for us!

*In Christ,  
Lisa Nance  
Interim Minister*

### Christmas Program

The Annual Christmas Program is scheduled for **Sunday, December 4 at 5:00 p.m.** in the Sanctuary. The Nesselrodt Sunday School Class will organize the Christmas program. All youth (Preschool – High School) that are interested in participating in this program should contact Kay Dry or a member of the Nesselrodt Sunday School class. Practice for this program will be Sunday, November 13 at 5:00 p.m. for all youth, and on Sunday, November 20 at 5:00 p.m. for the Middle and High School youth only. The final practice will be Dress Rehearsal on Saturday, December 3 at 9:30 a.m., with doughnuts and juice being provided. All youth are encouraged to participate in this program! Anyone with questions should contact Kay Dry or any member of the Nesselrodt Sunday School class.

### Presbyterian Women Events

The Presbyterian Women still have a lot going on between now and the end of the year, and would like to encourage all women to come and be a part. If you have questions regarding the Presbyterian Women, please contact Lisa Nelms at 894.1419.

**November 15** – Joint Circle Meeting for Daytime and Evening Circles. The Thank Offering Program and Installation of Officers will be presented at 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

**November 26** – Decorate church for Advent and Christmas at 9:00 a.m.

**December 6** – Senior Citizen's Luncheon at 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall

**December 13** – Presbyterian Women Christmas Dinner and Program in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m.

### Confirmation Class Mission Project

The Confirmation Class has chosen its mission project! Given the recent events around our country and our world, we have decided to assemble Health Kit bags for our Presbyterian Disaster Relief Agency. We are asking the congregation to help us collect the necessary items to put the kits together. Below is a list of items. If you can help by contributing any of these, please bring them to the church between now and Sunday, November 6. You do not need to bring every single item – we will combine all that we receive. These items can be dropped by the Pastor's Office. Thanks so much for helping us as we learn more about what it means to be a part of the family of God!

Health Kit Items (seal items in one-gallon plastic bag with zip closure):

- 1 – hand towel
- 1 – washcloth
- 1 – comb
- 1 – metal nail file or nail clipper
- 1 – bar of soap (bath size)
- 1 – toothbrush
- 1 – tube of toothpaste (4-7 oz)
- 6 – band aids

If you have questions regarding the Health Kits or the Confirmation Class, please contact Rev. Lisa Nance or Mary Langdon.

## **Poinsettias for Advent**

As is the tradition during Advent, we will have poinsettias in the sanctuary for the entire Advent season. Anyone interested in purchasing an honorary or memorial poinsettia, should complete an insert which will be provided in the bulletin for the next several Sundays. Poinsettias will cost \$6.75 each, and you will be able to take home the poinsettia that you purchased on Sunday, December 25 following Worship. If you are not able to complete an insert, please contact DeEtta Wood at [jdwood72@earthlink.net](mailto:jdwood72@earthlink.net) or 331.9046 to place your order. All orders and money are to be turned in to DeEtta Wood by Sunday, November 20.

## **Church-wide Winter Retreat**

The church is already planning for its annual Winter Retreat to Winterplace Ski Resort in West Virginia. The retreat is scheduled for Friday, February 10 through Sunday, February 12, 2006. Anyone interested in going is welcome; however, please notify Gary and Georgeanna Phillips as soon as possible to ensure that there is enough room for everyone. The first deposit for this trip is due December 1. This retreat is always a fun time for everyone, young and old! Even those that do not ski or tube have a great time of fellowship. If you have any questions regarding this trip, please contact Gary and Georgeanna at 207.0604.

## **Pioneer Clubs Kids-for-Kids Hike**

On Saturday, November 19, Pioneer Clubs will have its annual Kids-for-Kids Hike at Lake Benson in Garner at 10:00 a.m., with lunch being served at 11:00 a.m. All club members and their parents are encouraged to participate in this event, as the club members will receive a mission award badge and an activity badge. The club members will be raising money to go towards the Pioneer Clubs mission project. If you have questions regarding this hike or Pioneer Clubs, please contact Kathy Wood at 639.8399.

Also, on Sunday, November 20, Pioneer Clubs will have their regular meeting at 5:00 p.m. with a Thanksgiving Celebration theme and dinner. Parents are encouraged to join their children for dinner at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall to participate in the celebration of Thanksgiving! Members of the congregation are also welcome to come for dinner, but please notify Georgeanna Phillips if you plan to attend so that the appropriate amount of food will be prepared.

With God's blessings, Providence is well on its way towards reaching the goal of \$100,000 for the Parking Lot Project. As of Sunday, October 30, \$74,766 has been pledged and/or given. This total includes \$35,000 designated from the Building Fund, \$33,800 in individual pledges, and \$5,966 from additional gifts. \$25,234 in pledges or gifts is still needed to reach our goal. We must all prayerfully consider what God would have us give.

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or out of compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." 2 Corinthians 9:6-8.

## **Sunday School Attendance Recognition**

On Sunday, October 30, during Sunday School Assembly, Darren Stuart, Sunday School Superintendent, recognized the youth who had greater than 50% participation in Sunday School for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of 2005. Those names are listed below. Thanks to the parents and the youth for their commitment to the Sunday School and Youth programs at Providence.

**Austin Benson, Haley Jones, Ryne Jones, Kendall Nelms, Ryan Nelms, Stewart Pickens, Ashlyn Roberts, Daniel Stephenson, Hannah Stephenson, Samuel Stephenson, Adam Stuart, Ashton Stuart, Abigail Wood and Justin Wood.**

## **Homecoming 2005**

On Sunday, October 9, Providence was blessed with a wonderful Homecoming Service. Clyde Wiley delivered a sermon full of inspiration and the church was full of people representing our future and our past! And as a sign of our future the offering collected will support the modernization of our Parking Lot. The total amount of the offering was \$11,551.00. Thanks to all of those who gave! Even though there were clouds in the sky, a beautiful day, a delicious meal, and a time of fellowship were enjoyed by all. Thanks to the Men's Fellowship and the Fellowship Committee for all of their work in setting up tables and tents

## **Website**

As a reminder, the monthly newsletter is posted on the church website at [www.providencepresb.org](http://www.providencepresb.org). If you have items regarding church events or programs that you would like posted on the website, please send those to [dnelms@countrysoftware.com](mailto:dnelms@countrysoftware.com). Dave Nelms does a great job of keeping the website updated with any information provided to him.

## **Young Adult Sunday School Class**

## **Parking Lot Update**

The Young Adult Sunday School class would like to invite anyone interested in being a part of this class to join them on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the Library. This class is currently studying the book of Acts, led by Bob and Jenni Dry. The Young Adult Sunday School class was newly formed last year under the leadership of Will and Julie Walls. One Sunday each month the class has a guest speaker from within the congregation to lead them in their lesson and discussion. If you have questions regarding this class, please contact Bob Dry.

### Providence Youth

The Providence Youth is made up of the youth within our congregation who are in grades 7-12. This group currently meets the same night as Pioneer Clubs (every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday) at 6:00 p.m. in the manse, but does Bible Study and activities separate from Pioneer Clubs. The leaders for this group are Bob and Jenni Dry, Mary Langdon, Kristy Stephenson, Clyde Wiley, Joanna Wiley and Jeffrey Wood. The group averages about 15 youth who enjoy a time of Bible Study, activities, and fellowship. They are also planning outings and activities separate from their meetings, and would love to have any young person that is interested to join them. If you have questions regarding this youth program, please contact one of the leaders.

### Pledges for 2006

On Sunday, October 23, Gary Phillips, Treasurer, presented the budget for 2006. He also mailed out a letter and budget to each member of the congregation. Pledge cards and offering envelopes for the coming year are available in the vestibule of the church. Gary asked each person to prayerfully consider what they can and will give towards the ongoing support of the daily functions of our church. The budget and pledges for 2006 is separate from the Parking Lot project. Gary also recognized and thanked Mark and Pam Nelms for their help as Incoming Treasurer with taking up the offering and making all deposits. **Sunday, November 6** is Pledge Sunday. Anyone with questions regarding the budget or pledges should contact Gary Phillips.

**Ecclesiastes 3:1-8:** *To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven. A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.*

### Men's Fellowship

The Men's Fellowship meets the last Sunday of every month at 7:30 a.m. in the Fellowship for breakfast, devotion, and a time of fellowship. All men are encouraged to come and participate in this time together. If you have questions regarding Men's Fellowship, please contact Kent Walton.

### Music Program

There are two choir groups at our church, one for the children and one for the adults. The Children's Choir is led by Laura McLamb and is for any child who wishes to participate. The Children's Choir practices on Sunday mornings from 9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. in the 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Sunday School class. The Children's Choir typically sings on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month and for special occasions. If you have questions regarding Children's Choir, or a child who would like to participate, please contact Laura McLamb.

The Adult Choir is led by Susan Scott and practices regularly on Wednesday nights from 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Any adult who is interested in becoming a part of the choir is encouraged to come for practice on Wednesday night, or contact Susan Scott.

### Words to Live By....

I Corinthians 12:12 – *"The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all of its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ."* (NIV)

A "sports team" may be defined as: a collection of individuals who work together, much like the parts of a body work together, doing different tasks, but still just one body. The team needs each individual player to play his or her position to the best of his or her ability. The team members also need to encourage each other whether the play is successful or not. "Church" is usually defined in terms of the building, the stained glass windows, the high ceiling, etc. The church is much more than a building; it is the people. In fact, the definition of sports team should be the definition of the church. As Paul put it so perfectly in his letter to the church in Corinth, the church "is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all of its parts are many, they form one body." Our task is to discover what position we need to play on the team, to get out there and play to the best of our ability and to cheer each other on.

*Sharing New Hope  
March/April 2003*

### November Schedules

### Infant Nursery

6 Heath and Heather White  
13 Nell Franke and Jeffrey Wood  
20 Carlos and Stephanie Bagley  
27 Johnny and Elaine Wood

### Toddler Nursery

6 Beth Pickens  
13 Crissy Porter  
20 Gary Phillips  
27 Richard Jones

### Ushers

6 Mark Nelms and John Pickens  
13 Steve Nordan and Jimmy Stuart  
20 Charlie Porter and Russell Wood  
27 Lisa Nelms and Kristy Stephenson

### Acolyte

6 Jack Sherrill  
13 Joseph Phillips  
20 Abigail Wood  
27 Katie Rutherford

### Bell Ringer

6 Kendall Nelms  
13 Jack Sherrill  
20 Nathan Ingram  
27 Adam Shelp

### Children's Sermon

6 Ann Benson  
13 Kay Dry  
27 Mark Nelms

### Children's Church

6 Richard and Andrea Jones  
13 Jeff and DeEtta Wood  
20 Darren and Joan Stuart  
27 Robbie and Kathy Wood

### Prayer List

Rose Blasgow, Ray and Velma Bost, Don Bullard, Carol Clifton, Vera Critcher, Lovie Dorman, Mabel Ennis, Mary Hart, Linda Hutchins, Chris Johnson, Bobbie Langdon, Betty Lou Lee, Heather Macsuga, Eloise McLeod, Virginia Moore, Kenneth Ray, Sandra Rice, Alice Stephenson, Bobby Stone, Margaret Walton, Jesse West, and Rosemond Woodall.

### ♪♪♪ Happy Birthday to..... ♪♪♪

3 Gwen Walton  
6 Nathan Reed  
7 Ann Benson  
9 Gary Phillips  
Rosemond Woodall  
10 Amanda Parrish  
Hannah Stephenson  
11 Virginia Moore  
12 Jim Ingram  
Rosyval Walton  
14 Ann Woodall  
18 Julie Walls  
22 Darren Stuart  
24 Chris Roberts  
26 Jeffrey Wood  
27 Megan Sherrill  
Will Walls  
30 Laura McLamb

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

### November Upcoming Events

6 Confirmation Class from 12 noon – 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Deadline for Health Kit items to be delivered to Pastor's Study  
6 Pioneer Clubs at 5:00 p.m. – **Patriotic Sunday!** Providence Youth (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) meet at 6:00 p.m.  
8 Stated Session Meeting at 7:30 p.m.  
13 Confirmation Class from 12 noon – 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall  
13 Youth Christmas Program practice at 5:00 p.m. – all youth are asked to attend  
15 Presbyterian Women Daytime and Evening Circles meet at 7:30 p.m. for Thank Offering program and Installation of Officers  
19 Pioneer Clubs Hike at 10:00 a.m. at Lake Benson, with lunch provided at 11:00 a.m.  
20 Confirmation Class Sunday during Worship at 11:00 a.m.  
20 Deadline to turn in orders and money for honorary or memorial Poinsettias for Advent  
20 Pioneer Clubs at 5:00 p.m. – **Thanksgiving Celebration!**  
20 Youth Christmas Program practice for Middle and High School youth at 5:00 p.m.  
26 Presbyterian Women to decorate the church for Advent and Christmas at 9:00 a.m.  
27 Men's Fellowship Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall  
27 Deadline for items to be given to DeEtta Wood for the December newsletter

### November Birthdays