

Presbyterians at the Crossroads

July 2006

Providence Presbyterian Church

Rev. Lisa Nance

www.providencepresb.org

Pastor's Paragraph

Socrates once said that the unexamined life isn't worth living. Although Socrates lived about 400 years before Christ, he seemed to have realized an eternal truth that Jesus would embody in his life and ministry. Be aware. Question. Think. Pay attention.

We are creatures of habit. Too often, it never occurs to us to question what we believe, think, or do. We learned from our parents, our families, our communities, our country – from the moment of birth we absorb the values of those who care for us. But for Christians, simply accepting something because “it has always been that way” – is NOT an acceptable approach to life.

Jesus taught us by example and word that life shouldn't be taken at face value. In all the people Jesus met, whether they were self-righteous leaders or sinners lost in the deepest depravity, Jesus saw into their heart. He knew what each one's personal need was – He knew where God's touch was needed to move them forward.

Most of us get “stuck” at some point in life. We forget that we have options. Sometimes we are too tired to see the options; sometimes we are hurting too much to think clearly through the option; and sometimes we just lose touch with the ability to believe life can be different. We come to accept the ways things are as the way they will always be.

Jesus didn't pretend that the life God was calling us to would be an easy life – Jesus himself died upon the cross following God. It isn't easy to make changes in our lives. Old habits die hard. But we aren't on our own. God has poured out the Holy Spirit upon each one of us. And He has given us a community of faith as well. We are the family of God and we are knit together by the blood of our Savior.

It is in the power of our God that we can find the strength to look honestly at who we are, question where we are headed and find the ability to move forward into the future God is calling us to find. May God bless each of us as we seek His will in our lives!

*In Christ,
Rev. Lisa Nance
Interim Minister*

Eye-Catching

Recently, as I drove down the street, one of our sister church's sign caught my eye. It said: *God doesn't want weekend visitation – He wants full custody!*

Vacation Bible School THANK YOU!

I would like to thank everyone who worked to make this Vacation Bible School (VBS) such an awesome experience! We had over 20 children this year, ranging in age from our infants to 6th graders. Without the adults and youth who contributed their time and talents, VBS wouldn't be possible. Thank you so much for sharing your God given gifts in such a valuable way!

Rev. Lisa Nance

Congratulations to...

Kristy Stephenson who received her Master's Degree in Education; **Jessica Langdon** and **Stephanie McLamb** who graduated from College; **Daniel McGee, Amanda McLamb, Christina Nelms, Tyler Nordan, Joey Porter, Jessica Stephenson, and Elise Wiley** who graduated from High School; and **Austin Benson** and **Courtney Walton** who graduated from Middle School. Also to **Jessica Langdon** who passed her board certification exam to become a Registered Nurse, and is now employed by Wilson Memorial Hospital..

Nadine Reed, who retired June 30 from Wake County Human Services after 30 years in Public Health Nursing. She received her 30 year award on June 19 from the Wake County Commissioners and a Letter of Recognition from the County Manager!

Providence Men's Softball Team who placed third in the tournament for their league!

Scriptures for the Month of July

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Scripture</u>
July 2	Mark 6:14-44
July 9	Mark 5:1-20 & Psalm 103:1-18
July 16	Guest Preacher; Rev. Nance on Study Leave
July 23	Christmas in July
July 30	II Samuel 11:1-15 & Matthew 7:7-12

Another Way to Pray (and a good reminder for us all!)

An older gentleman was strolling through the park one beautiful day when he came upon a child sitting on a bench, busily saying his ABCs. The old man waited until the child was through, then said, “I see you're practicing your alphabet.” “No,” replied the child. “I was praying. You see, I don't know how to pray very well so I just give God the letters and he puts them into the right words!”

July Schedules

Infant Nursery

- 2 Robbie andn Kathy Wood
9 Darren and Joan Stuart
16 Linda Roberts and Carolyn Stuart
23 Johnathan and Amy Reed
30 Sue Bryant and Carolyn Stuart

Toddler Nursery

- 2 Richard Jones
9 Amanda McLamb
16 Crissy Porter
23 Lisa Ingram
30 Roxann Porter

Ushers

- 2 Randy Benson and Ryan Nelms
9 Charlie Porter and Will Walls
16 Dick Embrey and Ken Lordi
23 Jimmy Stuart and Kent Walton
30 David Collier and Russell Wood

Acolyte

- 2 Daniel Stephenson
9 Samuel Stephenson
16 Hanna Stephenson
23 Joseph Phillips
30 Haley Jones

Bell Ringer

- 2 Emma Phillips
9 Samuel Stephenson
16 Justin Wood
23 Joseph Phillips
30 Adam Ingram

Please review the updated Acolyte and Bell Ringer schedule posted on the bulletin board behind the sanctuary to find out when your child is scheduled. If you have any questions concerning the schedule, please contact Wendy Stephenson.

Children's Sermon

- 2 Mark Nelms
9 Wendy Stephenson
16 Darren Stuart
30 Nancy Nelms

Children's Church

- 2 Lisa and Christina Nelms
9 Chris and Kristy Stephenson
16 Ashley and Crissy Porter
23 Darren and Joan Stuart
30 Kay Dry and Sandra Lordi

July Birthdays

♪♪♪ *Happy Birthday to.....* ♪♪♪

- 7 Tom Nelms
Sam Stephenson
8 Ryne Jones
Samuel Stephenson
9 Andy Stephenson
12 David Nelms
14 Carolyn Zatteiro
15 Dawn Riggelman
Kent Walton
16 Mary Langdon
17 Atlee Roberts
19 Kim Byrd
20 Maddox Strader
23 Cindy Parrish
24 Bil Dry
29 Heather Reed
30 Kendall Nelms

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

July Upcoming Events

- 6 Pastor Nominating Committee meeting at 7:00 p.m.
11 Stated Session Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
18 Presbyterian Women Daytime Circle meets at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall
19 Adult Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.
23 Deadline for items to be given to DeEtta Wood for the August newsletter
30 Coffee and Doughnuts at 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, followed by Combined Adult Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.
30 Baby Shower honoring Chris and Kristy Stephenson from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Prayer List

Christy Anderson, Jeff Anderson, Richie Andrews, Bevoline Brooks, Josephine Byrd, Mickey Carroll, Carol Clifton, Vera Critcher, Will Duncan, Lovie Dorman, Gene Glasgow, Mary Hart, Lawrence Herron, Chris Johnson, Tim Lang, Betty Lou Lee, Carolyn Lewis, Carol Mayben, Lewis McLamb, Eloise McLeod, Julia Nales, Mike Sanchez, Mary Serman, Ella Sherrill, Harry and Betty Smith, Alice Stephenson, Mary Stephenson, and Margaret White.