

PRESBYTERIANS AT THE CROSSROADS

Providence Presbyterian Church

February 2012



From the Pastor's Study...

I remember the day my parents moved us out of the only home I had ever known. I spent the first five years of my life in this little house on Eighth Street and still have many memories etched firmly in my mind. There were so many firsts – I learned to tell time on the old clock above the mantle, I learned to climb the little tree in the front yard, the milk man delivered the bottles on our front porch, the Huntley-Brinkley report on our first television set, the sandbox in the back yard, and the brick patio I watched my father build. So many memories ... so many special memories ... I remember the car ride the day we left the cute little house on Eighth Street. I watched as my home of five years fade as we turned the corner and began the fifteen minute journey to the other side of town. How could I ever learn to call another house home? I was afraid that life would never be the same. I had many doubts and fears about the new life and new chapter about to unfold in a place I had never seen before.

With my nose pressed against the green tinted window of my mothers 1961 Chrysler, I saw the new house come into view. It was so much bigger, there many more trees in the yard and they were so much bigger too! My mother showed me into my new bedroom and I can't remember much more of that day. For my new home on Pine Tree Lane, would far surpass the little house on Eighth Street in joy, sorrow, good times, bad times, happy moments and almost infinitely more firsts would occur in and around the house I now hold fondly in my heart and mind as the home I grew up in.

This is the way it is with humanity, we are God's creations who all too often hold on to the familiar and resist change that the future holds. Yet the one thing in this world and that is constant, other

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February Scripture Passage

*18 Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, 19 and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. 20 When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. 21 Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. 22 But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." 23 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." 24 Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." 25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" 27 She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." **John 11:18-27***

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Office phone number is 919.894.4063

Rev. Davis may also be reached at
919.264.4324(m).

than our Lord God, is ... change!

In the scripture of the month, Martha is so caught up in the present condition of her world that she forgets the possibilities the Son of God ushers in. Martha is mourning the passing of her brother and tells Jesus he is too late. Yet Martha still acknowledges Jesus as the Messiah ... and in the moment of her grief and loss God is revealed in a way which was unthinkable to Martha and her family.

Let us embrace this month's scripture and pause to reflect and discern the possibilities of God Almighty in our lives. Please keep our church, the PCUSA, the church universal, and all those who proclaim Christ as their Lord and Savior in our prayers – that God may call us to a new and exciting mission and ministry. Let us come together in fellowship and lift one another up as we go faithfully forward in God's plan for our lives.

May God bless you and keep you; may the LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; may the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

Your Brother in Christ,
Rev. Jim Davis

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN RETREAT

The Presbyterian Women are planning for their trip to Montreat, NC. This Women's Connection Conference is scheduled for Tuesday, May 29 - Friday, June 1. All women within the congregation are invited to be a part of this retreat. A \$180 deposit is due to Janice Parrish by Sunday, January 15 if you plan to attend. The remaining balance of \$180 will be due in April. If you have questions about this trip, please contact Janice Parrish.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

--- Providence Session met January 9 for the January 2012 stated session meeting. Welcome to Nathan Dry, now head of Long Range Planning, and to Wayne Lamm, newly in charge of Congregational Care. Thanks again to Gary Phillips who is serving 3 more years on the session. Gary remains in charge of Christian Education.

--- The Providence Youth continue to be very active. The youth groups had a balanced budget for 2011 and even went on their first out-of-state mission trip during 2011. We look forward to a youth pine straw sale on March 3, a car wash on March 10, and a BBQ plate sale on March 23. The January weekend mission trip to Boone, NC has been rescheduled for February 10-12.

--- The Long Range Planning Committee gained session approval to have engineered building plans drawn up for Phases I and II (Phase I is a new multi-purpose Fellowship Hall and Phase II is new classrooms). Target date for completion of these plans is June 1, 2012.

--- Welcome to Todd and Barbie Frickman with their children Connor and Chloe who joined Providence on January 15!

--- Special Offerings coming up include One Great Hour of Sharing on Palm Sunday April 1 and Pentecost on May 27. (The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering supports ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development. The Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36% and Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance each receive 32%. The Pentecost Offering supports the young people of the PCUSA.)

--- Easter Sunrise Service on April 8 will be here at Providence. The Easter worship service at 11 am will include an Easter Cantata performed by the Providence Adult Choir.

--- Rev. Davis has requested that a review of his work here at Providence occur quarterly. The next review will be during the February stated session meeting on Monday February 13. If you would like to give any input, please contact Laura McLamb (919-625-6924, lsmclamb@aol.com). The next stated New Hope Presbytery meeting will be Saturday February 18 at Wake Forest Presbyterian Church.

♪♪♪ *Happy Birthday to...* ♪♪♪

February Birthdays

- 2 Ava Wood
- 4 Kristy Stephenson and Olivia White
- 5 Johnny Wood
- 6 Pat Davis
- 7 Lily Martin
- 8 Phil Cross, Wayne Langdon,
Mark Nelms and Keith Weatherly
- 10 JoAnn Creech
- 14 Linda Roberts
- 15 Andy Dupree and Joyce Lamm
- 16 Jim Davis, Lisa Ingram,
Cooper Nordan, and Jimmy Stuart
- 18 Beth Pickens
- 20 Ashley Porter
- 21 Wade Johnson
- 24 HenriAnna Joyner
- 25 Tony Bryant and Barbara Walton
- 27 Margot Porter
- 28 Crissy Porter

February Anniversaries

- 13 Worth and Patsy Bowman

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN FUNDRAISER

The Presbyterian Women would like to thank all who supported the chicken pastry dinner and silent auction.

Senior Citizen's Luncheon

will be held on Tuesday, February 14 at 12 noon at White Memorial Presbyterian Church. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Kay Dry at 639.9784 by February 7. All Senior Citizens within the congregation and community are invited to come and be a part of this time of food and fellowship!

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP TIME

is held each Sunday from 10:25 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This is simply a time of coffee/juice, a light refreshment, and an opportunity to connect with members of your church family! A sign-up sheet for providing the refreshments is posted on the bulletin board just beside the door to the kitchen. Please take a look at the schedule, and sign-up to host for an available Sunday!

SANCTUARY FLOWER SCHEDULE

for 2012 has been posted on the bulletin board behind the Sanctuary. If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary in memory or honor of someone, please sign up for a date on the calendar and notify Beth Pickens.

YOUTH NEWS

PIONEER CLUBS AND YOUTH GROUP

will meet on Sunday, February 5 at 5:00 p.m.; however, **a meal will not be served.** Please plan to pick up your child(ren) by 6:00 p.m. If you have questions, please contact Brandy Joyner for Pioneer Clubs, or Gary Phillips for Youth Group.

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the families of

Linda Clement, *friend of Carlos and Stephanie Bagley*

Hillarie Denning, *member of community*

Doris Yelvington, *friend of Carolyn Stevenson*

EASTER CANTATA REHEARSAL

has begun and the Providence Adult Choir would like to extend an invitation to anyone within the congregation who would like to participate in the Cantata to do so. Practices will be held each Wednesday night from 8:20 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., with a few Sunday afternoon practices scheduled between now and Easter. If you would like to be a part of the choir for the Cantata, feel free to come to a practice or speak with Brittany Jones. Who knows, you may decide you want to become a full-time choir member!?!



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

will be held on Wednesday, February 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Please plan to be a part of this special service that signifies the beginning of the season of Lent.

SCOUTING NEWS

Please mark your unit calendars for the council wide service project, **Scouting for Food** that will be happening in early February. On February 4th and 11th the council will be conducting this service project to benefit the Salvation Army and several other organizations that provide food for those less fortunate folks in our communities. You ask why in February and not during the holidays? Good question! There are a lot of organizations that do food drives during the holiday season and the food shelves are filled during this time. But by the end of the holiday season and with a bigger demand during this time, the shelves get emptied. So your/our efforts will assist in filling the shelves again. On Saturday, February 4th the scouts will take provided bags and go to neighborhoods around their meeting place and place them on door knobs. The bag will have instructions that will encourage the folks to fill it with non-perishable foods and place it back on the door knob by 9am on February 11th. Their unit will go back and pick up the bags and deliver the food to a determined location. It will help to satisfy some service hours requirements for the Scouts that are working on advancement. And also will assist their unit with Journey to Excellence service project hours.

Thanks for all you do!

SCHEDULES ONLINE

An updated schedule calendar for acolytes, ushers, children's church and ushers has been added online and copies are in the fellowship hall and vestibule. This covers February 2012 thru May 2012.

Prayer List of Joys and Concerns

JOYS:

Praise the Lord for the blessing of our church family!

CONCERNS:

Pat Embrey, *member of church family, health concerns*
David Raynor, *friend of Sandy Kopanski, waiting for a heart transplant*

Members of the Providence Family in Long-Term Care or Shut-In:

Brack Johnson *at Classic Care Assisted Living in Smithfield*, **Lacy & Marilyn Johnson** *at Barbour Court Nursing & Rehab in Smithfield*, **Pauline Jones** *at Liberty Commons in Benson*, **Bobbie Langdon** *at Highland Commons in Cary*, **Bud and Frances Schmidt**, *at home*, and **Ann Woodall** *at home*

Our Nation's Leaders and All Persons Serving in the Armed Forces, including: Drew Boyd, Joseph Dalton, Christina Davison, Dominic Dias, Peter Richardson, and Robert Wolak, all serving in Afghanistan.

All Persons Living with Cancer, including: Lori Barefoot, *Dick and Pat Embrey's daughter*, **Linda Clement**, *friend of Stephanie Bagley*, **Linwood Cobb**, *member of community*, **Phyllis Duncan**, *friend of Janice Parrish*, **Ricky Ennis**, *member of community*, **Sherry Hemingway**, *friend of Wendy Stephenson*, **David Henderson**, *friend of Mark Nelms*, **Roy Johnson**, *friend of Sue Bryant*, **David Kopanski**, *John Kopanski's brother*, **Mike Lusky**, *friend of Sue Bryant*, **Carol Mayben**, *Sandy Kopanski's sister-in-law*, **Meloney Mills**, *Kelly Nordan's cousin*, **Barbara Owens**, *friend of Laura Langdon*, **Brenda Pacheco**, *friend of Ken & Sandra Lordi*, **Tammy Paige**, *friend of Georgeanna Phillips*, **Jackie Parker**, *friend of Amy Reed*, **Carol Pigott**, *friend of Allison Tart*, **Bobby Poole**, *friend of Peggy Jones*, **Joey Porter**, *member of church family*, **Sherry Pourron**, *Kelly Nordan's cousin*, **Donald Shumaker**, *Brittany Jones' grandfather*, **Barbara Smith**, *Paul Sherrill's sister*, **Frankie Stephenson**, *member of community*, **Crystal Stotter**, *friend of Sandy Kopanski*, **Rob Viscosi**, *friend of Charlie Porter*, **Bunny Walker**, *Andrea Jones' aunt*, **Larry Weber**, *friend of Lisa Nelms*, **Angie Wheelless**, *member of community*, and **Kay Williams**, *friend of Sandy Kopanski.*

Other Persons with Ongoing Health Concerns, including: Elaine Andrews, *Andrea Jones' mother*, **Carol Badalucco**, *friend of Sue Bryant*, **Bradford Barbour**, *friend of Brenda Dupree*, **Billy Carroll**, *friend of Atlee Roberts*, **Ed Fontana**, *Mary Langdon's father*, **Charlotte Howell**, *friend of Atlee Roberts*, **Fred Ipock**, *Cathy Creech's father*, **Jimmy Jones**, *Bridget Carroll's father*, **Norbert Kopanski**, *John Kopanski's father*, **Melinda Kendall**, *member of church family*, **J.B. and Colleen Lange**, *Sandra Lordi's parents*, **Wanza Mayben**, *Sandy Kopanski's mother*, **Norma Parsons**, *member of church family*, **Bobbie Powell**, *Brandy Joyner's mother*, **Faye Roberts**, *Chris Roberts' mother*, **George Roberts**, *friend of Eunice Newnam*, **Peyton Rodgers**, *Andrea Jones' niece*, **Gary Schmidt**, *Kim Schmidt's brother*, **Pete and Brenda Skinner**, *friends of Sue Bryant*, **Vaughn Stephenson**, *member of community*, **Edward Strickland**, *friend of Lisa Nelms*, **Eva Lee Taylor**, *Rick Taylor's mom*, **Willistine Tyrance**, *friend of Kent Walton*, and **John and Billie Wright**, *Chris Nooney's mother*

FEBRUARY EVENTS AND SCHEDULES

NURSERY



- 5 Kent, Gwen, and Abbey Walton
 12 Johnathan and Amy Reed, Karen Morrow
 Sue Bryant, Roxann Porter, Carolyn
 19 Stuart
 Candace Creech, Mary and Lauren
 26 Langdon

USHERS

- 5 Ronnie Creech and Don Dupree
 12 Heath White and Jeffrey Wood
 19 Carlos Bagley and Ryan Nelms
 26 Scott and Barri Martin

ACOLYTE

- 5 Riley Wood
 12 Kaleigh Weaver
 19 Emma Roberts
 26 Grace Martin



CHILDREN'S CHURCH

- 5 Jonathan and Beth Breeden
 12 Cathy and Candace Creech
 19 Heath and Heather White
 26 Johnathan and Amy Reed



February Upcoming Events

- 1 VBS Planning Meeting at 6:30 p.m.;
 Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 p.m., with
 Cantata rehearsal beginning at 8:20 p.m.
 5 Easter Cantata Rehearsal from 1:30 p.m.
 – 3:00 p.m.; Pioneer Clubs and Youth
 Group at 5:00 p.m. – No meal will be
 served.
 6 Long-Range Planning Committee
 meeting at 7:00 p.m.
 7 Prayer Shawl Project at 10:00 a.m.
 8 Adult Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 p.m. –
 Cantata rehearsal at 8:20 p.m.
 12 Communion Sunday during Worship
 13 Stated Session Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
 14 **Happy Valentine's Day!**; Senior
 Citizen's Luncheon at 12 noon at White
 Memorial Presbyterian Church
 15 Adult Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.;
 Cantata rehearsal at 8:20 p.m.
 19 Pioneer Clubs and Youth Group
 at 5:00 p.m.
 21 Presbyterian Women Circle Meetings
 at 10:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.
 22 Ash Wednesday Services at 7:30 p.m.;
 No Choir Rehearsal
 23 Deadline for submitting articles for the
 March newsletter
 26 First Sunday in Lent
 28 Youth Advisor's Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
 29 Adult Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.;
 Cantata rehearsal at 8:20 p.m.