

January 1, 2020



PROVIDENCE

BAPTIST CHURCH

Start Here



A Race Well Run



Lee Canipe

Randy Ballard is retiring on January 5. We've set aside a special day to celebrate properly his 23 years of ministry with us, but January 5 will be his last official day on staff at Providence.

On the one hand, I imagine that you join me in being excited for Randy—and his new liver—as he realizes his long-cherished dream of retiring at Holden Beach with

Debbi, sitting by the ocean, becoming a regular at the Provision Company, spending time with his family, and savoring winter weekends without the sound of countless basketballs dribbling on hardwood floors. Randy has been looking forward to this next chapter in his life for a while, and now, with his health improving each day, he's at the point where he can finally enjoy what he has earned. All this is true. We're happy for Randy.

But, on the other hand, we're really going to miss him.

Before I came to Providence a little over three years ago, someone gave me this piece of advice: "Listen to Randy. He knows more about that church than most people have forgotten." I'm not always good about taking advice, but that time I listened—and I'm glad that I did.

I can't tell you the number of times that I've plopped down in a chair in Randy's office and asked him a what, why, or how question about Providence: What is the story behind this issue? Why are things done like that? How did it come to be this way? Getting good, reliable answers to these kinds of what, why, and how questions is essential for any new pastor who's coming into a church and trying to figure out the lay of the land. As the longest-tenured member of Providence's ministry staff when I arrived in 2016, Randy proved to be a tremendous resource for me in this way—and for that, I am grateful.

I suspect that my experience of Randy as an insightful colleague, a dedicated leader, a sincere servant, and a fun friend to have around is one that's pretty common at Providence. He built a recreation ministry that is, in many ways, a model for other churches to emulate. He nurtured a fruitful missions partnership with

Metro Baptist Church in New York City. He saw an opportunity to reach young professionals in our church and started intentional, creative, regular ministry events like Pub Theology.

There is, of course, much more that I could add to this list. Randy loves Providence Baptist Church. His ministry has helped shape us for the better. He has been a mentor and an encourager. He has been a voice for compassion, for social justice, and for the practice of treating everybody like the children of God that they are. He can tell a joke and he can take a joke. He has a gift for listening to a discussion, cutting through all the excess verbiage, and asking the one, necessary question that nobody else thought of, but should have. As we walked out of staff meeting on one such occasion, Randy turned to me—face half-hidden by the omnipresent hoodie, but satisfied smile clearly visible—and said, "Not bad for the dumb rec guy, huh?"

I expect that we'll have ample opportunities to express our gratitude to Randy between now and his official send-off. As his strength returns, hopefully he'll be able to be here more on Sundays and Wednesdays. On March 8, as a church, we'll thank Randy together, tell him once again how much we love him, and then wish him well with what comes next.

Thinking of a fitting benediction for this former coach, I turned to 2 Timothy 4:7, where Paul writes that he has finished the race and kept the faith. That feels appropriate. Now, may God bless Randy with the right spot on the beach for his chair, many happy days ahead, and the satisfaction of a hard job done well.

May the peace of Christ be with you!

Join us for a Farewell Reception in honor of Randy on Sunday, March 8. We will recognize Randy in worship, then gather in the Crouch Fellowship Hall for laughter and refreshments. Please join us as we wish Randy and Debbi well on their new adventure.

A New Year, A New Opportunity

As we enter the second year of following the *Providence Will* strategic plan, we can directly attribute choices we have made as a church family, and projects we have become involved with, to our dedication to the plan's implementation. As we start a new year, essentially beginning again, it's important to be reminded of what our guiding principles are as we seek to serve God and further His kingdom. With God's help, we will:



Cultivate Generosity: We will support Providence's ministries and missions with generous financial contributions and through joyful contributions of time, talents, and creative energy. We can't be successful with our other initiatives without starting here.



Make Disciples: We will provide high-quality Christian education that leads to life-changing spiritual formation. We must begin to live differently because of what we have learned so that we become better followers, and more faithful disciples, of Jesus.



Engage Cotswold: We will encourage our neighbors to make good use of our facilities, meeting our community's needs. We will share the gift of Christian hospitality and invite our neighbors to form ongoing relationships with God as part of the Providence family of faith.



Bless Charlotte: We will identify a significant need in Charlotte that we feel called as a church to address. The need will serve as the focal point for energizing and organizing the local missions ministries of our church.

In September, the Bless Charlotte Task Force identified **Families Forward Charlotte** as the organization with which we will partner. Through Families Forward, we are providing opportunities for all Providence members to put their gifts and talents to work. Already, we are making a difference.



Send Apostles: We will take what we have learned of Jesus and bring it with us wherever we go. We will continue ministry partnerships with Christians beyond Charlotte and help train those called to vocational ministry. We realize we cannot be focused only on ourselves, but we must direct our resources and energy out into the world.

With the beginning of a new year, let's renew our focus and work together to be the blessing God is calling us to be.

Deacon on Call

Deacon on call (Weekdays): 704.366.4030x147

December 29 - January 3: Burt Banks

January 5 - 10: Sarah Blackwell

January 12 - 17: Mary Bonheimer

January 19 - 24: Bill Caldwell

January 26 - 31: Nancy Coppage



Minister on Call

Minister on call (Weekends): 704.366.4030x147

January 3 - 6: Lee Canipe

January 10 - 13: Blake Kendrick

January 17 - 20: Dane Jackson

January 24 - 27: Julia Wright

January 31 - February 3: Timothy Hill

Providence Financial Information

2019 - Wrap Up

We will close the 2019 books in mid-January. Once we have all the accounting completed, we will publish specific information as to how we ended the year. Look for the information in our weekly email, or call the church office for specific details.

2020 - Cultivate Generosity

Proposed Financial Plan for Missions and Ministry

Wednesday, January 29 at 5:45pm

Special Called Church Conference to review and discuss the proposed financial plan. (More info on page 11.)

Sunday, February 2 at 10:30am

Vote on the Financial Plan during worship.

Resolutions for a New Year



Julia Wright

The beginning of a new year brings us the opportunity to reflect on our past and make plans for our future. Oftentimes, during the last days of December or the first days of January, we make resolutions for ways that we want to live in the new year. The resolution most often made is to improve our health by eating and exercising in a healthy way. But have you ever thought about making resolutions for ways you might improve your child's life? Or your family's life? I want to offer several resolutions for your consideration:



1. Make it a habit to have your child in Sunday School and worship each week. Foundations of faith are being laid during these childhood years. Your child needs consistent attendance so that he can benefit fully from the biblical teaching that is being offered. Attending consistently also helps children make friends and feel a part of the group. This applies to babies and little ones too. Babies need to feel that church is a special place where they are loved and nurtured.
2. Read the Bible at home with your child. As you know, reading aloud to your child is important to his or her growth and development. Snuggling together to read builds bonds that can last forever. As you read, use a Children's Bible regularly. On Sundays, you can use the Sunday School take-home leaflet to review the morning's story. When completing a Bible story, ask questions to review the text. As you do this, you will be adding to his or her biblical knowledge one step at a time.
3. Allow your child to participate in only 1 extracurricular activity at a time. Our community offers a host of sports leagues, arts classes, clubs, etc. Remind yourself that your child doesn't need to do all of them all the time. Limit your child to one activity per season (outside of church and home.) This helps your child focus on one skill at a time to determine if he or she really likes that activity. Limiting your schedule to one activity also allows for important down-time at home and family meals at dinnertime. If you are not careful, you find yourself on the highway every evening, battling traffic instead of enjoying family time at home.
4. Make family time a priority for each week. As you discuss each week's schedule, look for ways that you can intentionally spend time as a family. Have Family Game Nights on Fridays, or Movie Night on Saturdays, or plan a family outing for the weekend. These types of activities build family memories. You want your child to have "roots" that are built on the love shared during family time.
5. Make a resolution to pass on your family values to your children. Look for opportunities to talk with your children about the things you believe most deeply. Don't let the busy-ness of family life get in the way of having meaningful conversations at the dinner table or in the den after supper. Also, one of the ways we influence our children's values is in the way we treat them each day. Teaching our children with respect teaches them to go and do likewise. Being fair with our children makes them want to be fair to their friends and others.

I hope you will ponder this list of resolutions as you begin a new year. Just select one at a time to resolve to work on. As you do, I think you will see amazing things happen in your family life!

Meet a Missionary

Sunday, January 5

9:00am - 10:10am

Eddins Meeting Room

Lesley-Ann Hix Tommey
For Grades 1-5

Children's Bible Drill

Begins again on January 5

5:00pm - 6:30pm

Room 2232

For Grades
3, 4, and 5



Bible Buddies

Begins Sunday, February 2

For Grades
1 and 2

Info coming
soon!



For more information about the Children's Ministry, contact Kristen Hendrix at 704.366.4030x125 or khendrix@providencebc.org.

From Ursula's Desk

Dear Providence Families:

As I look forward to the beginning of yet another year and reflect upon what God is calling us to do this season, the word “greatness” comes to mind. While this certainly applies professionally, I feel that this call to greatness goes well beyond how I do my job. I believe that God calls each and every one of us to live lives full of greatness. He does not want us to just “get by,” to settle for less than He desires for us. “And let us run with endurance the race that God has set before us” (Hebrews 12:2).



Ursula Taylor

So, what is greatness? Philippians 4:8 tells us, “Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.” How many times do we focus our time and energy on things that are not noble or pure or admirable? There are many things that distract us from being great. They may take the form of paying too much attention to ourselves, our neighbors, our co-workers and many other world issues.

One of the keys to greatness is serving others. Matthew 23:11-12 says, “the greatest among you will be your servant. For whoever exalts himself will be humble, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.” We must take the focus off ourselves, and what we feel, and see the needs of others. From small things to great, there are many ways to meet the needs of others.

As you contemplate ways to live a life of greatness, ask yourself the following questions:

- ~ What will you do that will set you apart?
- ~ What will you be remembered for?
- ~ Did you give your best?

And as you grow weary from the hassles of life that get in the way of greatness, remember that God is faithful to give blessings. “So don’t get tired of doing what is good. Don’t get discouraged and give up, for we will reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time” (Galatians 6:9).

Summer Enrollment

More info to come!

We are in the process of planning our preschool Summer Enrichment programs. More information to come.



School Closing

Monday,
January 20

The Weekday Education Ministry will be closed in honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



For more information about the Weekday Education Ministry, contact Kimberly Gray at 704.366.4030x129 or kgray@providencebc.org.

Thank You



Dane Jackson

This past year I have had the joy and privilege to serve as President of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's Youth Ministry Network. The CBFYMN's goal is to "Encourage, Support, and Challenge" youth ministers across the country as they serve youth and their families. I joined this network over 10 years ago and have served on their Executive Board in various capacities for four years now.

One of the ways our network helps youth ministers and the churches they serve is resourcing. We help youth ministers find curriculum, retreat themes, templates for administration and policies, and so much more that can help them be successful in their leadership. We offer Youth Ministry Audits that help churches who are in an interim period reflect on and assess their program, discern future needs, and even help them search for youth minister candidates.

We coordinate regional gatherings so youth ministers can meet other youth ministers in their area. We also offer a retreat FOR Youth Ministers called Oasis. This is a 4-day long retreat in Black Mountain, NC where our entire network gathers to rest, hear best practices from others in our calling, have fun together, and conduct annual business.

This year, as President, I have overseen many of these opportunities, as well as spoken at CBF's General Assembly in Birmingham, Alabama. We are currently wrapping up our year, electing next year's officers, and looking toward Oasis 2020.

I believe it is important, as a minister, to be engaged not only in the life of the local church, but in broader denominational life. I want to thank you all, the congregation, for giving me the freedom and encouraging me to be involved outside the walls of the church. Because of that, I have been able to carry the banner of Providence Baptist Church with me as I travel locally, nationally, and globally, serving and leading with others that are passionately called to Youth Ministry.

SNL Returns

SNL returns January 19!



Come join your friends for dinner, games, worship, and Bible study! Maybe you'll get to try your aim at the "Impossible Shot!"

Feed Our Students

Join a team of parents and bring dinner one Sunday night for our students.



Go to the Student Page to sign up.

Sunday Night Series

For teens who have grown up around church, there are those Bible passages that they've heard a hundred times. They heard them as kids, in youth group, and in sermons. It's



become so tempting for us to just skip over them because we "know" what they say. But here's the thing: what if we don't? The challenge that the Bible brings is that the most recent letters were written down almost 2,000 years ago and the Bible that you hold has been translated a few times over. Reading the Bible isn't simple, because by taking the English words at face value we may miss things going on in the original language or context. The fact is, there are some amazing and insightful things going on in the text if we just learn to dig a little and see things with new eyes. In this series, we'll explore four passages where you may be tempted to say, "Been there, done that." We'll ask some questions and dig a little deeper to see if there are some things we may have missed beneath the surface.

For more information about the Student Ministry, contact George Mulley at 704.366.4030x116 or gmulley@providencebc.org.

Parent Town Hall

Sunday, January 5

9:00am

Crouch Fellowship Hall

This meeting is open to parents of current and future students. At this meeting you will have the opportunity to:

- Hear Dane's report on the "State of Student Ministry," both in the context of Providence and the broader country.
- Hear a brief report on upcoming and past events.
- Ask questions of Dane (and of each other) that pertain to parenting, ministering to students and families, or visioning for the future.



Relationships are built and sustained by trust, honesty, and communication. The goal of these meetings is to create a safe space for conversations to happen, questions to be asked, and for our faith and trust in each other to be built. Let us continue to build each other up as partners in the faith formation of our students. See you on the 5th!

Fusion Returns



Wednesday,
January 8

Be here to enjoy
our mid-week
hang-out!

HS Spring Retreat

Save the Date:
April 24 - 26

Ocean Isle Beach,
North Carolina



Let's Connect



Want a daily devotion geared toward students? Start your mornings right. Visit d365.org and sign up.



See all our Student Group happenings. You'll love the daily scripture images and photos of our students!



Parents and students: Sign up on "Remind" and always be in the know. It's simple. Get the latest updates via text.

For more information regarding the Music Ministry contact Caitie Jackson at 704.366.4030x121 or cjackson@providencebc.org.

Discovering Our Spiritual Gifts



Blake Kendrick

This February, Providence will spend three weeks discovering our spiritual gifts. Together, we will investigate how God has called, gifted, and equipped us for our journey of faith. How will we do this? The Faith Formation Team will invite every member of Providence to take a Spiritual Gifts Inventory. This inventory is a tool that works much like any other personality test. Step One: Answer a few questions. Step Two: Analyze your results. And Step Three: Discover how God has uniquely gifted you.

In worship on February 2, we will read Micah 6:1-8 and consider: "How has God equipped us to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God?" On February 9, our scripture lesson will come from Matthew 5:13-20 as we consider how God has made us to be the "light of the world." And on February 16, we will read 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 and discover how, as a Christian community, it is important for us to gather together, so that we may more purposefully participate in God's will for our lives. This will be an exciting series of sermons and Sunday School conversations. I hope you will make plans to join us for these three Sundays in February.

MBK

Women's Bible Study

Sunday Evenings Beginning February 9

5:00pm to 6:30pm
Activity Center Parlor

Women 21 and up (church members and guests alike) are invited to join us for a Bible study on Lysa TerKeurst's book, "Trustworthy: Overcoming Our Greatest Struggles to Trust God."

This six-week study will be led by Sarah Blackwell and will be held during Bible Buddies, Bible Drill, and Youth Activities.

Come strengthen your faith and nurture intergenerational relationships at Providence!

Women's Fall Retreat

Mark your calendar!
Block off the dates in your iPhone.

Do whatever you have to do to join the women of Providence for our Fall Retreat at William Black Lodge October 2 - 4 in Black Mountain, NC.

Our speaker will be Rebekah Hutto.
More info will be available soon!

Thursday Bible Study

Thursdays

11:00am
Nalley Missions Center

In sessions 1-6, we will cover chapters 1-12 of Acts.

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|----------------|---------------------------|
| 1. January 23: | Intro to Acts & Chapter 1 |
| 2. January 30: | Chapters 2-3 |

**We will NOT meet on February 6.

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 3. February 13: | Chapters 4-8 |
| 4. February 20: | Chapter 9 |
| 5. February 27: | Chapters 10-11 |
| 6. March 5: | Chapter 12 |

In sessions 7-13, we will cover chapters 13-28 of Acts.

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|--------------|----------------|
| 7. March 12: | Chapters 13-15 |
| 8. March 19: | Chapters 16-17 |
| 9. March 26: | Chapters 18-19 |
| 10. April 2: | Chapters 20-22 |

**We will NOT meet on April 9 or April 16.

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 11. April 23: | Chapters 23-24 |
| 12. April 30: | Chapters 25-26 |
| 13. May 7: | Chapters 27-28 |

For more information regarding Adult Discipleship contact Blake Kendrick at 704.366.4030x126 or bkendrick@providencebc.org.

Making Music in the New Year

With the start of each new year, we often make resolutions about what we would like to do with our time and talents. As you think about these things, I hope you'll consider adding a musical element to your list. We have many ensembles at Providence, and the invitation to join is open to all. Take a look at our Music Ministry's offerings—and I hope to see (and hear) you in the new year.




Timothy Hill



Handbells

We have handbell ensembles for children, students, and adults. Rehearsal times vary for each group. If you are interested in ringing, contact Debra Wallace or Timothy Hill. New ringers are always welcomed!

Encore Singers - Resumes January 9

The Encore Singers Choir is open to all interested singers who are enjoying the “Encore” of their lives! All are welcome to come and sing. Rehearsals are Thursdays from 9:30am to 10:30am in the Lowell Dotson Music Suite.



On the second Thursday of each month, the choir shares music in the community followed by a fellowship lunch.

Sanctuary Choir - Resumes January 8

The Sanctuary Choir rehearses on Wednesdays from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. This group is open to all singers—no audition required! In addition to leading in worship, the group travels to festivals and retreats, and performs major choral works regularly. This is a great time to join as we begin a new year.



Instrumental Ensembles

We are always looking to make music together! If you play an instrument, let us know! We would love to have you as a part of our ministry. This is a great time to join as we begin a new year.

Student Choir - Resumes January 8

Our middle and high school students rehearse each Wednesday and regularly lead in worship on Sundays. We will attend Festival by the Sea in March, and our summer choir tour will be to Chicago!



Children's Music - Resumes January 8

We have choirs for preschool threes all the way up to 5th grade. Led by many wonderful teachers, our children learn to sing and worship. Choirs meet on Wednesdays during the school year.



For more information regarding the Music Ministry contact Caitie Jackson at 704.366.4030x121 or cjackson@providencebc.org.

Endowment Requests

The Providence Baptist Church Endowment Committee will be accepting Endowment Grant Requests from February 1 through March 1. Requests should be made in writing using the Grant Request Forms which will be available in February online and through the church office. The Endowment Committee will meet in March and will determine which requests will be approved for 2020.



Have you seen a need at Providence?
Make a request and help us address it!

Retirement Celebration

Sunday, March 8

10:30am

The man. The myth. The legend.



Randy Ballard is easing into retirement! He'll be spending his days soaking up the sun at Holden Beach as opposed to the Providence soccer fields. Let's wish him well and send him off properly! A Farewell Reception will be given in his honor and the entire Providence church family is invited to attend.

It is a time-honored Providence tradition to collect a love offering for departing ministers. During the Farewell Reception, Randy will be presented with the love offering check. If you would like to donate, make your check payable to "Providence Baptist Church" by **March 4** and put "Ballard Love Offering" in the memo line.

Campus Closed

The Providence Campus will be closed Tuesday, December 31 and Wednesday, January 1.
Happy New Year!



2020 Committee Chairs

Church Moderator: Steve Jarrett

Moderator Elect: Hunter Cook

Church Clerk: Sharon Dotson

Assistant Clerk: Cynthia Mulder

Sunday School Director: David Price

WMU Co-Directors: Penny Hewett & Anne Tunstall

Librarians: Virginia Whilden & Wilna Eury

Baptist Metrolina Rep: Allen Schuyler

2020 Committee Chairs

Activities: Keely Allison

Children's Ministry: Tanya Price

Endowment: Carol Simmons

Finance: Kim McKinney

Grounds: Linda Mullis

Missions: Mike Arim

Music: Jeff Hinson

Nominating: Alvin Schmidt

Personnel: Myra Zweier

Property: Michael Aycock

Senior Adult: Donna Eason

Stewardship: Allen Schuyler

Student: Will Johns

Weekday Education: Rebecca McMillin

Church Notifications

If you or a loved one are hospitalized or are in need of prayer, please contact Martha Haigler at 704.366.4030x112. Martha cares for our Providence community by scheduling visits, notifying deacons and praying with those who are hurting.

But if you don't tell us of your need, we won't know! Because of HIPPA regulations, hospitals are not allowed to inform us of personal situations. Please call Martha so we can help!



January Wednesdays

Every Wednesday night beginning January 8, children's programming begins at 5:30pm while adult studies kick off at 6:15pm. Choose from one of these studies:

“Holy Justice and Godly Righteousness: The Why Behind the What”

Led by Lee Canipe in the Gordon Weekley Chapel.

This five-week Bible study will explore the theological foundation for Old Testament ethics as found in the book of Leviticus—with the hope that, by better understanding the “why” of justice and righteousness, we will be better equipped to proclaim and practice the “what.”



Make Disciples

Back by popular demand!

This is the second time Lee is offering this study.

“Growing With ...”

Led by Caitie Jackson in Room 2130.



This small group will discuss the popular parenting book, “Growing With” by Kara Powell and Steven Argue. During this 7-week small group journey, parents of teenagers and young adults will share parenting experiences, reflect, pray, and build a support network.

The book is available for purchase at Amazon or Kindle.

However, you do not have to read the book to participate in the study.

“MOPS”

Led by Katie Hartwell in the Activity Center Parlor.



this is motherhood

May we, together, live life to the full! Open to the community. Join us and be encouraged. Topics vary.

All moms are invited to this gathering!

Come share your insight, your ideas and your heart.

Wednesday Night Meals

It's church dinner night!

Know what that means? YOU don't have to cook! Enjoy this family-friendly buffet every Wednesday from 4:45pm - 6:00pm in the Crouch Fellowship Hall.



January 8

- Beef Chili
- White Chicken Chili
- Taquitos
- Corn Bread Muffins
- Lemon Chess Pie

January 15

- BBQ Meatloaf
- Creamed Potatoes
- Green Beans
- Biscuits
- Sweet Potato Cake
- (with Cream Cheese Frosting)

January 22

- Beef and Broccoli with Noodles
- Vegetable Fried Rice
- Orange Chicken
- Egg Rolls
- Pineapple Pie with Ice Cream

January 29

- Chicken Pot Pie
- Steamed Broccoli
- Baked Apples
- Cranberry Orange Muffins
- Chocolate Cake with Vanilla Frosting
- (Salad and Pizza Bar also available.)

PRICES: Adults and Teens \$8.00, Seniors \$7.00, Children \$5.00, Max Family \$25.00



Called Church Conference

January 29 @ 5:45pm

We'll hear and discuss the proposed Financial Plan for Providence's Missions and Ministry in 2020. This plan will be based on the financial covenants we made during our “Being Generous Together” campaign. There's still even more we would like to do to reach people with God's love, change lives, and serve our neighbors in Jesus' name, so if you have not yet made a commitment for 2020, or have not yet made giving a part of your faith journey, we invite you to join us in supporting God's work through Providence this year. www.providencebc.org/being-generous-together/

Young Professionals

Calling all Adults

January 28

7:00pm

“Making A Fresh Start”

Angry Ales,
1518 Montford Drive

Near Park Road
Shopping Center



February 17

7:00pm

“The History of St. Valentine”

Common Market Southend
236 West Tremont



Make Disciples

Do not miss this time of debate and fellowship.

A dynamic discussion always develops.

Speakers may vary. The friends do not!

Sunday Worship

Sanctuary at 10:30am

January 5

Communion

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

January 12

Deacon Ordination

Matthew 3:13-17

January 19

John 1:35-42

January 26

Blake Kendrick Preaching

Psalm 27:1, 4-8

Enjoy a hot Sunday breakfast! \$5 per person.

Best bacon in town!

Each Sunday from 8:15am - 9:00am.

PrimeTimers

Thursday, January 23

12:00pm

\$7.00 per person

It's our monthly luncheon.
The menu is always delicious
and Blake Kendrick
will have the mic,
so you KNOW you
will be entertained!

Join us!

RSVP Deadline:

Sunday, January 19.

Call 704.366.4030x211 for reservations.



Deacon Ordination

Sunday, January 12th

10:30am



Newly elected deacons will
be ordained during worship.
Come bless these servant
leaders as they embark
on this journey of faith
and action.

Prayer Vigil

Saturday, January 25

8:00am - 12:00pm

Gordon Weekley Chapel

Spend some quiet moments with God.
The deacons will offer a meditation guide or
you can just sit quietly and pray.



WMU Meeting

Tuesday, January 7

10:30 Connie Andrews Prayer Group

11:30 General meeting



Bless Charlotte

Our speaker will be Sarah Blackwell, who will talk about our Bless Charlotte partnership with Families Forward.



Mission Collection

White Wash Cloths

We are collecting white wash cloths for the Free Store at Crisis Assistance Ministry.

Bring your donation to the collection area in the hallway leading to the Crouch Fellowship Hall.



Souper Bowl Sunday

Sunday, February 2

We are making plans for Souper Bowl Sunday!

On this special Sunday, we will collect money and canned food items, which will be distributed throughout our community. One hundred percent (100%) of our donations will remain in Charlotte with Loaves and Fishes.



One person CAN make a difference!
It only takes \$1 to buy seven pounds of food.

Be on our team and help us win the fight against hunger!



Quebec Mission Trip

Tentative Dates:
March 28 - April 3
Quebec, Canada

Lee Canipe is making arrangements to take a group of adults to the city of Châteauguay (a suburb of Montréal) for a week of servant ministry, hunger relief, and Christian encouragement with French-Canadian Baptist church L'Église Chrétienne le Rocher.



Be on the lookout for more information!

Send Apostles

Mission to Serve



l-r: Chloe Ayscue, Ella Mulley, Anna Cate Teachey, and Brady Sneed

Recently, our high school students spent their Saturday planning, preparing and delivering meals to some of our homebound church members. Simply, the seniors decided they wanted to make a difference, and so they went to work to do just that. They made baked pasta with salad and roasted vegetables. They even had dessert taken care of, all in individual containers so our seniors could enjoy their meal when they needed it.

The students broke off into several teams to make the deliveries. Among those who received a visit and a meal were Anne and Harold Eddins. "Anne and I were recently surprised when we received a call that the senior Sunday School class would be dropping off our dinner," said Harold. "We can't begin to express what it meant to us. As

we never seem to slow down with life and also dealing with Parkinson's, to have these young people gift us with their time and take the pressure off us with a meal was a true gift. And I can promise it lasted more than one meal!"

Many thanks to Debra and Mike Motsinger whose home served as "Food Prep Central" and the headquarters for the Saturday project. (Their hearts are as big as their pantry.) And thanks to you, too, students, for seeing a need, wanting to make a difference and putting in the effort to make it happen.



l-r: Anne Eddins, Harold Eddins, Madison Skinner, Chloe Ayscue, and Helen Canipe

Stephen Ministry

Why Stephen Ministry? Who Needs a Stephen Minister?

Do you know someone who has recently lost a spouse or loved one? What about someone who has lost his or her job? Are you familiar with an individual who is going through a divorce or dealing with an extremely difficult health situation? Do you know someone who is recovering from an accident or is struggling with aging?

Stephen Ministers are trained to be present very confidentially with individuals who are facing or dealing with difficult life issues. Stephen Ministers are children of God who are carefully matched with hurting people.

The job of Stephen Ministers is to care for people facing tough times. Stephen Ministers listen, care, pray, support and encourage and will “be there” for his or her care receiver; meeting faithfully for about an hour each week for as long as there is a need.

Our first class of Stephen Ministers was commissioned in November. (See their pictures below.) They are eager to be called upon. If you know of someone who is in need of a Stephen Minister, notify one of our ministers and they will refer a Stephen Minister. *Submitted by Bill Griffin*



Thomas Boyd



Peter Luan



Linda Mullis



Caroletta Partain



Ray Partain



Dave Pyatt



Sylvia Stockard



Martha Swain

Staff Updates

Providence is blessed to have a capable and professional staff, and we have several anniversaries to celebrate this month.

- **Randy Ballard** - January marks the 23rd year Randy has been with Providence. It also marks his official retirement! We will celebrate Randy's life and service as our Minister for Recreation and Young Adults on March 8!
- **Donna Eason** - Donna is our lead teller for Providence and is celebrating her fifth year. She faithfully comes to Providence every Monday morning to help us count our tithes from the previous Sunday and also assists the finance office. Donna also serves as our Chair for the Senior Adult Committee.
- **Brian Hunter** - Brian has been making Providence "sound good" for the last four years. He is one of our audio technicians. You can find him on our sound board in the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings and during special events.
- **Ken Rogers** - Ken has been a teller for Providence for five years. He and Donna Eason work together to

make sure our tithes are counted properly. Ken also volunteers for our Wednesday night serving team and assists during many of our special events, lending his special smile and helping hands to anyone who may need it.

- **Tresor Masunda** - If you're wandering the Providence halls you'll probably see Tresor (over the last 13 years). He is our Custodial Manager and is everywhere doing everything. He uses his extensive knowledge and experience to ensure our facilities run smoothly.
- **Amy Shoemaker** - Amy is our Accounting Manager and is celebrating 16 years with Providence. She manages all things "financial," including budgeting, billing and accounts payable. BONUS: Amy has a special knack for party planning and uses her gifts to bring the staff together for amazing team-building events.



In Sympathy

- Willie Blount in the death of her husband Alonzo Blount on November 26.
- The family of Millie Briley in her death on December 4.
- Dan Perrone in the death of his brother-in-law, Mike Quinn on December 8.
- Richard Landers in the death of his uncle David Jarvis on December 16.

In Appreciation

Dear church family, the last few years have been a challenge for me. I have seen a steady decline in health after being diagnosed with NASH (non-alcoholic steatohepatitis) four years ago. My health controlled what I was capable of doing and I noticed I was feeling worse. My medications and weekly treatments started to have less effect on my illness, and the only option for recovery became a liver transplant. A little over 10 weeks ago, I qualified for a transplant and my life has been a rollercoaster ever since. During that time, I spent 33 days in the hospital and was beginning to feel the liver would never come, but Providence was there for me. Without all of your prayers and support, I don't believe I could have made it through those last few weeks prior to my transplant. My church family has overwhelmed me. I am truly blessed to have you in my life. So many texts, calls, visits, cards and prayers ... how does someone survive without a church family? All I can say is thank you: thank you for caring, thank you for being there, and thank you for sharing God's love. Randy Ballard

Providence, Thank you so much for hosting the memorial service honoring my dear wife Millie. Your warm hospitality and wonderful reception were greatly appreciated by me and my family members, some who traveled a long distance. The contributions by our wonderful pastor Lee Canipe, our talented pianist Diann Clark, and our artistic Minister of Music Timothy Hill, were so special to me and my children. Your caring and support will be long remembered by me and my family. Thank you so much! Jim, Dreama and Greg Briley



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Parent Town Hall

Sunday, January 5 at 9:00am
Crouch Fellowship Hall



Deacon Ordination

Sunday, January 12 at 11:00am
Sanctuary



PrimeTimers' Luncheon

Thursday, January 23 at 12:00pm
Crouch Fellowship Hall



Prayer Vigil

Saturday, January 25 from 8:00am - 12:00pm
Gordon Weekley Chapel

Next Connections is February 1, 2020.

Deadline for submitting articles,
photos, or announcements is
Noon, Wednesday, January 15th.
Articles should be 350 words or less.
Email your submissions to:
ssneed@providencebc.org.

Thank you!



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Charlotte, NC



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