

March 1, 2020



PROVIDENCE

BAPTIST CHURCH

Start Here



**“... let us run with perseverance
the race that is set before us...”**

Hebrews 12:1b

The Essential Element



Lee Canipe

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.
Hebrews 13:2

What we read in the book of Hebrews is echoed throughout the New Testament: Hospitality is an essential element of Christian character. It may be aspirational—meaning, we’re not always as hospitable as we either want to be or need to be—but it

is most definitely not optional. We don’t get to choose whether or not Jesus expects us to practice hospitality toward strangers. He does. The extent to which we do this is a matter of obedience.

Hospitality is on my mind these days for two specific reasons. There could, obviously, be a whole list of legitimate reasons for thinking about hospitality: How we welcome and make room in our lives for strangers who don’t talk, look, or believe like us; how we welcome and make room in our lives for strangers who don’t vote or politick like us; how we welcome and make room in our lives for strangers who don’t occupy the same social or economic turf as we do. There are plenty of compelling reasons for all of us to be concerned about Christian hospitality—or the lack thereof—these days. When followers of Jesus do not practice hospitality to strangers, we are disobeying Jesus.

Nevertheless, what’s got hospitality on my mind right now are two upcoming events in the life of Providence—one upcoming in just a few weeks, the other in a little over a year. I’ll take them in reverse chronological order.

Providence will host the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina’s annual gathering in 2021. The dates are March 18 - 20. We’ve done this before. The most recent time was 2015. In fact, that event marked my first visit to Providence. As a stranger on campus that day, I can tell you that Providence people showed a great deal of warm, welcoming hospitality. Everyone I met was friendly. When I asked for directions, I always got a helpful answer—and, sometimes, an escort. Your hospitality made an impression on this stranger. So, I know we can do it because we’ve done it before. A year from now, we’ll get to do it again.

What this means is that we’ve got some getting ready to do. One of our deacon ministry teams for this year

is tasked with making preliminary assessments of the prep work that needs doing. These deacons, along with our ministry staff, will be going to this year’s CBFNC meeting in Raleigh to look, listen, and learn. We’ll begin meeting with people from CBFNC later this year.

As plans develop, you’ll begin hearing about ways to offer Christian hospitality as a volunteer for this statewide gathering. There will be lots of strangers here next March. They’ll need plenty of Providence people on hand to welcome them. I can tell you from experience that this is something we’re good at.

So, that’s *next* year. On Sunday, March 1, of *this* year, we will welcome a bunch of fresh new faces to worship when our kindergartners join us in the Sanctuary. This is a big deal for these girls and boys—not only going to big church, but learning how to worship God with great joy, deep reverence, and an abundance of gratitude. They will be watching to see how we do it. They will be listening to hear how we do it. They will also be adjusting to strange new surroundings and challenging new expectations—in particular, the expectation that they sit still and listen for extended periods of time. That’s hard for adults to do. It’s even harder for kindergartners.

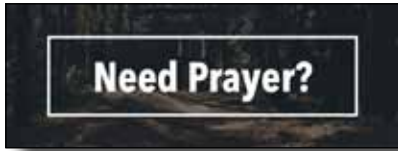
As people who are more at home in a worship service environment, then, our job is to offer Christian hospitality to these small new people in our pews. That means smiling when we see them, learning their names and telling them ours (so they’re no longer strangers to us), letting them know that we’re glad to have them with us—and stifling the urge to exhale loudly, frown, or shake our heads when these kindergartners occasionally act like kindergartners. If we want worship—and, by extension, *church*—to be a place where our children feel nurtured, loved, and significant, then that’s the tone we need to set by the hospitality we offer.

When I visited with these boys and girls a few Sundays ago, I was asked how they can be helpers in worship. I gave them three jobs, plus a bonus task. One: Show up. Two: Sing loud. Three: Listen quietly. Bonus: Bring a friend. They all nodded to let me know that they understood. If our kindergartners can be helpers like this in worship, then maybe they will end up being examples for the rest of us. And, in the process, who knows? We just might find ourselves entertaining angels.

May the peace of Christ be with you!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lee Canipe', written in a cursive style.

Providence Prayer Team



Unleash the power of prayer. We have prayer warriors just waiting to pray for you, your friend, your spouse, your child, your co-worker. This dedicated group will stand in the gap for anyone who asks. All information is kept strictly confidential and each need is treated with great respect and importance. And no request should be considered too small! Find a prayer box, write your request down and drop it in the box. The boxes are found all over the Providence Campus. Add our voices to yours. Let us pray for you!

The Gong “Tolled” The Story

Remember that night in November when the Providence church family set out to make 10,000 packaged meals? Remember hearing the gong toll every time we reached 1,000 meals? Rise against Hunger was a great night of service for Providence.



But do you know what’s BETTER? Food for a hungry belly. As wonderful as it was to help those in need, those receiving the food “felt” even better. There are people in Nicaragua who are eating tonight thanks to Providence, Rise Against Hunger and other partners. So THANK YOU, Providence, for feeding our friends in South America!

Sunday Worship

Sanctuary
10:30am

March 1
Communion
Romans 5:12-19



March 8
John 3:1-17
(No HOT breakfast - donuts will be served.)
Recognition of Randy Ballard

March 15
Children’s Sunday
Exodus 17:1-7

March 22
1 Samuel 16:1-13

March 29
Blake Kendrick Preaching
Romans 8:6-11

April 5
Palm Sunday
“In His Own Words”
Presented by the Sanctuary Choir

Enjoy a hot Sunday breakfast!
\$5 per person.
Each Sunday from 7:30am - 9:30am.

Deacon on Call

Deacon on call (Weekdays): 704.366.4030x147

March 1 - 6: Steve Jarrett

March 8 - 13: Charlie Jones

March 15 - 20: Catherine Trahan

March 22 - 27: Nancy Lockee

March 29 - April 3: Les Miller



Minister on Call

Minister on call (Weekends): 704.366.4030x147

February 28 - March 2: Blake Kendrick

March 6 - 9: Lee Canipe

March 13 - 16: Julia Wright

March 20 - 23: Blake Kendrick

March 27 - 30 1: Timothy Hill

It's Children's Sunday

March 15

It will be a GREAT day at Providence!

Family Breakfast

9:00am

Crouch Fellowship Hall

Our Preschool Choirs will sing at our Family Breakfast!

Parenting Seminar

9:30am

Crouch Fellowship Hall

“Cherishing Your Gift at Home”

with Special Guest Kim Harris

Consultant, Noonday Baptist Association -

Atlanta, Georgia

Children's Choirs

lead in worship

10:30am



Kim Harris

Save the Date

Concrete and Cranes

Vacation
Bible
School 2020

June 15-19

Our Leadership Team
is beginning its work.



You know what it takes:
teachers, crafters, bakers, story tellers, singers.
Be ready to volunteer when you are asked!

It will take all hands on deck to get
this “Concrete & Cranes” project
off the ground!

Let's do it together!



Engage Cotswold

RA RACER NIGHT

Wednesday, March 4

6:15pm

Activity Center



Join us and cheer on your favorite car!

It's Recognition Time!

Sunday, March 22

5:30pm

Crouch Fellowship Hall

It's time to celebrate
our Bible Drillers
and our Bible
Buddies. The
ceremony will allow
our children to show
their parents and
grandparents what
they've learned!



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

St. Patrick's Day Fun

Friday, March 13

March 17 is "officially" St. Patrick's Day. But our Weekday Education Ministry children and staff will be celebrating on Friday, March 13th.

We will be wearing all shades of green! And to top it off, our classes will be participating in a Pot of Gold treasure hunt and parade.

Sounds like we've got the "luck of the Irish!"



Fall Registration

Open Now

It's an exciting time for our Weekday Education Ministry as we prepare for this fall. That means enrollment is open for the 2020 - 2021 school year. We've got a few slots remaining, so spread the word.

REGISTER NOW

Online registration is available at:
www.providencebc2.org

(Click on Providence Baptist Church for Weekday registration form.)

Tiny Tots Fun!

Thank you to the 27 families who registered their child(ren) to participate in our Tiny Tots Basketball program. You helped make it a great success.

We also would like to thank Coach Brandon and his staff for their dedication. Thanks to you, we learned about the game, sportsmanship, and how to have fun with a basketball!

Parent Participation

A special thank you to Dr. Marilee Weaver (Weekday parent) for sharing her dentistry talents with several students about the importance of oral hygiene. If you would like to volunteer and share your occupation with the children of Weekday, please talk to either your child's teacher or a member of Administration. We would love to have you participate.

Book Fair Success!

What a huge success! Thank you to all who supported the recent Book Fair. We were able to surpass the set goal of selling \$3000 worth of books. We even had books donated to the teachers and to the library. We could not have done it without you. What a legacy! Thank you to our amazing Parent Advisory Council leaders Erin Young, Haley Stevens, and Kelly Jacob and the many volunteers who made this event a success.

The money raised for the Parent Advisory Council goes towards teacher appreciation throughout the year and our end of the year school-wide party. Thank you again for all the support!



The Desert



Dane Jackson

Did you know that Lent parallels the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness without food, while being tempted by the devil? For Christians, Lent is 40 days we spend in a metaphorical wilderness, or a desert as the Bible often explains it, with dry mouths, empty bellies and open hearts. A common Lenten practice is to deprive ourselves of some of our favorite and seemingly most important things for spiritual benefit. This might be a favorite food, caffeine, video games, or, if you're hard core, the Internet (it's hard—I tried it one year). Many people also add something to their lives during Lent: a daily Bible reading or devotional, a regular act of service, or giving an extra 10% of their income or allowance to the Lord's work.

Whatever it is that you subtract or add to your life, the point is that we spend these days in the desert, taking on extra prayer and meditation, giving up these luxuries and distractions with Jesus right beside us. We remember that He, too, spent 40 days in the desert, fasting, praying, meditating, and being tempted. We don't do this perfectly: In fact, we are like the generations and generations of people who have fallen and failed, who have succumbed to the hunger, the thirst, the temptation that the desert brings. Jesus is the only one who did not fail. That's important to remember as we journey for 40 days with Jesus in the desert of self-denial, temptation, and self-examination.

Grace & peace to you all on this journey.

High School Spring Retreat

Date Change:
May 1 - 3
Registration opens March 15



Fusion

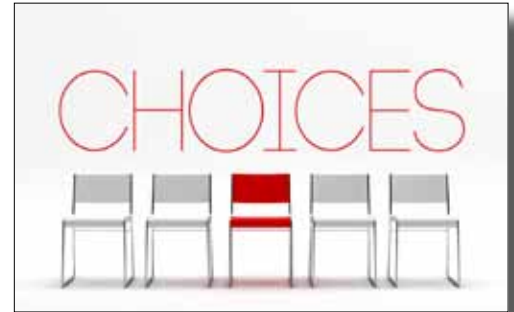
Come join the gang
for our mid-week hangout.



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

Sunday Night Live

Every day we are faced with countless decisions where we can choose to be honest, choose to serve others, choose to be unselfish, and choose to forgive. This series will help students move beyond the obvious choices in life to examine how Jesus helps us live lives of integrity.



Guess what happens when lots of students get together? They EAT! Why not help us feed them? Bring dinner one Sunday night. Go to the student page to sign up.



Events For High School Seniors

Ask a College Student Sunday, March 22

11:30am Crouch Fellowship Hall



You know what's best about having an older sibling? Someone has gone through "it" before

you! THAT means they will have advice, know-how, wisdom for what comes next.

Join us for a time of fellowship and open discussion over lunch with your very own Providence "siblings." High school seniors can ask questions about school, transitioning, faith, practical tips. RSVP on the Student page by March 18.

What's Next? Sunday, April 26

11:30am Crouch Fellowship Hall

The transition from high school to college is not only daunting for our students, but it is a huge life change for parents and families as well. What makes it better? Knowledge! Because knowledge is power!

Parents AND Students: Dane and Caitie Jackson will combine forces for this lunch seminar designed to equip you for "What's Next" in the transition from student ministry to college ministry.

RSVP on the Student page.



How to Join Choir - and Other Important Things



Timothy Hill

When I was a young boy I sang in church, in school, and at home. It was normal and it was a part of life. As a sixth grader in my small hometown church, I joined the adult choir (there was no youth choir option), because singing with others brought great joy, and because the director was relentless with her invites! Within the confines of the choir, I learned music and interpersonal skills, communication and compassion, and I began to understand how we are called to work together as people of God. These things shaped me as a person and as a Christian.

While some may have similar experiences as me (growing up in church and simply continuing the singing journey), many do not. So, back to the question at hand. How do you join the choir?

The first (and possibly most important) thing is to express your desire to be a part of something greater than yourself. Notice that the most important thing does not hinge on your individual ability. Choir is about people coming together—there is strength and support in the group. Next, let me or someone in the Music Ministry know you're interested. It really is that easy. From there, we'll chat about all the details ... no audition necessary, no tests, no pressure.

It takes stepping out in faith and with vulnerability to join any group that is already established. But I will say vehemently—it must be done! With choir or in life, we must challenge ourselves to go further. We must step outside of comfortable norms to meet new people, expand our vision of the world, and ultimately grow as human beings. Yes ... it's that important. As a microcosm of the church (and dare I say, the world), choirs show us what it is like when diverse people and voices come together for a common cause. Taking songs with multiple parts, expressions, and even languages to communicate something to the listener can be difficult ... but we need to try. We need to sing ... we need to work together ... we need to lean on each other for strength ... we need to join our alleluias to those from all places in all times. Yes ... it's that important.

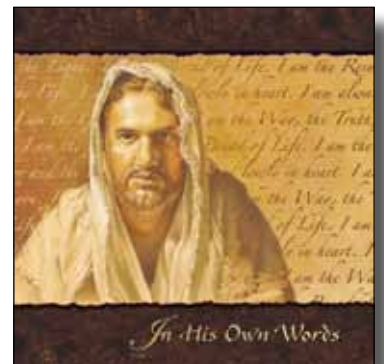
Having said that ... life is busy! I know very well the balancing act of attending weekly events, rehearsals and practices, and the thought of joining an ongoing group can be daunting. So, rest assured that we're all real people, and from time to time, we just can't be everywhere ... and that's ok. For many years, the Providence Music Ministry has invited folks to join us for "Christmas Choir" or for special major works. These are ways in which singers can commit for shorter periods of time while working towards a shared goal. This year, we are offering several of these opportunities, with our first being "In His Own Words," which will be presented on April 5 (yes, there's still time to join for this!). As you read through a few of the offerings listed below, I hope you'll consider joining us for one or all, or join us indefinitely. If you have questions, please let me know—or better yet—come by the choir suite for a visit!

Next month, we begin a new series called, "Spotlight on ...". Our choir is made up of many amazing people, and I want you to hear about them. As you read their stories, I hope you'll think about how God might be calling you to become involved in the church ... be it joining a choir, or something else. No matter what the call, let's sing our songs, shout our praise, and give God the glory in all things! Soli Deo Gloria,

"Major" Ways to Be Involved

"In His Own Words" (April 5) ... An aesthetic experience in which the listener hears the message of the Word proclaimed through both singing and narration. Both the narrative and lyric texts draw exclusively from the words of Christ. The musical composition consists of nine choral pieces, each intersected by underscored narratives and interludes.

"Celebrate Life!" (May 31) ... The Sanctuary Choir joins forces with our Student Choir to present this timeless treasure ... Life with a capital "L" ... The Life ... His Life!



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

PrimeTimers

Thursday, March 19
12:00pm

It's the BEST Thursday of the month - PRIMETIMERS' LUNCHEON day!
Just pay \$7.00 per person for an incredible buffet and even better entertainment!



Noel Freidline dazzles us this month.

Join us!
Call 704.366.4030x211 for reservations by Sunday, March 15.

Calling All Adults!

PUBLIC Theology is back!

March 17

7:00pm

GoodRoad Ciderworks
117 Southside Drive
"The Celtic Christian Tradition"



It's the St. Patrick's Day edition of PUBLIC Theology!
Come join us for some thoughtful conversation and meaningful fellowship.



Questions?
bkendrick@providencebc.org

DST Spring Forward

Sunday, March 8

Daylight Saving Time begins.

Set your clock ahead one hour before bed Saturday night!



Mark Your Calendar

Lent is a meaningful season during the Christian year, as we contemplate Jesus' sacrifice and resurrection.

The Providence calendar is full of special services and opportunities for worship, so be sure to make a note of the date and time for each!



Palm Sunday

"In His Own Words"
Presented by the Sanctuary Choir
Sunday, April 5

Maundy Thursday Worship

Thursday, April 9 at 7:00pm

Good Friday Worship

Friday, April 10 at Noon

Rock Hunt

Saturday, April 11 at 10:00am

Easter Worship

Sunday, April 12
Sunrise and 10:30am

Prayer Vigil

Saturday, March 28

8:00am - 12:00pm

Gordon Weekley Chapel



Spend a few moments with your Creator. Our quiet chapel is the perfect setting to sit quietly, to meditate, and to pray.

Wednesday Night Meals

Let us cook on Wednesday nights!

Enjoy our family-friendly buffet every Wednesday from 4:45pm - 6:00pm in the Crouch Fellowship Hall.



March 4

Breakfast for Dinner
Sausage Links and Bacon
Scrambled Eggs
Hash Brown Casserole
Cheese Grits
Biscuits and Sausage Gravy

March 11

Guinness Beef Pie
Irish Mashed Potatoes
Stewed Squash and Onions
Soda Bread
Key Lime Cake

March 18

Chicken in Wine Sauce
Rice Pilaf
Broccoli Casserole
Strawberry Pie

March 25

Beef Enchiladas
Chicken Enchiladas
Spanish Rice
Black Beans
Chocolate Tres Leches Cake

April 1

Country Style Steak
Creamed Potatoes with Gravy
Green Beans
Yeast Rolls
Key Lime Pie

(Salad and Pizza Bar also available.)

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

Wednesday Night Study

Every Wednesday night, children's programming begins at 5:30pm. Adult programming begins at 6:15pm. Here is the list of what's happening!



March 4

RA RACER NIGHT

This evening is full of fun! Come cheer on your favorite RA in the Activity Center. The ENTIRE church family is welcomed to attend this fun, noisy and exciting evening.

Then we are offering three options for adults the rest of the month:

LEARN

Choose from:

"Being Baptist"

Led by Lee Canipe

Gordon Weekley Chapel

(full description on the next page)

"Poetry Series"

Led by Blake Kendrick

Libby Gray Media Center

(full description on the next page)

TALK

"Table Talk"

Crouch Fellowship Hall

Guided Discussion

"Table Talk" is new to Providence. Look for a flier on the tables during our Fellowship Dinner. The flier will contain questions, thoughtful comments, observations—random items really—that will enable you to open dialogue with your friend across the table! We have some great fellowship going on. Let's use the time to grow and learn together!

SERVE

We have lots of needs, so why not help out? Talk to Julia about serving with our children in an RA or GA classroom and help lay a foundation for missions. Or, come serve with our students. They are amazing people, and Dane always needs more hands.

FYI - the Providence Sacred and Safe policy requires all volunteers to have a background check before they are able to serve. Contact Dane or Julia and they can get you the paperwork necessary to complete the check!

Poetry Series

March 11, 18, 25, and April 1

6:15pm in the Libby Gray Media Center

The Road Less Travelled: A Four-Week Seminar on Faith and Poetry
Wallace Stevens once wrote: “The poet is the priest of the invisible.” Throughout history, poetry has inspired and stretched the human imagination. During this four-week series, we’ll read and reflect upon poems that inspire faith, cultivate prayer, and deepen our appreciation of creation. We’ll read poems by Frost, Oliver, Yeats, and more. Join us! Email Blake at bkendrick@providencebc.org by March 10 to sign up.



Blake Kendrick

Being Baptist

March 11, 18, and 25

6:15pm

Gordon Weekley Chapel

What are the foundational convictions that make the Baptist way of being Christian so distinctive? Join Lee Canipe for a four-week series exploring the ways in which our spiritual ancestors in 17th century England first articulated their faith convictions—and how these same convictions continue to shape our discipleship practices today. Shameless plug: this series will make frequent reference to Lee’s book, “Loyal Dissenters: Reading Scripture and Talking Freedom with 17th Century English Baptists,” which is available for purchase through Smyth and Helwys and on Amazon.

Prayer Retreat

Sunday, April 26

3:00pm – 4:30pm

Breathe in God’s grace and peace. Breathe out all worry and anxiety. Come enjoy the beauty of The McGill Rose Garden, one of Charlotte’s hidden gems. We’ll pray, bask in God’s beauty, and befriend silence. This event is open to everyone. Children age 12 or younger must be accompanied by an adult. The McGill Rose Garden is located on the edge of the Noda Art District: 940 North Davidson Street in Charlotte. This venue also offers wine tasting. Sign up by April 22 by emailing Blake at bkendrick@providencebc.org.

Do Justice

Have you ever written a letter to your political representative? Or organized a litter pickup event? Do you watch the evening news and despair about poverty and injustice in our world? To put it another way: Have you ever wished that your faith in Christ could grow some feet so that you could better engage your neighborhood?

On March 15, you’re invited to join a new social and environmental justice team here at Providence called “*Do Justice*.”

Do Justice will discern together how God is calling Providence to respond to the Micah 6:8 call to action. If you’re interested, please attend a short meeting on Sunday, March 15, at the front of the sanctuary immediately following worship. The meeting will last about 10 minutes. Email Blake with any questions or to begin receiving *Do Justice* updates.

Short Film Series

April 22 and 29

6:15pm

Crouch Fellowship Hall

Sometimes great things come in small packages. Join Blake Kendrick for this short film series. We’ll watch and discuss some award-winning short films that pack a potent theological, cultural, and comical punch. Invite your film enthusiast friends, neighbors, and co-workers to join us.

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

Youth Soccer Registration

March 1 - March 22
For ages 9 and under



Member Cost: \$100
Non-member Cost: \$110

All games will be hosted at Providence.

Play begins April 25 and runs through June 13.

Registering online only.

Look for details on the Providence webpage.

www.providencecbc.org/sports

Contact Brandon Whitener:
704.366.4030x103

Grounds Work Day

Saturday, March 21
8:00am - 12:00pm

It's time to pitch in and help keep Providence beautiful!

Bring your gloves, loppers, chain saws and hedge trimmers and help us get our landscape spruced.

This is an "all hands on deck" work day - children and students welcome!

Contact Linda Mullis:
704-533-2321 or lbmullis@carolina.rr.com

Rain date is March 28!



Engage Cotswold

Terrific Tiny Tots

Look at these tots!

We had 27 four and five year-olds participate in our "Tiny Tots" basketball camp during the month of February. Coach Brandon and his staff managed the mayhem.

It was a complete success—everyone learned a little bit about basketball and had fun doing it! *Swish!*



Super Stats



It was a season to remember! We had roughly 250 children (ages 5-18) participate on 28 different teams through the Providence youth basketball league. We continue to Engage Cotswold

daily through our sports program and Activities Ministry. A HUGE thank you to all the coaches who volunteered their time and effort, making it a very successful season.

Hey, kids! Be sure to thank your coaches for their dedication to making the Providence program great!

In Sympathy



- The family of Fay Tillman in her death on January 31.
- David Price and family in the death of his father, Calvin Price on February 4.
- Greta Johnston and family in the death of her mother, Betty Gay Young Goebel on February 12.

New Members



Jennie Winstead joined Providence on February 2. She is transferring her membership from Arlington Baptist in Rocky Mount, NC.



Sandra Abdow joined Providence on February 16 by statement of faith and previous baptism.



Victoria Mitchell joined Providence on February 16 by statement of Christian faith.



Steven and Lauren Pearce joined Providence on February 16 by transfer of membership from Crossway Community Church in Charlotte.



Joan Ballard joined Providence on February 16. Joan is transferring her membership from First Baptist Church in Matthews.

Kathleen Byrne and Brian Warf joined Providence on February 16. Brian joins by transfer of membership, and Kathleen joins by statement of Christian faith. She will be baptized in the coming days.



Welcome New Baby

- Lian Sian Sung was born on February 4. She is the daughter of Julia Lun and Johnny Tung. She will be called Sung Sung.
- William James Oliva was born on February 12. He is the son of Ryan and Katy Oliva and the grandson of Phil and Suzanne Lail.



Entering the Digital Age



The Libby Gray Media Center is going digital in 2020. As we continue to review the books we have in our library, and as we add new exciting titles, we are slowly closing the Dewey Decimal Card system located at the door. Now, to check out a book, just visit our new virtual website:

<https://Providencebc.booksys.net>

Click on the highlighted “Display” and you will be taken to our Home Page. The “What’s New” section is on the right side of the screen where you will find all the latest editions. As the titles scroll across, when you see one of interest, simply click on the book and you can view a summary and snapshot of the book.

As a reminder, the library is open anytime the church office

is open, and on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. If you’re looking for a quiet place to read, relax, or meet a friend, the Libby Gray Media Center is the place for you. We have expanded the Fiction section for those ladies that enjoy traveling to different places and times for romance or mystery. And be sure to check out the books located on the window shelf. If you see one you want to read, take it, check it out and enjoy. Stop in and browse the shelves, or check out a book online and pick it up when you are here. There is a book just waiting to be taken home. And who knows? The book may have been given to Providence in memory of a family’s loved one, making it a special read for any book lover.

We still have a lot of books to process so if you’re thinking about donating a book or books, please contact me before you bring them to the church. You can reach me at 704 553-2615 or by email at wilna.eury@att.net. You can also leave me a note at the Reception desk in the Rotunda. Regardless, come enjoy your Libby Gray Media Center. And happy reading!

Submitted by Wilna Eury

We DID IT!



Thanks to your generous support, Providence was honored as one of the Charlotte CROP Walk’s top fundraisers in 2019. In fact, with the \$8943 we raised, along with the donations of other congregations and individuals, The CROP WALK raised \$181,029 to feed our hungry neighbors in Charlotte. And, you should know, over the last 11 years, Providence has raised nearly \$100k!

Many thanks to our Student and our Weekday Education ministries for supporting us as we worked to end hunger in our community. Special thanks, too, goes to our Providence coordinator Cayce Martin and Dave Miller, a Charlotte area Coordinator for bringing us along.



March Mission Collection

Men's Gently Used Slacks

We are collecting gently used men's slacks for the Charlotte Rescue Mission. The slacks will go to clothe men in the Rebound program. So go through your closet and pull out those seldom-worn pants. Perhaps that's **JUST** the thing that someone needs to get back on their feet! The collection area is in the hallway leading to the Crouch Fellowship Hall.



Bless Charlotte



WMU Update

In March, the ladies of the WMU will be attending the Empty Bowl Fundraiser in place of its regular monthly meeting. The fundraiser supports the Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina. The ladies will be back to their regular meeting time in April.

If you would like more information or to attend the fundraiser, contact one of these ladies:

Anne Tunstall - 704.567.9593
Penny Hewett - 704.552.0688



Families Forward Progress

At the beginning of the new year, I spent some time with the WMU talking about the many facets of **Families Forward** and the ways Providence can help. In February, **Families Forward** was one of our partners for the Souper Bowl of Caring, and we raised close to \$800 to support the purchase of food to go home in weekend backpacks for children at two local schools. Providence also recently hosted the **Families Forward** monthly seminars in the Nalley Missions Center. We hope we can continue to host these monthly events, which would help them greatly since **Families Forward** has no permanent facility. I will be meeting with the Missions Committee this month to help shape goals for our **Families Forward** partnership in 2020 and beyond. Finally, please consider being a mentor for the 2020 - 2021 school year. Our goal is to pair five families with Providence mentors this next year. (See the story below to find out more about the great impact mentors can have.) We will also be helping with a book fair **Families Forward** hosts at one of the local elementary schools this spring. Be on the lookout for more information! If you have not done so yet, please consider following Families Forward of Charlotte on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter.



Submitted by Sarah Blackwell



From the Families Forward Newsletter:

When we met Jennifer in August 2019 she immediately touched our souls. She is the sweetest and most hardworking woman, but had been knocked down by tragedy in her life leaving her and her two boys homeless. FFC helped her gain stability by putting the family up in a hotel and her liaison, Kelly, worked with her to secure childcare so she could work. After an exhausting search and 30 days in her job, Jennifer was able to secure housing! She said "I just wanted to take the time to thank you all again for your help and support for me and my family. This is the first Christmas in three years that we all can be together since my husband's passing. My heart is overwhelmed with joy and I'm so grateful I cannot thank you enough."



Bless Charlotte



Periodicals
Postage
PAID
Charlotte, NC
USPS 979-940

Postmaster, Send
Address Corrections to:
CONNECTIONS
4921 Randolph Road
Charlotte, NC 28211-4002

•
CONNECTIONS
USPS 979-940
Published monthly
plus two special editions
in April and October.

•
Providence
Baptist Church
4921 Randolph Road
Charlotte, NC 28211-4002
www.providencebc.org
704.366.2784



Children's Sunday

*Sunday, March 15
Sanctuary*



Public Theology

*Tuesday, March 17 at 7:00pm
Good Road Ciderworks*



PrimeTimers' Luncheon

*Thursday, March 19 at 12:00pm
Crouch Fellowship Hall*



Grounds Work Day

*Saturday, March 21 from 8:00am - 12:00pm
Providence Campus*

Next Connections is April 1, 2020.

Deadline for submitting articles,
photos, or announcements is
Noon, Monday, March 16th.
Articles should be 350 words or less.
Email your submissions to:
ssneed@providencebc.org.

Thank you!



"LIKE US" on FACEBOOK!
Providence Baptist Church -
Charlotte, NC



"FOLLOW US" ON TWITTER
[@pbccommunity](https://twitter.com/pbccommunity)



Check Out Our Website!
www.providencebc.org

Mailing Address:
4921 Randolph Road
Charlotte, NC 28211-4002

Telephone contact: Media Ministry 704.366.4030 x127
Email contact: Connections@providencebc.org