

July 1, 2020



# PROVIDENCE

BAPTIST CHURCH

*Start Here*



The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases,  
his mercies never come to an end;  
they are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.

*Lamentations 3:23-23*

## Self-Evident Truths



Lee Canipe

Racism is sin and black lives matter. Neither one of these convictions should be hard to grasp for people of faith who read the Bible and take Jesus seriously.

If we believe, as the book of Genesis tells us, that God created all people in God's own image, then it stands to reason that every person is, in some way, a reflection of God and ought to be treated with honor and respect.

If we believe what Jesus tells us in John 12:32, that “when I am lifted up from the earth”—a reference to his crucifixion—“I will draw all people to myself,” then it is clear that all lives matter to Jesus. There are no loopholes in the phrase “all people.” Right now, though, it's particularly important for us to affirm that *black* lives matter, because for too long what *should* be obvious to anyone who's read the New Testament has *not* been obvious in practice.

If we believe that the apostle Peter is telling us the truth when he proclaims in Acts 10 that “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him,” then how can we, as the people of God, show partiality in how we treat others? God rejects the idea of prejudice. Seems like we should, too.

If we believe that John is seeing clearly in the book of Revelation when describing his vision of a great heavenly “multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb” (7:9), then we can assume that ethnic and racial diversity is not only welcomed, but celebrated, in the kingdom of God. And, as Jesus himself teaches us in Matthew 6:10, we are to pray for God's will to be done “on earth, as it is in heaven.”

If we believe what we read in 1 John 4:20-21, that “those who say ‘I love God,’ and hate their brothers and sisters are liars; for those who do not love a brother or a sister whom they have seen cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: Those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also”—well, if we believe that, then what else is there to say?

Racism is sin and black lives matter. These truths are self-evident. Christians, and other people of good will, ought not take these convictions for granted. The Bible certainly affirms them. All the way from Genesis to Revelation, Scripture gives a consistent testimony to God's desire for justice and peace and righteousness—not *only* among God's people, not *only* within the church of Jesus Christ, but throughout *all* of God's creation.

We are, in this country, at one of those pivotal moments when positive, life-giving, and hope-fulfilling change feels very possible. I pray so. I want to live in a land where, as 1 John 4:18 puts it, “perfect love casts out fear.” In order for this kind of change to happen, we, the people of God, must live up to our calling to promote justice, peace, and righteousness in Jesus' name. These have always been foundational, *biblical* priorities. They must become *our* priorities as well. When God's people speak with one voice, tremendous walls long thought impregnable can crumble. Just ask the people of Jericho.

Exactly how the people of Providence will live up to our calling in this pivotal moment remains to be seen. I know we will have opportunities. What's important to me, up front, is that we greet this moment with our hearts in the right place, centered on Jesus Christ and his love for all God's children—and humbled by the reality that the Lord believes we have it in us to do what is right.

May the peace of Christ be with you!

### Do Justice

In an effort to give feet to our faith, Providence has launched “Do Justice,” a new social and environmental justice team. In Micah 6:8, we find these words: “Do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God.” This team will discern together how God is calling us to respond to this call to action. If you are interested, email Blake Kendrick at [bkendrick@providencecbc.org](mailto:bkendrick@providencecbc.org).

Our website now features a “Do Justice” page, which hosts age-appropriate resources, opportunities and calls to action for children, students and adults. Find out more at [www.providencecbc.org/do-justice](http://www.providencecbc.org/do-justice).

## Covid Status Update

As of the beginning of July, North Carolina continues in an extended “Re-opening Phase 2” due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Providence ministry team closely monitors the news and recommendations of health officials and, in collaboration with our Covid-19 Task Force, continues to find creative ways for us to worship, study and gather together safely and responsibly. Clearly, the most important aspect of Providence life during Covid-19 is keeping each other safe and healthy, while still ministering to the needs of our members and our community.

For now, with the exception of our Weekday Ministry, the church campus remains closed. Ministers and staff are encouraged to continue working remotely, but may resume working on-campus under social distancing conditions. Classes, studies, and meetings all continue online. Outdoor gatherings (of 25 or less) are allowed on campus provided that the interim church administrator has been informed and social distancing practices are observed.

Virtual worship at Providence has become an integral part of our church culture and will continue even after this pandemic is over. If you have not connected with us online for worship and would like to, please contact the church office and we will be glad to help you do that. Once North Carolina enters Phase 3 and public health officials tell us that indoor public gatherings of 150 or more are safe under social distancing practices,

Providence will open its doors for Sunday morning worship in our Sanctuary. When



that happens, expect multiple, identical services each Sunday in order to accommodate appropriate social distancing practices. We will also be using an online RSVP tool to manage congregation size for each service.

The staff continues to make preparations for when we can safely worship together again, which will include new procedures for how we enter and exit the Sanctuary, vigorous sanitizing practices, and new signage which will ensure proper social distancing. In order to help us best prepare for what comes next, we want to hear from you. In the next few weeks, please be on the lookout for a survey from Providence asking for your input on a number of issues related to worship and “re-entry.”

Although we long to be together, we will continue life “separated” until we can safely return to our Randolph Road campus. Patience is key. We are here for you. Ministers and staff are eager to support and encourage you. If you have a need, please contact the Pastoral Care line at 704.366.4030x147.

## Sorting Out Charlotte



Tom Hanchett

Blake Kendrick hosts Dr. Tom Hanchett, retired staff historian for Levine Museum of the New South, for a video presentation entitled “Sorting Out Charlotte.” Dr. Hanchett discusses the new edition of his UNC Press history of Charlotte, *Sorting Out the New South City*. It traces how Charlotte became a big city—and delves deeply into the surprising story of how we became segregated, both by race and class. This 45-minute

video presentation, which will be available July 15, features Dr. Hanchett lecturing with PowerPoint slides. He’ll provide discussion questions so that we can continue the conversation in our homes. The video will be posted on our “Do Justice” webpage at [www.providencebc.org/do-justice](http://www.providencebc.org/do-justice). Watch for more information in the weekly Diaspora emails.

## CBF Assembly Bonuses

Thanks to this year’s online General Assembly, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) is offering an interactive learning experience for all! Typically “breakout sessions” are offered during the General Assembly to grow and challenge faith. This year, these sessions will be offered online. Our very own Blake Kendrick has prepared a session entitled, “Six Spiritual Practices for Forming Bold Faith.” Watch for links in each Monday edition of the Diaspora email in July. These links will take you straight to the breakout sessions. Not getting the Diaspora?

Email Summer Sneed:  
[ssneed@providencebc.org](mailto:ssneed@providencebc.org)



## Fun in the Summertime

We are looking forward to summer day camps! Camps are available for children in grades K-5 completed and friends are welcome. Camps will begin on July 6 and run through August 14.

We will be taking extra precautions to ensure your child's safety. Campers will be received at the door of the Activity Center and will be screened for Covid-19 before they are allowed to enter the building. Campers and staff will wash hands at the beginning of each day and frequently throughout the day. Social distancing will be implemented as much as possible. In addition, we are limiting the number of children in each camp. We will do everything we can to ensure the health of your child!

### Camp Staff:

We welcome three college students as our staff this summer:

**Price Pittman** will be giving leadership to our sports camps. He played high school baseball and high school church league basketball.

**John Pittman** and **Ben Taylor** will serve as staff for all six of our camps.



### Camp Details:

Each camp is from 9:00am until 1:00pm, with drop-off at 8:45am. (Extended care is available from 7:30-8:45am for an additional \$20/week or \$5/day.)

Camp cost is \$125/camp. Fees are refundable until one week prior to camp, minus a \$25 administrative fee. Fees are non-refundable the week before camp.

### Register your child:

[www.providencebc2.org/summer-camps-2020](http://www.providencebc2.org/summer-camps-2020)  
(One form can be used for multiple camps.)

Campers will need to bring a nut-free lunch and drink each day. A snack will be provided.

We hope your child will join us for fun this summer!

### CAMP CALENDAR

#### July:

6 - 10	Flag Football
13 - 17	Camp Everything
20 - 24	Basketball
27 - 31	Cooking

#### August:

3 - 7	Soccer
10 - 14	Baseball

Contact Kristen Hendrix with questions at [khendrix@providencebc.org](mailto:khendrix@providencebc.org).

## Ice Cream Fellowship



Wednesday, July 29  
6:30pm at the Gazebo

Come enjoy some ice cream treats with us! Bring your own lawn chair to sit socially distant as we fellowship together. Your first treat is free!

## Rising 6th Grade Event

Wednesday, August 26  
6:00pm

Details will be available soon.  
Mark your calendar  
for this important event!

For more information about the Children's Ministry, visit the website at [www.providencebc.org/cherish-the-gift](http://www.providencebc.org/cherish-the-gift).

## Back in Business

Providence Baptist Weekday Education re-opened for Full Care children and families on June 1st. We re-opened for Preschool children and families on June 8th (Summer Session 1). The children were excited to get back to the school routine and see their friends and teachers. The teachers were excited to be back in their element and teach face-to-face. Initially, there were a few tears from children and families, but overall the drop off and pick up procedures went extremely well. But now we are “all in!”

Thanks so much for your patience and trust in us.

*Ursula S. Taylor*



*Ursula Taylor*

## New Full Care Infant Room

There will be a 3rd Full Care Infant Room opening in the Fall. The ratio will be 1 to 4 with the maximum group size of 8. This will enable us to accommodate more families from our exhaustive waitlist.

## Classroom Openings

We currently have openings in the Full Care Young 4s, Older 4s and TK classrooms. We also have openings in Preschool Twos, Threes and Fours. If you have questions about enrollment, please call 704.366.4030x129.

## Summer Safety Tips

Summer is a great time for children to enjoy different indoor and outdoor activities. Whether they are young children or teens, learn ways to keep your children safe and healthy while they enjoy the summer fun.



Water-related activities are popular for getting physical activity and have many health benefits. Drownings are the leading cause of injury or death for young children ages 1 to 4, and three children die every day as a result of drowning. Here are some tips to stay safe while in the water.

- Always supervise children when in or around water. A responsible adult should constantly watch young children.
- Teach kids to swim. Formal swimming lessons can protect young children from drowning.
- Learn cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). Your CPR skills could save someone’s life.
- Install a four-sided fence around home pools.
- Wear a properly fitted life jacket every time you and your loved ones are in a boat on the water.

Heat-related illness happens when the body’s temperature control system is overloaded. Infants and children up to four are at the greatest risk, but young and healthy people can get sick from the heat, too! Simply, the best defense for heat-related illness is prevention!

- Never leave infants, children, or pets in a parked car, even if the windows are cracked open.
- Dress infants and children in loose, lightweight, light-colored clothing.
- Schedule outdoor activities carefully, for morning and evening hours.
- Stay cool with cool showers or baths.
- Seek medical care immediately if your child has symptoms of heat-related illness.

Did you know that just a few serious sunburns can increase your child’s risk of skin cancer later in life? Children’s skin needs protection from the sun’s harmful ultraviolet (UV) rays whenever they are outdoors!

- Cover up. Clothing that covers your child’s skin helps protect against UV rays.
- Use sunscreen with at least SPF (Sun Protection Factor) 15 and UVA (ultraviolet A) and UVB (ultraviolet B) protection every time you and your child go outside.

For more information about the Weekday Education Ministry, visit the website at [www.providencebc.org/preschool](http://www.providencebc.org/preschool).

## BE Together



Dane Jackson

Our Student Ministry's 2020 summer theme is *BE Together*. Being together brings us great feelings of unity, joy, and strength. Though we're not always together physically, there are people and places—near and far—where we can find community. Pause for a moment and know you also belong to God's community . . .

I've been thinking a lot about our recent high school graduates (in general) and a big transition (in particular) that is about to happen for many of them: getting a roommate.

If you've ever had a roommate or shared a room with a sibling, you understand what can be the difference between a good roommate and a bad roommate. A good roommate is kind, considerate, mindful, and respectful. It's a bonus if the two of you have shared interests.

Ideally, the more comfortable arrangement creates a better experience for all parties.

In a perfect world, Jesus would qualify as an ideal roommate. Jesus showed love, exemplified sympathy, could empathize with others, all while being compassionate. What better person to be in community with than someone who imitates Christ? As we work to *Be Together*, let us all ask ourselves how we can be like Christ every day in the things we say and do, and in the ways we treat one another.

When we imitate Christ in our actions and words, we are setting ourselves up to work better together to build the beloved community where all God's people can indeed *BE Together*. All it takes is our willingness to imitate Christ one day at a time. What can you do to become more like Christ today?

*"Therefore, if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort in love, any sharing in the Spirit, any sympathy, complete my joy by thinking the same way, having the same love, being united, and agreeing with each other." Philippians 2:1-2*

## Student Happenings



PASSPORT - Now through July 31st, ALL students are invited to take part in daily devotions, games and activities, missions projects, and worship—

all from home. More information on this summer's unique camp experience is on the student webpage.



**Save  
Your  
Change!**

We'll be collecting change through the summer for Families Forward Charlotte.

## Ice Cream Fellowship



Wednesday, July 29  
6:30pm at the Gazebo

Join your church family (socially distanced, of course) for this fun time together. Your first ice cream treat is on us!

## For Rising 6th Graders

Wednesday, August 26 @ 6:00pm  
More info to come!



For more information about the Student Ministry, visit the student website at [www.providencebc.org/students](http://www.providencebc.org/students).

## **Baccalaureate Sunday**

Sunday, July 19  
10:30am Worship

Join us online as we celebrate our graduating high school seniors in worship. This is a meaningful service meant for the entire Providence family, so be sure to tune in!

[www.providencebc.org/virtual-worship](http://www.providencebc.org/virtual-worship)

Then, be sure to come to campus for a Drive Through Celebration where you can wish these students well!  
More info below.



## **Drive Through Celebration**

After the Baccalaureate Service on July 19th, there will be an opportunity for you to come and share your excitement and well wishes with the graduates from 1:00pm to 2:00pm at the church. They will be out in the parking lot for you to drive by and spend a few minutes with each while maintaining social distance. Please enter the church parking lot at the soccer fields entrance and head towards the gazebo. Each graduate will be at a tent and after you have stopped at each, you can exit onto Hunter Lane from behind the church.

## **Senior Journals**

We have a tradition at Providence where we provide each graduate with a special journal filled with messages/notes from their church family. Students can carry these well wishes with them as they move into the next stage of their journey.

To address the challenges of Covid-19, we have developed a unique way of creating these journals.

If you would like to write messages to our students (and didn't pick up journal sheets at the June Drive Thru event) just email what you would like to say and we will make sure your messages are included. Simply email George ([gmulley@providencebc.org](mailto:gmulley@providencebc.org)) with your notes and we will include your message in each of the graduate's journal. Here is a list of our 2020 seniors:

- |                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Chloe Ayscue    | Ella Mulley  |
| Helen Canipe    | TaTa Sing    |
| Brandon May     | Madi Skinner |
| Lauren McCraney | Brady Sneed  |
| Viktoria McCue  |              |

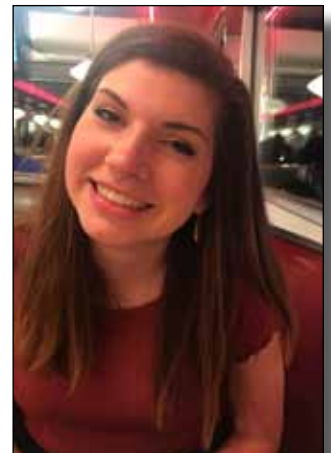
## **Welcome, Chloe**

Meet Chloe Hall!

Chloe will be serving on the Student Ministry team as our ministry intern. She will help lead summer Bible studies, plan events, and engage with students virtually and in person.

Chloe is an undergraduate student at Queens University in Charlotte studying Psychology, Human Service Studies, and Interfaith Studies. She has ministry experience with students as a CROSS Guide with CROSS Missions in Charlotte. She has led youth groups in volunteer opportunities and has educated students about underrepresented groups in our society.

She lives in Mebane, NC where she enjoys music and taking care of her six chickens.



## In Full Swing



Caitie Jackson

The Providence College Ministry is in full swing. Despite having to separate due to Covid, we are connecting in significant ways.

Sunday Devotions - Find a meaningful “lesson” every Sunday at [www.providencebc.org/college](http://www.providencebc.org/college).

Wednesday Zooms - Join our Small Group Study and Discussion on Zoom (Link is on the college webpage).

### Special Events:

“What’s Next” (High School Graduates Only) – Sundays at 4:30pm

While the transition from high school to college is an exciting time, it can also be daunting. This virtual time together is designed to foster open discussion on topics that will help equip high school graduates for “What’s Next.”

July 12 – Our guest will be Carly Fenimore, leading a discussion on Nutrition

July 26 – Our guest will be Blake Kendrick, leading a discussion on Mental Health

August 2 – Our guest will be Sarah Blackwell, leading a discussion on Conflict Resolution

### ServeCLT

We have an exciting “mission” opportunity in the works for July as a way to serve Providence and to serve Charlotte. More information will be available at [www.providencebc.org/college](http://www.providencebc.org/college).

**End of Summer Celebration** - August 9 (Get it on the calendar.) Details are being determined!

### Virtual Game Nights

#### Jackbox Games

Sunday, July 12

#### Jeopardy

Sunday, July 26

## Celebrating Our 2020 College Graduates

### Vance Ayscue

UNC Charlotte  
Mathematics

### Claudia Carpenter

Furman University  
Sociology  
Minor in Poverty Studies

### Caroline Caudle

Western Carolina University  
Anthropology

### John Hall

Ohio University  
Information and  
Telecommunications Systems  
Minor in Business Administration

### Julie Hall

Appalachian State University  
Hospitality and Tourism  
*cum laude*

### James Hopkins

Appalachian State University  
Double Major in Business  
Administration Finance  
and Banking;  
Risk Management and Insurance  
*cum laude*

### Anna Mansfield

Samford University  
Elementary and Special Education  
*cum laude*

### Andrew Ricciardi

Furman University  
Double Major in Physics  
and Anthropology

### Grant Tatch

UNC Chapel Hill  
Quantitative Finance Option

For more information about the College Ministry, visit the website at [www.providencebc.org/college](http://www.providencebc.org/college).



## Enduring Hope

Do you remember what it was like to worship together? It is hard to believe that we've been apart for 16 weeks! At times, it all feels a bit like an unwelcome dream. But I remember. My memory paints a picture of smiling faces gathered for the common good. Voices raised in song: songs of jubilation, peace, and love. Oh, how I long to be together again.

As we continue to wait, I am warmed by memories of the gathered church. I am also strengthened and encouraged by words penned long ago. Scripture, poems, and songs often say what we cannot express ourselves, and so we lean into these words as a source of hope. In his poem, "Music, When Soft Dies," Percy Bysshe Shelley (1821) reminds us that memories endure, and that love lives on.

*Music, when soft voices die, vibrates in the memory;  
Odours, when sweet violets sicken, live within the sense they quicken.  
Rose leaves, when the rose is dead, are heap'd for the beloved's bed;  
And so thy thoughts, when thou art gone, love itself shall slumber on.*

In the book of Hebrews, we also hear the importance of memory, and the earnest plea to continue on in faith.

*Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith . . .  
Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; for indeed our God is a consuming fire.*

As sweet memories of our gathered community sustain us, let us, with hope and faith, continue the work of Christ in the world. We are apart, but we are together. We know who we are, and whose we are. As we continue to worship in new ways, may the very God who inspires and demands that worship be with us, and may our memory of what once was, allow us to see what will be . . . both now and in the future. May the peace of Christ be with you.




Timothy Hill

## Senior Adults



### Greetings from your Senior Adult Committee!

Can you believe the last time the PrimeTimers met was February 20th? The Weekday Education Ministry children entertained us and gave out those delicious homemade cookies. (We love to see the children perform!) We then shared a great meal prepared by Dianna Neil and her kitchen staff, while being entertained by Jeff Perks, who played a variety of songs and melodies on the piano.

Since the Covid-19 pandemic struck, the Senior Adult Committee has met online twice (by ZOOM). We had to cancel our spring luncheons and our May day trip to Flat Rock. And we decided it was best to cancel our July

"Bingo" event. But we are looking forward to a church-wide **Ice Cream Social on July 29**. So bring your lawn chair and meet us at the Gazebo. (Your FIRST ice cream treat is on us!)

We are looking ahead to our 2020 fall programming and are hopeful that our first PrimeTimers' Luncheon will be Thursday, October 15th. So, mark your calendar and save the date! We will keep you posted. And as we look ahead to 2021, we will book another day trip to Flat Rock as soon as the Playhouse publishes its season. Many of you were aware Blake and the committee were planning a two-night trip to the Mepkin Abbey Creche Festival this December, which unfortunately has been cancelled. The committee will be booking the same trip in 2021 for December 2 - 4, so mark your calendar. We look forward to seeing everyone soon! We are always available if you need us.

Blessings of good health from your Senior Adult Committee: Donna Eason (Chair), Wilna Eury (Chair-Elect), Bonnie Adams, Maxine Dunn, Marlyn Morton, Glenn McConnell, Dawn O'Neal, David Pyatt and Martha Swain

## Families Forward Partnership

Almost a year ago, the Bless Charlotte Task Force recommended that we partner with Families Forward Charlotte (FFC) to serve the neighbors in our community as part of our “Providence Will” strategic plan. There have been many things to celebrate in our first year of partnership:

- RAs/GAs assembled weekend food backpacks (Spring 2019)
- Students collected food and assembled weekend food backpacks (Fall 2019)
- Launched an awareness campaign at Providence with videos, displays, talks, table tents, presentation to WMU and the Missions committee, newsletter updates (Fall 2019)
- Encouraged members to follow FFC on social media
- Collected clothes for family in need (Fall 2019)
- Providence Members adopted FFC adults to purchase Christmas presents and provide thousands in food gift cards (Fall 2019)
- Hosted Christmas gift collection, wrapping, and distribution event (December 2019)
- Hosted monthly educational meeting in the Nalley Missions Center/Gordon Weekley Chapel (February 2020)
- Collected over \$900 during Souper Bowl of Caring (February 2020)
- Provided a substantial monetary donation from Missions/Providence Will (April 2020)
- Student “Penny Wars” supported FFC (Ongoing)
- Collected 1500 pounds of food during our Drive Thru Blessing event that supported 12 families
- Highlighted FFC in worship with video about the organization (May 2020)
- Collected Toiletries during our Drive Thru Blessing Event (June 2020)



As we begin our next phase of partnership, we are asking church members to consider training to be family liaisons. The program needs volunteers to work directly with families and help connect them to needed resources. Online training has already begun for the 2020-2021 school year and will continue being offered throughout the summer. Please contact Mike Arim at 704.517.6428 for more information.

*This picture highlights one little girl’s reaction to receiving a box of food from Families Forward Charlotte that had been collected by Providence during the Drive Thru Blessing event in May. What a smile!*

## Heartfelt Thanks

*We, at Families Forward Charlotte, are grateful for the generous donation from the Providence Endowment Fund*

*and other support you have shown us in a short period of time! We are honored you would*



*bless us with your generosity. Donations like yours make a big difference in the work our organization is doing in the community. Being able to provide over 1500 pounds of shelf stable foods as well as toiletries to the dedicated families in our program is crucial to their survival, especially during these uncertain times. We look forward to continuing our partnership with Providence and growing our reach in the community to help local families obtain economic stability! Thank you!*

## Missions Grant Funding

In April, the Missions Committee typically meets to fund Providence grant requests from mission partners. Due to Covid-19, the Missions Committee created a special task force comprised of a few members of the committee and ministers Blake and Dane. The task force, with Missions Committee approval, granted \$44,550 out of \$95,710 requested with a focus on providing funds to local partners that are addressing needs during this difficult pandemic. Additionally, some requests that were denied did not actually require funding this year due to cancelled events or closures as a result of Covid-19. The approved grant money will be distributed in four installments, starting in June and ending in October. Local organizations that received grant money include: Crisis Assistance Ministry, Charlotte Rescue Mission, Pat’s Place Children’s Advocacy, Loaves and Fishes, Urban Ministry Center, Second Harvest Food Bank, and Charlotte CROP Walk. Additionally, \$13,000 was awarded to Providence missionaries. The Missions Committee also has designated funds for our new partner Families Forward Charlotte, which received \$20,000 in January.

## Sympathies

Our hearts go out to those who have experienced loss:

- Jay Wright's uncle, Thomas Alton Wood, Jr. (died May 22)
- Joyce Cagle (died May 30)
- Kristie Hill's grandmother, Joan Addis (died June 7)
- Janie Creech's sister-in-law, Marie Creech (died June 15)
- Buddy Norwood's brother, Neil Norwood (died June 23)
- Martha Iley (died June 25)



## Welcome Babies

Bonnie Evans McGarry is the daughter of McLean and Whitney McGarry and was born on June 22. She is the granddaughter of Jim and Margaret Ford and the great granddaughter of Jo Rabon.

Olivia Kate Motsinger was born April 22 to Adam and Abby Motsinger. She is little sister to Everett and Lola. She is the granddaughter of Mike and Debra Motsinger and great granddaughter of Don and Carolyn Motsinger.



## Recommended Reading

Need a good book for the summer? The Missions Committee members highly recommend:


*Something Needs to Change* by David Platt

*Smoldering Wick* by Gena Thomas

Happy reading!

## Social Media

Our missions partner Families Forward Charlotte (FFC) uses social media to provide important information of what they are doing in the Charlotte area. Their posts often include shout-outs to Providence and our partnership. Make sure to follow FFC on social media to stay informed! Check them out:

 Instagram: @families\_forward\_charlotte

 FaceBook: @familiesforwardcharlotte

## Stephen Ministry

Dear Prospective  
Stephen Minister,

We hope that you have a much greater understanding of Stephen Ministry than you did 18 months ago. We have eight loyal and dedicated Stephen Ministers who have committed to providing special care to their Care Receivers.



Currently, we are seeking and searching for new Stephen Minister Trainees who would be willing to commit to 10 weeks of training, spend about 1 hour per week with your Care Receiver, and attend two small group supervisory meetings per month that last about 1½ hours each.

The training consists of two retreats on Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday mornings, and eight Thursday meetings that last about two hours each, which are led by trained Stephen Ministry Facilitators. The training will begin in September and will conclude with a Commissioning Service by Thanksgiving.

Many of our Care Receivers have said that they do not know what they would have done without their Stephen Ministers. Rest assured, Stephen Ministry is extremely confidential between Care Giver and Care Receiver.

It is our prayer that you will open your hearts and minds and pray for God's leading as you consider becoming a Stephen Minister. We promise that you will receive much more from being a Stephen Minister than you could ever spend in terms of time and effort in the training to become a Care Giver.

If you have questions and would like to discuss Stephen Ministry further, please contact Martha Haigler or Bill Griffin. We look forward to hearing from you.

Stephen Leader Martha Haigler (704.608.7947)

Stephen Leader Bill Griffin  
(704.651.2569)

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## Minister on Call

Although we are not allowed to visit members in the hospital, and our personal contact must remain at a minimum, we are still ministering, praying and supporting our church family. Please call if you need anything.

**Minister on call: 704.366.4030x147**

- June 30 - July 6: Blake Kendrick
- July 7 - 13: Timothy Hill
- July 14 - 20: Blake Kendrick
- July 21 - 27: Dane Jackson
- July 28 - August 3: Julia Wright



## Faithful Giving


Please continue to give faithfully . . . our ministries are still very active. Consider scheduling your giving directly through your bank, saving us processing fees.


See all your giving options below:  
[providencebc.org/why-give](http://providencebc.org/why-give)

Or mail your gift to:  
Providence Baptist Church  
Remote Finance Office  
5118 Shadow Pond Lane  
Charlotte, NC 28226-3217

## Next Connections is August 1, 2020.

Deadline for submitting articles, photos, or announcements is **Noon, Wednesday, July 15th.** Articles should be 350 words or less. Email your submissions to: [ssneed@providencebc.org](mailto:ssneed@providencebc.org).  
*Thank you!*

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