

September 1, 2020



PROVIDENCE

BAPTIST CHURCH

Start Here

It will be a shelter and shade from the heat of the day,
and a refuge and hiding place from the storm and rain.

Isaiah 4:6



Hellos, Goodbyes, and God's Faithful Presence



Lee Canipe

Having just taken my first-born child to college to begin her freshman year, I am well aware right now of the mixed emotions that come with transitions. It's exciting to move forward and it's sad to say goodbye, with excitement and sadness both coming in equal measure at different times.

So it is at Providence. We are in the midst of several transitions within our church ministry team, with long-time staff members leaving us while new faces come on board. Some of these changes have been anticipated for quite a while. Some of them have come more suddenly. Understandably, the changes we expect are usually easier to deal with than the ones we don't, especially when the unexpected changes bring pain to people we care about.

Providence is blessed with members who willingly volunteer their time, talent, wisdom, and compassion to make prayerful—and sometimes really difficult—decisions about how best to use the resources God has given us to do ministry and missions together in the name of Jesus. Because we are a Baptist church, we rely on one another to provide leadership for ministry committees. We call one another to serve; we give one another tasks to perform to further the church's mission; we trust one another to act in the best interests of the church; we commit ourselves to supporting one another in this work; we hold one another accountable. And somehow, by the grace of God flowing through the Holy Spirit, the body of Christ lives—and we get to be a part of it.

Thus far in 2020, our Finance and Personnel Committees have wrestled with challenging issues and made hard decisions. They've done so after a lot of prayer and discernment. They've done so with a great deal of integrity and humility. They've also been creative, forward-thinking, and proactive. They've done good work and deserve our thanks.

That said, what about those aforementioned transitions?

First, we welcome aboard Katelyn DeVane as Director of Activities Ministry. You can read more about Katelyn on page 14, but she is a bright, energetic, and conscientious leader who will work with our Activities Committee and be a valuable addition to our ministry team. Katelyn's arrival comes on the heels of Brandon Whitener's departure in June, as he took a position closer to home with the Dallas (NC) Parks and Recreation Department.

Second, we are saying goodbye to Dianna Neil, who is retiring this month after 21 years of service in our kitchen. She has cooked countless outstanding meals for

grateful Providence people and loads of hungry weekday children. Her can-do spirit and dedication to her craft will be missed. Happily, stepping into Dianna's apron will be a familiar face: Deb Motsinger, who has prepared our Wednesday night suppers for years. Deb will start running our kitchen this month. Once the pandemic is behind us and we resume Wednesday night suppers, she will add "feeding us on Wednesday" to her list of responsibilities as our Church Chef.

Third, we are getting ready to say goodbye in October to Rocky Cannon who has served as Facility Manager for 10 years—and, for the last two years, as our interim church administrator as well. Knowing that Rocky's retirement was imminent, the Personnel Committee took a fresh look at our staff structure in January. The goal was threefold: To create a structure that met our current needs, was appropriate to our current size, and could be supported by our current level of giving.

After months of study and discussion, the Personnel Committee unanimously approved a new name for our Church Administrator position—now called Director of Church Operations—with direct responsibility over human resources and facilities, and supervisory responsibility over communications, food service, finance, and technology. (You can see a revised organizational chart for the Providence ministry team on the next page.) I anticipate that this position will soon be filled, well before Rocky's retirement date, to allow for a smooth handoff of duties.

While these revisions are necessary, they do not come without a cost. In the revised structure, the positions of Human Resource Manager and Media/Technology Manager are phased out, which means that Beverly Tucker and Jim Tucker will be leaving us later this month. This is a sad goodbye, for the Tuckers love Providence and have been dedicated employees, dependable colleagues, and dedicated servants of this church for the past 17 years.

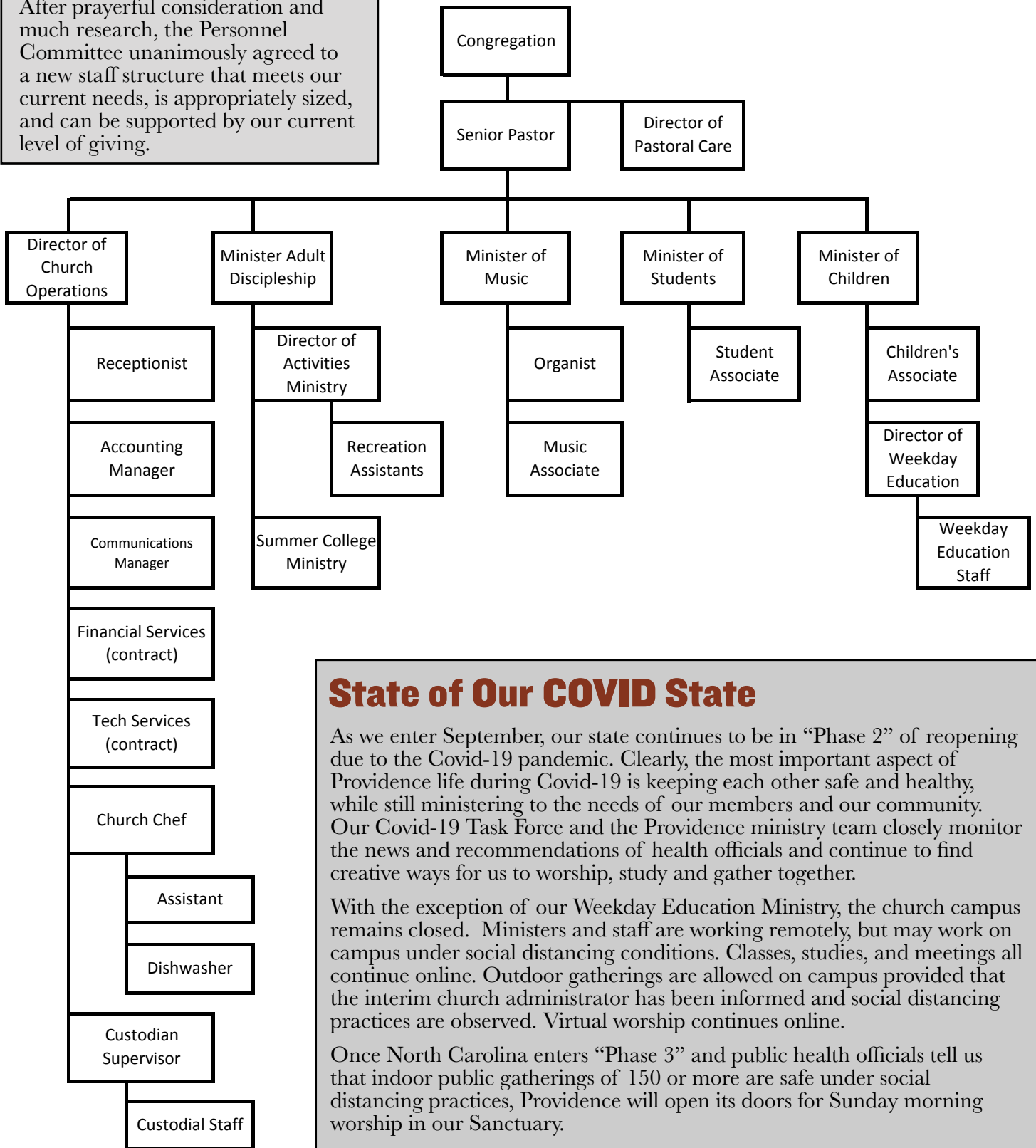
Because of your faithful giving so far in 2020, we are in a position to assist the Tuckers as they transition to their next jobs. That's a good thing. And for those of you who want to send your own expressions of gratitude to Jim and Beverly—and to Dianna as well—information about how to do that can be found on page 15.

Change is never easy. If it was, we wouldn't be so resistant to it. The good news, though, is that God promises to be with us—both as individuals and as a congregation—as we move from where we are to where God is leading us. It is a privilege to serve alongside fellow Christians—and faithful leaders—who do not shy away from challenges.

May the peace of Christ be with you!

A New Organization

After prayerful consideration and much research, the Personnel Committee unanimously agreed to a new staff structure that meets our current needs, is appropriately sized, and can be supported by our current level of giving.



State of Our COVID State

As we enter September, our state continues to be in “Phase 2” of reopening due to the Covid-19 pandemic. 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. Our Covid-19 Task Force and the Providence ministry team closely monitor the news and recommendations of health officials and continue to find creative ways for us to worship, study and gather together.

With the exception of our Weekday Education Ministry, the church campus remains closed. Ministers and staff are working remotely, but may work on campus under social distancing conditions. Classes, studies, and meetings all continue online. Outdoor gatherings are allowed on campus provided that the interim church administrator has been informed and social distancing practices are observed. Virtual worship continues online.

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.

We are making plans for when we CAN be together. Until then, know that we are eager to support and encourage you. If you have a need, please contact the Pastoral Care line at 704.366.4030x147.



Julia Wright

1st Grade Bible Presentation

September 2

6:30pm

At the Gazebo

This is a special time for our first graders, as they are presented with their first Bible from Providence.



Mothers of Preschoolers

M

this is motherhood

MOPS Fall Kick Off
Wednesday, September 9

5:30pm - 7:00pm
At the Gazebo

Hey, mamas of preschoolers!

Bring your picnic blanket
and your mask to this gathering.

And while you're at it, bring your dinner
and your family with you, too!

We will provide a yummy dessert,
lemonade and sweet tea.

Come! Enjoy fellowship and camaraderie.

RSVP: Kristen Hendrix
704.366.4030x125

RA Welcoming Ceremony

Calling all Royal Ambassadors!
Wednesday, September 23

6:00pm
At the Gazebo

Let's welcome our new RAs!



"FFF"

Sunday, September 13

4:00pm – 5:30pm

At the Gazebo



It's time for

"Friends, Fun and Fellowship"

For children and their families.

Join us at the Gazebo.
Bring your bike, trike or scooter.

We'll have the entire parking area blocked off
so you can RIDE your RIDE in safety.

Don't forget your mask and your helmet!

Contact: Kristen Hendrix
704.366.4030x125

From the Desk of Ms. Ursula

New beginnings ... full of adventure and unknowns ...

Welcome to the new school year one and all! It is our pleasure as educators to share our excitement to have your children in our classrooms. We have been working diligently as a staff to ready the school for another exceptional school year. We would like to warmly welcome the new families, who are experiencing this for the first time. We would like to extend our appreciation to those families who have returned to us for another year. There are some of you who have been here for five years and for that we are so grateful!



Ursula Taylor

Ursula S. Taylor

Tips for A Successful Start

Here are some tips to help make your child's back to school experience great!

Getting enough sleep ... A good night's sleep is critical for a child's successful start in preschool. Start getting your child into a good sleep pattern so that he or she is well rested for school. Children who are tired or sleepy in school have a much harder time saying goodbye to mom or dad in the morning. They also struggle with their ability to get along with others, keeping on task and participating positively in activities. Be sure to help your child get the sleep he or she needs to do well in preschool.



Know the rules of school ... Know what the expectations are regarding bringing toys to school, wearing open-toed shoes and jewelry, and other school rules so your child will be prepared for a successful start. There is nothing worse than bringing that favorite toy to school only for your child to have it put away when he or she arrives in the classroom. Sometimes toys brought from home can be a distraction in

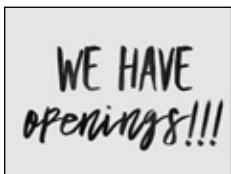
the classroom or a source of conflict between children. In addition, try knowing the classroom rules and expectations so you can help review the rules and expectations with your child.

Plan your morning routine ... Allow plenty of time to get up in the morning, get dressed, eat breakfast, and get to school. Rushing through the morning and rushing to get to school on time creates stress for you and your child, which can lead to very unhappy goodbyes at school. On the first day of school, try to arrive a little earlier just in case your child needs you to stick around for a few minutes, but when it is time to go, be prepared to go. Trust your child's teachers and know that they will make sure your child adjusts quickly and smoothly to their new classroom and routine.

We will continue to quickly communicate any updated rules and regulations that may change the way we do things. In these unknown times, we must all remain adaptable, flexible, and encouraged. Most importantly, remember we may not know the future, but we know who holds the future!

Openings for Fall

Our 5 Star Providence Weekday Education Ministry has openings in our Preschool (part day) program for ages toddlers, twos and threes. We also have a few openings in our flex school-age program.



CONTACT:
 utaylor@providencebc.org
 or 704.366.4030x135

Labor Day Closing

Monday, September 7

We will be closed
 for Labor Day.

Enjoy the time
 with your family!



For more information about the Weekday Education Ministry, visit the website at www.providencebc.org/preschool.

From Losing to Listening



Dane Jackson

September is *usually* the month you hear me talk about plans for the upcoming year, ask for volunteers, and lay out my vision for the future of the Student Ministry. I *usually* spend the weeks leading up to the start of the school year planning events and weekly gatherings, getting excited to see students again, training volunteers, and answering parent questions. It's time for something new in an *unusual* year and I've been trying to listen to what this season of disruption could teach me.

I miss connection. I need connection. You probably do, too. Meaningful connection with students, parents, volunteers, and (above all) God is what makes our Student Ministry.

This disruptive season has allowed God to step in and reorient my focus. This ministry is not about me or you, but it's about ALL of us. And it may seem like we have lost momentum, but God is still very much at work. I had to change my posture from *losing* to *listening*, and doing so has opened up new possibilities. Student Ministry may look and feel different from what I planned.

It's still September, though, and so here is my invitation:

If you are reading this, get in touch with me. You can introduce or re-introduce yourself and tell me about your hopes and dreams for the Student Ministry. Instead of focusing on a lot of plans (something I value greatly), I want to spend time listening to you. I believe that listening should be at the heart of our work.

Eventually, we will be able to gather together again, but ministry may not look "normal" and this new school year isn't going to look like the one we'd planned. We'll continue to re-evaluate what is safe. We may have to gather in ways that leave us feeling isolated and frustrated at times. We'll keep figuring out how to make day-to-day life work. And we'll continue to grieve losses.

It is my prayer that this unusual new school year will be a season that transforms this ministry. May it be a time to deeply listen to one another, to place all the details we're worrying about into God's hands, and (for me) to grow in relationship thoughtfully with young people and families entrusted to my care.

Dane



facebook.com/pbcstudentsclt



[@pbcstudentsclt](https://instagram.com/pbcstudentsclt)



[@pbcstudents](https://twitter.com/pbcstudents)

remind

reminders and alerts by text:
text @g8f9d64 to 81010 to sign up!

For more information about the Student Ministry, visit the student website at www.providencebc.org/students.

Blessing Event for Families Forward



Blake Kendrick

Wednesday, September 2
5:00pm - 6:30pm

We are collecting socks and underwear for Families Forward Charlotte so see the list to the right for donation needs. At this same event, we will:

1. Collect tithes and offerings,
2. Distribute hard copies of September-December Smyth & Helwys adult curriculum, and
3. Offer a blessing from a pastor.

Drive through the Activity Center circle to donate your items or pick up your Sunday School literature. See you there!



NEW and UNOPENED
Socks and Underwear

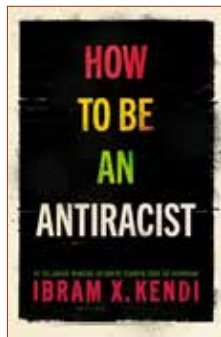
Underwear Sizes:
Girls/Boys size 2 - 16
Men/Women Size XS - L

Socks: All Sizes

Zoom Fall Book Study

Begins
Wednesday, September 16

Blake Kendrick will lead a five-session Zoom study of Ibram Kendi's book, "How to Be An Antiracist."



The first zoom session will be Wednesday, September 16 at 6:30pm. You've got homework! Read chapters 1-3 prior to the first session.

Purchase your copy of the book and sign up by September 9 by emailing Blake Kendrick. Then Blake will email you the ZOOM link.

(Need help? Just reach out!)

Prayer Retreat

Saturday, September 26
9:00am - 12:00pm

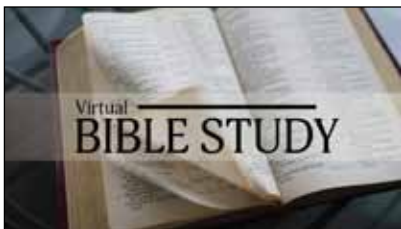
Join us at the McDowell Nature Preserve for this prayer retreat, which will feature a socially distanced morning prayer under a picnic shelter, and a self-guided hike and time of reflection in the nature preserve. The hikes range from very easy to moderately challenging. Remember to bring your own lunch! All ages welcome. The event is \$12 per family, which covers the cost of the accompanying book, "Daily Prayer," and requires registration. Email Blake Kendrick by September 21.

bkendrick@providencebc.org



Thursday Bible Study

Virtual Study Resumes Thursday, September 17



We will devote 10 sessions to studying the Psalms (September 17 - November 19). New videos will be posted to the Providence website every Thursday under the "Adult Studies" tab.

According to biblical scholar Walter Brueggeman, "The book of Psalms provides the most reliable theological, pastoral, and liturgical resource given to us in the biblical tradition. In season and out of season, generation after generation, faithful women and men have turned to the Psalms as a most helpful resource for conversation with God about things that matter most." This fall, we will continue this tradition as we dig deeper into the Psalms.

For more information about the Adult Discipleship Ministry, email Blake Kendrick at bkendrick@providencebc.org.

In Your Hearts



In my article last month, I quoted from Ephesians 5:

“... but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

One of the phrases that continues to stick with me during this time of separation is “in your hearts.” When we cannot physically sing together, we can (and should) allow the Spirit to sing in and through us. As we do this, our favorite hymns and songs become more than melodies; they are transformed into warmth and comfort for our souls.

Timothy Hill

In the book of Romans, the apostle Paul encourages a life lived in the Spirit:

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. (Romans 8:26)

I believe the Holy Spirit can intercede in our shared singing as well. While we may not hear a sanctuary filled with harmony, we can rest assured that when we sing to God, our Spirit-filled melodies are producing a heavenly chorus like never before! May the peace of Christ be with you.

Tim 

Hymns with Tim

This fall, we will be exploring the stories, history and theology that have shaped our favorite hymns. These video episodes will not only be informative, but hopefully fun for all ages! Join Tim as he takes viewers on a musical journey into hymnology ... and prepare your hearts to sing!



Ask the Preacher

Are you ready for another Adult Discipleship opportunity this fall? We've got you covered! It's called "Ask the Preacher." Members (of any age) of the congregation can submit questions to Senior Pastor Lee Canipe via email. The subject line of these emails should be "Ask the Pastor." Lee will reflect upon these questions theologically and biblically and respond to a few of them with a weekly video or "vlog." The video will be uploaded to Vimeo and it will be available on the Adult Studies page of our website weekly. Ask anything! What do you want to know?



- “As a pastor, what do you think about genetically modified organisms?”
- “What is a Bible verse that can help me with anxiety and worry?”
- “How do you decide what to preach about each week?”
- “As a pastor, what’s your advice during this election season?”
- “Do you get nervous when you’re preaching?”

Ask anything! Just email your question to lcanipe@providencebc.org.

2020 CROP Walk



Even though the Charlotte CROP Walk is going VIRTUAL, we are still aiding the hungry in our community. The work and the Walk continue, only this year we can walk ANYWHERE! Remember our date is Sunday, October 11 at 2:30pm, so plan to walk on the track, in your neighborhood, with your friends and family. Just WALK!

Interested in supporting the Charlotte CROP Walk? We have a dream team of walkers already signed up who will be happy to have you support them. Join in and help raise money for those dealing with hunger and poverty ... particularly those impacted by COVID-19!

The Goal for Providence this year is to raise \$8,000, and—with YOUR help—WE can DO IT!

Just contact one of these dedicated walkers:

Debbie Arim	debbiearim@aol.com
Mike Arim	mike.arim0712@gmail.com
Sarah Blackwell	sbblackwell@msn.com
Dalinda Fairley	dalindafairley@gmail.com
Cayce Martin	cmgw2015@att.net
Dawn Martin	martinx3@bellsouth.net
Dave or Karen Miller	drmkbm9@gmail.com
Ashton Williams	ashton.p.williams@gmail.com



A Word of Thanks

Small wonder Providence is known as a missions-minded church. We set our minds to a goal, and we exceed that goal. Every time.

We have set a goal and committed to supporting Families Forward Charlotte (FFC) in many ways. During our Drive Thru Blessing Events throughout the summer, we collected everything from tissue paper to hygiene products to cleaning supplies to school supplies. Each donation has been meaningful, and each offer of help has been appreciated by our mission partner FFC and its families.



Thank you, Providence. KNOW you have made a difference and that you have answered the call to serve others and love in Jesus' name!

Family Mentors Needed

By now, you've heard about Families Forward Charlotte, one of our local missions partners. Providence has set a goal to provide five Family Mentors for the upcoming year.

A Family Mentor seeks to develop a relationship with one particular family, and helps that family connect with needed resources. No experience needed because we TRAIN you!

Don't feel like this is outside your area of expertise! Just offer yourself and your time and be the help and friend someone desperately needs. You WILL be blessed!

Contact Mike Arim
704.517.6428



2021 DEACON SLATE



Hunter Cook - Joined Providence in 1985

Retired CPA; Married to Janis Cook; Children: Carter and Stephen

Current Service: Personnel Committee, Moderator-elect, Sunday School Teacher

Previous Service: Deacon, Moderator, Finance Committee



Bill Fairley - Joined Providence in 1983

Accountant; Married to Dalinda Fairley; Children: Taylor and Sara

Current Service: Room in the Inn, Greeter, NC Baptist Men, Video/Powerpoint Volunteer

Previous Service: Deacon, Student Sunday School Teacher, Family Promise Coordinator, Rama Road Tutor, Student Mission Trip and Retreat Chaperone, Crosspoint Chaperone, Hurricane Relief Volunteer, Student Minister Search Committee, Vacation Bible School Volunteer, Habitat for Humanity, High School Bible Study Leader



Mark Fenimore - Joined Providence in 2017

Project Manager, Activelogix; Married to Carly Fenimore, Children: Brooks

Current Service: Grounds Committee



Jeff Hartman - Joined Providence in 2009

Retired, Wells Fargo; Married to Susan Hartman; Children: Byron, Jeffrey, and Caroline

Current Service: Communion Clean Up Team, Koinonia Sunday School Class

Previous Service: Finance Committee



David Honeycutt - Joined Providence in 2007

Xylem, Inc.; Married to Ashley Honeycutt; Children: Jackson, Spencer, Carson

Previous Service: Deacon, Weekday Education Ministry Committee, Weekday Education Ministry Director Search Committee, Stewardship Committee



Leslie Pitts Hunt - Joined Providence in 2011

Homemaker; Married to Peter Hunt; Children: Ava, Coleman, Audrey, Claire

Current Service: First Grade GA Leader, Activities Ministry Committee

Previous Service: Children's Ministry Committee (Chair), VBS Leadership Team, Sunday School Teacher, GA Leader, Mission Friends Leader



Bobby Jones - Joined Providence in 1991
Institutional Account Manager, Theravance Biopharma; Married to Marilyn Jones;
Children: Brittany, Taylor, Kayla and Bobbi
Previous Service: Coach of U14 boys basketball teams, Activities Ministry



Stacey Mercer - Joined Providence in 2009
Math Teacher at Charlotte Latin; Married to Jason Mercer; Children: Maddie, Phelps
Current Service: Weekday Education Ministry Committee
Previous Service: Mission Friends Leader, First Grade GA Leader, Cornerstone Sunday School Class Teacher, Search Committee (Chair) for the Minister of Adult Discipleship



Jane Norwood - Joined Providence in 2002
Retired Professor Emeritus, Appalachian State University; Married to Buddy Norwood
Current Service: Altar Guild, Children's Committee
Previous Service: Altar Guild, Children's Committee



Amy Stokes - Joined Providence in 2016
Account Executive, US Foods and Restaurant Proprietor; Married to Frank Stokes,
Children: Grace, Alex, Sara
Current Service: Weekday Education Ministry Committee
Previous Service: Two-year-old Sunday School Teacher



Bryant Waldkirch - Joined Providence in 2017
Wells Fargo; Married to Susan Waldkirch; Children: Rebecca, Jennifer
Current Service: Missions Committee



David Mark Williams - Joined Providence in 2006
Wells Fargo; Married to Ashton Williams; Children: Cooper, Sadie
Current Service: Property Committee, Extended Session Volunteer
Previous Service: Deacon, Children's Committee (Chair), Coordinating Council, Greeter, RA Leader, Children's Sunday School Teacher, Vacation Bible School Volunteer, Room in the Inn Volunteer

Deacon Election will be held in October. Plans are being made to accomplish the election while we are separated.

Survey Results

Many thanks to everyone who participated in our recent “Providence Life During Covid” survey. Your responses have been helpful to our ministry team as we continue to serve the church while it is scattered.



The insight we gained from your ideas about returning to campus safely will assist us in our preparations when the time comes to gather again on Randolph Road.

From the Center

Ordinarily, the way we do church is a matter of gathering in a central location. We come to the Providence campus on Randolph Road to worship, learn, fellowship, serve, and grow—then go our separate ways for the rest of the week. We start at the center, and move out into the world. The church gathers, then scatters. That’s how we normally do it.

What about when the church is just scattered, though, as it is right now? How do we get the spiritual nourishment that we need to keep our souls strong?

Our ministry staff has been thinking creatively about how to respond to these questions and provide consistent spiritual encouragement to the Providence family as we travel through the fall. To do so, we’re borrowing from the title of a book by theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer called “Christ the Center.” Just as our new life—both as individuals and as a church—begins with Christ and proceeds from Christ, we believe that, while we are scattered, what we need to keep our souls strong can only come from Christ, who is at the center of our lives.



Make Disciples

So, beginning the week of September 13, our ministers will be posting new offerings each weekday on the Providence website and the Providence Facebook page. Our goal is to equip the church with the nourishment it needs to keep growing in Christ and bearing good, spiritual fruit while we are scattered so that, when we are able to gather again, we will come back even stronger than we were before—with Christ at the center.

Submitted by Lee Canipe

Deacon Initiative

Keeping in the mission and vision of “Providence Will,” the Engage Cotswold Sub-Committee (comprised of six deacons) has decided to make a positive impact in our small business community. Our group has identified a list of 30-40 small businesses in the area; and we will be hand-delivering (in a socially-distanced, responsible manner) a gift bag with some Providence branded items and treats. We will also include a handwritten note letting them know we appreciate what they do for our community, and that we are keeping them in prayer and supporting them through these difficult times. Albeit a small act of kindness, this is one way that Providence can further its mission of “Engaging Cotswold,” and continue to be the hands and feet of Christ.



Engage Cotswold

Submitted by Jonathan Bensch

Stewardship Notes

Many thanks to the members of the Stewardship



Cultivate Generosity

Committee, our pastor and staff, and a number of others, who helped put together our recent Service of Gratitude. Generated from sharing ideas among the Stewardship Committee, this service gave our church family the opportunity to tell what God has been doing in the midst of this strange time. And what a wonderful job you did! You even stayed around when God sent “showers” of blessing to us in the form of rain! Great!! The Scripture tells us gratitude and generosity go together: “You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us.” (2 Corinthians 9:11) Let me encourage you to continue to be grateful to God as He is still working in His world, and also to be generous to support our church’s ministry. You are doing well in challenging times—let’s keep it up!!

Submitted by Allen Schuyler

Sympathies

Our love and prayers surround those who have lost loved ones. With sympathy we remember:

- Ashleigh Nussman, who lost her father, John Joseph Scherer (died 5.30)
- Lillian Earle Clark James (died 8.20)
- Kristen Genett, who lost her grandmother, Zulma Gonzalez (died 8.20)
- Robert “Bob” E. Hays (died 8.21)
- Tamara Griffin, who lost her cousin, Randy Jones (died 8.22)



Senior Adult Activity

September is here and we’re STILL in Phase 2, wearing our masks, washing our hands and social distancing. (*Who knew one could spend the day washing your hands every time you turn around?*) For now, our Primetimers luncheons are on hold until the Providence COVID Task Force feels it is safe to resume meeting. Until then, Blake Kendrick and the Senior Adult Committee are offering a “Drive-Through Blessing Event” for our seniors. Drive through the Activity Center parking lot on Thursday, September 17th from 11:00am - 12:00pm. Say “hello” to the committee, snag one of our delicious freshly baked cookies, and receive a “blessing” from Blake. Can’t wait to connect!



Submitted by Wilna Eury

Stephen Ministry

Bear one another’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2, NRSV

What Is Stephen Ministry?

Stephen Ministry offers a proven and effective way to organize, equip, and supervise a team of congregation members—called Stephen Ministers—to provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community who are experiencing life difficulties.

Who is Involved in Stephen Ministry?

- Stephen Leaders are church staff, lay leaders, and pastors trained to provide ongoing leadership for their congregation’s Stephen Ministry.
- Stephen Ministers are congregation members trained by their Stephen Leaders to offer care to people who are hurting. A Stephen Minister typically has one care receiver at a time and meets with that person once a week for about an hour.
- Care Receivers are individuals in the congregation or community who are going through a crisis or life difficulty. Potential care receivers first meet with a pastor or Stephen Leader, who assesses their needs for care, and then matches them with a Stephen Minister. The caring relationship lasts for as long as the need persists.

The Blessings of Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministry multiplies blessings throughout the church and community.

- Congregations carry out Christ’s commandment to “love one another as I have loved you” (John 15:12 RSV) in a powerful and practical way.
- Pastors have a team of gifted, trained and committed lay caregivers ready to minister to hurting people.
- Laypeople nurture and use their gifts in meaningful ministry, growing spiritually as they serve others.
- People who are hurting have a caring Christian presence to provide emotional and spiritual support.

In short, Stephen Ministry helps carry out the mission of the church.

Should you sense the need for a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastoral Care Director and Stephen Leader Rev. Martha Haigler.
mhaigler@providencebc.org / 704.608.7947



Meet Katelyn



Katelyn DeVane

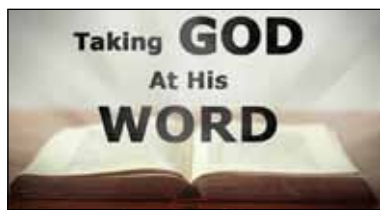
She's HERE! We welcome Katelyn DeVane as the Providence Director of Activities Ministry. Katelyn attended Wingate University and in 2017 received a dual bachelor's degree in Math and in Community & Commercial Recreation. She worked at the university for the past two years in the Athletic Communications Department as an Intern/Graduate Assistant, while she sought her Master's of Sports Management degree. During the summers, Katelyn worked with Passport Camps. (She's been busy!) As you will soon read, Katelyn will be a great fit for Providence:

“When I saw the description for the Director of Activities Ministry position listed on the North Carolina Parks & Recreation website, I was excited. I immediately realized that the opportunity to serve at Providence fit both my skill set and passions. I resonate with the church's desire to have the Activities Ministry connect to the neighborhood. I always find joy in watching people grow in their physical endeavors and their relationships with Christ. I am excited to be a part of a community that allows me to walk alongside my neighbors as we learn and grow together.”

Katelyn's first day will be Tuesday, September 8. You can email her at kdevane@providencecbc.org to welcome her!

Sermon Scripture

- September 6: Matthew 18:15-20
- September 13: Exodus 14:19-31
- September 20: Philippians 1:21-30
- September 27: Exodus 3:1-15



Come Play Frisbee Golf

Saturday, September 12
10:00am
Aubrey Arant Fields

We had a blast the first go-round.
Now, it's time to do it again!

Come on out for our next game time and meet Katelyn DeVane, our new Director of Activities Ministry.

Bring your own discs (any frisbee will do) and wear your mask. Email Blake Kendrick to sign up!
bkendrick@providencecbc.org



Welcome Babies



John and Katie Hartwell welcomed daughter Sophie Erin Hartwell on August 9. Sophie is also welcomed by her big sister Zoe!

Chason and Catherine Trahan welcomed daughter Palmer

Lockwood Trahan on August 25. Palmer is also welcomed by her big sister Holland!

Welcome "New" Member



Kate Marshall

Kate Marshall grew up at Providence. But like many, she moved away to continue her education. Kate became involved in a church and moved her membership so that she could take on a leadership role. But she's BACK! We are so happy to welcome her "home" to Providence and have her rejoin our community of believers!

Church Staff Recognition

September is a busy month for employee anniversaries. Help us celebrate these special people!



3 Years - Caitie Jackson
Caitie celebrates her third year with Providence on September 1. As the Music Ministry Associate, she organizes and communicates the ongoing music and worship plans of the church. Additionally, her work with Collegiate Ministries has been an added blessing within our church and community.



13 Years - Diann Clark
Diann celebrates her thirteenth year on September 17 as the full-time Church Organist and Music Associate. She goes above and beyond to provide meaningful musical moments for worship, and is always prepared in her role as accompanist for multiple groups.

An accomplished teacher and church musician, Diann's gifts are treasures to our family of faith.



4 Years - Lee Canipe
Lee celebrates his fourth year as Senior Pastor with Providence on September 19. He is a gifted preacher and is an avid reader. He loves running, playing tennis and watching basketball and football. He and his wife Hilary have three children, Helen, Watt and Peter.



13 Years - Jeff Motsinger
Jeff celebrates his thirteenth year as a part-time Custodian at Providence. He works on Mondays and Fridays and focuses on recycling projects and church grounds upkeep. Jeff is a practical joker, often reaching in to a staff member's office, turning off and on the lights before he enters. He loves NASCAR and on his time off, he repairs lawn mowers and small power tools.



5 Years - Kristen Hendrix
Kristen celebrates her fifth year as the part-time Children's Ministry Administrative Assistant. Kristen is creative, kind and talented. Her positive attitude and sweet smile are a blessing to the staff and the entire church family. She and her husband Neal have two children, Jack and Ella Haze.



A Proper Good Bye

Several long-time employees are leaving Providence. Beverly Tucker (17 years), Jim Tucker (17 years) and Dianna Neil (21 years) are moving on to new things. If you would like to show your gratitude, send them off well, or just drop them a note of thanks, please send your messages and gifts to the Providence office in care of Summer Sneed. She will collect the correspondence and forward a care package filled with your gifts and notes along to our friends. The address is listed to the right.

Mail all cards,
gifts and notes to:

Providence Baptist Church
c/o Summer Sneed
4921 Randolph Road
Charlotte, NC 28211



Periodicals
Postage
PAID
Charlotte, NC
USPS 979-940

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

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

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

September 1 - 7: Timothy Hill

September 8 - 15: Lee Canipe

September 16 - 22: Blake Kendrick

September 23 - 29: Dane Jackson

September 30 - October 5: 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

Next Connections is October 1, 2020.

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

Thank you!



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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