

November 1, 2020



PROVIDENCE

BAPTIST CHURCH

Start Here

Children are a gift from the Lord;

They are a reward from Him. Psalm 127:3



Keep Doing What's Right



Lee Canipe

So let us not grow weary of doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up.

Galatians 6:9

Will you join me in making a financial covenant to keep doing what's right in 2021?

The last two years I lived in Hertford County, I coached the cross country team at the school my children attended. I had never coached runners at any level before, so a lot of

my instruction and inspiration were improvised. I quickly learned, though, that once a cross country race begins, there's not much a coach can do. The arsenal of helpful advice is pretty limited. Keep going! Don't stop! Run faster! I mean, what else is there to say? With that in mind, our team shirts one year featured a quote from Winston Churchill on the back. (I was a history nerd long before I became a cross country coach.) "Success is not final and failure is not fatal," said Churchill. "It is the courage to continue that counts."

For people running a long race, the biggest challenge is to keep going after fatigue has set in. That's why the Churchill quote appealed to me. It takes a great deal of courage to continue pushing forward, to keep doing what you're doing, when you're exhausted.

As the calendar turns to November, this long-distance endurance race that we call "2020" has pushed us well beyond the point of exhaustion in so many ways. Nevertheless, I have been inspired and encouraged by the commitment of Providence people to continue doing ministry together—to continue worshiping together as best we can, in spirit when not in person; to continue meeting together as Sunday school classes and discussion groups; to continue blessing Charlotte and serving our neighbors together by making donations to Families Forward Charlotte and Second Harvest Food Bank; to continue supporting parents by providing safe childcare during work hours through our Weekday Education Ministry. It takes courage to continue like this when the race is long and the finish line has still yet to come into view.

But we've done it.

And, along with the grace of God and a lot of prayer, what's made our ongoing ministry together possible these last several months is the fact that Providence people have continued to support our shared work by giving generously, consistently—and, in some cases, *sacrificially*—during the long, hard slog of 2020. We haven't stopped. We have kept going.

The Bible tells us that it is *right* to bring our offerings to God. "Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce," we're told in Proverbs 3:9. Under trying circumstances and through a great deal of uncertainty, we have found the courage to continue doing what's right this year by honoring God with our financial gifts. This kind of steady discipleship, the apostle Paul tells us, produces good fruit in the long run—but the key is sticking with it. The key, as Paul puts it, is not giving up, even when we're weary.

It's time to make our financial covenants to support the missions and ministries of Providence in 2021. On the next page of the newsletter is information about how to do this. Our offerings fund the Kingdom work that we believe Jesus wants us to be doing. It's really that simple. Despite formidable challenges, we've given generously in 2020. I am grateful for that.

Now, looking ahead, I'll ask again: Will you join me in making a financial covenant to *keep* doing what's right in 2021? I am confident that God will give us the courage to continue pushing forward. The important thing is that we keep doing what's right *together*.

May the peace of Christ be with you!

Financial Covenant 2021

We are now in the season of stewardship commitment for our 2021 financial ministry plan under the theme, “Keep Doing What’s Right!”

Paul urged the Galatian church, “So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up.” (Galatians 6:9)



Providence members have

been faithful in their stewardship in the context of the challenges of 2020. For 2021, you are being urged to “Keep Doing What’s Right!” as we move forward. If you haven’t returned your 2021 Commitment Card, please do so via the mail, Drive-by Drop-Off event on November 1, or online by November 8.

Let’s “Keep Doing What’s Right!”

Submitted by Allen Schuyler

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 when you visit our website:

providencebc.org/why-give

Or mail your gift to:
Providence Baptist Church
4921 Randolph Road
Charlotte, NC 28211



Cultivate Generosity

3 Ways to Return Your 2021 Financial Covenant

1.) US Mail

Use the above address

2.) Drive-Through-Drop-Off

Sunday, November 1 from 2:00pm - 3:30pm

Rotunda entrance

3.) Commit Online

Log in to your Realm account and go to “Giving”

As we head into the last two months of 2020, remember that you can give to Providence from your 401k distribution tax free. Just call Amy Shoemaker at 704.366.4030x141 to see how!

Our COVID Task Force

North Carolina continues in an extended “Re-opening Phase 3” due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Providence ministry team, along with the Covid Task Force, closely monitors the news and recommendations of health officials. We are eager to return to campus, but we must weigh that desire with the responsibility of caring for one another.

In its reopening plan published in June, the Task Force determined that when the governor raises the number of people who can safely gather indoors to 150, we will begin preparing for a return to the Sanctuary. With the current number at 100, the Task Force (in its Diaspora announcement on October 2) announced its intention to continue monitoring public health trends in Mecklenburg County and, if prudent, consider revisions to the Providence reopening plan.

As Covid cases continue to rise in our area right now, though, we are focused on the health of our members.

The staff continues to make preparations for when we can safely worship and fellowship as one body. Although we long to be together, we will continue life “separated” until we can safely return to our Randolph Road campus.



Helping Children Learn to Follow Jesus



Julia Wright

We are looking forward to a new year of Children's Bible Drill! We will begin on Sunday, November 1 at the Gazebo from 4:00pm - 5:30pm.

Children's Bible Drill is a special discipleship opportunity for children in grades 3 - 5. In our time together, we learn Bible skills, memorize Bible verses and key passages, and study main truths of the Bible. Plus, Children's Bible Drill is fun! We utilize games and activities to teach the children in class. We even put verses to music and sing them!

Register your child with Kristen Hendrix:
khendrix@providencebc.org



Mothers of Preschoolers



Select
Wednesdays

6:00pm @ the Gazebo
November 4
November 18

Email Kristen Hendrix with questions:
khendrix@providencebc.org

Moms! Make A Wreath



Sunday,
November 29

4:00pm @ the Gazebo
Moms are invited to enjoy some fellowship and fun as we make our

Advent wreaths together. Take your wreath home, along with the devotional materials we provide, and make Advent a special season for your family.

Each wreath is \$18.00 and reservations are required—and limited—so sign up today!

Reserve your wreath:
Email Kristen Hendrix
khendrix@providencebc.org

Picture Day

Sunday, November 22

3:00pm @ the Gazebo

It's annual Sunday School Picture Day, but this year we are changing up the venue!



A schedule will be sent for each class (children and preschool). Just meet at the Gazebo at your "appointed" time. We want all of our friends to be in the picture!

Have your child at the Gazebo promptly at the assigned time with a smile ready! Copies of the picture will be distributed to children who were photographed.

These photos make wonderful keepsakes of your child's early years at church.

Post it on your refrigerator so your child can see his (or her) church friends!

Getting Ready Class

Sundays November 8, 15, 22

9:00am @ the Nalley Missions Center

The "Getting Ready Class" is for older children (grades 3 - 5) who are thinking about becoming Christians. We will meet three Sundays in November.

Due to the pandemic, space is limited and reservations are required.

Call Julia Wright
704.366.4030x140



For more information about the Children's Ministry, visit the website at www.providencebc.org/cherish-the-gift.

A Day in the Life

During the month of November, we typically think about “gratitude.” So, I thought this was a good time to talk about a day in the life of a teacher here at Providence Weekday. Upon arrival to the Center, teachers are screened for COVID-19 and go directly to their classroom where they begin to prepare for the arrival of their students. Cleaning, sanitizing and disinfectant solutions are made, chairs are taken down, tables and counter tops and “high-touch” areas are cleaned.

As the children enter the classroom, they are met with a warm smile and greeted with a hearty “good morning” before they wash their hands. Every child starts the day manipulating the classroom materials and moving freely throughout the centers. Right before morning snack, the classroom tables are cleaned and sanitized, then snack is served. When snack is over, the teacher cleans and sanitizes the tables and escorts the children to wash their hands. Once again, the children move throughout the classroom exploring the different centers and participating in circle time, small group time, individual lessons, teacher-directed activities and outside time.

Lunch time brings more hustle and bustle. The countertop and tables are cleaned and sanitized before lunch can be served. The teacher must also be sure that the children wash their hands before eating. Lunch time is when we hear all types of conversations (home life, vacations, world views). After the children are finished eating, they either leave for the day (Preschool) or transition to rest time (Full Care).

During rest time, the teacher must still work. She/he must walk around the classroom ensuring the safety of the children, prepare materials for the afternoon, develop future lesson plans, post information on MemberHub and—you guessed it—clean and sanitize. This is also when the teachers take their break (30 minutes - 1 hour). When rest time is over, children slowly arise and get ready for the second part of the day. The mats are put away and the children wash their hands in preparation for afternoon snack. Once again, children are a-buzz with conversation (while gathered around the table), as they anticipate either finishing something they started in the early part of the day or playing outside. After the children finish eating, the teacher must clean and sanitize, then move on to the next activity.

At the end of the day the teacher must ensure that the children’s belongings are prepared to go home. Lastly, after all the children are gone for the day, the teacher must thoroughly clean, sanitize and disinfect the classroom (and do the day’s laundry).

This is just a brief look into a “day in the life” of our teachers. I have left many things out, but I wanted to capture the gist of their day. So, back to the “gratitude” part: I am super grateful for all the teachers who are working with a spirit of adaptability, flexibility, and professionalism during this trying season. And I’m super grateful to have families for whom we are fortunate enough to care.



Ursula Taylor

Ursula S. Taylor

Holiday Closure

We will be closed November 25th:
Preschool @ 12:00pm
Full Care @ 1:00pm



We will return
Monday,
November 30th.

Meet the Teacher

Our recent unorthodox “Meet the Teacher” event was well received. Several families stopped by to talk with their teachers and fellowship with other families in the classroom.

Still, I pray this type of “Fall Meet and Greet” doesn’t repeat itself.

Thank You

The Cookie Dough fundraiser was a huge success, and we thank all who participated.



Also, thanks to the members of PAC for organizing it!

For more information about the Weekday Education Ministry, visit the website at www.providencebaptistweekday.org.

The Power of Gratitude



Dane Jackson

I wish gratitude was my go-to state. I like people who are grateful. Unfortunately, I have to work at it. My gifts tend toward “exhortation;” my strengths fall in the learning-teaching realm; and my enneagram type suggests that I’m often trying to reform the world around me. I see the gaps. I’m a realist. I don’t have time to lavish thanks on people when there are so many things to do next. (Yes, it can be exhausting to live and work with me!)

Since pausing to be grateful is not as natural for me, I’ve had to learn over the years that gratitude really matters. Gratitude isn’t a nice-to-have extra; it’s an essential. Essential to relationships. Essential to faith. Essential to our well-being.

Psychologists tell us that research backs the power of gratitude in our lives. It increases happiness, lowers depressive moods, and even offers health benefits. A simple exercise like writing three things that went well at the end of each day can be transformative over time. In short, gratitude helps us thrive.

The Psalms overflow with expressions of gratitude to God, placing it squarely in the center of the worship life of God’s people. Gratitude inspires our praise, frames our requests, and

follows lament as we emerge from painful experiences. Gratitude roots our trust as we remember all God has done and hope for what God will do.

Given all this, you’d think a season founded on giving thanks might be easy for people who follow Jesus. We have a rich story and layers of practices that feature gratitude. Nevertheless, sometimes we get so caught up in our to-do lists that we find it hard to feel grateful. If that’s you, here are four ways to make this season the gift it can be.

- 1. Reclaim the Season** - Maybe like me, you just need to decide you’re going to practice gratitude and be intentional about doing it.
- 2. Cultivate an Abundance Mindset** - Most of us are well aware of the “shadow story” of scarcity, the constant reminder that there’s not enough. Whether we’re looking for more time, money, relationships, or students to show up at church, this “not enough” mindset undercuts our ability to receive the gifts in front of us.
- 3. Make Space to Reflect** - Maybe you’re not a “gratitude journal” kind of person. You have trouble sitting down to list out your blessings every day. That’s okay. What’s important is that we each find some way to make room for regular reflection. You might find it helpful to practice a daily prayer of examen in this season of frantic movement. Or perhaps light a candle and use its light as a prompt for thanksgiving. Or maybe you could make intentional space at your dinner table to share one thing each person is grateful for each day through this season.
- 4. Be Specific** - Finally, specific reasons for gratitude are often more powerful than rushed or impersonal thank-yous. Take some time to say some meaningful “thank-yous.”

What are some ways **you** are cultivating gratitude this season?

One Story

Genesis through Revelation.



Let’s continue our discussion so that we can better understand the stories that drive our faith.

ZOOM with us!

Select Sundays at 4:00pm.

See website for details.

Driveway Hangouts

Wednesdays & Thursdays

4:00pm

Sign up on the website to hangout with Dane after school!

Let’s get together and catch up (while socially distanced).



Movie Night



Sunday, November 15

6:00pm @ the Gazebo

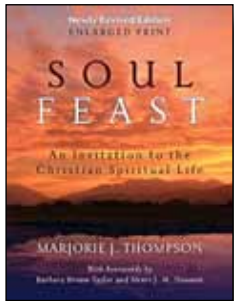
It’s Movie Night. Bring something to sit on and a mask to wear.

We’ll have individual snacks and beverages. We **WILL** be socially distanced. Invite your friends!

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

Coming January 2021

2020 has been a year of intimidating news headlines: a global health crisis, a contentious election cycle, widespread economic woes, and natural disasters, just to name a few. The need for social distancing and minimizing public gatherings has taken a toll on our spiritual lives. The impact has been tremendous and far-reaching. Our need for community, connection, and relationships has left us all hungering for spiritual, emotional, and social nourishment. As we balance our moral and public responsibility to stay safe and prevent Covid's spread, we also seek ways to grow our faith, nourish our souls, and lean into God's goodness and provision. These stressful circumstances require of us some creative, intentional opportunities to hold onto hope and reach beyond our usual habits.



In January 2021, the Adult Discipleship Ministry at Providence will begin a journey into a new year, and you are invited to join us. Together, we will read Marjorie Thompson's magnum opus "Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life." This book will speak to the deep hungers we all share for spiritual nourishment.

In essence, it will teach you how to become a faithful and centered disciple of Jesus. This 10-week study will feature weekly ten-minute videos—produced by Blake Kendrick and uploaded to our church website—to help you dive deeper into Thompson's work.



Blake Kendrick

Book study participants will gather via Zoom periodically to discuss the book and build community.

We will conclude the 10-week study with an outdoor, socially-distanced prayer retreat in the spring of 2021.

Please consider adding this to your plans for 2021. Purchase your book over the holiday season (the 2014 "newly revised" edition, which comes in normal text size and enlarged text sizes). Then, invite your friends, family, and neighbors to join us! We begin on January 6.

Sign up by January 3.
bkendrick@providencecbc.org

Thursday Bible Study

The Psalms

Thursdays through November

We are devoting 10 sessions to studying the Psalms (through November 19).

New videos will be posted to the Providence website every Thursday under the "Adult Studies" tab.

Join with us as we dig deeper into the Psalms.



The Bible Project

Are you looking for resources to study the Bible and grow your faith at home? During this season of separation, it is important for us to advance our spiritual journey with challenging and inspiring tools that are accessible, theologically relevant, and creative.



Make Disciples

I've discovered a resource that checks all of these boxes! It is called The Bible Project, which is "a nonprofit animation studio helping people experience the Bible as a unified story that leads to Jesus." Since 2014, The Bible Project has been producing creative, thought-provoking biblically-based content for free. Their site features thematic videos, Bible studies, and a podcast. This resource would be IDEAL for a Sunday school class, a small group, or a family devotional. Check out The Bible Project today!

www.bibleproject.com

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

An Unexpected Advent



Timothy Hill

So many of our normal activities and traditions have been interrupted or canceled due to the global pandemic. It's easy to only think about the things that we've missed, and in doing so, our lament can feel deep and unending. As we approach the season of Advent, it seems difficult to imagine how celebrating a time of longing and waiting could be helpful ... after all, we've been longing and waiting all year! Will this season be something else that is lost and lamented? Or will our collective hope see us through? I believe it is that hope—the one we share in Jesus Christ—that will, indeed, be our guide and stay ... our mighty fortress ... our strength and shield ... our Emmanuel, come to ransom us from the captivity of loneliness and exile. Our traditions and activities may change, but we press on to tell the story of God, and to share that with the world.

What, then, might we look forward to this season? Where will we celebrate Hope, Peace, Joy and Love as a church family?

On November 29, during the morning worship time, we will celebrate and worship by Hanging the Green. While our children's and student choirs will not lead us this year, there will be beautiful music, story and scripture—heartwarming messages to fill us with hope and joy.

As the calendar turns to December, and as each new Sunday brings us closer to the birth of Christ, we will gather for Evening Advent Vespers outside of the Rotunda. These weekly services, held on December 6, 13, and 20, will be designed to engage worshippers of all ages, and will give us opportunities to worship together ... to hear the unfolding story of God's love for us ... and then to be sent into the world to bring peace. It may not be the season we expected, but Advent beckons us to see more, to look past the confines of this world towards the Kingdom of God. We are longing. We are waiting. Come, Lord Jesus.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

Hanging of the Green



**Sunday,
November 29**
10:30am

Advent is coming.
We are preparing a special virtual worship service for Hanging of the Green.

Keep watch in the Diaspora email for more information!

Advent Vespers

**Sunday Evenings
in December**

Hear the unfolding of the story of God's love for us.

These vesper services will be on the Rotunda Green and will be intergenerational, designed to engage worshippers of all ages.



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

Deacon Election Results



Congratulations to our newly affirmed deacons.
The deacon vote was 99% YES.

Hunter Cook
Bill Fairley
Mark Fenimore
Jeff Hartman
David Honeycutt
Leslie Pitts Hunt

Bobby Jones
Stacy Mercer
Jane Norwood
Amy Stokes
Bryant Waldkirch
David Mark Williams

Staff Anniversary

John Ivey celebrates his second anniversary with Providence November 19. John is a fixer, a get-things-done, make-it-right kind of guy. Above all else, John is a gentleman. And he's always praising God. We're blessed daily by his attitude AND his aptitude.



John Ivey

Thank you, John, for all you do for us at Providence!

Communion Sunday

Sunday,
November 1
9:00am



Rotunda Green

Bring your mask and your chair and join us for a short worship service that concludes with a socially distanced offering of communion.

Quarterly Conference

Wednesday, November 11
7:00pm

Our Quarterly Conference will be held via Zoom. Watch the Diaspora church-wide email for committee reports and Zoom conference link.



If you would like your report mailed, please contact Summer Sneed. ssneed@providencecbc.org

Church Office Holiday



Thursday,
November 26
and Friday,
November 27

Even though the Providence Campus has been closed, the church staff is still hard at work from remote offices.

Please note all church offices (including remote offices) will be closed as we celebrate Thanksgiving with our families.

Welcome Babies

Welcome to our newest bundles of joy!

Lila Carmer Drewry (born 10.15)
She is the daughter of Anna and Nathan Drewry and granddaughter of Suzanne and Phil Lail.



Ella James (EJ) Sueling (born 10.21)
She is the daughter of Andrew and Emma Sueling.

Wallace Boone Motsinger (born 10.23)
He is the son of Christopher and Chase Motsinger and the grandson of Mike and Debra Motsinger. He is also the great grandson of Don and Carolyn Motsinger.

Room In The Inn 2020

Room in the Inn (RITI) will look very different from years past, thanks to the Covid pandemic. Sadly, none of the host churches will be housing RITI participants this year. Instead, RITI has developed a plan that appears to offer more beds to our neighbors on a consistent basis and will address social distancing and neighbor safety more appropriately than what many of the host sites could have accomplished on their own.

Even though we will not be hosting our RITI neighbors, there are still opportunities for our congregation to assist the less fortunate in our community. Ways YOU can help:

- Food Donations - Preparing and delivering bagged lunches or participating in the “cookie connection” for the guests.
- In-Kind Donations (See list to the right)
- In Person Volunteering

Once plans are more established, RITI Coordinator Charlie Jones will update Providence on how we can best help our neighbors.

2020 Room In The Inn Needs

New towels and washcloths
New men’s hats and gloves
New men’s boxer-briefs (M, L, XL, XXL)
New men’s socks
Masks (washable or disposable)
 homemade masks welcome
New travel-size toiletries
 separated in bags by like-items
Shampoo
Shower gel
Toothpaste
Toothbrushes
Razors
Small cans of shaving cream
Hand sanitizer

**Drop off donations during our November Drive Through Blessing Event.
More info on the next page.**

Hurrah for Helpers!



In a year of firsts, Providence participated in the first ever Virtual Crop Walk. Members were invited to walk wherever they were. Fundraising goals were still set, just like they would have been when we were able to be together.

And once again, Providence came through BIG! We set an initial goal of \$8,000 with a stretch goal of \$9,000. Happily, we have exceeded both goals!! As of October 20th, we have raised \$9,785. We will be accepting donations through November, so if you have not supported this year’s CROP Walk, please do.

Remember, the number of people needing assistance this year has greatly increased, and your help is crucial in addressing those needs.

Email Dave Miller:
drmkbm9@gmail.com

Looking Ahead

Providence is taking a lead in helping our local missions partner Families Forward Charlotte (FFC) support families living in poverty in Mecklenburg County. FFC provides individualized mentoring, educational opportunities, and essential support to their families as they journey toward long-term stability and economic mobility.

In the coming days, think about how you can help partner with FFC during the Christmas season.

1. We will need volunteers to provide gifts and gift cards to these partner-families.
2. We will need volunteers to serve at gift drop-off stations during the week of 11/30 - 12/7.
3. We will need volunteers to distribute the collected gifts during the weekend of 12/12 - 12/14.

Thank you for helping Families Forward during this challenging holiday season!



November Drive Through Blessing Event

Sunday, November 1

2:00pm - 3:30pm @ the Rotunda entrance

Once again, it's time to Bless Charlotte! Our Drive Through Blessing Event will be SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1 from 2:00pm - 3:30pm through the Sanctuary parking lot.

Since we are still separated due to the pandemic, this is our way of uniting as a church and committing to support Providence throughout the coming year. So, bring your completed 2021 Financial Covenant and support the mission and ministry of Providence. Let's "Keep Doing What's Right."

Be sure to bring your donations for Room in the Inn, as well. Since we won't be hosting our neighbors this year, we want to support the ministry by donating their requested items. See the list to the left and give generously.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Drop off Financial Covenant Cards
- Drop off Donations for RITI (list to the left)
- Pick up Sunday School Materials
- Receive a Blessing

L'il Pumpkins Cover

Every single weekday, Our Weekday Education team addresses two of our five pillars at Providence: Engage Cotswold and Bless Charlotte. Our teachers and staff go to work and concentrate on the business of loving children and teaching them about Jesus. And, they have FUN doing it!

During October, our Weekday team offered a pumpkin patch for our students and families. The cute little pumpkins came from Providence United Methodist Church, which was selling these seasonal "necessities" as a fundraiser for its missions ministry.

Our Weekday children were able to peruse the patch and pick out their favorite pumpkin to take home. Everyone had a great time! Many thanks to our teachers and the leadership team for their amazing talents and work.



Seen here are (l-r) Director Ursula Taylor, Financial Associate Shelia Mitchell-Sasser,

Assistant Director Kim Gray, and Front Office Assistant Crystal Williams, along with several of our precious little ones.

Advent Psalms Series



Reading the Advent Psalms Together
Lee Canipe will lead this 4-week online adult discipleship series via Zoom.

We'll zoom at 6:30pm on Thursdays, December 3, 10, 17, with the final study on Wednesday, December 23.

Please register by Tuesday, December 1.

Simply email Lee Canipe.
lcanipe@providencebc.org

A Hearty Congratulations

This past summer, our very own Sarah Blackwell was nominated for the 2020 Addie Davis Award for Outstanding Leadership in Pastoral Ministry.

Since 1995, this annual award has been given by Baptist Women in Ministry to recognize gifted women seminarians. Sarah was nominated by Gardner-Webb University.



Sarah Blackwell

Of course, WE know that Sarah is a gifted minister. But now, the rest of the world does, too!

A Generous Life Well Lived and Shared



Nita Moss

There is a wealth of information and HISTORY in a 100-year-old soul. There's some pretty good spunk in there, too.

On November 1, Nita Moss turns 100 years young. And for the majority of those 100 years, she has been a Providence member. In fact, she is our oldest living Charter Member.

“When we started all those years ago,” said Nita, “I never could have anticipated what Providence would become.”

Sitting with her, one gets an interesting perspective on the decisions that had to be made for Providence to be WHAT it is - and WHERE it is - today. She recounted stories and even laughed at the “history” itself.

Apparently, the original plan was to establish Providence on the corner just down the road near Sharon Amity. “Many people wanted to put our church on the corner down there,” recalled Nita. “I didn’t agree. I said there would be filling stations on every other corner.” And guess what? There are!

Nita remembers two sisters who lived very near the church. They had a large flower garden that they tended, and they would often pick some of their beauties and offer them to the church for the Sunday morning altar. “I love flowers,” said Nita. “Everything else on this earth has a real purpose. But I think flowers were put here solely for our enjoyment. I think flowers are a gift from God.”

Nita also loves children. She spent years as a Sunday School teacher, bringing up teenagers in “the way they should go.” She even remembers some of those students’ names from decades ago (and recalled those names when asked). Thanks to her love of children, she and husband Harry donated a substantial sum to help build the Nita and Harry Moss Children’s Building in 2009. Today, this building houses our Weekday Education Ministry (which serves our community families), and our church children (which serves our church family) for Sunday School and Wednesday night activities. The Moss Children’s Building has been a hub for spreading the love of God for more than a decade.



Nita also loves music. She sang alto in the first choir at Providence (under the direction of her friend Martha Iley, who was the first choir director and fellow charter member). But most of all, she loves organ music. “I always aspired to be an organist,” said Nita, “although I never took it up. I lived through the Great Depression and we just couldn’t afford lessons.” So when Providence built the new Sanctuary in the 70s, Nita and her husband Harry gave the money to build the first Schantz organ. Later, in 1987, they donated another sum to add more pipes and ranks (which give the organ the different kinds of sounds, like winds or trumpets, that we enjoy today). Then in 2004, the organ went through an entire rebuild. It is now considered a “Schlueter” organ and has 2,973 pipes and 60 ranks. “I told Al [Cadenhead] that he only THOUGHT I was coming to hear his sermons,” teased Nita. “I was REALLY coming to hear Diann [Clark] play the organ!”



Organ Dedication Plaque

As to her ability to support the church, Nita is quick to give thanks to God. “The Lord blessed our business and we were profitable,” said Nita. In 1954, Harry and Nita founded Moss Supply Company, which manufactures vinyl windows and doors. Harry was in charge of sales and production and Nita managed the day-to-day office, clerical, and personnel work. (Now, the still family-owned business is run by Harry and Nita’s son Robert and his children.) “We never advertised,” Nita said. “The business just came to us.” With their wealth, Harry and Nita were extremely generous. And Providence is all the better because of them and their big-heartedness.

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So, what would you expect this kind hearted, generous and spunky woman to do right after her 100th birthday? She will be participating in a dance competition down in Orlando, Florida, of course. She will let her toes do the twinkling with 100 dances (Yes. 100 dances!) starting at 7:00am on November 8. The competition and festivities will go through midnight. Her dance instructor John Glandon (who hails from New York City and is quite the character himself) said this feat is hard for 20-year-olds, but Nita is all in. She has two dresses for the upcoming competition: one that's black and sparkly for the rhythmic dances (like the Salsa and Samba) and a lavender elegant dress for the more smooth dances (like the Foxtrot, Tango, and Waltz).

Regardless of what she is wearing, Nita has always made a difference. She's made a difference in the way we worship (with organ music), in the people we serve (children), and in the location of our church (Randolph Road).

Now, all that's left to say is, "Go get 'em, Nita." And the bet is pretty good that she will.

Submitted by Summer Sneed



Nita with instructor John

Past Worship Services

Did you miss Sunday's worship service?

You can still see our worship services anytime!

The services are posted online each week.

You can find any service from the last four months!

Simply go to our website at:

www.providencebc.org/providence-virtual-worship

The large box on the left/center is the UPCOMING worship service and will broadcast Sundays at 10:30am.



Look to the right panel on the page labeled "Related Videos" for past services. Click the service you want to view, then click the PLAY arrow in the middle of the picture.

Remember, you might have a few announcements that will play before worship starts.

These will give you a good idea of what is happening at Providence while we are separated.

Questions? Call Summer Sneed
704.366.4030x127

All Saints' Day



Sunday, November 1

10:30am

Virtual Worship

Let us remember those saints who have gone before us on this special Sunday of worship.

Sermon Scripture

November 1:

All Saints' Day - Revelation 7:9 - 17

November 8: Amos 5:18 - 24

November 15: Matthew 25:14 - 30

November 22: Ezekiel 34:11 - 16, 20 - 24

November 29: Isaiah 64:1 - 9



YO-YO Fun and Fellowship



Some of our Yo-Yos: Lindsay Clouse, Kate Marshall and Cayce Martin with leader Hilary Canipe

In early October, our Yo-Yos (Young-Young Professionals) Sunday School Class held a fun pumpkin decorating gathering at the Gazebo. We had a blast putting our “Pinterest skills” to work!

We continue to look for creative ways to stay connected with each other during the pandemic. One positive outcome from moving our class meetings online has been the ability of non-resident class members to join in on calls and stay connected with this supportive group. We continue to meet on Sunday evenings virtually with members from coast-to-coast for a time of conversation and study.

If you know of a young professional that would appreciate being part of this group, please contact Sarah Blackwell (sbblackwell@msn.com) or Hilary Canipe (doctorhilary@yahoo.com).

Submitted by Sarah Blackwell

Senior Adult News

Greetings from your Senior Adult Committee!

Our last in-person PrimeTimer’s luncheon was February 20th with Jeff Perks providing a fun-filled program of music and “Name that Tune” contest. Fast forward to Thursday, October 15th and our first in-person event with masks and social distancing in the Sanctuary, was Blake Kendrick’s event “Short Film Showing.”

Blake greeted our seniors, gave a short COVID update and then said “I love short films. They usually pack a punch like Aesop’s Fables.” We then enjoyed watching five films. After each film, Blake read a Bible verse that reflected the meaning of the film. The five films shown: 1) “Joy and Heron” (Isaiah 1:16-20) is about a fisherman, his dog and a heron. 2) “The Present” (Proverbs 14:27-32) is about a boy who receives a puppy from his mom. 3) “The Box” (Genesis 1:18) is about an elderly man and a field mouse. 4) “For the Birds” (Leviticus 19:17) is about a “big bird” trying to fit in. 5) “Idiots” is a satire about our obsession with 21st century electronics. (You can find these films on YouTube.)



Thanks to the following for attending: Bonnie Adams, Pauline Bethea, Sylvia Case, Janie Creech, George and Mary Ann Crouch, Maxine Dunn, Donna Eason, Barbara Graham, Jackie Kirkman, Ann Long-Jones, Tom and Dawn O’Neal, Martha Swain, Louise Warren and Wilna Eury. A big “THANKS” to Blake and Tim for getting the sanctuary set-up for the short film review.

Blake reminded us to stay connected by phoning a friend, writing a note, or making a socially distanced visit with family and friends during this time.

Future PrimeTimer events are still being discussed by the committee. Stay tuned and watch for details in the Diaspora email for what’s happening in November and December.

Submitted by Donna Eason and Wilna Eury

Sympathies

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



- Margaret White (died 9.25)
- Mildred Bishop (died 10.11)
- Sam Sallard’s son,
Tyrell Williams (died 10.11)
- Tamara Griffin’s uncle,
Rodney Purser (died 10.15)
- Jon Jordan’s mother, Mary Goodman Jordan (died 10.20)
- Sharon Clode’s mother, Margaret Smith (died 10.22)

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

October 27 - November 2: Dane Jackson

November 3 - 9: Julia Wright

November 10 - 16: Timothy Hill

November 17 - 23 : Lee Canipe

November 24 - 30 : Blake Kendrick

Pandemic Fatigue?

Are you experiencing pandemic fatigue—that feeling of being mentally and emotionally exhausted by everything that’s going on right now? We’re all facing different kinds of life challenges during this time:

- Isolation and loneliness
- Anxiety over health
- Grief
- Juggling work, childcare, and schooling responsibilities
- Financial strain or job loss
- Uncertainty about the future . . .

The list goes on. It’s no wonder we may be hit by pandemic fatigue—I know I have. But you don’t have to go through it alone. If you or someone you care about is experiencing difficulties like these, our Stephen Ministers are ready to listen, care, encourage, and be there to offer support. A Stephen Minister will meet with you privately—by phone, by video chat, or possibly in person when it’s safe to do so—to focus on you and your needs. It’s free and completely confidential, and it offers real care, comfort, and hope.

Submitted by Bill Griffin



You can find out more by contacting
Martha Haigler:
mhaigler@providencebc.org
704.608.7947

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



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Communion Sunday
Sunday, November 1 at 9:00am
Rotunda Green



Q4 Conference
Wednesday, November 11 at 7:00pm
Location: ZOOM




Student Movie Night
Sunday, November 15 at 6:00pm
Gazebo and Aubrey Arant Ball Field




Hanging of the Green
Sunday, November 29 at 10:30am
Online Worship

**Next Connections
is December 1, 2020.**

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

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www.providencebc.org

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