



The

VOICE

of Providence

United Methodist Church

Loving God, Worshipping Boldly, Changing Lives

2810 Providence Road • Charlotte, North Carolina 28211 • 704.366.2823 • www.ProvidenceUMC.org

Traditional Worship

Sundays, 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. - Sanctuary

Contemporary Worship-The Net

Sundays, 11:00 a.m. - Wolfe Hall

Multicultural Worship

Sunday, 10:50 a.m. - St. John's Campus

Volume. 47 No. 11

May 25, 2016

A Message from Senior Pastor - The Rev. Dr. Dave Melton

Providence Family,

We just completed a worship series on Paul's letter to the Church at Philippi. Paul is an enigma to many, seeming at times not to feel for people around him and at others deeply compassionate; seeming proud at times and humble at others, etc.

No matter your perspective, the truth is the Church we know today would be very different had Paul not "taken the hill" for God, establishing guidelines and favored practices, even though experiencing incredible personal hardship. When I read Paul's words, I am brought back to the centrality of Jesus every single time. And that is a good thing.

This next weekend, begins the summer season. On Sunday we will take a week off from any series, but will be ready to jump back in on June 5 as we begin a worship series on: "The Lord's Prayer."

So many people today have trouble praying. "I don't know where to start," I'm often told.

The disciples had the same concerns. When they asked Jesus to teach them to pray, He shared with them the beginning of what we know as: "The Lord's Prayer."

Over the next weeks we will dissect and preach through that prayer. Interestingly, I've never preached a series on the: "Lord's Prayer," and am excited by the opportunity. As usual, sermons in both traditional and NET services will be on the same Scriptures and themes.

May God draw us closer to Him through our worship.

God bless you, *Dave*

On an additional note...

Our bishop, Larry Goodpaster, will retire in September. When asked how he would like to be honored, he responded by asking that every church in our Annual Conference receive a special offering on Sunday June 5. Those monies will be used to help churches connect with schools in their communities. Many churches (including ours) are helping transform the lives of school children impacted by poverty. The money collected here in our Metro District will stay in the district, and will be available through grants to connect with local schools, supporting our children. Additional offerings will be received at the meeting of our Annual Conference at Lake Junaluska in June. Please be in prayer for this important offering.

Congregational Care

Connie Calcagni - Presbyterian Main

In Christian Sympathy



To the family of Frank Altany, MD. Dr. Altany died on May 8.

To Naji and Kailin Crawford on the death of their Mother who died on May 8.

To Jan Robison, on the death of her Mother who died on May 9.

To Cindy Lockwood and family on the death of her Father who died on May 17.

Birth Announcement

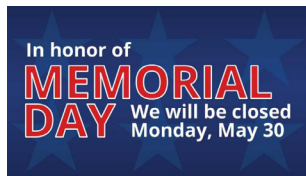
Pressley Rose Connerat, born May 11. Congratulations to parents Rebecca and Frank Connerat, younger brother, Jackson and grandparents Ann and Larry Atkinson.

Wedding Announcement

Ashley Denny Parr and Michael David Abashian were wedded in Holy Matrimony on Saturday, May 21. Congratulations to the new couple and their loved ones.

Memorial Day-Church Closing

Church offices are closed on **Monday, May 30**, in honor of Memorial Day. On this day, we give thanks and offer prayers to those who bravely served in our military. May their families find peace this day and always.



Altar Flowers

The altar of Providence UMC is beautiful each Sunday in part because of the flowers that our members so lovingly donate. There are some available dates in **June, July, and August** that give you the opportunity to remember a loved one and to enhance the altar in the Sanctuary. For more information, contact Debbie Britt at 704-321-2277 or dab702@yahoo.com.

Website News

Providence UMC will launch our updated website, www.ProvidenceUMC.org, on **Wednesday, June 1!** On **Sunday, June 5**, a table will be in the Atrium to display the new look of our website. Please come by if you want a tour of our "new look," or if you have any questions.

Facility News

Our facilities enable our congregation and community to gather to worship God, grow in discipleship through various classes and ministries, to fellowship together as Christians and much more. In short, our facilities provide a space in which ministry can happen. Our facilities are overseen by the Board of Trustees.

Facility repair, maintenance, and beautification projects are prioritized by the Board based upon safety and security first, and funds available second. Current projects the Board is working on include:

- Repair of several fire doors in the Weekday School
- Replacement of exit signs as required by the Fire Inspection
- Repair of water fountains in the Weekday School
- Renovation and expansion of youth space
- Repair of the Sharon Road side Narthex door
- Repair the water leak in the Choir Rehearsal Room & offices

These are just some of the projects currently being addressed and investigated by our Board. Want to learn more? Contact: Rev. Leigh Anne Hagerman or Charlie Willis, Trustee Chair.

Worship Boldly Weekend

Worship Workshop*

Featuring Guest Artist:
Ben Woodward

Saturday, May 28
9:00 AM-12:30 PM
Wolfe Hall Annex

\$30/person includes lunch
* Pre-registration: website
Childcare is available

Night of Worship

Featuring Guest Artist:
Ben Woodward

Saturday, May 28
7:00 PM-8:30 PM
Wolfe Fellowship Hall

*Childcare is available.



Ben Woodward

Sunday Worship

Featuring Guest Artist:
Ben Woodward

Sunday, May 29
11:00 AM-The Net
Wolfe Fellowship Hall

*Childcare is available.

This year, global music and worship leader, Ben Woodward is back to help us understand more about the ACT of Worship. The purpose of this Worship Boldly Weekend is to give us a grounding in the "why" and "how" of worship, so we may be invited into a greater expression of praising Him. No matter where you are in your faith journey, this set of teachings is designed to provide us with a better understanding of worship in scripture, practical "how to's" and equip us with the reasons to "worship boldly."

Mark Your Calendar

Mission- Soccer Street Tournament

Bringing the community together to end homelessness...one "game" at a time.
-Urban Ministry



The Street Soccer 945 Invitational is **Friday-Sunday, June 10-12**. There are fun ways to participate in this family-friendly event.

Providenc UMC Support:

1. We will support the Street Soccer Team from New York by providing lunch, water and opportunities to interact with the team.

2. Providence UMC is the sole uniform sponsor for the tournament. Providence UMC will also be mentioned on all tournament publications, flyers and signage. We will also be mentioned in live broadcasts throughout the tournament.

3. VOLUNTEERS are needed to manage the Providence UMC promotional tent, Saturday, June 11 and Sunday, June 12.

Time-Place-Date

Friday, June 10, 3:00 PM-Midtown Park

Saturday, June 11, 9:00 AM-Romare Bearden Park

Sunday, June 12, 1:00 PM-Romare Bearden Park

Contact Brian Mateer at bmateer@providenceumc.org.

Mission: Freedom School Partners

July 11-27 at Oakhurst STEAM Academy

Stop by the Freedom School table in the Atrium any Sunday to sign up for volunteer opportunities. We also have flyers at the Welcome desk with a supply list. For more information, contact Katie Catron at ktcatron@att.net.

We appreciate your time, energy and enthusiasm. The connection you make with Freedom School scholars helps close the learning gap by opening minds.

Oakhurst Elementary



Help the staff at Oakhurst STEAM Academy ensure they may successfully assess their students in grades 3-5. Sign up to proctor on our website today!

Mission: Stop Hunger Now

Save the Date: Stop Hunger is **Sunday, September 25!** As our missionary team saw in Haiti, these meals are essential to those in need of food throughout the world!

Providence Place

Providence Place, a place where people who suffer with mental instability may enjoy food, fellowship and games, is on **Saturday, June 4** from noon-3 PM in the Mission Center. Come join this congregational care event! Contact Linda Phillips at linda.phillips4866@gmail.com for more information.

Chancel Choir

The Providence UMC Chancel Choir is again selling LIVE MAINE LOBSTERS! The price is \$18.50 per lobster and they will all arrive on Friday, June 3.



Order forms are available at the Welcome Desk. The order deadline is on **Wednesday, June 1** at noon. If you have any questions, please contact the Music Ministry at 704-366-7442.

Music, Art and Drama Camp

Oh Jonah!



Music Art Drama
Camp

Last Call

Register by June 1

Calling all rising 2nd through 6th grade students! Join us for an exciting week-long camp that blends fun, music, art and drama! Help us bring life to the story of Jonah and the Whale.

The dates are **Monday- Friday, June 13-17** from 8:45 AM to noon, Monday-Friday, and on **Sunday, June 19** from 9:30 AM-noon. Please visit our website to register or pick up a brochure at the Welcome Desk. If you have any questions, please contact Charlotte Judge at cjudge@providenceumc.org, or by phone at 704-366-7442.

Mission- Attic Sale



**SAVE THESE DATES TO
VOLUNTEER**

Mark Your Calendar and Join Us For

The "BIG SORT," Sunday, June 5, at noon
The "BIG MOVE," Sunday, August 7, at noon
The "BIG DAY," ATTIC SALE, Saturday, August 20, all day

The date of the Haiti & Missions Attic Sale is getting closer and in addition to your donations, we need VOLUNTEERS! We need people to help with the "Big Sort" on Sunday, June 5 at noon. We also need volunteers to help with the "Big Move" on Sunday, August 7 at noon. Finally, we need lots of help on the "BigDay" of the sale, Saturday, August 20!

We are excited for you to be a part of this mission that will ultimately make a difference in the lives of those in need in Charlotte, Haiti, and around the world.

Please contact Jacquie Slack at jacquieslack@gmail.com or Gail Tinker at thetinkers@carolina.rr.com to volunteer, or to arrange for the pick up of large items you wish to donate.

St. John's Campus- Clothes Closet

Guest Shoppers Served in April – 18 People

Typical hours of service: **Tuesdays 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM. Open one Sunday a month from noon to 1:00 PM**, after worship. Needs: summer clothing for women, men, and children and ten ream copier paper boxes. If you would like to volunteer or have questions, contact Wanda Entwistle at 704-365-9264.

April Stewardship Report: Growing in Stewardship

- Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. – Ephesians 6:10

When we give to God through the church, we get to send a spiritual reminder to ourselves and our circumstances that our God is more than enough. And it reminds us that our God is abundant and is fighting for us.

Financial Faithfulness: We collected 57.1% more than this month last year and 9.3% more YTD, due in part to a large gift. Even without this gift, though, giving is still up a few percentage points, which is good news. Although there were overruns in some ministry areas, April expenses were under budget overall. This is due in part to the fact that we did not pay apportionments for April. We expect to pay these later in the year.

Mission expenses for the month totaled \$43,904 from all funding sources for both local and international missions. "All funding sources" means that these funds have come from undesignated gifts, designated gifts, grants, etc. Our St. John's Campus ended April with more expenses than revenue due to a large payment to an architect, approved by the Trustees, for site renovation and design. This will be offset next month in revenue, as we pull money from their maintenance reserve to cover this expense.

Ministry Faithfulness: April was an exciting month for missions as a team of 14 traveled to Haiti, and our congregation joined in Spud Sunday, where 270 volunteers bagged 43,000 pounds of potatoes that benefited over 30 agencies in seven counties. Providence UMC staff also had a day apart at Loaves and Fishes, where they spent several hours sorting food for those in need. Our Junior Mints, which are 22 students in grades 4 and 5, participated in fellowship and team building Inner Peaks Climbing Center and 60 youth retreated locally as they learned about self-esteem and team building. Contact: Rev. Leigh Anne Hagerman

Strategic Plan 2016

On February 24, our Church Council adopted a new strategic plan for our church. A strategic plan can be thought of as a roadmap: it charts the direction for us as a church, and guides us as to how we are going to get there. Copies of the complete plan can be found at the Welcome Desk. Over the next few months, we will also roll out this plan in short snippets in the Voice, so you can understand where we are going as a church.

We believe community, needing a sense of belonging, is an opportunity area for Providence UMC. Goals are to provide multiple opportunities to enjoy Christian fellowship, especially for single, young adults, and for adults over 35 years who find themselves single or single again; and to develop a long range program of educating the congregation of the changing age groups within the congregation and community, with special emphasis on senior citizens.

Staff Announcement

**Please Give a Warm Welcome
to Christine Litaker
Administrative Assistant to
Youth and Discipleship**



Please welcome our new part-time Administrative Assistant to Youth and Discipleship, Christine Litaker. Christine, who goes by Chris, worked for ten years at Hickory Grove Presbyterian Church before working for the non-profit, Love INC, for five years.

During her free time, she enjoys raising chickens, caring for plants, hiking, camping and rafting. Chris is married to Greg and they have three children, one grandchild and they are expecting another grandchild in September.

Youth Ministry Events



Sunday-Friday, June 19-June 24
Youth Ministry High School
Mission Trip
"Neighbors Helping Neighbors"
Location: South Carolina Flood Areas



**Garden City
Beach Retreat**



Monday-Friday, June 20-June 24
Youth Ministry Middle School
Mission Trip
"Neighbors Helping Neighbors"
Location: TBD

Sunday-Friday, July 17-July 22
For All Youth Who Have
Completed Grades 6-12
"Saying Goodbye to Amateur Christianity"

Please Register for All Events On Our Website