

Providence United Methodist Church

Belong. Be transformed. Make a difference.

January 2012

Wednesday Nights at Providence

Wednesday Night Dinners resume on January 11. Cost is \$5 per person; \$3 for children 10 and under.

Our small group series will also begin on January 11, 6:30-7:30 p.m. You will have the opportunity to get connected and be transformed with the following opportunities:

Faith From The Backside - Facilitated by Allen Branson (12 week series) in room 206. In his popular series of books "From the Back Side," J. Ellsworth Kalas looks at Christian topics through a new lens, takes unique starting points on those subjects, and uses creative retelling from different points of view.

In *Faith from the Back Side*, Kalas explores something that is central in a Christian life but often difficult to understand.

They Like Jesus, But Not The Church - Facilitated by Don and Elizabeth Kyser (6 week

series) in room 303. This DVD based study looks at the most common objections and misunderstandings cultures have about the church and Christianity. Through interviews and exploration of the scriptures, author and pastor Dan Kimball addresses six of the most common objections.

Knitters and Crocheters—learn to knit and crochet prayer shawls and hats for the church's outreach (room 307).

Mission for Youth and Kids (6 weeks) in room 309. All the children in the church are invited to a new kind of group. We are having all the children and youth together to explore areas of mission in our church and around the world. Each week we will have a different mission focus with different speakers, activities, and hands on mission work. Older youth will help younger children as each learns where God is leading them to make a difference in the world. Topics and activities would include: therapy dogs, hunger and food backpacks homelessness, and more.

The Missions Committee wishes to thank all of you for the 170 Salvation Army stockings that you helped to fill. We have also turned in 54 cell phones to be given to battered women through Chesterfield County Police. We also thank you for you for the numerous magazines donated to the McGuire Veterans Hospital. This gift will enable our veterans to be entertained for many hours. Your help in all of our projects is greatly appreciated.

~ Mary Lou Robinson

Worship in January

Jan 1	Epiphany Sunday Holy Communion Combined service at 10:00	Isaiah 60:1-6 Matthew 2:1-12	SonRise Sisters Men's Quartet
Jan 8	The Baptism of the Lord "Waterwashed and Spirit Born" Baptism Renewal Service	Genesis 1:1-5 Mark 1:4-11	Adult Choirs
Jan 15	"Waterwashed and Spirit Born- Children " Human Relations Day	Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18 1 Samuel 3:1-20	KCJam Children's Choir Anna Edwards, violin
Jan 22	"Waterwashed and Spirit Born- Youth "	Psalms 62:5-12 Mark 1:14-20	Pass It On Youth Choir
Jan 29	"Waterwashed and Spirit Born- Adults "	Psalms 111 Isaiah 40:21-31	Isca Wilms and John Roberson, musicians



The A.M. Davis PTA sent its best wishes and hopes that everyone had a Merry Christmas at Providence Church. They thanked members for their support of the school and expressed its appreciation with a donation for a tree to be planted in a National Forest.

CPR and AED Training

Providence UMC will be hosting CPR/AED training for church members and our community beginning in February. This is a non-certifying course from the American Heart Association that will inform participants about performing CPR on a victim and using an automated external defibrillator (AED) and will be facilitated by healthcare volunteers. There will also be a workshop at the end of each class

for participants to practice CPR on training manikins. The first class for church members will be on Wednesday, February 29, starting at 6:30. The next class, open to the community, will be on Wednesday, March 7, starting at 6:30. We will be in the social hall for both classes. Each class will be limited to a maximum of 16 participants, so please look for announcements in February about signing up for this training.

Pastor's Note

What's in a name? Our worship task force recently spent time talking about a word for our new worship service to begin on March 4. We were looking for an adjective that would describe this new ministry to our community. Was there **one** word could we put on our outdoor sign and other publicity that would say it all? We brainstormed a list: informal, modern, alternative, praise and worship, family-friendly, non-traditional, new-fangled, ☺ or contemporary. During our planning stage, we did not use the word "contemporary" because it is a very popular word that can mean many different things to different people. In the beginning, we wanted to discern how our service would be unique to the vision and needs of our church and community.

So we prayed and we planned. To reach more people for Jesus Christ, especially families with children and others who may be seeking God, we proposed this style of worship: less formal, more participatory, more visual, more creative, with a variety of music and instruments. What one word would help

people driving by to know that we were offering two kinds of worship? Traditional and?

In the end, we chose the word "contemporary" because it is a word used frequently to describe an alternative to traditional worship. It seems to be a familiar word in our culture for talking about worship and we believe will open the door for those who are seeking. Contemporary breaks down into "con"=with and "temp"=time. I'd like to think that we are not just concerned with keeping up with our culture and modern times. That's important but we are in tune with God's time. Providence has often done a good job of letting God lead us. Over these 204 years, we have made many changes to stay contemporary with God's timing. In 2012, God has challenged us to reach more people for Jesus Christ. A "contemporary" worship service is one way we will seek to do it.

Peace,

Mary Beth

As part of your financial planning, have you considered making an endowment or planned gift to Providence United Methodist Church? Have you considered making a gift to the church from your estate? We are pleased to announce the creation of an endowment fund. Watch for more information in the coming weeks.

~ Endowment Committee



Thank you for your generous gifts and continued support of CCHASM and our community.

Sincerely,
Helen Hughes



Name Tags

Jan 1 Gracie Martin
 Jan 8 Jahna Seymour
 Jan 15 Jean Riekers
 Jan 22 Amy Mott
 Jan 29 Emma Fleenor

Nursery

Jan 1
 10:00 Need 1 volunteer

 Jan 8
 8:45 Jennifer Ostrum
 SS Ann Busbee
 11:00 Michelle Butler
 Carol Urso

Communion Preparers

Jan 1
 8:45 Lisa Fleenor
 Holly Mayton
 11:00 Carolyn Winstead

Jan 15
 8:45 Lori Justice
 SS Wendy Collins
 11:00 Mike & Wendy Collins

Acolytes

Jan 1—*Communion*
 10:00 Emily Kyser

Jan 8
 8:45 Tristen Kellam
 11:00 Emma McConnell

Jan 15
 8:45 Gabby Sullivan
 11:00 Molly Roberson

Jan 22
 5:00 Rachael Harvey
 11:00 Laura King

Jan 29
 8:45 Emma McConnell
 11:00 Emily Kyser

Counter Captains

Jan 1 Gary Wright
 Jan 8 Jimmy Sculthorpe
 Jan 15 Klaus Worrell
 Jan 22 Ron Wootten
 Jan 29 Gary Wright

Jan 22
 8:45 Linda Koertge
 SS Jennifer Ostrum
 11:00 Anne Blane
 Brad Wootten

Ushers

8:45 Bill Blankenship
 Wayne Latimer
 Janet Knight
 Gary Wright

Jan 29
 8:45 Jane Gilliam
 SS Anne McKinnish
 11:00 Sean & Lindsey Collins

Sanctuary Organizers

Nancy Coffman & Gracie Martin

Audio / Video

Bob Gillie

11:00 Tony Fleshman
 Sean Collins
 Klaus Worrell
 Laurie Breeden
 Joe Sullivan
 Brad Wootten
 Jennifer Kennedy

Greeters

8:45 Sarah Lowe Thompson
 11:00

The Church Office will be



on January 16
 in observance of

Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

United Methodist Women

Laughon Circle—2nd Tuesday, January 10. at 10:30 a.m. at the church.

Whitt Circle—3rd Tuesday, January 17 at 10:30 a.m. at the church.

Gregory Circle—3rd Thursday, January 19, at 7:00 p.m. at Isabelle Sullivan's home.

Newton Circle—no meeting in January.



Missing Anything?

Please stop by the church office to check the **Lost and Found**.

It's overflowing!!!

Items will be donated soon.

Are you Scripping?

Purchasing scrip cards for your everyday shopping is easy for you and benefits our playground fund. Even the smallest percentage helps us out. Orders are taken every Sunday after service in the library but you can drop off an order any time during the week to the office. The forms are on line and on the bulletin board in the main hallway. Orders are done early Monday morning and are guaranteed back by the following Sunday (however, we usually have them back sooner than that). So far we have raised \$400 towards improvements to our playground. Let's keep the momentum going. We are looking for a few dedicated folks to help with this program. If you think you could take orders on Sunday morning in the library or help with the processing of the orders or help distribute the cards when they come in, please contact Isabelle Sullivan at isabelle.sullivan@providenceumc.net or 276-4289.



Church Family News and Notes

Welcome to our new members: Dano and Noelle Holland, and Jackson and Cole Holland. Dano and Noelle transfer their professing membership from other United Methodist Churches. Jackson and Cole will be baptized members of our church.

Our prayers and sympathy are offered to Carlton and Betty Gregory and their family in the death of Carlton's mother, Callie Gregory, on November 26. At 98 years old, Callie was the next to oldest member of our congregation.



Pairs and Spares began a study of *The Lord's Prayer* by R.T. Kendall

on November 27. The class, led by Stuart Watkins, is primarily discussion. Please join us to learn more about the insights and inspiration from the Lord's Prayer. The class generally meets in the Social Hall.

The Parenting class (room 303) is beginning a new series by author Jim Burns, who writes passionately about how to raise children to be confident, compassionate, and strong individuals. This DVD based study is called **Confident Parenting** and offers practical parenting advice along with God honoring principles. Please join them for any or all the lessons. This series begins January 8.

More opportunities to pray....

As our church plans for the new worship service in March, it is our charge as believers to gird this endeavor with prayer. Throughout this entire process, the worship planning committee has felt the guiding presence of God and gives glory to Him for making the path clearer. Now more than ever, we should fall to our knees and 'cover' every aspect of this service in prayer. Beginning in February, there will be 28 days of prayer, focusing on this; in addition, there will also be a prayer service commissioning those leading and planning the service. Look for the flyer, put it in a clear place, pray along the focus and however else God is leading you, believe and trust God for the harvest of souls coming.

AND if you have a passion for prayer, and would like more info in becoming involved with the Providence Watchmen Intercessory prayer group, contact Isca Wilms at 804-744-1865.



Our nursery is looking good and is full of smiles and giggles (most the time). April Basham, our nursery attendant, does a great job getting the room ready for little ones every week. It's a new year and we

are looking for new volunteers, and would love to add you to our nursery volunteer list. Offering to help in the nursery helps moms and

dads to enjoy some time focusing on God through their Sunday school or worship time knowing their child is being taken care of by wonderful people such as yourselves. As a volunteer, you will also connect with our youngest members and friends, not to mention the fun you will have while there. Please consider helping once a month or once a quarter. Contact Jennifer Ostrum at jeoinva@hotmail.com if you are interested. This is also a great way for youth to get service hours.

2011 DIRECTORY UPDATES

ADD:

FOULAR, Todd & Louise, Noah, James & Emma, 804-658-3402, 9216 Groomfield Dr., N. Chesterfield, VA 23236

HOLLAND, Dano & Noelle, Jackson & Cole & Emma, 804-560-8077, 8508 Burroughs Ct., Richmond, VA 23235,
noelleholland@verizon.net

KVASNIK, Louise, 804-306-1741, 9216 Groomfield Dr., N. Chesterfield, VA 23236

CHANGES:

LATIMER, Matt, ENS Matt, USS NEW ORLEANS (LPD 18), FPO AP 96673-1701

MINTER, Allen & Shirley, 4301 Windlestraw Lane, Greensboro, NC 27410

RICHMOND, Robert & Lynn, 4980 Lake Road, Avon, NY 14414-9797



***Act as if what you do makes a difference.
It does!***

We're excited about offering our new Extended Day Option for preschoolers! You can help us by spreading the word to your neighbors, friends and family with preschool-aged children who may be looking for a full-time, quality preschool with hours that are flexible. We're planning to offer optional before-and-after care for students of our preschool beginning soon. Extended days are great for working parents, parents who are taking classes, or those who find it more convenient to have an early or late flexible drop-off and pick-up schedule. And, as always, we will continue to offer our regular Preschool classes from 9:30 to 1:00. For more information, please contact the Preschool at 276-1462.



Happy New Year to you from the Preschool Staff!

Online Giving Available!

Now you can make a difference right from your computer or smart phone. When you visit our website, www.providenceumc.net, you will see an option for online giving. This is a safe and easy way to give your regular offering or towards the building fund. You can set up recurring or one time contributions, which are recorded in the same way as your envelope offerings would be. Also, through this method you can manage your recurring contributions without going through the church office.

Funding for Ministry in 2012

Ministry at Providence United Methodist Church happens through many dedicated people and with resources provided by our congregation. The money given through our regular and special offerings helps fund all that we do in Jesus' name. For the year 2012, the ministry costs that we anticipate through our operating budget will be:

\$456,294

This represents a **13% increase** compared to last year. This is a major increase approved by our church council only after prayerful discernment. These dollars represent urgent and life-changing ministries that are central to our call to make disciples for Jesus Christ. We believe that together we can answer this call. **Take a look at what God will do through us in 2012:**

Inside the walls, many significant educational, caring, worshipful moments will happen every day, not just on Sunday. The lives of more children, youth and adults will be changed through the ministries planned and carried out by our committees and staff:

\$23,360

Outside the walls, mission and ministry will happen through evangelistic outreach, community events like the spring festival, CCHASM, our missionary Kim King Torres and

Branches, CARITAS; and also through our share of district, conference and world-wide ministry including mission in over 100 countries:

\$72,795

Through our excellent staff, we will provide for pastoral leadership and specialized ministries in four different areas. Included are salaries and related expenses for our Pastor, Director of Youth Ministry, Director of Christian Education, Director of Music and Contemporary Music Ministries, nursery worker and two office staff:

\$221,739

In our office, "the word" will get out with the help of copy equipment, printer, computers, paper, supplies and postage expense:

\$12,200

In our church building and on our property, ministries will happen almost every day of the week, including use by many community groups. Included are maintenance costs, utilities, janitorial service, cleaning supplies and a monthly mortgage payment (for capital improvements made in 2006 including an elevator, accessible restrooms and shower, and a new heating and cooling system):

\$126,200

A detailed line-item budget for 2012 is available from the church office.



Youth C.R.E.W. News

Christians Reaching Everyone World Wide



- Who can come?: Anyone in grades 7-12
- When?: Sunday Nights from 5:30-7:30
- Where?: Youth F.I.R.E. House is located next to Providence Church before the playground
- Why?: Because we love Fun, Friends, Missions, and Jesus!
- Who runs this thing?: A lot of great people but you can contact the youth director Susan Clark at:
susan.clark@providenceumc.net



Sunday Nights This January

Would Jesus REALLY do that?

What would Jesus do for fun?

What would Jesus do at my school?

What would Jesus do with a family like mine?

What would Jesus do with friends like mine?

By looking at Christ's example, you can get some valuable tips for living your own life!

Also included:

Free Dinner at 5:30

Games and Skits

Christian Friendships

The most laughing you will do all week

Music for Our Hearts

I would like to thank all of the musicians that made our Christmas and Advent seasons so wonderful this year. God has truly blessed Providence with immense musical talent, evident in the many instrumentalists and singers who participated in the Advent and Christmas services.

As we welcome a new year, this is the perfect time to begin participation in a music ministry at Providence. Maybe you are a former chancel choir member who has not been able to attend rehearsals and would like to return, or maybe you have always thought about joining the choir, but never really knew how or when to start, maybe you play a musical instrument and would like to play in worship. There are many possibilities and many ways to serve through music. There will also be opportunities to participate in our new worship opportunity that will be offered on Sunday mornings at 9:00 starting March 4. If you feel like you are being led to participate in the music ministries of Providence, please give me a call, send me an email, or simply

come to the next choir rehearsal. There will definitely be a place for you!!

A choir member recently sent me a "job description" for participation in music ministry and I thought I would share some of those with you.

- ◆ **Physical Qualifications:** Must be able to carry light musical notes part way through the sanctuary. Must have sufficient vision to see the director.
- ◆ **Experience:** No applications will be accepted from persons who have not sung or whistled in the bathtub or shower at some time.
- ◆ **Beginning Wage:** Increased satisfaction and joy in the service of God
- ◆ **Fringe Benefits:** Social Security. We promise you the security of social fellowship with other choir members.
- ◆ **Hours:** Your regularly scheduled rehearsal time. (There is occasional opportunity for overtime!!)

~ Beverley Edwards
music.edwards@gmail.com or 794-6025

2011 FINANCIAL UPDATE AND VISION FOR 2012

We have been fortunate in that, even with the slow economy of the last year, our receipts for 2011 **through November** are \$351,831, close to matching 2010's figure of \$356,358. Our expense level is almost exactly the same as 2010 at approximately \$366,000, and while this exceeds our income, that isn't at all unusual for eleven months. Contribution totals are not equal month to month, and historically Decembers see significantly higher giving. As a result, we generally go into each year with a good reserve in the Operating Fund.

For 2012, our budget is 13% higher than 2011. You can read more about the details on page 10, but the

increase reflects several factors, including a visionary plan to reach out to our community through worship, and also remaining obligations for our wonderful HVAC, elevator, and restroom renovations. Meeting this budget will require a positive, intentional commitment by our whole congregation, as we all explore what it means to give a percentage of our income and give sacrificially. The estimate of giving cards submitted to the church office so far for 2012 indicate that, in fact, the average commitment is up by 9%. This is encouraging! Our leaders say, "Whenever there is a need, Providence always comes through." With your increased support we will boldly bring God's love and hope to the world, supporting our mission with renewed vigor!

Providence Road Partners Update

The PUMC outreach with A.M. Davis Elementary School is wrapping up the first semester. Beginning with a very successful school supply drive for the school, volunteers are helping in classrooms, at lunch, the school book fair, and helping teachers with handwork. The PUMC youth cleaned the school "Dragon Trail" and built benches for it.

Sixteen PUMC members joined the A.M. Davis PTA. Church members helped the PTA by collating school packets at the beginning of the school year. See related article elsewhere.

Church members adopted three families (total of 13 children) for Christmas. Another significant project is the adoption of 12 students for a

weekend "backpack" food program. These students, who were identified by staff, will receive a supply of food for each weekend for the remainder of the year.

Next semester, the weekend backpack food program will continue as well as the volunteer activities. If you would like to volunteer to help a student individually, and/or to help a teacher, please contact Jane Logan, 276-2228.

We want to thank all Providence members for their generosity, prayers, and support for the A.M. Davis students and staff.



Marriage Matters

A great way to start off the year is re-committing to strengthen the covenant bond you share. There are many opportunities to do so:



1. Consider making a date with each other.
2. Go away for a weekend. One option is "Weekend to Remember": a Christian marriage enriching getaway offered by Family Life Organization at www.familylife.org.
3. Join a HomeBuilders small group that will be offered this upcoming semester at PUMC.
4. Pray together on a regular basis.
5. Worship together.

~ Christopher and Isca Wilms

Homeward's "Point in Time"

Homeward's January "Point in Time" homeless count will be held on January 26. The missions committee will be collecting adult size hats, gloves, socks, scarves, sweatshirts and sweaters. We would also appreciate any donations of toiletries and granola bars. We will not be collecting any other clothing items for this event. Please limit your donations to the items listed. Thanks to everyone for your continued support of this mission.

~ Valerie Reese

Providence United Methodist Church

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Sunday

8:45 am	Worship Service
9:45 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
4:30 pm	Pass It On Choir
5:30 pm	Youth
7:00 pm	Bells of Providence

Wednesday

5:30 pm	Wednesday Night Dinner
7:30 pm	Chancel Choir

Church Telephone	276-4289
Fax Number	745-2501
Pastor's Home Telephone	562-5169
Preschool Telephone	276-1462

Contact us at:

Website:	www.providenceumc.net
E-mail:	providenceumc@providenceumc.net
Pastor:	Marybeth.blinn@providenceumc.net

Church Staff

Pastor	Mary Beth Blinn
Director of Music Ministries	Beverley Edwards
Director of Preschool Ministries	Charlotte Cervarich
Director of Youth Ministries	Susan Clark
Director of Christian Education	Isabelle Sullivan
Church Secretary	Kathy Smith
Office Assistant	Linda Collins
Custodial Service	Bill Duganne
Nursery Attendant	April Basham
Our Covenant Missionary	Kim King Torres

Providence United Methodist Church
901 S. Providence Road
Richmond, VA 23236

*****NEWSLETTER MAILED December 21***
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

Pre Sort
Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Middleton, VA
23112
Permit #4282