

# Providence United Methodist Church

*Belong. Be transformed. Make a difference.*

February 2012

## It's Up To Us

Do you know someone who is looking? Looking for a place to belong? Looking for meaning and purpose? Looking for a place to make a difference? Tell them about "Connections," our new contemporary worship service beginning on March 4 at 9 a.m. Do you know someone who hasn't been to church in a while? Talk to them about the great things that are happening at Providence. Your invitation will make all the difference in the world. Ninety-five percent of the time it's why people come and why people stay.



The season of Lent is a period of 40 days before Easter. It is a time of personal self-reflection and thinking about Jesus' journey to the cross. Ash Wednesday is the traditional beginning of Lent. On Wednesday, February 22, we will observe this holy day with a service that begins at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. The service will include the imposition of ashes as a sign of our mortality and our repentance.

## Lenten Study

Journey to Hope will focus on selected passages from the Book of Mark. Two options for a weekly study will be offered during the six weeks of Lent: Sundays at 10:00-10:45 a.m. and Fridays at 11:00 a.m. Pastor Mary Beth will be teaching the class in the library. The themes from Mark will focus on how faith in Christ is relevant for real life circumstances. They will include money, relationships, work, suffering, temptation and identity. Sign up for one of these classes on Sunday, on the website or by contacting the church office.



## Worship in February

Feb 5	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany	I Corinthians 9:16-23 Mark 1:29-39	Holy Communion and Service of Healing
Feb 12	6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany	Psalms 30 1 Corinthians 9:24-27	Boy Scout Sunday Soloist: Ginny Irby
Feb 19	Transfiguration Sunday	Psalms 50:1-6 Mark 9:2-9	
Feb 26	First Sunday in Lent Journey to Hope	Mark 10:17-22	Commissioning of Worship Leaders for New Service

### Journey to Hope Worship Series Connects Faith to Real Life

Beginning on February 26, our worship services will focus on the Gospel of Mark and six everyday realities. The Journey to Hope parallels our journey to the cross during the six weeks of Lent. The themes that we will relate to faith in Christ are money, relationships, work, suffering, temptation and identity/self-esteem. Check out the Bible Study being offered on these scriptures during Lent.



### Why “Connections?”



The worship task force recently discussed: Does our new contemporary service need a name? We decided it did. After talking about several options, the name “Connections” was chosen. For us, it seems to capture what we believe most people in our community are looking for. Connections to others (Belong), connections to God (Be transformed), and connections to the world (Make a Difference.) We hope you will invite others to “Connect” beginning March 4. Thank you to the following members of the worship task force who worked for the last nine months to implement our

church-wide goal of offering two difference worship experiences: Bobby Johnson (co-chair with Pastor Mary Beth), Jennifer Kennedy, Shirley Collins, Rob Heare, Cathy Patterson, Linda Koertge, Anne Blane Wootten, Carolyn Bilski, Isca Wilms.

## Our Pastor Answers Questions About Upcoming Worship

Two different worship services will soon be offered at Providence. The big question on everyone's mind is: how different will they be? Or, what will the contemporary service (called "**Connections**" and beginning at 9 a.m. on March 4) be like?

For one thing, it will be shorter, with the usual length being 45 minutes. The service will be less formal where those of us who are leading will not wear robes and everyone will be invited to come as they are comfortable. The service will begin with singing, led by a new group that is now beginning rehearsals. The group is being organized and led by Beverley Edwards, our director of music. The group will include singers, guitarists, a drummer and other instrumentalists, along with piano. The style will include music you might hear on the radio, songs from the 80's and 90's, music from other countries, as well as familiar hymns.



There will be time for prayer, which may include a time for the congregation to share prayer concerns and joys. There will be more participation by the congregation, e.g. sharing our prayers for 2012 as we did in small groups at our January 1 worship. There will be scripture and a sermon, using the same themes at both services. Drama and visuals will be used to help the word come alive. After the sermon, we will respond to the

word with singing, prayers, an offering, and hopefully more baptisms and renewals of faith. There will be more use of our projection system, including video. The bulletin will include a simple, shorter order of worship. There may be a children's time or other ways that children can participate in worship.

**What will stay the same?** I will still be your pastor and preacher. We will be using our beautiful sanctuary for worship. Ushers will help us and greeters will welcome us. Prayer will undergird all that we do. Careful planning will help things go smoothly, with occasional human frailty popping up.

**Will anything change in our 11:00 worship?** Not much. We will continue to be led in worship by our gifted musicians, led by Beverley at the organ and piano, (or somewhere in between!). We will pray, listen to the word, use our projection system to enhance worship, hear from our children's and youth choirs, led by Carla Wooten, and respond through the sacraments of baptism and holy communion.

**Will I be sitting by the same people?** Maybe or maybe not. Some people who worship at 11 a.m. may choose to worship at 9:00 and vice versa. Some who have not come for a long time may choose to come back to worship. And, most importantly of all, new people will be sitting by us in our pews, at both services. They will need you to help them belong. Our purpose is to reach more people for Jesus Christ. This is the main reason for our worship changes and our fervent prayer.

Anticipating God's grace,  
*Pastor Mary Beth*



**Acolytes**

Feb 5—*Communion*  
 8:45 Molly Roberson  
 11:00 Gabby Sullivan

Feb 12  
 8:45 Emily Kyser  
 11:00 Tristen Kellam

Feb 19  
 8:45 Laura King  
 11:00 Rachael Harvey

Feb 26  
 5:00 Tristen Kellam  
 11:00 Emma McConnell

**Audio / Video**

Feb 5 Gary Vest/Bob Gillie  
 Feb 12 Tyler Griggs/Brad Wootten  
 Feb 19 Steve Oliver/Bob Gillie  
 Feb 26 Ron Wootten/Brad Wootten

**Sanctuary Organizers**

Charles & Jackie Hargrave

**Name Tags**

Feb 5 Gracie Martin  
 Feb 12 Laurie Breeden  
 Feb 19 Kyser Family  
 Feb 26 Cathy Patterson

**Communion Preparers**

Feb 5  
 8:45 Linda Koertge  
 Anna Knight  
 11:00 Doris Creasy  
 Laurie Breeden

**Counter Captains**

Feb 5 Jimmy Sculthorpe  
 Feb 12 Klaus Worrell  
 Feb 19 Ron Wootten  
 Feb 26 Gary Wright

**Ushers**

8:45 Bill Blankenship  
 Neal Fleenor  
 Ron White  
 11:00 Mike Patterson  
 Bobby Burton  
 Bobby Johnson  
 Tom Koertge  
 Bobby Wood  
 Ed Harper  
 Ralph Vernon

**Greeters**

8:45 Ben & Mary Brown  
 11:00  
 Feb 5 Shirley Hathaway  
 Feb 12 Mary Lou & Allen Branson  
 Feb 19 Mary Lou & Allen Branson  
 Feb 29 Shirley Hathaway

**Nursery**

Feb 5  
 8:45 Kelly Horne  
 SS Wendy Collins  
 11:00 Isabelle Sullivan  
 Laurie Breeden

Feb 12  
 8:45 Ann Busbee  
 SS Barbara Oliver  
 11:00 Robin Hayter  
 Carol Urso

Feb 19  
 8:45 Pamela Groome  
 SS Jennifer Ostrum  
 11:00 Sean & Lindsey Collins

Feb 26  
 8:45 Lori Justice  
 SS Wendy Collins  
 11:00 Wendy & Mike Collins



**They're Back!**

The **Knitters and Crocheters** are meeting again on the  
 Second and Fourth Thursdays,  
 in Room 206, at 11:00 a.m. (February 9 and 23).  
**Beginners are Welcome!**

## United Methodist Women

**Newton Circle**, Tuesday, February 7, at 7:00 p.m., at Mary Elliott's home.

**Laughon Circle**, Tuesday, February 14, at 10:30 a.m., at the church.

**Gregory Circle**, Thursday, February 16, at 7:00 p.m. at Isabelle Sullivan's home.



**Whitt Circle**, Tuesday, February 21, at 10:30 a.m., at the church.

The **UMW Executive Board Meeting** will be on Thursday, February 23, at 7:00 p.m. in the Library.

**District Information:**  
Feb. 2 - UMW General Assembly Day

## Church Family News and Notes



Our prayers and sympathy are offered to the family of Ruby Milby, who died on December 24.

Thank you so much for the beautiful poinsettia and for communion. I miss everyone and appreciate the prayers.

Sincerely,  
Evelyn Clarke

I want to take this opportunity as 2012 begins to say **Thank You** to all the people who have given me support through prayers, cards, visits and gifts this past year. Your thoughtfulness has meant such a lot to me. I want to especially thank Mary Beth for her visits and comfort.

Gilda Jordan



Blessings on Lucas Wade Eaton, son of Kayla Eaton, and grandson of Tim and Carol Eaton, who was born on January 5, 2012.

## 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.

## MISSIONS

### Mission Kids:

This wonderful midweek program is off to a great start! The children have learned about hunger, therapy dogs, and homelessness. They have also been able to help make a difference in the world by packing backpacks with food, baking dog biscuits, and collecting and sorting warm clothing for the homeless. In February the children will be able to learn about: Physicians for Peace and break down artificial legs and arms for amputees in Honduras, learn about our garden here at PUMC and also in the city of Richmond with UMMCOR and finally, learn about what the United Methodist church is doing in Kenya with Dr. B.T. Cooper United Methodist Academy. All kids in grades k-12 are encouraged to attend.



### Happy New Year from your new Chair of Missions

2011 was a very busy year for Providence UMC; we were able to accomplish quite a bit. Here is just a run down of what we did:

- Homeward Event in January at St Paul's where we passed out coats, gloves, socks and many other clothing items as well as toiletries
- Golf Tournament to raise money for Upward Soccer

- Several Wednesday Night Dinners
- Gleaning
- Large Homeward Event at Convention Center where we passed out clothing, shoes, hats, gloves, socks, coats, bags and much more.
- Backpacks for AM Davis so no child goes hungry over the weekend, we also partner with AM Davis to help students study.
- Our Mission Garden-many hands make little work and the rewards are plentiful.

Plus we collected tons of clothing for our Homeless Events as well as toiletries, hats, gloves and scarves.

I would like to thank Valerie Reese for all her hard work over the past years; you have made a difference in so many lives. During 2012 we hope to accomplish a few more missions. Please stay tuned for ways that you can help. We would love to have a few more on our



Team; we meet the second Tuesday at 6:30 in the Church Parlor. If you like hands on missions or you just want to help

make a difference in someone's life please consider joining. We have fun but we do work hard. I look forward to serving as your Mission Chair in 2012. If you have ideas or questions please feel free to email me at:

**[pastorbillandsue2@verizon.net](mailto:pastorbillandsue2@verizon.net)**.

Come be a blessing to others.

*Sue Duganne*

## 2011 DIRECTORY UPDATES

### CHANGES:

**Akanola**, Mafi & Loisi,  
change to Akanola, Sylvia,  
3908 Chippendale Dr.,  
Richmond, VA 23234



**Eaton**, Tim & Carol - change to Eaton, Tim & Carol, Kayla & Lucas, 804-503-1221, 13700 Second Branch Rd., Chesterfield, VA 23838

### ADD:

**Bareford**, Robert, 2603 Rosewood Ave., Richmond, VA 23220

**Bareford**, Regina, 2403 S. Atlantic Ave., Condo 1003, Daytona, FL 32118

**Kun**, Nathaniel, 1600 Maury St., Richmond, VA 23224

**Leonard**, Pat & Jessica, 2017 Williamstowne Dr., N. Chesterfield, VA 23235

Food Drive  
for Hunger



### CCHASM

Second Sundays are Food Sundays for CCHASM.

Please remember to bring your non-perishable food items!

### **Congratulations to Providence!**

Despite the continuing economic issues, we finished 2011 on a sound financial footing. Giving to the 2011 budget totaled \$406,075, a modest \$2000 increase over 2010. Expenditures totaled \$405,603 with all bills for the year paid. In addition to budgeted expenses another \$114,335 was given to designated funds, such as memorial funds, special offerings and bequests.

Now the challenges of 2012 are upon us. With a new worship service opportunity and related expenses as well as monthly mortgage pay-

ments (balance of renovation costs for our elevator, handicap accessible restroom/showers, and new HVAC) now part of the budget, giving in 2012 will need to increase even more.



Thanks to those who have made a pledge for 2012. The number of people making a pledge increased slightly, but the average pledge showed a major increase.

For those who have not made a commitment for 2012, it is not too late. Remember you can set up your giving as a monthly debit from your bank account or make one time donations from the Providence web site.

## PRESCHOOL NEWS

The New Year is off to a great start. We had fun at Pajama Day, when we all wore our pj's, read our favorite stories and enjoyed hot chocolate and other special treats!

### REGISTRATION FOR FALL 2012

Registration is now open for Fall 2012. We're excited to be offering optional before-and-after child care in addition to our regular Preschool classes, and anticipate that our classes will fill quickly. This is a great opportunity for those families needing full-time weekday child care in addition to preschool. We will continue to offer our regular half-day classes as well. If you have any neighbors or family members who are looking for a high quality, Christian preschool experience for their child, please refer them to PUMC Preschool. **ENROLL BY FEBRUARY 29 AND PAY ONLY \$55 REGISTRATION FEE PER CHILD** (on March 1 the fee goes up to \$80).

We currently have some spaces in all age groups, so there are immediate opportunities

for enrollment as well for the remaining four months of school.

### CAN YOU HELP?

If you would like to help the Preschool, we are currently in need of the following items:

- Thermal laminating film sheets-letter size
- White letter size copy paper
- Colored letter size copy paper-bright colors
- Books for our 2 year old class (meant for our younger preschoolers-shapes, numbers, holidays, animals, seasonal)
- Masking tape
- Sticky Tack (blue adhesive for walls)

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT!

Charlotte Cervarich  
Director, Preschool Ministries



### Looking for a devotional during Lent?

Make sure you have an **Upper Room** for your daily reading. We will also have daily devotions online. In addition, there will be a section for Lenten activities to do with kids and as a family. Visit our website daily during Lent to help you connect with Christ during this time of preparation.



# Youth C.R.E.W. News



Christians Reaching Everyone World Wide

## Super Bowl Subs are Back!

Super Bowl Sunday is February 5th and the youth will be selling sub sandwiches again. The cost is \$5.00 for a 6" sub and \$2 for chips and drink. Order forms are outside the youth office. Proceeds help cover the cost of youth mission projects.

## Youth Super Bowl Party

Bring your friends and come watch the game on the big TV at the youth house. We will have

plenty of game food! Youth time will last until after the half time show.

## Valentine Dedications

Share your love and appreciation for friends and family with a Valentine Dedication. All the messages will be printed in a special bulletin insert on February 12<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$1.00 per message. Forms are outside the youth office and in the church office. Make checks payable to Providence Youth.

## Eagle Eyrie Retreat

The youth are headed to Eagle Eyrie in Lynchburg for a weekend retreat with other youth groups from the Richmond district on February 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. Please keep us in your prayers that we have safe travels, good weather, and feel God's presence in our lives.

## No Youth Group Meeting February 26<sup>th</sup>

We will be returning from our retreat and will not have a youth meeting Sunday night.

## **Community Wednesday Night Dinner**

February 1  
5:30-6:15

Invite a friend or neighbor.

Everyone is Welcome!

## **Special Thanks**

to

**Ann Busbee**

for preparing the newsletter  
while Linda Collins was  
out of the office.

## "Building Up Your Spouse" starting in February!



Couples who bring out the best in each other build security and trust in their relationship. Your spouse needs things that only you can give. By learning what these are, and how to give them, you can bring fresh life into your marriage. Both of you will discover how to lift each other up and cheer each other on.

Come and join us for this seven session small group study for couples. We will meet at our home every other Friday evening at 7 p.m. starting on February 24. Please sign up on the clipboard, or email us at [wilmsfamily@verizon.net](mailto:wilmsfamily@verizon.net) or just tell us you're coming so we can have enough materials. Child care is provided. Previous series have been very well attended and lots of fun, so come join in!

*Sincerely, Christopher and Isca Wilms*

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### February is a Month to Watch and Pray

For the 29 days of this month, our congregation will be in prayer for the new worship service set to start on March 4. Below you will find the prayer focus and scriptures for each week.

- **February 1-7** Pray for God's Spirit to open our minds and hearts to this new ministry. Romans 8; John 3:1-21; Galatians 5:16-26, 1Timothy 4:1-16; Isaiah 61:1-3; Genesis 1:1-2 and Psalm 99
- **February 8-14** Pray for the worship team (musicians, singers), worship planning, pastor. 2 Chronicles 20:1-22; 2 Chronicles 5:11-14; Psalm 29; Psalm 34:1; Psalm 96; Psalm 147-150; John 4:1-24; Revelation 4:8-11

- **February 15-21** Pray for boldness to invite and witness to others. Hebrews 4:14-16; 2 Timothy 1:7-13; Joel 2:28-31
- **February 22-28** Pray for transformation for everyone who comes. Isaiah 58:1-12; Ephesians 4:1-32; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21



If you are able, join us in fasting each Thursday from breakfast, lunch, or dinner. During that mealtime pray especially for the new service, and reflect on the scriptures for that week. This is the time to focus on Jesus and be fed by God's word. Wherever you are that Thursday, you may also pause and join us in prayer at 12:00 p.m.



1237 Mall Drive ❖ Richmond, VA 23235  
(804) 379-6500 ❖ (888) 540-0100

**The Grand Premier of “Jonah” in the “Dutch Country”  
Providence Retired Club  
May 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012**

Lancaster, Pennsylvania is synonymous with the Amish and the picturesque landscape of their manicured farmlands. Rolling fields of corn and wheat, horse and buggies dotting the small country byways and family homesteads, paint a picture in time that has remained unchanged for decades. A biblical lifestyle, the Amish, manifest life in a belief system reflecting humility, modesty, obedience, equality and simplicity. This is quite evident in their simple style of dress, mode of transportation and a lifestyle that does not include any of the modern day comforts.

The Grand Premier of “Jonah” at *Sight & Sound’s Millennium Theatre* promises to be one of their most outstanding performances yet! The biblical story portrays a faithful and righteous prophet of God who suddenly disobeys and runs away! As a result, he encounters a terrifying storm, an enormous fish, a tiny worm, a mighty wind, a blazing sun, a wicked empire, and the greatest revival in history! “Jonah” is a story of extremes and through it all, God reveals His extreme mercy and love for all. You’ll be on the edge of your seat and in the heart of the action from the start. As always, incredible sets, costumes, lighting and special effects set the stage for a performance that is uplifting, entertaining and powerful with an emotional and timely message of God’s love.

Enjoy the hilarious comedy . . . *The Dixie Swim Club* at the *Rainbow Dinner Theatre*. Gentlemen, it’s time you find out what women talk about when they get together. The former members of a girl’s college swim team gather at the same beach house once every year. As they reminisce and catch up on their lives, they’ll leave you laughing so hard you’ll gasp for air! It’s a funny, beautiful story of friendship that no one should miss.

Because of its relationship with the Amish, the “Dutch Country” is well known for its furniture making, crafts shops and Farmers Markets. Fresh produce, meats, cheeses, dairy, just baked breads and confectionary goods are sold fresh off the shelves. If this isn’t enough to rouse your appetite, Lancaster is the ultimate place for “Smorgasbords.” Quality home-cooked meals, made from the freshest of ingredients, keep visitors coming back year after year.

Come join Bobby and the group on their fabulous Spring tour to the Dutch Country! You’ll be so glad you did.

**Price Per Person:** Single: \$380.00 **Double:** \$330.00  
Triple: \$320.00 Quad: \$310.00

**Deposit Payment Schedule:**  
\$100.00 Per Person Due March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012  
Balance in Full Due April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012



**Wednesday – May 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Morning Departure from Richmond  
Continental Breakfast Stop  
Kitchen Kettle Village  
Millennium Theatre’s . . . “Jonah”  
Hershey Farm Restaurant  
Accommodations . . .

*Country Suites Amish Country*  
2243 Lincoln Hwy East  
Lancaster, PA 17602  
(717) 299-7000

**Thursday - May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Continental Breakfast at Your Hotel  
Guided Amish Country Tour  
Rainbow Dinner Theatre – “Dixie Swim Club”  
Rainbow Dinner Theatre - Lunch  
Return to Richmond

**Your Tour Includes:**

Roundtrip Motorcoach Transportation, Two (2) Continental Breakfasts, One (1) Dinner, One (1) Lunch, Visit to Kitchen Kettle Village, Sight & Sound’s “Jonah,” Rainbow Dinner Theatre’s “The Dixie Swim Club,” Guided Amish Country Tour, Amish Quilt & Craft Shop, Refreshments on Motorcoach, Driver & Guide Gratuities.

**Mail Checks Payable to:**

“Providence Retired Club” and Mail to . . .  
Bobby Wood  
1124 Sunkist Avenue  
Richmond, VA 23235  
(804) 276-3058

**Departure Locations & Times:**

<b>Location:</b>	<b>Departs:</b>	<b>Returns:</b>
Providence UMC	7:00AM	8:00 PM

*This Tour was “Custom Designed” by  
SignaTours exclusively for . . .  
“Providence Retired Club!”*

**Cancellation Insurance:** Canceling a tour may result in the loss of your deposit and or payment. Get the “peace of mind” you deserve with Cancellation Protection. Insurance information is sent with your confirmation!

## *Providence United Methodist Church*

*Belong. Be transformed. Make a difference.*

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

\*\*\*NEWSLETTER MAILED January 25\*\*\*  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### **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
6:30 pm	Bells of Providence
7:30 pm	Contemporary Ensemble

### **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:	<a href="http://www.providenceumc.net">www.providenceumc.net</a>
E-mail:	<a href="mailto:providenceumc@providenceumc.net">providenceumc@providenceumc.net</a>
Pastor:	<a href="mailto:Marybeth.blinn@providenceumc.net">Marybeth.blinn@providenceumc.net</a>

### **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

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