


Providence United Methodist Church

Belong. Be Transformed.  Make a Difference.

February 2014



**Begins
February 3**

Providence folks are eligible for free registration and 10% off. To register, contact Ashley Digby at richmond@fit4mom.com.

We are excited to offer this outreach to our church families and community. Stroller Strides is a fitness opportunity for moms, dads, grandparents and any caregivers of stroller-age children. These are outdoor classes (in the Social Hall during inclement weather) that allow caregivers to exercise without the need for childcare. They will be held Monday through Friday at 10 am.

Free community classes will be held each first Saturday at 10 a.m. The first free class will be March 1. Invite your friends and neighbors. What a great way to see our property being actively used, to promote more healthy lifestyles, and to reach out to our community.

Pick up a free week pass in the church office.

G.I.F.T.

Great Ideas for Family Time

- Family dinner at the table, no TV, just conversation!
- Cook a meal together that is special to one person in the family.
- Draw names for a secret pal.
- Keep Christmas cards and pray over one each day.
- Have weekly family meetings to discuss the week, give compliments, air grievances, plan meals, discuss problems and brainstorm solutions.
- Spend time with grandchildren, sharing new skills like sewing.
- Share "highs" and "lows."
- Serve together for Thanksgiving or Christmas

at the Salvation Army.

- Talk about Sunday School lessons.
- Choose a secret destination and go for a drive.
- Take a trip to Krispy Kreme to watch the donuts come down the line and enjoy warm donuts and coffee and milk.

These are just a few of the ideas submitted at Providence. For the entire list, [click here](#) or pick up a copy at the church.

Learn about Haiti

On Sunday, February 23, Bob Blinn will present a program on his recent mission trip to Haiti. It will be held in the Social Hall from 9:55 a.m. until 10:45am. Find out how Virginia United Methodists are in partnership with the Methodist Church in Haiti.

Worship in February

9:00 a.m. Connections Worship

11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

Contemporary Worship "Connections" at 9 am is informal and led by Ministry in Motion praise team.
Traditional Worship is at 11 am, includes a variety of music, and is led by the Chancel Choir and other musical groups. Our pastor, The Rev. Mary Beth Blinn, brings the message at both services.

Focus for February Worship:

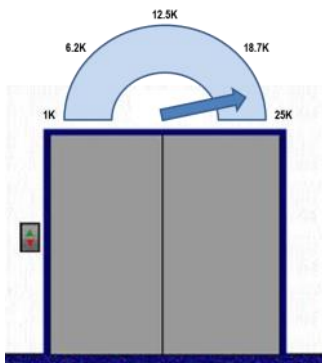
Feb 2	4th Sunday after Epiphany Holy Communion	Micah 6:6-8 1 Corinthians 1:18-31	"When Weakness is a Strength"
Feb 9	5th Sunday after Epiphany Boy Scout Sunday-both services	Isaiah 58:6-12 1 Corinthians 2:1-16	"What is the Spirit up to?"
Feb 16	6th Sunday after Epiphany	Deuteronomy 30:15-20 1 Corinthians 3:1-9	"Can't we just get along?"
Feb 23	7th Sunday after Epiphany	Psalm 119:33-40 1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23	"A Foundation that Lasts"

Vital Congregation Goals for 2013 Report

Each UM Congregation sets numeric goals in the following areas. Here's how we did in 2013. New goals are being set for 2014. How can you help us reach them??

	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Actual</u>
<u>Benevolent/Charitable Support</u> (includes all mission giving and our share of denomination-wide ministry support)	\$90,000	\$91,248
<u>Small Groups</u> (includes short-term and ongoing groups that provide nurture and support)	25	27
<u>Mission Outreach</u> (includes people hours, not individual people)		1,289
<u>Worship Attendance</u> (average both services)	250	232
<u>Professions of Faith</u> (those who made a first-time commitment to Christ and the church)	10	8
<u>Total New Members for 2013</u> (includes professions of faith and transfers from other churches)		15

Can We Rise to the Challenge in 2014? Yes!



Many of you gave faithfully to the major construction product in 2006 which included the building of our elevator and handicapped accessible restrooms. Because of your generosity, most of that construction cost was covered, and the residual was financed. We currently pay every month on that loan. On the terms of that loan, we are about to refinance in March of this year. However, because of the extraordinary generosity of one of our members, if we as a congregation collectively respond with generosity, we could avoid refinancing with the bank entirely.

Of the remaining debt, we plan to internally finance \$80,000 using the available resources of the church. Additionally, one of our members stepped forward in faith and gave a \$25,000 gift towards the debt principal. This leaves a remaining balance of about

\$35,000 to refinance with the bank. Our challenge as a congregation is to collectively match or exceed the generous gift that has been given. If we can, we would substantially reduce the amount to be financed, or even avoid refinance entirely.

Why is this so important? Everything we do at Providence is focused on helping all people belong, be transformed, and make a difference. Through the wise use of our resources, in this case by reducing debt, we help support our mission by freeing more resources for ministry goals.

This is a great opportunity to multiply the benefit of the gifts you give to God. All church members are asked to consider making a gift above and beyond your usual or pledged giving for 2014. Please prayerfully seek God's will for your involvement in this endeavor. Perhaps God is calling you to make a substantial gift that will benefit His kingdom for years to come.

During the last four years, the United Methodist Church established 3,175 new places for new people to worship God around the world. This included 684 in the United States, 576 in countries where the UMC is beginning new ministry and 1,917 in Africa, Europe and the Philippines where the UMC is already established. As Bishop Mike Lowry reports, "This means a huge number of new people have come into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ and engaged in transformation of this world through faith in Christ in deepening discipleship." Thanks be to God!



Church Family News and Notes

Welcome to Uldine Curtis who joined Providence UMC on Sunday, January 12, by transfer of her membership. Uldine was born and raised at Providence UMC and we welcome her back home.



Our prayers are with Joy Kerrans in the death of her husband, Don Keerans, on January 11.



Thank you, everyone, for the cards, prayers, and visits during our time of loss. It was comforting knowing that you cared for Ruth and our family so much.

Bobby Wood



Generous December Mission Giving

Thank you for your generous support of our Advent and Christmas offerings. Over \$262 given to the Society of Saint Andrew's hunger relief ministries during the Advent season. We also were blessed by an Advent devotional provided by SOSA for each family.

The Christmas offering was divided between United Methodist Family Services (\$870) Crossroads Ministry in Appalachia (\$80), and Medical Supplies for International Missions (\$860).

2011 Directory Updates

ADD:

Curtis, Uldine, 804-318-9343, 5764 Quiet Pine Circle, Apt. 106, Chester, VA 23831

Duckworth, Gene & Penny, 804-745-4790, 2701 Walhala Drive, Richmond, VA 23236

CHANGES:

Bareford, Jonathan, 607 14th Street, Golden, CO 80401

Bowman, Helen, Easter Adult Home, 18507 Harrisons Road, Amelia Court House, VA 23002

Earley, Nikki, 644 Scarlet Oak Road, N. Chesterfield, VA 23235

Groome, Charles, 6501 Jahnke Road, Apt. 111, Richmond, VA 23225

Hayter, Robin Urso, change to Urso, Robin, 845 S. High Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Herr, Jennifer, 201 N. Oak Avenue, Highland Springs, VA 23075

Kittrell, Kristin, 1729 Warminster Drive, Midlothian, VA 23113

Latimer, Michael, 4936 Perry Street., Denver, CO 80212

Leonard, Pat & Jessical Ann, change to: Bareford, Jessica, 301 S. 11th Street, Apt. 2507, Richmond, VA 23219

Smoot, Bob Jr. & Doris, 196 Salisbury Circle, Lynchburg, VA 24502

Stewart, Helen, 17 Sand Hill Road, Annandale, NJ 08801

Youth group Sunday nights
5:30-7:30
in the Youth house
next to the church



Youth Director
Susan Clark
providenceryouth@yahoo.com
921-9132 (cell and text)

Youth Super Bowl Party



February 2, the youth group will watch the game on our big-screen and eat too much food. Youth group time will end after the half-time show. Bring a drink or food item to share.

It's Time to Paint the Youth House

If you thought the Youth Director was crazy, here is your proof! We are going to paint seven rooms in the Youth House at one time! This is going to take a lot of leaders, paint supplies, tarps, and painters! It is going to look amazing when it is done, too. The fun begins Saturday, February 15, 4:00-8:00 p.m., and Sunday, February 16, 5:00-7:30 p.m. Much food and appreciation will be provided. Parent help needed!



Sub Sale Pick-Up

Remember to pick up your subs from the church kitchen after either service on February 2. Our youth sub sale helps support our youth ministry, specifically paying for volunteers to go on our mission trips, retreats, and helps with gas money. Thank you!



Winter Olympics

We hope you have been training, because it is time for Youth Winter Olympics! February 9, from 5:30-7:30 p.m., we will compete in youth-style Olympic games. Band-Aids will be provided. We will also be talking about the strength of a Christian heart.

Eagle Eyre Retreat: The middle and high school retreat to Eagle Eyrie in Lynchburg, VA is February 21-23. The purpose is to give uninterrupted time with God. The cost is \$115 and includes travel, lodging and meals. Some spending money is also needed. Contact Susan Clark if interested in attending.

Journey Middle School Retreat: The Cross Trainers youth group is going on a retreat to "Journey" in Goshen, VA on March 21-23. This retreat helps kids with middle school life through games, worship and learning. The cost is \$140 and includes travel, nice lodging, good food and amazing activities. See <http://journeyweekend.org/> for details. Contact Susan Clark if interested in attending.

No Youth Group Meeting on Sunday, February 23.

Financial Summary for 2013

Financial Obligations Met: Yes
Apportionments Met: Yes
Adequate Operating Reserves: Yes

It is easy to spot Providence UMC members bursting with God's grace as they enthusiastically strive to help everyone belong, be transformed by God's love, and make a positive difference in the world. What's not always as obvious is the generous financial giving that supports all of our ministries.

Thanks to your generosity, and the careful use of resources, we ended 2013 on solid financial ground. Total giving for the year was \$419,826.33. up from \$402,188.69 in 2012. Even accounting for a \$15,000 gift given during the year, giving was still higher than 2012. Total expenditures for 2013 were \$401,109.50, down from \$415,885.97 in

2012. Much of the reduction in expenditures can be attributed to multiple staff vacancies at various times which reduced salary costs. At the end of the year the operating fund balance was a healthy \$29,989.69. We end the year with all bills paid, apportionments paid, and with adequate operating reserves.

That being said, we believe that 2014, as budgeted, anticipating filling staff positions and funding all of the ministries of the church, represents a challenge which requires all of us to grow in generosity as we grow in faith. This year also presents an opportunity to improve the financial position of the church by reducing construction debt we carry from the "Building on our Faith" project. Currently we pay a monthly mortgage payment for that debt, but we have the opportunity to substantially reduce that expense, and free additional funds for ministry goals. Please see the separate article about this on page 3 of this newsletter.

Want to help feed a "souper" faculty? The church is providing lunch for the faculty and staff of A. M. Davis Elementary on Wed. February 26. We are providing soup, crackers and desserts for 100 staff members. If you can contribute a crock pot of soup, a box of crackers or a dessert item (cookies or brownies), please email or call Wendy Collins at: MrsCollins17@aol.com or 276-2418.



Backpack Update: Each week, we prepare 13 backpacks for A. M. Davis students who need additional food for the weekend. One child can be fed for one weekend for \$12. We depend upon contributions from generous church and community members to continue this ministry. Our funds are growing low and we are only halfway through the school year! Please consider making a contribution, no matter how small.



UMW
Reading Program

G o o d n e w s ! wishing to readm about missions, spiritual life, leadership, social issues, and nurturing for community. The book selections When choosing a book, please sign the notebook, filling in as requested. The category the book belongs to can be found in the front page of each book. Let's read to broaden our knowledge and gain new spiritual insights.

Pastor's Note

Recently our church leaders gathered to plan for the future. As a part of that planning, we each shared where we had seen God at work through Providence in the last year. Each person around the circle shared a different story, showing just how many different ways our ministries touch lives. If you could answer that question, what would you say? Where have you seen God at work through PUMC recently?



The natural next question is this: How would you like to be a part of what God is already doing in the world and at PUMC? There are many ways to get connected to serve. The updated 2014 Ministry Menu lists almost 100 ways. If you haven't had a chance to take a look at the opportunities, pick up one at church. Or we'll send you one by email or snail mail.

God has a place for you at Providence.

Peace,

Pastor Mary Beth



United Methodist Women

- **Newton Circle** will meet on Tuesday, February 4 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Pam Jones.
- **Gregory Circle** will meet on Sunday, February 9 after the 11:00 worship service for lunch and a business meeting.
- **Laughon Circle** will meet on Tuesday, February 11, at 10:30 a.m. in the church Social Hall.

- **Whitt Circle** will meet on Tuesday, February 18, at 10:30 a.m. in Room 205 at the church.

Unit News:

2/27 Executive Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the Library

District News:

2/6 UM Day at the General Assembly, meet at Bon Air UMC at 7:00 a.m.

2/15 UMW "Hearts for Justice Tea" at Reveille UMC. Registration: 10-15-10:30 a.m.
Tea and Program: 10:30-12:30

3/7-8 "Change the World RVA" Bazaar at Bon Air UMC

Good Food and Good Fellowship

Thank you to all the groups who filled up the Wednesday Night Dinner schedule and will be providing dinners for us this season. Now, everyone needs to come to PUMC on Wednesday nights to support these groups, their goals, and to fill your tummies! Attend the Wednesday Night Dinners (5:30 p.m.) for Good Food and Good Fellowship.



Acolytes

Feb 2—*Communion*
Meredith Kyser
Feb 9 Meredith Kyser
Feb 16 Jackson Holland
Feb 23 Tristen Kellam

Communion Preparers

Feb 2
9:00 Linda Keery
11:00 Amy Palmer

Nursery

Feb 2
9:00 Pam Groome
Emma McConnell (Y)
SS Jennifer Ostrum
11:00 Shirley Collins
Emily Kyser (Y)

Feb 9
9:00 Jennifer Clemmons
SS Wendy Collins
11:00 Laurie Breeden

Feb 16
9:00 Kelly Horne
SS Wendy Collins
11:00 Mike & Wendy Collins

Feb 23
9:00 Barbara Oliver
SS Ann Busbee
11:00 Sean & Lindsey Collins

Sanctuary Organizers

Charles & Jackie Hargrave

Readers

Feb 2 Kelly King Horne
Feb 9 Scouts
Feb 16 Laura King
Feb 23 Karen King

Greeters

9:00:
Ed Bldg Nikki Earley
Narthex Mike Patterson
11:00
Ed Bldg Carolyn Winstead
Narthex Doris Creasy

Ushers

9:00 Bill Blankenship
Neal Fleenor
Ron White
11:00 Bobby Burton
Charles Groome
Tom Koertge
Bobby Wood
Ed Harper
Ralph Vernon
Lori Justice
Kathy Cullen

Counter Captains

Feb 2 Gary Wright
Feb 9 Jimmy Sculthorpe
Feb 16 Klaus Worrell
Feb 23 Ron Wootten

Audio / Media Shout

Feb 2
9:00 Jim Sarver (A)
Bob Gillie (MS)
Bob Gillie (B)
11:00 Jim Sarver (A)
Bob Gillie (MS)

Feb 9
9:00 Tyler Griggs (A)
Brad Wootten (MS)
Brad Wootten (B)
11:00 Ron Wootten (A)
Brad Wootten (MS)

Feb 16
9:00 Gary Wright (A)
Dano Holland (MS)
Dano Holland (B)
11:00 Gary Wright (A)
Dano Holland (MS)

Feb 23
9:00 Tyler Griggs (A)
Steve Oliver (MS)
Mary Elliott (B)
11:00 Tyler Griggs (A)
Steve Oliver (MS)

BIRTHDAYS

		15	Robbie Robertson
2	Ashley Kiper Dorothy Spencer	16	Bill Blankenship Rick Breeden Bryan Broughton Diane Dillard Caleb Mills Shannon Wright Albert Eric Tetu
3	James Busbee Ron Wootten Ted Clark Jr.		
4	Jennifer Dennis	17	Myron Dickerson Michael Mercatante Jr. Alan Woodward
5	Ana Weaver		
6	Erma Robins	18	Karen King
8	Debi Altizer Donna Jenkins	20	Lee Bradshaw Jr. Gavin Kennedy
9	Ken Matthews Shirley Minter Bob Smoot Jr. Joy Keerans	21	Abby Heare
11	Sandra Elliott Billy Marshall Peg Martin	22	Brad Wootten
12	Dick Roop	23	Colton Herr Marshall Mallory
13	Ben Altizer Matt Aycock Debbie Ryan Reeves Whitt III	24	Chrissy Pagani Allen Branson
14	John Bradley Chris Duganne Kelsey Fleshman Ron Kelley Andrew Nelson Bill Steele Julie Hall	26	Beth Hendry Hilda Lindsey

27	Kevin Kincaid Mac McCay III Shannon McQuade Robin Urso Sandy Thorboug
28	Wendy Collins Jim Willis III

ANNIVERSARIES

1	Bob & Cindy Pagani (37 years)
12	Dave & Ginny Thompson (46 years) Randy & Amy Mott (4 years)
14	Fred & LaVonne Stanley (9 years)
20	Rick & Laurie Breeden (31 years)



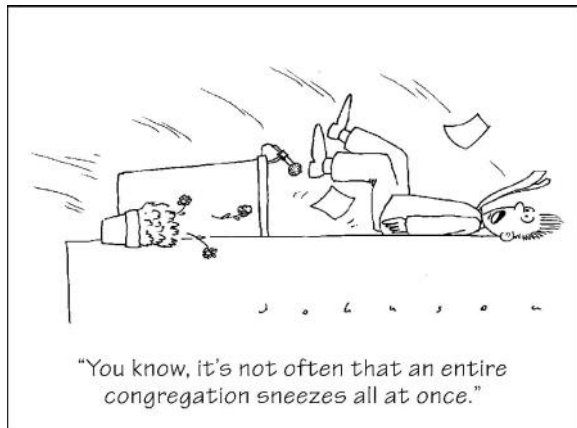
2014 Church Council

Lay Leader	Laura Griggs
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Jim Chappell
Church Council Chairperson	Pam Asbury
Recording Secretary	Beth Latimer
Treasurer	Hugh Miles
President, United Methodist Women	Kim Parr
President, United Methodist Men	Gary Vest
Youth Representative	Nicole Riekers
At Large Members:	Kathy Smith
	Galen Reil
	Ed Blackwell
Pastor	Mary Beth Blinn
Stewardship Coordinator	Christopher Wilms

Plus the following committee chairperson(s)

Staff-Parish	Elizabeth Kyser
Trustees	George Winstead
Finance	Rick Jeffrey
Congregational Care	Patty Wright
Hospitality	Diane King
Mission	Rob Heare
Family Council	Fran McConnell & Anne Blane Wootten
Discipleship	Amy Mott

Check the foyer and the office for a complete list of all church leaders for 2014.



Providence United Methodist Church

Belong. Be transformed. Make a difference.

Sunday

9:00 am	Connections Worship Service
9:45 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Traditional Worship Service
4:00 pm	Youth Bell/Chime Choir
4:45 pm	Youth Vocal Choir
5:30 pm	Youth
7:30 pm	Bells of Providence

Wednesday

5:30 pm	Wednesday Night Dinners
6:30 pm	KC JAM
6:30 pm	Studies or Classes
7:30 pm	Chancel Choir

Thursday

6:30 pm	Ministry in Motion
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Contact us at:

Church Telephone	276-4289
Fax Number	745-2501
Website:	www.providenceumc.net
E-mail:	providenceumc@providenceumc.net

Pastor	Mary Beth Blinn
Email	marybeth.blinn@providenceumc.net
Home Telephone	562-5169
Cell Phone	658-8046

Family & Discipleship Ministries

Director of Music Ministries	Margaret Taylor
Contemporary Worship Music Leader	Michael Kalson
Youth Ministries	Susan Clark
Church Secretary	Kathy Smith
Office Assistant	Linda Collins
Custodial Service	Bill Duganne
Nursery Attendant	
Our Covenant Missionary	Kim King Torres

