

Providence United Methodist Church

Belong. Be transformed. Make a difference.

Spring Festival

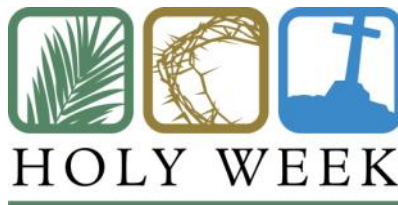
Tell your family, neighbors, and friends that the Spring Festival with our giant Easter Egg Hunt, will be held on **April 16th** from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. We will have loads of fun with games, crafts, moon bounce, cake walk, face painting, petting zoo, and of course the train rides! New this year will be the Hamster Ball race for older kids and adults.

Many hands are needed to make this event a success. Please look at the bulletin board outside the library to see where you can be used or contact me (Isabelle Sullivan – 276-4289) and I can help you find the perfect spot to serve. This is a great way to show our community what a great congregation we have and how we all work together.



We also need the following donations:

- Plastic Easter Eggs
- Hard, individually wrapped, small candy to fit inside the eggs
- Small prizes (like fast food kid toys)
- Unsharpened fun pencils and notepads
- New or gently used Christian children's books or Bibles



Palm/Passion Sunday, April 17, 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. Begin with the procession with palms, then hear the story of Jesus' last week through drama and music.

Holy Thursday, April 21, 7:30 p.m. A service of remembering Jesus' last supper with Holy Communion and foot/hand washing. Music will be provided by our Adult Choirs, Emma Breeden, soloist, and handbells.

Good Friday, April 22, 7:30 p.m. A service of Darkness and Shadows begins with light and ends in darkness with music by our youth choirs.

Easter Sunrise, April 24, 6:00 a.m. The outdoor chapel (weather permitting) is the setting for this early service. Be greeted in the semi-darkness with the new fire. Breakfast by our United Methodist Men will follow.

Easter Celebrations at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. Invite a friend to worship with you this day.

Worship in April

Apr 3	4th Sunday in Lent Holy Communion and Healing Service One Great Hour of Sharing	Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41	Word: Sight Choirs Soloist: Emma Breedon
Apr 10	5th Sunday in Lent	Romans 8:6-11 John 11:1-45	Word: Tears Choirs & Handbells
Apr 17	Palm/Passion Sunday Dramatic Reading of Jesus' Last Days	Matthew 21:1-11 Philippians 2:5-11 Matthew 26:14-27:66	Choirs Youth Trio
Apr 24	Easter Services	Colossians 3:1-4 John 20:1-18	Choirs Handbells Brass

ANNOUNCEMENTS for the Sunday bulletin are due to Kathy Smith on Wednesdays at **12:00 Noon**. You can leave your hand-written announcement in the Office Staff mailbox in the hallway or email them directly to Kathy at: kathy.smith@providenceumc.net

Health Kits to be Assembled

We had some leftover items from CARITAS and would like to convert the items to Health Kits to be sent to Conference. However, we need a few items to complete the kits. We will have a notice on the Mission bulletin board where people can pull tags for the items needed.

Items Needed by May 15th:

16 hand towels
3 boxes of band aids (all the same size).

Due to recent events there is a great need for health kits. Also needed are birthing kits. We would like to encourage Sunday School classes (and anyone else) to make the birthing kits.

Diane King

YOUTH C.R.E.W. NEWS



Confirmation Class Mini Retreat

Friday, April 8th from 6:00—9:00 p.m., confirmands and mentors will all meet at the youth house for dinner and discussion from the final unit of our curriculum called “Living your commitment”. We will return Saturday, April 9th from 9:00-12:00. Please contact Susan Clark at susan.clark@providenceumc.net with any questions.

April 17th Palm Sunday

No youth council after church this day due to the Easter Walk. Youth Council will be held during dinner that night at youth group.

Youth Yard Sale

The youth are going to hold a yard sale at church this spring (date TBD). If you have anything that you would like to donate to our yard sale please bring it to the youth house. The

proceeds from the sale will help purchase a permanent house sign and flag for the youth house.

Impact Richmond Mission Trip

Our week long summer mission trip will be with Impact Richmond! We will stay at St. Mark's UMC and help local families in need with house repairs. The week is **July 11th-17th** and the cost is \$199 made out to Providence Church. Contact Susan Clark at (276-4289) or by email at susan.clark@providenceumc.net for more information.

Dinner Volunteers

A great way to support youth ministries is to provide dinner on a Sunday night! We always need volunteers. The sign-up sheet is outside the youth office in the church. You can drop off dinner by 5:00 on Sunday or stay and eat with us!

Easter Sunday

No youth group Easter night, enjoy the day with your family!

Cross Trainers is a youth group for 5th and 6th graders!

If you have not been to a Cross Trainers meeting, come join us! We meet every Sunday from 12:15-2:00 in the youth house (next to the church). Bring a lunch. We play games, talk about tween issues and meet kids our age at Providence! Once a month we do a mission project! Some things we have done include delivering soda can tops to the Ronald McDonald House, making place mats and a craft area for CARITAS, organizing a party for the toddlers at Providence, and Christmas caroling to shut ins.

CROSS TRAINER



Acolytes

Apr 3—*Communion*
 8:45 Andrew Bowers
 11:00 C.J. Alred

Apr 10
 8:45 Emma McConnell
 11:00 Kelsey Alred

Apr 17—*Palm Sunday*
 8:45 Winton Justice
 11:00 Hannah Jenkins

Apr 21—*Holy Thursday*
 7:30 p.m. Tristen Kellam

Apr 23—*Easter*
 8:45 Molly Roberson
 11:00 Tristen Kellam

Audio / Visual

Bob Gillie / Russ Byers

Name Tags

Apr 3 Ginny Thompson
 Apr 10 Amy Mott
 Apr 17 Gracie Martin
 Apr 23 Gracie Martin

Sanctuary Organizers

Laurie Breeden & Doris Creasy

Ushers

8:45 Bill Blankenship
 Wayne Latimer
 Janet Knight
 Gary Wright

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

Counter Captains

Apr 3 Bobby Wood
 Apr 10 Gary Wright
 Apr 17 Jimmy Sculthorpe
 Apr. 23 Linwood Hudson

Greeters

8:45 Ben & Mary Brown
 11:00 Mary Lou & Allen Branson

Communion Preparers—Apr 3

8:45 Ginny Thompson
 11:00 Barbara Robertson and
 Anna Knight

Nursery

Apr 3
 8:45 Lori Justice
 SS Pam Groome
 11:00 Michelle Butler/Carol Urso
 Megan Roberson

Apr 10
 8:45 Ann Busbee
 SS Susan Worrell
 11:00 Lindsey & Sean Collins

Apr 17
 8:45 Jane Gilliam
 SS Wendy Collins
 11:00 Mike & Wendy Collins

Apr 23
 8:45 Kelly Horne
 SS Pam Groome
 11:00 Shirley Collins
 Jean Riekers
 Nicole Riekers



“Thank You for Wearing Your Nametag”

Recently, a *newcomer* said, “Thank you” to me for wearing my nametag so that she could identify me.

Has anyone thanked you for wearing yours?

Graduates for 2011

Are you or your child graduating from high school, trade school, or college? We are beginning to collect this information for our graduation Sunday in June. Please submit names of graduate, from what school, and with what degree or trade to Isabelle Sullivan at isabelle.sullivan@providenceumc.net.

Pastor's Note

Easter is late this year! It is coming on April 24. You may wonder how the day of Easter is set. According to Wikipedia, "Easter is a moveable feast, meaning it is not fixed in relation to the civil calendar. The First Council of Nicea (325) established the date of Easter as the first Sunday after the full moon following the northern hemisphere's vernal equinox."

The fact that Easter is "late" is not a big deal to us. While it does mean that we have more time to practice Easter music and plan Holy Week services, and that temperatures at our outdoor Sunrise Service will likely be above freezing,

Easter is still Easter. It is the most celebrative day in the whole year. It is a time when we all get together to recognize that death no longer has power over us. That Jesus is alive in us and our community, making all things new. There are people around you who need to know about this Good News. They have probably already heard about Easter bunnies and chocolate eggs. But will they hear about the Good News? Maybe this is another good thing about Easter's late date this year: you still have plenty of time to get out the word.

Peace

Mary Beth

Richmond District United Methodist 2011 Golf Tournament

Sponsored by Providence United Methodist Church

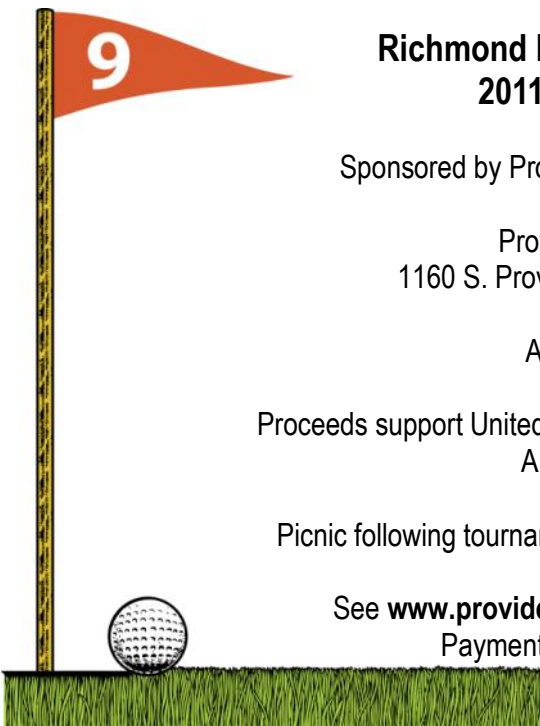
Providence Golf Course
1160 S. Providence Road, Richmond, VA

April 29—1:00 p.m.

Proceeds support United Methodist Urban Ministries of Richmond
And Upward Soccer

Picnic following tournament at Providence UMC Picnic Shelter

See www.providenceunc.net for Registration Form
Payment deadline: April 24, 2011



Missions

The feeding program at Centenary United Methodist Church is on the third Friday of each month at 9:15 a.m. Eight to ten Cooks for Christ (CFC) are needed to prepare a meal and serve it to 180-200 guests. If you would like to help in this missions project which Providence United Methodist Church has been a part of for over 30 years, meet at church to carpool. Centenary is located at 411 Grace Street in Richmond. Cooks for Christ will meet at 9:15 a.m. in the PUMC parking lot to depart for Centenary.

Canned goods are being collected for CCHASM. Donations may be left in the bin at the Missions table. For more information on CCHASM visit www.CCHASM.org. This year's Lenten offering will benefit The United Methodist Ministry in Petersburg called Pathways. The Easter offering will be split equally between the Good Samaritan Ministries, Branches and Brazil's Shade and Fresh Water Project.

Join us in the Mission Garden on Mondays at 9:00 a.m. We have already planted potatoes, onions, kale, radishes and lettuce. Fresh produce will benefit Good Samaritan Ministries and Belmont Food Pantry.

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord, for the Lord is Good; celebrate His lovely name with music
Psalm 135:3 NLT

Don't miss these exciting worship experiences - April 6 (Transform) and April 27 (Make a Difference). The services will continue to follow the Wednesday Night Dinners and will be held in the sanctuary from 6:20 – 7:20 p.m. As always, the services are casual and everyone is welcome to share God's Word and God's Music. When you leave you will feel 'transformed' and ready to 'make a difference'!



Fellowship Sunday

Join us for fellowship, food, and the Word on **April 17th** from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. The Education Committee is excited to bring you an opportunity to experience Easter with a simplified, family friendly Journey through Holy Week. Small groups will take a short break from the fellowship and be guided around to certain rooms. Each of these rooms will be set up for the groups to experience through sight, sound, and touch, the journey Christ took on his way to the cross. Please note: there **will not** be regular Sunday School classes on this day for all ages. Hope to see you all in the social hall.



Church Directory

Updates—October 2009 Directory



- **Bareford**, Jonathan - change street number to 1530
- **Bennett**, Robert, 2500 Walhala Dr., Richmond, VA 23236
- **Gillie**, Michael & Sue Ann, 7101 Belmont Rd, Chesterfield, VA 23832
- **Latimer**, Michael - change street number to 1530
- **Shelton**, Genevieve - Lucy Corr Village, 6800 Lucy Corr Blvd., Chesterfield, VA 23832

Davis Elementary School Project Update.

The Providence Road Partners project provided gift bags with muffins, fruit, and thank you notes to all of the staff at Davis Elementary School on March 17. In addition, \$340.00 was given to the school for gift certificates to the school book fair. Each class will receive two certificates that will be given to one boy and one girl to purchase books. Proceeds from a

Wednesday night dinner helped to defray the cost of these activities. Volunteers continue to help in the classroom and after school.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped with these projects and who helped with the Wednesday night dinner. With the arrival of spring, there will be volunteer opportunities at the school for all. Please watch for them in the Providence mid-week updates.



School Rewards

Did you know that Davis Elementary can earn cash when we shop at Martin's, Kroger, or Food Lion? If you have a customer card with any of these stores, go to their website and "link" your customer card with Davis Elementary. That's all it takes to help PUMC help them!

God's Love Shines Through Providence Members

Providence UMC seeks to be a community where persons are invited to **belong, be transformed** by God's love, and **make a difference** in the world. During many worship services, you'll hear personal testimonies about how God's love is making a positive impact though

Providence members. The new worship section is called "Shining Light." Don't hide your light under a basket! If you would like to give a brief testimony about how you have experienced belonging, transformation, or making a difference in the world through the ministries of Providence, please contact Christopher Wilms (wilmsfamily@verizon.net) or Pastor Mary Beth.

A Life-Changing Opportunity

The Education Committee is now looking for 4-6 people to help with Sunday School for our kids over the summer months. It is a great way to get to know the children of our church and it gives our regular teachers a much needed retreat. Curriculum and supplies are provided. We need folks for elementary age and our youth. I believe you will find that you get as much out of the experience as the kids will get from you. If you want to learn more please contact Isabelle Sullivan at 276-4289 or email her at: isabelle.sullivan@providenceumc.net.

Teachers
Needed!



Making A Difference

'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ... 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

Matthew 25:37-38,40 (NIV)

At Providence, lives are being changed every day. Through your faithful stewardship of your time, talents, and resources, YOU fed the hungry, YOU clothed the naked, and YOU sheltered a stranger, right here in our community. A great way to help stay on track with your giving is through Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). With EFT you can automate monthly or bimonthly contributions. The church office can set this up for you any time, or come by the Library after either service on April 24th or May 1st. A voided check is required to complete the enrollment. You can bring God's love to a world that desperately needs it through your contributions to Providence.

Christopher Wilms
Stewardship Committee Chairperson



Youth on a Journey

In recent weeks, six young people have been learning about the Christian faith. They have been meeting on Wednesday evenings in the youth house to talk about creation, sin, redemption, the Holy Spirit, the way of salvation and a lot more.

Please include these youth and their mentors in your prayers:

Luke Architzel (Greg Elliott)
Keith Bahm (Ron White)
Sam Burton (Mike Collins)
Clare Henderson (Cathy Patterson)
Cristin Kitrell (Mary Lou Robinson)
Jahna Seymour (LaVonne Stanley)



Church Family News and Notes



Our sympathy is extended to George McGee on the death of his wife, Maple McGee, who died on February 20.

Also to the family and friends of Frances Hardaway, who died on March 1.

thank you
LO
RD

"I would like to say a heartfelt thank-you to my church family for all of the calls, cards and prayers during my recent surgery and recuperation. A special thanks to Mary Beth for her visits and prayers, and to Marian Crowder for keeping Peg and Julie company while I was in surgery. I'm doing well and feeling better each day. Again, thanks to you all."

Bill Mannering

I would like to thank the members of Providence who helped make my Aunt Maple McGee's funeral such a beautiful experience.

Best Regards
Bob Atherton

We would like to thank everyone for their prayers and support to us during our recent illnesses. We would also like to thank Pastor Mary Beth for her visits to us in the hospital.

Dave and Mary Lou Robinson

The family of Frances Hardaway wishes to thank the members of Providence for their cards and prayers during her recent illness and also for the reception after her funeral.

Mary Johns (and Debbie) wishes to express her gratitude to everyone who sent cards (124 total) to help celebrate her birthday.

Great Job PUMC!

One Great Hour of Sharing

Once a year, United Methodists give second-mile offerings to the United Methodist Committee on Relief. On April 3, these special gifts will go toward the administration of our disaster relief agency. This support enables our Church to respond to disasters all around the world all year long with 100% going toward the relief of human suffering. Thank you for your generous support.



Our Easter Offering will support three mission projects in our community, nation and world:

- **Richmond:** Good Samaritan Ministries whose mission is to help men, women and their families win the battle against addictions.
- **Florida:** Branches, located in Florida City, where children, youth and their families receive material, educational and spiritual support.
- **Brazil:** Ministry with Children, Shade and Fresh Water Project: Outreach to children who are hungry, uneducated and endangered by life on the streets.

Save The Date

Commonwealth Parenting will be here at Providence on Thursday, May 19th. Watch for additional information concerning this informative evening in future church communications.



“Our mission is to build a stronger community by teaching proactive parenting skills to parents and caregivers in central Virginia through quality education, communication, and support.”

Newsletter Info

If you would like to stop receiving a **PAPER** copy of the newsletter, please call the church office (276-4289) to let Kathy or Linda know. You can receive it by email rather than snail-mail just by asking.



Picture Perfect

Don't forget to sign up to have your picture taken for the new PUMC directory. Additional days have been added to the schedule, April 15 and 16. This valuable tool for many of us features pictures, address, and phone numbers of the folks in our church family. We want to make sure this new directory includes everyone, so please schedule an appointment online. Everyone who participates will receive a FREE 8x10 picture and a directory. Contact Kristie Willis if you have any questions at: kristie41@verizon.net.

For our homebound members, if you get a picture to the church office by April 15th, you will be included in the directory and receive a copy of it.

United Methodist Women

Newton Circle meets Tuesday, April 5 at 7:00 p.m. in Lois Reil's home.

Laughon Circle - Tuesday, April 12 at 10:30 a.m. in the Church Social Hall.

Gregory Circle, second Thursday, April 14 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 206. Please note the new date.

Whitt Circle - Tuesday, April 19 at 10:30 a.m. in Room 206 at the church.

Executive Board Meeting will be Thursday, April 28, at 7:00 p.m. in the Library.

No Unit Meeting in April.



PUMC Preschool News

Summer Plans

Parents – Looking for Some Summer Fun for Your Preschooler Age 2-5?

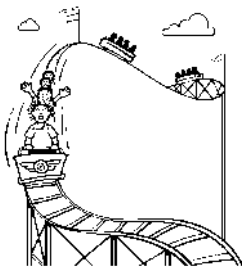
Join us in July for a month of fun and learning in a relaxed, camp-like atmosphere. Music, fitness, science, nature and more! We offer two 2-week sessions, so your child can attend one or both. Bring a friend - the program is open to the community.

Preschool Registration Begins for Fall 2011

Registration has begun for the upcoming 2011-2012 school year. We offer a variety of classes for preschoolers from age 2 - Pre K, and provide a nurturing environment for your child's social, physical, emotional and spiritual growth. You are encouraged to schedule a tour during school hours to see what our Preschool has to offer you and your child.

If you have questions about either of these programs, please contact Charlotte Cervarich, Preschool Director, at 276-1462, or email her at preschool@providenceumc.net. Registrations forms and additional information is available on the table outside of the church office.

UM Family Day at Kings Dominion



Looking for something fun to do with the whole family? May 8 will be United Methodist Day at Kings Dominion and

Kings Dominion is offering discounted tickets for this event and other selected Saturdays in the month of April and May for \$28 per person. Purchase tickets at the Kings Dominion website with the promo code: UMC4.



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Sunday

8:45 am	Worship Service
9:45 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
12:00 pm	Cross Trainers
12:15 pm	New Fire Choir
3:45 pm	A Cappella Choir
4:30 pm	Pass It On Choir
5:30 pm	Youth
7:00 pm	Bells of Providence

Wednesday

5:30 pm	Wednesday Night Dinners
6:30 pm	KC JAM
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	Nancy F. Burks
Director of Preschool Ministries	Charlotte S. Cervarich
Director of Youth Ministries	Susan M. Clark
Director of Christian Education	Isabelle Sullivan
Church Secretary	Kathleen M. Smith
Office Assistant	Linda M. Collins
Custodial Service	Mary Elliott
Nursery Attendant	April Basham
Our Covenant Missionary	Kim King Torres

Providence United Methodist Church
901 S. Providence Road
Richmond, VA 23236
*** NEWSLETTER MAILED March 23***
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Pre Sort
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