

# *Providence United Methodist Church*

*Belong. Be transformed. Make a difference.*

*April 2012*

## **Holy Week at Providence**

### **The Transforming Power of Jesus' Death and Resurrection**

#### **Palm/Passion Sunday—April 1**

Join the Hosanna procession and ponder the week's upcoming turn of events at 9:00 and 11:00. Remember the sacrifice of the Lord at the Table.

#### **Holy Thursday—April 5, 7:00 p.m.**

Gather around tables (in the Social Hall) to share in Holy Communion as the disciples did with Jesus. Walk after supper, as Jesus did, outside (outdoor chapel) to reflect on Jesus' anguished moments in the garden. Return to the sanctuary to prepare our hearts for Good Friday.

#### **Good Friday—April 6, 7:00 p.m.**

Listen to the voices from the crowd speak to Jesus during his final hours. Lay your burdens down at the cross.

#### **Easter Day—April 8**

- Sunrise Service, 6:30 a.m., in the outdoor chapel. Greet the sun as we celebrate the Risen Christ.
- Breakfast in the Social Hall following the Sunrise Service.
- Connections, 9:00 a.m., in the Sanctuary. Through drama, the word, and music, we say "Christ is Alive!"
- Traditional Worship, 11:00 a.m., in the Sanctuary. Our Chancel Choir and the Bells of Providence will lead us in holy and joyful worship.

Remember to bring a flower for the outdoor cross!



### **FAITH 101**

Spend six weeks learning more about the Christian faith, the nature of God and the meaning of grace, and the basics of United

Methodist beliefs. The class begins on Sunday, April 8, Easter Day, at 9:45 a.m. and will be held in the Library. Sign up at church or by calling the church office.

### **SUNDAYS**

Connections contemporary worship begins at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday. Come early for coffee at 8:30. Our traditional worship is at 11:00 a.m.

## Worship in April

Apr 1	Palm/Passion Sunday Holy Communion	Mark 11:1-11 Dramatic Reading of Jesus' Passion	9:00-Ministry in Motion 11:00-SonRise Sisters & Chancel Choir
Apr 8	Easter Day 6:30 Sunrise 9:00 Connections 11:00 Traditional Worship	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Mark 16:1-8	9:00-Ministry in Motion 11:00-Chancel Choir & Bells of Providence
Apr 15	Second Sunday in Easter	9:00 & 11:00 a.m.	The Easter Miracle A Children's Skit with Music
Apr 22	Third Sunday in Easter Native American Awareness Sunday	John 20:19-31	9:00-Ministry in Motion 11:00-SonRise Sisters
Apr 29	Fourth Sunday in Easter Preschool 20th Anniversary	1 John 3:16-24; Psalm 23; John 10:11-18	9:00-Ministry in Motion

### Praying the Scriptures

Providence Intercessory Group invites you to join us in a church-wide reading through the entire Bible in the fifty days after Easter leading up to Pentecost!

Prepare your hearts, our sanctuary and our homes for the anointing of the Spirit, by signing up to read the Word of God in the sanctuary, as you are able, or at home. Pray before you read aloud, and as you read remember that "faith comes by hearing the word". Involve your family in the reading. Reflect on what the scripture means to your life today. Let His Word dwell in your heart, your surroundings and allow His Spirit to renew and transform you!



Sign up at church.

**The  
Church  
Office**



**Will Be  
Closed:  
MONDAY,  
APRIL 9**

## PRESCHOOL NEWS

### WE'RE CELEBRATING 20 YEARS!

Preschool Sunday is coming, April 29 at 11:00, and we hope you will join us in celebrating the 20th year of our wonderful Preschool!

### HOW YOU CAN HELP?

We'd like to send a **special invitation to our "alumni" to attend**—so if your children, grandchildren, friends' children or neighbors attended PUMC Preschool over the past 20 years, please invite them to come. Also, if you have any **photos of the Preschool** from years past, please call Charlotte Cervarich at the Preschool, 276-1462. We're planning some special activities with our current students as well.

**FALL 2012 REGISTRATION CONTINUES**, and information can be found on the table outside of the Church office. Now is the time to think about your child or grandchild for fall, and classes are filling.

### SUMMER CAMP 2012

Check the table outside of the office or call the Preschool (276-1462) for more information about our popular Summer Camp for preschoolers, ages 3-5. We invite your child to join us in July for two weeks of fun and learning!



## May Faith Promise 2012 Focus on Youth

**"Faith Promise 2012"** refers to our collective and individual commitment to financially support the big ministries planned for this year. God has called us to make disciples of Jesus, and we are stepping out in faith to do just that. James reminds us in chapter 2 that our faith and our actions go hand-in-hand.

The month of May has been designated as a special focus by the Finance Committee. We invite each of you to participate in a sacrificial "extra mile" gift, which will bless both our church and the giver. All gifts given during May which are **designated for Faith Promise 2012** will go toward our **ministries with youth**.

Our budget supports our vibrant youth ministry through money for programming, mission trips, salary for our youth director and maintenance and utilities at the youth house. By FAITH we see the PROMISES of God fulfilled in our youth!

How will you step up to meet the Faith Promise 2012 challenge?

Would you like to get a Mid-Week Update each week with news from Providence? If so, contact:



**Linda.Collins@providenceumc.net** to be added to the email list.

### Acolytes

Apr 1—*Communion*  
9:00 Gabby Sullivan  
11:00 Emma McConnell

Apr 8  
9:00 Molly Roberson  
11:00 Tristen Kellam

Apr 15  
9:00 Emma McConnell  
11:00 Laura King

Apr 22  
9:00 Rachael Harvey  
11:00 Tristen Kellam

Apr 29  
9:00 Emily Kyser  
11:00 Cole Holland

### Sanctuary Organizers

Billie & Ralph Vernon

### Name Tags

Apr 1 Gracie Martin  
Apr 8 Gracie Martin  
Apr 15 Emma Flennor  
Apr 22 Laurie Breeden  
Apr 29 Kyser Family

### Greeters

9:00 Carolyn Bilski & Patty Wright  
11:00 Allen & Mary Lou Branson

### Counter Captains

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

### Communion Preparers

Apr 1  
9:00 Ron White  
11:00 Jean Riekers  
Lindsey Collins

Apr 5—Maundy Thursday  
Janice Bradley

### Audio / Media Shout

Apr 1  
9:00 Gary Vest (A)  
Brad Wootten (MS)  
11:00 Gary Wright (A)  
Brad Wootten (MS)

Apr 8  
9:00 Ron Wootten (A)  
Bob Gillie (MS)  
11:00 Ron Wootten (A)  
Bob Gillie (MS)

Apr 15  
9:00 Tyler Griggs (A)  
Dano Holland (MS)  
11:00 Keith King (A)  
Dano Holland (MS)

Apr 22  
9:00 Tyler Griggs (A)  
Bob Gillie (MS)  
11:00 Tyler Griggs (A)  
Steve Oliver (MS)

Apr 29  
9:00 Tyler Griggs (A)  
Brad Wootten (MS)  
11:00 Gary Wright (A)  
Brad Wootten (MS)

### Ushers

9:00 Bill Blankenship  
Wayne Latimer  
Janet Knight  
Gary Wright

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

### Nursery

Apr 1  
9:00 Lori Justice  
SS Jennifer Ostrum  
11:00 Jennifer Ostrum  
Isabelle Sullivan

Apr 8  
9:00 Ann Busbee/Pam Groome  
SS Susan Worrell  
11:00 Lindsey & Sean Collins  
Mike & Wendy Collins

Apr 15  
9:00 Jane Gilliam  
SS Wendy Collins  
11:00 Mike & Wendy Collins

Apr 22  
9:00 Kelly Horne  
SS Pam Groome  
11:00 Shirley Collins  
Jean Riekers

Apr 29  
9:00 Jennifer Ostrum  
SS Jennifer Ostrum  
11:00 Lori Justice  
Ann Busbee



## United Methodist Women

**Newton Circle** - April 3 at 7:00 p.m. at Lois Reil's home.

**Laughon Circle** - April 10 at 10:30 a.m. at the church.

**Whitt Circle** - April 17 at 10:30 a.m. at the church.

**Gregory Circle** - April 19 at 7:00 p.m. at Ruth Jarrell's home.

**Executive Board Meeting** - Thursday, April 26 at 7:00 p.m.

**Unit Bake Sale** - Saturday, April 28 at 10:00 a.m.



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

Providence's bold vision for 2012 is well underway, most notably with the launch of our vibrant worship service "Connections." As mentioned before, to support our new and existing ministries, the 2012 budget is significantly (13%) higher than 2011. Therefore we are being very intentional to keep the congregation informed on giving and expenses. Following above average giving in December 2011, January and February giving was decreased compared to last year. Overall through February, expenses were \$4,779 higher than receipts. The operating fund is still quite adequate at \$19,927 at the end of February. For more detail, copies of the most recent treasurer's report are always available at the church office.

## Mission Kids



Starting April 18, Mission Kids will return to Wednesday Nights from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in room 309. We will be

looking to serve the forgotten, the poor, the hungry, our elderly, the sick, and our missionary Kim King Torres.

This was a great success in the winter and we hope all youth, children in grades K-12, and their parents will join us again as we learn how we can be the hands and feet of Christ. Arrive early in our social hall (6:15) and help pack backpacks for the weekend feeding program at A.M. Davis.

### Deadlines:

Mid-Week Update: Tuesdays at Noon

Bulletin: Wednesdays at Noon

Newsletter: 15th of each month

## *Pastor's Note*

We are a busy church. We now offer two different worship experiences, Bible studies and small groups almost every day of the week, youth and children's ministries, women's circles and a men's group, mission outreach to our community and world, plenty of opportunities to fellowship around the table, and on and on. In the middle of all this busyness, we should stop and ask: Why? What for? What's it all about? Here are two words that are at the heart of our mission:

### Good News.

Everywhere he went, Jesus preached Good News which is this: because of God's grace-filled love for us, we are able to turn around and begin again. Our relationship with God is

restored. And we share this good news with others.

That's what our busyness is all about . . . or it should be. Everything we do in our church building, and outside of it, is about this Good News. It's behind the songs we sing, the muffins we bake, the committees we chair, the studies we attend, the students we tutor, the sermons we preach, the garden we plant, the youth we mentor. Because of this Good News, we are able to create a community where all can belong, be transformed and make a difference. I'm thankful to be part of a community like this.

Peace,

*Mary Beth*

### Graduating?

Do you have a child graduating from college or high school this spring? We want to celebrate their accom-



plishments. Please send in their name, school graduating from, and future plans to Isabelle Sullivan at: [isabelle.sullivan@providenceumc.net](mailto:isabelle.sullivan@providenceumc.net). All information needs to be in **by May 15**.

### 2011 DIRECTORY UPDATES

Ergens, Woody & Shelley, change to Ergens, Shelley, 1148 Sunkist Ave, Richmond, VA 23235

Gillette, Jay Jr. & Samantha, 804-716-9544, 9815 Monimia Ct., Richmond, VA 23238

Herr, Jennifer - remove address

Robertson, Jason & Melanie; Jackson, add Piper

Sulanke, Doug & Tracey, house number should be 11801

Tuck, Christopher & Michelle Oliver, house number should be 5230



## Sunday Morning Social Time

Come at 8:30 on Sunday mornings to wake up with coffee or juice and light snacks. Especially take the time to meet and greet beautiful new faces along with comfortable familiar ones.



Are you a baker? Someone who just enjoys baking, but doesn't know what to do with all these things after they are baked? Maybe you would be interested in baking some breakfast breads or pastries for us sometimes (without having to be at church too early on Sunday morning)—contact me.

Perhaps some of you would like to “host” the Social Time on some special occasion—contact me.

We have a wonderful group of volunteers already working with this new fellowship time; but there is always room for more—contact me.

Who's “me”? I am Gracie Martin: 272-4289 (between 4pm & 8pm, please) or [graciemartin@verizon.net](mailto:graciemartin@verizon.net).

Your presence at the Social Time and one of the worship services to follow is what we value the most.

Blessings on you, Gracie

## The Outdoor Flowering Cross



Please help us keep this wonderful tradition alive at Providence.

We are referring to the outdoor center cross on Easter morning. Ivy has been purchased, and we would like you to bring fresh flowers to make Christ's cross “bloom” in front of the church, as it does in the sanctuary.

There will be volunteers to help place the flowers you bring before the 9:00 and 11:00 o'clock services. Many families and some classes have their pictures taken in front of this cross, and this year we want to really fill it up. Thanks!

## GERANIUM SALE

**United Methodist Urban Ministries  
of Richmond Auxiliary**

\$4.50 / pot (4 1/2” pot)

Red, Salmon, Coral,  
and HOT Pink

Will take orders for specific  
colors but cannot guarantee.



Makes checks payable to: UMUMR

Contact Shirley Collins at:  
745-3024 or at  
[scol23235@gmail.com](mailto:scol23235@gmail.com)



Plants arrive Friday, April 20

## Church Family News and Notes



Our prayers of love and sympathy are offered for the family of Margaret Anderson, our oldest member at 99, who died on February 13; for the family of Terry Wagner, who died on March 6; and for the families of Janet Fattizzi and Marilyn Rockwell, who both passed away on March 19.

Blessings to the family of Piper Ruth Robertson who was born on February 23. She is the daughter of Jason and Melani Robertson and the granddaughter of Robbie and Barbara Robertson.



Words cannot express the appreciation and love I and my family have felt with the kind expressions of sympathy and support from Terry's and my PUMC family. How can we thank Mary Beth for her visits, prayers and performance of the Memorial Service, the Growing Christians' and the UMM's show of support at the service, the cards, calls and prayers from all the members of PUMC throughout Terry's illness? I am hoping that "Thank You" will let you know how much I love all of you and how much my PUMC family means to me and meant to Terry.

~ Becky Wagner and family

We wish to thank our Providence Church family for the cards, calls, and other expressions of concern since we have been ill. We hope to be back at church very soon.

~ Billy and Barbara Blankenship

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## Scrip

We will **not** be taking orders for the first two weeks in April. Please make sure you come back and order beginning April 15.



Scrip is a great way to raise money for our new playground without costing you anything. Simply order scrip cards from your favorite stores and use them like cash when you shop. Forms are on our website and on the bulletin

board outside the library at church. Orders are taken every Sunday in the office and are delivered the following week. It really is that simple.

LL Bean is up to 16% back and we are excited to announce that Dominoes Pizza is now on the list. Spring is in the air and that usually means home improvements. Think about a Lowe's or Home Depot scrip card. We have raised a bit over \$700 since we began in December. Thank you to the individuals that scrip regularly. Please consider scripping for your next purchase.



## Youth C.R.E.W. News



## Upcoming Youth Events

May 12 Race for the Cure

July 8-14 Impact Richmond

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## CROSS TRAINER



### 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Group

The Cross Trainers youth group meets on Sundays from 12:15-2:00 at the Youth F.I.R.E. House located next to the church. Bring a lunch.

We play games, talk about tween issues and meet kids our age at Providence. For more information about this ministry, Contact Susan Clark or Isabelle Sullivan at the church office 276-4289.

### Easter Sunday April 8

No Cross Trainers meeting. Enjoy the day with your family.

### Global Youth Service Day

April 22 is Earth Day and Global Youth Service Day so we are going to help our community by going to A. M. Davis to plant a garden for the elementary school. This event requires a permission form and will be held during normal Cross Trainer hours. Bring garden tools and gloves.

### Dinner Volunteers

A great way to support youth ministries is to provide dinner on a Sunday night. We always need volunteers. Sign ups are done online at [www.takethemameal.com](http://www.takethemameal.com). The two passwords you need are Youth and Group. It will give you all the information you need and even an email reminder!

### Easter Sunday April 8

Youth C.R.E.W. will not meet Sunday night. Enjoy the day with your family.

### Global Youth Service Day

April 22 is Earth Day and Global Youth Service Day so we are going to help our community by going to A.M. Davis to clean up, repair, and plant flowers in the wooded trails. This event requires a permission form and will be held during normal youth group hours.

### Youth Council Meeting

Our next youth council meeting will be April 4 (Wednesday night) from 6:15-7:15 in Room 206. We will plan spring and summer fun events.

## THE RACE TO NOWHERE

A “must-see” film for all parents

COMING TO PUMC

Tuesday, April 24, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

You may have heard about this movie, as it has been generating much discussion among parents and educators alike. This is a great opportunity to view the film FREE OF CHARGE but you must have a ticket. All you have to do is register online to reserve a seat at:

<http://www.racetonowhere.com/epostcard/5850>



### About the Film

A concerned mother turned filmmaker aims her camera at the high-stakes, high-pressure culture that has invaded our schools and our children's lives.

Featuring the heartbreaking stories of young people across the country who have been pushed to the brink, educators who are burned out and worried that students aren't developing the skills they need, and parents who are trying to do what's best for their kids, **Race to Nowhere** points to the silent epidemic in our schools: cheating has become commonplace, students have become disengaged, stress-related illness, depression and burnout are rampant, and young people arrive at college and the workplace unprepared and uninspired.

**Race to Nowhere** is a call to mobilize families, educators, and policy makers to challenge current assumptions on how to best prepare the youth of America to become healthy, bright, contributing and leading citizens. Organizations nationwide are hosting community screenings, and tens of thousands of people are coming together, using the film as the centerpiece for raising awareness, radically changing the national dialogue on education and galvanizing change.

**Please note:** This movie is not for young children and has a PG13 rating due to discussion of serious teen and adolescent issues.

**WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US FOR THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY!**

## Mission Matters

Did you know that Providence has many areas under the Mission Umbrella?

Our **Easter Offering** will be going to three different missions this year:

- UMFS (United Methodist Family Services) provides residential care for teens, adoption and foster care services, and support for families.
- Haiti: Solar Oven Project provides solar ovens and training seminars for their use.
- Society of St. Andrew provides direct relief to the hungry through their programs.

Peas, radishes, onions and kale have been planted in our **Mission Garden**. Soon it will be harvest time and you will have an opportunity to help pick, shell, and get the fruits of our labor ready for use. Come dig with us on Monday mornings.

**Support UMUMR** (United Methodist Urban Ministries of Richmond). Bring some color to

your world just as Jesus brings color and warmth to your heart. See Shirley Collins to purchase Geraniums for \$4.50 for a 4-1/2" pot.

**Golf Benefit** for Upward Soccer, to be held April 9 at Meadowbrook Country Club. Sponsor a hole for \$60 or participate for \$70. Registration forms can be obtained on the church website or in the office. Contact Joe Gillette (745-3182) for more information.

UMVIM (United Methodist Volunteers in Missions). Get trained to help organize a team from Providence for disaster repairs. Training is offered:

- Saturday, April 17, Farmville UMC
- Saturday, June 2, Floris UMC in Herndon, VA
- Saturday, October 13, Timberlake UMC in Lynchburg.

All sessions start at 9:30 and end at 3:30. If you feel led, please contact me at:

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

~ Sue Duganne

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## Small Group For Men

PUMC invites the community, friends, and neighbors to COURAGEOUS, a small group study for men. Based on the movie, **Courageous**, this Bible study helps strengthen families and fathers.

The study focuses on:

- Family: serving, protecting, and casting a vision for their family

- Priorities: focusing on eternal things rather than what is temporary
- Legacy: recognizing a father's potential impact as a godly role model
- Faith: strengthening a father's identity in Christ, increasing in wisdom

This opportunity begins April 21, 10:30-12:00, in Room 309. It will be led by Ron White and Dave Long. Sign up by calling the church office or on the clip boards on Sundays.

## *Providence United Methodist Church*

*Belong. Be transformed. Make a difference.*

### **Sunday**

8:30 am	Coffee Social Time
9:00 am	Connections Worship Service
9:45 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Traditional Worship Service
4:30 pm	Pass It On Choir
5:30 pm	Youth
6:30 pm	Bells of Providence
7:30 pm	Ministry in Motion Rehearsal

### **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

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

**\*\*\*NEWSLETTER MAILED March 21\*\*\*  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

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