

Providence United Methodist Church

Belong. Be transformed. Make a difference.

November 2011

Gleaning is for All Ages

On November 5, our church will go gleaning for winter squash. You may ask, what is gleaning? It is picking fruits or vegetables that are still delicious and good to eat, but the farmer does not want. Children, youth, adults, and families are welcome to participate. Activities will include picking the squash, putting them in bags, and loading the trucks which will take them to local food pantries. The gleaning will take place at Gallmeyer Farm, 4506 Millers Lane, Richmond, VA 23231 (east of Richmond near the Airport).

We meet at 8:15 a.m. at Providence to carpool, or you may go directly to the farm. The event begins at 9:00 a.m. Garden gloves, an old knife or clippers may be helpful. Stay an hour or several, as your schedule allows. This event is organized by the Society of St. Andrew and provides that food, which would ordinarily go to waste, gets to people who are hungry.



Pastor's Note

We all have something to give. Every week, there are people who volunteer in the church office doing really important work. Every Sunday, there are people who lead Sunday School classes teaching really important things. Every month, there are people who are feeding the hungry at Centenary UMC, sharing life-giving food. The opportunities go on and on. If you ever doubted that the church is the people, look at the calendar in the newsletter every month. See all the ways that people lead, give, serve, teach, plan, cook, and share through Providence UMC.

We all have something to give financially as well.

This statement is attributed to John Wesley: **Make all you can, save all you can, and give away all you can.** We will explore this concept through the scriptures more on November 20. These challenging economic days shed a new light on "making and saving all we can." Yet, we also want to give . . . all we can. We know that it creates amazing possibilities when all our gifts are combined together to support the carefully budgeted, yet visionary ministries of Providence. Thank you for carefully, prayerfully considering how God is calling you to give in the days ahead. 2012 will be a challenging year...but we will do it...doing all we can together.



Pastor Mary Beth

Worship in November

Nov 6	“We Are Blessed?” All Saints Sunday Holy Communion	Revelation 7:9-17 Matthew 5:1-12	Soloist: Emma Breeden
Nov 13	“Make, Save and Give All You Can”	2 Corinthians 9:6-15 Luke 16:1-3	Duet: Betty Gregory and Jackie Hargrave
Nov 20	“It’s All God” Commitment Sunday	Psalm 24 1 Peter 4:7-11	Rachael Harvey, Cello
Nov 27	“Active Watching While We Wait” First Sunday in Advent	Isaiah 64:1-9 Mark 13:24-27	Lighting of the Advent Wreath

CARITAS 2012

PUMC will be starting off the New Year full speed ahead by hosting CARITAS from Monday, January 2 through Friday, January 6. The CARITAS program has been blessed with filling all of



their slots through April, 2012; but there is a need to host single women during this first short week of the year. For the past several years we have been hosting families, so the need for material donations that our congregation has so generously offered during those years will greatly decrease. I will still continue my mission of "a warm coat that fits and zips" for any guest who does not have one; so a small monetary donation will fill this need. We will also continue with the BINGO games, so GRTC Bus Passes (available at CVS), per-

sonal care items, such as hand & body lotions, and hats, scarves and gloves will also be appreciated. Please watch for the sign-up board to volunteer to provide a dinner, pack lunches, take home a bag of laundry, or be a chaperone for the evening. I know that our congregation will be blessed in providing this desperately needed service for those in need of a hand up in securing permanent housing.

Thank You,
Brenda Woodward
CARITAS Key Volunteer

Weekend Food Program

PUMC is asked to participate in the weekend Backpack Meal Program for certain A.M. Davis students. This project began with the Central Virginia Food Bank to fill a nutrition gap for students who do not have food over the weekend. It provides six meals per weekend to students in schools meeting certain needs requirements. Average cost for other organizations to implement this program is about \$12.00 per student per weekend.



Last year, Woodlake UMC provided weekend “backpacks” of food for six balanced meals for 16 students at A.M. Davis. This summer PUMC provided food for meals for the three-day weekends for six summer school students for six weeks for about \$400.00.

This year, the A.M. Davis counselor has identified 45 students who would benefit from this meal program. You may help in this project by committing to providing for one or more students for the remainder of the year or by making donations to the project. Donations may be put in the offering designated for the **Davis Backpack Meal Program** or left in the church office.

Christmas is Coming

Christmas is just around the corner and PUMC will be “adopting” some Davis elementary school families again this year. Last Christmas, eight families received a PUMC Christmas. If you would like to participate as a group, family, or individual you may contact Jane Logan by email jaine2115@live.com or by phone at 276-2228. We need to know by **November 11** so we can work with the school counselor. Donations also may be put in the offering designated for **Davis Christmas** or left in the church office.



We Think About Giving

“**Honor the Lord** with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.”

- - Proverbs 3:9-10

What does it mean to give “sacrificially?” Rather than the small gifts we often give without much thought or planning, like putting a dollar in the fireman’s boot or buying candy from a fundraiser, a sacrificial gift represents a significant portion of our finances. Budgeting and planning is required to make such a gift a reality. As Christians we strive towards a 10% “tithe” of our income which is, well, a sacrifice especially when budgets are tight. Giving in this way represents trust in God, Christ-centered priorities, and compassion for our neighbors. As we trust God, our faith is strengthened and happiness increases. Want proof? Take the challenge of bringing your “sacrifices” to the Lord for the next year, and watch how faithful your God is.

Christopher Wilms
Stewardship



Communion Preparers—Nov 6

8:45 Linda Koertge
11:00 Judy Miles

Grass Cutters

Nov 6 John Bradley (Area 2)
Nov 13 Steve Reese (Area 1)
Nov 20 Bobby Wood (Area 2)

Acolytes

Nov 6—*Communion*
8:45 Emma McConnell
11:00 Rachael Harvey

Nov 13
8:45 Tristan Kellam
11:00 Andrew Bowers

Nov 20
8:45 Molly Roberson
11:00 Emily Kyser

Nov 27
8:45 Emily Kyser
11:00 Emma McConnell

Audio / Video

Nov 6 Brad Wootten
Nov 13 Bob Gillie
Nov 20 Russ Byers
Nov 27 Russ Byers

Sanctuary Organizers

Jean Winfree
Nickie Price

Counter Captains

Nov 6 Gary Wright
Nov 13 Jimmy Sculthorpe
Nov 20 Klaus Worrell
Nov 27 Hugh Miles

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 Carolyn Bilski
11:00 Jean & Nicole Riekers

Name Tags

Nov 6 Ginny Thompson
Nov 13 Amy Mott
Nov 20 Emma Fleenor
Nov 27 Gracie Martin

Nursery

Nov 6
8:45 Lori Justice
SS Pam Groome
11:00 Laurie Breeden
Jennifer Ostrum
Nov 13
8:45 Kelly Horne
SS Wendy Collins
11:00 Mike & Wendy Collins
Nov 20
8:45 Linda Koertge
SS Ann Busbee
11:00 Sean & Lindsey Collins
Nov 27
8:45 Jennifer Ostrum
SS Jane Gilliam
11:00 Shirley Collins
Susan Worrell



The Education Committee has ordered Advent devotional material to help you prepare your hearts and minds for the coming of Christ during the Advent season. These devotions will be available in the library beginning November 20.

Pancakes Anyone?

The United Methodist Men will host a pancake and sausage dinner on **November 12** at 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$6.00 and tickets are available from any UMM.



United Methodist Women

Newton Circle, Tuesday, November 1, 7:00 p.m., at Judy Dotson's home.

Laughon Circle, Tuesday, November 8, at 10:30 a.m., at church.

Gregory Circle, Thursday, November 10, at 7:00 p.m.

Whitt Circle, Tuesday, November 15, at 10:30 a.m. at church.



The UMW will provide a chili dinner on Wednesday, November 16, at 5:30 p.m. at church.

The UMW **Bake Sale** will be Sunday morning, November 20, before and after worship services.

The UMW **Executive Board Meeting** will be on Monday, November 28, at 6:30 p.m.

Upcoming: Monday, December 5, **Unit Christmas Party** at 6:30 p.m. Covered dish!

Youth C.R.E.W. News



Christians Reaching Everyone World Wide

God's Creation Calendars For Sale!

We are selling 2012 God's Creation calendars in the library after both services. The cost is \$6.00. Please make checks payable to Providence Youth.

Yard Sale Donations

Thank you for all the donations to the youth yard sale! The garage was packed with items to help us raise money for 30 Hour Famine and Eagle Eyrie Retreat.

Youth Council Planning Night

A meeting for planning the remainder of the year is Friday night, **November 11** from 6:00-10:00. Dinner will be provided.

Project Homeless Connect

November 16 we are going to help set up and organize donated items for the Project Homeless in Richmond. Meet in the social hall at 4:00 to go to the Richmond Convention Center. Bring snacks and a drink.

No Youth November 27

Happy Thanksgiving!

Deadlines

Mid-Week Update	Tuesdays, Noon
Bulletin	Wednesdays, Noon
Newsletter	15th of each month*

*unless another date is announced due to weekends or holidays.

MISSIONS

The holidays are fast approaching and as we celebrate with our families and friends and give thanks to God for our many blessings we also have many opportunities to help others around our community, nation, and world who are in need.

This year's **Thanksgiving** offering will benefit CCHASM (Chesterfield, Colonial Heights Alliance for Social Ministries). CCHASM provides emergency assistance through food, financial assistance and career clothing to area residents in Chesterfield, Colonial Heights, Hopewell, and Prince George. For more information visit www.cchasm.org.

This year's **Advent** offering will benefit UMUMR (United Methodist Urban Ministries of Richmond). The mission of UMUMR is to facilitate collaborative partnerships among individuals, congregations, and organizations to assure food security, educational supports,

affordable housing, healthcare, and faith development in Greater Richmond: Connecting Greater Richmond for Community. For more information on UMUMR visit www.umumr.org.

This year's Christmas offering will be divided equally between *Branches of Florida City and *Pathways. (Pathways provides resources through an on-site medical clinic, visiting dental care, wellness workshops, advocacy and referrals, and counseling and support for mental and physical challenges and addictions in Petersburg and surrounding areas.) For information on the medical program of Pathways and it's many other programs visit www.pathways-va.org.

*Haiti's Children's Project (Partnering with the Haiti Methodist Church to provide a clean, safe home for homeless children).

Valerie Reese
Missions



PUMC Missions will once again be participating in Homeward's Project Homeless Connect at the Richmond Coliseum. This year's count will be held on November 17, 2011. There will be many opportunities to help with this mission. Help of all ages is needed to load trucks and help set up at the Richmond Coliseum on No-

vember 16 and individuals age 18 or older are needed to help on November 17. The items needed most are adult size socks, hats, gloves, scarves, sweaters, coats, boots, granola bars, razors and reusable shopping bags. Please leave these items in the bin labeled "Homeward" by the Missions table. Contact Valerie Reese at 909-3659 or Mary Lou Robinson at 739-2991 for more information or for information on Homeward visit www.homewardva.org.

Can you help us find addresses for some of these church members?

If so, please contact the church office by email at providenceumc@providenceumc.net or by phone at 276-4289.

MALLORY, Garnett III, 1985
MC MANN, Kevin, 1992
MC MANN, Robin, 1992
MICHENER, Tom, 1983
MILLER, Michael, 1981
MILLS, Nancy, 1986
MITCHELL, Phyllis, 1999
MITCHELL, Toby, 1999
MOORE, Martin, 1971
MORT, Karen
MORT, Matthew
MORT, Nathan
NYMAN, Jennifer, 1986
PARKER, Larry, 1985
PARKER, Lori, 1985
PARKIN, Bob, 1985
PARKIN, Jo, 1985
PUGH, Sharon, 1986
QUESENBERRY, Quwin Jr.,
1965
RAINEY, Bonnie, 1986
RASH, Peggy, 1972

RASH, Bob, 1972
REINHARD, Mark, 1995
RICHMOND, Lynn, 1995
RICHMOND, Rob, 1995
ROBINSON, Pat, 1974
ROCKWELL, Gil Jr., 1977
ROCKWELL, Marilyn, 1977
ROCKWELL, Paul, 1981
ROLFE, Denise, 1988
ROLFE, Richard, 1988
ROZUM, Greg, 1987
ROZUM, Suzanne, 1982
SCRUGGS, Cherie, 1988
SEAL, Beverly, Jr., 1967
SEAY, Randy, 1973
SEVERANCE, Janie, 1988
SHOWALTER, Jeff, 1994
SHOWALTER, Tim, 1994
SNYDER, Matthew, 1995
SULANKE, Mark, 1988
SWANSON, Ken, 2001
TETU, Dale, 1997

TETU, Eric, 1997
TOMPKINS, Mary, 1986
TURNER, Rhonda, 1978
UNGER, Lu
UNGER, Michael
WAGNER, Kenneth, 2004
WALTERS, John, 1981
WEEMS, Rick, 1995
WILLIAMS, Jane, 1965
WILSON, Diane, 1978
WISE, Susan
WOODS, Gary, 1968
WOODS, George, 1968
WOODS, Alex
WOODS, Keith
WOODS Lynda
WOODS, Pam, 1977
WOODS, Susan, 1968
WOODY, Allen, 1986
WOODY, Corinne, 1986
WORTHY, Kevin, 1996

Invite a Guest for First Wednesday

On November 2, our Wednesday Night Dinner is provided free for our guests. Who are our guests? Neighbors in the community, Upward Soccer families, preschool families, and anyone YOU may invite to attend. We will extend Christian hospitality to those who want a delicious, hot meal, who are looking for a place to belong, or who simply want to find out more about this place we call Providence. Make your reservations for dinner (providenceumc.net), then invite someone to come with you.



Miss Sunday's Sermon?

Check
www.providenceumc.net
for audio recordings
of Pastor Mary Beth's
sermons.



Church Family News and Notes

Blessings on Matthew James Gaudette, son of Patrick and Julie Gaudette, who was baptized on Sunday, October 9. His grandparents are Peg Martin and Bill Manner-ing.



May God bless Hannah Malisa Stnons, daughter of Matt and Lisa Stnons, who was baptized on Sunday, October 23. Her grandparents are Janice and John Bradley.

Matthew and Hannah have been placed on the baptized roll of PUMC.



Our prayers of sympathy go to the friends and family of Mary Johns, who died on October 11.

Our prayers of sympathy also are offered to the family of Al Riekers, who also died on October 11.

Your prayers, cards, calls and concerns are appreciated more than you can imagine - many thanks!



Special thanks to Mary Beth for her inspirational visits, Klaus for his outstanding card and T. L. for Clyde's haircuts.

Love,
Clyde & Virginia Randall

For the many cards, calls, visits and prayers during Roland's illness and passing, we want you all to know how deeply appreciated each and every one was.

God Bless,
Isabell Bodtke,
Steve Bodtke and his family
Diane Bodtke Ray and her family

Thank you so much for honoring me with the Lifetime Member pin in the UMW. I am very appreciative of the award and for getting to work with such a great group of women.

Mary Elliott



All Saints' Sunday, November 6, will give our church an opportunity to honor those in our congregation who have died during the last year. Families and other loved ones are invited to join us for these special services at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

UPDATES TO OUR 2011 DIRECTORY

ADD:

Barden, Jordan, 804-291-6862

LaRue, Bill, 701 E. Sunrise Five Way, Apt. C,
Richmond, VA 23236, 703-586-3173

Overby, Debbie, 8806 Cherokee Rd., Rich-
mond, VA 23235

CHANGES:

Bolte, Joy, 1151 S. Main Street, Apt. 320,
Wake Forest, NC 27587-9661

Bowers, Robin, P. O. Box 74936, Richmond,
VA 23236

Ely, Terry, 207 N. Ivy Avenue, Henrico, VA
23075

Ely, Gayle, no change

Hietala, Jerry & Carolyn, change to Hietala,
Carolyn Quesenberry, 8300 Elkhardt Rd., Rich-
mond, VA 23235

Long, Dave & Carey, change phone to 804-
276-9494

Mallory, Daniel & Christa Coaker, change city
to Cayce, SC - no phone

Reese, Steve & Valerie, change phone to 804-
909-3659

Whitby, David & Amery, add Lynley

Winstead, George & Carolyn, change
George's email to geowinstead@verizon.net



Watch for it: An informative letter with your estimate of giving card for 2012 will be mailed to you in the next few weeks. On **Sunday, November 20**, you are invited to bring your card with you to worship and offer it to God on Commitment Sunday.

Many thanks to those who tend the Church garden. The preschool children were able to go out to the "Pumpkin Patch" in October and pick a pumpkin. What a great opportunity for the children to see how pumpkins grow! Thanks to all who helped.



Congratulations and a big thank you to the Providence Youth (and adults who assisted) for the great improvements to the Dragon Trail at A.M. Davis! Not only was the trail cleaned and made beautiful, but benches were made. Look for pictures on the Youth bulletin board in the near future.

Our Preschool Makes a Difference in the Community

PUMC Preschool is an inclusive preschool which means we welcome students who have special needs. We work with Chesterfield County Exceptional Education to offer these students an opportunity to take part in our classes. Additionally, we serve as the site for a Natural Environment Exceptional Education class. We are glad to be able to address the needs of our community, and make a difference to the children and their families. Reaching out to children with special needs is an important part of our mission, and it is very rewarding to watch the children develop through-

out the year as we prepare them for Kindergarten and beyond.

November is a month of THANKS, and the Preschool staff



is THANKFUL for the blessing of being able to work with the wonderful children every day, as well as for the support that we receive from all of you. Happy Thanksgiving from all of us!

Charlotte Cervarich
Director, Preschool Ministries

Update from the



While year to date giving overall outpaces last year to date, the last couple of months have seen lower receipts and higher than normal expenses, including the unexpected repair of a water line in the parking lot and some plumbing expenses. Attendance one Sunday was severely affected by the hurricane, and giving in September was also down. Despite this, our church provided relief to those affected by the storm, and we are reaching out to the community with God's love as never before. Providence is committed to keeping all of our won-

derful ministries funded, and in order to ensure sufficient operating reserves, it was prudent to defer the most recent apportionment payment. Apportionments help fund the worldwide United Methodist Church, spreading God's love throughout the world. Providence is committed to our apportionment obligations, and through your faithful giving we can fulfill our local and global mission.

There is excitement in the air at Providence UMC. We are inviting the community to dine with us, experience worship with us, play soccer and camp on our grounds, and to share the joy of a relationship with Jesus Christ. As you look at all the exciting work God has given our church to do, I invite you to be a part of it by giving generously to Providence UMC.

Worship Plans Shared With Congregation

At recent congregation-wide meetings, the worship task force shared information about offering two different worship experiences. This goal had been set in January by our church council. The task force, which has been in prayerful discernment for five months, is proposing this plan:

- The purpose of offering two different services is to **reach people for Jesus Christ**. The new service may appeal to people who are unchurched or have not attended recently.
- The 8:45 a.m. service will move to 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 9:45 a.m. beginning March 4, 2012.
- The service will be less formal; more piano, guitars and other instruments and less organ; more participation by the congregation; more use of visuals; more creative; include a wide variety of music.
- The target audience will be families with children and other young people based on demographic information which points to growth in our area. All ages will be welcome and encouraged to attend.
- A fellowship time will be provided before the service.

The task force is taking seriously questions that the congregation has raised during these meetings such as:

- How can we make sure that Sunday School classes have enough time? We continue to examine ways to ensure this priority for our education program.

- What exactly will the new service look like? Recently, our “Hurricane Irene” service on August 28 and our outdoor services this summer are examples of a less formal service. We will be including various elements of this service type in the weeks and months ahead.
- How will you evaluate and improve on the service once it starts? There will be a plan to evaluate each week’s service, and at periodic intervals to judge effectiveness not only by numbers attending, but also whether participants are inspired to love and serve God.
- Who will plan the service? The pastor, our music director, and a team of church members will meet regularly to plan the service.
- Will the sermon be different? Please pray for Pastor Mary Beth as she tries to figure all this out!
- What will happen to the people who currently attend the 8:45 service? We hope that each person in our congregation will feel at home either at the new service or at the more traditional 11:00 service. We know this will be a big change for all of us and we are seeking God through it.
- If it is such a big change, why are you doing it? The purpose of the church, according to Matthew 28:19, is to make disciples of Jesus Christ. We must find ways to reach those who do not yet know God’s amazing grace. It is why we exist.



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Sunday

8:45 am	Worship Service
9:45 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship Service
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 October 26 ***
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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