

First Sunday in Advent
November 27, 2011

THE CHURCH GATHERS

Prelude "Psalm Prelude Set 2, No. 2" Herbert Howells
"...even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright
as the day, for darkness is as light to you." Psalm 139:2

Welcome/Announcements

+Greeting*

Leader: Awake from sleep!

People: Raise weary bodies.

Leader: Light a candle in the cold and dark.

People: One candle to chase away the night and herald the coming light.

Leader: This is the time of readying the heart.

People: This is the day for first steps toward the stable. Come, let us adore him!

+Hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" UMH 196

Lighting of the Advent Wreath*

8:45 Bill Mannering and Peg Martin, Julie, Patrick and Matthew Gaudette

11:00 Galen and Lois Reil

Leader: We light the Advent wreath, praying that our preparation for Christmas may help us to look outward in love, and look forward in hope.

People: Living Christ, light of the world, give us the warmth of your love.

Song* M. and J. Biery

*Emmanuel comes! Our Savior is near! This candle now burns with a message so clear:
Emmanuel comes! Our Savior is near! God's kingdom is coming, God's kingdom is here!*

TO HEAR THE WORD

A Time with the Children

Old Testament Reading* Isaiah 64:1-9 **Thanks be to God.**

Musical Offering "O Thou That Tellest Good Tidings to Zion" G. F. Handel
Ellen Fleenor, soloist

New Testament Reading* Mark 13:24-37 **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "Worth the Wait"

TO RESPOND IN FAITH

Hymn* "Change My Heart, O God" FWS 2152

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

Offertory "Savior of the Nations Come" J. S. Bach

+Response* "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH 94

+Prayer of Dedication

AND SCATTERS TO BE THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

+Hymn "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" UMH 206

+Benediction

+Postlude Improvisation on "Hyfrydol"

Thank you for silencing all electronic devices.

UMH = United Methodist Hymnal (Red)

*Words Projected

FWS = The Faith We Sing (Black)

+Please stand as you are able

Greeters: (8:45) Carolyn Bilski (11:00) Jean and Nicole Riekers
 Acolytes: (8:45) Emily Kyser (11:00) Emma McConnell
 Nursery: (8:45) Jennifer Ostrum (Sunday School) Jane Gilliam
 (11:00) Shirley Collins, Susan Worrell
 Counters: Hugh Miles, Captain
 Ushers: (8:45) Bill Blankenship, Neal Fleenor, Ron White
 (11:00) Mike Patterson, Bobby Burton, Ed Harper, Bobby Johnson,
 Tom Koertge, Ralph Vernon, Bobby Wood
 Readers: (8:45) Jane Logan (11:00) Pat Loud
 Audio/Visual Team: Russ Byers' Team
 Name Tag Organizer: Gracie Martin
 Sanctuary Organizers: Nickie Price and Jean Winfree

The altar flowers are presented to the glory of God and in honor of Bill's birthday and their 35th anniversary by Bill Mannerling and Peg Martin.

The flowers on the left in the narthex are presented to the glory of God, and in honor of our daughter Ashley on her Sweet 16th birthday. We are thankful that God has blessed us with such a truly wonderful daughter and we are truly blessed to have such joy in our lives. Thank you for being such a treasure...we love you! Now and Always! Dad and Kathleen.

The flowers on the right in the narthex are presented to the glory of God in gratitude for the PUMC Missions Team and all PUMC volunteers who provided the personal touch at Homeward's Project Homeless Connect by Kelly King Horne.

CCLI License #1495687

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Pastor	(home: 562-5169, Marybeth.blinn@providenceumc.net)
Director of Music Ministries	music.edwards@gmail.com
Director of Youth Ministries	Susan.Clark@providenceumc.net
Director of Christian Education	Isabelle.Sullivan@providenceumc.net
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Custodial Services	
Nursery Worker	
Our Covenant Missionary	

Mary Beth Blinn
Beverley R. Edwards
Susan M. Clark
Isabelle Sullivan
Charlotte S. Cervarich
Kathleen M. Smith
Linda M. Collins
William J. Duganne
April Basham
Kim King Torres



Providence United Methodist Church

November 27, 2011

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, November 27

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Services

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

No afternoon or evening activities

Monday, November 28

10:00 a.m. Line Dancing Class (Room 309)

6:30 p.m. United Methodist Women's Executive Board (Library)

7:00 p.m. Disciple 4 (Room 309)

7:30 p.m. Endowment Committee (Room 206)

Tuesday, November 29

10:00 a.m. Quilters (Room 206)

11:00 a.m. Bible Study (Library)

6:30 p.m. Disciple 1 (Room 206)

6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts (Third Floor)

6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (Social Hall)

7:00 p.m. Charge Conference (Chapel)

Wednesday, November 30

5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner (Social Hall)

6:00-6:45 p.m. KC Jam (Room 306)

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday, December 1

6:30 p.m. Family Council (Library)

7:00 p.m. Morning Glory Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Friday, December 2

6:30 p.m. Newton Circle Meeting (with Pam Groome)

8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous (Room 309)

Sunday, December 4

8:45 a.m. Worship service

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

11:00 a.m. Hanging of the Greens

12:00 p.m. Turkey Dinner sponsored by the United Methodist Men (Social Hall)

4:30 p.m. Pass It On Choir (Sanctuary)

5:30 p.m. Youth

6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts (Room 309)

7:00 p.m. Bells of Providence

Welcome, guests. We're glad you're here!

- Children's worship bags and age-appropriate worship activity bulletins are available in the foyer.
- Colorful bags at the back have helpful information.
- Restrooms are located on the main hall to the left.
- Name tags can be found on the clipboards in the pews.
- Assisted listening devices and large print hymnals are available. Ask an usher for assistance.
- A nursery is offered as an option for our children newborn through age four (located downstairs).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

You may continue to offer your commitments to the **2012 ministries** of our church through our financial gifts. Commitment cards are available in the pew racks and may be placed in the offering.

Sign up for Wednesday Night Dinner today. Chicken casserole, salad, baked apples, dessert.

Wednesday night dinners will be offered for the next three weeks, November 30, December 7 and December 14. Who will you invite to come with you on December 7, when our community guests eat free?

Advent devotional booklets are available today in the foyer. Please take one for you and your family. The season of Advent begins today and includes four weeks of spiritual preparations for Christmas.

Our **Annual Charge Conference** will be held this Tuesday, November 29 at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel. All Church Council members, plus the pastor and retired elders (clergy) in our congregation, are members of the Charge Conference. All persons in the congregation are welcome to attend. The agenda will include reporting of the year past, election of officers for 2012, and other business.

Next Sunday the **Hanging of the Greens** Service will be held at 11:00 a.m. A service of Holy Communion will be offered at 8:45. Everyone is invited to enjoy a **turkey luncheon** following worship in the social hall. Sign up today if you would like to attend

A. M. Davis Elementary School participates in the Campbell Soup labels, "Boxtops" for Education, and the Martin's School Rewards Program. A box will be placed near Room 206 for the labels and "Boxtops". The Davis number for Martin's School Rewards is 03151. Use it to register your purchases for Davis. Thank you for all the little and big contributions you make for Davis.

Does your neighborhood have a newsletter? Let us know today on the clipboards.

Thank you, volunteers who are **adopting** three Davis elementary school families. If you would like to participate as a group, family, or individual, you may contact Jane Logan at 276-2228. Donations also may be put in the offering designated for Davis Christmas or left in the church office.

Did you know that children in our community are **hungry this weekend**? There are 25 students at A.M. Davis Elementary School who need meals on the weekends. For \$12 a week or \$324 for the remainder of the school year, you can provide food for these students to feed them until they return to school each Monday. If you are interested in making contributions to this program, please contact the church office or Wendy Collins (Email: MrsCollins17@aol.com or 804-276-2418) as soon as possible. If you would like to pay by check, please write the check payable to the church, with “Backpack Program” on the memo line.

The Christian Builders Sunday School Class is using the **Cokesbury Adult Bible Studies** (International Bible Lessons for Christian Teachings). In December, we will be looking at passages from Genesis, Exodus, Luke, and Galatians. The themes are: God’s Covenant, God’s Protection, and God’s Redemption. We have four teachers that rotate and would welcome anyone interested in Bible-based studies. We meet in Room 206 at 9:45 each Sunday. --Diane King (276-0469)

The Living Word Sunday School Class (Room 303) will be studying the book, “The Journey-Walking the Road to Bethlehem” during the season of Advent on Sundays at 9:45. Join us!

Would you like to make a child happy at Christmas? Mary Lou Robinson will be in the Library after the eleven o’clock service today with **stockings provided by The Salvation Army**. Please stop by and pick up as many as you would like to fill. **Filled stockings must be returned by December 4.**

You may place fresh flowers in the church in 2012. The Flower Chart for 2012 has been posted in the hall across from the name tags. Please complete the forms at the bottom of the calendar and place them in the Staff Mail Slot by the Church Office door (top left corner).

The **zoning permit sign** in the front yard of the church is for the required application for a provisional use permit for the continued operation of our Preschool in an Agricultural Zone. If you have questions, contact Glenn Jones, Trustees’ Chairperson, at 330-5946.

Mark your calendar for December 7 for **One Starry Night**, an indoor interactive walkthrough of Mary’s journey to Bethlehem. The event is 6-8 p.m.; walkthroughs take about 30 minutes.

Would you like to participate in the **nativity** during the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service? Just dressing up and acting—no speaking parts. We need Mary, Joseph, Shepherds, Wise Men, and Angel Gabriel. Please consider being a part of this very special Family Service. Call Carla Wootten at 276-5683 or email her at cwootten@comcast.net.

This year’s Advent offering will benefit UMUMR (United Methodist Urban Ministries of Richmond). The mission of UMUMR is to facilitate collaborative partnerships. This year’s Christmas Offering (special envelope in your packet, or designate your check) will be divided equally between the following: Branches of Florida City, Pathways, and Haiti’s Children’s Project. More details may be found in your December newsletter.

PRAYER MINISTRY

Hospitalized: Janet Fattizzi (Johnston-Willis)

Church-wide Prayer Request: for the Worship Task Force and our congregation as we discern how God is leading us to offer two different worship experiences.

The prayer request forms are located on the clipboards and may be placed in the offering plate or left in the office. In order to keep our GATHERED PRAYER CONCERNS list up-to-date, names will remain in the bulletin for four weeks. You may resubmit a request at any time.

Our gathered prayer concerns: Helen Bowman (Laurels of Bon Air), The Family of LaVearn Everett (following her death on November 12), The Family of Alma Groome, Beth Hastings (Ruby Agee’s daughter), Sally Hunter (grandmother of Glenn Jones), Effie Jamison, Gilda Jordan, Ruby Milby, Catherine Milholen (home from the hospital), Jeannette Wilson and family (on the death of her brother, Roland Dean Newcomb), Clyde Randall, Dr. Barbara A. Ritch-Brant, William Viehl (Kathy Kincaid’s cousin), Special unnamed request submitted through the website, A. M. Davis students, faculty, and staff

Our service men and women, wherever they serve, and their families.

Julia Berger	Kevin Judd	Megan Thomas Clark	Bobby Swanson
Nathan Berger	Kenneth Wagner	Brent Davis	Jennifer Collins
Hunter Blankenship	Wayne Lee	Brian Wilson	David Dias
Bob Muchow	Matt Latimer		

Providence Church has an email Prayer Ministry. Please call the Church Office at 276-4289 if you have an immediate need for yourself or a family member.

Metro Richmond Prayer for November 27, 2011: We pray for persons in financial need in Metropolitan Richmond: For the inclusion of all, regardless of race, age, or jurisdiction of residence, in the economic health of Metropolitan Richmond; for effective, affordable, regional public transportation.

If you feel led to Christian baptism or would like to transfer your membership to Providence, please contact Pastor Mary Beth Blinn at 276-4289 or Marybeth.blinn@providenceumc.net.

God’s Creation 2012 calendars are still available from the youth. The cost is \$6.00. Checks should be written to “Providence Youth.”