

Greeters: (8:45) Patty Wright (11:00) Phyllis Ranger & Molly Roberson
 Acolytes: (8:45) Winton Justice (11:00) Gabrielle Sullivan
 Nursery: (8:45) Ann Busbee (Sunday School) Wendy Collins
 (11:00) Mike and Wendy Collins
 Counters: Klaus Worrell, Captain
 Ushers: (8:45) Bill Blankenship, Chris Healy, Carolyn Bilski
 (11:00) David Sommer, Lee Bradshaw, Bob Fitch, Linwood Hudson,
 T. L. Jenkins, Stuart Watkins, George Winstead
 Readers: Don Kyser and Laurie Breeden (both services)
 Audio/Visual Team: Russ Byers and Keith King
 Name Tag Organizer: Kyser Family
 Sanctuary Organizer: Bob Gillie

We give these flowers to God to say "Thank You" for His most wonderful gift to the world – Jesus. We pray everyone will place Jesus in their hearts this Christmas. (Mike and Cathy Patterson)

The narthex flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of their grandson, Jackson, for his fifth birthday by Abby and Rob Heare.

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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 |
| Director of Preschool Ministries | Preschool@providenceumc.net |
| Church Secretary | Kathy.Smith@providenceumc.net |
| Office Assistant | Linda.Collins@providenceumc.net |
| Custodial Services | |
| Nursery Attendant | |
| Our Covenant Missionary | |

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|------------------------|
| 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

December 18, 2011

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 18

- 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. Worship Services (Cantata at both services)
- 9:45 a.m. Birthday Party for Jesus (Social Hall)
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 12:15 p.m. Called Church Council Meeting (Room 309)
- 4:00 p.m. Longest Night Service (Chapel)
- 4:30 p.m. Pass It On Choir (Sanctuary)
- 5:30 p.m. Youth go to Hilliard House (Meet at the Youth House)
- 6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts (Room 309)
- 7:00 p.m. Bells of Providence

Monday, December 19

- 10:00 a.m. Line Dancing Class (Room 309)
- 7:00 p.m. Disciple 4 (Room 206)

Tuesday, December 20

- 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. Boy Scouts (Chapel)

Wednesday, December 21

- 6:00-7:00 p.m. KC Jam Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Council
- 6:30 p.m. Trustees' Meeting (Library)
- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Friday, December 23

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

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve

- 5:00 p.m. Family Service
- 11:00 p.m. Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 25

- 10:00 a.m. Worship service
- No Sunday School
- No afternoon or evening activities

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

Our “**Longest Night**” service will be **this afternoon at 4:00 p.m. in the chapel**. It is named for the longest night of the year, December 20, after which the days grow longer and brighter. You are invited to come to a quiet place to reflect and be encouraged. The service will include scripture, music, and reflection designed to bring comfort and hope. If you or someone you know is feeling loss and sadness in the face of the celebrations of Christmas, you are welcome. The service is open to the community.

Christmas Eve: 5:00 p.m. Family Service with Holy Communion; Children's and Youth Choir with Nativity.

11:00 p.m. Candlelight and Holy Communion with special musical offerings by the Chancel Choir and the Bells of Providence, vocal and guitar solos.

Christmas Day: One service at 10:00 a.m. “What Child is This” includes caroling, singing, scripture, brass ensemble. Informal dress welcome! Bring cookies and candy to share with those who are working on Christmas. (no Sunday School)

New Year's Day: One service at 10:00 a.m. “Following the Star;” Music led by the SonRise Sisters and Men's Quartet with Holy Communion. Informal dress welcome! (No Sunday School.)

All children in 5th grade and below are invited to attend **Jesus' birthday party** this morning, from 9:45 – 10:45 a.m. in the Social Hall. We will enjoy yummy treats, create a craft, and watch a movie as we remember the real reason for the season.

We will be hosting **CARITAS** January 2-6 for single women who are homeless. Volunteers are still needed to spend the night on Tuesday and Wednesday; also to take home laundry one evening and return the next. Call Brenda Woodward at 914-1259 for more information.

Would you like to **deliver a Christmas greeting** to someone in the church? Mail boxes are available in the second floor hallway by the chapel for you to place cards. Consider channeling the money you save to a ministry that makes a difference. Be sure and check the boxes periodically for cards that may be addressed to you.

This year's **Christmas Offering** will be divided equally between the following: Branches (a ministry to at-risk children and their families in S. Florida), Pathways (vocational and GED training for at-risk young adults plus community medical support in Petersburg), and Haiti's Children's Project (providing a safe, loving home for children without families).

Youth event tonight - Hilliard House. The Hilliard House is a homeless shelter for women and children. We are going to bring "The sights, sounds and smells of Christmas" to them this evening with songs, crafts, baking and laughter. If you want to join us, please be at the youth house at 5:30 tonight. Eat dinner before you come. We will return to church at 8:30 (not our usual time of 7:30).

You are invited to bring extra **Christmas treats** (cookies and candy) to our worship on Christmas Day at 10:00 a.m. They will be packaged up and made available following the service. On your way home, you are invited to stop at stores, rescue squad and fire stations, and other places where people might be **working on the holiday** to deliver a package of treats with our best wishes.

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

Scriping is purchasing gift cards to your favorite stores which then return a percentage to our church. You may order today in the library. Orders taken today will be available for pick-up on Friday, December 23. It will be our last order until January 8th. The forms can also be found on the PUMC website, under the FORMS tab or on the bulletin board near the library. To date we have raised \$300. Thank you for your participation as we raise money for improvements to our **playground**.

PRAYER MINISTRY

The pink 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: Isabell Bodtke's relatives and friends (Bruce Roeder and his mother, Lorraine, Caroline, Ann Louise, Stacy, and Randy's father, Larry), Helen Bowman (Laurels of Bon Air), Mae Clarke, **Janet Fattizzi**, The Family of Callie Gregory, The Family of Alma Groome, Leon and Dottie Headley (Lisa Fleenor's parents), Joann Hill (Jeanette Houston's cousin), Sally Hunter (grandmother of Glenn Jones), Mildred Isbell, Gilda Jordan, **The Family of Madison Lewis** (niece of Nancy and Steve Taylor), Ruby Milby, Catherine Milholen, Clyde Randall, Dr. Barbara A. Ritch-Brant, **Dr. Joshua Rubinstein** (Wayne & Kathy Smith's dentist), **Lorna Schaefer**, **Mary Steele** (home from the hospital); **Bill Steele** (eye surgery on Wednesday), A. M. Davis students, faculty, and staff

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

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| 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 |
| Matt Latimer | Bob Muchow (home!) | | |

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 December 18, 2011: We pray for the families of Metropolitan Richmond: For persons who are lonely or have no family; for persons who are estranged from their families; for persons who are grieving the loss of a loved one; and for all who need to feel the love of God.

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| 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 . |
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