

Christmas Day
December 25, 2011 10:00 a.m.

UMH = United Methodist Hymnal (Red) FWS = The Faith We Sing (Black)

Gathering Music "Patapan" arr. John Biery
Welcome and Announcements

+Greeting and Call to Worship*

I bring you good news of great joy, for all people. To you is born this day, in the city of David, a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

There is nothing in death or life, in things present, or things to come, nothing in all creation, that can separate us from the love of God, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, Rejoice!

Thanks be to God! Amen!

+Hymn "Joy to the World" UMH 246
Accompanied by Brass Ensemble

Prayer

Who Is This Child?

Hymn* "What Child is This" Verse 1 UMH 219
First Reading: Glory Revealed to All Isaiah 40:1-5
Second Reading: A Servant with Gentle Strength Isaiah 42:1-4
Hymn "Angels from the Realms of Glory" UMH 220
Third Reading: Equal, Beloved, and United Galatians 4:4-7 and 3:27-28

Why Lies He in Such Low Estate?

Hymn* "What Child is This?" Verse 2 UMH 219
Fourth Reading: A Servant of Peace Is Born Luke 2:1-7
A Time with the Children
+Hymn "While Shepherds Watched" UMH 236
Fifth Reading: Adored by Outsiders Luke 2:15-21
Poem "Her Baby, Newly Breathing" Brian Wren
Sixth Reading: Taking the Form of a Slave Philippians 2:5-11

Let Loving Hearts Enthroned Him

An Affirmation of Faith*

The reign of Christ comes not by conquest, domination, and manipulation,
But by gracious love, gladly given, and willingly received.

The reign of Christ comes near wherever people covenant together and say,

Christ, we are your body: live in our hearts.

Christ, we are your people: govern our lives.

Christ, we are your witnesses: send us out in your name!

Hymn* "What Child Is This" Verse 3 UMH 219
Seventh Reading: Royal Robes for a Rescued People Colossians 2:6 and 3:12-15
Eighth Reading: A Jew for All Peoples Luke 2:25-32
Prayer
Ninth Reading: Love's Living Word John 1:1-13, 18
Offering Our Gifts "Schafe mein leibster from the Christmas Oratorio" J. S. Bach
Erin Lano, French Horn
+Hymn "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" UMH 251
+Benediction
+Postlude Postlude on "Sussex Carol" Quentin Thomas

+Please stand as you are able.

Please silence all electronic devices.

Readers: Linda Keery and Wayne Smith

Brass Ensemble:

Linda Koertge, Tom Koertge, Erin Lano, Ellen Koertge, and David Koertge

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).

Acolyte	Tristen Kellam
Nursery	Mike & Wendy Collins
Ushers	Billy Blankenship, Chris Healy, David Tokich, Gary Vest, Lee Bradshaw, Bob Fitch, Linwood Hudson, T. L. Jenkins, David Sommer, Stuart Watkins, George Winstead
Audio/Visual Team	Russ Byers and Eric Byers
Name Tag Organizer	Gracie Martin
Sanctuary Organizer	Bob Gillie

The narthex flowers are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of her father on the 75th anniversary of his birth by Pam Asbury.

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Providence United Methodist Church
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Nursery Worker		April Basham
Our Covenant Missionary		Kim King Torres



Providence United Methodist Church

December 25, 2011

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 25

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

No Sunday School

No afternoon or evening activities

Monday, December 26

Church Office Closed

No Line Dancing Class

Tuesday, December 27

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, December 28

No Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 30

Wedding Rehearsal

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

Saturday, December 31

3:30 p.m. Stephens/Davis Wedding

Sunday, January 1

One service at 10:00 a.m.

No Sunday School

No afternoon or evening activities

Monday, January 2

Church Office Closed

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks to all who have participated in our **Advent and Christmas services**, including those in our service today. We are blessed with wonderful readers, actors, musicians, choir leaders, decorators, organizers, planners and clean-up-ers!

The **cookies and candies** which you have contributed today will be available after service to distribute. The bags will have a greeting from our church and you may deliver them to people who are working today—store clerks, rescue squads, police, hotel staff, etc. What a great way to say “We care about our community” at Providence UMC.

Next Sunday, **January 1**, we will have a combined worship service at 10 a.m. celebrating Epiphany. Matthew 2 tells of a star guiding the way for the magi to find Jesus. The men’s quartet and the SonRise Sisters will lead us in worship. There will be no Sunday School classes.

A big thank you to Judy Miles who volunteered to watch the nursery with April for the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service. Thanks also to Mike and Wendy Collins for volunteering to watch the nursery this morning. **We still need one volunteer to watch the nursery with April for the New Year’s Day service. Please call the Church Office (276-4289) if you can help.**

Thank you for your contributions to the **Christmas Offering**. If you have been collecting your gifts for the Advent Offering for United Methodist Urban Ministries of Richmond, you may bring those designated gifts at any time in the offering or to the office.

Your regular **offerings** for the 2011 budget may be given up until Friday, December 30. You can also receive credit in 2011 for checks that are postmarked by December 31, 2011.

Check the **Christmas Mailbox** by the chapel door to see if you have mail!

The **Parenting Class** is beginning a new series on January 8 called “Confident Parenting.” All parents are welcome to join the class in Room 304.

On Sunday, January 8, we will be remembering the baptism of our Lord. The service will include a time to renew your baptism vows and rededicate your life to God. Prayerfully consider how God is leading you in this new year.

Wednesday Night Dinners will start January 11 (5:30-6:15 p.m.) The following small group opportunities will be available:

- Small groups starting January 11 at 6:30 p.m.:
 - Children and Youth Hands-on Mission
 - Learn to Knit or Crochet to make a difference
 - Bible Study “Faith from the Backside”
 - DVD-based study, “They Like Jesus, But Not the Church”

Scriming is purchasing gift cards to your favorite stores which then return a percentage to our church. We will resume this program on January 8.

Homeward’s January “Point in Time” homeless count will be held on January 26. The missions committee will be collecting adult size hats, gloves, socks, scarves, sweatshirts, and sweaters. We would also appreciate any donations of toiletries and granola bars. We will not be collecting any other clothing items for this event. Please limit your donations to the items listed. Thanks to everyone for your continued support of this mission.

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, **Jackie Estes and her family** (on the death of her mother in North Carolina), 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, **a friend of Katie Kuzel** (requested by Dave & Mary Lou Robinson), The Family of Madison Lewis (niece of Nancy and Steve Taylor), Ruby Milby, Catherine Milholen, Clyde Randall, Dr. Barbara A. Ritch-Brant, **Autumn Robinson**, Dr. Joshua Rubinstein (Wayne & Kathy Smith’s dentist), Lorna Schaefer, Mary Steele (home from the hospital); Bill Steele (eye surgery last Wednesday), **Kim King Torres** (our covenant missionary in Florida who has the shingles), 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
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 25, 2011: We pray for the families of Metropolitan Richmond: For the care and protection of infants, children, and young people; for an end to child abuse; for healthy relationships between children and their parents; and for the intimate knowledge that each one is a beloved child of God.

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.