


Providence United Methodist Church

Belong. Be Transformed.  Make a Difference.

CONNECTIONS

A Service of Lessons and Carols

Greeting and Welcome

Making Connections

A Time with the Children

LESSON: Luke 1:26-35, 38

The angel Gabriel announces to the virgin Mary that she will give birth to God's promised Son, whose kingdom will never end.

CAROL: "Joy to the World"

LESSON: Luke 2:1-7

Against a backdrop of emperors and taxes, Jesus is born.

CAROL: "We Will Glorify the King of Kings"

LESSON: Luke 2:8-16

The shepherds go to see the Savior of the world and find him lying in a manger.

CAROL: "What Child is This"

LESSON: Matthew 2:1-11

The wise men follow a star to find the child Jesus, the King of the Jews.

CAROL: "We Three Kings"

Offering and Singing: "He Came Down"

Benediction

First Sunday after Christmas Day

11:00 a.m.

A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Prelude	“Hark, the Herald Angels Sing”	
Opening Hymn	“Joy to the World”	UMH #246
+ The Bidding Prayer		
+ Blessing		
FIRST LESSON		Genesis 3:8-15
	God announces in the Garden of Eden Adam and Eve's punishment for their rebellion and that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.	
Carol	“Star-Child” (vs 1 & 5)	FWS #2095
SECOND LESSON		Genesis 22:15-18
	God promises to Abraham that by his descendants all the nations of the earth will obtain blessings.	
Carol	“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (stanzas 1,4,7)	UMH #211
THIRD LESSON		Isaiah 9:2,6-7
	The prophet announces the birth of a king to a people in darkness.	
Carol	“What Child Is This” (vs 1 & 3)	UMH #219
FOURTH LESSON		Isaiah 11:1-4a,6-9
	The king is coming and will usher in a reign of justice for the poor and peace for all God's creation.	
Carol	“Away in a Manger” (vs 1 & 2)	UMH #217

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-35,38

The angel Gabriel announces to the virgin Mary that she will give birth to God's promised Son, whose kingdom will never end.

Carol "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (vs 1 & 3) UMH #230

SIXTH LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

Against a backdrop of emperors and taxes, Jesus is born.

Carol "The First Noel" (stanza 1,2,3) UMH #245

SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 2:8-16

The shepherds go to see the Savior of the world and find him lying in a manger.

Carol "In the Bleak Midwinter" (stanzas 1, 2) UMH #221

EIGHTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1-11

The wise men follow a star to find the child Jesus, the King of the Jews.

Carol "We Three Kings" (vs 1,2,5) UMH #254

NINTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

+ Carol "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" UMH #251

+ Prayer

Offering/Offertory "Angels We Have Heard on High" arr. by Dan Coates
Response * "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH #94

Baptism **Stella Marie Houp**

+ Benediction

Welcome Guests! We're Glad You're Here!

- Please pick up a welcome gift from an usher in the foyer.
- **Children's activity bulletins, bags and boxes** are available in the foyer.
- **Restrooms** are located down the main hall turning to the left. A baby changing table is available in the handicap accessible restroom.
- Assisted listening devices, large-print hymnals and large-print bulletins are available. Ask an usher for assistance.
- A **nursery** with professional care is offered as an option for our children newborn through age four (located downstairs).

UMH = United Methodist Hymnal (Red)

FWS = The Faith We Sing (Black)

* = Words Projected

+ = Please stand as you are able

Thank you for silencing all electronic devices.

The **flowers on the altar** are given to the glory of God and in honor of Stella Marie Houp on her christening day.

The **flowers in the narthex** are given to the glory of God by Pam Asbury, in loving memory of her father, James Asbury, on the anniversary of his birth.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All guests, visitors and members (adults and children), **please sign in** on a clipboard today and include your contact information. Please continue to sign in each Sunday and especially tell us if you have changes to your personal information that the church maintains.

Today we also welcome the families of **Stella Marie Houp**, who is being baptized at the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Stella is the daughter of Ellen and Jarrod Houp. Proud grandparents are Brenda and Rob Houp and Betty and Ernie Woodcock.

All 2017 donations must be received (or postmarked) **on or before December 31, 2017** (today). Donations received or postmarked after December 31, 2017 will be applied to your 2018 giving.

Happy New Year — wait, not yet! But we will be starting the second 8-week segment of the Covenant Bible Study series on Wednesday, January 10, 6:30-8:00 p.m. “Living” focuses on how the community lives out their Covenant in faithful love and how it’s applied to actual relationships in everyday life. We’d love to have you join us. No, you don’t have to have taken the first 8-week class, but you will need a workbook. **Please sign up on the clipboard** or call the church office if you want us to order one for you, at \$15 each. There’s been interest in moving the class to Sunday afternoons. We’ll decide as a group on January 10. Hope to see many of you there.

Laura Griggs

LauraLoperGriggs@gmail.com

Homeward’s Winter Point In Time Homeless Count will be held downtown on January 25, 2018. We depleted our winter clothing at the big event in November but will accept any warm or layering clothing, comfortable shoes or boots and especially gloves, if you would like to donate. We will also be collecting individual snack items. Thank you for your continuing support of this mission.

This year’s **Christmas Offering** will be divided between Branches (our missionary outreach in Florida) and United Methodist Family Services. All gifts marked “Christmas Offering” will support these important projects. Gifts in regular church offering envelopes and cash will go to the operating budget of the church.

The “**Christmas Card Exchange Box**” is still on the table near the Chapel. Please stop by and pick up your mail! Card left in the box at the end of January will **not** be forwarded.

The office will be closed on the following days:

January:

- 1 New Year’s Day
- 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Providence will be having **Confirmation Classes** beginning January 7. The classes will be during the Sunday School hour and Confirmation Sunday will be March 25. If you want to be confirmed but do not have the class information yet, please contact the church office.

The **District Conference Leadership Training Event** is next Sunday, January 7, 2018, 1:30-5:00 p.m., at Reveille UMC. There are 12 different sessions and workshops that might be of interest to you. PUMC has several people attending.

The **2018 Flower Calendar** is in the hallway, near the water fountain. The **BLUE** flower forms are there too. Please remember: *payment should accompany the blue form*. Complete the form and put it and your check in the offering plate or bring it to the office. Please do not put your name on the calendar until you submit your form and check.

Are you thinking about being baptized or becoming a member of Providence? Speak with Pastor Derrick (804-276-4289) who can guide you in the next steps.

PRAYER MINISTRY

December 31, 2017: We pray for the families of Metropolitan Richmond: for peace, reconciliation, forgiveness and accord among family members, whatever the distance, and however old the hurt of grievance.

Handmade **prayer squares are available** in the foyer to take or mail to someone for whom you are praying.

To connect with our email prayer ministry, you may send a prayer request to Nancy Coffman at nlctlc73@gmail.com. If you would like to be added to the list to receive prayer requests, contact Nancy. Please check your email address book to make sure you have this email address.

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

Jessica Ammon	Harrison Bailey
Hunter Blankenship	Terrance Brunson
Jennifer Collins	John Harper
Matt Latimer	Wayne Lee
Megan Thomas	

Our gathered prayer concerns:

- * Dot Ashburn
- * Curtis Bailey
- * The family of Louise Berger (died 12/3)
- * Nan Blackwell
- * Lois Butler (mother of Brenda Woodward)
- * Charles Clarke (blood clots; brother of Beverley Brooks)
- * Keisha Clement (niece of Althea Armstrong)
- * John Curtis (son of Uldine Curtis)

- * Uldine Curtis
- * Bob & Fran Fitch
- * Emma Fleenor
- * The family of Myrna Hartley (Janet Goode's sister)
- * Kelton Honeycutt (grandfather of Danielle Hellams)
- * Jill Gueswelle (very good friend of Elizabeth Kyser)
- * Diane Huchingson (sister-in-law of Diane King)
- * Earl Jennings (cancer; friend of Paul Martin)
- * Joyce (friend of Jane Elbert)
- * **The family of Joy Keerans** (who died 12/24)
- * Jack & Linda Keery
- * Wayne Latimer (hip replacement, 11/28)
- * Blanca & Jose Mera
- * Anne Middleton (rehab, Lucy Corr)
- * Leigh Middleton
- * Johnise Molloy (home)
- * Matthew Moyer (Crohn's surgery 11/29 in Florida)
- * The family of Monique Turner (died, 11/26; sister of Isaac Nedd)
- * Sheila Scott (cancer)
- * David Slenaker (heart failure; friend of Robin Jeffrey)
- * Jean Slaven (Barbara Robertson's mother)
- * Gary Smallwood (brother of Brad Smallwood)
- * Donna Smith (shoulder replacement, 1/2)
- * Barbie Vest (surgery 12/4)
- * Darla White (battling cancer; friend of Robin Jeffrey)
- * Ron White (hip replacement surgery on 12/20)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Prayer Requests

Sunday, December 31

9:00 Connections Service
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Traditional Service
No afternoon or evening activities

Monday, January 1

Church Office Closed
No Church Activities or Meetings

Tuesday, January 2

No Bible Study (L)
6:30 Boy/Cub Scouts (SH/309)
7:00 Newton Circle

Wednesday, January 3

7:00 Men's Breakfast (Shoney's)
6:30 Chancel Choir

Thursday, January 4

9:30 Prayer Team (P)
6:15 Men's Study (L)
6:30 MIM
6:30 AA (YH)

Friday, January 5

8:00 AA Group (309)

Saturday, January 6

Pray for:

Place in Bulletin: Yes / No

Specific Request:

Meal Needs: Yes / No

Transportation Needs: Yes / No

Desire Card: Yes / No

Comments: _____

Your Contact Information:

Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email Address:

Drop this sheet in the offering plate or at the church office.

To direct an urgent concern for yourself or a family member to our email prayer group, please contact the church office by phone or email.

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Acolyte:

11:00 Meagan Ostrum

Greeters:

9:00 Diane King (Library)
Mike Patterson (Narthex)
11:00 Patty Wright (Library)
Jean Riekers (Narthex)

Ushers:

9:00 Bill Blankenship
Wayne Latimer, Doug Sheek
11:00 Klaus Worrell
Sean Collins, Tony Fleshman
Laurie Breeden, Tristen Kellam

Nursery:

9:00 Wendy Collins
SS
11:00 Mike & Wendy Collins

Counters:

Gary Wright (captain)
Wayne Smith, Anne Baird

Reader:

Audio/Visual Team:

9:00 Ron Wootten (A)
Tyler Griggs (V)
11:00 Ron Wootten (A)
Tyler Griggs (V)

Sanctuary Organizers:

Flora Scott & Jean Winfree
(December 1-31)
Peggy Gillette
(January 1-31)

Providence United Methodist Church

901 S. Providence Road
N. Chesterfield, VA 23236
804-276-4289

Office Hours:

Monday—Thursday 10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Friday Office Closed

Contact us at:

Church Telephone: (804) 276-4289
Fax Number: (804) 745-2501
Website: www.providenceumc.net
E-mail: providenceumc@providenceumc.net

Church Staff:

Pastor Derrick Parson (ext. 201)
Derrick.Parson@providenceumc.net

Intern

Isaac Nedd
Isaac.Nedd@providenceumc.net

Music Ministries

Allison Stowers (ext. 207)
Allison.Stowers@providenceumc.net

Children's Ministries

Sherry Wright-Jeter
Sherry.Jeter@providenceumc.net

Secretary

Linda Collins (ext. 203)
Linda.Collins@providenceumc.net

Audio Visual

Tyler Griggs
Tgriggs87@gmail.com

Youth Ministries Mary & Greg Elliott (interim)

Young Adult Ministries Terrence Jeter (interim)

Custodial Service Bill Duganne

Nursery Attendant Cynthia Liverpool

Our Covenant Missionary Kim King Torres

Presiding Bishop Sharma Lewis