

January 2020

Providence United Methodist Church



901 S. Providence Rd. North Chesterfield VA 23236

Congregational Care: God bless our PUMC family as we enter the New Year. Thank you for your love. Guide us as we follow you. Help us to make a difference in someone's life. Let us lift one another in prayer. Caring is believing ♡
In His name,
Jean Chappell, CCC



Creating her own kind of "Joy to the World" –



Uldine Curtis crafted this lovely decoration for the Social Hall. If you look really closely, you will see that it was made using the church directory pictures of every member of the PUMC congregation! I found my picture – can you find yours?

A new Black Friday - Many of you may not know that Valerie Reese has her own YouTube channel. Started in 2010, Valerie now uses her channel to blog – she posts pictures of her



family, talks about cooking, trips she and Steve have taken and many other fun things. And yes, she talks about the many good things going on right here at Providence! If you go to her channel, you will see videos of her Sunday School class wrapping Christmas presents for children or see the pile of Christmas Stockings PUMC members filled. Throughout the year, if you see Valerie with her camera aimed in your

direction, the video may end up on YouTube. Valerie says she always puts Missions on the channel, she never hides God in her life.

All of this has led Valerie to find a new and very different way of spending "Black Friday" on the day after Thanksgiving. She has made friends with other YouTubers through the years as they all "follow" each other and chat on their channels. Some of these friends include Gail Crabtree, Pet Monster and Monster Chick, who also have their own channels. Gail approached Pet Monster about three years ago with an idea to Live Stream for 24 hours starting on the morning of Black Friday. Pet Monster agreed to the plan if they could use it as an opportunity to raise money for charity. (Don't let the "Monster" name fool you; their channel uses the tag #createnothate)

Pet approached Valerie, asking her to be part of it and to name the charity. Valerie could not choose just one, so she suggested funding a few different charities through Providence. Thus, the YouTube Black Friday 24 Hour Live Stream event was born! Pet got the rest of the "Monster Family" of YouTubers involved so that 24 different channels were streaming live throughout Friday and into Saturday morning. Valerie "hangs out" in their chat rooms in case anyone has questions, and she posts links to each YouTuber's channel on Facebook for those who want to follow, this makes it easier to find the new channel for each hour.

Money is donated through a program called "GoFundMe" and that program charges a fee for each donation. Valerie and Steve offset those fees so that 100% of the donations are given. The first year of the Live Stream event, \$333 was raised, which was given to Pastor Derrick for Missions. Year two doubled the donation to \$707; \$200 of that was given for the AM Davis Backpack program with the re

Valerie presents Mike Collins with a \$1000 check!!



maining money being used for the End of the Month Hump day food program. This year, the event raised an incredible \$1,335! \$1,000 of this was given to the AM Davis backpack program with the rest going to Homeward.

Youtubers from Germany, England and Canada participate in the event, as well as many from the United States (with many of them being in Texas) and donations come from all over. Valerie says it is a lot of fun and obviously it is doing good things – raising money AND sharing Christian values! You can find Valerie and her friends by searching YouTube with their names. You should check them out – I think you'll be glad you did!

Family News & Notes:



Members of PUMC would like to celebrate with Erin and Matt Lano on the **birth** of their daughter, Sage Lee Lano, who was born Dec. 18, 2019. Proud grandparents are Linda and Tom Koertge!

Our deepest **sympathy** is extended to the families of the following loved ones who recently passed away:

- Edward Vernon (passed away on Dec. 1)
- James (Boo) Ellis Groome (passed away on Dec. 3)

Mae Clarke wishes to express her deepest gratitude to her PUMC family, for the continued prayers, as well as the cards and letters she has

received during her injury. She says that her recuperation will take about another 6 weeks, so we ask that you please continue to send her good thoughts, prayers, and comfort! Also please note that she is now in Alabama with son #2, Doug, and the address is **108 Park Place Court, Alabaster, AL 35007**. Thank you!

Severe Weather Policy: Winter is here! This is a good time to remind everyone of our inclement weather policy:



Weekends: In the event of hazardous weather conditions on Saturday or Sunday, the church will close for weekend activities based on a joint decision by the Pastor and the Board of Trustees Chairman or Vice-Chairman by no later than 7:00 a.m. on the morning of the service or event.

Weekdays: In the event of hazardous weather conditions on weekdays, the church will close for weekday activities when Chesterfield County Public Schools (CCPS) close. The church may reopen prior to the reopening of CCPS based on a joint decision by the Pastor and the Board of Trustees Chairman or Vice Chairman that the driveway and sidewalk have been cleared and are safe. If CCPS is out of session, the weekend procedure will apply.



Closing announcements will be made on WTVR (Ch 6), WRIC (Ch 8) (on-line only for churches), WWBT (Ch 12), WRVA (Radio AM 1140), and on their websites. Closing announcements will also be placed on the church website, Facebook and/or sent out via mass email.

Do you have prayer requests? Did you know that your requests always go to someone at PUMC? All you have to do is write them on the back inside flap of the weekly bulletin and put it in the offering plate, or you can virtually do anything with it – put it in one of the mailboxes by the office, slip it under Linda's door... ANYTHING. We want your prayer requests to be heard.

Assimilation

*Won't you come to my church
I'd love to see you there,
You would sure be welcome,
Come occupy an empty chair.*

*Could I come with my questions,
my doubts or unbelief,
or are you looking for someone
that you regard as safe?*

*I'm looking for some answers
A fill-in for some blanks
but if I don't agree with all,
would you still be giving thanks?*

*Your sign says All Are Welcome,
But yet I wonder still,
if by that you mean only folks like you,
your vacant pews to fill.*

*If mind to mind we strive to meet,
And heart to heart we appreciate,
The warmth of fellowship is sweet,
A home for all we can create.*



By Terry Sarver

Coming Events: The following are some of the activities and events coming up at PUMC in the next few weeks. For more details or information, please refer to the weekly bulletin and/or the on-line calendar.

- Asbury Walking Club –Tuesdays at 10:30, meet on the Parking Lot
- **Laughon Circle** – Jan. 14, 10:30 am in the PUMC Social Hall
- **Newton Circle** – Jan. 7, 7pm, home of Pam Groome
- **Gregory Circle** – Jan. 9, 7pm, home of Pat Loud
- Ushers are needed for both services but especially for the 9:00 service. If you are willing to serve in this capacity, please let Linda Collins or the office staff know so that you can be included on the list.

Volunteer Opportunities:



- Volunteers to participate in Cooks for Christ. Everyone meets at Centenary UMC (411 E Grace Street) at 9:15 to serve lunch to homeless people. Lunch is over by 12:30 pm. **Date TBD.**
- Wednesday Night Dinner hosts! Can you or your Sunday School class or other group sign up to do a WND? See the sign-up sheet outside the counter's office.
- Volunteers to assist with End of Month Hump at AM Davis. Everyone meets at the church at 4:30 pm and goes to the school for food bag distribution. **Date TBD.**
- Volunteers to assist with the Youth Crew on Sundays from 5:30 to 7:30 pm (including providing meals, programs or other services) and there are also various opportunities for chaperoning the group.
- Volunteers to sort clothing in the donation room. This can be done anytime the church office is open to let people in.
- AM Davis needs mentors and monitors. See their website for more information.
- Ushers are needed for both the 9:00 and the 11:00 service (especially the 9:00). Please let Linda Collins know if you are able to volunteer in this capacity and she will put you in touch with that committee.

The PUMC Grief Group will disband after January, due to a lack of response. Personally, I have found the group to be integral in my own grief battles after losing my Mother in Sept. 2017. If you, or someone you know, is interested in keeping this valuable group afloat, please talk to me, or Susan Nash, or Sharon & Hugh Harris, or Pastor Derrick. Thank you!
~Jolee Hutcheson

~Families of Providence Series~

One might look at David Hamilton and think, “That poor guy, surrounded by a house full of women.” But make no mistake, friends; he



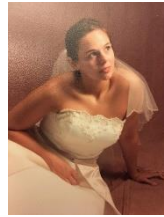
treats each of his little darlings as if they were sons. Each of his little girls gets hung upside down, chased around the house, and playfully bopped on their sides, bellies, and heads. The Hamiltons have created a house full of fun, frivolity, caring, sharing, love of animals and of Jesus, and plenty of love for each other. Just looking at one of their girls is proof enough that the Hamiltons are making growing up fun!

David Hamilton and Troye Skrabala went to high school together, but they didn't really know each other. In the early 2000s at Freman High School in the West End, they had different



circles of friends, so they really only ever “knew of” each other. Dave was a guy who had moved from New Jersey with his family during his 5th grade year, and Troye, too, had moved to Virginia with her family from Texas around the same time. After their high school graduations, they found that their circle of friends seemed to move closer together until they finally just merged as one. Troye said that

even after 18 years together, she still feels giddy around Dave, and she is thankful that he was ultimately the one who brought their young family to God. Dave remarks about how his family was not the church-going type while



he was growing up. He is the 1st of five children, and his blue collar parents had other things more pressing to contend with besides religion. Luckily, David was free to explore for himself when he became of a mind and age to go searching. Troye, the middle child of the family, and the only daughter, remembers a ‘mostly spiritual’ upbringing. Her mother, Reyna, took them to church when they were really young, but having moved around so much during the family's early years made it hard to solidify a church home. When I asked how they got to be members of a church, they looked at each other and grinned, and said that

it was after their eldest daughter Tabitha was born. It was having their first child that made them re-



alize they wanted and needed to get closer to God. Since they had no religious roots from which to base their choice of faith, they wound up at the Church of Latter Day Saints. Dave remembers having kept a Book of Mormon in his library, and having perused it, they chose the LDS community. Additionally, Dave's boss, the owner of the Chesterfield County Zoo is a LDS parishioner, so the Hamiltons gave it a shot. From the moment of baptism, “Bible boot camp” began happening on a very regular basis! And mostly, it happened at the Hamilton home. However, after a time, the young family felt they needed more from their spiritual growth, and they began looking at other churches in their area. As Troye had had a mostly Methodist upbringing, she and Dave decided to check out two Methodist churches which were equidistant from their home. As luck would have it, the first of their trials was



Providence, and once in, they never looked back! Over time, the family added Piper to their mix, and

then sweet Samantha joined to make them a fivesome. These little ladies are full of life and “love Sunday school!” They are growing up to respect nature, animals, and their elders, all while making each day the most fun day ever. Tabitha has done an excellent job in her role as an acolyte, and we can hope that her sisters may one day follow her lead. When asked

what she loved best about Sunday school, Samantha exclaimed that she loved getting to do the parachute!



So if you’re listening Ms. Walton and Ms. Randall, little Samantha wants to get the parachute out again!

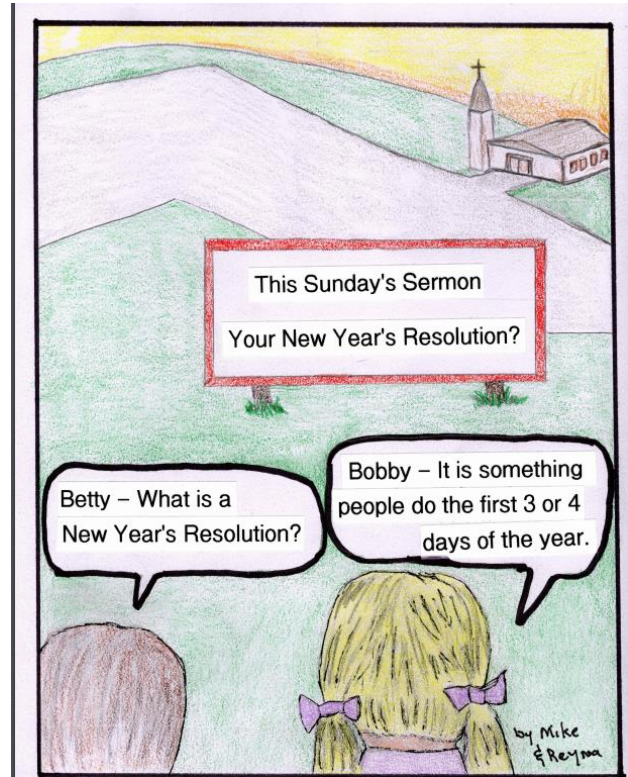
When asked the question that I ask all Families of Providence subjects, “what direction do you think the church should take,” the Hamiltons said they feel that the church needs to reintegrate into the community around it, even though the community has changed. “That is what will keep the church moving forward and growing,” said David. Troye added that despite churches with aging congregations, “we must find families that will help with youth activities.” And understandably, with 3 growing children in their own household, this is tantamount to their family’s spirituality. And after all, if it takes a village to raise a family, then we at PUMC are responsible for these sweet girls’ spiritual growth, too!



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~by Jolee Hutcheson

Mike’s Musings



RADA Cutlery Sale (Fundraiser) – You can still participate in this event by ordering on on-line or looking through the catalog. Catalogs and order forms are available in the Church Library. If you are not familiar with RADA, there are item samples there as well so you can see their quality. In addition to cutlery, RADA has a wide variety of cooking mixes and accessories. This fund-raiser will benefit the General Fund of the church. If you don’t need any items for sale through RADA, feel free to make a contribution and items for our kitchen will be purchased. You can view the catalog online by typing in this address: <http://bit.ly/30wMkAb>. If you’d like to hear some feedback about RADA’s products just ask Linda Collins. RADA items can be purchased at this link for the next 12 months and Providence will still benefit from the sale.

We want to thank Sara Vogeler and the entire music crew for such a wonderful holiday season! The special musical numbers and hand-

bell pieces that were arranged and executed during the Advent season. Special thanks also go out to **Tyler Griggs** for his tireless organization during this time. We know that all his running around and setting things up, and breaking things down, is part of what makes the programs run so smoothly. Here is a picture of one of the performances with the Children's Choir, which performed on the Sunday before Christmas, and on the 5:30 Christmas Eve service. Soloist Gabriella Vogeler did a fantastic job!!!



Althea's Corner

Notorious Hope

As we celebrate New Year 2020, we are also moving into a New Decade. Our Christian claim is hope for days and years to come. The late United Methodist Bishop Rueben P. Job expresses his view on hope in a writing entitled "Notorious Hope". Below is an excerpt from A GUIDE TO PRAYER FOR ALL WHO SEEK GOD (1992): UPPER ROOM BOOKS



As Christians we live by faith in God, and we carry within us the notorious hope that a life of faithfulness is indeed the best way to live. Our hope is that fidelity and faithfulness will result in holy life and the comforting companionship of Jesus Christ. The promise that this ordinary life can be invested in the extraordinary reign of God today and tomorrow is the hope that encourages us to do what we can where we are to make God's Will known and real.

When disease, disaster, death or triumph strikes, we are filled with hope because our ultimate trust is in God. Our worlds and wealth may crumble; disease and disaster may lay hold on what and whom we value; but followers of the Christian way continue to be hopeful. We hold onto hope because we are filled with faith that God is able to consummate the promise made to redeem and transform all who turn their lives toward God. (excerpt ended)

Prayer: Dear God, please strengthen us for this New Year 2020 journey. May we accept the burdens and joys of this Christian life and give all praise to you. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!



My 2020 Resolutions~

Burglars Just Broke

In

An elderly woman had just returned to her home from an evening of religious service when she was startled by an intruder. As she caught the man in the act of robbing her home of its valuables, she yelled, "Stop! Acts 2:38!" [Turn from your sin] The burglar stopped dead in his tracks. Then the woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done. As the officer cuffed the man to take him in, he asked the burglar, "Why did you just stand there? All the old lady did was yell a scripture at you." "Scripture?" replied the burglar, "She said she had an axe and two 38s!"

January Birthdays:

Amanda Moyer Fowlkes	1/1
Giada Taylor	1/3
Fred Wilson	1/4
Katie Griggs	1/4
John Architzel	1/5
Pam Asbury	1/5
Marlee Dinelli	1/5
Lisa Watkins	1/5
Michael Worrell	1/6
Jaime Mallory	1/6
Jahna Seymour	1/6
Rosemary Mumaw	1/7
Julie Bergeron	1/7
Nicolas Hudson	1/7
Aidan Hellams	1/7
Lindsey Collins	1/8
Linda Burton	1/8
Cathy Schmick	1/8
Ed Harper	1/9
Robin Adams	1/9
Nicholaus Creasey	1/9
Mark White II	1/9
Leigh Ann Kensky	1/10
Anna Healy James	1/10
Megan Healy Tillery	1/10
John Robison	1/11
Melissa Hendry	1/12
Sandi Kneib	1/12
Erin Koertge Lano	1/12

Cheran Salvaggio	1/13
Lisa Moore	1/13
Chum Altizer	1/13
Judy Ford	1/14
Winfree Shelton	1/14
Jean Whitby	1/15
Leigh Middleton	1/16
Neill Gillette	1/16
Bobby Bishop	1/16
Michael Latimer	1/16
James Willis IV	1/16
Carolyn Sharp	1/16
Cara Kinker	1/17
Clyde Driskill Jr.	1/18
Pam Groome	1/18
Bob Young	1/18
Sherry Phillips	1/18
Virginia Randall	1/21
Gary Vest	1/21
Charlie Waltman	1/21
Brianna Richmond	1/22
Marshall Mallory	1/23
Cody Elliott	1/23
Melissa Martin	1/24
Galen Reil	1/25
Robert Vaughn	1/25
Gail Wagoner	1/26
Peyton Kensky	1/26
Kim Parr	1/26
Chloe Clemmons	1/26
Ken Douth	1/27
Adam Collins	1/27
Parker Wootten	1/27
Matt Latimer	1/27
Karen Yuhase	1/28
Nancy Lohr	1/28
Savannah Elliott	1/28
Hannah Clements	1/28
Michael Urso	1/29
Rachel Coaker	1/29
Helen Stewart	1/30
Linda Keery	1/30
Frances Byrd	1/30
Gavin Mayes	1/30
Tom McCay Jr.	1/31

January Anniversaries

Erin & Matt Lano (11)	1/3
Connie & David Bahm (26)	1/6
Owen & Betty Waltman (50)	1/17
Ron & Beverley Brooks (48)	1/22
Brian & Janet Hannuksela (29)	1/24
Jim & Kristie Willis III (24)	1/27

