

THE PROVIDENCE POST

*Providence Church - an Evangelical Presbyterian Church congregation
Located on the Haywood Christian Academy senior campus - 1400 Old Clyde Road, Clyde*



Contact us:

Providence Church

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[http://www.](http://www.Providencechurchwaynesville.com)

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Directions to Providence (On HCA campus) 1400 Old Clyde Road

From Waynesville: 19/23 to exit 105, right on Hospital Drive for 0.1 miles, right on Jones Cove Road to end (0.3 miles), right on Old Clyde Road for 0.1 miles, church is on the right.

From Clyde: 19/23 to exit 106, right on Jones Cove Road, then as above.

Worship and Church Activities

Sunday

9:45 am - Sunday School for all ages
10:45 am - Morning Worship
Nursery Available

Tuesday

12:00 pm - Pastor's Circle

Thursday

6:30 am - Men's Prayer Group and breakfast

3:30 pm - Women's Prayer Group

Every Other Thursday

7:00 pm Men's Group Study

7:00 pm Women's Group Study

December 2017

Advent is a special time of year full of anticipation and expectation as we recall the coming of Christ the Messiah as God incarnate. During this season we will look each Sunday at 4 hymns sung in and around the coming of Jesus. Each of these songs are recorded in Luke. Mary responds to the announcement of Gabriel with the Magnificat. The song is so entitled because the first words of the Latin version are translated from my soul magnifies....and in it Mary praises God for saving His people through the coming of Jesus. The next song is that of Zechariah known as the Benedictus because the first word in Latin is blessed be the Lord God who has sent the Redeemer. The third song is that of the Angels above the fields of Bethlehem known as the Gloria in Excelsias translated from Latin as Glory to God in the Highest who has proclaimed peace through the coming of the Messiah. And the fourth song is Simeon's psalm in the Temple at Jerusalem known as the Nunc dimittis since he says now let the Lord's servant depart in peace, because in holding Jesus he prophesied that salvation had come both to Israel and indeed to all peoples. Each of these focus on praising God for WHO He is and for WHAT He has done in sending the Messiah. O Come Let Us Adore Him.

Pastor Edward



Session Highlights

Begin announcements on November 19 for the December 3rd Corporate and Congregational Meetings for the purpose of viewing of Budget for 2018, Terms of Call for Pastor Edward, Nomination of Elders, Deacons and the 2018 Nominating Committee. Rev. Brouwer will moderate the Corporate and Congregational meetings. Bruce Kingshill will present the Budget and conduct the nomination of Elders and Deacons with the assistance of the 2017 Nominating Committee. The congregation may receive copies of the Budget upon request. Examination of the Elders and Deacons by the Session will be held at the next Session meeting on December 12th.

Nominating Committee - Bruce Kingshill handed out the results of the committees' work for Elder and Deacon nominations, and the

- continued on next page -

Providence Happenings



2018 Nominating Committee. The Session commended the excellent work of the Nominating Committee.

Budget Report - Bruce Kingshill presented the Budget for 2018. There are 28 regular giving units in the church. There was discussion on whether to pass the offering plate during worship. After everyone shared their opinion, it was decided to continue doing what we have been doing since the church's inception. There was discussion on the projected expenses versus projected revenue. Since the giving has remained flat, the leadership would like to keep the budget flat.

Phil Inglis - Security procedures reviewed. The fellowship doors will be locked at 11:00. The Elder "on duty" will sit in the back of the sanctuary during worship.

Providence Church Divisions

Edward William Brouwer, Pastor & Worship

Our Session

Pat Inglis - Clerk of Session

Class of 2017

Phil Inglis - Missions

Bruce Kingshill - Finance

Class of 2018

Luke Allsbrook - Discipleship & Christian Education

Bob Dresdow - Discipleship & Christian Education

Class of 2019

Wally Cook - Congregational Care

Thom Morgan - Finance

Our Diaconate

Will Roberts - Class of 2017

Jeffrey Alt - Class of 2018

Vacant - Class of 2019

Music Director & Worship - Renee Allsbrook

Youth Director - Alan Cheney

Administrative Assistant - Barb Dresdow

Congregational Meeting & Lunch

This Sunday December 3rd, we will be holding our annual Meeting of the Corporation and Congregational Meeting following our morning worship service. We will be electing 2 Elders and 2 Deacons. The Elder nominees are Sarah Altman and Sam Mitchell, each for a 3 year term. The Deacon nominees are Art Altman for a 3 year term and Will Roberts for a 2 year term. Nominations may be made from the floor but nominees must be asked in advance. Bruce Kingshill will then present the 2018 budget including the Pastor's terms of call and staff salaries.

We will follow our meeting with a holiday meal in the fellowship hall. The church is providing turkey, ham, rolls and beverages. Please bring a side dish or dessert to complete the meal.

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes

We have the opportunity to go to the Charlotte processing center on Wednesday, December 6th, from 10am - 4pm. If you are interested in going, contact Renee Mitchell or



Poinsettia Orders: It is not too late to order a plant in memory or in honor of a loved one. Forms are available at the offering plate, the cost is \$15 per plant.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

We are scheduled to ring in front of WalMart on the pharmacy side this Tuesday, December 5th. Please contact Bill Allsbrook if you have questions or would like to see if a time slot is available.



Sing with Herald: On the evening of Sunday December 17th, members of Providence have the opportunity to join the Herald to sing carols to those of our congregation who are home bound or in need of a visit. Save the date, more details to follow.

Christmas Eve Day: Regular morning worship at 10:45 am. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 5pm

The 3rd Generation Barn Loft Farm

Hosts

Christmas Worship in a Stable**

~~~an absolutely unique service~~~

Saturday Dec. 2nd, 2017

5:30 to 6:10pm

**Inside historic barn with animals, singing,
Scripture and story, hay bales, special music and
fellowship.**

FREE ADMISSION (DRESS WARMLY)

*****Event is in UPPER level of big barn
behind the two silos. Handicap access***

***I/40, Exit 33, Turn towards Leicester on Newfound Rd &
go about 3/4 mile, Fork left onto N. Hominy Rd, Take
very first right onto Frank Mann Rd.***



Mission News



News from the Roes

Consultation on reaching immigrants/refugees

Courtney recently had a great conversation with a man named "Johannes". "Johannes" (not his real name) left Syria met Jesus through a Christian worker at the Lebanese refugee camp. It took him over a year to make his way out of Lebanon, through Germany and eventually get placed in Norway. Here's some of the issues he faces being a refugee in a new country and a new convert to Christianity:



- He's not used to the cold, even in the summer, in Norway.
- Extreme isolation: His assigned roommates are all Muslims. Because of language barriers, his heartfelt worship in his own language only happens when he finds songs on YouTube or an online church. (We did have an evening of worship led by a refugee group - Johannes was so excited to sing in his language with other believers)
- Unmet expectations: As Johannes reads the Bible, he so anticipates what a Christian community, a church, will look like. He's been a bit disappointed at "the church" that's being represented in Europe. Pray that his disappointment will prompt positive challenge and not make him reject his new faith.

Courtney met Johannes while consulting with a number of ministries gathered together dreaming of how to more strategically engage recent immigrants for the Gospel.

Hackathon in London

Courtney traveled to London to participate in another Kingdom Code Hackathon. The purpose of going to these is to interact with people who have a heart for technology and missions or social justice issues in hopes to recruit and network as well as get to contribute to some amazing projects. This time his primary project was coding a prototype app for a group that matches disadvantaged youth (18-25 yr olds) with mentors in the career field they they would like to get into. Many of these younger people could never dream to step into these careers if it wasn't for the guidance of someone already in it. The guy that headed up our project grew up in a dangerous situation but someone saw potential in him and allowed him to escape a life he couldn't see a way out of. Now he's trying to do the same for others.

Other projects at the Hackathon were for "Christians Against Poverty" (<https://capuk.org/>), an organization that works with people in poverty situations, usually through debt & financial counseling as well as through addiction issues. Also with "Home for Good" (<https://www.homeforgood.org.uk/>), a group that inspires and supports those that are fostering and adopting children.

Prayer Requests:

- Courtney's Mom has had some health issues recently. Please pray for her full recovery.
- We are thankful for a wonderful Christmas gift of being able to spend this Christmas with Courtney's family on a quick visit back to the US. So if you see us briefly don't be surprised. We'll be focusing our time with Courtney's family and then will hope to spend time with the rest of you during a longer summer visit in 2018.
- Courtney has quite a bit of travel coming up including 11 days in Greece ministering at the refugee camps along with a missions team from the US.

Update from the Luptons

"I teach that people should put their trust in nothing but Jesus Christ alone, not in their prayers, merits, or their own good deeds".

Quotes like this one from Martin Luther have made the rounds over the past month as we've celebrated the 500th anniversary of the Reformation here in our church community. Why celebrate such a controversial moment while serving in a Roman Catholic context? Because we need to rediscover what was lost in the medieval church and is so often lost today, the Gospel.

That's exactly what 27-year-old Juanita needed. She grew up a pastor's kid, and yet her whole understanding of Christianity hinged upon the quality of her faith, morality, and prayer life. So of course she never felt spiritual enough to be baptized, received into membership, and welcomed to the Lord's table. Jesus was missing in her version of Christianity.

Thankfully, that changed. "Until the last few weeks, I've never had a real encounter with God. I'm just now understanding Christianity as it really is!". She wanted us to share a picture of her baptism with you.

Or consider another young woman from a hard background. The gospel had "clicked" for her in the past year, but she wouldn't dare come forward for communion. But after talking about new life in Christ, God's affection at Christ's expense, no amount of shame would keep her from walking confidently down the aisle for communion and flashing a grace-filled grin at me as she reached for the elements.

On the other end of the spectrum is a man in his late sixties. His trust was in his longevity at our church and familiarity with Christian tradition. We've spent years praying through trials and suffering. The oft-asked question, "where is God in all this?" hasn't been asked all that often in the last few months. I suspect it's because he's found the answer. God is right in the thick of suffering with this dear man. He called a few weeks ago to reflect on his new discovery, "You know all my Christian tradition. Well, something's happened. It's like I'm being born again".

The Reformation was all about removing obstructions so that sinners could meet Jesus. Friends, that's our day-to-day, seeing many meet Jesus and walk with Jesus. And it's the most thrilling calling we could imagine. Thank you for allowing us to serve God's church among the nations and the next generation.

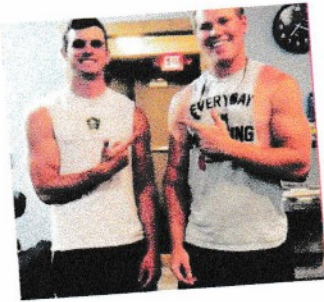
They're here!

It's been a little over two years, but Andrew & Kelly Baxley have joined us in Bogotá. Andrew steps in as the youth and families pastor and Kelly begins to see clients for counseling and will help launch the Bogotá Counseling Network, a much-needed biblical counseling resource for our city. Each will help care for MKs in the region. Please pray for our dear friends as they adjust, learn more Spanish, and prepare to welcome their baby boy in mid-December.

Gratefully,

Andrew w/Laura Kate, Fox, Evie Jude, & Lucy





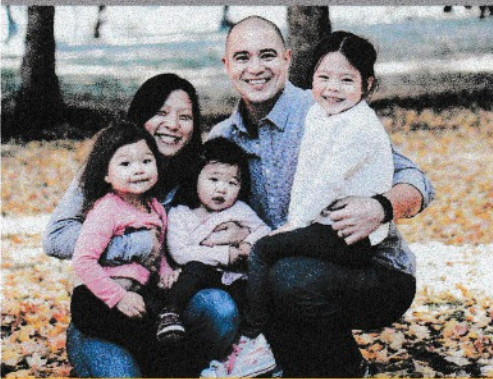
Left: Markus on the left and Jamison on the right.

Right: Students engaged at our Gospel Conversations training where students were learning how to share Christ.



Prayer

- Praise God for the students taking steps of faith after our Gospel Conversations training.
- Please pray for boldness for our students sharing the gospel these next few weeks with their friends.
- Please pray for Will, Markus, Jamison, and Jamie (students that Matt has been meeting with) that they would continue surrendering all to Christ and grow in their love and knowledge of God through the word of God.
- Thank you so much for your partnership in the gospel. We are grateful for your investment into the lives of college students!



Matt & Lisa MeeHee Kirby
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406.577.6407—Lisa
Give at: <https://give.cru.org/o599540>
Staff Account #0599540

“Did you grow up with any type of spiritual background?”

It starts with asking good questions and listening. This is the first part of our Gospel Conversations training held this last month on campus. As we seek to grow in making disciples who walk by faith, communicate their faith, and multiply their faith, one of the critical elements of that is learning how to talk with others about Christ. When thinking about evangelism, many students (...actually, most all of us, if we're honest) get nervous talking with others about Christ. One of the best ways to help overcome those fears is to get valuable training, and for someone who is experienced in sharing their faith to take you sharing. As our mission is to **“turn lost students into Christ-centered laborers,”** we certainly love building community on our campus in deep fellowship, but our hearts also break for those on campus who don't yet have the joy of knowing Christ yet. Matt and Robert (one of our new staff on campus) led a small training for a few hand-selected seniors who turned around and led the rest of our students in this Gospel conversation training.

These students (pictured above) have since taken tangible steps of faith to share Christ with their friends using our CoJourners training. They not only learned how to ask good questions and listen well, but how to present the gospel in a clear way, bringing their friends to a point of decision. **One of the sweetest things was seeing Will, the brand new believer we mentioned in the last prayer letter, at the training. An older student took Will sharing the following week!** Please pray that these students put this valuable training to use in proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ with their friends, neighbors, lab partners, and classmates.

I (Matt) got to meet Markus (from Hobson, MT) at our weekly meeting and had the opportunity to share the gospel with him. He expressed how he wanted to fully trust Christ, but there were some things holding him back. He was excited about getting involved with Cru. He then brought his friend Jamison (from Billings, MT) to Cru. Markus and I walked Jamison through the gospel, and he shared how he was a believer, but really wanted to grow in fully surrendering to Christ. I have loved getting to meet with these guys and see them grow in starting to read the word of God, and get to a place of surrendering all to Christ. Please pray for them, that they would be rooted and established in Christ!

****Starting now, please update our mailing address to:**

**4149 Clydesdale Ct.
Bozeman, MT 59718**

Want Ads

Items you wish to buy, sell, trade, or give away may be submitted to Bill White or Barb Dresdow.

FREE - 22 year old refrigerator, available after December 22. If interested call by December 15. Linda Roberts, (828) 648-6993, (828) 506-3101, or lcr58@bellsouth.net

The last day to make a tax deductible donation will be Sunday December 31st. Any mailed donations must be postmarked by Saturday December 30th.

All reimbursable expenses need to be turned in to Barb by Sunday December 31st.

December Volunteers

Snacks

Dec 3	Susan Kingshill Holiday meal
Dec 10	Eleonore Shelton team
Dec 17	Glenda White team
Dec 24	Church
Dec 31	Men of Providence

Sunday School/Children's Church

Dec 3	LuAnn Davis
Dec 10	Phil Inglis
Dec 17	Renee Mitchell
Dec 24	Glenda Brouwer
Dec 31	LuAnn Davis

Providence Church Summarized Financial Information September 30, 2017

Tithe/Offering collections	150,848
Miscellaneous income	44
Designated giving	<u>3,128</u>
Total Revenue	154,020
Missions	22,294
Church Operating Expenses	<u>132,531</u>
Total Expenditures	154,825
Increase (Decrease) in cash	(805)
Cash-in-Bank-Beginning of Year	<u>238,456</u>
Cash-in-Bank-End of Month	237,651
<u>Breakdown of Cash:</u>	
Checking Account	15,622
Savings Account	<u>222,029</u>
Total	237,651




Counting Teams

Dec 3	Bill Allsbrook Phil Inglis
Dec 10	Bob Dresdow Pat Inglis
Dec 17	Thom Morgan Bruce Kingshill
Dec 24	Curt Sevig Alan Bush
Dec 31	Wally Cook Sam Mitchell

Set Up/Close/Usher Teams

Dec 3	Luke Allsbrook Will Roberts
Dec 10	Phil & Pat Inglis Bill White
Dec 17	Bruce Kingshill Mike & Eleonore Shelton
Dec 24	Bob Dresdow Harry & Ingrid Heise
Dec 31	Wally Cook Thom Morgan

December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3  10:45 AM Holy Communion 12:00 PM Congregational meeting & lunch	4	5 12:00 PM Pastor's circle  Salvation Army bell ringing	6 10:00 AM Charlotte OCC center	7 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Group 3:30 PM Women's Prayer Group	1 Lydia Lizarazu Sam Mitchell Christina Roberts	2
10	11	12 12:00 PM Pastor's circle	13	14 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Group 3:30 PM Women's Prayer Group Natalie Wilson Thom Morgan Michael & Eleonore Shelton	15 Glenda White	16
17	18 Curt & Rita Sevig Jennifer Alt	19 12:00 PM Pastor's circle	20 11:15 AM Serving at Open Door Wally Cook	21 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Group 3:30 PM Women's Prayer Group	22	23 Julian Bacon
24 10:45 AM Morning worship 5:00 PM Candlelight service Jordan Cheney	25  Christmas	26 12:00 PM Pastor's circle Cindy Harper Thom & Jacque Morgan	27	28 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Group 3:30 PM Women's Prayer Group	29 Cook & serve at Open Door	30
31						

Birthday

Anniversary